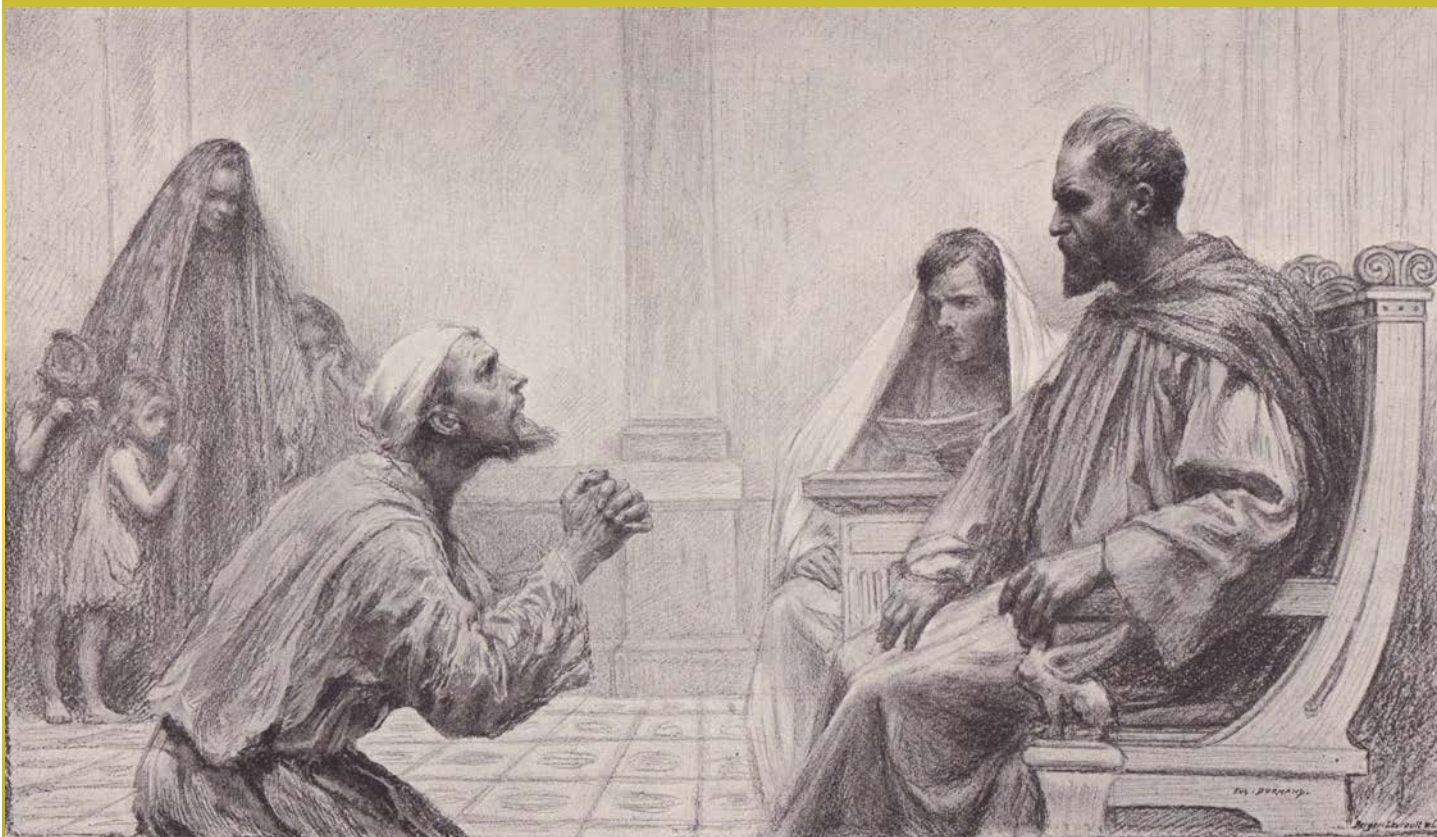


The servant fell down, did him homage, and said,  
“Be patient with me, and I will pay you back in full.”  
Moved with compassion the master of that servant  
let him go and forgave him the loan.



