



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

June 25, 2023

A Warm & Welcoming Family of Catholic Faith



“Sing to the Lord, Praise the Lord, for He has rescued the life of the poor from the power of the wicked!” -Jeremiah 20:13

***“What I say to you in the darkness, speak in the light;
what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops.”***



Even in our own day, God asks us Christians to consider a form of martyrdom. He asks faithful Catholics, the members of His Church, to stand on guard. We do not know when the truth is going to be attacked. Have you ever been surprised by something you've come across in the media which takes the truth and twists it? Have you ever heard the topic of the Church brought up in conversation, only to be met with laughs and sneers?

Throughout the Gospel accounts, you don't hear Jesus talk much about the Devil. Even when He was tempted by Satan in the desert, Jesus did not pursue Satan. Jesus simply fought against the temptations that Satan placed before Him. When Satan was through trying to tempt Jesus and fled the desert, Jesus did not give chase. The devil fled to fight another day, and century, and millennium.

Throughout the Gospel accounts, you don't hear Jesus talk much about the Devil. Even when He was tempted by Satan in the desert, Jesus did not pursue

In Sunday's Gospel Reading, Jesus says that what we receive within the walls of our parish churches we need to be willing to speak in public. We don't have to go searching for arguments. When we hear someone putting down the Church's beliefs, we ourselves are being put down. The Church is the Body of Christ, and we are all members of that Sacred Body. When the Body of Christ is attacked, her teachings ridiculed, or her rights suppressed, we must be willing to speak out and at times even act against what is false and unjust.

But how do we go about doing that?

There hasn't been a saint in the history of the Church who has completely understood everything that there is to know about the Faith. Nonetheless, we must be willing to explain as much as we do we know. Furthermore, we must be willing to learn more than what we currently know, whether we do this by reading, watching television shows that accurately teach about the Faith, or simply by holding a conversation with knowledgeable Catholics.

Of course, the greatest resource we have at our disposal is God the Holy Spirit. Through Baptism we have received the Holy Spirit, and those of us who have been confirmed have been strengthened by the Spirit's seven gifts. Four of these seven gifts strengthen the human intellect to help us know the Faith: wisdom, understanding, counsel, and knowledge. The other three gifts of the Holy Spirit strengthen the human will to help us spread the Faith: fortitude, piety, and fear of the Lord. All of these help us to speak Jesus' words in the light and to proclaim them on the housetops.



Monday June 26th

7:00 am Vivienne and Michael Dalton
12:00 pm Celia Radke

Tuesday June 27th

St. Cyril of Alexandria
7:00 am Kitty M. Trench
12:00 pm Laura Sierpina

Wednesday June 28th

St. Irenaeus
7:00 am Dennis Green
12:00 pm Karen Blawie

Thursday June 29th

Ss. Peter & Paul
7:00 am Noreen Papa - 10 Year Anniversary
12:00 pm Ann and Edward Smith

Friday June 30th

First Martyrs of the Church of Rome
7:00 am Charles H. Reach
12:00 pm Intentions of Walter & Ruth Schreiber
on their 50th Wedding Anniversary

Saturday July 1st

Mem. of Blessed Virgin Mary St. Junipero Serra
8:00 am Gerry Gonley
4:30 pm Percy Ray Stafford

Sunday July 2nd

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time
7:30 am Leah Stewart
9:00 am William Short
10:30 am Elizabeth Hance
12:00 pm Julius Sbarra
5:00 pm St. Mary Parishioners



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

Twine & Chat Ladies Night

Twine Knot Join Us?!

Twine & Chat Ladies Night Continues

Come join us and learn how to make Twine Knotted Chaplets to give to those in need of prayer.

Great opportunity to make new friends, have fun, get more supplies, and chat as we knot!

7/26, 8/23, 7-9PM, Holy Family Hall
Sign up www.smcr.org

We're still here while you're on vacation!

Please use *Online Giving* to keep up with offertory. Go to www.smcr.org and click on the *Online Giving* link.

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 Brian Patrick Martin, Grand Knight, at bpmartin98@aol.com.

HELP WANTED

Hi, it's Kathy Backus, former religion teacher at St. Mary School for 21 years. I have ALS and need help with daily activities. Job Details: No experience is necessary, just a kind, compassionate heart with a desire to help and serve. Will need to be able to lift a 42 lb wheelchair in and out of the car. Hours available: Fridays 8:30am-4:30pm To apply: Please email me at backusk1@gmail.com to find out more information.

"Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ." Galatians 6:2

FAITH FORMATION CORNER



**Christ Our Lord
is With Us**

While Adam's disobedience and sin brought death, Christ's obedience brought us life. This is the summary of what Christ did for us. Through his sacrificial death and obedience to his father's

will, He dissipated the terrors threatening our lives and restored our peace. Thus, He delivered us from damnation due to the sin and the fall of Adam & Eve.

In the gospel, Jesus encourages us: *"Do not be afraid, for everything that is now covered will be uncovered."* This includes the plans of the evil ones who constantly threaten to persecute and destroy the just. It suffices to note that Christ knows that fear and the threat of death can paralyze one. As the Lord of the living and the dead, He knows that physical death is not the end. Instead, it is a transition to eternity. Hence, he further exhorts us: *"Do not be afraid of those who can kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, fear him who can destroy both body and soul in hell fire."*

In these comforting and assuring words of Christ, rest our hope and future as Christians. *"Every hair on your head has been counted. So, there is no need to be afraid!"* They indicate that the Lord is on our side. He is ready and capable of delivering us from sin's consequences and harmful effects and all the threats we face daily. Finally, all we need to do to merit the protection Christ promised us today is to be on his side by trusting him. This calls for being just and innocent in our ways and actions. It means being true Christians. Of course, it also means submitting entirely to Christ. francicenjoku.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 of the special statue to your home, call Elma Stoveken at 203-894-1341 or email jstoveken@comcast.net

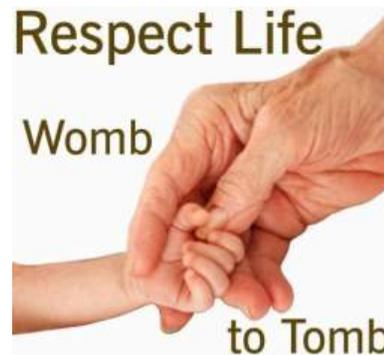


NEW ST. MARY PARISH MEN'S MINISTRY

Jesus gave us blessings called the "Beatitudes." We'll be discussing them in upcoming Men's Ministry Meetings. Did you know that the Beatitudes are not commandments, but rather statements of Jesus' vision and divine mission? Would you like to learn more about Jesus's blueprint for living and how it applies to you as a husband, father, son, brother, friend and worker? Come join our Men's Ministry as we explore, with the help of the Holy Spirit, Jesus' great gift of the Beatitudes on Saturday mornings. All men are invited.

"For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." MT 18:20

RESPECT LIFE COMMITTEE



Homebound Ministry Needs Volunteers



Eucharistic Ministers visit homebound Parishioners, residents at Laurel Ridge Health Care Center, Ridgefield Congregate Housing, and the Ridgefield Crossing Assisted Living Residence the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month. **To volunteer to bring the Eucharist, please contact Kevin Hitchcock at 203-241-0145 or Kevin8669@aol.com.** To receive the Eucharist, please contact the Parish office. Thank you.



ALTAR FLOWER MINISTRY
Anita Barrios, anitabarri@aol.com

ALTAR GUILD
Bobbie Anderson 203-438-6454
bander1938@gmail.com

ALTAR SERVERS
Marcy Miller
marcybutler@hotmail.com

BAPTISM/PRE-BAPTISM PREP
Joanne Brown 203-438-6538
jbrown@smcr.org

CATHOLIC ACTION
Mary Staudt 203-460-6541
mtstaudt@gmail.com

CATHOLIC WOMEN IN COMMUNITY
Barbara Giobbi 917-257-0027
bgiobbi@snet.net

CYO BASKETBALL
Jack Jancin 203-748-3808
jjjancin@hotmail.com

DISCIPLES 4 LIFE
Marilyn Kain 203-994-7808
kainma56@gmail.com

DOROTHY DAY HOUSE
Monica Taddonio
monica.taddonio@gmail.com

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS
Shelley Anderton 203-431-9058
shelleyanderton6@gmail.com

HOMEBOUND MINISTRY
Kevin Hitchcock 203-241-0145
kevin8669@aol.com

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
Brian Patrick Martin, *Grand Knight*
203-894-5617
bpmartin98@aol.com Kofc.org

LAUNDRY LOVE
Laurie Christiansen
lachristiansen@sbcglobal.net

MARRIAGE/MARRIAGE PREP
Joanne Brown 203-438-6538
jbrown@smcr.org

MEN'S MINISTRY
Timothy O'Connell 203-903-4846
timothytoconnell@gmail.com
st.mary.mm1@gmail.com

