

*They stood before the throne  
and before the Lamb.*



St. Patrick-St. Anthony Church • 285 Church Street • Hartford, Connecticut  
May 11, 2025 • Fourth Sunday of Easter



## 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](mailto:info@spsact.org) • [www.spsact.org](http://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

### Encountering the Empty Tomb: Chal- lenges for a Global Church



During this Easter season, you are invited to conversation and faith-sharing with other members of the Church – the

people of God. Together we will take in current comments about the challenges for a global community of faith. Our life as Christians is not to mourn at the empty tomb and search for Jesus in the world of the past. Our challenge is to discover the vibrant Jesus in unexpected and previously unnoticed new forms. Please go to <https://tinyurl.com/SPSA-Empty-Tomb> to register.

Our last Zoom session will be Thursday, May 15 from 10:30-11:30 AM.

Join us when your schedule allows.

*Facilitator: Fr. A Francis Soucy, OFM*

### Daily Mass Readings

Monday, May 12	Acts 11:1-18; Jn 10:1-10
Tuesday, May 13	Acts 11:19-26; Jn 10:22-30
Wednesday, May 14	Acts 1:15-17, 20-26; Jn 15:9-17
Thursday, May 15	Acts 13:13-25; Jn 13:16-20
Friday, May 16	Acts 13:26-33; Jn 14:1-6
Sunday, May 18	Acts 14:21-27; Ps 145:8-9, 10-11, 12-13; Rv 21:1-5a; Jn 13:31-33a, 34-35

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

Yard Goats Tickets for June 15 are still AVAILABLE by emailing Pat Curtis, [pcurtis@spsact.org](mailto:pcurtis@spsact.org), to reserve your tickets for you and a friend! Join us to hold the flag for the opening ceremony!



# The Pastor's Corner

May 11, 2025

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Happy Mother's Day to all the mothers, grandmothers, godmothers, or those who are like a mother to someone dear to them. May you always be blessed by the Lord and guided by the Blessed Mother in your vocation to nurture your children in wisdom and goodness of heart.

It is appropriate that Mother's Day falls on Good Shepherd Sunday, a day when we reflect on the role of Jesus as someone who cares for each of us and protects us from danger, just as a mother does. When Jesus says in today's Gospel, "My sheep hear my voice," I think of my mother calling me or my brothers and sisters: "Kids, it's supper time!" or "You two – stop fighting!" It seems that every mother in the neighborhood had a unique way of calling their children to come home when the streetlights came on – just like a shepherd.

I wonder if you've ever noticed the pattern that the Scripture readings take during the Easter season. For example, the first reading on Sundays is always from the Acts of the Apostles. Coupled with the weekday readings, we hear virtually the entire book by the time Pentecost arrives.

Most of the Gospel readings come from the Gospel of John, especially the "Last Supper Discourse" which is read in all three years on the 5th, 6th and 7th Sundays of Easter. However, the Gospel on this 4th Sunday is always from the 10th chapter of John: the "Good Shepherd Discourse."

The second readings come from three sources: the first letter of Peter (Year A); the first letter of John (Year B); and the book of Revelation (Year C), which we are hearing this year. In that book, Jesus is referred to as the victorious Lamb who has conquered death and is adored by throngs in heaven.

There is no more dramatic portrayal of this image of the Lamb than the great altarpiece in Ghent, Belgium by the artist Jan van Eyck, entitled "The Adoration of the Mystic Lamb." I wrote about this great work of art in the bulletin late last year, following my trip to Europe in early December. I'd like to mention a few details about this incredible masterpiece which brings to life the images we read about in the book of Revelation.



The Ghent Altarpiece resides in St. Bavo Cathedral where it was first placed in 1432. Over the centuries, it has withstood several robberies which nearly caused it to be destroyed. Fortunately, it has survived the ravages of war and theft. Only one panel, the one in the lower left, stolen in 1934, has never been recovered, and was replaced by a very good copy of the original.



