OPEN HEARTS + OPEN MINDS + OPEN DOORS

St. Patrick-St. Anthony Church



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



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

Daily Mass Readings

Monday, Dec 5: Isaiah 35:1-10; Luke 5:17-26

Tuesday, Dec 6: Isaiah 40:1-11; Matthew 18:12-14 **Wednesday, Dec 7:** Isaiah 40:25-31; Matthew 4:18-22

Thursday, Dec 8: Genesis 3:9-15, 20; Ephesians 1:3-6,

11-12: Luke 1:26-38

Friday, Dec 9: Isaiah 48:17-19; Matthew 11:16-19

Sunday, Dec 11: Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10; Psalm 146:6-7, 8-9,

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

9-10: James 5:7-10: Matthew 11:2-11

Parish and Center Office Hours

Monday through Saturday 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Sunday 9:00 am to 11:30 am

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Thursday, December 8 at 7:30 AM and 12:05 PM

"Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus."





The Pastor's Corner

December 4, 2022

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

The last time I wrote my letter I was getting ready to head to Florida for several days of meetings with our Franciscan Provincial administration. The best part of the week was the opportunity to see friars I hadn't seen in a while, and it was also nice to finally see our friary in St. Petersburg and visit with some of the friars in retirement there. It didn't escape me that St. Pete could also be my future home!

Fr. Bill and I returned to a chilly Hartford, just in time for the celebration of the Solemnity of Christ the King and a special opportunity to thank three members of our music ministry who have recently retired: Gloria Lombardo, Irene Kramer and Susan Ahearn. Both Gloria and Irene sang in the choir for decades and Susan served as choir librarian equally as long. I wanted to make sure we had a public acknowledgement of their years of service and to present them with a "St. Cecilia Blessing." Using the beautiful stained glass window of St. Cecilia, the patron saint of music and musicians, we created personalized framed certificates with a prayer and blessing for each of them. Music Director Gabriel Löfvall joined me in making the presentation at the 10:00 Mass on November 20.



Thanksgiving Day was just around the corner and turkeys by the dozen were being made ready to be turned into take-away meals for the guests of our Sandwich Ministry. On Thanksgiving morning, the Franciscan Center was turned into an efficient assembly line of volunteers who made up turkey sandwiches while others filled the hand-decorated bags with all kinds of goodies for both our own guests as well as those who are served at the House of Bread.

The beauty of Thanksgiving weekend is that it often coincides with the start of Advent, so a sense of anticipation is

palpable even before the last piece of pumpkin pie is taken!





A treasured tradition returned this year after a pandemic-enforced absence: families making their own Advent wreaths in the Franciscan Center after the morning Masses on the First Sunday of Advent.

With the assistance of Michelle White and the 7th and 8th Grade Ministry students, families could gather at a table along

with all the elements necessary to make their own Advent wreath. One of our students, Jack Sheehan, proudly displayed his family's creation.

During the season of Advent we are challenged to look at ourselves in light of the preaching of John the Baptist who called his followers to live more authentically. The folks you see in these photos do just that. As St. Paul tells us in today's second reading: "May the God of endurance and enouragement grant you to think in harmony with one another...that you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!"

Blessings on your week ahead!

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

Pastor



Advent Evening of Reflection

Invitation from our Synod Team...

For almost a year, our parish has been on the Synod Journey



at the invitation of Pope Francis. At the heart of this journey has been the Holy Spirit guiding our listening and sharing sessions at our parish and at national and international gatherings for conversation and prayer. Now, as

we start this new liturgical year, we venture to consider how our Advent sacred scripture texts reflect our synodal journey together. What awaits us as we gaze upon the central figures of Isaiah, Mary, Joseph, Jesus and the Magi?

Join us on Tuesday, December 13, 2022 from 7:00-8:00 PM for a special evening engaging our imaginations to break open insights to renew, inspire, and lift our hearts to see God's redeeming and healing love at work in our lives, our Church, and our world.

CLICK here to register and receive the Zoom link.

Free Will Offering can be made payable to "St. Patrick-St. Anthony Church" and mailed to 285 Church Street, Hartford, CT 06103, Attn. Pat Curtis.

Advent Instruments of Peace

We began this fall semester with a couple of questions as we celebrated the Feast of Saint Francis in early October: "How can we be Instruments of Peace?" and "How do we as a community of faith and as individual faith-filled citizens engage our mind - body- spirit in a response for peace at both the communal and personal levels?" We considered choosing peace as a nonviolent Gospel response to the challenges of today. Next, we stood our ground around the peace pole outside of church with signs every weekend calling for peace. Then we took our message into our neighborhoods with yard signs proclaiming "May Peace Prevail". And so, it seems fitting to conclude this semester with a look to our new liturgical year and its Advent message of peace.

