

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!

New Parking Lot Ticket Policy

Just a reminder: We are going Back to the Future!!! CLICK Here to view step step instructions.

Our new "ticket validation" process will go live on tomorrow, January 16, 2023. You will be required to take a ticket when entering the lot for Weekday Masses and for events at the Urban Center. Staff will be on hand to walk you through the process this week.

Be sure to bring your ticket with you into the Church or Center as validation will be required before you can leave the lot.

Validation stickers will be located in the church; Gilberto will have access to them. And, in the Parish office, validation stickers will be on the front desk. Take a validation sticker and place on the back of your ticket. When you go to exit the lot, follow all the directions on the ticket machine and the gate will open. CLICK Here or goto www.spsact.org/parking-lot-gates-operational/, to view step by step instructions.

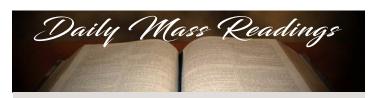
Parish and Center Office Hours

Monday through Saturday: 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM Sunday: 9:00 AM TO 1:00 PM

Upcoming Bulletin Deadlines

Jan. 22 Bulletin: Monday, Jan. 16 at noon

On The Cover: "Saint John the Baptist Bearing Witness" by Annibale Carracci, born in Bologna, Italy in 1550 and died in Rome, 1609. Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York City.



Monday, Jan 16:Hebrews 5:1-10; Mark 2:18-22Tuesday, Jan 17:Hebrews 6:10-20; Mark 2:23-28Wednesday, Jan 18:Hebrews 7:1-3, 15-17; Mark 3:1-6Thursday, Jan 19:Hebrews 7:25-8:6; Mark 3:7-12Friday, Jan 20:Hebrews 8:6-13; Mark 3:13-19Sunday, Jan 22:Isaiah 8:23-9:3 Psalm 27:1, 4, 13-14;

1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17; Matthew 4:12-23 or 4:12-17

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



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

The Paston's Corner

January 15, 2023

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

The prolonged process of electing a new Speaker of the House of Representatives, coupled with the release of the findings by the House Select Committee to Investigate the January 6th attack on the United States Capitol, made me realize that we have become a nation of finger pointers. Nor is finger-pointing limited to only the political sphere. Read any social media platform, and one quickly sees all the finger pointing taking place. Someone is always being blamed for something, right or wrong!

In the aftermath of his death and funeral, Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI also became the object of much finger-pointing. The media were

quick to point out (no pun intended) the positive and negative aspects of Benedict's ecclesiastical career. Perhaps the most positive aspect, many claimed, was his decision to retire from the papacy in 2013. It showed great humility on his part, they said. Talk about damning with faint praise! It is true that Benedict didn't possess some necessary qualities in his service upon the Chair of Peter. Some said that he lacked a pastoral sense. He was a shy, introverted theologian who said that he wished he could have retired to his Bavarian homeland. Instead, he found himself, not only on the Chair of Peter, but the hottest seat in the world! It must be acknowledged that

Benedict, especially in his work at the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith (CDF), hurt many of our LGBTQ+ brothers and sisters, especially in the publication in 1986 of the document, *On the Pastoral Care of Homosexual Persons*. Many felt that he didn't do enough to confront the sexual abuse scandal in the Church, especially bishops who were seen as complicit in the cover-up. Others felt that he treated theologians too harshly by silencing them without due process.

I had a couple of experiences in his presence. The first occurred in the Spring of 1999 in San Francisco when I was on sabbatical, six years before Cardinal Josef Ratzinger was elected Pope. He had come to take part in a theological seminar sponsored by his friend and eventual successor at the CDF, San Francisco Archbishop William Levada. I sang in the choir of St. Mary's Cathedral during my time in the Bay area, and we took part in a Vespers service at the cathedral where Cardinal Ratzinger was present. The second occurrence was in 2008

when Pope Benedict visited New York City and celebrated Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral.



Another experience didn't actually happen — it was a dream I had some years ago in which I found myself sitting in the back seat of a stretch limo with no one else in the car but Pope Benedict, and we were being driven around the campus of St. Bonaventure University in upstate New York! How and why it happened is a mystery, but I've never forgotten the dream. Now, many people have commented in the media how gracious and kind Benedict was, and those are the same feelings I experienced in my dream. I don't remember anything of what the Pope said or what we talked about; all I remember are the feelings of gentleness, kindness and warmth that emanated from

this small man with a shock of white hair. So, despite all the negative comments that have been made about the late Pope Emeritus, I still can't shake off those feelings from a dream that left me feeling quite positive toward him.

