

St. Patrick-St. Anthony Church • 285 Church Street • Hartford, Connecticut
August 3, 2025 • Eighteenth 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

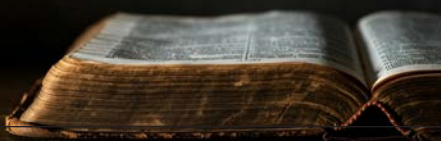
Sacrament of Reconciliation

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

Saturday 3:15 to 3:45 PM

2025-26 **YOUTH FAITH FORMATION AT ST. PATRICK - ST. ANTHONY** **REGISTER NOW**
Children ages 3 through Confirmation
Scan the QR code or go to
<https://bit.ly/SPSA-FF-registration-2025-26>

Daily Mass Readings



Monday, Aug 4 Nm 11:4b-15; Mt 14:13-21
Tuesday, Aug 5 Nm 12:1-13; Mt 14:22-36 or Mt 15:1-2, 10-14
Wednesday, Aug 6 Dn 7:9-10, 13-14; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9; 2 Pt 1:16-19; Lk 9:28b-36
Thursday, Aug 7 Nm 20:1-13; Mt 16:13-23
Friday, Aug 8 Dt 4:32-40; Mt 16:24-28
Sunday, Aug 10 Wis 18:6-9; Ps 33:1, 12, 18-19, 20-22; Heb 11:1-2, 8-19 or 11:1-2, 8-12; Lk 12:32-48 or Lk 12:35-40

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

Creation Care Corner August 2025

Welcome to the Creation Care Corner! Did You Know...



That in 2024 more than 600 reported extreme weather events, included 148 classified as "unprecedented", displaced 824,000 people and killed 1,700 people?

We need to realize that these are not just numbers, but are people all over the planet who are struggling with climate change.

To read more, please go to <https://tinyurl.com/SPSA-CCC-8-3>.

To read the entire Creation Care Corner for August, go to: <https://tinyurl.com/SPSA-CCC-Aug-2025>.

The Pastor's Corner

August 3, 2025

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

We were all deeply saddened to hear the news that our friend and colleague, Pam Johnson, passed away on Friday, July 25th. Her smile and laughter brightened every room, and she used her many gifts in service to the church and the art of music.

I first encountered Pam back in New York, twenty or so years ago when she and Br. Kevin McGoff led the music for one of our Province's liturgical events, either an Ordination or a Solemn Profession. Little did I know then that our paths would cross so significantly a few decades later.

Even before I arrived in Hartford, Pam was guiding me through the maze of financial, personnel and other matters I needed to know as a first-time pastor. I quickly came to rely on her experience and wisdom as I navigated my way through my initial months in Hartford. Simply put, I depended on her for everything!

Imagine my shock when Pam came to my office one day in early June of 2021 and told me that she would be leaving her position here as business manager, and would be taking a new job at the pastoral center in Bloomfield where she would be the executive assistant to the Vicar General of the Archdiocese of Hartford.

Losing Pam at that time was just one more challenge I had to face in my first year as pastor, but it was also a valuable learning experience as well. Pam had taught me a lot about being a pastor and I was grateful for her guidance and patience.



The archdiocese gained a dedicated, informed, and energetic asset in Pam Johnson. When Archbishop Coyne arrived in October 2023 as Coadjutor Archbishop, Pam became his executive assistant as well, and continued in that position right up to the present. It wasn't unusual to get a call from her to discuss some particular matter on behalf of the archbishop. She was always professional, always courteous, always efficient. In other words, the Archdiocese of Hartford has lost a treasured team member.



Here at St. Patrick-St. Anthony, Pam not only served as our business manager, she was also a talented member of our music ministry. Both as a cantor and as director of the Treble Clef Choir, Pam shared with us the fruits of her musical training. Having studied vocal performance at Lawrence University in Appleton, Wisconsin, she was a member of CONCORA and the Hartford Chorale, two of Hartford's prestigious choral ensembles.

Our hearts go out to her husband Matt and sons Glenn and Robert, and the entire Johnson and Frigo families. We keep all of them in our prayer and wish them comfort in their loss. I am reminded of two verses from Scripture that I associate with Pam Johnson. From St. Paul's second letter to Timothy: "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith"; and from the gospel of Matthew: "Well done, good and faithful servant ... enter into the joy of your master!"

May Pam Johnson be received with joy into the eternal presence of the Lord whom she served so well.

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



Snacks Needed

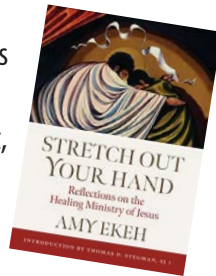
Our Sandwich Ministry hands out snacks with sandwiches every day of the week. We are seeing the need at our doorstep increase in recent months, and we are once again in need of snacks for our friends. Pre-packaged snacks and home-baked goods can be dropped off anytime the office is open. (Mon-Sat 9-4, Sunday 9-11).