Join us Thursday, December 15 from 7:00-8:00 PM on Zoom as we use Maya Angelou's Christmas Poem, "Amazing Peace", to explore yet again the call and invitation to become instruments of peace.

peace.

If the events happening in our local and global communities disturb you, step into this reflective evening time to recover a balance \sim a promise of and a hope for \sim PEACE.

AMAZING

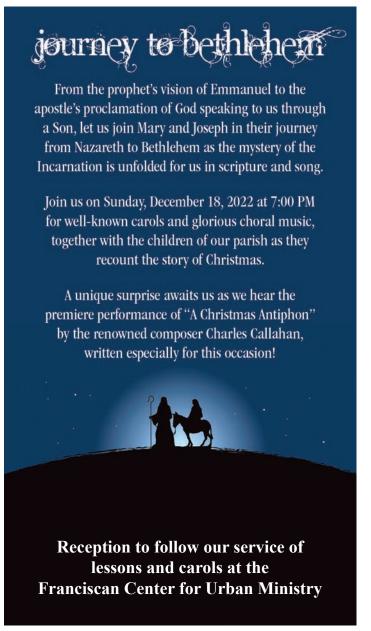
Facilitator: Pat Curtis

CLICK here to register and receive the Zoom link.

Free Will Offering can be made payable to "St. Patrick-St. Anthony Church" and mailed to 285 Church Street, Hartford, CT 06103, Attn. Pat Curtis.







Ladies Guild:

A heartfelt *Thank You* to all who participated in our Christmas Corner and Craft Event. The Christmas Corner Drawings will be held at our **Annual Christmas Party, on Saturday, December 10, 2022 at 12 Noon, Elaine's Restaurant in Wethersfield.** Plus, You can pick up additional Tea Cup Auction tickets for your last-minute chances.

Members, family and friends are invited to join us for a hot buffet dinner, (Chicken Marsala, Baked Boston Scrod and Sliced Sirloin Burgundy) for \$25 per person.

Send your reservation to the church office by Monday, December 5th, cash or check payable to: SPSA Ladies Guild. Hope to see you at our celebration! Thank You!



Adult Faith Formation

Please **CLICK here** for information on all programs.

A **Free Will Offering** for any program can be made payable to "St. Patrick-St. Anthony Church" and mailed to 285 Church Street, Hartford, CT 06103, Attn: Pat Curtis.

Group Spiritual Reflection: Every Tuesday via Zoom from 12:30-1:30 PM. Our gatherings will reflect upon the Gospel for the upcoming Sunday to guide us on our path of discipleship. As companions on the journey, we listen and share how the Word speaks to our hearts through the Spirit. There is no advance preparation for the session required. Come as you are with an open heart. All are welcome! CLICK Here to register and receive Zoom link.

Co-facilitators: Elaine Wiatr and Mary Espinosa

Praying with Sacred Scripture: Wednesdays, December 7 and 21, 2022 from 7:00 to 8:00 PM. Please consider joining us in-person for "lectio divina" (divine reading.) It is a prayerful reading of a bible passage in order to discern its message for each of us today. We have found that meeting in person gives the experience greater intimacy and impact. If you haven't tried it yet, please do! The process is simple and will be explained each time, and sharing is welcome, but optional.

Co-facilitators: Sheila Denion and John Lemega

Quiet Prayer: Join us every Wednesday morning from 7:30 - 8:00 AM to start your day with Quiet Prayer. You can find the Zoom link in Monday's email. Our next session is **Wednesday, December 7, 2022 from 7:30 - 8:00** AM

People of Hope



For our People of Hope gatherings on Wednesdays this Advent from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM, we welcome back guest facilitator **Gloria Ulterino** to share insights with us about the new liturgical year and season. The titles of Gloria's presentations are listed here for each week:

December 7: "Initiator of Something New" December 14: "Birthing The Dream"

Please consider joining us for this conversation in faith and prayer time together. It might be just what is needed to sustain your Spirit. Join us!

<u>CLICK here</u> to register and receive the Zoom link.

Women Deacons



The Women of Hope Ministry has been inspired to explore this topic of "Women Deacons" because of the recent response to Pope Francis' Synod. In listening sessions at our parish as well as at national and international gatherings, the People of God are ready to move forward with dialogue about and study of the question, "Who can serve the Church in the role of ordained deacon?"

