



# FAIRFIELD COUNTY CATHOLIC

MARCH 2015 | VOLUME 32, NUMBER 3 | EASTER ISSUE

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## REMEMBERING EDWARD CARDINAL EGAN

APRIL 2, 1932-MARCH 5, 2015

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## Discerning solutions to the challenges...

*Dear Brothers and Sisters  
in Christ,*

We are halfway through with our diocesan synod!

At our February 7 session, the synod delegates approved the language of five global challenges that will be established as priorities for the coming years. As I said to the delegates, these are not the only issues that will be addressed in revitalizing our diocese, but will be our most immediate priorities. We know that there are many other challenges facing our youth, our families, and our communities throughout Fairfield County.

My friends, each challenge presents a number of questions. The synod will now turn to discerning solutions for them. The five challenges highlighted by the synod delegates include:

*1. Liturgy and Worship—Every Catholic is called to full, conscious and active participation in the worship life of the Church.*

How do we foster an attitude of welcome and hospitality in our parishes and schools? How do our priests and deacons prepare and deliver homilies that are relevant, inspirational, engaging and challenging to those who attend Mass? How do we create a culture that will reflect and celebrate the cultural and ethnic diversity of our communities? What needs to be done so that the celebration of the sacraments is revitalized?

*2. Family Life—There is a need to strengthen and support family life and empower and assist parents to be the primary teachers of the Catholic faith.*

How do we evangelize and form our parents to be able to share with their children their relationship with Jesus and the Church? What needs to be done so that the diocese and our parishes provide support and pastoral care to families that are facing particular stressors such as financial difficulties, employment issues, discrimination, immigration challenges, addiction, or marital breakup?

*3. Evangelization—We must create concrete plans for evangelization in, with and through our parishes, schools, ecclesial movements and communities.*

In reaching out, what strategies can be used to engage those Catholics who are marginalized to participate in the life of the Church? How do we create a culture of missionary discipleship? How do we, as Catholic Christians, effectively witness the Gospel?

*4. Leadership—There is a need to continually call, form, and support clergy, religious and laity in active leadership roles in the life of the Church.*

What is necessary to develop a culture that promotes and supports vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and consecrated life in our diocese? How do we educate, form and support our clergy, promote holy and healthy living, and assist them in their leadership roles? What efforts are needed to assist Catholics to discern and share their personal gifts and talents with the larger community of faith in a spirit



DEACON BRAD SMYTHE of St. Joseph's in Shelton helps facilitate discussion at delegate meeting.

of stewardship? What structures and opportunities need to be created to support the ongoing training and formation of lay leaders in our diocese?

*5. Catechesis and Education—We must renew the ministry of faith formation throughout our diocese, leading each person to a deepening relationship with the Lord Jesus in and through His Church.*

How do we create opportunities for faith formation to be offered in holistic and age-appropriate ways that provide for a clear, authentic and faithful teaching of our Catholic faith? What can be done to more effectively reach our teenagers and young adults? How do we provide ongoing opportunities for all the baptized to grow in their prayer life?

Our delegates have a lot of homework! Now that the challenges have been clarified, they have been asked to provide the Synod Office and the Study Committees with information on best practices, models of ministry, programs, places, people or institutions that can exemplify solutions to these challenges.

I am also encouraging the delegates to reach out to all of you, through individual parish conversations, talks after Communion, or town hall meetings.

It is very important that we discern solutions to these challenges and the questions they raise. After consultation, I have also made the decision to add an additional session of the synod in order to do all the work that is before us. I recognize the potential burden this places on our delegates and I thank them profoundly for their willingness to

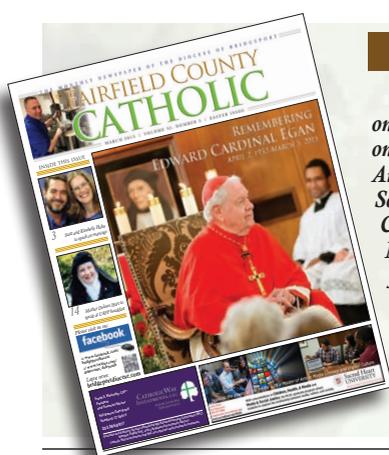
continue through this process.

I want to also remind all of us that as part of the synod process we will be gathering to celebrate the synod, our faith, and the renewal of the diocese on Saturday, September 19, 2015, at the Webster Bank Arena in Bridgeport. I would encourage every family to begin to make plans to join us that day. Please look forward in the months ahead to details about the event, which will be available through your parish, on the synod website and through the *Fairfield County Catholic*.

I ask for your constant prayers for the success of the synod as we work together to bring the Good News of the Gospel to the people of Fairfield County.

*Frank J. Caggiano*

+ Frank J. Caggiano,  
Bishop of Bridgeport



### ON THE COVER

**CARDINAL EGAN IS PICTURED**  
on his last visit to the Diocese of Bridgeport on February 8, 2015, for the 50th Anniversary Mass for Msgr. William Scheyd, pastor of St. Aloysius Parish in New Canaan. Even after being named to lead the New York Archdiocese, the Cardinal never forgot his friends in Bridgeport, and often returned. Photo by Amy Mortensen  
**ABOVE THE MAST—The Fish Fry**  
at St. Joseph Parish in Shelton brings the faithful together for a prayerful parish repast.

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## Local News

# New Diocesan Youth Choir announced

BRIDGEPORT—Bishop Frank J. Caggiano has announced plans for the formation of a Diocesan Youth Choir that will sing in large diocesan liturgies with the bishop and at prayer services and other select performances.

The choir will draw from elementary, high school and college-age students throughout the diocese. Auditions for youth and young adults are expected to begin this spring.

“The Youth Choir will energize the entire diocese,” Bishop Caggiano said. “Not only will it involve youth in a formative activity but also celebrate their faith, their energy and the excitement they bring to the Church. Their voices will be a great gift to us and help to revitalize our liturgies as so many people have requested in our synod process.”

Deacon John DiTaranto, special assistant to the bishop, said plans call for the new choir

to be previewed at the Closing Celebration Mass of the Synod on Saturday, September 19, at the Webster Bank Arena of Harbor Yard in Bridgeport. Pending execution of the venue contract, the full choir is scheduled to perform at a youth Christmas concert set for next December at the Norwalk Concert Hall.

The diocese is in the process of hiring a choir director who will be responsible for the musical programs and overall administration of the choir, he added.

“The Diocesan Youth Choir will foster awareness of music as an integral part of worship, and help to build self-esteem through successful group singing and instrumental accompaniment,” said Deacon DiTaranto, who noted that young singers will learn music and performance skills as they rehearse and sing for select liturgies.

“We hope that young people from all of our parishes and



BISHOP FRANK J. CAGGIANO HAS ANNOUNCED plans for the formation of a Diocesan Youth Choir that will sing in large diocesan liturgies with the bishop and at prayer services and other select performances.

schools are represented in the new choir,” he said.

Auditions and open houses for the new choir will be held throughout the diocese in the Spring and Summer.

While the choir will be introduced at the Closing Celebration of the Synod, the first public performance of the full choir is set for the special Christmas concert in Norwalk. This concert has been named C4Y (Concert For Youth), as funds generated from it will be used to support diocesan youth programs including the new Bishop’s Scholarship Fund. It is expected that C4Y will become an annual showcase of the Diocesan Youth Choir. Rick Ryan of Black Rock is serving as overall management and marketing coordinator of the concert.

(For more info on the youth choir, or if you are interested in sponsorship opportunities, contact Rick Ryan: 203.331.6858.)

# Renowned speakers to discuss marriage & family

“Families are the Domestic Church where Jesus grows in the love of a married couple, in the lives of their children.” Pope Francis

NORWALK—The family is God’s gift,” says Father Peter Towsley, vicar for evangelization for the Diocese of Bridgeport. “Everything has to start with the family.”

To help families understand and strengthen their role as the first teachers of the faith, his office and the Ministry of Marriage and the Family have invited famed Catholic speakers Dr. Scott Hahn, Kimberly Hahn and Dr. Alan Hunt to come to this diocese for a special engagement.

On April 18 at All Saint’s School in Norwalk, the speakers will offer inspiration, encouragement and creative solutions to the challenges of married life and parenting in today’s world as envisioned by Pope Francis. The event is from 8:30 am-5 pm and will include five talks, with one breakout session for men and women. The day will conclude with Mass celebrated by Bishop Caggiano at 4 pm.

“Scott Hahn is the most sought-after Catholic speaker, not



DR. SCOTT HAHN, KIMBERLY HAHN

only in this country but worldwide,” says Father Towsley. “He tells people that evangelization has to begin in the family. Mom and Dad have to transmit the faith first and foremost.”

Bringing the presentation even more up to date, the speakers will include discussion of the role of grandparents, both in their increasing involvement with raising grandchildren and their ever-more crucial role in the faith formation of both their adult children and their grandchildren.

A former Presbyterian theologian, Hahn—and later his wife Kimberly—became convinced by deep exploration of the Bible that the Catholic Church was “the pillar and the bulwark of the truth” described in the New Testament writings (1 Tim 3:15). He holds a Ph.D. degree in systematic theology from Marquette University. Since 1990, Dr. Hahn has served as professor of theology and Scripture at the Franciscan University of Steubenville.

Kimberly and Scott are the



DR. ALAN HUNT

parents of six children and have recently become grandparents. They have a deep reverence and understanding of the family as the “Domestic Church” through their own personal experience.

Dr. Alan Hunt, like the Hahns, is a convert to Catholicism. On July 1, 2007, after a 15-year spiritual journey, Dr. Hunt stepped aside as senior pastor at Mount Pisgah, a congregation serving more than 15,000 people in Alpharetta, Georgia, outside Atlanta. He, too, is married; he

and his wife, Anita, have two grown daughters.