*Le Serviteur Impitoyable (The Ruthless Servant)* by Eugène Delacroix, 1850-1921

St. Patrick-St. Anthony Church  
285 Church Street  
Hartford, Connecticut  
September 17, 2023  
Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

# 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 Livestream available

### Sunday Masses

8:00 AM

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

11:45 AM

5:00 PM

### Weekday Masses

7:30 AM

12:05 PM Livestream available

## 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

## 2023 Albert Schweitzer Organ Competition Festival Concert



The prestigious Albert Schweitzer Organ Competition 2023 culminates in a spectacular Festival Concert on Saturday, September 23, 2023, at 7:30 PM at Trinity College, 300 Summit Street in Hartford. Please go to <https://www.asofhartford.org/> for more information about cost and parking. Organized by the Albert

Schweitzer Organ Festival, this event marks the grand finale of a celebration that embraces exceptional organ performances, musical talent, and unity.

Conducted by our own Director of Music, Dr. Gabriel Löfvall, and featuring world-renowned organist Christopher Houlihan, the Festival Concert will showcase remarkable performances by a collaboration of ensembles, including the joined voices of Chorus Angelicus & Gaudeamus, The Chapel Singers of Trinity College, and notably, The Choirs of St. Patrick-St. Anthony Church in Hartford.

The concert program promises a captivating journey through timeless and eclectic compositions. Audiences will be treated to Benjamin Britten's poignant cantata "Rejoice in the Lamb," Marcel Dupré's exquisite "Ave Maria" and "Laudate Dominum," Heinrich Schütz's uplifting "Psalm 100," and the vibrant Mexican baroque piece "Tleycantimo Choquiliya."

This Festival Concert stands as the crowning moment of the Albert Schweitzer Competition 2023, an event that unites exceptional musicians in a display of outstanding talent and meaningful cultural exchange.

Celebrating over 25 years of excellence, the Albert Schweitzer Organ Festival stands as a premier competition for young organists in North America. The Festival's third artistic director, Christopher Houlihan, assumed the role in 2022, bringing fresh perspectives to this time-honored tradition.

## Daily Mass Readings

Monday, Sept 11: 1 Tm 2:1-8; Lk 7:1-10  
Tuesday, Sept 12: 1 Tm 3:1-13; Lk 7:11-17  
Wednesday, Sept 13: 1 Tm 3:14-16; Lk 7:31-35  
Thursday, Sept 14: Eph 4:1-7, 11-13; Mt 9:9-13  
Friday, Sept 15: 1 Tm 6:2c-12; Lk 8:1-3  
Sunday, Sept 17: Is 55:6-9; Ps 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18;  
Phil 1:20c-24, 27a; Mt 20:1-16a

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

# The Pastor's Corner

September 17, 2023

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

In a recent article titled "Changing times: Closure of Catholic churches in Waterbury has some wondering if more are to come" published in the Waterbury Republican-American, Fr. James Sullivan, Rector of the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception, was interviewed about the merger of parishes in the Archdiocese of Hartford and other dioceses, and the effects it was having on Catholic life throughout New England.

Quoting Brandon Nappi, who teaches homiletics at Yale Divinity School, the article continued: "Catholicism has to be more than a beautiful nostalgic backdrop for your Sunday obligation." He pointed to Saint Patrick-Saint Anthony Church in Hartford, which was taken over by the Franciscan Friars in 1990. The Franciscans began an urban outreach ministry that Nappi said draws from nearly 50 zip codes. "They are really meeting people where they are and now they're operating on all cylinders."

We shouldn't be surprised that Saint Patrick-Saint Anthony is held up as an example of how a parish can meet multiple needs – not just spiritually but humanly as well. The friars who came here in 1990 looked around and saw many possibilities for ministerial outreach to those in need and harnessed the energy of people who could make it happen. Thus, the Franciscan Center for Urban Ministry was born and continues to provide much-needed assistance to people who would otherwise find it much more difficult to survive.

I often like to say that the Eucharist, the summit and source of our lives as Catholic Christians, affords us the opportunity and challenge to be bread for the world. What we share at Mass – the Eucharist, Bread of Life and Cup of Salvation – is the nourishment we need in order to nourish others. Once again, I commend and thank all of you who give of your time, talent and treasure to those who cannot provide for themselves. The recent mission collection for the Little Sisters of Mary Immaculate of Gulu, Uganda, as well as the clothing drive held last weekend for Ukrainian and Haitian youth refugees are just two examples of your generosity and compassion.

While I was in Buffalo last weekend for the funeral of my brother-in-law, John Kuebler, I had the opportunity to talk with my brothers, sisters and cousins about this incredible parish. Some of them were already familiar, through our live-streaming, with our beautiful lit-

urgies and superb music ministry. But I was also eager to tell them about everything else that happens here that live-streaming doesn't show.



