



St. Patrick-St. Anthony Church • 285 Church Street • Hartford, Connecticut
February 16, 2025 • Sixth 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 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

SAVE THE DATE!!

“FAT SUNDAY: FEAST BEFORE WE FAST!”

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

SUNDAY, MARCH 2ND AFTER THE 8 & 10 AM MASSES



Our traditional pancake breakfast has been moved to a new season!

Join us in the Franciscan Center after the 8:00 and 10:00 AM Masses for pancakes cooked and served by the 9th and 10th grade Focus 4:12 teens in the Confirmation program. Proceeds will go to the Franciscan Center for Urban Ministry.

\$5 per person, ages 5 and under are free, \$20 cap for families.

Daily Mass Readings

- Monday, Feb 17: Gen 4:1-15, 25; Mk 8:11-13
- Tuesday, Feb 18: Gen 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10; Mk 8:14-21
- Wednesday, Feb 19: Gen 8:6-13, 20-22; Mk 8:22-26
- Thursday, Feb 20: Gen 9:1-13; Mk 8:27-33
- Friday, Feb 21: Gen 11:1-9; Mk 8:34 – 9:1
- Sunday, Feb 23: 1 Sam 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23; Ps103:1-2, 3-4, 8, 10, 12-13; 1 Cor 15:45-49 Lk 6:27-38

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

Request your
**2024 Tax
Statement**



or go to
<https://spsa.org/2024-giving-statement>

The Pastor's Corner

February 16, 2025

Dear Parishioners and Friends,



"Parting is such sweet sorrow." That famous line from Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet" comes to mind as I announce that our Director of Music Ministry, Gabriel Löfvall, has been appointed Director of Music at St. Joseph Cathedral here in Hartford. Gabe's final weekend with us will be March 8-9, and we will have an appropriate farewell for him at the 10:00 Mass on Sunday, March 9, followed by Community Sunday in the Franciscan Center.



Since September of 2009, Gabe has been a force of nature with his musical talents which have made our parish a beacon of wel-

come, drawing many of you to our liturgies and concerts. When I arrived here in 2020 I remember saying that St. Patrick-St. Anthony parish was like a gem among our Province's ministries because of its superb music ministry, much of which is due to the efforts of Gabe. I have enjoyed a very productive and creative collaboration with Gabe over the past few years, which I will miss very much. But his enthusiasm and *joie de vivre* will remain with us always.

I am currently seeking an interim music director to see us through the remainder of the choir season. A search committee is also being formed to guide us through the process of hiring a new director of music. I hope to have someone in place by September. I know that Gabe's departure will be a difficult adjustment in the life of our parish, but we have been through other personnel changes over the past several years, and we have weathered those changes with confidence and hope. Let us give thanks for all the wonderful musical moments and memories which Gabe has given us, and may his ministry at the cathedral bring joy to our entire archdiocese.

In other news, I am pleased to announce that Patti Wawzyniecki has been selected to chair our Sister Parish Committee, succeeding Marc Sherer. Patti has been active in the Sister Parish Committee for a number of years, and has served as co-chair of the annual "Christmas in July" fund raising campaign for the past two years. I am very

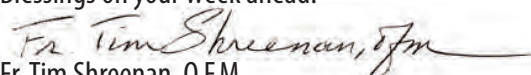
grateful to Patti for taking on this important role, especially during this time of great suffering in Haiti from the violence perpetrated by armed gangs. Marc Sherer has led the committee through some crucial moments, including the renewal of the covenant between St. Patrick-St. Anthony and Ste.-Geneviève parishes. Marc is in constant communication with their pastor, Fr. Gaby Noël; and we continue to support the students and teachers at the parish school.

I am also pleased to announce that this year's St. Joseph Medal of Appreciation will be awarded to Pamela Morrison-Wolf on Sunday, March 16, at St. Joseph Cathedral. We nominated Pamela for her years of dedicated service as a Lector at weekend and weekday Masses, Pastoral Care Outreach Minister of the Eucharist to the homebound, Spiritual Director, Catechist for multiple units of Servant Leadership formation's year-long courses, Care Minister assisting bereaved families at the time of a funeral, and Adult Faith Formation facilitator. We are most grateful for Pamela's very generous and multifaceted ministry for our faith community and we congratulate her on this honor!

