

Two of Jesus' disciples were going to a village seven miles from Jerusalem called Emmaus ... and it happened that while they were conversing ... Jesus drew near and walked with them.



St. Patrick-St. Anthony Church • 285 Church Street • Hartford, Connecticut
April 19, 2026 • The Third 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 • 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

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, April 18, 2026

4:00 PM Ceny Dawkins

Sunday, April 19, 2026

8:00 AM Albert & Jeannine Remillard

10:00 AM L. Patrick Kane

11:45 AM Anna Ellis

5:00 PM Charlie Kirk

Monday, April 20, 2026

7:30 AM Marie Galvin

12:05 PM Baio & Spirito Families

Tuesday, April 21, 2026

7:30 AM Don Fenton

12:05 PM Manuel Almagro

Wednesday, April 22, 2026

7:30 AM Timothy Devanney

12:05 PM Robert P Midura, Sr.

Thursday, April 23, 2026

7:30 AM Jose Batista & Clotilde Fermina

12:05 PM Felipe Obregon

Friday, April 24, 2026

7:30 AM Antonio Cunha Rodrigues & Maria Amelia

12:05 PM Madeline Capodanno

Saturday, April 25, 2026

4:00 PM Gaetano Romano, 53rd Anniversary

Sunday, April 26, 2026

8:00 AM Jose Ribeiro & Clarisse Ribeiro

10:00 AM Bob Lemega, 5th Anniversary

11:45 AM William, Angie, & Joanne Speziale

5:00 PM Melissa Corning

Daily Mass Readings



| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Monday, April 20 | Acts 6:8-15; Jn 6:22-29 |
| Tuesday, April 21 | Acts 7:51—8:1a; Jn 6:30-35 |
| Wednesday, Apr 22 | Acts 8:1b-8; Jn 6:35-40 |
| Thursday, Apr 23 | Acts 8:26-40; Jn 6:44-51 |
| Friday, Apr 24 | Acts 9:1-20; Jn 6:52-59 |
| Sunday, Apr 26 | Acts 2:14a, 36-41; Ps 23: 1-3a, 3b4, 5, 6 1; Pt 2:20b-25; Jn 10:1-10 |

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

REMINDER: If you have scheduled a Mass and you would like to bring up the gifts, please make yourself known to one of the sacristans prior to the start of the Mass.

The Pastor's Corner

April 19, 2026



Dear Parishioners and Friends,

I hope you were able to watch the Prayer Vigil for Peace led by Pope Leo XIV on Saturday, April 11th, or a YouTube video of it. In a simple ritual of the recitation of the Rosary and the singing of the Litany of the Blessed Mother, the world was invited to reflect on the dire need for peace and reconciliation as wars and violence continue to rage in far too many locales.

One element of the service that I found particularly touching was the lighting of oil lamps at the start of each Glorious Mystery of the Rosary by representatives from five parts of the world: Asia, Oceania, Europe, Africa and America. The flame for the lighting came from the Lamp of Peace, a perpetually burning oil lamp located at the tomb of St. Francis in the Basilica of St. Francis in Assisi.

Pope Leo's homily was also a powerful moment as he raised a plea to the world's leaders to lay down the weapons of war and seek peace through dialogue. "Enough of the idolatry of self and money! Enough of the display of power! Enough of war! True strength is shown in serving life. With evangelical simplicity, Saint John XXIII once wrote: 'The benefits of peace will be felt everywhere, by individuals, by families, by nations, by the whole human race.' And echoing the incisive words of Pius XII, he added: 'Nothing is lost by peace; everything may be lost by war'" (Encyclical Letter *Pacem in Terris*, 116).

The Holy Father continued: "Let us, therefore, unite the moral and spiritual strength of the millions and billions of men and women, young and old, who today choose to believe in peace, caring for the wounds and repairing the damage left behind by the madness of war. I receive countless letters from children in areas of conflict. In reading them, one perceives, through the lens of innocence, all the horror and inhumanity of actions that some adults boast of with pride. Let us listen to the voices of children!"

I invite you to read the pope's entire homily which can be found here.



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

Happening Sunday, April 19

The Emmaus Grieving Parent Ministry



The Emmaus Ministry for Grieving Parents, in the Franciscan tradition of "All are Welcome," serves the spiritual needs of grieving parents whose children of any age have died by any cause. We meet at the

Franciscan Center at 3:30 on the third Sunday of the month.

