

KICKOFF WEEKEND: FEB. 25-26, 2023



HIS SACRIFICE,
and ours!

2023 ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL



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

285 Church Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06103
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*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

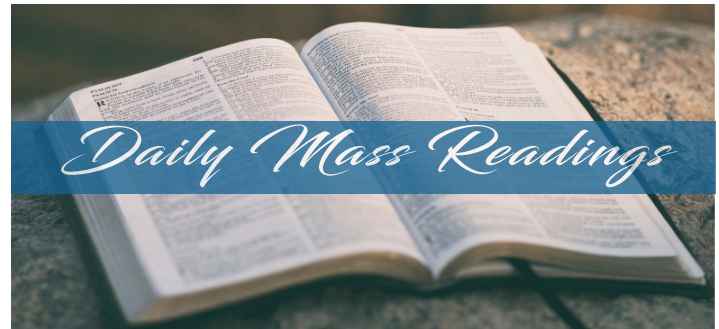
12:05 PM Public & Livestream

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, Feb 27:

Leviticus 19:1-2, 11-18;
Matthew 25:31-46

Tuesday, Feb 28:

Isaiah 55:10-11; Matthew 6:7-15

Wednesday, Mar 1:

Jonah 3:1-10; Luke 11:29-32

Thursday, Mar 2:

Esther C:12, 14-16, 23-25;
Matthew 7:7-12

Friday, Mar 3:

Ezekiel 18:21-28; Matthew 5:20-26

Sunday, Mar 5:

Genesis 12:1-4a; Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20,
22; 2 Timothy 1:8b-10;
Matthew 17:1-19

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

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 Deadline

March 5 Bulletin: Monday, Feb. 27 at noon

News From the Business Office

2022 Year End Giving Statements: [CLICK Here](#) or scan the QR Code to request your 2022 Year End Giving Statement. *Please be sure to indicate if you want it sent via USPS or email.*



Parking Lot Key Cards are still available for access to church parking free of charge for those active and registered parishioners, when attending church and Franciscan Center events. 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.

The Pastor's Corner

February 26, 2023

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Several years ago Pope Francis kicked up a bit of a firestorm when he suggested in an interview that the words of the "Our Father" should be changed. Specifically, he said that the line "lead us not into temptation" should be changed to "do not let us fall into temptation." In fact, the bishops of Italy decided to do just that, and officially changed the wording in a revised Italian translation of the Roman Missal.

When you stop to think about it, the traditional line doesn't make sense. Would God purposely lead us into temptation? Did he purposely lead Adam and Eve into temptation in the Garden of Eden? No. As we hear in the first reading from today's Mass, God had told them that they could eat from any of the trees in the garden, except from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. God left the decision up to them. And of course, anything that humans are told not to do – well, we just want to do it all the more! The serpent told them to go ahead and eat. After all, the tree was beautiful, its fruit was tasty, and it was a source of wisdom.

But here is what Pope Francis said: "It is not a good translation because it speaks of a God who induces temptation. I am the one who falls. It's not him pushing me into temptation to then see how I have fallen. A father doesn't do that; a father helps you to get up immediately. It's Satan who leads us into temptation – that's his department."

Thus, we find ourselves in the perennial human predicament. Any time we suffer a lapse in judgment, we end up eating the forbidden fruit. It may satisfy us temporarily but the consequences always last much longer. Wouldn't it be wonderful if we could go through life without ever having to make decisions between right and wrong? That was God's original intention. But Adam and Eve became the poster children of wrong choices. Yes, they were tempted by an outside source – the serpent, but it was they who ultimately made the decision to eat the forbidden fruit.

The Church's doctrine of original sin says that it is the condition or state of sin into which each human being is born as a result of Adam and Eve's first sin. In the confessional, I have heard many people say that they were led into a particular sin by the devil, who is the personification of evil and sin in the world. But doesn't that remove

a sense of responsibility from the person? Can we always blame someone or something outside of ourselves for our mistakes? Rather, should we not own up to our errors or sin as a result of a deliberate act of the will? The Book of Genesis tells us that, when God questioned Adam about the incident, Adam blamed Eve and Eve blamed the serpent. Thus began the never-ending human blame game.

In the end, we are each called to own our choices or decisions, good or bad. It's a painful lesson to learn, to be sure. It's also the reason why the world is in the state it is. But temptation will always be with us, and perhaps the greatest temptation is to give up. We face many difficult decisions or situations in our lives, but I believe that the greatest temptation is to give up too soon. For some, it might seem easier to just walk away from a painful situation rather than to stick with it and not give up.