Women of Hope Ministry has designed a process to consider this question and we now invite you to join in. In December and January, please seek out our articles in the bulletin and parish emails which will take a fresh look at Scripture passages that describe the leadership and service of women in the early Church. We will reclaim important developments in our Church history and break open this topic in renewed ways. We will share the new reality opening up before us with Pope Francis' commitment to synodality.

Then, on consecutive Tuesdays, January 17 and 24, 2023, we will gather as a faith community for prayer and discussion. Our parish Synod process gave voice to the desire of women, men, and students for the expansion of leadership roles in the Church. Please plan now to join us in January! Registration details are forthcoming.

"Come and See" how we, as the People of God, can further our own education and understanding as we continue to journey together.

Local Giving Tree



There is still plenty of time to get your gift for the Local Giving Tree. Use our electronic gift registry for the Local Giving Tree again this year. Please consider one of our winter coats for our friends at the House of Bread. To access the registry, Click spsagivingtree.org/local-giving-tree or use your smart phone to scan the QR Code below.

Please remember, the last day to return your wrapped and labeled gift is Saturday, December 10 at 6:00 PM.

Once on the website, please click the brown "VIEW THE GIFT DELIVERY INSTRUCTIONS"

button located above the registry listings. Please read all instructions. This page contains all dates and times our volunteers will be available to receive your gifts at the Franciscan Center for Urban Ministry.

Call Frances D'Amico at 203-715-6313 if you have additional questions and to volunteer!!!!

Thank you for your generosity.

Time and Talent Tree



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://spsaqivingtree.org/time-and-talent-tree/.

Haiti Giving Tree: The value of teaching and learning materials



Our Global Haiti Giving Tree reminds us each Advent, about our covenant relationship with the parish of St. Genevieve in Zoranje, Haiti.

This Advent, we continue to listen to the families and pastor at St. Genevieve as we ask for your continued support for the parish school. Our focus this Christmas season is on providing educational materials and tuition assistance to fulfill their needs.

A Sister Parish committee member offers this reflection for your consideration:

Do you remember your excitement and enthusiasm for learning when given a new workbook in school? Some of the students at St. Genevieve have been re-using or sharing their workbooks, even year after year. Imagine how having new learning tools will help the students of St. Genevieve School!

Having the appropriate learning tools will help the students practice what they learn, reinforce new skills and develop new knowledge. Having their own learning materials will help the students be more engaged and motivated to continue studying.

Can you help us help St. Genevieve support these students in their educational journey by providing workbooks and learning materials? What a Christmas gift that would be to the students in our Sister Parish. Thank you.

The estimated cost of a set of books and workbooks for one student is equivalent to \$100.00 US. <u>CLICK Here</u> or scan the QR Code to make an online donation, or with a check (made out to SPSA Church, with "Sister Parish Giving Tree" in the memo) in the collection basket or mailed to the office. MESI-THANK YOU!



Volunteer to Provide Dinner at Hartford Warming Center

Looking for an opportunity to feed the hunger? The no freeze shelter in Hartford opens for winter shelter for the homeless on December 1st and once again we will be providing Sunday dinners and Wednesday pasta nights to the clients of the shelter. We still need help with both groceries and Wednesday dinners. CLICK Here or call the church office if interested.

For Wednesdays in December we are looking for people to prepare 2 lbs of either baked ziti, Mac cheese or chili (also served with pasta) trays can be dropped off cold or frozen. <u>CLICK Here</u> or call the church office if interested.

December 11th we have a chef bringing in his team to cook, but need the follow dropped off by Dec. 9th. <u>CLICK Here</u> or call the church office if interested.

10lbs Vadalia onions 10lbs fresh carrots 2 bundles of leeks 5lbs Parnips 2 ea large yellow turnips (Rutabaga)

2 hds of Celery 4lbs frozen Peas 2 jars of "Better than Boullion" Chicken base 2 boxes of corn starch

10lbs white (Dry) Rice 1lb Parmesan cheese 4dz Brownies 4dz cookies

And finally Christmas Sunday dinner, our plan is to have people drop off pots of stew and Sunday evening around 4:00 PM we will start to combine and reheat. If anyone is available to help that evening or make a pot of stew, a tray of salad or desserts it would be greatly appreciated. CLICK Here or call the church office if interested.

Please don't be shy we need your help in a variety of ways - prayers accepted!

Liturgical Dance Ensemble



Create a prayerful and memorable Christmas tradition for your child with Liturgical Dance. The 4:00 pm Mass on Christmas Eve features the Liturgical Dancers who express their prayer through movement.

