

OPEN HEARTS ♦ OPEN MINDS ♦ OPEN DOORS

St. Patrick-St. Anthony Church

HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

JANUARY 1, 2023

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

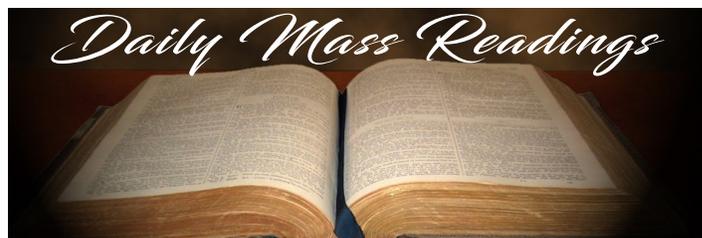
12:05 PM Public & Livestream

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, Jan 2: 1 John 2:22-28; John 1:19-28

Tuesday, Jan 3: 1 John 2:29-3:6; John 1:29-34

Wednesday, Jan 4: 1 John 3:7-10; John 1:35-42

Thursday, Jan 5: 1 John 3:11-21; John 1:43-51

Friday, Jan 6: 1 John 5:5-13; Matthew 1:7-11

Sunday, Jan 8: Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11,
12-13; Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6;
Matthew 2:1-12

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

Parish and Center Office Hours

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

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

Sunday, Jan 8: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

On The Cover: A mosaic of the Virgin and Child (Theotokos) in the apse of the Hagia Sophia in Istanbul, Turkey. It was inaugurated in 867 as part of a project to reconstruct mosaics from the sixth century that had been partly destroyed.

Upcoming Bulletin Deadlines

Jan. 8, 2023 Bulletin: Monday, Jan. 2 at noon

The Pastor's Corner

January 1, 2023

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Happy New Year! May you be blessed with health and goodness throughout the coming year. I hope you all had a beautiful Christmas with family and friends. I also hope you were able to relax and enjoy the sights and sounds of Christmas during this past week. This year, because December 25 and January 1 fall on a Sunday, the Christmas season is a bit shorter – just two full weeks between Christmas Day and the Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord.

From Christmas Day to New Year's Day is one of the Octaves which occur during the liturgical year. Usually we think of seven-day weeks (Sunday to Saturday), but for Christians, we think in terms of eight days because an eight-day period begins and ends on the same day of the week. As one writer put it: "Christmastime is a season to live with one foot in eternity."

So, today – January 1st – is the Octave of Christmas. It's also known by several other names, especially the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. The gospel for Mass on this day is short, but it gives us several reasons to continue our rejoicing. And it also gives us the reasons for the many different titles that the first of January has had over the years.

The gospel is a continuation of the story begun at Christmas. Today we hear that the shepherds did what the angels told them to do. They went in haste to Bethlehem and found Joseph and Mary with the newborn Jesus.

We are told that Mary treasured what was said about her child – as any proud new mother would! The shepherds, for their part, went forth from the stable to proclaim what they had seen, and shared the message of the angels: "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests." Then, eight days after his birth, according to Jewish custom, Jesus was circumcised and given his name.

Thus, today is also the World Day of Prayer for Peace, first established by Pope St. Paul VI in 1967 at the height of the Vietnam conflict. Fifty-six years later, it is still a relevant and, indeed, necessary moment for us to continue our efforts by praying and working for peace. The war in Ukraine continues unabated and we know that the citizens of Ukraine are suffering terribly at this time. May they know our support and love.



In some Christian churches, today is the feast of the Circumcision, but for Roman Catholics, this is a day on which we celebrate Mary as the Mother of God, one of the most ancient of Marian feasts.

The precise title "Mother of God" goes back at least to the third or fourth century. The Greek form *Theotokos* (God-bearer), became the foundation of the Church's teaching about the Incarnation. The Council of Ephesus in 431 insisted that the early Fathers of the Church were right in calling Mary *Theotokos*. At the end of one particular session of the Council, crowds of people marched through the street shouting: "Praised be the Theotokos!" When the Fathers of the Second Vatican Council wrote the Dogmatic Constitution on the Church, *Lumen Gentium*, they devoted an entire chapter to Mary's role in the Church and referred to her as Mother of God a dozen times.



Theologians such as Blessed John Duns Scotus, the great medieval Franciscan thinker, also insist that Mary's motherhood of Jesus is an important element in God's creative plan. God's "first" thought in creating was Jesus. Jesus, the incarnate Word, is the one who could give God perfect love and worship on behalf of all creation. As Jesus was "first" in God's mind, Mary was "second" insofar as she was chosen from all eternity to be his mother.