I have often thought of the Serenity Prayer as the best way to address most, if not all, of life's choices: "Lord, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change; the courage to change the things that I can; and the wisdom to know the difference." This prayer has helped me many times, and I hope it will help you as well.

May you have a Lent of serenity, courage and wisdom.



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



His Sacrifice and Ours: The 2023 Archbishops' Annual Appeal

The 2023 Archbishop's Annual Appeal is now underway in our parish. Our goal is to engage our entire parish family in this year's Appeal and to pray for the success of the Appeal, both here in our parish and across the three counties of the Archdiocese.

We hope you can help us meet our parish goal of \$115,000. If you would like to make a gift, please mail in your pledge card. You may also visit the Archdiocesan website at www.archdioceseofhartford.org or call the Appeal Office at (800) 781-2550. Keep in mind that an early pledge will allow you to best use the monthly payment plan.

All funds contributed to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal are used exclusively for the purposes outlined in the Appeal literature, which can be found at <https://archdioceseofhartford.org/appeal/>. No Appeal funds are ever used for legal fees or settlements. Please respond generously.



A Path of Conversion: The Comfort and Challenge of the Psalms

Thursdays, March 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30; 10:30 to 11:30 AM.

Reflecting on the psalms can assist us in our Lenten journey of conversion as we struggle to free our wills from selfish satisfaction and conform them to God's will which offers us true freedom.

Registration and Zoom Link: <http://bit.ly/411kH29>

Presenter: Fr. Francis Soucy, OFM

Suggested Offering: \$50.00

Stations of the Cross

Fridays during Lent starting at 12:30 PM.

Join us for the 12:05 Mass each Friday during Lent and stay for this wonderful opportunity to meditate on the saving journey of Christ. No registration needed.

Widening the Arms of the Cross: Rethinking Christ's Atoning Sacrifice

Thursdays, March 2, 9, 16, 23 from 7:00 to 8:00 PM.

This four-week Lenten series on Zoom will seek to broaden and deepen our perspective on and appreciation for the crucifixion of Jesus and what it means for our life of faith and for the life of our world. Registration/Information Link: <http://bit.ly/3Kd1apD>.

Presenter: Fr. Bill Beaudin, OFM

Suggested Offering: \$35.00

Lenten Twilight Retreat: "A Time for Eucharistic Revival ... A Time of Love"

Tuesday, March 14; 5:30-8:00 PM.

Join Fr. Ken Paulli, OFM an evening of presentation and reflection in this season of Lent. Come, be inspired by messages of conversion and the central place of the Eucharist in our communal life. We will follow Covid-precautions for food preparation and serving as well as for safe-distanced seating.

Registration deadline: March 10.

Suggested offering and registration links:

\$25.00, for dinner at 5:30 PM: <http://bit.ly/3YRURvM>

\$15.00 for presentation only at 6:30 PM: <http://bit.ly/3XGccqu>



Lenten Nourishment

Tuesdays, March 21, 28 & April 4; 12:30-1:00 PM.

Jesus said "I am the true vine." How does the image of Jesus as the true vine help us realize how connected we are to God and each other during this time of Lent? What is this asking of us?



We are delighted to have *Deb Pelletier*, Religious Education Team Coordinator, with us for brief talks on three consecutive Tuesdays this Lent.

Join us for a light lunch in the Franciscan Center immediately after the 12:05 Mass. We will follow Covid-precautions for food preparation and serving as well as for safe-distanced seating.

Registration and Lunch Reservation Link: <http://bit.ly/3lxdEhs>

Suggested Offering per session: \$8.00

Registration Deadline: March 17.

Community Stations of the Cross

Friday, March 24, at 12:30 PM, immediately following the 12:05 Mass.



Come join Fr. Mike and others as we celebrate a unique Lenten Stations of the Cross, a Stations of the Cross for Older Adults.

As we journey with Jesus on his walk to Calvary, we hear individual reflections that hopefully help us see more clearly that we are not on our own as we journey through

the challenges and crosses of the "Third Age" and that our God understands because Jesus trod this same path. Afterwards, we invite you to share community and a light lunch in the Franciscan Center.

Suggested Offering for lunch: \$8.00. Registration Link: <http://bit.ly/3Ed3h8W>

Registration Deadline: March 20.

Suggested Offerings

Suggested offerings 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 or by going to <https://www.osvhub.com/spsact/giving/funds> and clicking on the Adult Faith Formation Give Now button.

NOTE: Be sure to indicate the name of the program you are attending on the memo line if you are writing a check or in the notes section when paying via online giving. Thank you.

