



Saint Clare by Eugene Burnand (1850-1921)

St. Patrick-St. Anthony Church • 285 Church Street • Hartford, Connecticut
August 11, 2024 • Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Feast of Saint Clare of Assisi

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

Sunday Masses

8:00 AM Public

10:00 AM Public & Livestream

11:45 AM Public

5:00 PM Public

Weekday Masses

7:30 AM Public

12:05 PM Public & Livestream

Sacrament of Reconciliation

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

Saturday 3:15 to 3:45 PM

Updated Livestreaming Information

All Masses are available on Streamspot. Please go to <https://tinyurl.com/SPSACT-Streamspot> or scan the QR Code to view.



Daily Mass Readings

Monday, Aug 12: Ez 1:2-5, 24-28c; Mt 17:22-27
Tuesday, Aug 13: Ez 2:8-3:4; Mt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14
Wednesday, Aug 14: Ez 9:1-7, 10:18-22; Mt 18:15-20
Thursday, Aug 15: 1 Chr 15:3-4, 15-16, 16:1-2; 132:6-7, 9-10, 13-14; 1 Cor 15:54b-57; Lk 11:27-28
Friday, Aug 16: Ez 16:1-5, 60, 63 or Ez 16:59-63; Mt 19:3-12
Sunday Aug 18: Prv 9:1-6; Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7; Eph 5:15-20; Jn 6:51-58

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

MUSIC UNDER THE STARS
evening out for adults

August 24 from 7-10 pm:
\$40 per person / \$70 per couple

Scan the code or register at:
spsact.org/music-under-stars-2024

SPM SUMMER SOCIALS

Join us on Saturday, August 24, 2024 from 7:00 to 10:00 PM for an adult night out. The Friary garden will be alive with Music Under the Stars.

Gather with friends, enjoy dinner catered by Salute, and jazz music provided by trumpeter, Ken Tedesch and his band "Evening Serenade" featuring Noah Baerman on piano, Jim Andrews playing the bass, John Tedeschi on drums, and Nigel Regan playing the alto sax. Beer, wine and soft drinks available.

Limited tickets are available, so get yours today!!!

Note: If we have rain, the event will be inside the Franciscan Center.

HAPPY FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION OF MARY

AUGUST 15

Masses at 7:30 am and 12:05 pm

The Pastor's Corner

August 11, 2024

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Today we honor the Feast of St. Clare of Assisi whose feast is celebrated on August 11.

Clare was born in 1193 or 1194 into one of Assisi's noble families; her parents were Favarone and Ortolana Offreduccio. As a young girl she became captivated by the preaching of Francis Bernadone and his small band of brothers who had begun a new religious movement based on the Gospel and a life of service to the poor and marginalized. They called themselves the Lesser Brothers.

Clare decided that she wanted to be part of their life. On the evening of Palm Sunday, March 18, 1212, she secretly made her way to the chapel of Saint Mary of the Angels, the Portiuncula, where Francis cut her blonde hair and she was vested in the habit of a nun. Her sister Agnes soon joined her, causing upheaval in their family.

Several months later, Clare and Agnes moved to San Damiano which became the first convent of the Second Franciscan Order. Officially they were called the "Poor Ladies of San Damiano." Eventually other women joined them and today they are known as "Poor Clares."

In 1216, Clare reluctantly accepted the title of abbess in accord with Church law, but she didn't stand on that title, always willing to help her sisters in the most humble ways. Even when sickness took much of her strength, Clare continued to weave cloth and sew altar linens for the churches in Assisi.

One of Clare's most ardent desires was to be able to live in complete poverty without the stable income that other women's communities enjoyed. Contemplative nuns had always been supported by the lands they owned, but Clare wanted to gain a "privilege of poverty," as she called it. Several popes had feared that such a life would be too difficult, but two days before she died, Clare finally received this "privilege" in writing from Pope Innocent IV.

Clare died on August 11, 1253 and was canonized a saint just two years later. Eventually a basilica was erected in her honor in Assisi where her body was interred.