My siblings started a little custom of getting together to celebrate each other's 70th birthday. Next year will be mine, but it will also be my 40th anniversary of Ordination, so I have invited them to come to Hartford the second weekend of September to see for themselves what a wonderful parish we are.

*You Can't Go Home Again* is the title of a 1940 novel by Thomas Wolfe. Although I've not read the book, the title has become something of a catch-phrase in modern America. It means that past times which are fondly remembered are lost to the past and cannot be relived. On the contrary, last weekend showed me that you *can* go home again, and my siblings and I did just that.

One of the stops we made following our brother-in-law's funeral service was to our house in South Buffalo where we all grew up. We intended to just take a group photo in front of the house, but the current owners came out and welcomed us with open arms. Then they invited us inside to see how everything looked, more than 30 years after our parents sold the house.

Much of the interior was different, with some walls taken down, the chimney now exposed, and carpets and linoleum flooring taken up to reveal hardwood floors. But some things hadn't changed, and for me it was the radiator seat in front of the dining room window where I would sit with our dog Skippy, waiting for my father to come home from work. The biggest impression I had, however, was how much smaller everything looked, except for the chestnut tree by the street which was planted in the late 60's and is now a full-grown tree. My final thought is that, while you can go home again, everything is going to look a lot different! But change is part of everyone's life, for better or for worse, and it's nothing to be afraid of.



Blessings on your week ahead!

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



## Restoring Women as Ordained Deacons in the Roman Catholic Church

*"So, What Does a Deacon Do?";*

**Tuesday, September 19, 6:30 to 8:00 PM.**

In our recent history at SPSA, we have not had a deacon serve our parish. This experiential demonstration of the diaconal ministries of Liturgy, Word, and Service will help us learn about a deacon's role and functions in a faith community. Join us in church for a narrated walk-through and discussion which will inform and expand our understanding of how any one among us can authentically be called to serve as a deacon.

*"Leading Us Forward in Faith";*

**Tuesday, September 26, 6:30 to 8:00 PM.**

Ever wonder who were the women once commissioned and ordained as deacons in the Catholic Church? Join us as we explore the history of the women's diaconate and learn about some of the women who served. As we hear their names and learn their stories, may it renew the hope that we will, once again, restore women back to their ordained roles of liturgy, word, and service, as they once had in the early Church.

To register for either of these gatherings, please [Click HERE \(bit.ly/women-deacons\)](https://bit.ly/women-deacons).

## Clare Gallery 20th Anniversary Celebration Saturday, September 30, 2023



The Clare Gallery has been promoting the arts and hosting exhibits that educate and inform all who enter our facility for twenty years!

To celebrate this momentous milestone, we will curate the 20th Anniversary Exhibition celebrating twenty of our past artists chosen from our three themes emphasizing world religions, interfaith themes and social justice themes, either on a global or local level.

Along with our exhibition, to mark this special occasion, we are planning a *20th Year Anniversary Evening of Celebration on Saturday, September 30, from 4–7:30 PM.* The celebration includes Mass at 4:00 PM, tour of church artwork, art raffle, concert in the Franciscan Center, and delicious refreshments.

Please go to <https://tinyurl.com/ClareGallery20> to register for and/or donate toward this wonderful celebration on **Saturday, September 30, from 4–7:30 PM.** Tickets are \$20, as a suggested donation, per person. This celebration event is a major fundraiser for the Clare Gallery. All funds raised will support this ministry for many years. We appreciate your participation and generosity.

## Ongoing Adult Faith Formation Programs

For full program descriptions, Zoom links, and more information, please go to <https://tinyurl.com/SPSA-AFF>.

### Praying With Sacred Scripture

Each month on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, in-person, 7:00 to 8:00 pm; September 20, October 4 & 18, November 1 & 15, December 6 & 20

### Group Spiritual Reflection

Every Monday, in-person, 12:40 to 1:40 pm;  
Every Tuesday, on Zoom, 12:30 to 1:30 pm

### Drumming Circle -

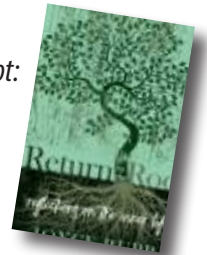
Mondays, October 2, November 6, December 4, 6:30 to 7:30 pm in the church

### In Quiet Prayer

Every Wednesday, on Zoom, 7:30 to 8:00 am

## Taproot; Every Wednesday, on Zoom, 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM; starting September 20

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.



Please [Register HERE \(bit.ly/taproot-2023\)](https://bit.ly/taproot-2023) to receive the Zoom link.