Next meeting, April 19, 2026.

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

Friends and Family Ministry



Friends and Family LGBTQ+ meeting will take place on Sunday, April 19, 2026 at 3:30 PM in the Franciscan Center.

Yard Goat Ticket Sales

Community Day at the Dunkin' Park June 14-



FLAG DAY!! \$20.00 Tickets go on sale after all Masses on May 2-3 in the Franciscan Center Lobby.

Let's visualize a warm June afternoon, sitting in the stands, drinking a cold beverage, eating a hot dog and cheering on our beloved Yard Goats against some

fussy fisher cats. Come support the Yard Goats as they play the Toronto Blue Jays' AA-Affiliate, the New Hampshire Fisher Cats.

Come help hold the big flag before the game!!!

Mark Your Calendar - The Walk is Coming



The Walk Against Hunger 2026 will be on Saturday, April 25th at Dunkin' Park in Hartford. The Walk will start at 10:00 AM, but please arrive at the stadium by 9:15 AM.

To join our team or donation, please scan the QR Code or go to <https://tinyurl.com/SPSACT-WAH-2026> AND Get those walking shoes ready!!!

Ongoing Faith Formation Programs:

Group Spiritual Reflection:

Zoom Meetings: Every Tuesday. Next meeting: April 21, 2026 from 12:30 to 1:30 PM. All are welcome! Please go to <https://tinyurl.com/SPSA-GSP-2025> to register and receive the Zoom Link.

In Quiet Prayer: Wednesday, April 22, 2026, from 7:30 to 8:00 AM. Zoom link in Monday email. Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/SPSA-IQP-2025>.

People of Hope: Next Meeting, Wednesday, April 22, 2026 from 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM on Zoom. We will use author Amy Ekeh's latest book *Stretch Out Your Hand: Reflections on the Healing Ministry of Jesus*. To register go to <https://tinyurl.com/SPSA-PPL-HP-2025>.

Divine Reading: Next meeting, April 22, 2026, 7:00 PM, location in the Franciscan Center. We meet every 2nd and 4th Wednesday. Join us when you can!

Easter Season Twilight Retreat

Register now to join us at the Franciscan Center.

We are delighted to invite Fr. Ken Paulli, OFM back for an evening of presentation, inspiration, and reflection in this Easter season in preparation of the Feast of Pentecost.

Tuesday, May 19, 2026

5:30-8:00 PM – includes Dinner – Register at <https://tinyurl.com/SPSA-Paulli-Din>; Registration deadline for dinner is May 15
Suggested Offering: \$20.00

6:45-8:00 PM – Presentation Only – Register at <https://tinyurl.com/SPSA-Paulli-Pres>
Suggested Offering: \$15.00

Suggested Offerings 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://tinyurl.com/SPSA-AFF-Pay> to give offering conveniently ONLINE and note the program name in the Memo.



Baptisms

Julian Dolan
child of

Kolby Hanson and Lindsay Dolan

Celebrated by Fr. Timothy Shreenan, O.F.M.

Jamie Thomas
child of

Kyle and Erin Kolcharno

Celebrated by Deacon John Russell Sullivan

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 April 26, 2026.



Thank You



Weekly Offering Update

4/5/2026 Offertory: \$18,556.56

Easter Collection: \$10,073.00

4/12/2026 Offertory: \$16,805.56

Conversations on Work and Spirituality

Have you wondered about...

- How can I balance all areas of my life?
- How does my work connect to my spiritual well-being?
- How can I become more involved and give back to my local community?
- What advice might those at the end of their careers have for those just beginning?

You are not alone with these questions. **Meet and discuss** with those asking the same questions.

An Evening with Bill Farley

Author of *Taking the Big Risks*



Bill Farley is the founder and former CEO of The Farley Company, once CT's largest commercial real estate firm, and a lifelong leader in the Hartford community. He has served on over 20 nonprofit boards and helped lead initiatives such as Journey Home and

House of Bread. Bill earned his MA in Religious Studies from Hartford International University and recently authored *Taking the Big Risks*, a book about how spiritual values guide decisions in work, leadership, and everyday life. He is a model for living a life balanced between family, friends, faith, work, and community. **Join us as we talk with Bill on his spiritual insights for people in business!**

Who

Working individuals interested in engaging in conversations around work and spirituality. **Bring a friend!**

What

An event to **learn from and connect with other working individuals** centered around work, spirituality, and community
◆ **Dinner Provided!**