I would like to speak about some of the images of Clare that speak about her life and personality. The first is a small panel from the Metropolitan



Museum of Art in New York City. It shows the bishop of Assisi giving a piece of palm to Clare as Francis looks on. This panel was part of an altarpiece devoted to the life of Saint Clare and made for the convent of the Poor Clares in either Nuremberg or Bamberg, Germany around 1360. It recalls the entrance of Clare into the Franciscan community on Palm Sunday, 1212, as I mentioned earlier.

Another image, used on the cover of this week's song-sheet, comes from the Rothschild Book of Hours made in Belgium around

1510. This illumination shows St. Clare holding a monstrance with a small host inside, recalling the time when she prayed to the Eucharistic presence of the Lord to preserve the Sister's convent from military attack. Clare is often portrayed with a monstrance because of this.



The image of Clare on the cover of today's bulletin is by Eugène Burnand, who created it for an English version of *The*

Little Flowers of St. Francis, published in 1910. It is one of 30 paintings by Burnand that depict various episodes in the life of St. Francis. Although this is a somewhat severe image of Clare, I think it portrays the contemplative side of her spirituality. It is said that Francis struggled as to whether he should lead a more active life of preaching and serving the poor, or a more contemplative life of prayer and solitude. So, he went to visit Clare and asked for her advice. She ended up telling Francis to undertake both aspects – active and contemplative. This is what we friars refer to today as contemplative fraternities in mission. The simple, quiet life of the Poor Clares continues to inspire Franciscans of all stripes – men, women, religious, secular – to live the Gospel as Francis first taught, in joy and simplicity of heart. Happy Feast Day to all!

Blessings on your week ahead!

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

Vibrant Voices for Peace



Our Women of Hope Ministry invites you to join them for prayer to focus on many dimensions of peace ~ building a culture of peace, cultural diversity in friendship and the theme of justice, for example.

We launch this important time to 'be' together.

Please join with other parishioners to hear the voices of women lead our communal prayers and reflect upon the peace sought after and celebrated at this moment in history.

Tuesday, August 13 at 7:00 PM,
with Fatma Antar & Carole Fay

Thursday, September 19 at 7:00 PM, with Patty Panetta

** All services will be held in the church and available on live stream **

All are Welcome!

Prayer for Vocations

Heavenly Father, you have created us for a definite purpose. Grant us the grace to know the path you have planned for each of us in this life, and to respond with a generous 'Yes.' Make our parish, our homes and our hearts fruitful ground for your gift of vocations. May we respond to your call with courage and zeal. Stir among us a desire and the strength to live good and holy lives in service to others. We make our prayer to you, Father, in the Holy Spirit, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

To view all Vocation Reflections please go to <https://tinyurl.com/SPSA-Vocation> or scan the qr code.

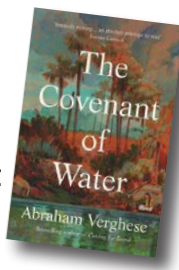


A Novel Idea Book Club

Our August book selection is *The Covenant of Water* by Abraham Verghese.



Join the discussion on August 15, at 7:00 PM in-person at the Franciscan Center for Urban Ministry and on Zoom.



For more information please go to <https://tinyurl.com/SPSA-NBC-Books> or scan the QR code.



"All Are Welcome" Day of Reflection

"Behold, the Humility of God": The Eucharist in the Writings of St. Francis

Retreat Day Leader: Fr. Bill Beaudin, O.F.M.

Saturday, October 12, 2024; 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Mercy by the Sea Retreat Center

All men and women are invited to consider this Day of Reflection in the Fall to set aside time for one's relationship with God.

The Eucharist, the source and summit of our Catholic faith, featured prominently in the life and writings of St. Francis of Assisi. In the month when we celebrate his feast day and during this time of Eucharistic renewal in our parish, we will spend a day of prayer together, reflecting on and celebrating the supreme gift of Christ to us in this blessed sacrament with the insights of St. Francis to guide us.

Here's a chance to step away for one day from the ordinary schedule of life and devote this time to your spiritual growth. **And, if you have never experienced Mercy by the Sea in Madison CT before, please join us!** Mercy by the Sea offers beautiful, simple, and peaceful spaces that enable reflection, open the heart to prayer, and facilitate opportunities for conversation.

** Register Early ** to reserve a spot for you and a friend.

Suggested Offering: \$60.00

Don't miss this opportunity open to all!

