



St. Patrick-St. Anthony Church • 285 Church Street • Hartford, Connecticut
February 2, 2025 • Feast of the Presentation of the Lord

**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

**2025 & 2026 Calendars
OPEN!!!**

Mass Intention and Sanctuary Lamp Scheduling
Email: info@spsact.org with your 1st & 2nd Choices
Phone: Call 860-756-4034, please have multiple date choices ready before you call.

Note: Kindly submit your suggested offering of \$10 per Mass shortly after making your reservation. This will guarantee your intention. This can be done via Online Giving, cash or check. You can place your donation in the Sunday basket in an envelope addressed to the church office or send via USPS to 285 Church St., Hartford, CT 06103. Checks are to be made payable to SPSA.

Please call the church office, 860-756-4034, if you have any questions.

Daily Mass Readings

- Monday, Feb 3: Heb 11:32-40; Mk 5:1-20
- Tuesday, Feb 4: Heb 12:1-4; Mk 5:21-43
- Wednesday, Feb 5: Heb 12:4-7, 11-15; Mk 6:1-6
- Thursday, Feb 6: Heb 12:18-19, 21-24; Mk 6:7-13
- Friday, Feb 7: Heb 13:1-8; Mk 6:14-29
- Sunday, Feb 9: Is 6:1-2a, 3-8; Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 7-8
1; Cor 15:1-11 or 1 Cor 15:3-8, 11;
Lk 5:1-11

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

Request your
2024 Tax Statement

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

Please be sure to indicate whether you would like to receive your statement via email or US Mail. You will receive your statement by the end of January, 2025. Thank you for your continued generosity.

The Pastor's Corner

February 2, 2025

Dear Parishioners and Friends,



This weekend we celebrate the Presentation of the Lord, a feast which occurs 40 days after the birth of Jesus. It is often seen as the “real end” of the Christmas season since it concludes the Infancy narratives in the second chapter of the Gospel of Luke. When I was younger I was a bit confused about this feast because we had already been reading about the beginning of Jesus’ public ministry as an adult, when suddenly we were thrust back to the time shortly after his birth. Nevertheless, the Feast of the Presentation is a beautiful occasion to remember that moment when his parents brought him to the Temple in Jerusalem where the aged Simeon and Anna encountered the “light for revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for the people Israel.”



These words from Simeon are known as the *Nunc dimittis*, or the *Canticle of Simeon* which is prayed at Compline. In the Anglican Church, the Canticle is sung as part of Evensong, and many composers have given us beautiful musical settings of his words: “Now, Master, you may let your servant go in peace, according to your word, for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in sight of all the peoples...”

Simeon also spoke to Mary during that encounter: “Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be contradicted...”

I wonder how Mary must have felt when she heard those ominous words. Simeon was acting in the role of a prophet, foretelling a painful future for both the child he held in his arms and this young mother who had just given birth to him 40 days earlier. The pain and anxiety would come quickly as the new family had to pack up

and scurry out of Palestine in order to avoid King Herod’s murderous threats against their baby son. Only after the old king’s death could they safely return to their home in Nazareth.

I am distressed to think that children and families in our own country are facing the threat of deportation. This will be a time of great fear and uncertainty for many people who have come to this country in search of a better life. We must be hopeful and strong in our faith that good will prevail, and that just solutions will be found for our immigration policies which respect the rights and dignity of all people.

I am also concerned about an executive order which limits the definition of a “male” or “female” to their reproductive cells and will potentially withhold federal funding from programs that acknowledge transgender people. As a parish which welcomes everyone, we have been blessed to welcome our LGBTQ+ brothers and sisters as part of our community of faith, and we will continue to do so.

I applaud Bishop Mariann Edgar Budde’s plea for mercy at the end of her sermon in Washington National Cathedral on behalf of the LGBTQ+ community and migrants who are scared about what might happen to them because of policies which will limit their freedom and human rights. As she said: “May God grant us the strength and courage to honor the dignity of every human being; to speak the truth to one another in love; and walk humbly with each other and our God for the good of all people in this nation and the world.”

Blessings on your week ahead!

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

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.

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 9th 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.



"Got HOPE?"

We still have two sessions available for you to join us as we consider the message and impact of Hope upon ourselves and our world. We'll look at scripture, writings from civil rights activists, and religious leaders of our time to stimulate our ponderings and conversation.