The photo above, below, and on the cover of this bulletin, were taken on my iPhone, along with many others to capture the incredible detail to be found in van Eyck's masterpiece.



Seeing this majestic work up close is truly a religious experience, one for which I am very grateful. It is amazing to think how an artist can produce something as extraordinary as this. We must be thankful that God bestows upon human beings this great gift to visualize the truths of our faith with such beauty and imagination.

*Fr. Tim Shreenan, OFM*

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: May 13, 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: May 14, 2025, at 12:40 PM.

### In Quiet Prayer:

**Every Wednesday.** Next meeting: May 14, 2025, from 7:30 to 8:00 AM. 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: May 21, 2025.

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

**Divine Reading:** Wednesday, May 21, 2025 at 7:00 pm at the Franciscan Center. Join us!

## 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. .*

**Our May Meetings** are May 12 at 7:00 PM on Zoom and May 29 at 10:30 AM in the Franciscan Center: For more information, contact Janet Bristow at [janetbristow@sbcglobal.net](mailto:janetbristow@sbcglobal.net)

## A Novel Idea Book Club

Our May book selection is *The Hunter* by Tana French.

Goodreads.com says, "*The Hunter* is a nuanced, atmospheric tale that explores what we'll do for our loved ones, what we'll do for revenge, and what we sacrifice when the two collide."

Consider joining the discussion on **May 15, 2025 at 7:00 PM at the Franciscan Center.**

For more information and a list of upcoming books, please [CLICK Here](#). Contact the office at 860-756-4034 or email [info@spsact.org](mailto:info@spsact.org) if you need the Zoom Link.

## The Emmaus Grieving Parent Ministry



We meet at the Franciscan Center at 3:30 on the third Sunday of the month. Next meeting is May 18, 2025.

Please call the church office for more information at 860-756-4034.

## Open Hearts Ministry

**Monthly Open Hearts Meeting:** The next meeting is scheduled for May 11, 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, May 18, 2025 at 3:30 PM in the Franciscan Center.

## Sister Parish Committee: In-person Meeting



**Tuesday, May 13, 2025 from 12:50 to 2:00 PM.** Consider joining the dynamic group working to support the teachers and students at the St. Genevieve Parish school in Zoranje, Haiti. Please go to <https://tinyurl.com/SPSA-St-Genevieve>.

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## Our Own Nazareth Time

**Monday, May 19, June 2 from 12:45-1:45 PM.**

*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". Please purchase a book if needed.

Please attend as your schedule allows! Follow along and then join us for an in-person experience of spiritual practices which will inspire far beyond the end of the Easter Season.

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



## Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

is a faith formation program where children experience God in a tangible way - through working with their hands using materials made just for them, they are able to nurture their relationship with God from the youngest age of 3. They are given freedom of movement throughout the "atrium" (our prepared environment created just for children), and they are invited to choose to work with materials they have been presented.

Children receive presentations from adults who have been prepared through a Formation Course, which teaches theology, child development, and the pedagogical knowledge to work with children effectively.



CGS Formation Training is known to be a transformational experience on many levels for those who have participated in a course. The setting is retreat-like, and participants have remarked that the course nourished their faith, improved their parenting, and changed their lives in countless ways. Working in the atrium is NOT required!

We are offering a CGS Level 1 Formation Course June 2-5, and one Saturday, November 15 with the second half of the course one Saturday in the winter and one week (TBD) in the summer of 2026. We invite you to consider giving yourself this week to nurture your faith.

Please contact Sarah Christopher ([schristopher@spsact.org](mailto:schristopher@spsact.org)) or Deb Pelletier ([dpelletier@spsact.org](mailto:dpelletier@spsact.org)) to hear about parishioner pricing. Please go to <https://spsact.org/catechesis-of-the-good-shepherd-formation/> to learn more about CGS Formation Courses.