“They are all parents, they all have come to know Jesus on their spiritual journey,” says Father Towsley. “They use practical, funny anecdotal stories to express the joy of family life, and show parents and grandparents how they can be the first teachers in the way of faith.”

The heart of their presentation is to help adults to grow into a close, loving relationship with Jesus Christ.

“In our former way of teaching, the Church institutionalized, catechetized and sacramentalized the faith—but never brought people into a relationship with Jesus. That’s what evangelization means,” Father Peter said. “When adults become followers and friends of Jesus, they can share that relationship with their children. The heart of the family is in the home, and that’s where the heart of the faith begins. It all has to start with the family.”

(Cost: \$45/person, \$75/couple; includes a continental breakfast and full lunch. To register, visit [www.eventbrite.com](http://www.eventbrite.com) and search for “Pope Francis and the Promise of Family.”)

# Farewell to Cardinal Egan

NEW YORK—More than 2,500 mourners filled St. Patrick's Cathedral on March 10 for the Mass of Christian Burial of Edward Michael Cardinal Egan, Archbishop Emeritus of New York and Third Bishop of Bridgeport.

News of his death was received with great sadness in the Diocese of Bridgeport, where Cardinal Egan served as bishop from 1988 to 2000 and often returned to visit friends and support diocesan efforts.

Bishop Frank J. Caggiano, Fifth Bishop of Bridgeport, was among the bishops who concelebrated the funeral Mass with Archbishop Dolan. The delegation from the Diocese of Bridgeport also included many diocesan priests and laity, including those who had worked with him at the Catholic Center.

The funeral Mass, televised by the major TV networks, followed public visitation when thousands—from the famous to

when he noted that Cardinal Egan did not like eulogies. He said the Cardinal should be remembered for his love of the Church.

Cardinal Egan, who retired as archbishop of New York in 2009, died suddenly on March 5, after collapsing in his New York residence. The cause of death was cardiac arrest. He was 82.

Many in the diocese remember the pride and excitement that accompanied the announcement that Bishop Egan has been named the Ninth Archbishop of New York in 2000. In a farewell reception at the Catholic Center, he was gifted with a New York Yankees jacket, which he proudly sported.

He was also given a rousing ovation by 7,000 faithful when

priesthood, reorganized diocesan healthcare facilities, and initiated the Inner-City Foundation for Charity and Education and the Faith in the Future capital campaign, which continues to provide resources to the diocese. He saw to the construction of the Catherine Dennis Keefe Queen of the Clergy Residence for Retired Priests in Stamford, and established the St. Catherine School for Children with Special Needs, the expansion of Bishop Curtis Homes for the elderly, and creation of the Haitian Catholic Center in Stamford.

Area Catholics remember him for his unforgettable and resonant baritone voice, the eloquence of his homilies, and his personal kindness to all those he served. Though he became leader of one of the most high profile dioceses in the country, he was private man who didn't seek the spotlight and worked tirelessly to move the Church forward during a time of demographic change and transition.

Many tributes recognized Cardinal Egan for his leadership after the 9/11 terrorist attacks on New York City, when he anointed the dead and said funeral Masses, distributed Rosaries to workers, and told New Yorkers not to succumb to fear. During his tenure in New York, he was also credited making tough decisions related to reorganizing Catholic schools, realigning parishes, and improving financial practices.

After retiring from his post in New York in 2009, he often returned to the Diocese of Bridgeport for special liturgies and to support fund raising efforts and other major initiatives.



Photo by John Glover



Photo by John Glover



Photo by John Glover



Photo by Cynthia Stone



the everyday faithful—processed into the historic cathedral on 5th Avenue to pay last respects to the Cardinal.

The Cardinal's love of music was echoed in the thundering drums and bagpipes that accompanied the procession, and in the voices of international opera stars who sang during the service.

During his homily, Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan drew laughter

he returned to the Diocese of Bridgeport for its 50th Anniversary Jubilee celebration, held at the arena at Harbor Yard, in September 2003.

As Bishop of Bridgeport, he oversaw the regionalization of diocesan elementary schools, established Hispanic and Haitian Apostolates, founded the St. John Fisher Seminary Residence for young men considering the

HIS EMINENCE  
EDWARD MICHAEL CARDINAL EGAN  
1932-2015

BORN - APRIL 2, 1932

ORDAINED PRIEST - DECEMBER 15, 1957

ORDAINED TITULAR BISHOP OF ALLEGHENY AND AUXILIARY BISHOP OF NEW YORK - MAY 22, 1985

INSTALLED BISHOP OF BRIDGEPORT - DECEMBER 14, 1988

INSTALLED ARCHBISHOP OF NEW YORK - JUNE 19, 2000

CREATED CARDINAL PRIEST OF SAINTS JOHN AND PAUL - FEBRUARY 21, 2001

ARCHBISHOP EMERITUS OF NEW YORK - FEBRUARY 23, 2009

ENTERED ETERNAL LIFE - MARCH 5, 2015



Photo by John Glover



Photo by Amy Mortensen

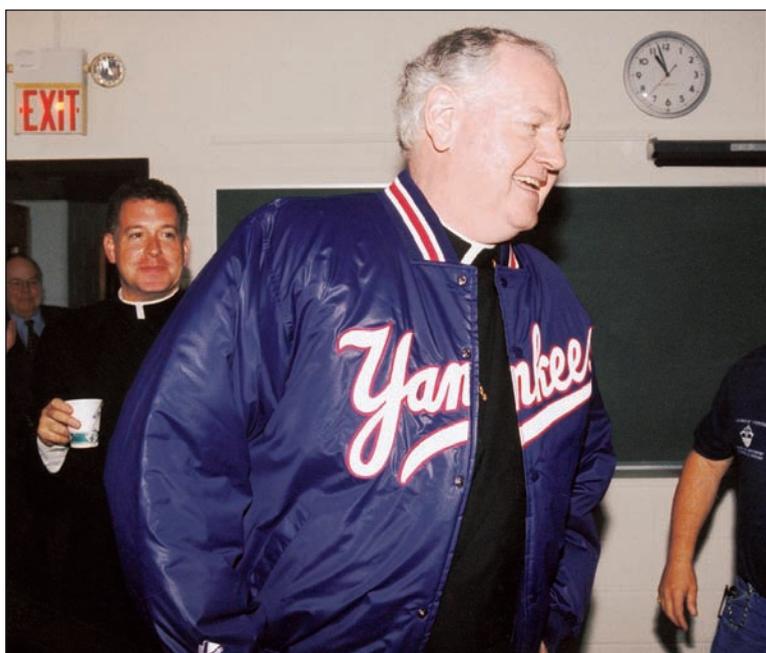


Photo by John Glover

**Msgr. William Scheyd**  
Vicar General

“Cardinal Edward Egan was an outstanding leader of the Catholic Church. He was not afraid to take difficult positions when needed but didn’t want to hurt another person just for the sake of offending. My personal relationship with him revealed a very sensitive man who deeply cared about the Church and those entrusted to his care.

I personally think that he had a special love for the Diocese of Bridgeport and enjoyed coming back whenever he was invited. We will miss his wisdom and his great example as a man of the Church and a man of profound faith.”

**Msgr. Stephen DiGiovanni**  
Pastor, Basilica of St. John the Evangelist

“Cardinal Egan was a fine priest. He loved the Church greatly: being familiar with the Church’s long, rich and sometimes troubled history, he dedicated his life, not to an “institution,” but to the individual real-time persons who made up the Church during his own lifetime.

He was a brilliant, supremely talented man, with a sense of humor and warmth that attracted many to the Church. He was the best priest I have ever known.”

# Remembering a friend Local Tributes

“It is with great sadness that we learned about the death of His Eminence, Edward Cardinal Egan, Archbishop Emeritus of the Archdiocese of New York.

Egan was the Third Bishop of Bridgeport, serving in that capacity from 1988 to 2000. His Eminence was a good friend and mentor to me as he was to our priests, particularly the many who were ordained by him.

Cardinal Egan’s years of pastoral care for our diocese extended well beyond his time as Bishop of Bridgeport. It was only a few weeks ago that Archbishop Egan was present at Msgr. Bill Scheyd’s 50th Ordination Anniversary Mass, and just this past summer the Cardinal joined us in celebrating that day, 25 years ago, when he founded St. John Fisher Seminary.

Next month the Cardinal was to join us to help launch our new initiatives in Catholic education and conclude our fundraising for the new St. John Fisher Seminary. Now, instead, we pray for the repose of his soul and give thanks for what God has done for the Diocese of Bridgeport and the Church universal through the ministry of Cardinal Egan.”

*Frank J. Caggiano*

Most Rev. Frank J. Caggiano  
Fifth Bishop of Bridgeport



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CELEBRATING THE LIFE  
OF CARDINAL EGAN**

ON SATURDAY, MAY 16, 2015  
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AT ST. AUGUSTINE CATHEDRAL  
BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT

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IN THE HOLINESS OF TRUTH

**John Glover**  
Photographer

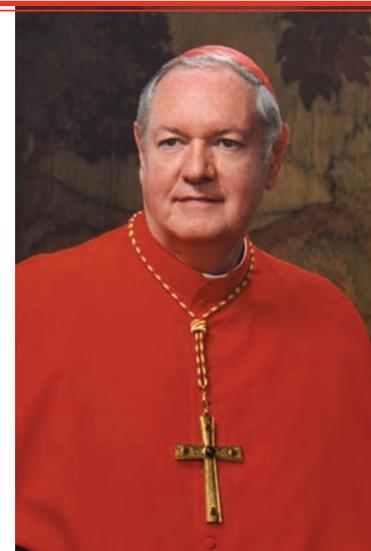
“I photographed Cardinal Egan dozens of times over several years prior to his assignment in New York. He always addressed me as “Mr. Photographer” during our brief interactions—he would let me know that he was ready by saying “I’m smiling.”