MIDNIGHT RUN
Bob Wendel 203-431-4031
rgwendel@sbcglobal.net

MOTHER'S CLUB
Amy Tomasco
amyg8646@yahoo.com
Mara Martin
maramc80@yahoo.com

MUSIC MINISTRY
Darren Motise
845-242-7276, darren@smcr.org

PARISH NURSE PROGRAM
Colleen Minchik, R.N
203-438-6538

PERPETUAL ADORATION
Barbara Baughman
stmmaryridgefield22@gmail.com
Catherine Clock
catherinemclock@gmail.com

PILGRIM VIRGIN
Elma Stoveken 203-894-1341
jstoveken@comcast.net

READERS
Kathryn Shelava 203-431-0191
kathy.shelava@att.net

RESPECT LIFE COMMITTEE
John Pappa

ROSARY MINISTRY AT LAUREL RIDGE
Jeremiah King
203-438-8226

RCIA
Vince Falotico
vincent@brooksandfalotico.com
Sue Fernandez
susanmdf@comcast.net

SAINT PETER'S RUN
Laura Danner
LDanner@smcr.org

SCRIPTURE STUDY (Evening)
Bev Scott 914-763-6243
bscott@scottassociatesllc.com

SENIOR CITIZENS
Rachel Ambrosio, Principal
ambrosior@smsridgefield.org

STEPHEN MINISTRY
Jack Hughes 203-244-5228
jack2cruise@gmail.com

USHERS AND GREETERS
John Ahle 203-610-5335
johnahle@aol.com

WELCOME COMMITTEE & HOSPITALITY HOUR
Janie Nneji, 203-942-9589;
smcrhospitality@gmail.com

FINANCE COUNCIL
Steve Seagriff, John Ahle,
Dayan Anandappa,
Felix Cacciato, Mike Kane,
Brenner LeCompte,
Paula Molloy, Kristin McSpedon

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL
Paul Janerico, Rachel
Ambrosio, Sherry Anandappa,
Catherine Desmarais,
Steve Fugazy, Alex Mendoza,
Dennis Peckham, Chris Spahn



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 24 / 7

OTHER SACRAMENTS

Confessions

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

Baptism

Celebrated each Saturday
(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

CEMETERY

203-438-3606



Pastor: Msgr. Kevin T. Royal, MsgrRoyal@smcr.org

Parochial Vicar: Rev. Colin Lomnitzer, flomnitzer@smcr.org

Parochial Vicar: Rev. Justin Raj, frraj@smcr.org

Deacon: George Kain, DnKain@diobpt.org, (203) 994-7807

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

Deacon: Robert Salvestrini, salvo95@aol.com

Parish Receptionist: Kim Macko, kmacko@smcr.org

Administrative Assistant: Joanne Brown, jbrown@smcr.org

Accounting Manager: Karen Conroy, kconroy@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

Pastoral Associate – Laura Danner, ldanner@smcr.org

Administrative Coordinator – Pamela Jensen oyf@smcr.org

HS Youth Coordinator – Karen Anderson kanderson@smcr.org

St. Mary School: Rachel Ambrosio, Principal
ambrosior@smsridgefield.org

Parish Office Building Open

Monday - Thursday 10 AM – 2 PM

Parish Office Hours

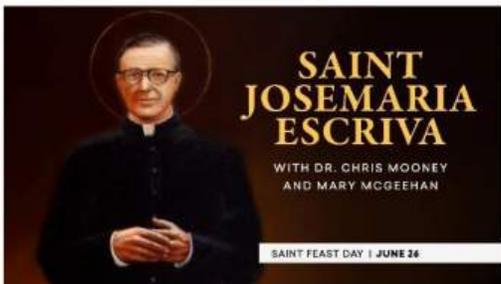
Monday–Friday 8AM – 4PM

Summer Fridays 8AM - Noon

203-438-6538, 203-438-6539 (after hours)

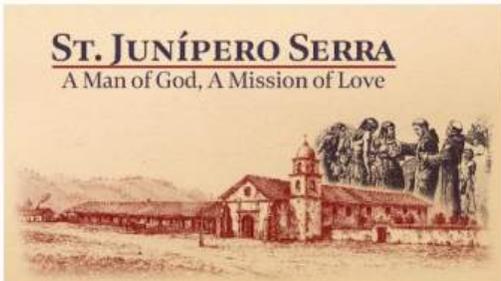
THIS WEEK ON **FORMED**

Week of June 25, 2023



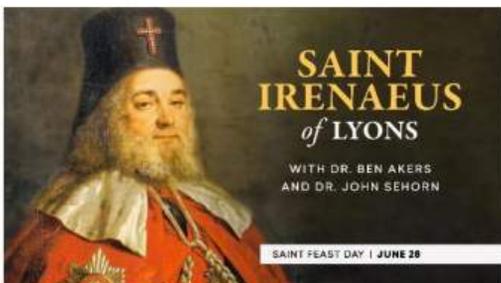
St. Josemaria Escriva | Catholic Saints

Called "the saint of ordinary life" by Pope John Paul II, St. Josemaria Escriva centered his ministry around a simple truth: each person can experience the extraordinary grace of holiness even in the ordinary events of day-to-day life.