To register for the Level 1 CGS Formation Course 2025, please go to <https://spsact.org/cgs-level-1-formation-2025/>

## Sanctuary Lamps

Week of May 11, 2025

Reagan Martins  
Anthony Pizzoferrato

### Happy Mother's Day!

In the Middle Ages, many people had to travel far from home to earn a living. They became servants where work was available, or they learned a trade from someone who was willing to teach them.

These people were given a special holiday every year. It came on the Fourth Sunday of Lent, on Laetare ("rejoice") Sunday. In the liturgy on this day, the city of Jerusalem is called our mother. We rejoice because when Easter arrives we will be reunited with mother Jerusalem.

Laetare Sunday came to be called Mothering Sunday. On this day people would go home to their mothers. Many family reunions were held. People were excused from the lenten fast on that day.

The Mother's Day we celebrate in May was started in the early twentieth century by an American woman named Anna Jarvis. After her mother died, she suggested that a memorial service be held in church to honor all mothers. The first such service was held in a Philadelphia church in 1908. Those who attended were asked to wear white carnations in memory of their mothers.

People were so taken with the observance of such a day that in 1914 Congress proclaimed the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day. Other countries adopted the idea. In England they restored the old custom of Mothering Sunday in Lent.

*Loving God, as a mother gives life and nourishment  
to her children, so you watch over your Church.*

*Bless our mothers;*

*that they may be strengthened in their vocation.*

*Let the example of their faith and love shine forth.*

*Grant that we, their children, may honor them always  
with a spirit of profound respect.*

*Through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Source: *Companion to the Calendar* by Mary Ellen Hynes; © 1993, Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications.





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The Franciscan Center for Urban Ministry

*Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors.*

Family and Friends  
of LGBTQ+  
Support Ministry



Open Hearts  
LGBTQ+ Support  
Ministry

You are Invited to a Special Panel Event:

# Rainbows of Hope: LGBTQ+ Families Share Their Stories

Featuring Parents and their LGBTQ+ children

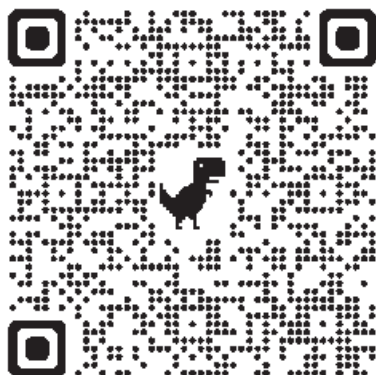
**Sunday, June 8th, 2025, 2-4 pm**

at the

Franciscan Center for Urban Ministry

St. Patrick - St. Anthony Roman Catholic Parish

285 Church St, Hartford, CT



**All Are Welcome!**

**Registration Required** - Scan this QR Code  
to Register for the event

Or [click here](#) for Link to register. Join in  
person or on zoom. This is a **hybrid** event.

Join us for 5 pm Mass after the event and at 6 pm for Open Hearts and  
Family and Friends Summer Picnic, Food and Drink Provided

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Go to [ww.SPSACT.org](http://ww.SPSACT.org) for more info on Open Hearts and Family and  
Friends Ministry's or Contact the Office at 860-756-4034 or  
email [info@spsact.org](mailto:info@spsact.org)