One day after a Mass and celebration honoring religious, he appeared at my elbow and asked that I join him at his table for lunch. This was the first of many opportunities I had to speak more than a quick greeting to this seemingly infinitely busy man. I was honored to be asked to photograph all of his public and private activities at the consistory in Rome in 2001, and over the following years greatly admired his great intellect, his good humor, his absolute passion for and focus on the Church, his life as a priest, and the great joy this life gave him.”

**Dr. Joseph McAleer**  
Former Editor  
Fairfield County Catholic

“Cardinal Egan was a towering intellect who never forgot that a principal duty of the Catholic priest is to teach and impart the faith. He was a gifted preacher and writer, with a style akin to storytelling, profound yet approachable. In one of his many columns written for *Fairfield County Catholic*, he sounded a clarion call to young people about to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation: “*What would happen if the thousands who are confirmed were to leave their parish churches and march into the world people of honor who never betray the truth; people of justice who never deny others their rights; people of purity who never forget they are images of divinity; people of charity who never turn their backs on those in need; people of prayer who never think of themselves as being out of the presence of their Creator?*”

“Onward, Christian witnesses,” he concluded. We honor the Cardinal’s memory by following his advice.”



**Ralph Lazzaro**  
Ad Manager  
Fairfield County Catholic

“Over the years Cardinal Egan, then Bishop Egan of the Diocese of Bridgeport, and I shared many meals together and had conversations usually centered on spirituality and the importance of family. He liked the fact that my wife, Ronnie, was a convert who became a parish secretary. He gave my son Nicholas the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Our friendship continued when he was elevated to Cardinal. He didn’t hesitate when I called and asked him if he would visit and pray with my wife and me on three separate occasions following surgery she had undergone at the Hospital for Special Surgery in Manhattan. He was always there for us.”

# Annual Catholic Appeal

## 'Snowbirds' support the appeal

By BRIAN D. WALLACE

NAPLES, Fla.—Bishop Frank J. Caggiano and members of the diocesan development office made their annual "Snowbird" trek to the sunshine state in late February to visit with area residents who winter in Florida and ask for their support for this year's Annual Catholic Appeal.

Though the temperature moved from the 40s into the 80s by the end of their four-day visit, it was a "working" holiday for the bishop—as well as a reprieve from the bitter Nutmeg State weather.

While Bishop Caggiano, Father Michael Jones, new vicar of development and stewardship, and William McLean, chief development officer, crisscrossed the state from East to West Coast to meet with donors, Pamela Rittman, director of the Annual Appeal, went to Naples to help prepare for the bishop's visit.

The centerpiece of the bishop's trip was the Mass at St. Agnes Church in Naples, followed by a reception in the parish center. The event was hosted by Naples residents Connie and Vincent Von Zwehl, who are also members of St. Pius X Parish in Fairfield.

More than 1,600 people filled the church to capacity to hear the bishop deliver the homily, in which he spoke about the strong formative influence of Catholic schools in preparing students for a faith-filled response to life's challenges.

After the Mass, more than 130 diocesan residents who spend part of the winter in Florida attended the reception to learn more about this year's Annual Catholic

him. They asked questions about the school, and even expressed their concern for the Newtown community," said Rittman. "The bishop was grateful for the warmth and hospitality extended by his host, and very moved by the joyous expression of faith on the part of the people of St. Agnes Parish."

Rittman said the Snowbird trip has become a yearly ritual that



A FLORIDA "SNOWBIRD," replete with tropical shirt, gets some "face-time" with Bishop Caggiano, who described his visit to the Sunshine State as a "huge success."

Appeal and the bishop's plans for the Church in Fairfield County.

"People were thrilled to meet the bishop. They lined up to greet

him and support the appeal. The bishop was introduced to the gathering by Msgr. Frank McGrath, former pastor of St. John Parish in Darien, who accepted an appointment as chaplain of Ave Maria Law School last September.

During the reception, guests were introduced to the new ACA video and brochure. The bishop then spoke and fielded questions. "The fact that the bishop was willing to come and seek out our folks, wherever we spend our winters, means a great deal. The appeal is an opportunity to aid our neighbors in an efficient, managed and compassionate way that is in direct keeping with our beliefs. It sends the message that we in the Diocese of Bridgeport 'take care of our own,'" said Connie Von Zwehl.

"We are very blessed to be able to spend part of the year in the beautiful community of Naples, along with many parishioners of the Diocese of Bridgeport. We are also very aware of the challenges in the communities in Fairfield County and the programs the



CONNIE AND VINNY VON ZWEHL HOSTED the Diocese of Bridgeport "Reunion 2015" in Naples, Florida.

diocese supports to help those in need, and the services that continue to promote the Gospel and care of our children, seminarians and priests," she said.

Von Zwehl added that many of those who attended the reception were impressed by the cost-cutting initiatives put in place by the bishop, who announced a \$500,000 reduction in the appeal goal, along with a plan for moving the St. John Fisher Seminary to Trumbull into the large structure that now serves as the bishop's residence.

"Many in attendance felt that this is an excellent case of thinking outside the box. The move makes good use of resources the diocese already has, and combined with the \$500,000 reduction in appeal expenses, it shows

a renewed effort to deal with our challenges," she said.

Among those at the reception was Msgr. Thomas Powers, who works in the Vatican Congregation for Bishops and is a priest of the Diocese of Bridgeport. While in Florida, Bishop Caggiano also met with Thomas Monaghan, founder of Domino's Pizza and chancellor of Ave Maria University.

"It's clear from follow-up comments we received that people were inspired by the bishop's visit and eager to participate in the appeal," said Rittman. "We're grateful that this exceptional group of people gives so generously."

(For more info, email: [2015ACA@diobpt.org](mailto:2015ACA@diobpt.org) or call: 203.416.1470. To give online, go to [www.2015ACAbridgeport.com](http://www.2015ACAbridgeport.com).)

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# Local News

## Six men instituted to the Ministry of Lector

BRIDGEPORT—Six men were instituted to the Ministry of Lector on February 14 at St. Patrick Church in Bridgeport. This is a major step toward their ordination to the permanent diaconate. Permanent deacons are ordained clergy who serve the Church with a wide range of liturgical and ministerial responsibilities.

The word “deacon” is derived from the Greek word *diákonos*, which means “minister,” or “messenger.” The office of permanent deacon traces its origins to the Acts of the Apostles: “So then, brothers, choose seven men among you who are known to be full of the Holy Spirit...” (Acts 6:3)

Deacons administer Baptism; witness and bless marriages; officiate at wakes, funerals and burial services; administer sacramentals and preside at prayer services. Deacons also distribute Holy Communion, proclaim the Gospel, preach the homily and assist at Mass. Their ministry involves service to the poor and marginalized and work with



BISHOP CAGGIANO WITH THE NEWLY instituted lectors: (l-r) Joseph Bukowski (St. Peter Parish, Danbury); Joe Loketar (St. Mark Parish, Stratford); David Rivera (St. Charles Borromeo Parish, Bridgeport); Joseph Huong (Cathedral Parish, Bridgeport); Vidal Castrillon (St. Charles Borromeo Parish, Bridgeport); William Keneally (St. Aloysius Parish, New Canaan).

youth, the elderly, and wherever else their skills are needed.

“Currently there are 22 men studying to become deacons for the Diocese of Bridgeport,” said Deacon Tony Detje, director of

deacons.

Deacon Detje explained that, in the Diocese of Bridgeport, men study for five and a half years before being ordained permanent deacons. “Preparation for

the permanent diaconate begins with a six-month period called Aspirancy. Once they are admitted as Candidates, the men spend a year in study and spiritual formation before being instituted to the Ministry of Lector. After two more years they are instituted to the Ministry of Acolyte, the final step before ordination.”

Six of the 22 men will be ordained deacons on June 13. Six men in the “Class of 2018” will be called to the Ministry of Acolyte in February, 2016. The ten men in the “Class of 2020” will be called to Candidacy sometime in the next 12-18 months.

“The six men to be instituted to the Ministry of Lector fully represent the Diocese of Bridgeport in its cultural, ethnic and economic diversity,” said Deacon Detje. Two are of

Hispanic backgrounds, one of Irish heritage, one was born in Vietnam. The class contains a CFO, a state policeman, and a man on permanent disability following a job accident. Geographically, they represent the three “corners” of the irregular triangle that forms Fairfield County. All the men are married; all have children.

Joseph and Coleen Bukowski are members of St. Peter Parish, Danbury; Vidal and Blanca Castrillon, St. Charles Borromeo Parish, Bridgeport; Joseph Huong and Thai-Van Nguyen, the Cathedral Parish, Bridgeport; William and Mary Karen Keneally, St. Aloysius Parish, New Canaan; Joseph and Lorene Loketar, St. Mark Parish, Stratford; David and Judy Rivera, St. Charles Borromeo Parish, Bridgeport. ■

## Appeal Heading toward Commitment Weekend

BRIDGEPORT—The 2015 Annual Catholic Appeal is now underway in the 82 parishes throughout the Diocese of Bridgeport. With the theme of “Building Communities of Faith,” the appeal has set an \$11 million goal to fund the major programs and ministries of the diocese.

“One of God’s greatest gifts to the Diocese of Bridgeport has been the clear and focused devotion to the mission of the Church and teaching of the Gospel by so many people in our parishes,” said Bishop Frank J. Caggiano at a series of receptions that have helped launch the appeal.

“I am thankful for the opportunity to express my personal gratitude for the material blessings that you faithfully provide to the Annual Catholic Appeal and to ask for your

continued support,” he added.

“Building Communities of Faith” reminds us that in everything we do, it is our calling to make the promise of salvation and God’s love known to all people of our diocese. Service to others is central to our Catholic identity and there is no greater feeling of satisfaction than when we gratefully open our hearts to the needs of others,” said the bishop.