St. Junípero Serra: A Man of God, A Mission of Love

In this documentary, learn about Father Serra's heroic missionary activity to Indigenous peoples in 18th-century North America.



Saint Irenaeus of Lyons | Catholic Saints

In this episode of FORMED Now, Dr. John Sehorn and Dr. Ben Akers discuss this second-century Church Father, explaining his importance to the history of Christianity and his title, the "Doctor of Unity."

Our parish has a FORMED subscription.
Visit signup.formed.org and select our parish name.



Twine & Chat Ladies Night

Twine
Knot Join
Us?!

Twine & Chat Ladies Night Continues

Come join us and learn how to make
Twine Knotted Chaplets to give to
those in need of prayer.

Great opportunity to make new friends,
have fun, get more supplies, and chat
as we knot!

Next few dates...7/26, 8/23

Sign up at www.smcr.org

Holy Family Hall 7-9PM

St. Mary Parish Office for Youth & Families

REGISTER ONLINE!
www.smcr.org/welcome

2023-2024

Elementary

Sundays @ 9:15-10:15am; Tuesdays @ 4:30-5:30pm

Sept 24th/ Sept 26th (First Day of Classes/Parent Orientation in Hall)

View full schedule on our website



EDGE



6th—8th graders // Mondays @ 7-8:15PM // St Mary School Gym // www.smcr.org/edge

Join us for the 2023-2024 year! REGISTRATION is OPEN NOW! Calendar and link to register are on the website.

7th graders, this is still the place for you next year. We'll cover all new topics, have a slew of new activities planned, and welcome a bunch of new friends to the mix! EDGE won't be EDGE without you!

8th graders, hang out with us through the summer, then get used to looking out for high school youth activities in the Fall.

High School Youth

9th-12th graders // Sundays @ 6-8pm // St Mary School Hall // www.smcr.org/youth

Stay tuned for some fun events this summer!

BYZANTINE ICONOGRAPHY WORKSHOP



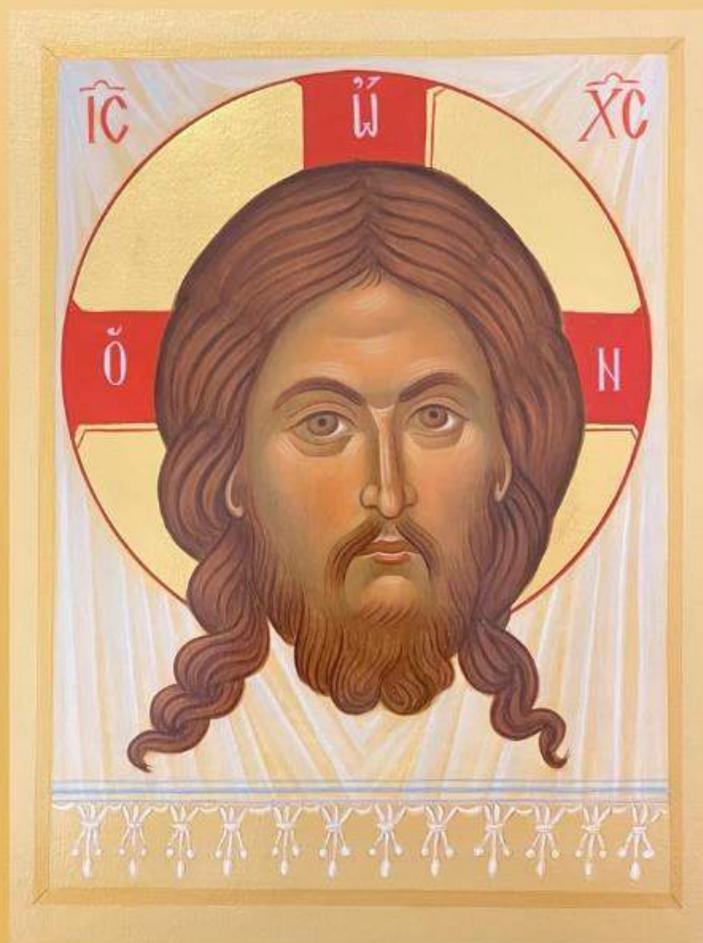
July 17th to 21st at Georgetown Oratory

Join Veronica Royal
for five days of prayer,
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Learn how to write an icon
according to the ancient
techniques while using
contemporary mediums.