## Mother's Day Flowers have been given in memory and in honor of...



- ❖ Kathleen Arturo & Barbara Moody by Rocco Arturo
- ❖ Anna Pavlich, Mary Sataro & Barbara MacNayr, by Pat Biederman
- ❖ Hilda Carson and Carrie Samotus, by Sara Carson
- ❖ Arlene Quigley & Apollonia Castillo by Frank & Cynthia Castillo
- ❖ Josephine DaGata, Santana Ciraulo & Mary Roche, by Anthony & Theresa Ciraulo
- ❖ Mary E. Conklin, Mary E. Young, & Barbara Claffey, by Bill Conklin
- ❖ In honor of our mothers, Josephine Tanazi & Marjorie Crockett, by Connie Crockett
- ❖ Graynell Cronin, Cheryl Cronin & Barbara Dotson, by Anne Cronin
- ❖ In memory of Marion Hoey, by Nancy Hoey
- ❖ In memory of Elizabeth Kania, by Brian Kania
- ❖ In memory of my mother, Mary O'Connell Cacchillo, by Timothy & Jean Kehoe
- ❖ In memory of Philomene LeBlanc, from the LeBlanc Family
- ❖ In memory of Virginia Robotti from the LeBlanc Family
- ❖ Helen Lucente, Dulce Martins, Loretta Willmott & Helen Cinotti, by Jack & Helen Martins
- ❖ In memory of Mary Ellen Shea, by Rosemary Rainville
- ❖ Christine Panell & Aleksandra Smolinski, by Margo Smolinski



NEWS FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF HARTFORD

## Branches on the Vine

MAY 10 - 16, 2025

### Upcoming Events



05/15 - 06/12 THURSDAYS 7PM  
**WHAT DO CATHOLICS BELIEVE AND WHY? A SURVEY OF CATHOLIC BELIEF**  
 Our Lady of the Assumption Church Hall, 81 Center Rd, Woodbridge

Fr. Glen will lead another session covering the basic understandings of our Catholic faith. It is important that we know what we believe and profess every Sunday!  
 Join us for these special one hour sessions to dive deeper into your faith. Bring your questions too!



05/15 WEDNESDAY 5:30PM - 9PM

### A MESSY LIFE IS A HOLY LIFE: COUPLES' EVENING RETREAT

Holy Family Retreat Center, 303 Tunxis Rd, West Hartford

As Christians, we are called to live a life of holiness. Pope Francis says: "We are all called to be holy by living our lives with love and by bearing witness is everything we do." However, life as a couple can sometimes seem more messy than holy! Perhaps we do not think of ourselves as holy people - we look to others as examples of holiness but not ourselves. How, as a couple, in the midst of our busy, messy lives answer this call to a life of holiness? Pope Francis continues: "This holiness to which the Lord calls you will grow through small gestures."

During our time together, we will explore the small ways in which we bear witness to one another and support each other. This is the path to holiness for couples living in the modern world.

This program will be offered both in-person and online via Zoom. Information on how to access the program on Zoom will be sent to participants in advance.

Offering: \$50 per person (includes dinner and wine & cheese from 5:30 to 6:00 p.m.)



05/30 FRIDAY 7PM

### SET-BACK EVENT

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church Hall, 2819 Whitney Ave, Hamden

Join us for an evening of cards, community, and fun at the St. Paul VI Parish Set-Back Event! Doors open at 6:00 PM, so come early to get settled and enjoy some refreshments before the games begin at 7:00. No partner is needed—single players are welcome, and everyone has a chance to win great prizes. Admission is \$15 per person. Parking is available near the five-bay garages. Bring your friends, test your luck, and enjoy a lively night out with fellow parishioners and friends!

### St. John Bosco Women's Group

## Craft Fair

**Saturday, May 17th**  
**9:00 AM - 2 PM**

**St. Therese Church**  
 105 Leetes Island Rd  
 Branford

If interested in being a vendor  
 please EMAIL:  
[SJBCraftandTago6405@gmail.com](mailto:SJBCraftandTago6405@gmail.com)

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# GALLERY IN NEW HAVEN FEATURES ARTIFACTS ABOUT PONTIFICATES, INCLUDING POPE FRANCIS

- Story by Karen A. Avitabile



The Papal Gallery, inside the Blessed Michael McGivney Pilgrimage Center, includes a permanent exhibit related to popes. At right is a photograph of Pope Francis.  
PHOTOS BY AARON JOSEPH



This Papal Chair was used by Pope Francis during the 2016 World Youth Day in Krakow, Poland.



Coins highlighting the pontificate of Pope Francis on display.

The Blessed Michael McGivney Pilgrimage Center in New Haven is welcoming visitors to view a permanent gallery that highlights the relationship between the Knights of Columbus, Pope Francis and other pontificates.

