



Saint Mary Parish

St. Mary Roman Catholic Parish
55 Catoonah Street
Ridgefield, CT 06877
Phone: (203) 438-6538
Fax: (203) 438-4406
www.smcr.org

May 2, 2021

A Warm & Welcoming Family of Catholic Faith



"I am the
vine; you
are the
branches. If
you remain
in me and I
in you, you
will bear
much fruit;
apart from
me you can
do
nothing."

--John 15:5

I am the vine, you are the branches



The symbol of the vine is found frequently in the Old Testament. The people of Israel are compared to a vine, which is supposed to bear abundant fruit. Jesus adopts the image to speak of the way in which he provides life for those who believe and follow him. He himself is the vine, and his followers are the branches. The process of growth and of bearing fruit is watched over by the Father, to whom the vine belongs.

The image of the vine is particularly effective because the branches cannot live without their attachment to the

vine, neither can they be fruitful without the goodness provided by the vine. To live with Christ is to bear fruit. It is in drawing strength from Jesus that Christians can bear fruit in faith and good works.

The image also has its negative side. Branches which do not bear fruit are removed by the vinedresser and they are burnt. This development of the image invites us to consider the consequences of a refusal to be nourished by the kindness of God.

In the reading from the Acts of the Apostles we hear of Paul's attempts to join the Christian community after his conversion. It is only in connection with the people of Christ that we can truly be part of the vine. Through his resurrection Christ gives life to a new people.

How can you derive more strength from the vine which is Christ?

How important do you consider it is to belong to the vine of Christ?

We pray for those who see faith as an individual pursuit.

We pray for a deeper sense of belonging in Christ.



MASS READINGS & INTENTIONS

MONDAY, May 3

1 Cor 15:1-8/Jn 14:6-14

7:00 AM St. Mary Youth
12:30 PM Loretta Schmid

TUESDAY, May 4

Acts 14:19-28/Jn 14:27-31a

7:00 AM Kathryn M. Lyons
5:00 PM Louise Main

WEDNESDAY, May 5

Acts 15:1-6/Jn 15:1-8

7:00 AM St. Mary Parishioners
12:30 PM Intentions of Carolyn Haitsch

THURSDAY, May 6

Acts 15:7-21/Jn 15:9-11

7:00 AM Michael Melonophy
5:00 PM Tina Salvestini

FRIDAY, May 7

Acts 15:22-31/Jn 15:12-17

7:00 AM Kathryn M. Lyons
9:00 AM Joseph Casamento
12:30 PM Tara Cousineau

SATURDAY, May 8

Acts 16:1-10/Jn 15:18-21

8:00 AM Alice & George Besse
4:30 PM Frances Augustine

SUNDAY, May 9

Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/1 Jn 4:7-10/Jn 15:9-17

CHURCH

7:30 AM Conrad and Mary Sponberg
9:15 AM Jo Moriarty
11:00 AM Ryan Adams

HALL

10:30 AM Rose Lentini
12:00 PM Margaret McPartland
5:00 PM St. Mary Parishioners



Please continue to support our Parish with Online Giving. Go to our website to sign up. Call the Parish office if you would like assistance. Offertory can be mailed to St. Mary Parish, 55 Catoonah St, Ridgefield, CT 06877. Thank you!



BAPTISMS

We welcome to the Family of God and our Parish Family **Leon Frederick Matos & Charles Michael Carrierro** who were recently baptized.

Sr. Joan Honorary Fund

Helping Parishioners in Need

[Click here for more information](#)

Prayers for the Sick



[Click Here](#) to make a prayer request and to see those on the prayer list.



Candle Intentions

A Church Altar Candle is Burning in Loving Memory of **Rose Lentini**



Mother's Day

Click the link above to purchase a card

Add your mom to the Mother's Day Mass intention list

[HERE](#)

NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION LIFELINE
1-800-273-8255, suicidepreventionlifeline.org



May Crowning

May is traditionally a month devoted to Mary, kicked off with a "May Crowning." Young girls of the parish up to fifth grade are invited to bring a flower from your own garden to Mass on Sunday, May 2nd! The oldest girl at the 10:30 Mass will place a flower crown; followed by a short procession with song-- and then everyone will be invited to add their flowers to a vase next to our Blessed Mother and kneel before her for a moment of prayer.