William McLean, chief development officer of the diocese, said that individuals and families have already begun receiving appeal letters and return envelopes in the mail, and will also have an opportunity to give during the upcoming “Commitment Weekend” that will be held in parishes March 14-15 or 21-22, based on the determination of pastors.

While individuals are free

to mail in their pledge at any time or make a gift on line, McLean said the new Commitment Weekend will also give parishioners the opportunity to bring their envelopes and put them in the offertory collection.

Many parishes also participated in the recent Education Weekend, which previewed the new 2015 ACA video and also introduced the new lay co-chairs who are helping to lead the appeal in each parish.

McLean said this year’s goal is \$500,000 less than the 2014 appeal as a result of belt-tightening and cost saving measures implemented by the bishop and Catholic Center leadership. Last month the diocese announced it would have its first balanced budget in over ten years.

Pamela Rittman, director of  
▶ CONTINUED ON PAGE 11



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(203) 268-5574

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Assumption, Kings Highway  
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# Celebrations

## Vietnamese New Year honors family

BRIDGEPORT—Children, parents, grandparents, extended family and friends filled St. Augustine Cathedral on February 15 as Bishop Frank J. Caggiano joined the Vietnamese community in welcoming the Vietnamese New Year.

"This is the most important holiday of the year for our culture," says Father Augustine Nguyen, episcopal vicar for Vietnamese in the Diocese of Bridgeport. "It's a family-oriented celebration, a time to remember our ancestors and also a time for children to honor the sacrifices their parents have made for their well-being."

The Vietnamese New Year, in common with similar celebrations in China and in other Asian cultures, is based on the lunar/solar calendar. Officially named Tết Nguyên Đán "Feast of the First Morning of the First Day," the celebration usually continues for the better part of the week.

The Mass and reception at the Cathedral was held a few days before the actual start of the Lunar New Year, which fell on February 18, Ash Wednesday, this year.



DANCING DRAGONS ENLIVENED the Vietnamese New Year celebration at The Cathedral Parish. "This is the most important holiday of the year for our culture," said Father Augustine Nguyen, episcopal vicar for Vietnamese.

Preparation for the New Year may include energetically cleaning the house, preparing special holiday foods, buying new clothes for the children and giving them "lucky money."

Visiting relatives and close family friends is the most important aspect of the feast. "This is a time to honor parents and family and those who have gone before us," said Bishop Caggiano in his homily. "We pray for them, and they are certainly praying for us."

The bishop spoke of the devotion and strong faith of Vietnamese Catholics. He reminded the congregation of the dedication of parents who had

brought their children into the faith. "So now we gather before this altar, part of a wider family in God our father."

Last year, Father Nguyen spent the New Year holiday with his parents in Vietnam. "I was surrounded by flowers of every color, pink and red and yellow—everything you can think of. Today," he waved his hand toward the huge snowbanks outside, "we are surrounded by white 'flowers.'"

With a smile, he invited the bishop to observe next year's festival in Vietnam, where it celebrates the beginning of spring rather than the deep midwinter. The flower-filled altar, along with the lively pastels and deep hues of the women's "ao dai," the elegant traditional Vietnamese dress, recall the rich colors of the beginning of the spring season.

The reception following the Mass was enlivened by energetic dragons, special seasonal food, and award-winning young dancers. The Vietnamese Eucharistic Youth group, over 100 youngsters, teens and young adults, were fresh from a competition including the entire Northeast, from Buffalo to New York City and east to Maine. Every group performed a dance with a Lunar New Year theme in a combination of traditional and modern music.

The group from St. Augustine had received four out of the five first-place trophies for their dance: people choice, best costume design, best choreography, and first place overall. Their energy and enthusiasm warmed the winter day, replacing the deep cold outside with the promise of springtime to come. ■

## Parade honors Irish faith and heritage

BRIDGEPORT—The Great Bridgeport St. Patrick's Day Celebration has selected Ted Lovely, a member of Christ the King Parish in Trumbull, as the 2015 parade Grand Marshal. Msgr. Chris Walsh, pastor of St. Joseph Parish in Shelton, is this year's chaplain. The parade kicks off from Bridgeport's Harbor Yard at 12 noon on March 17.

Both men have strong ties to the "Ould Sod," Irish-speak for the Old Country, their ancestral homeland. It is more than their heritage' both have visited Ireland a number of times.

"My father was not only a recent immigrant from Ireland but also an employee for 20 years of the government-sponsored Irish Tourist Board," says Msgr. Walsh, whose American-born mother is also of Irish descent. "St. Patrick's Day always played a huge role in the life of our family."

"There was a lot of 'Irish' in my house growing up," says Ted Lovely, a Bridgeport native. "My grandfather was a police-



TED LOVELY

man here in Bridgeport, and I can remember going to the Hibernian Communion Breakfast with my father and grandfather when I was growing up." Now his son, sons-in-law and grandsons are Hibernians. Two of his grandchildren have been altar servers of the Communion Breakfast Mass.

Grand Marshals are chosen not only for their Irish background but for their involvement in the Irish community in

the Bridgeport area. Lovely is a Eucharistic Minister at Christ the King, and he has been a member of the John F. Kennedy Division of the Ancient Order of Hibernians for many years, serving as financial secretary for five years and president for two years. A longtime member of the Gaelic American Club, he has had a leading role in the annual Commodore Barry Day held annually in Southport for the last eight years.

An educator in the Trumbull school system, Lovely was principal of Trumbull High, curriculum director and interim assistant school superintendent. He served as the principal of St. Theresa School in Trumbull for four years.

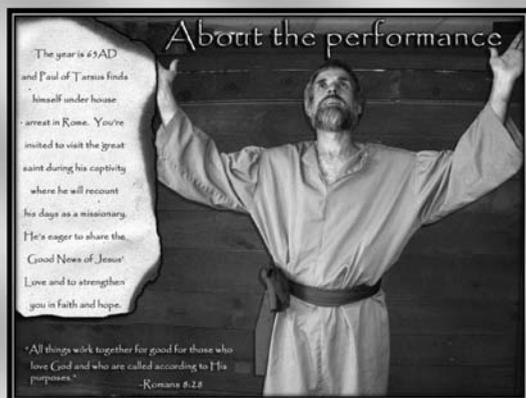
He and his wife, Nancy (who calls herself "honorary Irish"), have been members of the Greater Bridgeport St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee for 10 years. The couple have six children and 15 grandchildren. All of his chil-

► CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

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March 2015

# Local News

## Bishop Caggiano returns to social media

By JOHN GROSSO

Bishop Frank J. Caggiano returned to Twitter and Facebook last month, posting reflections, quotes, and events he attended.

After a short message indicating the activity of his pages, Bishop Caggiano wasted no time, posting well-received reflections on Ash Wednesday, Service, Temptation, and Suffering. He also reflected on the Gospel readings of each weekend in Lent.

The bishop also posted a link to a homily videotaped at the Catholic Center on Ash Wednesday, and messages inviting members of the diocese to

download the new mobile app.

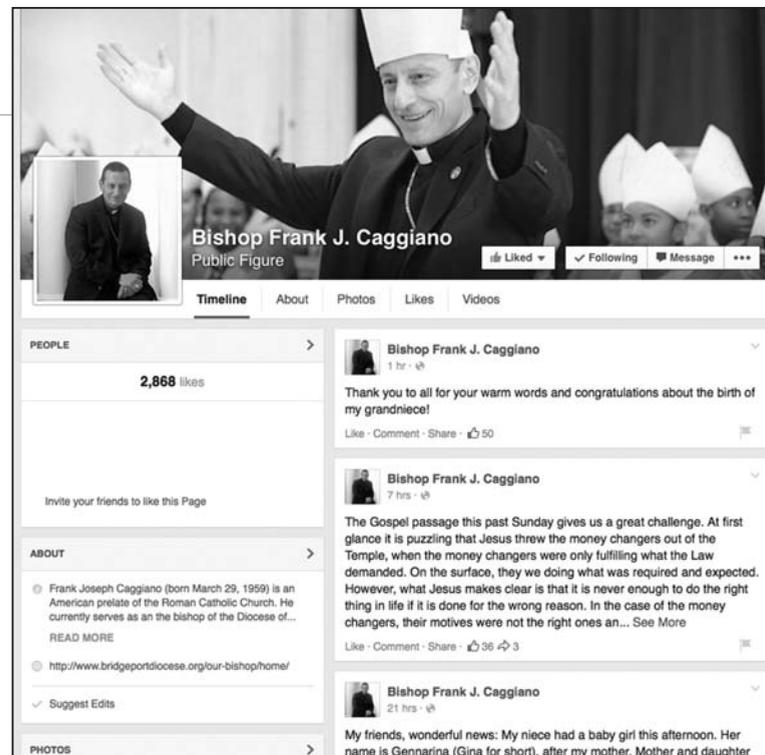
Launched on February 15, the new diocesan app has been warmly received throughout the diocese of Bridgeport. Catholics across the diocese have downloaded the app, available for iPhone and Android, and content continues to be fresh and diverse.

The favorite features of the app include the "Youth" section, which allows the younger members of the diocese to find events, mission trips, youth group meetings, and more. Included in the Youth section is a section where users can "Ask the Bishop" questions about their faith. Each question submitted has received a detailed response

from Bishop Caggiano.

Two other features receiving positive feedback are the "Bishop Caggiano" tab and the "Catholic Life" section. Both give users access to videos, photos and homilies, which help them engage with their faith in new and exciting ways.

Improvements continue to be made to the app, with a large update launched at the end of February. The update adds compatibility with daily audio and video reflections, as well as dedicated tabs for Prayer and Bible Studies. Going forward, sections will be added and expanded, including a section for pictures from across the diocese and one



for evangelization.

The app will continue to be updated frequently to bring the best and most relevant content to all who use it.