Finally, I wish to remind you of Fr. Ken Paulli's presentation at this year's Lenten Twilight Retreat: *A Journey Inward in Love so that We Move Outward in Greater Love*. The retreat will be held on Tuesday, March 11 from 5:30 to 8:00 PM. Fr. Ken was with us last year and we are so glad to have him back once again. He will draw upon Pope Francis's recent encyclical, *Dilexit Nos* ("He Loved Us"), to help us enter more deeply into the heart of Christ and the heart of the Gospel. The suggested offering is \$20.00, including dinner. If you wish to attend only the presentation at 6:30, the offering will be \$15.00. The deadline for registration is Friday, March 7. Please go to our website to register.

One final thought: I am deeply grateful to everyone who has participated in our parish appeal. We continue to receive gifts which have totaled \$115,223 so far. This amount is a reflection of your commitment to building up our community of faith. I hope to get several projects underway soon, including upgrades of our IT equipment and the church's sound system, replacement of the kneelers, and other necessary repairs and projects.

Blessings on your week ahead!


Fr. Tim Shreenan, O.F.M.

Pastor

Adult Faith Formation

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

Group Spiritual Reflection:

Zoom Meetings: Every Tuesdays. Next meeting: February 18, 2025 from 12:30 to 1:30 PM. All are welcome! Please go to <https://tinyurl.com/SPSA-Tues-Spirit-Grp> to register and receive the Zoom Link.

In-person Meetings at the Franciscan Center: Every Wednesday. Next meeting: February 19, 2025, at 12:40 PM.

Facilitators: Mary Espinosa, Joan Osella & Elaine Wiatr

In Quiet Prayer:

Every Wednesday. Next meeting: February 19, 2025, from 7:30 to 8:00 AM. Thirty minutes of quiet prayer practice every Wednesday morning. Join us on Zoom. Please go to <https://tinyurl.com/SPSA-In-Quiet-Prayer> to register.

People of Hope: "The Flowing Grace of Now"

Every Wednesday from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM on Zoom. Next meeting: February 19, 2025.

Attend when your schedule allows to receive the gifts of spiritual nourishment and growth. Join us: <https://tinyurl.com/SPSA-ACT-POH-Fall24> to receive Zoom link.

Free Will Offering

Divine Reading: Wednesday, February 19, 2025, from 7:00 to 8:00 PM in-person, in the Franciscan Center.

Join us when you can!

Prayer Shawl Ministry

It's called a prayer shawl because it came from the prayers of the shawl maker holding the person receiving the shawl in her or his prayers. .

The Prayer Shawl Ministry meets twice a month:

Evening meetings are the 2nd Monday of the month at 7:00 PM on Zoom: Winter/spring dates are March 10, April 14, May 12, and June 9

Daytime meetings are the last Thursday of the month at 10:30 AM in the Franciscan Center: Winter/spring dates are February 27, March 27, April 24, May 29, and June 26

For more information, contact Janet Bristow at janetbristow@sbcglobal.net

Open Hearts Ministry



Friends and Family Ministry: Our next meeting will take place on Sunday, February 16, 2025 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.

Monthly Open Hearts Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for March 9, 2025 after the 5:00 PM Mass in the Franciscan Center for Urban Ministry. All Are Welcome. Please join us.

Community Sunday: Valentine's Day Extravaganza

Sunday, February 16, 2025, after the 8:00

and 10:00 am Masses for a Community

Sunday Valentine's Day

Extravaganza



Prayer Squares for Peace

Prayer Shawl Ministers often have one response to times of "uncertainty": knit!

Join us for our second session at the **February 16th Community Sunday**. Ministers will be available to teach how to start knitting these simple squares. The ministry feels it is the right time to invite parishioners to take and/or to make Prayers Squares for Peace and distribute them throughout Lent. Two different prayers are available to accompany the Prayer Square.



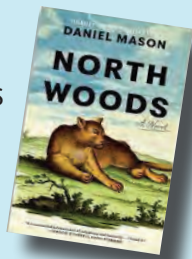
The Emmaus Grieving Parent Ministry



We meet at the Franciscan Center at 3:30 on the third Sunday of the month: February 16 and March 16, 2025. (There will be no meeting on Easter Sunday, April 20.)

A Novel Idea Book Club

The February 2025 book selection is a NY Times Book Review, Top 10 Best Book of 2023 called **North Woods**, by *Daniel Mason*. Join the discussion on February 20, 2025, at 7:00 PM. For more information please go to <https://tinyurl.com/SPSA-NBC-Books>.