Called the Papal Gallery, the space consists of an array of artwork, archival materials, artifacts, commemorative papal medallions, Vatican correspondence and photographs. These items recount the relationship between the Vatican, popes and the Knights of Columbus during the organization's 143-year history.

In addition, artifacts on display in the Papal Gallery feature items that were presented to the Knights of Columbus during the 12 years of Pope Francis' pontificate.

They include: an apostolic letter, a papal brief, a letter and holy cards to Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly,

and a book published to mark the first anniversary of the pope's "Urbi et Orbi" blessing to Rome and the world in an empty St. Peter's Square as the coronavirus pandemic swept the world.

A large display case houses the Papal Chair used by Pope Francis during the 2016 World Youth Day in Krakow, Poland.

"The Knights of Columbus has enjoyed a close relationship with the Holy See since almost its existence," says Peter Sonski, manager of education and outreach for the Blessed Michael McGivney Pilgrimage Center.

Portraits of all the popes, including Pope Francis who died on April 21, grace the walls inside the Papal Gallery.

Pope Francis played a significant role in advancing the cause of sainthood for Blessed Michael J. McGivney, a parish priest from New Haven who is being considered for sainthood.

In 1882, Blessed McGivney founded the Knights of Columbus to serve the needs of a largely immigrant Catholic community. He died in 1890 of pneumonia when he was 38 years old.

Blessed McGivney moved a step closer to possible sainthood after Pope Francis approved a miracle attributed to his intercession in May 2020. He was beatified on Oct. 31, 2020, at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Hartford.

Located at 1 State St., in New Haven, the Blessed Michael McGivney Pilgrimage Center welcomes visitors Wednesdays through Sundays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. There is free admission and parking in the lot beneath the building. For more information, call 203.865.0400 or visit [michaelmcgivneycenter.org](http://michaelmcgivneycenter.org).





## Mass Intentions for the Week

### Saturday, May 10, 2025

4:00 PM Concetta Romano, 20th Anniversary

### Sunday, May 11, 2025

8:00 AM William, Angie & Joanne Speziale

10:00 AM Carmella & Guido Coletto

11:45 AM Deceased members of the Nejame Family

5:00 PM Bronislawa & Jozef Borowiak

### Monday, May 12, 2025

7:30 AM Emilio Antonio Gutierrez & Maria Matilde Gutierrez

12:05 PM Maria Tatti

### Tuesday, May 13, 2025

7:30 AM Fr. Antonio Saraiva

12:05 PM Paola Polimeni

### Wednesday, May 14, 2025

7:30 AM Regina Latino

12:05 PM Elizabeth Carter

### Thursday, May 15, 2025

7:30 AM Prayer intentions for our Parishioners

12:05 PM Hayes Quattrochio

### Friday, May 16, 2025

7:30 AM For the people of St. Genevieve Parish

12:05 PM Hector Rivera

### Saturday, May 17, 2025

4:00 PM Maria Assuncao & Jose DaCosta Royo

### Sunday, May 18, 2025

8:00 AM The Mastronardi Family

10:00 AM Analia & Antonio Alves

11:45 AM In Thanksgiving to St. Boniface

5:00 PM Sabina Teresa Bartosiak

## Please Pray for the Sick

Paula Molitar, Joseph Shertick, Greg Reed, Kathryn Eagers, Tommie Henry, Syl Ciraulo, Mary Ertel, Mary Joyce Castafero, Bobby Lombardo, Rosemarie Perkoski, Fran Rago, Patricia Dressler, Susan Degennaro, and Deborah Godin.

## Exciting News from the Parish Nurse Ministry!



St. Patrick-St. Anthony Church now has two Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) installed on-site! These life-saving devices were generously provided through a grant from the Michael Vincent Sage Dragonheart Foundation. AEDs are located inside the Church and in the Franciscan Center.

## PASTORAL STAFF

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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



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