*(Bishop Caggiano can be found by searching for Bishop Frank J. Caggiano on Facebook or @ BishopCaggiano on Twitter. His pages are updated frequently.)*

## Two Catholic educators retire

STAMFORD—Trinity Catholic High School President Tony Pavia has resigned his post at Trinity and has agreed to serve as interim principal at Stamford High School, which has been reeling from a recent scandal that has seen both of its top administrators removed.

Sister Mary Grace Walsh, ASCJ, Ph.D., diocesan superintendent of schools, accepted his resignation effective February 13, 2015, after he was asked by Stamford officials to steer the public high school through the crisis. Pavia had been the principal of Stamford High from 1996-2002.

"Many people know that Stamford High School is at a difficult juncture after some very negative incidents that have been widely reported in the media. Tony has the gifts and skills to lead the school and bring the stability it needs," she said, adding that the diocese realizes that strengthening the local community helps all the young people in the area.

"We fully understand why Tony feels compelled to accept this new challenge. He has assured us that he will continue to advocate for his alma mater—especially in the areas which have been important to him during his tenure as principal and president."

Pavia is a 1972 graduate of Stamford Catholic High School



TONY PAVIA

(now Trinity Catholic) and a 37-year education professional who was named principal of Trinity in March 2011.

"Tony came to Trinity at the invitation of Bishop William E. Lori when the school was suffering from the sudden passing of two beloved administrators. A highly skilled principal, he was able to stabilize the school by his charismatic personality, academic knowledge and building expertise," Sister Mary Grace said.

Working with the School Advisory Board, Pavia developed a comprehensive needs assessment of the campus and developed the preliminary plans for school improvements. Those improvements have already begun to bear fruit during this school year.



KENNETH MAYO

Pavia will begin work at Stamford High School on February 23.

TRUMBULL—Kenneth Mayo, principal of St. Joseph High School since 2008, announced to the faculty that he would be retiring at the end of the school year. He has served the community on Huntington Turnpike as religion teacher, football coach, department head, dean of students, and principal over the course of a 38-year career.

Much of the history of the school occurred during his tenure. Mayo worked with Brother Edward Caffery, first principal of the co-educational facility; Father Robert Karpinski; Msgr. Richard Shea; Brother Shane Burke; Father Ray Petrucci; Richard Bishop; Dr. Matthew Kenny; and currently Dr.

William Fitzgerald. On reflection though, he would attribute most of his professional skills to the influence of assistant principal Sister Catherine Fanning.

Ken Mayo and his wife, Jeannie, saw their two sons, Sean and Kevin, graduate from St Joe's. Bridgeport born and raised, he attended St. Ambrose School and Harding High in Bridgeport, went to Fairfield University, and received his master's degree from Sacred Heart University before going to St Joe's. He has been in and around the classrooms ever since, and the numerous alumni that happily recall his guidance and encouragement are a testament to his durable legacy. "Ken

embodies our school motto: Privilege and Responsibility," said Dr. Fitzgerald. "Ken is always focused on the outcome, on the character formation of our graduates. It has been a pleasure to work with him, and an education. He has taught me what makes St. Joe's special. That's the people. I thank him, on their behalf, for a lifetime of service. He is St Joe's."

*(St. Joseph High School, a premier college preparatory school, provides a learning environment that embraces Gospel values and promotes a commitment to family and community. For more info, contact Dana Christos: 203.378.9378, ext. 306, or dchristos@sjcadets.org.)*

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## Parish News

St. Catherine's sees  
a change of leadership

TRUMBULL—Msgr. Richard J. Shea retired as pastor of St. Catherine of Siena Parish in Trumbull on January 15. He will be succeeded by Father Joseph Marcello.

"It's good for the parish to have young blood come in but for me, leaving is a mixed bag—it's good and it's bad at the same time," Msgr. Shea says. "It's the human dimension that matters most. People I saw every day or every week, I won't see them in the same way now. They'll be there for me, but not in the same way."

Richard Shea was born in Elmhurst, Queens, N.Y., on April 25, 1936. After graduating from Bishop Loughlin High School in Brooklyn, he entered St. John's University, also located in Brooklyn at that time. He completed his theological studies at the Seminary of Our Lady of Angels, Niagara University, N.Y., and was ordained by Bishop (later Cardinal) Lawrence J. Shehan in St. Augustine Cathedral on May 20, 1961.

After a summer assignment at St. John the Evangelist Parish in Stamford, he was appointed to the faculty of the recently-established Notre Dame Catholic High School. He joined St. Joseph High School in Trumbull in 1966,

and was a priest in residence at St. Catherine's while working at both schools.

While on the staff of St. Joseph's, he served as a teacher, guidance director, and chaplain. In 1972 he became coach of cross country, indoor, and outdoor track. For the next 10 years, he produced MBIAC and state championship teams. In 1976 he became principal of St. Joseph's.

On February 15, 1986, he was named a Chaplain of His Holiness Pope John Paul II, with the title of Monsignor.

Msgr. Shea watched St. Catherine's grow over the years. He was appointed pastor on July 1, 1991, and began a program of renewal for the parish's physical plant. The church was renovated and both the Halloran Pastoral Center and the McClinch Family Center were constructed. The Family Center has proved an asset to the entire diocese.

The reception following the installation of Bishop Frank J. Caggiano was held there, and the Family Center is currently hosting the General Sessions of the Fourth Diocesan Synod.

His years at St. Catherine's were happy and fulfilling ones, and he is particularly pleased by the way the Family Center has proved to be an asset. "It has

become not just something for our parish, but something valuable for the whole diocese."

**Father Joseph Marcello**

Father Joseph Marcello, former priest-secretary to Archbishop William E. Lori and vice chancellor of the Diocese of Bridgeport, is St. Catherine's new pastor.

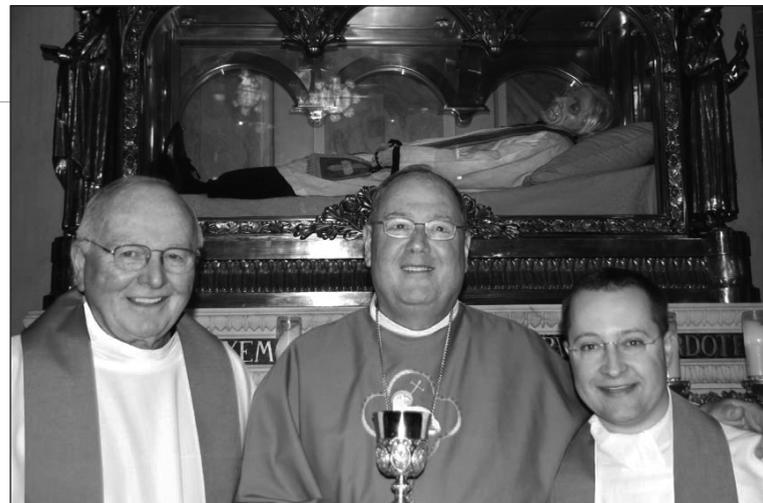
A native of Monroe, Father Marcello graduated from St. Joseph High School in 1994 and from Fairfield University in 1998 with a B.A. in religion. After entering St. John Fisher Residence, he completed his theology degree at Mount St. Mary Seminary in Emmitsburg, MD, in 2003.

He was ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Lori on May 17, 2003, at St. Theresa Church in Trumbull.

Father Marcello's first assignment was as parochial vicar at St. Joseph Parish in Shelton. While at St. Joseph, he also served as assistant director of vocations. He retained that position when he became spiritual director of St. Joseph High School in Trumbull in 2005.

During his four years at St. Joe's he resided in St. Catherine's. In many ways it became his home parish.

He was appointed priest-secretary to Bishop Lori in May 2009.



ON A PILGRIMAGE to mark the Year for Priests, Msgr. Richard Shea (l), pastor of St. Catherine of Siena Parish in Trumbull, joined Archbishop Timothy Dolan of New York and Father Joseph Marcello in a visit to the village of Ars, France, to honor St. John Vianney, the patron saint of priests. Msgr. Shea recently retired; Father Marcello is St. Catherine's new pastor.

He assisted in Archbishop Lori's transition to the Archdiocese of Baltimore, returning in 2014 as parochial vicar at St. Catherine.

"I am grateful to Bishop Caggiano for his confidence in me, in entrusting to me the pastoral care of the parishioners of St. Catherine of Siena as the fifth pastor of this beautiful parish," he says. "St. Catherine's has long held a special place in my heart, from the time I was a student at the school, where I first sensed

God was calling me to the sacred priesthood. I pray that as I begin my time among the good people of the parish, we may together build upon all the good work which was begun here through the fine priestly ministry of Msgr. Edward Halloran, the founding pastor of the parish, and continued during the pastorate of Msgr. Richard Shea, to whom I owe such gratitude for his generous, paternal care of those in this beautiful area of our diocese." ■

## ST. PATRICK'S DAY FROM PAGE 8

dren and most of his grandchildren will attend this year's events.

Lovely has marched with the Hibernians in Bridgeport's Parade every year. "Usually I walk it. This year, I ride," he says with a laugh.

The St. Patrick's Day festivities in Bridgeport begin with Mass at St. Augustine Cathedral at 8 am. Msgr. Walsh will celebrate the Mass, as he does every year. "For me, a big part of my Irish heritage is the heritage of faith passed on to me by my parents," he says. "I always impress on people the enormous religious, as well as the cultural, significance of St. Patrick's Day."

Msgr. Walsh and Grand Marshal Lovely will be joined at the Mass and throughout the day by the "Shamrocks" and their court. Mr. and Miss Shamrock are high school seniors chosen for their knowledge of family traditions, Irish history, their involvement in the community and their interests and activities.

This year's Miss Shamrock is Emily Devine from Fairfield Ludlowe High School in Fairfield, a member of St. Pius X Parish. Mr. Shamrock is Ian McLevy, who comes from Trumbull High School and is a member of Trumbull Congregational Church. Miss Shamrock runner-up is Katherine O'Rourke from Sacred Heart Academy in Hamden, who belongs to St. Lawrence Parish in Shelton; Mr. shamrock runner-up is Owen Mockler from Fairfield Ludlowe, a parishioner at St. Anthony of Padua Parish in Fairfield.