Parishioner, Mary Beth Griffith of Griffith Academy of Dance in Wethersfield, will

direct our dancers again this year.

All dancers, high school age and younger are invited to join the Liturgical Dance Ensemble for three rehearsals in December and to dance with us at the 4:00 PM Mass on Christmas Eve.

Rehearsal Schedule:

Saturday, December 10

8:00-9:00 AM at the Griffith Academy, 275 Main Street, Wethersfield.

Sunday, December 18

1:30-3:30 PM at St. Patrick - St. Anthony Church.

Thursday, December 22

4:30-6:30 PM at St. Patrick - St. Anthony Church

Call time on December 24 is 3:00 PM.

<u>CLICK Here</u> for more information and to sign up to dance. If you have questions, contact Sarah Christopher at <u>schristopher@</u> <u>spsact.org</u>, church coordinator for the Liturgical Dancers.



The Church Street Singers youth chior will provide musical leadership for both Journey to Bethehem: A Service of Lessons

and Carols on December 18 at 7:00 PM and at the 5:30 pm Mass on Christmas Eve.

Reading age youth singers are invited to join us for 3



rehearsals and the 5:30 pm Christmas Eve Mass on December 24.

High school leaders are also need. Please consider joining to assist in guiding the younger children.

The Church Street Singers are directed by choir director, parishioner, and catechist, Julia Atwood.

Rehearsal Schedule

Rehearsals are from **1:00 to 2:00** PM in the Franciscan Center on the following Sundays:

December 4 December 11 December 18
Call time on December 24 is 5:00 PM.



CLICK Here or scan the QR Code for more information and to sign up. If you have further questions, please call the parish office at 860-756-4034, leave your name and number, and we will have someone connect with you.

Current Volunteer Opportunities at St. Patrick — St. Anthony Church and the Franciscan Center

If you're looking for a specific way you can get involved, here is a list of current needs we have. Can you share your gifts? Please: CLICK Here for more information.

Remote Volunteer Opportunity!

SPSA's Volunteer Ministry needs folks who can assist our ministry coordinators with technological/administrative tasks related to their ministries. This work can be done 100% remotely. Comfortable proficiency in Google workspace, Zoom and Microsoft Office is necessary.

Altar Servers Needed!

ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED No experience is necessary — we will train you. You can choose which Masses and how often you serve. Have you ever considered serving as a parent /child ministry? This could be a great experience for a parent and child to serve during Mass together. Please contact Deb Pelletier at dpelletier@spsact.org for more information.

Livestream Camera Operator

Have you ever wondered what it takes to stream one of our Masses? We have dedicated volunteers who cover each Mass, but one is graduating from high school! We are in search of someone who can come to Mass 15 minutes before starting time, stream the Mass from our control room, and put the equipment away.

Volunteer with our Partner Organizations

St. Patrick — St. Anthony and the Franciscan Center for Urban Ministry partner with many local organizations to help people in the Hartford community. <u>CLICK Here</u> to find out more about potential volunteer opportunities.

Please Pray for the Sick

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

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. Open Hearts traditionally hosts the reception following Lessons and Carols. With three out of four of our leadership team unable to attend due to prior commitments, we are asking for volunteers to help with set up, serving and clean up. Please email info@spsact.org or contact the church office if you would like to help.

Gifts & Offerings

11/14/2022 to 11/20/2022:

Weekly Offering: \$6,656.00
Online: \$9,356.73
Total Offering: \$14,590.73
Other Gifts and Donations: \$5,200.00

Total Available for Operating Budget: \$21,212.73

Military Collection: \$1,673.00 Catholic Relief: \$2,487.00

11/21/2022 to 11/27/2022:

Thanksgiving: \$218.00
Weekly Offering: \$5,176.00
Online: \$8,008.73
Total Offering: \$13,402.73
Other Gifts and Donations: \$11,850.80

Total Available for Operating Budget: \$25,253.53

Thank you for your continued generosity.

Christmas Flower Memorials



The beautiful poinsettias and greenery that adorn our altar and sanctuary are a special part of our celebration of Advent and Christmas at St. Patrick-St. Anthony Church.

We invite all to share in the experience through a Christmas Flower Memorial. The names of your loved ones will be published in the Christmas Weekend Bulletin which will be available on line and in the Church. The deadline for memorial submissions is December 19, 2022.