That being said, take another look at the cover of today's bulletin, and what do we see? John the Baptist is pointing his finger, not to blame someone, but to point out the One for whom he was the last of a long line of prophets who proclaimed his coming — Jesus of Nazareth, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. John basically had one job, and he did

very well; he was the one who recognized Jesus and pointed him out to the people whom he baptized in order to be ready to receive him. John also pointed Jesus out to the first disciples: Andrew and Simon Peter, Philip and Nathaniel.

I would like to suggest that, rather than pointing fingers at someone in accusation or blame, we might stop for a moment and ask ourselves: "Is what I am doing just and fair?" After all, Jesus came to unite us, not to divide us.

Blessings on your week ahead!

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

Pastor

Clare Gallery 20th Annivesary Year New Exhibition: A Suspension of Perception

January 12 to March 12,2023. Come and enjoy large-scale photographs by **Christine Breslin**, a National Endowment for the Arts recipient and longtime Hartford, Connecticut,



photographer and educator. Breslin's images focus their attention on migrants and immigrants from areas south of our country's border. Her work asks us to look and listen to her subjects' stories. More importantly, it challenges us to reflect on our own understanding of collective humanity-who we are, where we come from, what we choose to do with our lives, and how we can help each other. Breslin wishes her audience to slow down and "suspend" their preconceived perceptions of others, trusting in the dignity of being human together.

There will be a virtual panel discussion on Tuesday, February 7, 2023 from 7:00 to 8:30 pm held via Zoom. Panelists include: Christine Breslin, artist; Fr. Julian Jagudillo, O.F.M., director of The Migrant Center of the Church of St. Francis of Assisi in New York City; Sister Norma Pimentel, MJ, executive director of Catholic Charities of the Rio Grande Valley and the Humanitarian Respite Center in McAllen, Texas, and Catherine Cole, executive director and Valerie Carlisle, board member of Grannies Respond. The panel will be moderated by Nancy Wynn, Clare Gallery Committee chair and associate professor and chair of the Department of Visual and Performing Arts at Merrimack College. CLICK Here to register and receive the Zoom Link.

Haiti Giving Tree: Thank You



The SPSA Sister Parish Committee offers heartfelt thanks to everyone for your expressions of solidarity with our Haitian brothers and sisters. During this time of instability and violence in Haiti, our prayers and communications with Pastor Gaby are providing

comfort and hope. Your generous Giving Tree donations will enable the school to provide individual workbooks to students and assist with tuition.

This year has been exceptionally challenging for everyone in Haiti. Our covenant gives us the unique opportunity to connect directly with St. Genevieve parish and school staff and parishioners, to let them



parish and school staff and parishioners, to let them know that they are not alone in facing their current challenges. Our prayers and support offer them spiritual and tangible hope, and allow us the opportunity to be the face of the Christ Child to them. Meci!

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. All are welcome! Please <u>CLICK</u>
<u>Here</u> and register to receive the Zoom meeting link. *Co-facilitators: Elaine Wiatr and Mary Espinosa*

Quiet Prayer: Every Wednesday from 7:30 - 8:00 AM . You can find the Zoom link in Monday's email.

Taproot: Every Wednesday during the day, from 11:00 AM -12:00 PM. 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.

Praying With Sacred Scripture: Please consider joining us on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month from 7:00 to 8:00 pm 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. **Next meeting: January 25, 2023.** *Co-facilitators: Sheila Denion and John Lemega*

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 next in person meeting is Sunday, January 15, 2023 at 3:30 PM. Our next Zoom meeting is Wednesday, January 18, 2023 at 7:00 PM.

Please <u>CLICK Here</u> 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 get in contact with you.

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 <u>CLICK Here</u>. Contact the office at 860-756-4034 or email <u>info@spsact.org</u> if you need the Zoom Link.

Open Hearts:

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.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

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. Join us in person on January 26 at 10:30 AM.

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!

Please Call Pat Curtis at 860-756-4034, ext 113 to register for the Zoom session.