Fr. Kenneth P. Paulli, OFM, EdD is a Franciscan priest of the Province of Our Lady of Guadalupe and a Professor of Education at Siena College, Loudonville, NY. Born and raised in Westchester County, NY, he graduated from Siena in 1982 with a B.S. in Marketing/Management. Upon his college graduation, Fr. Ken taught high school and subsequently entered the Franciscan Order. After graduating from the Washington Theological Union in May 1990 with an M.A. in Theology, Fr. Ken was ordained to the priesthood in September of that same year. After serving as a parochial vicar in two parishes, Fr. Ken enrolled in Columbia University's Religion & Education doctoral program. Columbia awarded him a doctorate in May 1999. Fr. Ken is an Associate Professor of Education. In addition to teaching, research, and writing, Fr. Ken has given numerous parish missions and retreats.



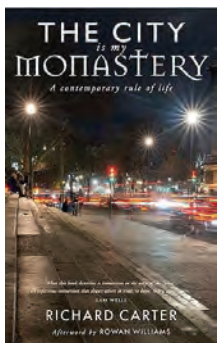
Please go to <https://tinyurl.com/SPSA-KP-Lent-25> to register for dinner and presentation.

Please go to <https://tinyurl.com/SPSA-KP-Lent-25-PO> to register for JUST the presentation.

Upcoming Adult Faith Programs

Our Own Nazareth Time

Mondays, March 10 & 24, April 7 & 21, May 5 & 19, June 2
from 12:45-1:45 PM.



Experience your own "Nazareth Time" during the Lent/Easter Season this year! Jesus spent 90% of his life in Nazareth living with others and sharing their existence; their hopes, fears, delights, griefs, triumphs and disasters. We invite you to join us on a life changing journey through our own Nazareth time.

The City is My Monastery, A Contemporary Rule of Life, by Richard Carter is an unusual book; more like a guide to life that might become your life-time companion for prayer, peace and well-being. It gives us a practical "rule of life".

There are seven spiritual practices in the book accompanied by many exercises to nurture our faith with each practice. We will read one chapter (one spiritual practice) over a two-week period. After the 12:05 Mass we will meet in the Franciscan Center to experience the exercises proposed. Beverages will be provided. Feel free to bring your lunch.

Please go to <https://tinyurl.com/SPSA-Naz-Time> to register.

Lenten Twilight Retreat: A Journey Inward in Love so that We Move Outward in Greater Love.

Tuesday, March 11 from 5:30-8:00 PM.

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

Presenter: Fr. Kenneth P. Paulli, OFM, EdD
Suggested Offering: \$20.00; includes dinner

Presentation only at 6:30 p.m.: \$15.00

Registration Deadline: March 7

Holy Week & Easter - A Time for Healing

Thursday, April 10 from 6:30-8:00 pm.

Jesus was a remarkable healer. For much of his public ministry, he was surrounded by human need. Crowds followed him wherever he went, pressing in on him, asking for healing. We too seek out this healer from Nazareth and long to encounter him. Join us for an Evening of Reflection on the cusp of Holy Week as together we reflect on how Jesus is still very much with us, healing and transforming us through his compassionate life, his saving death, and his glorious resurrection.

Presenter: Amy Ekeh

Suggested Offering: \$15.00



Amy Ekeh is a Scripture instructor, retreat director and Associate Editor at Little Rock Scripture Study. Amy's work has been published in a variety of Catholic publications, including *St. Anthony Messenger*, *Catechist Magazine*, *The Bible Today* and *Magnificat*. Her latest book is *Stretch*

Out Your Hand: Reflections on the Healing Ministry of Jesus. Amy is also the author of *Come to Me, All of You: Stations of the Cross in the Voice of Christ*, a 2024 Association of Catholic Publishers award-winner.

Please go to <https://tinyurl.com/SPSA-HolyWk-Pgm-2025> to register.

Baptism Sunday, February 16, 2025



James David

child of

Jason & Caroline Albert

Celebrated by Fr. John Leonard, O.F.M.



Sandwich Ministry:

Thank you to everyone who has supported our Sandwich Ministry. Our numbers continue to be high.