The Shamrocks will do the readings at the opening Mass and participate at all events during the day.

From the open procession of the Mass, through the flag-raising at City Hall with Mayor Bill Finch and the festivities and reception at the Bridgeport Holiday Inn, the entire city will be Irish for the day.

It's a great day for the Irish and, as Msgr. Walsh reminds all of them, the day starts by honoring their Catholic faith.

(For more info, visit [www.stpatricksdaysbridgeport.com](http://www.stpatricksdaysbridgeport.com) or on Facebook: St. Patrick's Day Bridgeport. For reservations to the Grand Marshal's Breakfast or the luncheon, contact Marilyn Mitchell: 203.261.4767 or Patty McDonnell: 203.366.2717.) ■

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# Legislative News

## 'Don't Jump' campaign supports life

HARTFORD—"Don't Jump" is the rallying cry of a new media campaign that has been launched to challenge proposed legislation that would make it legal for a doctor to prescribe medication to end someone's life in Connecticut. The campaign's message aims to urge state legislators and residents against rushing to a decision about physician-assisted suicide without knowing all the facts and weighing the options.

The campaign includes print, radio and digital advertising, as well as transit posters, and is sponsored by the Connecticut Catholic Public Affairs Conference. "Don't Jump" is also supported by many health-care and disability organizations, including the Connecticut State Medical Society, Connecticut Hospice, Second Thoughts, Not Dead Yet, and Office of Protection and Advocacy for Persons with Disability.

"Don't Jump" also features a new website, [www.DontJump.org](http://www.DontJump.org), which provides the latest facts and figures about physician-assisted suicide and addresses the benefits of palliative care for people with serious illnesses. In addition, the site offers expert video testimony by medical professionals such as Dr. Joseph Andrews, chief medical officer for the Connecticut Hospice, and

allows visitors to sign an online petition opposing physician-assisted suicide or send emails directly to their elected officials.

"We want people to get all the facts before making a rash decision on physician-assisted suicide," said Michael Culhane, executive director of the Connecticut Catholic Public Affairs Conference. "We are compassionate and care deeply for the needs of patients and their families. We're telling them that we want them to live out their final days in comfort—and with true compassion and dignity. We urge everyone, especially overwhelmed legislators, to approach this issue very carefully. Or, better yet, decide not to even pursue debate until more is understood about palliative care."

Physician-assisted suicide occurs when a doctor writes a prescription for a patient who has a terminal illness and is told they have only six months or less to live. The patient then must have the prescription filled at a local pharmacy and self-administer the drug. A physician or health care professional cannot administer the drug, and patients must consume the medication themselves.

Currently, three states, Oregon (1994), Washington (2008) and Vermont (2013), have statutes providing for physician-assisted suicide.

The goal of the "Don't Jump" campaign is to educate the public about viable alternatives, including the ever-advancing practice of palliative care, which is specialized medical care for people with serious illnesses. Many people don't fully understand that physician-assisted suicide is an irrational, often hastily-made decision. With viable alternatives, such as palliative care, people have options when confronted with a serious illness. Palliative care focuses on providing patients with relief from the symptoms and stress of a serious illness, as well as improving quality of life for both the patient and the family.

"Palliative care is a team approach to meeting the needs of a patient," said Dr. Andrews. "The public should be assured that they can avoid suffering with palliative care. The ethics of it is that we will medicate to relieve your suffering and your pain; our aim here is to relieve discomfort and not to kill. We need to move for wider acceptance of palliative care because that is the answer. Good laws tend to encourage decent behavior. Physician-assisted suicide seems to go in the opposite direction."

In 2013, Governor Dannel Malloy appointed Dr. Andrews to the Connecticut Palliative



Care Advisory Council. This council was established by law (Public Act 13-55) to analyze the current state of palliative care in Connecticut and advise the Connecticut Department of Public Health on matters relating to the improvement of palliative care and the quality of life for persons with serious or chronic

illnesses. The council will provide findings and recommendations concerning these matters to the commissioner of public health and committees of the legislature in 2015.

(For more info, contact Saverio Mancini at [Cashman+Katz: 860.430.2210](mailto:Cashman+Katz:860.430.2210) or [saveriom@cashman-katz.com](mailto:saveriom@cashman-katz.com).)

### APPEAL FROM PAGE 7

the Annual Catholic Appeal, said that "Building Communities of Faith," the theme of this year's campaign, reflects the work of Synod 2014, now underway to plan for the future of the diocese.

"Through the synod, the bishop has challenged us to make

launched with a series of receptions in which donors previewed the new appeal video, were introduced to the new chair couple, Rowan and Julie Taylor of New Canaan, and heard a brief talk by the bishop.

The appeal serves as the

donors find inspiration in these words of the Holy Father, Pope Francis: "To live charitably means not looking out for our own interests, but carrying the burdens of the weakest and poorest among us."

Donors can make a single gift or consider the pledge plan. Pledging will allow a greater sacrifice by extending the payment of the gift through December 31, 2015. Checks may be made payable to the Annual Bishop's Appeal, and a credit card gift may be payable online or by pledge card. All gifts will be acknowledged by the diocese and are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

(For more info, email [2015ACA@diobpt.org](mailto:2015ACA@diobpt.org) or call 203.416.1470. Give online at [www.2015ACAbridgeport.com](http://www.2015ACAbridgeport.com).)



the diocese more welcoming, to renew liturgy and worship, revitalize Catholic education and engage in the work of evangelization. The appeal supports all of these goals," she said.

This year's appeal was

primary means of funding for numerous diocesan ministries and offices that sponsor religious, humanitarian and educational programs to those in need from all walks of life.

Rittman said she hopes that



MOST REVEREND FRANK J. CAGGIANO, BISHOP OF BRIDGEPORT  
CORDIALLY INVITES MEMBERS  
OF THE  
HEALTHCARE PROFESSION AND THEIR GUESTS  
TO THE  
TWENTY-SECOND ANNUAL DIOCESAN WHITE MASS  
**SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 2015 AT 8:30 A.M.**  
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PRINCIPAL CELEBRANT AND HOMILIST  
MOST REVEREND FRANK J. CAGGIANO

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GUEST SPEAKER AT THE BREAKFAST  
REVEREND KEVIN T. FITZGERALD, S.J., PH.D., PH.D.  
DR. DAVID P. LAULER CHAIR IN CATHOLIC HEALTHCARE ETHICS  
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TOPIC:  
**GENETICS IN THE 21ST CENTURY- PROMISES AND PITFALLS  
FROM A CATHOLIC PERSPECTIVE**

PRESENTATION OF THE FATHER RUFIN COMPASSIONATE CARE AWARD  
IN MEMORY OF FR. RUFIN KUVEIKIS, O.F.M. CAP.  
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## St. Vincent's Medical Center

## Workplace Spirituality expresses core values

By PAT HENNESSY

How can you define workplace spirituality? At St. Vincent's Medical Center in Bridgeport, the answer to that question is always a work in progress, founded on the core values of the Daughters of Charity but adjusting to the rhythms of the liturgical year, the needs of the staff and the connection to the surrounding community.

"When people come to St. Vincent's, they're looking for more than clinical excellence," says Lucinda Ames, coordinator of Workplace Spirituality for St. Vincent's. "They want to know, 'Do they care about me as a human being?'"

Building a culture of caring is one of the aims of the Workplace Spirituality mission, which is founded on the values the Daughters of Charity brought to St. Vincent's in 1903: Reverence, Creativity, Wisdom, Service to the Poor, Integrity and Dedication. Ames is the first lay person to hold the coordinator's position since the Daughters of Charity concluded their service at St. Vincent's and "passed the flame" officially in May of 2014.

She is uniquely qualified for her current position. Not only was she born in St. Vincent's, she started working there as a Candy Striper at age 14 and has maintained a close relationship with the Medical Center ever since.

Workplace Spirituality runs as part of Mission Services of St. Vincent's. "Mission is one of our core elements," explains Bill Hoey, director of Mission and Ethics. "Our values are lived out in every decision we make. It's part and parcel of who we are as a full ministry of the Church."

Workplace Spirituality functions to connect staff to the mission—to give them the opportunity to deepen their own spiritual life but also to connect them to the wider community St. Vincent's serves. "I know the depth of generosity of our staff, and their dedication," says Ames. "People here are faith-filled and mission-driven."

She cites the full boxes of gifts



POSTERS IN EVERY ELEVATOR at St. Vincent's Medical Center invite staff and visitors to deepen their faith during the season of Lent. At any time of year, Director of Mission and Ethics Bill Hoey and Coordinator of Workplace Spirituality Lucinda Ames encourage ways to express the core values brought to St. Vincent's by the Daughters of Charity.

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collected for the poor during the Christmas season, the staff's enthusiastic participation in free health screenings to the underserved at area soup kitchens and food pantries, and their willingness to talk to high school students during tours, which encourage teens to consider the possibility of healthcare as a vocation.

During the tours, students can clearly see the Catholic nature of St. Vincent's, and the importance of the faith dimension is made even more clear in discussions. "It's important to have a Catholic perspective presented to them," says Hoey. "High school kids are fascinated when we introduce them to the ethical, moral and religious dimensions of health care."

The Catholic presence is immediately obvious. The daily Mass schedule is posted in every elevator, along with the number for the chaplain's office, and a broadcast

of the Mass is available in every room. During Lent, the opportunity for Eucharistic Adoration is posted as well; a sign-up sheet in the chapel shows how much the staff appreciates the opportunity. Mission Services developed a prayer booklet, "Journey Through Lent With Saint Vincent," to enhance the spiritual life of staff, patients and visitors.

