



St. Patrick-St. Anthony Church • 285 Church Street • Hartford, Connecticut
March 10, 2024 • Fourth Sunday of Lent

Moses and the Brazen Serpent by James Tissot; Jewish Museum, New York

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

Saturday Evening Mass of Anticipation

4:00 PM Livestream available

Sunday Masses

8:00 AM

10:00 AM Livestream available

11:45 AM

5:00 PM

Weekday Masses

7:30 AM

12:05 PM Livestream available

The Church is open weekdays from 7:00AM until 1:00 PM

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Masks are required for everyone during Reconciliation

Monday, Wednesday, Friday 11:15 to 11:45 AM

Saturday 3:15 to 3:45 PM

Daily Mass Readings

Monday, Mar 11:	Is 65:17-21; Jn 4:43-54
Tuesday, Mar 12:	Ez 47:1-9, 12; Ps 51:12a, 14a
Wednesday, Mar 13:	Is 49:8-15; Jn 5:17-30
Thursday, Mar 14:	Ex 32:7-14; Jn 5:31-47
Friday, Mar 15:	Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
Sunday, Mar 17:	Ez 37:12-14; Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45

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

Holy Week 2024

Palm Sunday of the Passion

March 23 & 24

Saturday Mass at 4:00 PM

Sunday Masses at 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM,
11:45 AM and 5:00 PM

March 25, 26 & 27

Masses at 7:30 AM & 12:05 PM

March 25 & 27

Confessions from 11:15 to 11:45 AM.

Holy Thursday, March 28

Mass of the Lord's Supper, 7:00 PM

Good Friday, March 29

Liturgy of the Lord's Passion, 3:00 PM

Holy Saturday, March 30

Great Vigil of Easter, 8:00 PM

Easter Sunday, March 31

Masses at 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, 11:45 AM
and 5:00 PM



Stations of the Cross

Fridays during Lent: March 15, and 22, 2024
at 12:35 PM.

Join us following the 12:05 Mass on Fridays during Lent in praying the Stations of the Cross. For more information, please go to <http://tinyurl.com/SPSA-Stations-2024>.

The Pastor's Corner

March 10, 2024

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

I am very pleased to welcome Coadjutor Archbishop Christopher Coyne as he visits our parish this weekend and leads us in our worship on this Fourth Sunday in Lent – Laetare Sunday, as it has been traditionally called. Like Gaudete Sunday in Advent, this name comes from the Entrance Chant (or Introit) in Latin: *Laetare Jerusalem, et conventum facite omnes qui diligitis eam*. (“Rejoice, Jerusalem, and gather around, all you who love her”).

This sense of rejoicing for Jerusalem is tempered with sorrow and shame as we hear in the first reading from the second book of Chronicles about the destruction of Jerusalem in 587 BCE and Israel’s subsequent exile in Babylon. Psalm 137 echoes the longing for their return to their homeland as it is expressed in the refrain “Let my tongue be silenced if I ever forget you!” After King Cyrus of Persia had conquered the Babylonians in 539 BCE, he issued a decree which permitted the Israelites to return to their homeland.

The reading from Chronicles makes it clear that the people of Judea had failed to heed the message of the prophets to turn back to God from their sinfulness. The reading also alludes to the fact that Jerusalem’s capture was the result of the sins of the people and their leaders. This always makes us wonder if the bad things that happen to nations and individuals are a punishment by God.

While it is certainly tempting to think along those lines, we hear something quite different in the New Testament readings today. In St. Paul’s letter to the Ephesians he writes: “God, who is rich in mercy, because of the great love he had for us, even when we were dead in our transgressions...” In the Gospel, as Jesus speaks with Nicodemus, he says that we condemn ourselves if we refuse to accept the light and love that God wishes for us to receive. But God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, and that the world might be saved through him.

I love how St. Paul speaks of us as God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus for good works. But too often, people forget that; and as Jesus says in the Gospel: “The light came into the world, but people preferred darkness to light, because their works were evil.”