In January 2025 we served 7% fewer sandwiches and 4% fewer hot meals than January 2024. Here are the numbers:

Numbers for November 2025:

Sandwiches: 2055 Hot Meals: 691

Numbers for November 2024:

Sandwiches: 2,234 Hot Meals: 720

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, February 15, 2025

4:00 PM Marian Rotolo & Richard DiLorenzo

Sunday, February 16, 2025

8:00 AM For the people of Lebanon & Syria

10:00 AM Judith Cardoni, 7th Anniversary

11:45 AM In thanksgiving to St. Valentine

5:00 PM Anne Kan

Monday, February 17, 2025

7:30 AM Joseph Rosinski

12:05 PM Stella Rzewnicki

Tuesday, February 18, 2025

7:30 AM Raymond Fusco

12:05 PM Angela Del Nero

Wednesday, February 19, 2025

7:30 AM John Zyskowski

12:05 PM Ann Marie Masselli

Thursday, February 20, 2025

7:30 AM Ernest Obregon

12:05 PM Rosemary Treichel

Friday, February 21, 2025

7:30 AM James Conlin

12:05 PM Suzanne Nolan

Saturday, February 22, 2025

4:00 PM Marjorie Dunn

Sunday, February 23, 2025

8:00 AM Susan Senerth, 1st Anniversary

10:00 AM Geraldine Davis

11:45 AM Antonio & Analia Alves

5:00 PM Maria Burgos

Sanctuary Lamps

Week of February 16, 2025

-In loving memory of Gaetano Romano

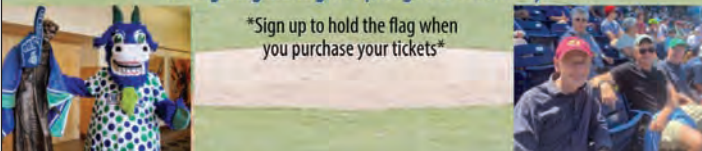
-May the Church profess an unwavering faith in Christ, and speak truth to power in the face of injustice and wrong.

SPSA COMMUNITY DAY AT DUNKIN' PARK SUNDAY, JUNE 15, 2025

Tickets on sale March 22/23 and April 5/6 after each Mass in the Franciscan Center Lobby

For the first time we will have the opportunity to hold the Big Flag during the pre-game ceremony!

Sign up to hold the flag when you purchase your tickets



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, Anna Ramirez, Susan Degennaro, and Deborah Godin.

Clare Gallery's New Exhibit:

"Colorful Silence", Jan 16 to March 9

Brother Mickey O'Neill McGrath, Oblate of St. Francis de Sales, is a writer, painter, and storyteller. His work features quotes from more modern "mystics" such as Richard Rohr, Dorothy Day, St. Therese, as well as others.



Artist Reception: Sunday, March 2 from 1:00 to 3:00 PM.

Volunteer Today:

Feeling the need to give back? Consider volunteering for **The Ministry of the Door**. Shifts in need are during the evenings and Sunday mornings. Duties include answering the door and phone and light office work when needed.

Please go to <https://spsact.org/current-volunteer-opportunities/> to view current offerings.

Have questions? Please contact our Director of Community Engagement, Allison Holst-Grubbe at aholstgrubbe@spsact.org for more info!

A Message from our Parish Nurses

The Parish Nurses welcome you to join us on Community Sundays for a blood pressure check. Please consider to get your flu shot, covid booster and make sure you are up to date on any or all of your vaccines.

Any parishioner who is a nurse and would like to help with blood pressures once a month, we would welcome you. Please call the office at 860-756-4034 if interested.



ST. PATRICK-ST. ANTHONY CHURCH
Franciscan Center for Urban Ministry
Open Hearts Open Minds Open Doors

Join	Volunteer	Donate
		
https://tinyurl.com/SPSA-Join	https://tinyurl.com/SPSA-Volunteer	https://tinyurl.com/SPSA-Giving

Please Beware!



As a reminder, neither the parish staff nor your fellow parishioners would ever ask for you to purchase anything via email or text. These emails and text messages are phishing attempts and not a valid request from any parishioner or staff member.

Please delete these emails or texts. Do not respond to the texts. You can report these as SPAM or delete them through your email provider, or block the number that sent it to you.

Offertory

02/03/2025 - 02/9/2025

Total Offering: \$17,873.03

Online Giving: \$9,025.73

Weekly Collection: \$8,847.30

Secular Franciscan Order

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 the 4th Sunday of each month at 2:00 PM to learn more about the Secular Franciscan Order. Our next meeting is February 23, 2025.