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 Urban Ministry Center at St. Patrick-St. Anthony

Church on **Sunday, February 26th** to learn more about the Secular Franciscan Order.

The meeting starts at 2:00 and we will be discussing the results of the Synod discussions held in the parish.



Let's Fill Backpacks!!!

In response to the current Clare Gallery Exhibit, *A Suspension of Perception*, we are collecting items to fill backpacks for donations to two organizations: The Migrant Center at St. Francis of Assisi Church in NYC and Grannies Respond. The following items are just a few of what is needed:

Toiletries, diapers, wipes, small developmental toys/books, crayons, coloring books, school type supplies, cards or other simple games, and long sleeve tee shirts/sweatshirts/hoodies and Target gift cards.

[See complete list at https://spsact.org/collection-for-migrant-children-feb-2023/](https://spsact.org/collection-for-migrant-children-feb-2023/)

The Migrant Center and Grannies Respond have been assisting immigrant adults and children by providing backpacks with personal care items and clothing to meet their immediate need. The generous spirit of our SPSA community reaches locally as well as far and wide! How blessed we are to be able to make a difference in others' lives!

Donations can be dropped off at the Franciscan Center during business hours through the 8:00 AM Mass on March 5, 2023.

Join Our Music Ministry For Evensong

The Choirs of St. Patrick-St. Anthony Church, along with Director, Gabriel Löfvall and organ scholar, Madison H. Thompson, will be performing at



St. John's Episcopal Church, 679 Farmington Avenue, West Hartford Sunday, February 26, 2023 at 5:00 PM.

"Evensong offers to us the opportunity to gather and spend time in prayer while listening and participating in music that is especially selected to bring us into deeper understanding of the mysteries of our faith." (from reddoormusic.org)

Consider joining in person or via livestream at <https://www.reddoormusic.org/event/evensong223/>

St. Patrick - St. Anthony Ladies Guild Celebrating 85 Years

Humble Beginnings: Following a May 1938 novena service to Saint Theresa, the Little Flower, four devout parishioners of St. Anthony's Church (located on Market Street), Bea DeLeo, Anna Guerrero, Minnie Miano and Olive Pinto, met at Casa Maria, across from the Rectory. Conversation led to the organization, formation and first official meeting of The St. Anthony Church Ladies Guild.

Upon hearing the good news, Father Andrew Kelly, Pastor, was pleased and blessed the endeavors of these ladies of vision.

Save the Date!!!

SPSA Community Day at the Dunkin' Park!

Sunday, June 11, 1:00 PM.



Picture a warm June afternoon, sitting in the stands, drinking a cold beverage, eating a hot dog and cheering on our beloved Yard Goats. The breeze is drifting in from the outfield while the sun shines down.

Now you can make this a reality! Come support the Yard Goats against the Somerset Patriots, New York Yankee's AA-Affiliate and Defending Eastern League Champs ~and our Big Rivals! Yankee Fans take note!!!

Tickets go on sale after all Masses on April 15-16 in the Franciscan Center Lobby.



Gifts & Offerings
February 13 - 19, 2023
 Weekly Offering: \$6,858.00
 Online Giving: \$9,501.23
 Other Donations: \$2,000.00
Total: \$18,359.23

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, February 25, 2023

4:00 PM William Leone, 11th Anniversary & John Grocki

Sunday, February 26, 2023

8:00 AM Laurinda De Jesus & Jose Maria Da Costa

10:00 AM Salvatore & Rosina Rinaldi

11:45 AM Eleanor McGrath

5:00 PM Albert M. Penta

Monday, February 27, 2023

7:30 AM

12:05 PM William & Dorothy West

Tuesday, February 28, 2023

7:30 AM In Thanksgiving to Our Lady of Fatima

12:05 PM Mario Maselli, Sr.

Wednesday, March 1, 2023

7:30 AM For our parishioners

12:05 PM Duane Furniss & Richard Furniss

Thursday, March 2, 2023

7:30 AM Anthony Labriola

12:05 PM Florencia Rosal, 8th Anniversary

Friday, March 3, 2023

7:30 AM

12:05 PM Concetta Gianni

Saturday, March 4, 2023

4:00 PM Richard L. Walsh, III

Sunday, March 5, 2023

8:00 AM Joseph R. Panfile & Sean L. Tobin

10:00 AM Richard & Terry Blackstone

11:45 AM Eleanor Louise McGrath

5:00 PM

Have a Franciscan Heart: Help the People in Syria and Turkey



The Franciscan Relief Fund, which is run by The Holy Name Province, has set up a way to help the people of Syria and Turkey.

