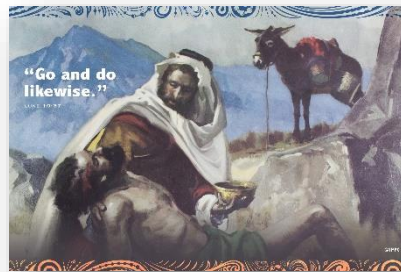


The Good Samaritan



Luke 10:25-37, The parable of the Good Samaritan

As Jesus continues his journey to Jerusalem, he is confronted by a scholar of the law who wants to test him. In the Gospels of Mark and Matthew, Jesus is asked about the greatest commandment. Here, in Luke's Gospel, the lawyer asks what we must do to inherit eternal life. In the other two Gospels, Jesus answers the question by quoting Deuteronomy 6:5, on loving God with all your heart, and Leviticus 19:18, on loving your neighbor. Here Jesus asks the expert to answer this question, "What is written in the law?" The man is caught and responds with Deuteronomy 6:5. This verse is one of the most important prayers in Judaism, and it was said twice a day in Jesus' time. Love of God and love of neighbor are what is required for eternal life. Jesus' response is simple, "Do this and you will live."

Having been shown up by Jesus, the lawyer tries another question: Who is my neighbor whom I must love like myself? In the society of Jesus' time, with its distinctions between Jews and Gentiles, men and women, clean and unclean, this was a trick question. Jesus responds with one of the most beautiful of all the parables, the Good Samaritan. It is found only in Luke's Gospel.

The road from Jerusalem to Jericho descends 3,300 feet in just 17 miles. Its narrow passes and rocky terrain made it an easy place for bandits to wait for travelers. The traveler in this parable is identified only as "a certain man." Luke uses this phrase in many of his parables so that the audience, Jew or Gentile, could identify with the man. After the attack, the man is left for dead, naked and bleeding on the side of the road. A priest comes along, but rather than helping, as one might expect, he moves to the other side of the road. Another religious person comes along, a Levite who assists in the Temple. His reaction is the same as the priest's. Both of them choose to not even find out if the man is alive. A third person comes along. The listeners would probably expect him to be an Israelite. This would make the parable a criticism of the religious leadership. Instead he is a Samaritan, an Israelite's most hated neighbor. Samaritans were descendents of Jews from the northern part of the country, who had intermarried with Gentiles and did not worship in Jerusalem. The Samaritan not only goes over to the injured man but cleans his wounds, puts him on his own animal, takes him to an inn to recover, and promises to pay all his expenses. The hated enemy is the compassionate neighbor in this parable.

Jesus has demolished all boundary expectations. It is not social definitions such as class, religion, gender, or ethnicity that determines who is our neighbor. A neighbor is a person who acts with compassion toward another. The point becomes not who deserves to be loved as I love myself, but that I become a person who treats everyone with compassion.

When Jesus asks the lawyer who was the neighbor in the story, the lawyer can't bring himself to say it was the Samaritan. All he says is that it was "the one who treated him with mercy." Jesus' response was similar to that of the first discussion: "Go and do likewise." The lawyer, and we, know what is right. The key is to do it. loyolapress.com

**Monday July 11th***St. Benedict*

7:00 am Intentions of Rose Gilroy

12:00 pm John Henry

Tuesday July 12th

7:00 am Vito Teric

12:00 pm Helen McGuire

Wednesday July 13th*St. Henry*

7:00 am Anne Doty

12:00 pm Intentions of Henry Joseph

Thursday July 14th*St. Camillus de Lellis*

7:00 am Dottie Serzega

12:00 pm Michael Shelava

Friday July 15th*St. Bonaventure*

7:00 am Bill Bellion - Birthday

12:00 pm Elsie Craig

Saturday July 16th*Our Lady of Mount Carmel Mem. of Blessed Virgin Mary*

8:00 am Michael Callaghan

4:30 pm Carmen Camuso

Sunday July 17th**16th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

7:30 am Conrad and Mary Sponberg

9:00 am Ife Odenigbo

10:30 am Parishioners of the Parish

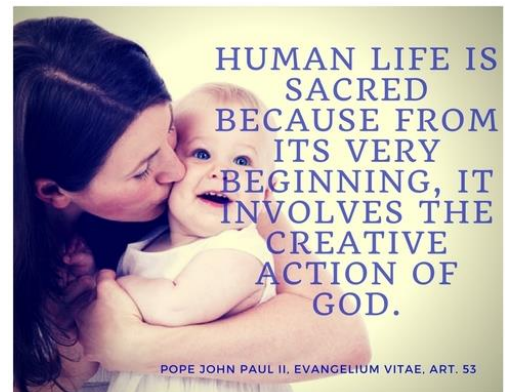
12:00 pm Sean Thomas Breen, Jr.