Tuesday Pasta Dinners

We serve warm meals on Tuesdays, and lately we have been serving about 75 meals. Consider signing up to cook a baked ziti at home or to supply salad makings. Ziti trays and salad makings can be delivered prior to Tuesday but **MUST** be dropped off by 2:00 PM each Tuesday. Trays can be dropped off frozen, freshly made, partially or fully baked just add a note with your reheating instructions. Thank you so much for partnering with us to feed the hungry!

Please go to <https://tinyurl.com/SPSA-Pas-ta-Tues> or scan the QR Code



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 Community Engagement,
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

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

Stacie Mawson, Saturday Receptionist

Barbara Sullivan, Saturday Receptionist

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

Abigail Sheehan, Focus 4:12 Youth Ministry, 7th, 8th & 9th Grades

Faith VosWinkel, Focus 4:12 Youth Ministry, 10th Grade

MAINTENANCE STAFF

Gilberto Lisboa, Church Custodian

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.*

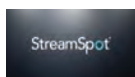
Watch 10:00 AM Mass Online:



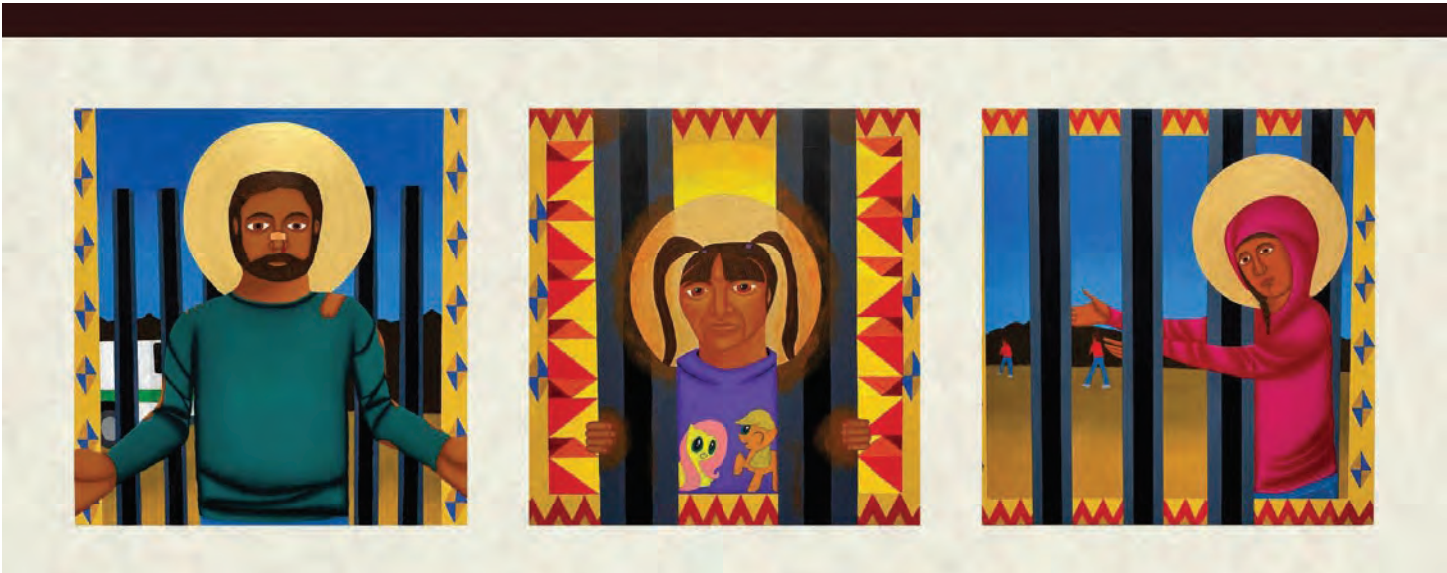
<https://www.facebook.com/St-Patrick-St-Anthony-Church-109359789104825/>



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



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



Protecting the dignity of all: A statement on the drastic changes to U.S. immigration law and policy

The Provincial Council of the Franciscan Province of Our Lady of Guadalupe is responding to the changes to U.S. Immigration Law and Policy and to the mass deportations happening across the country. They are asking for a just and compassionate approach in protecting the dignity of all. This response aligns with their year-long Franciscan Synod, which concluded in January, in which they have recommitted themselves to responding to the Gospel's call to care for the needs of the poor, marginalized, vulnerable persons, and our common home.