Tuesday evenings at 7:00 PM: February 4 & 11

Why in the evenings? So that all parishioners, those working and those retired, have the opportunity to join in.

Why virtually on Zoom? Because our parishioners travel from over 120 different zip codes... because winter weather might blow in and we'll still be able to keep our scheduled gatherings.

Why these dates? There are no conflicts with UCONN Women's and Men's Basketball Games!

We look forward to spending this time with YOU! Go to <https://tinyurl.com/SPSA-AFF-Got-Hope> to register for the Zoom link.

Pat Curtis and Adult Faith Formation Facilitators

Drumming Circle

Monday, February 3, 2025 at 6:30 PM in the Center. No experience or drum necessary. Please contact Elaine Wiatr at elaine.wiatr@yahoo.com for more information or if you need to borrow a drum.

Open Hearts Ministry



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

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.



Baptism

Charles Halligan

child of

Connor Lilley & Colleen Halligan
celebrated by Fr. Timothy Shreenan, O.F.M.

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!

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



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 4, 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 5, 2025, at 12:40 PM.

Facilitators: Mary Espinosa, Joan Osella & Elaine Wiatr

In Quiet Prayer:

Every Wednesday. Next meeting: February 5, 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 5, 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

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 February 10, March 10, April 14, May 12, and June 9

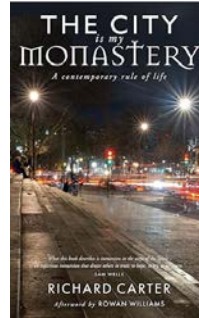
Daytime meetings are the last Thursday of the month at 10:30 AM in the Franciscan Center: Winter/spring dates are February 27, March 27, April 24, May 29, and June 26

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

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.

Sign up and then join as often as your schedule allows.

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

Lenten Twilight Retreat

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

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.



Insider's Talk with Gabriel Löfvall

Tuesday, March 18 from 6:30-7:45 PM.

Join us in the Franciscan Center to share an "insider's talk" with our Director of Music Ministry, Dr. Gabriel Löfvall .

Please go to <https://tinyurl.com/SPSA-Insiders-Gabe-2025> to register.

Weekly Offerings for January 2025

1/5/2025: \$23,904.73
1/12/2025: \$15,841.73
1/19/2025: \$17,890.73
1/26/2025: \$14,313.90

Total for January 2025: \$71,951.09

2024 Parish Annual Appeal

Total Donated as of 1/26/2025

\$113,373.00

Thank you all for your continued support of our parish.

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, February 1, 2025

4:00 PM Richard Formica, 7th Anniversary

Sunday, February 2, 2025

8:00 AM Anne Sullivan

10:00 AM Vincent Giansanti, Jr.

11:45 AM Gerald & Mary Ellen Baginski

5:00 PM Catherine O'Connor

Monday, February 3, 2025

7:30 AM Ann Hahn

12:05 PM Concetta Gianni

Tuesday, February 4, 2025

7:30 AM Prayer intentions for our parishioners

12:05 PM Prayer intentions for the people of Lebanon & Syria

Wednesday, February 5, 2025

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

12:05 PM Frank Thomann

Thursday, February 6, 2025

7:30 AM Andy Welch

12:05 PM Bettie Ann Treichel

Friday, February 7, 2025

7:30 AM Joao da Costa

12:05 PM Susan Perugini & Joan Straub

Saturday, February 8, 2025

4:00 PM Joseph Kelliher

Sunday, February 9, 2025

8:00 AM William, Angie & Joanne Speziale

10:00 AM Prayers for the living and deceased members of the Mt. Joseph Alumni.

11:45 AM Maureen Durkin

5:00 PM Raymond Ramsey

Sanctuary Lamps

Week of February 2, 2025

-For the Cousineau Family

-For our nation as we strive to live as a united country, seeing and treating one another as sisters and brothers of different origins, races, regions and economic status, as part of one diverse family.

Branches on the Vine

News from the Archdiocese of Hartford · February 1 - 7, 2025

Due to space limitations, we are not able to put the Archdiocese of Hartford Newsletter in the bulletin. Please go to <https://tinyurl.com/SPSA-aoht-news-Feb-2> to read this week's content and view various upcoming events happening around the Archdiocese of Hartford.



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.

St. Patrick - St. Anthony Staff

PASTORAL STAFF

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ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

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Stacie Mawson, Saturday Receptionist

Barbara Sullivan, Saturday Receptionist

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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>

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