There is no question that there is much evil in our world today; just



look around our world and country and see how much evil there is: wars between Russia and Ukraine and Hamas and Israel; civil unrest in Haiti; deep and hate-filled divisions within the United States, especially in the treatment of migrants; the list goes on.

Yet, in all of this there is hope and glimmers of light because Christians who take their faith seriously want to address some of these evils head on. “But whoever lives the truth comes to the light, so that his works may be clearly seen as done in God,” Jesus tells us.

Each of us can do our part, however small, to bring light and truth, justice and peace into our world and nation. Take for example, the petition that our Sister Parish Committee is asking us to sign next weekend, asking our Connecticut Senators to do whatever is needed to bring a bill to a vote in the U.S. Senate that would curtail the ability of gangs in Haiti to obtain money and weapons from the U.S. So, please plan to stop before you leave the church next weekend to sign the petition, and hopefully, bring a ray of light and hope to the suffering people of Haiti.

Blessings on your week ahead!

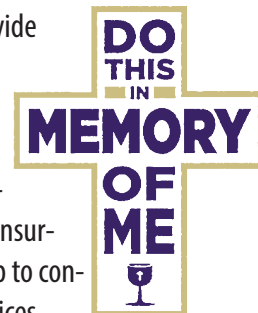
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Fr. Tim Shreenan, O.F.M.".

Fr. Tim Shreenan, O.F.M.

Pastor

The 2024 Archbishop’s Annual Appeal

The Archbishop’s Annual Appeal helps provide the critical funding needed to feed the hungry, shelter the unhoused, counsel those in despair, offer much-needed assistance to the unemployed, and make medical care available to those without health insurance. Your gift to the 2024 Appeal will help to continue these and other vital ministries, services, and programs that reach out to so many in need.



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.**

A Call to Action for Haiti



The Sister Parish Committee continues to advocate for passage of legislation to authorize the sanctioning of those who are funding the gangs that are terrorizing our brothers and sisters in our sister parish, St. Genevieve, in Haiti and all other Haitians as well. Your help is now needed with this. **Members of the committee will be available after Masses on 3/16/24 and 3/17/24, offering the opportunity for you to sign a petition**

that will be presented to Senators Blumenthal and Murphy urging them to work to bring a vote before the US Senate for the bill that they are supporting and that would authorize the sanctions. This bill has been already approved by the House of Representatives and the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Unfortunately, the bill has been before the full Senate for months without being acted upon. Your help is needed to move the bill for a Senate vote. By signing the petition, you will provide that help.



Prayer Shawl Ministry

Our Next Meeting: Monday, March 11 at 7:00 PM on Zoom.



The Prayer Shawl Ministry at St. Patrick – St. Anthony Parish serves the parish family, and the local and global community by making and giving shawls as a gesture of love in times of sorrow and fear, as well as in times of joy.

Open Hearts Ministry

Monthly Meeting: Join us Sunday, March 10, 2024 at 6:00 PM in the Franciscan Center for Urban Ministry. Go to <https://spsact.org/contact-form-for-open-hearts-ministry/> for more info.



Family & Friends Ministry

Next meeting: Sunday, March 17, 2024 at 3:30 PM in the Franciscan Center. Go to <https://spsact.org/ministries/open-hearts-lgbtq-ministry/#family-friends> for more info.

St. Joseph Medal of Appreciation

Parishioners Jack and Martha Murtaugh are this year's recipients of the St. Joseph Medal of Appreciation. Jack and Martha have been parishioners since 2004. They will be recognized for their years of service to the parish in many of our ministries, including serving as Hospitality Ministry Coordinators. The award ceremony is this Sunday, March 10, 2024 at 3:00 pm at The Cathedral of St. Joseph. Congratulations to Jack and Martha for this well deserved honor.

Leave No Trace Closing Reception



The Gallery is hosting a closing reception for the current exhibit, *Leave No Trace*, on Thursday, March 14, from 6:00 to 7:30 PM, during which the public will be invited to view the work and join the artist.