January 29, 2025

As Catholic Christians in the Franciscan tradition we add our voices to countless other Church and public leaders who are deeply troubled by, and opposed to, the drastic changes to U.S. immigration law and policy contained in the executive orders and proclamations issued by the new administration last week. As we understand them, they seek to effectuate “the largest deportation program in American history,” to end refugee resettlement, to revoke humanitarian parole grants and to end birthright citizenship. Such a course of action, we believe, will result in severe and unnecessary negative consequences that will harm the most vulnerable among us.

Our opposition is based in our Judeo-Christian faith tradition which, from the Hebrew Scriptures, through the Christian Scriptures, and down to the most recent papal and Church statements, call us to welcome the stranger and to exercise justice and compassion when responding to those who are vulnerable. Catholic social teaching demands that we recognize that all human beings are created in the image of God and therefore possess an inherent and inalienable dignity and respect. The human rights that flow from the dignity of each human person include the right to migrate in the face of severe violence or desperate poverty.

While we agree that the U.S. immigration system has—for too long—needed significant changes and updating, the direction being taken by the new administration will, we believe, cause more harm than good—such as tearing families apart, moving us toward a police state, sowing fear, chaos and confusion among the many hard-working and law-abiding immigrants who have been part of our communities for so many years, and inviting further demonization of immigrants.

Therefore, with many religious communities in the United States, we urge Congress and the Administration to:

- Oppose mass deportation as the means to achieve needed and effective immigration reform
- Support orderly border management that is humane, proportional and respects the right to seek asylum
- Reject non-emergency immigration enforcement in schools, places of worship, social service agencies and healthcare facilities
- Take action to protect the “dreamers,” those brought to the U.S. as children who have lived here most of their lives
- Endorse efforts to protect vulnerable groups through such programs as TPS, DED, humanitarian parole and the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program
- Denounce anti-immigrant rhetoric that has no basis in truth

As a nation, let us choose a path forward that effectively secures our borders, even as it protects the dignity of all who come to our shores, through an immigration system governed by mercy and justice.

Our Lady of Guadalupe,
Bring solace to those across the world forced from their homes
Fleeing poverty, violence, and strife.
Protect them in their tribulations,
Strengthen them as they build new lives,
Fill our aching world with your grace and compassion.

Mother of All,
You see beauty and holiness in each of us:
Open the hearts of those who cannot yet see
The dignity of your children seeking refuge.
Unite us to welcome the stranger in your name,
Grant us the courage to break down walls that divide us,
And guide us as we advocate for justice and peace. AMEN.

Provincial Council
Franciscan Friars
Province of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Lawrence J. Hayes, O.F.M.
Mark Soehner, O.F.M.
John Eaton, O.F.M.
Erick López, O.F.M.
Roger López, O.F.M.
Sam Nasada, O.F.M.
Rommel Pérez, O.F.M.
José Rodríguez, O.F.M.
Edward Tlucek, O.F.M.

Artwork: Br. Kevin Hamzik, O.F.M.



Branches on the Vine

FEBRUARY 15 - 21, 2025



OLD PIPE ORGAN FINDS NEW HOME AT PASTORAL CENTER

- Story by Shelley Wolf

An old pipe organ that fell silent in Enfield is now living a new life in Bloomfield, where it is captivating Catholic music-lovers once again.

Having served parishioners for many years at St. Adalbert Church in Enfield, the pipe organ is now providing music for the liturgies at St. Thomas Chapel at the Pastoral Center in Bloomfield, where it is being enjoyed by archdiocesan employees and invited guests.

The organ from St. Adalbert Church was built in 1986 by J. W. Walker & Sons, currently located in Devizes, Wiltshire, England, and it was installed at St. Adalbert that same year.

"It's rare because Walker only built about eight in America," says Stephan Maier, owner of Stephan Maier Tracker Organs in Orange, Mass., who services organs throughout New England. Maier honed his specialized craft, learning to repair and tune organs in his homeland of Germany.

The organ, which served the St. Adalbert community, became available after the community was merged into St. Jeanne Jugan Parish in 2022 and the church was subsequently closed in 2024.

Maier's work on the organ began last September. "An instrument like this is not like a piano. You can't just roll it into a truck, and then roll it into a new place," Maier says. "You completely dismantle it, and then you completely reassemble it and, in the process, we check all the pieces and we refurbish what needs to be refurbished."