Where

Franciscan Center for Urban Ministry
285 Church St, Hartford, CT 06103

When

Tuesday, April 21st

4:30 PM — Catch-Up with Bill
5:00 PM — **Evening Begins – Fr. Mike**
5:10 PM — Bill Speaks
5:45 PM — Dinner & Table Discussion
6:45 PM — Come Back to Large Group
7:00 PM — Closing Reflections & Prayer
7:15 PM — Dessert, Coffee & Networking
7:30 PM — **Evening Concludes**

TAKING THE BIG RISKS

SPIRITUAL INSIGHTS FOR PEOPLE IN BUSINESS

WILLIAM FARLEY

FOUNDER AND CEO OF THE FARLEY COMPANY



Click [Here](#) or Scan to RSVP



**St. Patrick-St. Anthony Church and
The Franciscan Center for Urban Ministry**

285 Church Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06103

860-756-4034 www.spsact.org

PASTORAL STAFF

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Fr. John Leonard, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar, jleonard@spsact.org

Fr. A. Francis Soucy, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar & Senior Associate Friar,
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schristopher@spsact.org

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Barbara Sullivan, Saturday Receptionist

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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

A.J. DuVerger, Director of Maintenance

Gilberto Lisboa, Church Custodian

Juana Dominguez, Friary 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 seasons of Advent and 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>

Please Pray for the Sick

Paula Molitar, Joseph Shertick, Greg Reed, Kathryn Eagers, Tommie Henry, Syl Ciraulo, Mary Ertel, Mary Joyce Castafero, Rosemarie Perkoski, Fran Rago, Susan Degennaro, Barbara Uguccioni, Albert Tornatore, and Deborah Godin.



Small, Faithful Acts that Make a Difference

Friends,

As we share this annual report, I want to begin with a simple word of thanks.

What you will read below reflects a year of real growth and real work at the Franciscan Center for Urban Ministry. It tells the story of meals served, gardens built, advocacy pursued, and lives accompanied. But beneath every number and every program is something more basic and more powerful:

people who chose to serve. None of this happens without the generosity of so many of you.

Over the past two years, our community has grown in visible ways. More people are joining us for worship, and just as importantly, many of those same people are stepping into service. They are moving from the pews into the kitchen, the garden, the neighborhood, and the work of advocacy. That movement matters. **It tells us that faith is being lived, not simply professed.**

Everything described in this report has been made possible by volunteers and by those who support them—financially, prayerfully, and through steady encouragement. Your generosity allows us not only to respond to immediate needs, but to build something enduring:

a community rooted in dignity, compassion, and hope.

Thank you for your trust in this work, and for being part of a community that believes small, faithful acts—repeated over time—can make a real difference.

With gratitude, Fr. Mike OFM



THIS PAST YEAR, THE WORK OF THE FRANCISCAN CENTER WAS CARRIED FORWARD BY THE COMMITMENT AND GENEROSITY OF OUR VOLUNTEERS MAKING SMALL, FAITHFUL ACTS THAT MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

Fighting Food Insecurity at Our Door and Beyond

Food insecurity remains one of the most visible needs in our city, and volunteers are at the heart of our response. **Our sandwich ministry operates 365 days a year**, with two distributions on Sundays. Guests receive two sandwiches of their choice, a freshly baked snack, and a drink. In 2025, volunteers prepared and served 32,789 meals.



Twice each week, year-round, **teams of volunteers also prepare and serve a hot, healthy meal**, providing 9,482 meals in 2025. During the coldest months of the year—from December 1 through March 31—volunteers **extend this care to the city's warming center**, serving 1,080 meals to individuals experiencing homelessness.

In partnership with the House of Bread, our volunteers source, prepare, and **serve weekend meals year-round in the House of Bread dining room**, adding another 7,800 meals.

Across these four programs, volunteers helped prepare and serve 51,151 meals in 2025.

Hydroponic Urban Farming with Levo International

Our response to food insecurity extended beyond meals. In partnership with Levo Int'l, more than 100 volunteers helped build two urban hydroponic farms in Hartford's North End, strengthening local food access while building relationships across neighborhoods.



Caring for Creation with Access to Clean Water

This year marked an important shift in how we balance hospitality with care for creation. We ended the routine distribution of single-use plastic water bottles and installed a bottle-filling water station at the rear of the building, available eight months of the year.