Office of Youth & Family @ St Mary Parish
 Youth & Family Ministries / Religious Education /
 Sacramental Prep www.smcr.org/youth-family
 Laura Danner / Administrator ldanner@smcr.org

Monsignor Royal is going to be on the radio!



1350 AM



8:00am on Monday, May 3rd – Msgr Royal will be live on the air from the Veritas studio during their spring pledge drive.

Tune in – and call in! – to show your support. The number is (833) 88-TRUTH, or (833) 888-7884.

Veritas is the only 24-hour Catholic station in this area. Listen on the radio or by using the mobile app on your phone.



CALLING ALL COOKS!

Join our Dorothy Day House of Hospitality volunteers to occasionally prepare salads and/or a tray of food for the main course that we serve the third Sunday of each month. Please contact mbreilly28@gmail.com if interested. Thank you!

Pre-purchase St. Mary Cemetery Space
"I felt good knowing I was sparing my family the burden of making this decision at a difficult time in their lives." Secure your family heritage at St. Mary Parish. Visit www.smcr.org for more info and FAQs or call Donna Barber at the cemetery office, 203-438-3606.



FAITH FORMATION CORNER

Jesus the True Vine



Why does Jesus speak of himself as the true vine? The image of the vine was a rich one for the Jews since the land of Israel was covered with numerous vineyards. It had religious connotations to it as well.

Isaiah spoke of the house of Israel as "the vineyard of the Lord" (Isaiah 5:7). Jeremiah said that God had planted Israel "as his choice vine" (Jeremiah 2:21). While the vine became a symbol of Israel as a nation, it also was used in the scriptures as a sign of degeneration. Isaiah's prophecy spoke of Israel as a vineyard which "yielded wild grapes" (see Isaiah 5:1-7). Jeremiah said that Israel had become a "degenerate and wild vine" (Jeremiah 2:21). When Jesus calls himself the true vine he makes clear that no one can claim their spiritual inheritance through association with a particular people or bloodline. Rather, it is only through Jesus Christ that one can become grafted into the true "vineyard of the Lord."

Jesus offers true life - the abundant life which comes from God and which results in great fruitfulness. How does the vine become fruitful? The vine dresser must carefully prune the vine before it can bear good fruit. Vines characteristically have two kinds of branches - those which bear fruit and those which don't. The non-bearing branches must be carefully pruned back in order for the vine to conserve its strength for bearing good fruit. Jesus used this image to describe the kind of life he produces in those who are united with him - the fruit of "righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit" (Romans 14:17). Jesus says there can be no fruit in our lives apart from him. The fruit he speaks of here is the fruit of the Holy Spirit (see Galatians 5:22-23).

There is a simple truth here: We are either fruit-bearing or non-fruit-bearing. There is no in-between. But the bearing of healthy fruit requires drastic pruning. The Lord promises that we will bear much fruit if we abide in him and allow him to purify us. Do you trust in the Lord's abiding presence with you?
defendpopefrancis.com



ST. MARY PARISH MEN'S MINISTRY
ZOOM from anywhere
to join us on Saturday mornings!

We would love to have you join our dynamic MM meetings - [Link](#)

6:30-8:00 AM inspires us for the whole week!

The Men's Ministry is a regular group of guys that help each other to grow as men of prayer and together learn more about our Catholic faith. To help us all on our individual journeys, our group (and website Stmmm.org) offers resources to assist us in coping with what life throws at us thru a deeper faith, a more robust spiritual life, and friendly support network.



**MARQUETTE COUNCIL OF THE
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

We offer Catholic men and their families an opportunity to explore their faith and share God's love through service to our priests, parish and community. Join 2 million Knights around the world as you share your time & talents. Learn more at www.KOFC.org or contact Phil Del Giudice, Grand Knight, at Compass_grp@yahoo.com.

PILGRIM VIRGIN

Our Lady's message to the world: Do penance, amend your life, offend God no more and pray the Rosary daily for world peace and the conversion of sinners.