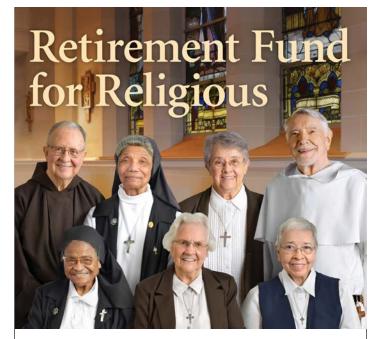
There are three ways to submit a Christmas Flower Memorial:

- 1. Utilize the Christmas Flowers Envelope you received with your bi-monthly envelopes then drop it in the offering basket or mail to the church office.
- 2. Use the form below, drop in the offering basket or mail to the church office.
- 3. Click/Scan the QR Code to submit your memorial and offering online.

Church Address for mailing in memorials:

St. Patrick - St. Anthony Church 285 Church Street, Hartford, CT 06103 Attn: Christmas Flowers.

Please remember:	
at Masses throughout the Advent and Christmas Season at St. Patrick - St. Anthony Church.	
Requested by:	
Address:	į
Offering \$ Enclosed	



Our Second Collection on December 10/11, 2022 is for the Retirement Fund for Religious.

Elderly religious need your help. Like those pictured, nearly 25,000 senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests have devoted their lives to prayer and ministry—educating the young, tending the sick, aiding the needy, and more. Yet years of serving for little or no pay have left a profound shortage in retirement savings. Your support of the Retirement Fund for Religious helps furnish care, medicine, and other necessities. CLICK Here to donate online or simply drop a check or cash in next week's second collection basket.

Upcoming Bulletin Deadlines

Dec. 10 Bulletin: Monday, Dec. 5 at noon Dec. 18 Bulletin: Monday, Dec. 12 at noon Dec. 25 Bulletin: Monday Dec. 19 at noon

Watch Online:



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



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



https://venue.streamspot.com/cdc76f52

Sanctuary Lamps

Week of November 20th

In Loving Memory of Concetta Romano

Week of November 27th

In Loving Memory of Josephine Tanasi

Week of December 4th

In Loving Memory of Sarah S. Conforto In Loving Memory of Larry Tracey, Jr.

Week of December 11th

In Loving Memory of Larry Tracey, Jr.



Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, December 3, 2022

4:00 PM Virginia F. Cimini

Sunday, December 4, 2022

8:00 AM Concetta Gianni 10:00 AM Tony Intino

11:45 AM Rose and Angelo Perrone

5:00 PM Pauline S. Ward

Monday, December 5, 2022

7:30 AM

12:05 PM Virginia "Ginny" Cooper

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

7:30 AM Parishioners of St. Genevieve

12:05 PM Michael Gannon (in memory of his birthday)

Wednesday, December 7, 2022

7:30 AM

12:05 PM Joseph Kelliher

Thursday, December 8, 2022

7:30 AM Brian Heffernan

12:05 PM Intentions of Maria Rosal

Friday, December 9, 2022

7:30 AM For our parishioners

12:05 PM In thanksgiving for the Immaculate Conception

Saturday, December 10, 2022

4:00 PM Ronald D. Gina, Sr., 11th Anniversary

Sunday, December 11, 2022

8:00 AM Brendan M. Fox

10:00 AM John V. Ramos, 30th Anniversary

11:45 AM In Thanksgiving for St. Lucy

5:00 PM Olidy S. deOrozco

St. Patrick – St. Anthony Staff

PASTORAL STAFF

Fr. Timothy J. Shreenan, O.F.M., Pastor, tshreenan@gmail.com
Fr. William Beaudin, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar & Guardian, wlbeaudin@gmail.com

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Fr. John Leonard, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar, jleonard@spsact.org

Dr. Gabriel Löfvall, Director of Music Ministry, glofvall@spsact.org

Fr. A. Francis Soucy, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar & Senior Associate Friar, afsofm@gmail.com

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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

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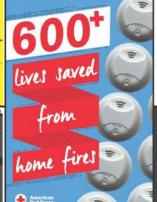
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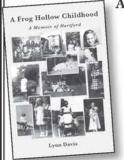
(973) 440-8657 • info@mallorysarmy.org

It's easy to join our mailing list! Just send your email address by text message: Text MALLORYSARMY to 22828 to get started. *

*Message and data rates may apply.



World Peace



A Frog Hollow Childhood: A Memoir of Hartford by Lynn Davis

Once a child's fun included an interaction with its environment. Davis writes of a time before technology and computers took over. She recreates a nostalgic reminiscence of the 1940s and 1950s for those who lived in them and introduces the times to those who didn't.

Available for purchase on Amazon.com, or at Barnes & Noble and other fine retailers everywhere.



Wethersfield East Hartford 563-6117