What we believe and say about Mary as the mother of God comes to us from the Gospels. She consented to God's invitation conveyed by the angel Gabriel. Elizabeth proclaimed: "Most blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And how does this happen to me, that the *mother of my Lord* should come to me?" Mary's role as mother of God places her in a unique position in God's redemptive plan.

So, New Year's Day has a lot more to it than just fireworks and champagne, parades and football games! For Christians it brings us face to face with an ancient belief which says that God's child is now Mary's child, which makes Mary the mother of God. Mary is also our mother who leads us to her Son through her obedience and discipleship.

A Happy and Healthy New Year to you all!

Fr. Tim Shreenan, OFM

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

2023

HAPPY NEW YEAR

from
The St. Patrick-St. Anthony
Ladies Guild

January

Snack Drop Off

Sunday, January 8, 2023
from 9:45 am to 12:00 pm



Drop off individually wrapped snacks to be combined into "Snack Packs" and handed out daily with sandwiches.

Ongoing Adult Faith Formation Programs

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! Please [CLICK Here](#) and register to receive the Zoom meeting link.

Co-facilitators: Elaine Wiatr and Mary Espinosa

Quiet Prayer: Our next session is Wednesday, January 4, 2023 from 7:30 - 8:00 AM. You can find the Zoom link in Monday's email.

A Message From Our Parish Nurses



Just a reminder that Community Sundays are back and so are your Parish Nurses. Every 2nd Sunday we will be available to take your blood pressure after the 8:00 and 10:00 am Masses. Our next Community Sunday is January 8, 2023. All Are Welcome!!!

If you are having difficulties with health conditions, please stop by to see us.

Please don't forget to get your flu shot. For your own safety, please consider wearing your masks in crowded situations to keep corona virus at bay.

Have a happy and healthy holiday season!

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.



Sacristans at 11:45 AM and 5:00 pm weekend Masses. Tasks include setting up and providing a warm and welcoming smile to those coming to Mass. Please strongly consider volunteering to be a sacrasitan if you already attend one of these Masses. Be a Volunteer Hero today!!!

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

INTERESTED IN GETTING MARRIED AT ST. PATRICK - ST. ANTHONY?



Call the parish office and speak with Carolyn Abramo to start the Marriage Preparation Process at 860-756-4034.

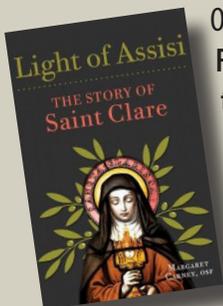
Looking to TREAT YOURSELF?

Why not order two good books for the New Year!

In January and February, our Faith Formation programs will engage with the following inspirational texts:

Light of Assisi: The Story of Saint Clare by Margaret Carney, OSF

Return to the Root: Reflections on the Inner Life by Joyce Rupp

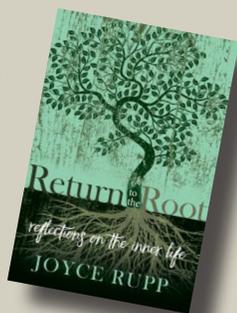


On Tuesday evenings, **January 31, February 7, 14, 21 & 28, from 7:00 to 8:00 PM** on Zoom, we will explore the life of Clare of Assisi and Clare's impact upon the Franciscan order. Author, Sr. Margaret Carney, OSF, former President of St. Bonaventure University (2004-2016), will join us

virtually to commence our *"Pilgrimage with Clare"* sharing from modern scholarship and offering insights into the life and leadership of Clare. Sr. Margaret will then be present virtually in our last gathering to further our conversation and discovery about certain lessons: how important women are to the Franciscan story AND how Clare was the recipient of a powerful charism of her own. We are delighted that Sr. Margaret can join us on this journey to introduce St. Clare to those who do not know her and to deepen the encounter with Clare for those who wish to know her better. [CLICK Here](#) to register and receive the Zoom link.

Every Wednesday during the day, from 11:00 AM -12:00 PM, beginning **January 11**, gather with others for weekly inspiration using experiences from your daily life. *Return to the Root: Reflections on the Inner Life*,

"aims to strengthen your inner rootedness, to draw forth that loving nourishment contained in...your deepest self", states the author Joyce Rupp. Full of thoughtful insights, poetry, and prayer, weekly reflections are grouped by month. Tap into this *"Taproot"* gathering available to you every Wednesday morning ~ attend when your schedule allows to receive the gifts of spiritual nourishment and growth. Facilitator: Pat Curtis. [CLICK Here](#) to register and receive the Zoom link.