"Every instrument is unique," he adds. Working on each pipe organ is "like building a house."

After reassembly and repairs, Maier's team returned in January to complete the job. "We make some adjustments to the sound of the organ, what we call voicing, the tonal work," he explains, "because that needs to be adjusted to the building now that the organ is at St. Thomas Chapel."

According to the Pipe Organ Database of the Organ Historical Society, the pipe organ from St. Adalbert was built in a traditional design, with hinged doors that enclose the keyboards. It is a classic "mechanical stop action" instrument with two manuals (keyboards) and 24 stops (knobs that indirectly control the air flow over the pipes), with draw knobs in vertical rows and a concave radiating pedalboard.

Pipe organs produce sound by driving pressurized air through the organ pipes as directed from the keyboard. This organ is known as a "tracker organ" because it uses "trackers," or thin strips of wood, to create a pulling motion that links the key or pedal pressed by the organist to the valve that allows air to flow into the pipes.

"In the genre of pipe organs, there are mechanical organs and organs that are still pipe organs but they have an electric action. This one has a mechanical action path. And therefore, it's called a tracker organ," Maier says. "So, the only electric part in this instrument is actually the blower that generates what we call the wind, or the air pressure for the organ.

"But everything else is strictly mechanical and, in that sense, it is a little more complicated than, say, an electric action organ, where you just have a bunch of wires and contacts and magnets," he explains.

"And essentially this [mechanical] type of organ is what Bach and Mendelssohn played on," Maier notes, "because in those days there wasn't electricity, so it was all mechanical."



Upcoming Events



2/16 SUNDAY 12PM
ZITI WITH YOUR SWEETIE DINNER
 St. Anthony, Parish Center,
 70 Washington Ave, New Haven

\$15 per person, \$5 for children under 10 years old.
 For information, menu, or to make a reservation,
 please call Sandy at 203-710-6582 or 203-387-1935



02/22 SATURDAY 6PM
THREE TO THRIVE | POST CANA EVENING
 St. Mary, Church Hall, 731 Main St,
 Branford

An event for young couples (married 1 month - 5 years). Laying
 the groundwork: Why praying together as a couple is important.
 RSVP or for more info call: Anne: 985-790-1054
 Darryl: 985-790-1053



03/6 - 05/15 THURSDAYS 9:45AM
THE NEW DAY SEMINAR
 Church of St. Ann, 289 Arch Rd, Avon

Are you, or someone you know, grieving the loss of a loved one?
 Seminar sessions are focused on different facets of grief, guided
 by the New Day Journal. A typical meeting begins with prayers
 followed by reflection and voluntary sharing.
 If interested, please contact the parish office at 860-673-9858
 ext. 221



03/19 WEDNESDAY 10:30AM
MASS FOR THE CT MARCH FOR LIFE
 Cathedral of Saint Joseph,
 140 Farmington Ave, Hartford

Join us for Mass at 10:30 AM at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph
 before the Connecticut March for Life! After Mass, head to the
 rally at 210 Capitol Ave, Hartford at noon, followed by the 1 PM
 march.



FEB. - MAY. 6:30PM
DISCERNING HEARTS
 Hosted by the Apostles of the
 Sacred Heart of Jesus

Hosting several opportunities for women ages 18-35 who are
 discerning a call to consecrated life to meet the sisters at a tea,
 followed by a hour of adoration at several of the Archdiocese's
 parishes.

Feb. 19, Avila House, Newington
 Mar. 19, St. Mary, New Haven
 May 21, St. Francis, New Britain
 Questions? Contact Sr. Colleen at 203-506-4653

BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATIONS

AT ST. MARTIN DE PORRES CHURCH

**Every Sunday in February
 accompanying the 10:00 AM Mass**


Sunday, February 2
 Liturgical Praise Dancer

Sunday, February 9
 The Rahsaan Langley Project

Sunday, February 16
 Honorable Robin L. Wilson

Sunday, February 23
 St. Martin de Porres Gospel Choir
 & Naomi Wharry, Yale Trombonist

136 Dixwell Ave, New Haven CT





Open House

The New England Catholic
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 invites you to come visit
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 or contact Judy K at 860.242.5573