Lenten Twilight Retreat: "A Heart Renewed: Lent 2024"

Thursday, March 21, 5:30-8:00 PM, includes dinner. Registration Deadline: March 17

We are delighted to invite Fr. Ken back for an evening of presentation, inspiration, and reflection in this Lenten season.

Presenter: Fr. Ken Paulli, OFM

Suggested Offering: \$20.00; includes dinner; Please Register at <http://tinyurl.com/SPSA-Paulli-2024>

Presentation only at 6:45 p.m.: \$15.00; Please Register at <http://tinyurl.com/SPSA-Ken-2024-Pres>.

Trust Your Grieving Heart

Sunday, March 24; 11:15 AM - 1:00 PM

Losses weave their way throughout our lives, influencing the next path we take. Grief is our built-in response to loss, our ally in traveling the confusing, painful and transformative Land of Loss. This program gently supports those with recent loss, offers a lens for long-ago losses and provides a template for the losses yet to be. Care will be offered around non-death losses, as well. Tangible ideas will be shared to help navigate through this time with key reminders about our path toward healing. Current bereavement teaching and spiritual wisdom are shared, affirming that grief is, indeed, a sacred journey. Please go to <https://tinyurl.com/SPSA-TGH> to register.

Presenter: Lisa Irish, MEd, MA, BCC

Lisa's two books and several CareNotes will be for sale at the program. Suggested Offering: \$10.00

Ongoing Adult Faith Formation Programs

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

We Have Seen His Glory: Intro to St. John's Gospel:

Monday: March 11, 2024, on Zoom from 7:00 to 8:00 PM.

Group Spiritual Reflection:

Tuesday: March 12, 2024, on Zoom at 12:30 PM

Wednesday: March 13, 2024, in-person at 12:40 PM

In Quiet Prayer: Wednesday, March 13, 2024, 7:30 to 8:00 AM on Zoom

People of Hope: *The Flowing Grace of Now*: Wednesday, March 13, 2024, on Zoom from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Psalms: A Never-ending Discovery, March 14, 2024, on Zoom from 10:30 to 11:30 PM

A Novel Idea Book Club

Our March 2024 selection is *Demon Copperhead* by Barbara Kingsolver. Please join us on **March 21, 2024 at 7:00 PM via Zoom**. For more information and a list of upcoming books, please go to <http://tinyurl.com/SPSA-NBC-Books>. Contact the office at 860-756-4034 or email info@spsact.org if you need the Zoom Link and we will forward it to you.

Upcoming Bulletin Deadlines

March 17 Bulletin: Friday, March 8 at noon

March 23 Bulletin: Friday, March 15 at noon

EASTER BULLETIN DEADLINE

Wednesday, March 20 at noon

All Are Welcome: Day of Reflection

Francis and the Language of Praise:

Praying with the Saint of Assisi

Retreat Day Leader: Fr. Bill Beaudin, OFM

Saturday, April 13, 2024; 8:30 AM— 4:30 PM. at

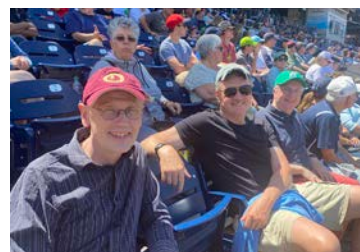
Mercy by the Sea Retreat Center

Go to <http://tinyurl.com/SPSA-AAW-DofR> to register

Save the Date!!!

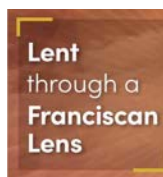
SPSA Community Day at the Dunkin' Park!

Sunday, June 16, 1:10 PM.



Let's visualize a warm June afternoon, sitting in the stands, drinking a cold beverage, eating a hot dog and cheering on our beloved Yard Goats against a flock of bobbing rubber duckies. Come support the Yard Goats as they play the Cleveland Guardians' AA-Affiliate, the Akron RubberDucks.