Women of Hope: Women Deacons



In the early church communities, very often the people themselves were responsible for choosing their leaders. Henry Chadwick, a renowned historical expert on the early church, writes that in choosing someone for the position that eventually became known as bishop, "...the actual choice of

the candidate rested with the whole congregation, clergy and people together." He also added that "Election by the people likewise played a large part in the ordination of presbyters and deacons." So, in the history of the church, the Spirit has worked through the people of God to raise up those to serve in positions of leadership.

Perhaps one of the most famous church leaders to be chosen by acclamation was St. Ambrose of Milan, who was serving as a government official when the Bishop of Milan died. As Ambrose, who was well-known as a respected official and speaker entered the cathedral where deliberations were taking place, everyone shouted "Ambrose for Bishop!" Though hesitant at first, he accepted and was ordained a priest, and consecrated as bishop all in one day. He went on to become a well-loved and respected leader and has been named one of the Doctors of the Church.

It wasn't until the Second Vatican Council in the 1960s, that the people were again acknowledged as Spirit-filled members of the Body of Christ, capable of recognizing the gifts within their community. Lumen Gentium, one of the major Council documents, states that "the entire body of the faithful, anointed as they are by the Holy One... manifest this special property by means of the whole peoples' supernatural discernment in matters of faith..." To expand on their responsibilities it states further, "the Holy Spirit sanctifies and leads the people of God allotting gifts to everyone...distributes special graces among the faithful of every rank...which makes them fit to undertake the various tasks and offices which contribute to the renewal and building up of the church."

Intrigued to discuss how the Spirit might be working through the People of God today to raise up and expand the circle of those who can serve in positions of leadership? Join in the conversation at our Women Deacons series on consecutive Tuesdays, January 17 & 24, 2023. [CLICK here](#) to register and receive the Zoom link.

The Drumming Circle

Join us for our first meeting of 2023 on Monday, January 9 from 6:30-7:30 PM in the church. No experience or drum necessary. Please contact Elaine Wiatr at elaine.wiatr@yahoo.com for more information or if you need to borrow a drum.



BLESSINGS AND CONGRATULATIONS

ROBERT SCARINCI AND ALEXANDRA SCASINO



A Novel Idea Book Club



Start the new year with a new book. Our January book selection is *The Paris Bookseller* by Kerri Maher, writer of historical fiction.

Consider joining the discussion on January 19, 2023 at 7:00 PM via Zoom.

For more information and a list of upcoming books, please [CLICK Here](#). Contact the office at 860-756-4034 or email info@spsact.org if you need the Zoom Link.



Thank You for Your Continued Generosity

Gifts & Offerings

December 12 - 18, 2022

Weekly Collection: \$12,981.10

Online Giving: \$10,044.73

Total: \$ 23,025.83

Open Hearts Ministry

Monthly Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for January 8, 2023 after the 5:00 PM Mass in the Franciscan Center for Urban Ministry. All Are Welcome. Please join us.



Friends and Family Ministry: 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) or Rich Broggini (richardbroggini@gmail.com) for more information.

Christmas Flower Memorials and Honorariums

- ❖ Kathleen Mulcahy Miskell, Maureen Hughes Mulcahy, Sarah M. Mulcahy, Richard J. Mulcahy and Thomas T. Mulcahy
- ❖ Tom and Mary Bowie and Rebecca Stark
- ❖ John and Nora Sheehan
- ❖ Concetta & Salvatore Gianni

Haiti Giving Tree: New Year's Message

Today, January 1, Haitians celebrate their independence from French colonial rule in 1804, and being the first country in the western world to abolish slavery.

As we join with our Haitian brothers and sisters in celebrating their proud history, we hope and pray for better futures for Haitian families and children and an end to the civil unrest in the country.

Our shared humanity with our Sister Parish and the St. Genevieve School in Zorange, Haiti helps us understand why our prayers and financial support are necessary to perpetuate our shared hope for peace in the New Year and beyond. We are grateful for your financial support for the education of children at St. Genevieve School. Your generosity truly reflects your act of kindness and love for these children. Thank you so very much.



We will continue to accept contributions through January 15. You may mail or offer your contribution at Mass, with a check payable to St Patrick St. Anthony Church with "Sister Parish" notation on the check.

For online contributions, open the QR code for directions on the Haitian Giving Tree webpage.

During this new year, may your family and you find comfort and joy in our faith.



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/>.