Throughout the year, St. Vincent's offers a number of activities to express and deepen the life of the spirit. In midsummer, an Interfaith Memorial Service to remember deceased loved ones is sponsored by SWIM Across the Sound. Before Thanksgiving, "Bread & Blessings," with fresh-baked rolls and prayers offered by staff members in different languages, reminds them of their strong community of different backgrounds and faith traditions. The generosity flows both

ways. Recently second-graders at Greens Farms Academy in Westport created individual teddy bears. Ames, who has been building stronger bonds with parishes, schools and organizations in the wider Bridgeport area, was present at a ceremony where students donated 80 bears to children in the Medical Center.

"When they're nervous, we'll have something we can give them," said Cathy Marino, an E.R. technician, when Ames showed her the bears. "Then, maybe, they won't be so scared if they have to come back."

Listening, bringing people together, establishing relationships, giving them the opportunity to express and deepen their spiritual life—all these and so much more are part of Ames' efforts. "Right now we're hoping to create a little book of stories of the way staff have shown their care," she says. "We have a security guard who shoveled a patient's driveway. There's no way that was part of his job. An aide brought a comfort cart of soda and cookies for kids who were here while a family member was dying. Staff members found a reliable car for a grandma who became caregiver for three young children when their mother had cancer.

(A member of Ascension Health, St. Vincent's Health Services includes the Medical Center, Hall-Brooke Behavioral Health Services, St. Vincent's College, Special Needs Services and Urgent Care Walk-in Centers. For more information, go to [www.stvincents.org](http://www.stvincents.org).)



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# Diocesan News

## Fairfield man to lead new diocesan real estate office

BRIDGEPORT—Andrew Schulz of Fairfield has been named real estate director of the Diocese of Bridgeport by Bishop Frank J. Caggiano. The appointment was effective January 12.

“Andrew brings to the diocese a wealth of real estate knowledge and financial expertise, coming to us with more than 15 years of construction and property management and real estate development experience,” said Bishop Frank J. Caggiano. “He will be tasked with the coordination of all real estate transactions as well as direct all facilities project work throughout the diocese.”

Schulz comes to the Catholic Center after serving as president of Schulz Development Group, Inc. He founded the company in 2002 to specialize in construction management, property management and general contracting for commercial and residential development, fit-outs and restorations.

The newly-created position oversees all rentals, lease renewals, and construction projects including the Queen of the Clergy expansion in Stamford and the proposed relocation of the St. John Fisher Seminary Residence to Trumbull.

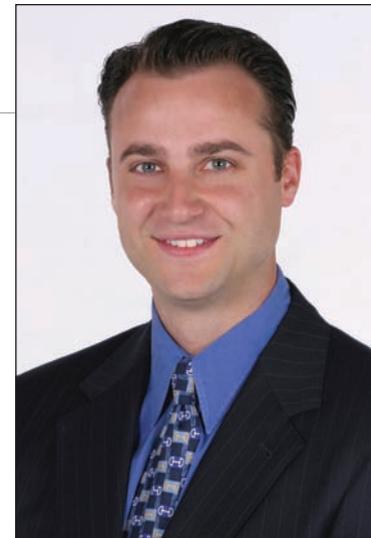
Schulz will inventory all diocesan

real estate holdings and create a comprehensive review of deferred maintenance needs. He will also be responsible for the creation or renewal of leases, proposed sale of diocesan real estate and management of assets within the diocese. He will work with the bishop; Anne McCrory, chief legal and real estate officer; Mike Hanlon, the CFO; the Real Estate Advisory Commission; and Sacred Arts and Building Commission to provide assistance with all parish-based real estate transactions.

In the past, Schulz has served as director of development for Blue Diamond Group Corp,

New York, N.Y., where he managed property acquisition, planning, zoning, development and construction for the company, specializing in owner’s representation, construction management, and facilities. He has also served as senior associate managing partner of Wood Rich Building Group, Inc., in Ambler, Penn., and as senior associate at Landmark Development Inc. / The Loft, in New York.

He is a graduate of Baruch College, the City University of New York, where he earned a B.B.A. in finance. He is a licensed Connecticut realtor,



ANDREW SCHULZ

licensed Pennsylvania realtor, Connecticut/New York/Pennsylvania home improvement contractor and salesperson, and a New York City construction superintendent.

He and his wife, Risa, and their children are members of St. Thomas Aquinas Parish in Fairfield.



**St. Vincent's extends its wishes for a happy, healthy and holy Easter!**

**St. Vincent's**  
Health Services

## Sacred Heart University

**CAPP Communion Breakfast at SHU**

FAIRFIELD—The Seventh Annual Centesimus Annus Pro Pontifice (CAPP) Educators' Communion Breakfast will take place at Sacred Heart University on Sunday, March 22. The keynote speaker will be Mother Dolores Hart, O.S.B. This annual event is sponsored by CAPP and Sacred Heart University's Isabelle Farrington College of Education.

The Mass will take place at 9 am in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit, followed by breakfast in the university commons. A tour of the Chapel of the Holy Spirit will be offered at 8:30 am, and a book signing, with copies of Hart's book available to purchase, will take place at noon.

Mother Dolores is a Benedictine nun at the Abbey of Regina Laudis in Bethlehem, Conn. During her seven-year career in film and on Broadway, she starred in 10 films, most notably opposite Elvis Presley in "Loving You" and "King Creole" and Stephen Boyd in "Lisa," the story of a survivor of the Auschwitz concentration camp. She then took on Broadway, starring in "The Pleasure of His Company" in 1959, for which she won a Tony Award nomination for Best Featured Actress.

Her radical choice to enter a cloistered Abbey at the height of her career in 1963 at first shocked and then inspired those

who admired her as an actress and as a public figure. In collaboration with actors such as Academy Award winner Patricia Neal, she founded The Gary-The Olivia Theater at the Abbey in 1982. Since 2001 she has been a voting member of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. She is the recipient of two honorary doctorates: in jurisprudence from Fairfield University and in fine arts from Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles.

The HBO documentary film, "God is the Bigger Elvis," about Mother Dolores' life was nominated for a 2012 Academy Award in the Documentary Short category.



**MOTHER DOLORES HART, OSB**

Her autobiography, *The Ear of the Heart: An Actress' Journey from Hollywood to Holy Vows*, was

released in 2013 and is now in its third printing. Since 1970, Mother Dolores has been the dean of Education at Regina Laudis.

During the breakfast, CAPP will honor Father William Sangiovanni as Educator of the Year. Sangiovanni, who served as SHU's director of campus ministry from 1986-91, is in his 35th year at Notre Dame Catholic High School in Fairfield, currently in the role of president. His previous religious work experience includes serving as parochial vicar at St. Patrick Parish in Bridgeport and in the ministry at the Bridgeport Correctional Facility for 12 years.

Father Sangiovanni has earned

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# Mother Dolores Hart

extensive government experience on both the state and federal levels. He was appointed by Governor Lowell Weicker to the State of Connecticut Ethics Commission in 1991 and elected chairman of that body in 1994. He also served as assistant to U.S. Congressman Stewart

McKinney's director of field operations and campaigns from 1970-75, and from 1969-70 he was special assistant to the minority leader for the Connecticut General Assembly. As founder of Appalachia Volunteers, Father Sangiovanni has done extensive service work in that region of the country. He has

worked as a teacher and chaplain at the Kentucky State Penitentiary in Frenchburg and served as a recruiter and association director of the Glenmary Lay Mission Program in Frenchburg. He has also lived and worked on a Sioux Indian Reservation in Pine Ridge, S.D., through the Holy Rosary

Mission. He earned his bachelor's degree in history and a Master's degree in education at Fairfield University prior to completing graduate studies in theology at Niagara University in New York. CAPP was founded in 1993 to encourage business people, aca-

demics and other professionals to study and promote Catholic social teaching. The Diocese of Bridgeport is one of three pioneering dioceses in the United States to establish a chapter. (To register for the Communion Breakfast, call 203.396.8201 or go to [www.sacredheart.edu/CAPP2015](http://www.sacredheart.edu/CAPP2015).)



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## EDITORIAL

## Not reasonable

"Resurrexit sicut dixit—Alleluia!" proclaims the Easter hymn: "He is risen as he said!" The Apostles didn't seem to have had the slightest clue that Jesus would rise from the dead. He was a charismatic preacher, a healer, a wonder-worker, but they fled from him during his darkest moment.

We haven't changed all that much over the centuries. Jesus...yes, he was a good man. Follow his teachings and you will be a kinder, more compassionate person. Studies prove that church-goers have better mental health—as if faith were simply a prescription or set of guidelines for a good balanced life.

The Resurrection overturns all that. Christians aren't set aside simply to be good and kindly people, important as that is—the Easter mystery offers us far greater life. We are called to believe that Jesus was sent by God to take on all our sins, give his life for us—and triumph over both sin and death.

Belief in the Resurrection isn't reasonable. It doesn't call for right thinking or right behavior. It demands faith in a person, Jesus, who said he would conquer death for all of us. And he did.

## Moving ahead...

One of the more exciting announcements in this issue (page 3) is the formation of a Diocesan Youth Choir. From his first day of leading the diocese, Bishop Frank Caggiano has made reaching out to youth a priority of his ministry here. The Youth Choir will tap into their great energy and vitality, and will be a great gift to the entire diocese as it helps to revitalize music, particularly when the bishop celebrates diocesan liturgies. We urge all parents to encourage their children to attend the auditions that will be held throughout the diocese in the coming months.

At the close of the Third General Session of the Synod in February, Bishop Caggiano gave delegates some important and exciting homework: find solutions to the five final challenges of the 2014 Synod! Since then, they've been hard at work to identify best practices and successful parish models both in diocese and across the country. More than 350 delegates will come together again next weekend, but that doesn't leave us off the hook. If you're not familiar with the work of the synod, now is the time talk to your pastor, introduce yourself to the parish synod delegate or visit the synod website: [www.2014Synod.org](http://www.2014Synod.org).