Registration & payment deadline is September 25, 2024

To register, please go to <https://tinyurl.com/SPSA-Fall24-DOF> or scan the QR Code.

Please note: You must register using either the link above, QR Code or call the parish office to attend the program.

Checks can be made payable to St. Patrick-St. Anthony Church and mailed to 285 Church Street, Hartford, CT 06103, Attn. Pat Curtis

To give your program offering conveniently online, go to <https://tinyurl.com/SPSA-AFF-Pay> and note the program name in the notes.



What Does the Countercultural Witness of Early “Mothers of the Church” Call Us to Today?

Saturday, September 28, from 12:30 to 4:00 PM

On February 14, 2007, Pope Benedict XVI made the rather remarkable statement that “The history of Christianity would have turned out very differently without the contribution of women . . . the female presence was anything but secondary.”[1] Because of their belief in a countercultural Jesus, women founded and led house churches, prophesied, taught male evangelists, served the poor and functioned as apostles, benefactors, founders of monasteries, and envoys. This program focuses on the witness of early “mothers of the church” such as Euodia, Syntyche, Lydia, Prisca, Phoebe, Junia, Grapte, Thecla, Marcella, Macrina, Egeria, Olympias, Proba and many other women only known to us via the archaeological evidence from 3rd -5th century sarcophagi and catacomb frescos.

Presenter: Sr. Christine Schenk, CSJ

Please go to <https://tinyurl.com/SPSA-Mom-of-Church> or scan the QR Code to register.



Please note: You must register using either the link above, QR Code or call the parish office to attend the program.

Suggested Offering: \$25.00 can be made payable to “St. Patrick-St. Anthony Church” and mailed to 285 Church Street, Hartford, CT 06103, Attn. Pat Curtis OR give your program offering conveniently online, go to <https://tinyurl.com/SPSA-AFF-Pay> and note the program name in the notes.

About Christine Schenk, CSJ



In her critically acclaimed book Crispina and Her Sisters: Women and Authority in Early Christianity, author Christine Schenk, C.S.J. explores the archaeological and literary evidence for women’s leadership in

early Christianity. Schenk’s original research into visual imagery found on burial artifacts demonstrates that women were far more influential in the ancient world than has been commonly recognized. Join us for a fascinating visual journey and consider what it may mean for today.

Christine Schenk, CSJ has worked as a nurse midwife to low-income families, a community organizer, an award-winning writer-researcher, and the founding director of an international

church reform organization, FutureChurch. Her most recent work, To Speak the Truth in Love: A Biography of Sr. Theresa Kane RSM (OrbisBooks 2019) received first place awards from The Association of Catholic Publishers and the Catholic Press Association. Schenk’s forthcoming book: Bending Toward Justice: Sr. Kate Kuenstler and the Struggle for Parish Rights documents Kuenstler’s courageous advocacy and that of hundreds of ordinary Catholics whose persistence charted a new course in canon law that allowed their vibrant churches and parishes to remain open. It will be published by Sheed and Ward in December 2024.

[1] As found on Asia News: <http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Pope:-History-of-Christianity-would-be-very-different-without-women-8487.html>

Sponsored by Women of Hope Ministry



Baptism

Jake David Descoteaux

child of Mark & Alicia Descoteaux

Fr. Timothy Shreenan, O.F.M., celebrating

St. Patrick - St. Anthony Ladies Guild 22nd Annual Rev. Dawson D. Trenchard Scholarship

Do you have a child or children in grades K through 12 entering or attending Catholic School this year? Download the form and apply now for the 2024-2025 school year.

The Ladies Guild has awarded \$81,175 in scholarships to the children of the parish since 2003.

For more information and to download, please scan the QR Code or go to <https://tinyurl.com/SPSALadiesGuild>



Weekly Offerings
Thank you for your generosity!

July 29 - August 4, 2024

Online Giving: \$9,430.23

Weekly: \$7,195.35

Total: \$16,625.58

Mission Co-op Collection: \$5,023.00

Vocation Reflection:

Vocation - a purpose and passion that we live for and get up for every day. I believe that we are each called to a vocation. And, the call to a vocation is, in fact, a faith journey. It is one of listening to your inner soul and the Holy Spirit.