Ministry of Liturgical Hospitality

We are seeking additional volunteers for our ministry of liturgical hospitality at the 5:00 PM Mass. Our sacristans, whom you see near the entrance of the church every weekend, are a small but mighty team who could use a week off now and then. Sacristans extend hospitality each week by opening the church, helping to prepare the sanctuary for Mass, greeting parishioners as they arrive, supervising the collection, and helping to clean up and secure the church after the Mass. This collection of tasks can be accomplished in pairs or by a small team. If you're a regular at 5:00 PM, and some of these tasks speak to your gifts and talents, please contact our Director of Volunteer Ministry, Allison Holst-Grubbe.

Women of Hope: Women Deacons, January 17 & 24, 2023 from 7:00 to 8:15PM

WHY WE REMAIN HOPEFUL...



This past summer, after four and a half years of listening and dialogue in the synodal style about the question, "What is God asking of us as the church in Australia at this time," and collecting 220,000 responses from Catholic Australians, a major issue that arose is the role of women in the Church. Many support the Diaconate for women.

After much deliberation and some disruptions and disappointments, the Australian Plenary Council, the highest form of decision-making assembly in the Australian Catholic Church, listened to the people and new motions were voted on and the good news is... they passed! While there were some changes and some toning down, the final

document states: "should the universal law of the Church be modified to authorize the diaconate for women, the Plenary Council recommends that the Australian Bishops examine how best to implement it in the context of the Church in Australia."

So the conversation is happening on a global level as well as in our own parish! The controversial subject of supporting women in the diaconate is a step closer to consideration for the Australian Church and, hopefully, leading the way for the rest of the world to follow.

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?

<u>CLICK Here</u> for registration and receive the Zoom link.

News from the Francsican Center:

Collection for Ukrainian Refugees:



The generosity of the St. Patrick - St. Anthony Church and Franciscan Center for Urban Ministry community was a shining beacon on Saturday in downtown Hartford. This past

Saturday, we had a collection for Ukrainian refugee families who have arrived within the Diocese of Springfield, MA.

Over 150 cars arrived at the Franciscan Center between 9:00 am and 2:30 pm with donations for Ukrainian familyes. Everything from clothes to cribs was dropped off and staged for transport.

Sts. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church in Chicopee, MA, provided two moving trucks and transported thousands of items of clothing and household goods to the Church in Chicopee. All clothing and items were



unloaded and the refugee families went "shopping".

Thank you to everyone who stopped and donated, to all those who stayed and helped. A huge thank you to Sr. Ginny Sheehan, SND-deN, who made the connection via St. Mary's Church in Longmeadow, and Anna & Roger Eddy who organized the event.

In honor of Judy Ryiz

An annual donation has been made to the Sandwich Ministry by Natalie Campbell in memory of her partner, Judy Ryiz, who was a champion of helping those in need. Judy worked to feed the homeless and those in need at various churches in the surrounding area. Thank you, Natalie, for your kind donation and continuing Judy's legacy.



Week of January 1, 2023 In Loving Memory of Larry Tracey, Jr.

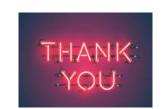
Week of January 15, 2023
In honor of Connie and Bob Houde
on their Anniversary

In Loving Memory of Leo Gregoire by George Gregoire

News from the Parish Office

The 2024 Calendar is now open. 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 any questions.



Gifts & Offerings

January 2 - 8, 2023

Weekly Offering: \$7,528.00 Online Giving: \$10,442.73 Other Donations: \$5,524.93

Total: \$23,495.66

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.

Please call the Parish Office or email info@spsact.org to request your 2022 Year End Giving Statement. *Please be sure to indicate if you want it sent via USPS or email.*

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.

Parking Lot Gate System Info: An Update



Thank you for your patience as we all learn to use the gates when we come to church. Know that parking is always free when you arrive for any church or center event.

Last week's soft roll-out of the new parking lot gate system went smoothly. Thank you for your patience as we continue to navigate the waters of our new system. We will continue to reassess how to make the process easier. With this in mind, we

have decided to offer our active registered parishioners the option of requesting a key card for access to church parking free of charge. NOTE: There is a fee of \$25.00 to replace any lost or stolen key card.