5:00 pm Alfred Tulipani

NOBODY DOES IT BETTER

SAINT MARY SCHOOL
RIDGEFIELD, CONNECTICUT

A special thank you to all the parishioners who supported the Saint Mary School Gala & Auction 50/50 raffle ticket sales. Congratulations to Andrea Wolf for winning our raffle and many thanks for her generosity in gifting it back to the Gala proceeds. The Gala was a wonderful success thanks to the support of so many in the community.

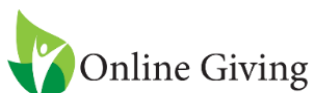


Our next Pre-Baptism Class (required for parents who have not had a class within five years and wish to have their child baptized) will be held **Wed., July 13th** from 7:30-8:30pm. Please call our Parish Office to register.

**ST. MARY PARISH MEN'S MINISTRY**

Community is so important. Consider trying the St. Mary Men's Ministry, a group of joy-filled men who gather at 6:30AM every Saturday for breakfast and faith discussions about the everyday lives of men. Experience a more rewarding prayer life and support of faith-filled brothers.

Why do we get up so early each Saturday? We enjoy each other's company and strongly benefit from the time together and time with God in prayer. Come and see how it can energize you for the week ahead. More info @ STMMM.ORG.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH. Sign up for Online Giving. Call the Parish Office if you would like assistance. 😊



Saint Mary School

RIDGEFIELD

From the SMS Weekly Newsletter...

Final Thoughts from Mrs. O'Rourke

From SMS Newsletter

"Let us always meet each other with a smile, for the smile is the beginning of love." - Mother Teresa



Today I write to you one last time as the principal of Saint Mary School. It is a bittersweet day for me, as I leave my "home away from home" for 27 years. However, when I walk out these doors today, I do so with confidence and excitement for what is to come for this wonderful school.

Through the years I have watched so many children grow and learn academically, socially and spiritually. I have watched teachers and staff put their heart and soul into fostering a safe and welcoming environment for children to learn and grow. I have watched parents put their faith in us and support us in our common values which come from our faith. Faith...always an important part of my job. I can assure you that without faith, I would not be here today. Having faith that God was guiding me, helped me through the good times and the more challenging times.

Love is something that also guided me. My love of children and caring for them were paramount. One of my many favorite quotes, "You have to reach the heart before you reach the head," by Carter Bayton has stayed with me throughout this special journey. I had it posted in my elementary classrooms and for the last 12 years it's been on my office door. Again it goes back to our faith, "to love each other as God loves us!"

And so my friends, I leave you now in the hands of your next leader, Rachel Ambrosio, who I cannot be more thrilled to have in my place. She is someone who I admire as an educator, a leader, a mother and a friend. Mrs. Ambrosio will lead the staff, those returning and those new to the family, with a commitment to our mission and vision. There is no doubt in my mind that Saint Mary School will continue to flourish.

During this time of transition, I ask that you offer Mrs. Ambrosio and the SMS teachers and staff grace and support. They've got this!

Blessings and love,

Anna



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:

Pray the Rosary daily, a wonderful Marian devotion, for world peace and the conversion of sinners. To arrange for a visit call Elma Stoveken at 203-894-1341 or email jstoveken@comcast.net.



FAITH FORMATION CORNER

Who is the Good Samaritan?



A human being who reaches out to help those in need.

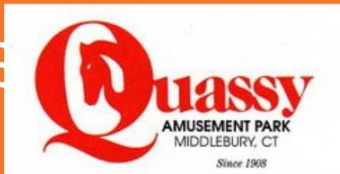
It is not a question of who is worthy to be assisted, but it's an attitude which says all human beings deserve my attention, for they are all children of God and, when in need, I reach out to them. I reach out to them, because, when I reach out to them, I touch God Himself.