In a small neighborhood in Aleppo, the city in Syria about 30 miles from the Turkish border, Franciscan Friars who minister in the region and whose friary was, thankfully, unscathed by the earthquake, are not abandoning the people in their greatest time of need. They help 4,000 people a day displaced from their home. But supplies and resources are scarce. There are tens of thousands more like them. They need our help so they can help the frightened, cold and hungry people who lost everything in the earthquake.



The Franciscan Relief Fund will send the monetary donations every two weeks to the Order of Friars Minor overseas, where Franciscan Friars will purchase and ship the food, clothing and medicine to Turkey and Syria to help thousands of people. Please be as generous as your means allow. Donation Link: <http://bit.ly/3xBC2kV>.

St. Francis Builds Mission Trips



The next St. Francis Builds mission trip dates have been announced for May 23-28 in North Carolina. Interested to learn more? Contact Father Mike at mikeinbolivia@gmail.com.

Watch the video from our last trip to Puerto Rico and learn more about the impact of a mission trip: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RpV85uuEVzY&t=2s>

Watch Online:



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



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



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

We are here to serve you...

We are here to serve you. The programs and ministries listed below are just a sampling of our many offerings. Please go to www.spsact.org or call the Parish Office at 860-756-4034 for more information.

Baptism: Baptism of infants and young children may be celebrated during Sunday Mass and Group Baptisms on the 1st Saturday of each month outside of the seasons of Advent and Lent.

Patricia Curtis, Pastoral Associate; 860-756-4034, EXT. 113.

Matrimony: Weddings are conducted on Friday evenings, Saturday mornings, and Saturday afternoons. Couples should contact the church office at least 1 year prior to their desired wedding date.

Carolyn Abramo, Wedding Manager; 860-756-4034, EXT. 111 or <https://spsact.org/wedding-request-form/>

Emmaus Grieving Parents Ministry: 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.

<https://spsact.org/contact-form-for-emmaus-ministry/>

Pastoral Care Outreach Ministry: We offer holistic care in collaboration with the parish staff (friars, ministry coordinators, and parish nurses). Members of this team are responsible for visiting parishioners at home or in long term and short term care facilities. *Fr. John Leonard, O.F.M.; 860-756-4034, EXT. 129.*

Prayer Network: The St. Patrick–St. Anthony Prayer Network consists of approximately fifty parishioners who commit themselves to praying daily for those in need. *<https://spsact.org/prayer-network-prayer-request/> or Parish Office; 860-756-4034.*

Open Hearts LGBTQ+ Ministry: This ministry consists of two Groups: **Open Hearts** holds monthly fellowship meetings, and **Friends and Family (LGBTQ+) Support Ministry**, which supports members and allies of the LGBTQ+ community.

For information on Open Hearts:

<https://spsact.org/contact-form-for-open-hearts-ministry/>

For information on Friends and Family contact:

<https://spsact.org/contact-form-for-friends-family-ministry/>

Volunteering and Outreach Ministry Information:

St. Patrick-St. Anthony invites individuals to give freely of their time and expertise in order to make a difference. Our volunteers participate in liturgical ministries as well as other forms of service to the church, the Franciscan Center for Urban Ministry and the community at large. *Allison Holst-Grubbe, Director of Volunteer and Outreach Ministry; aholstgrubbe@spsact.org; 860-756-4034, EXT. 110.*

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, wbeaudin@gmail.com

Patricia Curtis, Pastoral Associate, pcurtis@spsact.org

Kristina DiDomenzio, Business Manager, kdidomenzio@spsact.org

Allison Holst-Grubbe, Director of Outreach/Volunteer Ministry, aholstgrubbe@spsact.org

Fr. Michael Johnson, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar & Director of Franciscan Center for Urban Ministry, mikeinbolivia@gmail.com

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

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Carolyn Abramo, Parish & Center Administrative Assistant, cabramo@spsact.org

Michael Boone, Office Assistant, mboone@spsact.org

Sarah Christopher, Parish Communications Director, schristopher@spsact.org

Stacie Mawson, Saturday Receptionist, smawson@spsact.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION STAFF

Deborah Pelletier, Religious Ed Team Coordinator, 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

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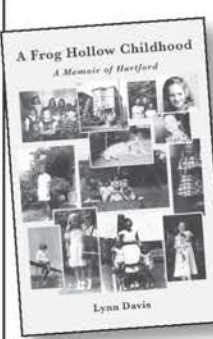
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 by Lynn Davis

 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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