**Facilitator: Pat Curtis**

## Ladies Guild

### Annual Scholarship Award Form Available

Apply now for the Annual Rev. Dawson D. Trenchard Scholarship Award. Deadline is Wednesday, September 20, 2023. [CLICK Here](#) for more information, to donate to our scholarship fund, and to access the form.

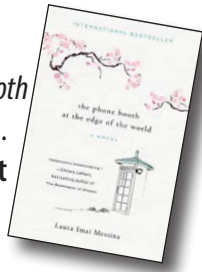
### Annual Membership Drive Continues...

Consider joining this dynamic group of women dedicated to serving our parish. You can find out more information by going to <https://tinyurl.com/SPSALadiesGuild>

## A Novel Idea Book Club

Our September book selection is *The Phone Booth at the Edge of the World* by Laura Imai Messina.

Join the discussion on **September 21, 2023 at 7:00 PM via Zoom or join us in person at the Franciscan Center for Urban Ministry**. For more information and a list of upcoming books, please [CLICK Here](#). Contact the office at 860-756-4034 or email [info@spsact.org](mailto:info@spsact.org) if you need the Zoom Link and we will forward it to you.



## The 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 September 24th at 2:00 PM to learn more about the Secular Franciscan Order.

## Oaxaca, Mexico - December 9-16th, 2023

St Francis Builds with Fr Mike is headed to Oaxaca, Mexico this Advent from Dec. 9-16th. We will be building with Friends of Pimpollo - a wonderful organization we built with in August, that builds schools in poor communities. Further information about the organization is found here: [www.friendsofpimpollo.org](http://www.friendsofpimpollo.org). If you are over 18 years (or under 18 and accompanied by a parent) and interested in this trip, please contact both Terry Sabonis at: [ts428@georgetown.edu](mailto:ts428@georgetown.edu) and Beth Hood at [bhood134@gmail.com](mailto:bhood134@gmail.com) or text at 301-578-6150. Se habla espanol. We would especially love to include first-time volunteers and members of diverse language communities! Trip cost is approximately \$1,000, plus airfare; limited scholarships are available.

Here is a video of this summer's trip: <https://tinyurl.com/4yzmr2e8>

## Volunteer Opportunities:

### Hospitality Ministers Needed

Do you enjoy offering hospitality and socializing with our parish community?

Join our team of Community Sunday Evening Edition hosts! This team will serve wine & cheese and other treats after the 5:00 PM Mass on the fourth Sunday of each month, September through May.

### Join a Saturday House of Bread Meal Team

Some of our Saturday lunch House of Bread meal teams are accepting new volunteers! If you desire to offer hospitality to our neighbors in need, and are available from 10:45 AM to 1 PM on Saturdays, please contact Allison at [aholstgrubbe@spsact.org](mailto:aholstgrubbe@spsact.org). Meal teams serve 10 or fewer times per year on a rotating schedule.

## Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (O.C.I.A.)



There are many reasons to explore, pursue and deepen one's relationship to the Catholic Church. Some do so because they have fallen in love with a practicing Catholic and they are interested in learning more about their

partner's faith. Some come from nominally Catholic families, but received little or no religious instruction when they were young and are now seeking to reconnect with their family's faith tradition. Some have no religious affiliation whatsoever, but are experiencing a longing for meaning, spirituality, community, and a sense of purpose in their lives. Some are already practicing Catholics who, for whatever reason, never received the sacrament of Confirmation and desire to do so now.

If you or someone you know fits any of these descriptions, then the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults may be what you or your friend may be looking for. For more information, contact Fr. Bill Beaudin, O.F.M. ([wbeaudin@gmail.com](mailto:wbeaudin@gmail.com) or 860-756-4034).

## Join the Choir!

*"Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness; come before his presence with singing." — Psalm 100*



St. Patrick-St. Anthony Church warmly extends an invitation to all music enthusiasts with choral experience to consider a remarkable commitment to singing from September through May by joining one of our vibrant CHURCH CHOIRS. This is an opportunity to refine your vocal artistry, expand your choral knowledge, and enrich your spiritual path.

**Treble Clef Choir (High Voices):** Rehearsals take place every Wednesday from 5:30 to 6:45 PM. The TCC sings every other Sunday, usually at the 5:00 PM Mass.

**Gallery Choir (SATB):** Rehearsals take place every Wednesdays at 7:00 PM. The GC sings every Sunday at the 10:00 AM Mass.