Invitation from Holy Name Province:

Retreat for Nonviolence and Peacemaking

JOIN US for a short online retreat for nonviolence and peace-



making. In this retreat we will use a video from Pax Christi International to reflect on what is nonviolence, how we can live it, and reflect with others what action we might start to discern for our ministries to live this out in our world. The need

for nonviolence is glaring as we continue to have shootings in our streets, domestic violence continues to rise in homes, the political rhetoric of our civic conversations often is founded in violence, and war is a constant in our world. Franciscan ministries are needed more than ever to help ourselves and others live into the greeting upon which we are known, *Peace and All Good*.

There are three options for the retreat. Each of which will be one hour. Please consider joining us and sharing this invitation with others. We are asking that people register for the retreat time that is best for them as it will help us plan and use our time more effectively.

[Monday, January 9, 2023—7:30 PM Eastern](#)

[Tuesday, January 10, 2023—7:30 PM Eastern](#)

[Wednesday, January 11, 2023—3:00 PM Eastern](#)

Let's continue our work for nonviolence together. Please share with others.

In the Hope of Peace,
Russell Testa, JPIC Animator
Holy Name Province Franciscans

January Community Sunday Dates



Donuts, Coffee and Juice
January 8, 2022
After Morning Masses

Wine and Cheese
January 29, 2022
After the 5:00 pm Mass



Do you Knit or Crochet or want to learn how?

Calling all who knit or crochet and those who would like to learn these art forms. You are invited to contribute your time and talent to the Prayer Shawl Ministry at St. Patrick - St. Anthony Church.



We are in need of new people to join us in this prayerful and rewarding ministry.

For the past 12 months, the Prayer Shawl Ministers have been gathering both virtually and in-person for our bi-monthly meetings! And, yes, you can *learn* how to knit or crochet through Zoom. Our experienced ministers are skilled teachers as well. Please JOIN US!

If the winter blues threaten to dampen your spirits ~ please consider attending our gatherings for enjoyable storytelling and ministry knitted together!

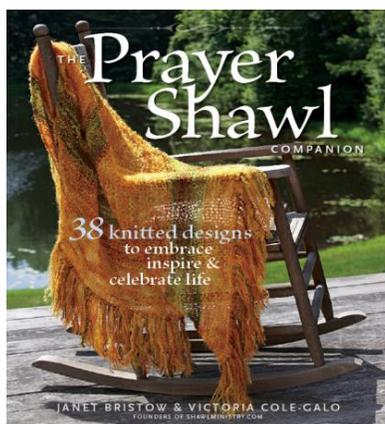
[Our virtual monthly meetings take place on Mondays from 7:00-8:00 p.m.](#)

January 9 February 13 March 13 April 10 May 8 June 12

[Our in-person monthly meetings take place on Thursdays from 10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.](#)

January 26 February 23 March 30 April 27 May 25 June 29

Please consider joining us to learn the art of making Prayer Shawls and to help us continue to reach out to others in our community through this ministry of love.



"Shawls ... made for centuries universal and embracing, symbolic of an inclusive, unconditionally loving, God. They wrap, enfold, comfort, cover, give solace, mother, hug, shelter and beautify.

Those who have received these shawls have been uplifted and affirmed, as if given wings to fly above their troubles..."

Written in 1998 by: Janet Severi Bristow

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For more information and the Zoom meeting link, contact Janet Bristow at janetbristow@sbcglobal.net or you may also call the parish office at 860-756-4034, x.113 and leave your contact information. Pat Curtis will get back to you with information.



News from the Parish Office

Did you know? The 2023 Calendar is still available for your Mass Intentions? We have a lot of dates still available. **The 2024 Calendar will be open for intentions on Friday, January 14, 2024.**

How to request your intentions: Call the office at 860-756-4034 or email info@spsact.org to request your intentions. Please provide a 2nd and 3rd choice when making your request.

Note: Kindly submit your suggested offering of \$10 per Mass shortly after making your reservation. This can be done via Online Giving, cash or check. You can place your donation in the Sunday basket in an envelope addressed to the church office or send via USPS to 285 Church St., Hartford, CT 06103. Checks are to be made payable to SPSA.

Please call the church office, 860-756-4034, if you have questions.

News From the Business Office

We are grateful for all the gifts you have shared with us over the last year, and want to make sure you have all the appropriate tax documentation.

As such, you will need to ask for a Year End Giving Statement. There are 3 ways to get one:

Call the church office at 860-756-4034;

Print via Online Giving;

or Email your request to info@spsact.org

Please be sure to indicate if you want it sent via USPS or email.

We have set up an easy to understand webpage explaining all your options. Just scan/click on the QR Code and it will launch the webpage.



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.