Please call the office at 860-756-4034 to request a key card. Reminder, you must be a registered parishioner who actively participates in parish life to receive a key card. CLICK Here or go to https://spsact.org/parking-lot-gates-operational/ for detailed step by step instructions on how to gain access to the lot when the gates are down.



The Catholic High School Collection occurring in all parishes of the Archdiocese the weekend of Jan 21/22, supports the outstanding education offered at our Catholic secondary schools by providing funds for tuition assistance,

technology enhancements, curricular improvements, and marketing. All of which are so critical during this ongoing pandemic. Please consider investing in the exceptional academics, solid faith formation, and spirit of service at our high schools by making a gift to this year's Catholic High School Collection on January 21/22, 2023.

Dear Parishioners and Friends of Parishioners,

How can we thank you enough for your efforts to clean out your homes and those of neighbors and even buy new items for our outstanding Ukrainian refugee collection drive held last Saturday. From what I understood, Channel 3 also heard about our project and folks were bringing items last minute for the second large moving van. The hours were supposed to be 11:30 - 2:30 on Saturday but items started arriving on Friday evening, carried over into Saturday morning, with cars lined up along Church Street before 11:00 AM as the donations filled the Urban Center foyer and a good part of Church Street sidewalks until 5:30 PM on Saturday!! Saturday was an explosion of donated goods and kindness.

We are grateful for those workers named and all who organized the "mission" before Saturday's collection. Starting with Father Mike who came out to say hello and remained with us all day and shared his muscle power! Bridget Frost, Trish Bowen, Marcella Baczewski, Karen Bing, Roger and Anna Eddy and Gary Bozak, who helped all day.

Other helping hands included MaryCarol McGray and Fran D'Amico. There were several who came to donate and stayed to pitch in including Kevin and Chris McCann, Peg and Dan Lareau, and oh yes, the gentleman with the Notre Dame hat and sweatshirt with two daughters who went to East Catholic — all helped during the busiest time. There are so many moving stories from Saturday including Joe, a homeless man, who was waiting for the 4:00 PM Mass. He heard what we were doing and stayed with us for an hour waiting for the second truck to arrive and then jumped on the truck and pitched in until we were done loading. There were the men who dropped off earlier in the day and returned for the 4:00 PM Mass to find us loading the second truck and pitched in to help get the last items onto the truck.

Stacie Mawson, who works in the office and made calls for us, plus the other donors who came in the morning, remained for a while and helped unload the "back up" of cars — there were so many and no time to write down names. If we missed anyone, our sincerest apologies.

So many thanked us for this important ministry. Even the children and parents attending Disney's Princess Ice Show thanked us for doing this project though they could barely walk on the sidewalk in front of the Urban Center because it was filled with your generous donations. Cars passing by pulled over to say "thank you" for making visible the mission of St. Patrick-St. Anthony. You will be hearing more from Pastor Vasily on what the donations mean to the refugees and his church. Thank you for making St. Patrick-St. Anthony Church such a visible witness to Jesus' call to serve those in such need.

A hundred thousand "thank yous" and prayers for your thoughtfulness and generosity.

~ Anna & Roger Eddy and Sr. Ginny Sheehan, SNDdeN

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, January 14, 2023

4:00 PM Margaret Leonard, 5th Anniversary

Sunday, January 15, 2023

8:00 AM Jim Howard

10:00 AM Phyllis DeVarney

11:45 AM William Ellis

5:00 PM Ronald Marchetti

Monday, January 16, 2023

9:00 AM Departed Members of the McCarthy Family

Tuesday, January 17, 2023

7:30 AM For Our Parishioners

12:05 PM Raymond McEwan Reid

Wednesday, January 18, 2023

7:30 AM Anna Cabral

12:05 PM Evelyn & Anthony Severi

Thursday, January 19, 2023

7:30 AM

12:05 PM Diane Baio

Friday, January 20, 2023

7:30 AM Elaine D'Amico

12:05 PM Richard Crocket

Saturday, January 21, 2023

4:00 PM Fred D'Amico

Sunday, January 22, 2023

8:00 AM William, Angie & Joann Speziale

10:00 AM Joanna Gerber, MD

11:45 AM

5:00 PM Olidy de Orozco

Watch Online:



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



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



https://venue.streamspot.com/cdc76f52

St. Patrick - St. Anthony Staff

PASTORAL STAFF

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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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*Message and data rates may apply.



Please Continue

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.



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