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

**Adoration Chapel
OPEN DAILY
10:00 AM- 4:00 PM**

Limited to 4 people at any one time

If the 4 places are full, a visitor must wait outside or return at another time. *Chairs and kneelers are safely distanced, and the air conditioning and air circulation system works well.*

Please remember to wear a face mask



Saint Mary School
RIDGEFIELD

We would love to tell you about what makes Saint Mary School so special. For more information, please contact principal Anna O'Rourke at (203) 438-7288, or visit www.smsridgefield.org.

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday

4:30 PM Vigil Mass (Gym)

Sunday

8:00 AM, 11:00 AM, 5:00 PM

(Hall)

10:30 AM (Gym)

Registration Required

WEEKDAY MASSES

(Gym)

Monday, 12:30 PM

Tuesday, 5:00 PM

Wednesday, 12:30 PM

Thursday, 5:00 PM

Friday, 12:30 PM

No Registration Required

Holy Days of Obligation

Check website

*Easter and Christmas have special schedules

Our Mission:

LIVE the gift of our faith, ENRICH our understanding of that gift, and PRACTICE our faith in compassionate service.

OTHER SACRAMENTS

Drive-Up Confessions

Tuesdays 4:15 PM
Saturdays 3:00 - 4:00 PM
(GYM)

Baptism

Celebrated each Sunday (except holiday weekends)

New parents must attend a pre-baptism class. Call Parish office to schedule both

Marriage

Call Parish Office at least 9 months prior to wedding

Anointing of Sick

Call Parish Office to make arrangements

In case of serious illness or death in the family, call Parish Office immediately.

CEMETERY

203-438-3606

ADORATION

Joanne Brown

203-438-6538

Pastor: Msgr. Kevin T. Royal

MsgrRoyal@smcr.org

Parochial Vicar: Rev. Damian K. Pielesz, frdamian@smcr.org

Resident Priest: Rev. Michael Novaosky, 203-438-6538

Deacon: Rick Lawlor, dnlawlor@diobpt.org, 203-470-8084

Deacon: Robert Salvestrini, salvo95@aol.com

Parish Office Hours

Monday–Friday 10AM–4PM

10AM – 1PM Summer Fridays

203-438-6538

Parish Office Building Closed

Parish Receptionist: Kim Macko, kmacko@smcr.org

Parish Administrative Assistant: Joanne Brown, jbrown@smcr.org

Accountant: Deborah Korniewicz, dkorniewicz@smcr.org

Facilities Scheduling: Jbrown@smcr.org & kmacko@smcr.org

Communications Manager: Carolyn Haitsch, chaitsch@smcr.org

Youth Minister: Brenner LeCompte, 203-438-2394, blecompte@smcr.org

Director of Music: Darren Motise, 203-438-6539, ext. 300, darren@smcr.org

Religious Ed: Laura Danner, ldanner@smcr.org
Josephine Bove, jbove@smcr.org

St. Mary School: Anna O'Rourke, Principal, orourkea@smsridgefield.org

Finance Council Chair: John Spera, johnspera57@gmail.com

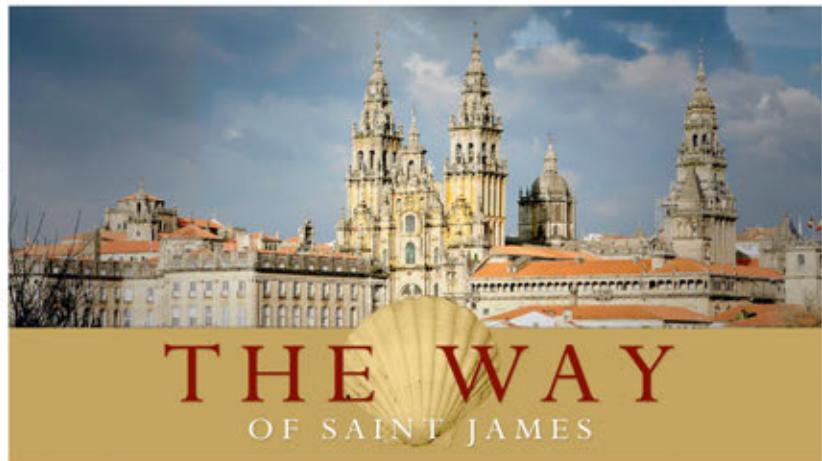
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May 2, 2021

WATCH

THE WAY OF ST. JAMES

This documentary follows the journey of several pilgrims who differ in culture and religious faith but are united in their journey across the Camino de Santiago. Each of them is traveling toward the shrine of St. James the Apostle, whose feast day we celebrate this week.



The
ACTS OF THE APOSTLES



THE CHURCH LEARNING TO BE THE CHURCH

ACTS OF THE APOSTLES WITH MARK HART

The feast day of Saints Philip and James reminds us of the impact that the Apostles made on the whole world. With Philip, James, and all the Apostles in mind, join Mark Hart in this refresher on the Book of Acts.

LISTEN

REACHING OUT TO TODAY'S CULTURE BY BISHOP ROBERT BARRON

Saints Philip and James each lived extraordinary lives of missionary zeal. In this insightful talk, Bishop Barron shares his advice on how to live similar lives of mission within a culture dominated by media and misconceptions about faith.



LEARN

Our parish has a FORMED subscription.
To set up your free account visit formed.org/signup and select our parish.

ARE YOU EXPERIENCING PANDEMIC FATIGUE?



Are you feeling exhausted from all the disruptions to life brought on by the pandemic? Are you or someone you know struggling with challenges like . . .

- ISOLATION AND LONELINESS
- ANXIETY OVER HEALTH
- GRIEF DUE TO MANY DIFFERENT KINDS OF LOSSES
- TENSION FROM JUGGLING WORK, CHILDCARE, AND SCHOOLING
- FINANCIAL STRAIN OR JOB LOSS
- UNCERTAINTY ABOUT THE FUTURE
- OTHER UNEXPECTED LIFE CHALLENGES?



If so, you don't have to face it alone. Our Stephen Ministers are ready to listen, care, encourage, and provide emotional and spiritual support.

A Stephen Minister will meet with you privately—by phone, by video chat, or, if safely possible, in person—to offer care and support. It's free and completely confidential. For more information, call our church office.

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."
Matthew 11:28

For more information or to schedule a visit, contact one of the Ministry Leaders:

Jack Hughes 203-244-5228, jack2cruise@gmail.com

Marlys Rizzi, 203-448-8162, rizziclan@aol.com



*Toward a culture of compassion
in our schools and communities*

SPRING FOR MOMS AUCTION

Friday April 30 ~ Saturday May 1 ~ Sunday May 2



Celebrate moms and all the women who play an important role
in our lives and the lives of our loved ones.

Hundreds of spectacular items ~ Browse! Bid! Buy Now!

Online

Auction opens 6pm Friday April 30

Auction closes 3pm Sunday May 2

Link to online auction will be available at

www.facebook.com/GALE.US.CT

In-person

12 – 6pm Saturday May 1

12 – 3pm Sunday May 2

At Villa Maria School

163 Sky Meadow Drive, Stamford, CT 06903

Pick up from Villa Maria School

12 – 6pm Saturday May 1

12 – 5pm Sunday May 2

Thank you for your generosity in supporting grieving children and families

Mary Curley

Founder & Program Director

mary@gale-us.org

<https://www.gale-us.org>

Cell 203-550-3250

Office 203-438-6538

<https://www.facebook.com/GALE.US.CT>



Malta House Toy

Drive

After all masses

MAY 1st/2nd

Toys will be available for parishioners to purchase and will be donated in your name to the Malta House nursery

toys range from \$15 to \$30

For questions or contactless donations, please contact

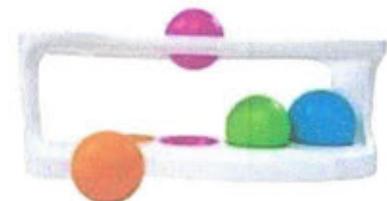
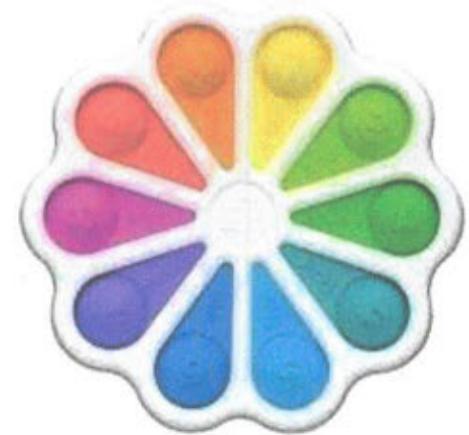
Christopher or Sharon D'Orso