January 2023 Offerings at Holy Family Retreat Center

January 6-8, Holy Family Retreat Center, West Hartford

Women's Weekend Retreat: "A Missing Peace"

Through prayer, presentations, and discussion, come closer to understanding how to achieve the peace Jesus meant for us to have. Dynamic teaching, home-cooked meals, uplifting music. \$350. 860-760-9705.

January 13-15, Holy Family Retreat Center, West Hartford

Men's Weekend Retreat: "A Missing Peace"

Through prayer, presentations, and discussion, come closer to understanding how to achieve the peace Jesus meant for us to have. Dynamic teaching, home-cooked meals, uplifting music. \$350. 860-760-9705.

January 27-29, Holy Family Retreat Center, West Hartford

Women's Weekend Retreat: "A Missing Peace"

Through prayer, presentations, and discussion, come closer to understanding how to achieve the peace Jesus meant for us to have. Dynamic teaching, home-cooked meals, uplifting music. \$350. 860-760-9705.

January 28, 9 AM to 4:30 PM

The Contemplative Spirituality of Icons and Iconography

Explore the sacred imagery of icons, which reveal deep truths and provide windows into the spiritual world. \$65 (includes lunch)



Sanctuary Lamps

Week of January 1, 2023

In Loving Memory of
Larry Tracey, Jr.

Week of January 15, 2023

In honor of Connie and Bob Houde
on their Anniversary

Help Our Ukrainian Brothers and Sisters:



Our own Sr. Ginny Sheehan, SNDdeN is partnering with St. Mary's Church in Longmeadow, MA in their support of the Sts. Peter & Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church in Chicopee, MA to aid Ukrainian refugee families who have arrived within the Diocese of Springfield, MA. These families have very few belongings. St. Mary's Food for the Soul Ministry is collecting cold weather clothing, furniture, and a variety of household goods. These families need EVERYTHING!

Food for the Soul Ministry is now turning to local faith communities for help. The table below shows what is currently needed.

Donated items can be dropped off Saturday, January 7th from 11:30AM to 2:30PM at the Franciscan Center for Urban Ministry. NOTE: Nothing will be accepted outside of these hours.

Do you have larger "gently used" furniture items to donate: beds, sofas, end tables, dressers? Call Marybeth Bergeron (413-262-7661 or email her at mberge4527@aol.com) to see when a pickup time can be arranged.

THANK YOU!

Everyday items:	New or gently worn clothing items:	
Bedding (sheets, comforters, pillows, etc.)	Cold weather clothing for children from sizes three months through ages 16	
Lamps		
Kitchen pots and pans	All ages:	
Dishes	Mittens	Dresses
Towels and linens	Hats	Pants
Diapers & baby wipes	Coats	Dress clothing for church
	Sneakers	

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, December 31, 2022

4:00 PM Richard Cobb

Sunday, January 1, 2023

8:00 AM

10:00 AM Millie Intino

11:45 AM Norman Mawson

5:00 PM

Monday, January 2, 2023

9:00 AM Robert Rooney

Tuesday, January 3, 2023

7:30 AM Concetta Gianni

12:05 PM For parishioners of St. Genevieve

Wednesday, January 4, 2023

7:30 AM Joseph Gora

12:05 PM Daniel Hinde

Thursday, January 5, 2023

7:30 AM For our parishioners

12:05 PM Fr. John O'Neill, M.S.

Friday, January 6, 2023

7:30 AM Sal Gianni

12:05 PM Joseph Kelliher

Saturday, January 7, 2023

4:00 PM Biagio and Lucy Ciotto

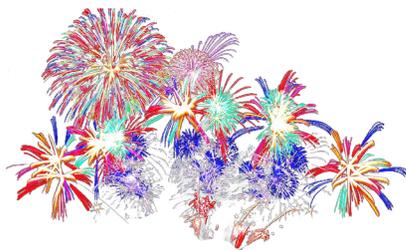
Sunday, January 8, 2023

8:00 AM Victor Delisle

10:00 AM In thanksgiving to St. Cristina

11:45 AM Helena O'Reilly

5:00 PM Steven Gray



Watch Online:



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



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

StreamSpot

<https://venue.streamspot.com/cdc76f52>

St. Patrick - St. Anthony Staff

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Faith VosWinkel, Confirmation

Michelle White, 7th & 8th Grade

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Orville Russell, Director of Maintenance

Gilberto Lisboa, Church Custodian

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Happening at St. Patrick - St. Anthony
and The Franciscan Center for
Urban Ministry

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GOD BLESS AMERICA

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.

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Mallory's Army Foundation

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