Tickets go on sale after all Masses on April 6-7 in the Franciscan Center Lobby.



A Franciscan exploration of Gospel Wisdom

Lent offers an opportunity for contemplation and renewal. Michael Johnson, OFM and Greg Friedman, OFM, have teamed up with friars across the province to create a six-part Gospel series titled, "*Lent through a Franciscan Lens*".

Guest speaker, Br. William Short, OFM brings us session 4 entitled "*Jesus meets Nicodemus*". To view this session, please click on the link or go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eUq-7QSV1D0>

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

Weekly Offerings

February 23 - March 3, 2024

Online Giving: \$9,788.23

Weekly Collection: \$12,145.00

Feb. 11, 2024 Total: \$21,983.23

Catholic Relief Services Collection:

On Sunday, March 10, 2024 we will observe the traditional Lenten practice of almsgiving by participating in The Catholic Relief Services Collection. Funds from this collection support the work of Catholic organizations that aid victims of war and natural disasters, help build peace in places of conflict, and minister to migrants and others with specific pastoral needs. Please go to <https://tinyurl.com/SPSA-CathRS> to donate.

Easter Flower Memorials

We invite you to celebrate the joy in the Resurrection of Christ by remembering or honoring family members and friends with an Easter flower donation. Deadline: Tuesday, March 19, 2024, Give online by going to <https://bit.ly/3TD18tM> or mail a check to the office.

Please indicate loved one's name(s) below, online in the notes or on a separate piece of paper with your check.

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, March 9, 2024

4:00 PM Angela Maria & Pietro Fazio

Sunday, March 10, 2024

8:00 AM Joseph Suranna

10:00 AM Rose & Angelo Perrone

11:45 AM Rafael Morales & Zeida Ochoa

5:00 PM Angela Padilla, 2nd Anniversary

Monday, March 11, 2024

7:30 AM Prayer Intentions for our parishioners

12:05 PM Beatriz Alcocer Castillo

Tuesday, March 12, 2024

7:30 AM Prayer Intentions for the people of St. Genevieve

12:05 PM Mary Kowalski

Wednesday, March 13, 2024

7:30 AM

12:05 PM Stuart Carter

Thursday, March 14, 2024

7:30 AM

12:05 PM Judith Lanning

Friday, March 15, 2024

7:30 AM

12:05 PM Richard & Terry Blackstone

Saturday, March 16, 2024

4:00 PM James Fahey

Sunday, March 17, 2024

8:00 AM Marty Kenny

10:00 AM Frank Perrone

11:45 AM Rashid & Yesmin Ellis

5:00 PM

Franciscan Center for Urban Ministry



You can support the food drive for needy families served by the House of Bread and Hands on Hartford by donating the following items: peanut butter, rice, dried beans, pasta, pasta sauce, can of tuna and chicken, cereal, granola bars, sugar, ground coffee and canned vegetables. Please go to <https://tinyurl.com/SPSA-PS-Food-Drive> to view the online shopping list.

All the items plus a jar of jelly can be purchased at Aldi's for \$30. "Lent is not about giving up something but instead doing something to put your faith into action. May we start out Holy Week living out our faith by bringing in food items for our brothers and sisters dealing with food insecurity."

- Fr. Mike, O.F.M.



Please Pray for the Sick

Paula Molitar, Joseph Shertick, Greg Reed, Kathryn Eagers, Tommie Henry, Syl Ciraulo, Mary Ertel, Mary Joyce Castafero, Bobby Lombardo, John Gannon, Rosemarie Perkoski, Susan Degennaro, 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 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 Community Engagement; 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

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

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

Fr. A. Francis Soucy, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar & Senior Associate Friar,
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dpelletier@spsact.org

Sarah Christopher, Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Mary Gray, Family Program

Lauren Kasperowski, Traditional Program

Faith VosWinkel, Confirmation

Abigail Sheehan, 7th & 8th Grade

MAINTENANCE STAFF

Gilberto Lisboa, Church Custodian

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