People of Hope

Every Wednesday at 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM on Zoom, starting September 3, 2025.

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. Together we will 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.



To spark our conversation and reflection, we will use author Amy Ekeh's latest book *Stretch Out Your Hand: Reflections on the Healing Ministry of Jesus*.

Please join our facilitator, Pat Curtis, each Wednesday, 11:00 am to 12:00 pm on Zoom, to gather with others for weekly inspiration using experiences from our daily lives. Our goal is to keep hope alive and steadfast even as difficult personal and world events press upon us.

This "People of Hope" gathering is available to you every Wednesday morning ~ attend when your schedule allows to receive the gifts of spiritual nourishment and growth.

Join us!

To register go to <https://tinyurl.com/SPSA-PPL-HP-2025>

Free Will Offering can be made payable to "St. Patrick-St. Anthony Church" and mailed to 285 Church Street, Hartford, CT 06103, Attn. Pat Curtis OR go to <https://osvhub.com/spsact/giving/funds/adult-faith-formation> to give offering conveniently ONLINE and note the program name in the Memo.

SPSA
SUMMER SOCIALS

MUSIC UNDER THE STARS

evening out for adults

Save the date for Saturday September 6, 2025

Watch for more details regarding times and ticket price soon!

You are invited to an evening with

CARL SICILIANO

author of
"MAKING ROOM"

Thursday, Sept. 25
from 6:30-8 pm
at the Franciscan Center
for Urban Ministry

[CLICK TO REGISTER](#)

Sponsored by The Friends and Family,
Open Hearts and Social Justice Ministries

ST. PATRICK ST. ANTHONY
The Franciscan Center for Urban Ministry

Making Room

Carl Siciliano
Founder of the Ali Forney Center

Three Decades of
Fighting for Beds,
Belonging,
and a Safe Place for
LGBTQ Youth

An Evening with Author Carl Siciliano

Thursday, September 25, 2025 at 6:30 pm

You are invited to an evening with Carl Siciliano, the author of *Making Room*, which details his three decades of work founding and nurturing the Ali Forney Center, the nation's largest housing program for LGBT youth experiencing homelessness.

About this book, Father James Martin, SJ states: "I hope this compelling book will be read by many in the Church as well as many who wished that churches treated LGBTQ youth not like lepers, but who they are: beloved children of God."

For more information, email timothy.curran@trincoll.edu or call 860-756-4034.

Sponsored by the Friends and Family, Open Hearts and Social Justice Ministries of St. Patrick-St. Anthony Church



Day of Reflection for Women

St. Edmund's Retreat, Saturday

October 11, 2025, 9:30 AM – 3:30 PM

Do you know someone who needs to “get away from it all”
for one day?

Why not gift that person with this special retreat?

Or maybe it is YOU who needs this time away. . .

Enjoy a day of reflection on beautiful Enders Island, a 12-acre
island in Fisher's Island Sound, Mystic, CT.

St. Edmund's is a place for restoration, renewal and reflection.

Download the flyer at <https://tinyurl.com/SPSA-WRetreat> OR to
register, go to <https://tinyurl.com/SPSA-DOR-W2025>

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, Aug 2, 2025

4:00 PM Kathleen Gorman

Sunday, Aug 3, 2025

8:00 AM Concetta Giani

10:00 AM John Lemega, 56th Anniversary

11:45 AM Mary Berning

5:00 PM Pamela Schmeelk

Monday, Aug 4, 2025

7:30 AM Joseph Suranna

12:05 PM James & Sadie Baio

Tuesday, Aug 5, 2025

7:30 AM Prayer intentions for our parishioners

12:05 PM Richard Crockett

Wednesday, Aug 6, 2025

7:30 AM Jose & Arlete Thomaz

12:05 PM Kevin Sweeney

Thursday, Aug 7, 2025

7:30 AM Marjorie Bjerklie

12:05 PM Efigenia Palomino

Friday, Aug 8, 2025

7:30 AM Deirdre Tarala

12:05 PM Frank & Maria Pizzonia

Saturday, Aug 9, 2025

4:00 PM Regan Martins

Sunday, Aug 10, 2025

8:00 AM William, Angie & Joanne Speziale

10:00 AM John C. Brennan, 17th Anniversary

11:45 AM Ronald V. William

5:00 PM Marie Neclerio

Join Us This Week

**Group Spiritual Reflection: Zoom Meetings: Every
Tuesdays. Next meeting: August 5, 2025 from 12:30 to 1:30
PM. All are welcome! Please go to [https://tinyurl.com/SPSA-Tues-
Spirit-Grp](https://tinyurl.com/SPSA-Tues-Spirit-Grp) to register and receive the Zoom Link.**

Sanctuary Lamps

Week of August 3, 2025

In memory of

Carol Curtis

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.