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203-770-5638

Malta House is the only home for pregnant women above the age of 18 in Fairfield County, and one of a limited number of programs for young homeless mothers and their babies.

maltahouse.org



Please join us for the next webinar in our 2021 **House Calls** Series. This live-streaming, one-hour long webinar will feature a brief presentation by our experts followed by a Q & A Session.



Wednesday, May 5, 2021
4 pm

We're making
HOUSE CALLS



Series Moderator

Christopher Lehrach, MD, MBA

President, Nuvance Health Medical Practices



Dawn Martin, MS, BSN, RN, NEA-BC

Chief Nursing Officer
Danbury Hospital and
New Milford Hospital



Christina McCulloch, MBA, BSN, RN

Chief Nursing Officer
Putnam Hospital and
Sharon Hospital



Leslie Lincoln RN, DNP, NEA-BC, CNL

Chief Nursing Officer
Norwalk Hospital



Samantha Ingrao, BSN, RN

Danbury Hospital

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For convenient registration for any "House Calls" presentation, visit
www.webcasts.com/housecalls

Annual Connecticut Catholic Men's Conference

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, September 25, 2021



Dr. Ralph Martin

*Conference Theme:
The Most Holy Rosary*

Website: www.ctcatholicmen.org (reserve tickets)

Location: New Britain Stadium (an outdoor venue)

Phone: 860-484-7950



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- Contact Deacon Rick Lawlor
- Email: [\(dnlawlor@diobpt.org\)](mailto:dnlawlor@diobpt.org)
(203) 470-8084

2021 Additional Guest Speakers



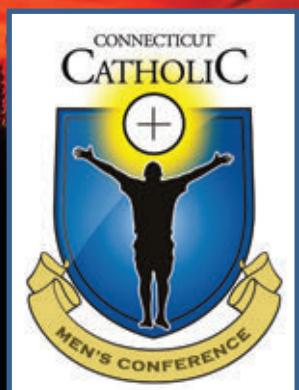
Fr. Elias-Mary Mills, FFI



Gary Zimak



Dr. Blythe Kaufman



Spots are Still Open! Join Us!

BYZANTINE ICONOGRAPHY WORKSHOP WITH ICONOGRAPHER VERONICA ROYAL



Icon will be
Our Lady Undoer of Knots

July 26 – 30, 2021

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roulazlee@yahoo.com

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– Benedict XVI

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MALTA HOUSE ANNUAL GALA

FRIDAY, MAY 7, 2021



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OUR HONOREES
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THE MH2 DREAM TEAM

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May 7, 2021
by reserving your spot here:



Questions? Contact Kim Killoy,
203.610.2358,
kkilloy@maltahouse.org



Sr. Joan's Honorary Fund

Helping St. Mary Parishioners in Financial Need



Since its inception, the fund has provided help with food, home mortgage & rental payments, home heating, auto repair, prescription & medical bills, and medical insurance.

A generous donation was made to establish the **Sr. Joan Honorary Fund** to help Parishioners in financial need and to honor Sr. Joan Brennan who served at St. Mary Parish for many years and is fondly remembered by many.

**Parishioners in need
may contact the
Board Members or
Msgr. Royal to inquire**

*Personal information is kept
strictly confidential.*

BOARD MEMBERS

Anita Barrios - anitabarri@aol.com

Becky Hurta - ledwithr@gmail.com

Nick Perna - nickperna@aol.com

Dick Camuso - rcamuso@comcast.net



Saint Mary Parish
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Please contact the Parish Office if you would like to contribute to the fund, 203-438-6538, ext. 106.

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community and is so
appreciated!

thank you

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day or night! As a current sponsor, you should visit
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are available to the entire community, not only our
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this exciting, FREE resource! As with any new app, the
more it is used the more exciting it becomes!

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