I am a licensed clinical social worker and outreach worker in the Hartford, Middletown and New Haven areas. Since 1994, I have attended St. Patrick-St. Anthony Church and am also a member of the Committee for Social Justice.

At times it may seem difficult to distinguish between 'vocation' and 'making a living' while still remaining faithful to our call. Both of my parents served in vocations of "helping" professions - one, a school social worker in Hartford and the other, a registered radiologic technologist in the trauma center of St. Francis Hospital. I knew very young that we are each a part of something much bigger than ourselves.

My "calling" came naturally as it is one that encompasses the core values of social work: compassion, service, social justice, advocacy, integrity, competence, empowerment, dignity and respecting the worth and importance of other humans. My work and passion have been serving as a bridge to better the lives of my clients; offering hope and acting in accompaniment, side by side, shoulder to shoulder, offering a hand up, not a hand out. Accompaniment is front and center to me. It is reflected in one of my favorite readings from the New Testament - the Road to Emmaus. Jesus is walking right alongside us every day. We just need to be aware of His presence.

These past 34 years of social work have carried me to many places, seeing the face of Jesus in many others along the way. In 1989, I had the opportunity to travel to central El Salvador to meet with our brothers and sisters who were enduring the atrocities of their civil war. This was nine years after Archbishop Oscar Romero was murdered. I was amazed by the faith of the people in Central America. Their faith was and continues to be a lesson to me.

In 2012, I began the journey of experiencing life at the U.S. / Mexican border while carrying hope and supplies to people in day shelters and in the Sonoran Desert. On Holy Thursday of 2013, I had the blessed experience of kneeling on a cement floor of a small shelter in Nogales, Sonora with migrants, deportees and volunteers, each taking turns washing each other's feet.

Here in central CT through my Emmaus Migrant Advocacy Project, we build community for seasonal and migrant workers. We help with their assimilation by linking them to healthcare, legal aid, and psycho-social supports.

No matter what vocation one is called to, faith is what we carry in us which remains the constant in a world of change. Faith in some-

thing greater than ourselves is the foundation that holds us up. Some days it is all we have and it carries us through. As Archbishop Romero said "we may never see the end results, but that is the difference between the Master Builder and worker. We are workers, not master builders; ministers, not messiahs. We are prophets of a future not our own".

Just today, one of my clients thanked me as I was leaving the home visit. He said, "It's not just a profession, it is a calling."

- MaryJoan Picone

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, August 10, 2024

4:00 PM Teresa Hanlon

Sunday, August 11, 2024

8:00 AM William, Angie & Joanne Speziale

10:00 AM Millie Intino

11:45 AM Hilda Megaw

5:00 PM Tim McAdam

Monday, August 12, 2024

7:30 AM Prayer intentions for our parishioners

12:05 PM Frances Bazzano

Tuesday, August 13, 2024

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

12:05 PM

Wednesday, August 14, 2024

7:30 AM

12:05 PM Skip Kimball

Thursday, August 15, 2024

7:30 AM

12:05 PM Kathleen Mary Mulcahy Miskell

Friday, August 16, 2024

7:30 AM

12:05 PM Lise Banach

Saturday, August 17, 2024

4:00 PM Catherine Litwin Belenger

Sunday, August 18, 2024

8:00 AM Eleanor Laffin

10:00 AM Mary V. Ramos, 17th Anniversary

11:45 AM Deceased members of the Neiname Family

5:00 PM Valentino & Philomena Raimondi & Family

Please Pray for the Sick

Paula Molitar, Joseph Shertick, Greg Reed, Kathryn Eagers, Tommie Henry, Syl Ciraulo, Mary Ertel, Gary Winn, 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

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Br. Kevin Hamzik, O.F.M., Visiting Friar

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

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Fr. A. Francis Soucy, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar & Senior Associate Friar,
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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

Keep Up with News from St. Patrick - St. Anthony
and The Franciscan Center for Urban Ministry
Go to <https://tinyurl.com/SPSA-news>
or scan the QR code



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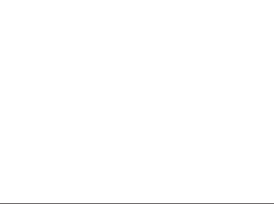


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