Greater Hartford Interfaith Action Alliance: Advocating for Change, Together

Service at the Center extended beyond direct outreach to **public advocacy**.

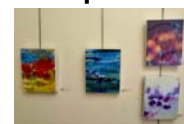


Through GHIAA and the Interfaith Eco-Justice Network, volunteers joined with faith leaders across the region and achieved success during the legislative special session, particularly in the areas of **protecting immigrants and pollinators and advancing affordable housing**.

Open Hearts and Family & Friends of LGBTQ+ Ministry



Alongside this work of hospitality, sustainability, and advocacy, the Franciscan Center continued to foster spaces for dialogue, reflection, and encounter. In June, the Open Hearts Ministry hosted a panel with families of faith and their LGBTQ children, moderated by SPSA parishioner Dr. Richard Stillson. In September, the Friends & Family of LGBT Persons ministry welcomed Carl Siciliano, author of *Making Room*, which chronicles his founding of the Ali Forney Center, the nation's largest housing program for LGBTQ youth experiencing homelessness. **These well-attended gatherings reflect the Center's commitment to accompaniment, dignity, and solidarity with those who are often pushed to the margins, especially young people and their families.**

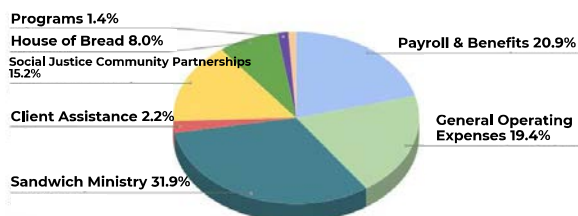


Clare Gallery: Contemplation Towards Action

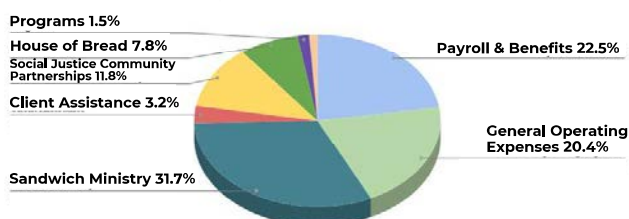
That same commitment shaped a particularly strong and integrated year for the Clare Gallery. Four exhibitions explored mysticism, human dignity, and contemplative seeing: *Works Engaging the Words of Modern Mystics*; *Letters from Prison*, featuring artwork and correspondence from people in Connecticut's correctional facilities; *Inner Visions*, examining ways of seeing and knowing through saints and historical figures; and *Portals and Paintings*, inviting slow, meditative engagement with painting. Supported by artist talks, panel discussions, and **more than 500 hours of service** from the ministry team, the Gallery's programming offered **a coherent movement from contemplation toward compassion, showing how art can deepen reflection, awaken conscience, and foster meaningful encounter.**

Supporting our Mission

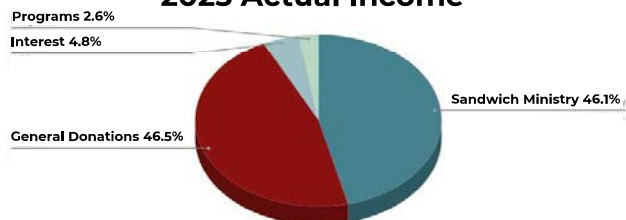
2025 Actual Expenses



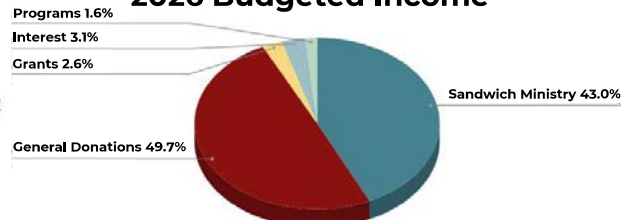
2026 Budgeted Expenses



2025 Actual Income



2026 Budgeted Income



Over 90% of our income is from donations to the Franciscan Center for Urban Ministry, and targeted donations to the Sandwich Ministry, to meet the needs of those who come to our door, and to aid our community partners in their similar work. We thank you for generously supporting these needs in 2025.

The increasing need, and the ever-increasing prices for food and other necessities is a challenge that we are called to meet, together. Let us continue our mission in 2026 to help those in need including the marginalized in Hartford and the surrounding communities.



To partner with us and support our mission, please scan the code or go to bit.ly/give-to-franciscan-center to donate.



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