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 seasons of Lent and Advent.

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.*

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

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



ST. PATRICK-ST. ANTHONY CHURCH

Franciscan Center for Urban Ministry

Open Hearts Open Minds Open Doors

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

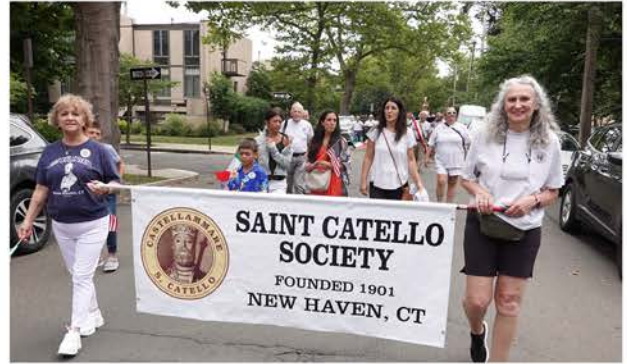


Branches on the Vine

AUGUST 2 - 8, 2025



Members of the St. Trofimenia Society of St. Michael Church carry a statue of the saint through the Wooster Street neighborhood of New Haven during a procession on her feast day.
PHOTO BY JOE PISANI



The St. Catello Society participated in the first procession in 70 years, along with other Italian-American religious societies from St. Michael and St. Anthony.
PHOTO BY JOE PISANI

Several hundred Italian-Americans marched in a procession three blocks long in honor of St. Trofimenia, a fourth century virgin martyr, whose statue was held aloft on a platform and carried through New Haven's Wooster Street neighborhood of Little Italy.

The procession, held on the saint's feast day, July 13, was sponsored by the St. Trofimenia Society and was preceded by a Mass at St. Michael Church.

It included a marching band, a Knights of Columbus honor guard and representatives from the St. Catello Society and other Italian-American organizations from St. Michael and St. Anthony churches, which are part of the Blessed Michael McGivney Parish in the Elm City.

David Kelley, one of the organizers, said it was the first time in 40 years there has been a procession for the saint, who is patron of Minori, Italy, and the first time in 70 years for the St. Catello Society.

Kelley, who is co-president of the St. Trofimenia Society with his cousin, Richard Biondi, says, "This is beyond belief. This is more than we ever anticipated or dreamed of doing." Only two years ago, the co-presidents revived the society, which was founded in 1908. It now boasts some 120 members.

"The Mass and procession mean a great deal to me and the members of the societies," Biondi says.

PROCESSION IN NEW HAVEN CELEBRATES CATHOLIC FAITH, ITALIAN-AMERICAN CULTURES

"For the older members to celebrate a Mass in Italian brings back cherished memories of their youth and family members who are no longer alive."

Biondi adds that the procession was also an opportunity for unity among the Italian-American religious organizations in the New Haven area and "an occasion to celebrate our Catholic faith, as well as our Italian-American culture and traditions." The procession included delegations from societies that honor St. Trofimenia, St. Catello, St. Anthony, St. Andrew, St. Anne and St. Maria Maddalena.

Father Joseph MacNeill led the procession and celebrated Mass in Italian earlier that morning. The priest, who is chaplain of St. Thomas More Chapel & Center at Yale in New Haven, traces his ancestry on his mother's side to the Abruzzi region of Italy.

"I'm here to continue to give witness to our passion, faith, culture and saints for the next generation of Italian Americans," he says. Founded in 1901, members of the St. Catello Society carried a statue of the ninth century bishop of Castellamare di Stabia, a city southeast of Naples.

Gene Avino, whose grandfather began the society to help immigrants from his home, says the group will celebrate its 125th anniversary next year.

The president, Paul Criscuolo, says there has been a renewed interest in Italian heritage and that 14 new members have enrolled, some of them from Ireland, Italy, California and Florida. Around the turn of the century, immigrants established Italian societies at St. Michael's, the oldest Italian church in Connecticut, to offer assistance to one another, honor their traditions and share their devotion to the patron saints of their hometowns.

According to tradition, St. Trofimenia was a young woman who was killed by her father for refusing to marry a pagan because she was Christian.

Kelley said the day was a testament to the enduring presence of Italian-American culture and faith.

"I grew up at St. Michael's Church as a child and spent a lot of time with my grandparents," he recalled. "I love our Italian traditions, so we hope this is a kind of revival."

- Story by Joe Pisani

To read page 2 of Branches on the Vine, please go to <https://tinyurl.com/Branches-pg2>





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