**Bass Clef Choir (Low Voices):** Rehearsals are on Mondays at 7:45 PM. The BCC sings every other Sunday, usually at the 5:00 p.m. mass.

**The Church Street Singers (Children/Youth):** Rehearsal schedule is forthcoming.

For more details contact Gabriel Löfvall at 860-756-4034 or email Gabriel at [glofvall@spsact.org](mailto:glofvall@spsact.org).

## Program at Holy Family Retreat Center

Saturday, September 30, 2023: Francis and Clare of Assisi and the Contemplative Franciscan Way of Peace with The Rt. Rev. Br. Mark D'Alessio, Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center, 303 Tunxis Road West Hartford, CT 06107 and via Zoom. For more information please go to <https://tinyurl.com/ssmutc2a>.

## TEXT-TO-GIVE

A new, easy way to support our parish!

Convenient anytime, anywhere access through your cell phone. Secure and confidential. Simple. No need to contact your bank or the church office. Contribute by texting the amount you would like to give to 860-615-7717. You can choose to direct donate or pick from a list of established funds. If you are not currently participating in Online Giving, you will be prompted to set up an account.

## Offering Envelopes

Did you know...

we do not require offering envelopes if you make your donations via online giving.

If you would like to discontinue them, please contact the parish office at 860-756-4034 or [info@spsact.org](mailto:info@spsact.org).



## 2023 HOPES Collection:

### Help Our Parish Educators & Students



The HOPES (Help Our Parish Educators & Students) Collection is an annual fundraiser that provides vital support to our Catholic elementary schools in the Archdiocese of Hartford.

Our most vital resource in every Catholic school is our dedicated teachers. Their profession is a vocation.

Balancing the cost of a Catholic school education requires creativity and innovation. This collection will provide new revenue sources to offer our teachers a just wage, ensuring quality education, enthusiasm and stability. We ask you to join us in supporting our children by supporting their teachers. It is a true search for our children's excellence. For more information or to donate, visit the Center for Catholic Education & Formation's website: <https://www.catholicdaohct.org/>



## Mass Intentions for the Week

### Saturday, September 16, 2023

4:00 PM Raymond Fusco

### Sunday, September 17, 2023

8:00 AM William, Angie & Joann Speziale

10:00 AM John N. Ramos, 17th Anniversary

11:45 AM Olidy S. de Orozco

5:00 PM Jackie Lilly

### Monday, September 18, 2023

7:30 AM For our parishioners

12:05 PM

### Tuesday, September 19, 2023

7:30 AM Maria Matilde Gutierrez & Emilio Antonio Gutierrez

12:05 PM Rita A. Misasi

### Wednesday, September 20, 2023

7:30 AM Melissa Corning

12:05 PM William McCauley

### Thursday, September 21, 2023

7:30 AM For the people of St. Genevieve

12:05 PM Daniel Laffin, Sr.

### Friday, September 22, 2023

7:30 AM

12:05 PM

### Saturday, September 23, 2023

4:00 PM Madeline Capodanno

### Sunday, September 24, 2023

8:00 AM Ronald James McNamee

10:00 AM Mary Lemega, 18th Anniversary

11:45 AM Vincent Giansanti, Jr.

5:00 PM Donato Monaco

## Please Pray for the Sick

Paula Molitar, Joseph Shertick, Greg Reed, Kathryn Eagers, Tommie Henry, Cecy Mickey, Syl Ciraulo, Mary Ertel, Mary Joyce Castafero, Tim Hindman, John Gannon, Susan Degennaro, Mary Alice Cronin and Deborah Godin.





*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](http://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 season of Lent.

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

**Matrimony:** The Sacrament of Marriage at St. Patrick-St. Anthony Church are celebrated Friday and Saturdays. The Bride or Groom should contact *Carolyn Abramo, Wedding Manager; 860-756-4034, EXT. 111* or <https://spsact.org/wedding-request-form/> to begin preparation for Marriage, normally one year in advance and before any other arrangements are made for a reception.

**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-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](mailto:aholstgrubbe@spsact.org); 860-756-4034, EXT. 110.*

## *St. Patrick - St. Anthony Staff*

### **PASTORAL STAFF**

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

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

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

### **ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF**

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

Barbara Sullivan, Saturday Receptionist, [bsullivan@spsact.org](mailto:bsullivan@spsact.org)

### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION STAFF**

Deborah Pelletier, Religious Ed Team Coordinator,  
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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**

Gilberto Lisboa, Church Custodian

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

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