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 467 Bloomfield Ave, Bloomfield, CT 06002
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St. Francis of Assisi Parish Presents:
An 8-Day Pilgrimage & Mission to the Dominican Republic!
 Led by Ivo Jaquez with Fr. Daniel Hackenjos as Chaplain
 May 31 - June 7, 2025

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Ground transportation to NYC airport
- Travel insurance
- Round trip airfare
- DR tourist entry fees
- Lodging
- Daily Mass
- Sightseeing
- Breakfast and dinners

TRIP DETAILS

Four Day Mission includes:

- Fusimaña Puerto Plata
- Restoring a station of the Cross Trail
- Visiting Santiago & Cathedral of St. James

Four Day Pilgrimage includes:

- Visiting the first & oldest city in the West
- Hospital & University of America
- Christopher Columbus Mansion & Family Chapel

COST FOR PARISHIONERS: \$1,492.00 **COST FOR GENERAL PUBLIC: \$1,620.00**

Join us for an informational session Saturday, February 8,
 11:00 am at St. Jerome Church Hall or contact
 Ivo Jaquez at ivo@stfranciscatholic.org

Holy Family Retreat and Conference Center: A Unique Wedding Destination

West Hartford, Conn. – With wedding season coming up, a venue that may not be top of mind but certainly should be is a spot on 48 picturesque acres in centrally located West Hartford.

Holy Family Retreat and Conference Center has, for more than 75 years, been a go-to destination for countless visitors seeking to rest, reflect, and deepen their spirituality through retreats and other programs.

Now, Holy Family is also available as a wedding venue, offering couples a tranquil yet elegant environment for their celebration. The center's newly constructed pavilion provides a spacious and versatile outdoor area for up to 250 guests. With its open design and picturesque views, the pavilion is a uniquely sought-after feature for weddings in the region.

"My daughter Kelsey's wedding at Holy Family was flawless, beautiful, memorable and fantastic," said Charley Herbert, proud father of the bride. "The pavilion made it extra special, and everyone was over-the-top thrilled!"

As part of its wedding package, Holy Family offers comprehensive food and dining services, with customizable menus, gracious and attentive staff members, and audiovisual equipment. The grounds are a photo-op bonanza, featuring wooded paths, perennial gardens, benches, a koi pond, and an expansive, cobblestone labyrinth representing the circle of peace and infinity.

In addition to weddings, Holy Family continues to serve as a destination for corporate meetings, family reunions, memorial receptions, and other special events.

Holy Family Retreat Center is located at 303 Tunxis Road in West Hartford. For more information about weddings and special events, contact Kasia Owczarek, director of special events, at 860-760-9799 or email kowczarek@holyfamilyretreat.org.



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Archdiocese of Hartford
Office of Safe Environment
467 Bloomfield Ave.
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HOW TO REPORT AN INCIDENT OF SEXUAL ABUSE TO THE ARCHDIOCESE OF HARTFORD

If you have knowledge or suspect that a minor or vulnerable adult (an adult with an intellectual disability) has been sexually abused, in any manner, by personnel of the Archdiocese of Hartford, you are urged to report this information to:

Faith Vos Winkel, MSW
Victim Assistance Coordinator
860-541-6475
faith.voswinkel@aohct.org

In addition, you will be asked to follow up in writing with a detailed description of the facts involved in the incident. Specifics of this written report can be found in the [Policies and Procedures of the Archdiocese of Hartford Relating to Allegations of Sexual Misconduct Involving Minors and Vulnerable Adults](#). This document is also available online at www.archdioceseofhartford.org. The Archdiocese of Hartford will report any and all incidents to the proper civil authorities.

Mandated reporters in the State of Connecticut are required by law to report any incident of sexual abuse involving a minor or vulnerable adult. We encourage any Non-Mandated persons to report such incidents to the proper authorities as well. We support your right to do so.

Incidents involving sexual abuse of minors (persons under the age of 18) should be reported to:
State Department of Children and Families Care-line
1-800-842-2288

Incidents involving sexual abuse of vulnerable adults aged 18 – 59 should be reported to the:
Connecticut Department of Developmental Services – AID Division
for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities
1-844-878-8923

Incidents involving sexual abuse of vulnerable adults aged 60 and over should be reported to:
Department of Social Services for the Elderly
1-888-385-4225

Once a written report of an incident of sexual abuse of a minor or vulnerable adult has been received, an investigation will be undertaken by, or on behalf of, the Archdiocese of Hartford.

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