This is the meaning of the Good Samaritan.

The one who shows compassion, the one who shows he cares, the one who reaches out to heal and help. This is describing Jesus himself. Jesus came that he might become the Good Shepherd as well as the Good Samaritan.

That is why he asks us, as we walk towards Jerusalem, to become Good Samaritans, because we are one with him and he is one with us.

To Jesus there is no other form of love worthy of God. We are to love with the Good Samaritan's love. We are to love with Jesus' love. We are to love with his Father's love. For in God's all-seeing eyes, the wounded man left bleeding and helpless by the roadside is the crucified Christ, His only Son. *Excerpt from fatherhanley.com*



ST. MARY'S *Family* DAY

Friday
July 29
11 AM- 8 PM



Adults \$58
Children \$49



**Great food,
all-day fun
and even some
prayer!**

**Meet more parish
families-- and
celebrate the
church's 125th
Anniversary together**

**INCLUDED... Pulled
Pork, Buffalo Wings,
BBQ Chicken & Ribs,
veggies, sides and
drinks plus full-day
access to both rides
and water park!**

**We'll gather for prayer at the start of the day and wrap it up again with an
afternoon devotion. REGISTER at WWW@SMCR.ORG**

MINISTRIES



ALTAR GUILD

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HOMEBOUND MINISTRY

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Compass_grp@yahoo.com
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st.mary.mm1@gmail.com

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rgwendel@sbcglobal.net

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Connielove37@outlook.com

RCIA

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Sue Fernandez
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SCRIPTURE STUDY (Evening)

Bev Scott 914-763-6243
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(Ushers)
johnahle@aol.com
Ben & Janie Nneji (Greeters)
203-942-9589; jnneji@aol.com

WELCOME COMMITTEE TBD

*FINANCE COUNCIL

Steve Seagriff, John Ahle,
Dayan Anandappa, Felix
Cacciato, Richard Camuso, Mary
Flynn-Maquire, Mike Kane,
Kristin McSpedon, Mike
Raduazzo, Deborah Korniewicz

SACRAMENTS

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday

8:00 AM, 4:30 PM Vigil Mass
(Church)

Sunday

7:30 AM, 9:00 AM, Noon, 5 PM
(Church)
10:30 AM
(Hall)

WEEKDAY MASSES

7:00 AM & Noon
Monday - Friday
(Church)

Holy Days of Obligation

Check website

*Easter and Christmas have
special schedules

ADORATION

Open 6 am-10 PM Daily
Barbara Baughman
Catherine Clock
stmaryridgfield22@gmail.com

OTHER SACRAMENTS

Confessions

Monday - Friday
11:30 AM
Wednesday
6:00 - 7:00 PM
Saturday
3:00 - 4:00 PM
(Church)

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

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor: Msgr. Kevin T. Royal, MsgrRoyal@smcr.org
Parochial Vicar: Rev. Brendan Blawie, frblawie@smcr.org
Parochial Vicar: Rev. Colin Lomnitzer, frlomnitzer@smcr.org
Parochial Vicar: Rev. Justin Raj, frraj@smcr.org
Deacon: George Kain, DnKain@diobpt.org
Deacon: Rick Lawlor, dnlawlor@diobpt.org, 203-470-8084
Deacon: Robert Salvestrini, salvo95@aol.com

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Accountant: Deborah Korniewicz, dkorniewicz@smcr.org
Facilities: Greg Taylor, Phil Franceschini, Jim McElroy
Facilities Scheduling: Jbrown@smcr.org
Communications Manager: Carolyn Haitsch, chaitsch@smcr.org
Director of Music: Darren Motise, darren@smcr.org

Office for Youth & Families – 203-438-7335

Pastorial Associate – Laura Danner, ldanner@smcr.org
Administrative Coordinator – Pamela Jensen oyf@smcr.org

St. Mary School: Rachel Ambrosio, Principal
rambrosio@smsridgfield.org

Parish Office Building Open

Monday - Thursday 10 AM – 2 PM

Parish Office Hours

Monday–Thursday 8AM – 4PM
Summer Fridays - 8AM – 12:30PM