The Annual Catholic Appeal is underway! The name may have changed but the challenge is the same: it helps the Church to support the work of its various ministries and programs that serve so many individuals and families throughout the diocese. From the nearly 10,000 children in our schools to the poor and homeless served at Catholic Charities soup kitchens, the appeal makes it possible for the diocese to safeguard the vulnerable and build communities of faith. Special thanks go out to this year's chair-couple, Julie and Rowan Taylor of New Canaan, for their energy, enthusiasm and leadership. This year's appeal is off to a great start. You can help build momentum by making your contribution now. It as easy as going online at [www.2015ACAbidgeport.com](http://www.2015ACAbidgeport.com).

## Two great souls...

The diocese lost two great souls last week; one whose ministry took him to the national stage, the other who toiled quietly in the local vineyard. We said goodbye to Edward Cardinal Egan, third Bishop of Bridgeport, and Deacon Tim Sullivan, who in the final years of his life was both assistant chaplain and resident at St. Joseph Manor in Trumbull. Such is the great wheel of the Church that we are all members of the Mystical Body of Christ, and play our parts dependent on each other: it was Cardinal Egan who ordained Tim Sullivan to the permanent diaconate in 1994. Both men changed lives; Deacon Tim through his transformative suffering and desire to serve, and Cardinal Egan through his leadership, love for the Church and untold personal kindness. Their passing reminds of us how interconnected our lives are and of the deep bonds that unite us in faith. Both will be sorely missed.



## CLERGY APPOINTMENTS

*The Most Reverend Frank J. Caggiano, Bishop of Bridgeport,  
has made the following clergy appointments in the Diocese of Bridgeport:*

## PASTOR

REVEREND JUAN GABRIEL ACOSTA, Parochial Vicar, Saint Joseph Parish, Norwalk to Pastor, Saint Ladislaus Parish, Norwalk. Effective date was March 2.

REVEREND PETER TOWSLEY, to Pastor, Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, Danbury. Father Towsley will continue to serve as Vicar for Evangelization and Episcopal Delegate to the Ecclesial Movements. Effective date was March 1.

## TEMPORARY ADMINISTRATOR

REVEREND FRANCISCO GÓMEZ-FRANCO, to Temporary Administrator, Saint Charles Borromeo Parish, Bridgeport. Father Gómez-Franco will continue to serve as Secretary to the Bishop. Effective date was February 16.

## CHAPLAIN

REVEREND JEFFREY COUTURE, to Chaplain, Newman Center of Western Connecticut State University, Danbury. Father Couture will continue to serve as Episcopal Chaplain at Immaculate High School in Danbury. Effective date was February 18.

## PAROCHIAL VICAR

REVEREND FRANTZ DESRUISSEAU, to Parochial Vicar, Saint Joseph Parish, Norwalk. Father Desruisseaux will continue to serve as Episcopal Vicar for Haitians. Effective date was March 2.

REVEREND LAWRENCE LARSON, Parochial Vicar, Church of the Assumption, Westport to Parochial Vicar, Saint Thomas Aquinas Parish, Fairfield. Effective date is April 15.

REVEREND BIRENDRA SORENG, Parochial Vicar, Saint Mark Parish, Stratford, to Pastor, Saint Mark Parish, Stratford. Effective date is June 30.

## HOSPITAL CHAPLAIN

REVEREND AUGUSTINE OKOROAFOR, new to diocese, to Chaplain at Bridgeport Hospital, Bridgeport. He will reside at Saint Ambrose Rectory, Bridgeport. Effective date is March 1 until August 31.

## RESIGNATION OF PASTORATE

REVEREND EDICSON OROZCO, Pastor, Saint Charles Borromeo Parish, Bridgeport to a six-month leave of absence from ministry. Effective date was February 16.

REVEREND LEONEL MEDEIROS, Pastor, Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, Danbury. Father Medeiros will continue to serve as Episcopal Vicar for Brazilians. Effective date was February 16.

## RETIREMENT

REVEREND MARTIN NIKODEM, to retirement. Effective date was February 28. Father Nikodem will continue to serve as Temporary Chaplain at Saint Joseph Manor, Trumbull. Effective date is March 1 until June 30.

*Reverend Ian Jeremiah, Episcopal Vicar for Clergy  
March, 2015*

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USPS no.: 12-117. Periodical  
postage paid at Bridgeport, CT 06601,  
and additional mailing offices.

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## Editorial



## Kairos moments

## CATHOLIC BY GRACE

BY DENISE BOSSERT

*Denise Bossert is a national Catholic writer and columnist.*

The Greek words *chronos* and *kairos* always remind me of Frank Kermode's book *The Sense of an Ending*—required reading for my M.A. comprehensive exams at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville. Not that I wrote anything profound that awful day. I received a B on my comprehensive exams though I had trended toward A's throughout graduate school. I choose to blame my performance on the migraine that rendered the

experience a blur.

I remember three writers from the long list of required reading for comprehensive exams. *Four Quartets* by T.S. Eliot. *The Writing Life and Pilgrim at Tinker Creek* by Annie Dillard. And Kermode's *The Sense of an Ending*.

I might have known that I was headed for a massive conversion—for I have forgotten most of the other things I read in the months of preparation for comps, but those were the things that remained and took up residency

in my long-term memory. If you took them all and ground them up with a mortar and pestle, you might end up with words like Catholic and mystery and contemplative and writer.

It is where I was headed—though I didn't see it coming.

But there is something special for me about the notion of *kairos*. A time for each thing. A season. A changing-over and rendering-up. Dropping nets to follow. Or abandoning the now for the unexpected call. The sense of an ending. And of a beginning.

When you talk about such things, others stare. They don't get it. They don't sense the crook of God's finger. The hook of the Shepherd's staff. They see no mandate to go. To follow. To pick up a pen. Or a cross. Or both.

There is something beautiful—and painful—in accepting the call one receives in these *kairos* moments.

You try to get others to understand, but there is no way they truly can, not being in your skin. Not being in your head as the thoughts bounce around and stir the soul.

The most one can hope for is for one's spiritual director to affirm the call. It's enough. A nod from him and a nod from grace—that'll do.

*Kairos*. The changing time. A blank page. Who needs January 1st to set new things in motion? God just needs today. A deep breath. A teeny tiny *fiat*.

It's not that the miraculous is about to happen, just his holy will for you. And maybe that is miraculous, in the ways that healing and wholeness and deliverance and restoration are miraculous. Somehow, you know it. You begin to perceive it.

The words on the blank page are written in invisible ink—the kind of ink that fills God's pen. And your spirit is the secret

decoder that unlocks the hidden script. You see the words. And you begin to realize—so that's what I've been called to do. That's where I am called to go. It's been that all along.

"Okay, let's do it. So be it, amen," you say.

You drop your nets and walk away from what was to embrace what is to come.

It is the moment you are ready for God's plan for you.

*Kairos*.

Not tick-tock clock time. Not the hour of a particular day of a specific month of the year. Not *chronos*. This is *Kairos*.

A season. The season for changing. And now is the acceptable *Kairos*.

It's Lent. Repent and believe the good news of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Ground everything down with your own mortar and pestle. And offer that to Our Lord.

Yes, now is an acceptable time. ■



## Forgiveness and Heroism during Lent

## A DAD'S VIEW

BY MATTHEW HENNESSEY

*Matthew Hennessey and his family are parishioners of St. Aloysius in New Canaan.*

Lent is a time for preparation. I've always been bad at that. Waiting ain't my thing.

Lent is a time for sacrifice. I'm bad at that, too. Self-denial ain't my thing either.

But I read many writers who say, "No, self-denial isn't the point. Lent's a time for coming closer to God."

I don't know about you, but I'd love to have a closer relationship with God. The challenge for me is execution. Almsgiving, fasting, prayer—for me it feels like work. I can do it, but I need a little inspiration. This year I'm finding it in unlikely places.

The kids are learning about the Black Death—the plague pan-

dem that killed as many as 200 million Europeans from 1346-53. It's not a pleasant topic. One fact jumps out: priests were especially hard-hit. The mortality rate for the general population during the Black Death was 30 percent. For priests, it was closer to 45 percent.

It's not hard to see why. Priests heard deathbed confessions. They did a lot of anointing. Close contact with the sick almost always led to infection. Infection usually meant death. One plus one equals two.

Here in the twenty-first century, we can do the math. But in the Middle Ages, no one knew about the germ theory of disease. They presumed the plague was God's

punishment. They thought that if you got sick you'd probably done something to deserve it. The multitudes of priests getting sick and dying pointed to one conclusion—the Church was corrupt and her priests were sinful. No good deed goes unpunished, eh?

It was a bum rap. The priests of the Black Death were brave and selfless, going where no one wanted to go, doing what no one wanted to do. And dying for it.

That's a small but useful bit of inspiration, via my kids' history books. Keeping our Lenten promises may seem hard, but not nearly as hard as ministering to the doomed.

Most of the original apostles died as martyrs. I find that inspiring. It's also the best evidence I can think of that Jesus was—and is—what he claimed to be. The apostles knew him. They experienced his ministry. They witnessed the passion and resurrection.

You wouldn't give up your life for a maybe, would you? I wouldn't.

The apostles weren't the only ones to lay down their lives for Christ. St. Thomas Becket of

Canterbury was murdered for refusing to play nice with political authorities. We could use some of that spirit today.

St. Maximilian Kolbe volunteered to take a condemned man's place at Auschwitz. That

"Most of the original apostles died as martyrs. I find that inspiring. It's also the best evidence I can think of that Jesus was—and is—what he claimed to be."

kind of selflessness only comes from one place—a relationship with God so close it transcends everything.

But, you say, World War II was 70 years ago. The Black Death was almost 700 years ago. It's not so easy to find examples of Christian heroism these days.

Not true. