



OPEN HEARTS ♦ OPEN MINDS ♦ OPEN DOORS

# *St. Patrick-St. Anthony Church*

HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 18, 2022

# St. Patrick-St. Anthony Church and The Franciscan Center for Urban Ministry

285 Church Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06103  
tel 860-756-4034 • info@spsact.org • www.spsact.org



*Open Hearts  
Open Minds  
Open Doors*

We are a welcoming and dynamic community of Christian disciples. Rooted in the Franciscan experience of the Roman Catholic tradition, we proactively endeavor to extend hospitality both at the Eucharistic Table and as we minister reciprocally and in solidarity among the alienated and the poor, nurturing the mind, body, and spirit in the Greater Hartford Community. All are welcome!



## Celebration of the Eucharist

Masks are optional at all Masses

### Saturday Evening Mass of Anticipation

4:00 PM Public & Livestream

### Sunday Masses

8:00 AM Public

10:00 AM Public & Livestream  
(Special "Mask Only" section available)

11:45 AM Public

5:00 PM Public

### Weekday Masses

7:30 AM Public

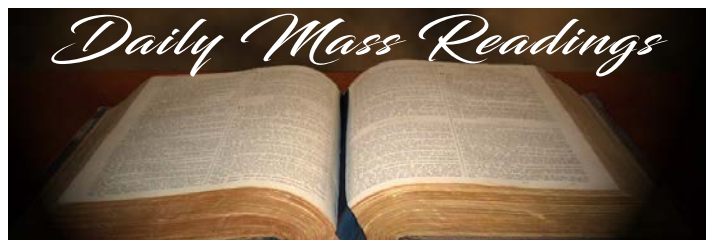
12:05 PM Public & Livestream

## Sacrament of Reconciliation

Masks are required for everyone during Reconciliation

Monday, Wednesday, Friday 11:15 to 11:45 AM

Saturday 3:15 to 3:45 PM



**Monday, Dec 19:** Judges 13:2-7, 24-25A; Luke 1:5-25

**Tuesday, Dec 20:** Isaiah 7:10-14; Luke 1:26-38

**Wednesday, Dec 21:** Song of songs 2:8-14; Luke 1:39-45

**Thursday, Dec 22:** 1 Samuel 1:24-28; Luke 1:46-56

**Friday, Dec 23:** Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24; Luke 1:57-66

**Sunday, Dec 25:** Isaiah 9:1-6; Psalm 96: 1-2, 2-3,  
11-12, 13; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-14

Go to <http://www.usccb.org/> for readings online.

## News from The Saints Lot

We are going "Back to the Future", pre-pandemic style!



With the installation of our new parking lot gates, a new era greets us. Starting in mid January, we will go back to using tickets when attending Weekday Masses and other events at the Church and Urban Center. More detailed information will appear in upcoming parish wide emails and both the January 1st and 8th

bulletins. So, please keep an eye out.

## Parish and Center Office Hours

Monday, Dec. 19 - Friday, Dec. 23: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Saturday, Dec. 24: 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Sunday, Dec. 25 - Monday, Dec. 26: The Office is Closed

Tuesday, Dec. 27 - Friday, Dec 30: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Saturday, Dec. 31 - Monday, Jan. 2: The Office is Closed

Tuesday, Jan 3 - Saturday, Jan 7: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

## Upcoming Bulletin Deadlines

Jan. 1, 2023 Bulletin: Thursday, Dec. 22 at noon



# The Pastor's Corner

December 18, 2022

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

"I'm dreaming tonight of a place I love even more than I usually do. And although I know it's a long road back I promise you. . ." Do you know the next line of this popular Christmas song?

Of course, there is another song that speaks of Yuletide dreams – as in "I'm dreaming of a white Christmas, just like the ones I used to know." The Christmas holidays seem to be a time for dreaming; dreaming for snow or toys or just someone to share the joy and intimacy of this unique time of the year.

Bing Crosby, Michael Bubl  and so many other singers aren't the only ones who dream at Christmas. St. Joseph had dreams as well, but he wasn't dreaming of glistening tree-tops or sleigh bells in the snow. In fact, according to Matthew's Gospel, Joseph had four dreams.

Perhaps his most famous dream took place after the wise men had come to Bethlehem and offered their gifts to Jesus, the newborn king of the Jews. Even the wise men were warned in a dream to avoid King Herod and so they "departed to their own country another way" (Mt. 2:12). In the next verse, Joseph has a dream in which he is told to take Mary and Jesus and flee to Egypt to escape Herod's wrath (Mt. 2:13). Later, after Herod's death, Joseph is told, again in a dream, to return to Israel (Mt. 2:20). But the dreams weren't over, because Herod's son Archelaus was now ruling in Israel. Once more, a dream instructed him to go to Galilee and settle his family in Nazareth (Mt. 2:22).

The first of Joseph's dreams is recounted in today's Gospel as Joseph was mulling over the shocking news that Mary was pregnant, and he wasn't the father! His plan was to divorce her quietly to avoid putting her to shame. But God had other plans, and in the first of his four dreams, an angel reassures Joseph, calming his fears about taking Mary as his wife. In fact, he is given the honor of naming his future son. He is to be called Jesus (Mt. 1:20-21).

So what are you dreaming about these days? I doubt any of us are hearing instructions from God about what our next plan of action



should be. But we are capable of hearing God speak to us in the depths of our hearts, if not in dreams, then in the words of Scripture or in prayer.

Perhaps we hear, or sense, that something in our life is in need of change. Or maybe we are looking for a sign that will help us make an important decision. Whatever it might be, God has a way of speaking to us a word of love, forgiveness, or just a reassurance that we are on the right path to holiness, however winding and unclear that road might be. So, wherever your dreams take you, don't be afraid to act on them. More often than not, we will find the answers we need through those who care about us.

By the way, the answer to my question earlier is: "I'll be home for Christmas – if only in my dreams."

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Switching gears for a moment, I'm happy to tell you that we were able to find someone who could fix the locking mechanism on our tabernacle. What first seemed to be an unresolvable problem turned out to be a rather simple fix – if you can find the right person.



However, another repair job has arisen which involves the painting of the Blessed Mother in our chapel. Several weeks ago the wire attached to the back of the frame suddenly gave out and the painting fell to the floor, damaging the frame and loosening the canvas from the stretcher. Fortunately, the damage is not serious and can be repaired. I am not aware of the origin of the painting, such as its age or provenance. It is, however, a very fine copy of Murillo's "Immaculate Conception of El Escorial" in the Museo del Prado in Madrid. We have located a local art restorer who examined the painting and its frame, and it has been taken to his studio for restoration.

May your days be merry and bright, and blessings on your week ahead!

*Fr. Tim Shreenan, OFM*

Fr. Tim Shreenan, O.F.M.  
Pastor

## Secular Franciscan Order Meeting



Is God calling you to live a life of love, peace, and holiness in the model of St. Francis of Assisi? Join us for our gathering in the lower level of the Franciscan Center for Urban Ministry at St. Patrick-St. Anthony on December 18, 2022 to learn more about the Secular

Franciscan Order. We will meet at 2:00 PM to celebrate our annual Christmas Crib devotion to celebrate the birth of Christ.

After all the Masses the weekend of December 17 and 18, the Secular Franciscans will be distributing small packets of birdseed to members of your parish because St. Francis wanted everyone to celebrate the birth of Jesus. One way was to feed the birds, especially at Christmas.

Please accept this gift from the Secular Franciscans and assist your children and grandchildren with this mission.

**journey to Bethlehem**

From the prophet's vision of Emmanuel to the apostle's proclamation of God speaking to us through a Son, let us join Mary and Joseph in their journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem as the mystery of the Incarnation is unfolded for us in scripture and song.

Join us on Sunday, December 18, 2022 at 7:00 PM for well-known carols and glorious choral music, together with the children of our parish as they recount the story of Christmas.

A unique surprise awaits us as we hear the premiere performance of "A Christmas Antiphon" by the renowned composer Charles Callahan, written especially for this occasion!

*Reception to follow our service of lessons and carols at the Franciscan Center for Urban Ministry*

## Open Hearts Ministry



**Monthly Meeting:** The Open Hearts Ministry is postponing its regularly scheduled December meeting from December 11th to December 18th, to coincide with Lessons and Carols. Please email [info@spsact.org](mailto:info@spsact.org) or contact the church office if you would like to help with the reception.

**Friends and Family Ministry:** The Friends and Family group will not meet on December 18, 2022. Our next meeting will take place on Sunday, January 15, 2023 at 3:30 PM in the Franciscan Center. Our group provides support and guidance to parents, friends and allies of our LGBTQ+ brothers and sisters. Please contact either Tim Curran ([timothy.curran@trincoll.edu](mailto:timothy.curran@trincoll.edu)) or Rich Broggini ([richardbroggini@gmail.com](mailto:richardbroggini@gmail.com)) for more information.

## The Emmaus Ministry for Grieving Parents



The Emmaus Grieving Parents Ministry supports parents whose spiritual journey includes the death of a child. All who have suffered the loss of a child at any time – including prior to birth and many decades ago – are welcome.

If you have lost a child and would like to chat with a parent walking the same path, members of our group would be honored to speak with you one-on-one. Please know that you are never alone.

**The meeting Sunday, December 18, 2022 at 3:30 PM HAS BEEN CANCELLED.** Our next Zoom meeting is Wednesday, December 21, 2022 at 7:00 PM.

Please [CLICK Here](#) to request more information online or call the church office at 860-756-4034, leave your name and phone number, and a Ministry Member will contact with you.

### Adult Faith Formation Programs

**Group Spiritual Reflection:** Every Tuesday via Zoom from 12:30-1:30 PM. *Co-facilitators: Elaine Wiatr and Mary Espinosa*

**Quiet Prayer:** Our next session is Wednesday, December 21, 2022 from 7:30 - 8:00 AM. You can find the Zoom link in Monday's email.

**Praying the Sacred Scripture:** Wednesday, December 21, 2022, in person from 7:00 to 8:00 pm.



# Christmas and New Years Mass Schedule

## Saturday, December 24

4:00 PM Mass: with cantor and Liturgical Dancers

5:30 PM Mass: with Church Street Singers and Treble Clef Choir

10:00 PM: Prelude to the Mass at Night

10:30 PM: Mass at Night

## Sunday, December 25

8:00, 10:00 and 11:45 am Masses (No 5:00 PM)  
with vocal ensemble, organ and instrumentalists

## Monday, December 26

9:00 am Mass (NO 7:30 am or 12:05 pm) and Parish Office is Closed

## Saturday, December 31

4:00 pm Mass

Reception following to view First Night Fireworks at 6:00 pm

## Sunday, January 1, 2023

8:00, 10:00 and 11:45 am Masses (No 5:00 pm)

## Monday, January 2, 2023

9:00 am Mass (No 7:30 am or 12:05pm) Parish Office Closed

*I proclaim to you  
good news of great  
joy: today a Savior  
is born for us,  
Christ the Lord.*

luke 2:10-11

## Haiti Giving Tree



**We invite you to take an ornament from our Giving Tree; a symbol of our covenant.**

We humbly ask, on behalf of St. Genevieve, for your continued support for their parish school, particularly with educational materials and tuition assistance. This Advent, our Giving Tree will focus on helping to provide school workbooks and textbooks, and tuition support.

A member of the Sister Parish committee, who has traveled to Haiti, offers this week's reflection:

"As I read the current news about the unbelievable levels of violence by the gangs in Haiti, I wonder if we at SPSA can make a difference. Sometimes it seems as if nothing is working in Haiti. But I try to remember that since 2005, we have assisted with school salaries and daily hot meals, at the request of St. Genevieve parish. With our help, the school has expanded grade levels and enrollment, and retained teachers and staff. Students are learning about their faith as well as reading and mathematics.

And there is moral and spiritual support as the parishioners of both of our parishes pray and communicate with each other. I hope the

families in Zoranje have a little extra comfort knowing we in Hartford stand with them as they try to live and prosper. So I do believe we are making a difference in the individual lives of all those connected with the school. And that our requests for school support remain a worthwhile effort."

PLEASE NOTE: We will continue to accept donations for the Haiti Giving Tree until mid-January. The tree will be taken down in preparation for Christmas. Please Click/Scan the QR code to make an online donation, mail a check to the parish office or deposited a check in the Sunday collection basket with the memo note of "Sister Parish." MESI-THANK YOU!



Through our love of God and one another, we find ways in which we can use our time and talents to share with others.

Consider giving the gift of your time and talent this holiday season by participating in our **Time and Talent Tree**. From joining the prayer network to helping to distribute sandwiches, the options are endless. Access our Time and Talent Tree by using your smart phone to scan the QR code or going to <https://spsagivingtree.org/time-and-talent-tree/>.

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## Ladies Guild

### Christmas Corner Tea Cup Auction Winners

Our wonderful Ladies Guild held their annual Christmas Party at Elaine's Restaruant in Rocky Hill Sunday, December 11. The event was well attended and the ladies and their guests enjoyed a delicious meal.

During the event, the Christmas Corner Tea Cup Auction Winners were drawn. Congratulations to all those who won and a huge thank you to all those who purchased tickets or donated an item for the auction. Here are this year's winners:

Karen Ann Bezzini, Khristy Morado, Julianne Przybycien, Eric Fleishmann (won 3 times), Martha Murtaugh, Martha Keener, Joseph Cammarano, Lucianne Patoka, Patrick Hennessy, Rafael Lopez, Anna Eddy, Janice Harrison, Ellen Crowley and Patricia Tenthorey.

### Honored

Sr. Alicia Torres, granddaughter of Ladies Guild President, Marianne Midura, was just named one of Our Sunday Visitor's 2022 Catholics of the Year. Sr. Alicia is a Franciscan of the Eucharist of Chicago. The community lives and serves amongst the poor in Chicago's West Humboldt Park neighborhood. Fun Fact: She also won Food Network's Chopped in 2015. Please [CLICK Here](#) to read about Sr. Alicia.

### In Memoriam

The Ladies Guild is sad to announce the passing of longtime member, Rosaline "Rose" Gilberto †.

## Gifts & Offerings

12/5/2022 to 12/11/2022

Weekly Offering:	\$8,379.00
Online:	\$10,347.73
<b>Total Offering:</b>	<b>\$18,726.73</b>
Hartford Bishops' Foundation Grant:	\$5,929.99
Other Donations:	\$3,000.00
<b>Total Available for Operating Budget:</b>	<b>\$27,656.72</b>
<b>Retirement Fund for the Religious:</b>	<b>\$2,058.00</b>

*Thankyou for your continued generosity*

## Who Will Be A Volunteer Hero?

Volunteer at one weekend Mass per month. We just need a few more people to help round out our teams.



**Front desk greeter** before and during 8:00 AM Mass.

**Sacristans** at weekend Masses. Tasks include setting up for Masses and providing a warm and welcoming smile to those coming to Mass.

**Livestream camera operator** at 4:00 PM or 10:00 AM Masses. No experience is necessary. We will train you.

Interested? Contact [Allison](#) to learn more!

**Altar Servers** are also needed. No experience is necessary – we will train you. You can choose which Masses and how often you serve. This could be a great experience for a parent and child to serve during Mass together. Please contact Deb Pelletier at [dpelletier@spsact.org](mailto:dpelletier@spsact.org) for more information.

## *Please Pray for the Sick*

Paula Molitar, Joseph Shertick, Mary Kay Hannon, Greg Reed, Kathryn Eagers, Tommie Henry, Cecy Mickey, Syl Ciraulo, Mary Ertel, Mary Joyce Castafero, Dave Godek, Tim Hindman, Judy Smith and Susan Degennaro.



## *Sanctuary Lamps*

### Week of December 11th

In Loving Memory of  
Larry Tracey, Jr.  
Hank Cleary  
Dan Buckanavage

### Week of December 18th

In Loving Memory of  
Larry Tracey, Jr.  
Mary McManus Cormier (5th Anniversary)

### Week of December 25th

In Loving Memory of  
Richard Crocket  
Larry Tracey, Jr.  
Daniel Buckanavage

## Mass Intentions for the Week

### Friday, December 16, 2022

7:30 AM Dan Buckanavage  
12:05 PM Robert J. Lemega

### Saturday, December 17, 2022

4:00 PM Pauline S. Ward 9th Anniversary

### Sunday, December 18, 2022

8:00 AM William, Angie & Joanne Speziale  
10:00 AM Joseph Gora  
11:45 AM Elaine LePage  
5:00 PM Donato & Maria Monaco

### Monday, December 19, 2022

7:30 AM Leslie Apostalon  
12:05 PM Maria Magdalena Galvan

### Tuesday, December 20, 2022

7:30 AM  
12:05 PM Sarah Conforto

### Wednesday, December 21, 2022

7:30 AM Mary McManus Cormier, 5th Anniversary  
12:05 PM Thomas Callan

### Thursday, December 22, 2022

7:30 AM  
12:05 PM Cafaldo, Misasi & Scarselli Families

### Friday, December 23, 2022

7:30 AM  
12:05 PM Tommy Labriola

### Saturday, December 24, 2022 - Christmas Eve

4:00 PM For  
5:30 PM Our  
10:30 PM Parishioners

### Sunday, December 25, 2022

8:00 AM For  
10:00 AM Our  
11:45 AM Parishioners

## St. Patrick - St. Anthony Staff

### PASTORAL STAFF

Fr. Timothy J. Shreenan, O.F.M., Pastor, [tshreenan@gmail.com](mailto:tshreenan@gmail.com)

Fr. William Beaudin, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar & Guardian,  
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Patricia Curtis, Pastoral Associate, [pcurtis@spsact.org](mailto:pcurtis@spsact.org)

Kristina DiDomenzio, Business Manager, [kdidomenzio@spsact.org](mailto:kdidomenzio@spsact.org)

Allison Holst-Grubbe, Director of Outreach/Volunteer Ministry,  
[aholstgrubbe@spsact.org](mailto:aholstgrubbe@spsact.org)

Fr. Michael Johnson, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar & Director of Franciscan  
Center for Urban Ministry, [mikeinbolivia@gmail.com](mailto:mikeinbolivia@gmail.com)

Fr. John Leonard, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar, [jleonard@spsact.org](mailto:jleonard@spsact.org)

Dr. Gabriel Löfvall, Director of Music Ministry, [glofvall@spsact.org](mailto:glofvall@spsact.org)

Fr. A. Francis Soucy, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar & Senior Associate Friar,  
[afsofm@gmail.com](mailto:afsofm@gmail.com)

### ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Carolyn Abramo, Parish & Center Administrative Assistant,  
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Michael Boone, Office Assistant, [mboone@spsact.org](mailto:mboone@spsact.org)

Sarah Christopher, Parish Communications Director,  
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Stacie Mawson, Saturday Receptionist, [smawson@spsact.org](mailto:smawson@spsact.org)

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION STAFF

Deborah Pelletier, Religious Ed Team Coordinator,  
[dpelletier@spsact.org](mailto:dpelletier@spsact.org)

Sarah Christopher, Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Mary Gray, Family Program

Lauren Kasperowski, Traditional Program

Faith VosWinkel, Confirmation

Michelle White, 7th & 8th Grade

### MAINTENANCE STAFF

Orville Russell, Director of Maintenance

Gilberto Lisboa, Church Custodian

### Watch Online:



<https://www.facebook.com/St-Patrick-St-Anthony-Church-109359789104825/>



<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8Vhk8-hhlyAJenBxueHySQ>

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