The curriculum includes:

- Prayer
- Lectures on Iconography
- Painting in the Byzantine style
- Gilding with 24k gold



*I think it is promising that we are today witnessing a rebirth of Christian Art...reconnecting with the art of the icon,
of a Christian Art that endures in the great norms of the iconological art of the past but that also extends to today's experiences and vision.*

Benedict XVI

For more information contact Ewa Krepsztul at ewa.krepsztul@jesusguild.org or 203.482.6797
30 Church Street, Redding, CT | 203.544.8245 | info@jesusguild.org | www.jesusguild.org



Come join
ST. MARY PARISH
CHOIR



WHERE THERE IS
DEVOTIONAL MUSIC,
GOD IS ALWAYS AT
HAND WITH HIS
GRACIOUS PRESENCE.
- JOHANN SEBASTIAN
BACH

THE CHOIR REHEARSES AND PERFORMS NINE MONTHS OF THE YEAR,
SINGING AT THE 12 PM NOON SUNDAY MASS IN THE CHURCH.
REHEARSALS ARE WEDNESDAY EVENINGS FROM 7:30 TO 9 PM IN THE CHOIR LOFT.

An exciting and fulfilling opportunity to serve

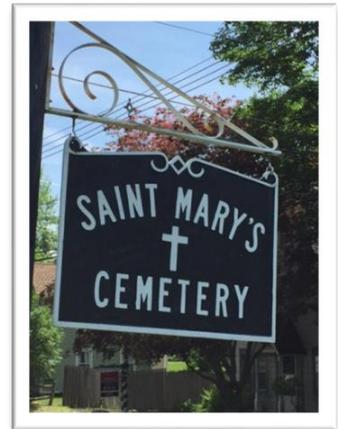
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St. Mary Cemetery, 110 North Street, Ridgefield, CT - Donna Barber, 203-733-4658, dbarber@smc.org

16TH
ANNUAL

CONNECTICUT CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE

2023 THEME:

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GOD'S GIFT & OUR RESPONSIBILITY**

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CTCATHOLICMEN.ORG

ADORATION

CONFESSION & MASS

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EXHIBITORS



Kevin Wells



Matthew Leonard

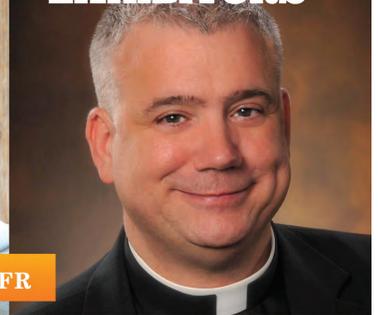


Fr. Glenn Sudano, CFR



Archbishop Blair
& Bishop Betancourt

*Principal celebrant and homilist
respectively at our closing Mass.*

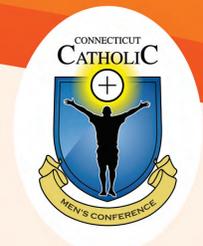


Fr. Larry Richards

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23
8:30AM - 4PM VIGIL MASS
TICKETS ON SALE NOW**

ctcatholicmen.org | Order Online

LOCATION
NORTHWEST CATHOLIC HIGH
SCHOOL IN WEST HARTFORD





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Join this important hospitality ministry at St. Mary Parish!



We need Greeters/Ushers for the
4:30pm Saturday, Noon and 5pm Sunday Masses

This important ministry welcomes and seats worshipers as they arrive for Mass, takes up the offertory collection and distributes bulletins at the end of Mass. It requires arriving 20 minutes before Mass and staying 10 minutes after Mass. If you would like to help at the Mass you regularly attend or would like more information, please contact John Ahle at johnahle@aol.com.

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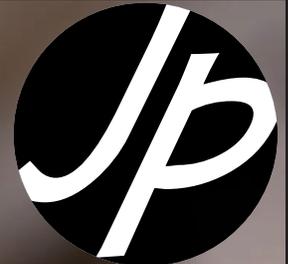
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*You may be asking yourself,
 "who or what is Finding FABER?"*

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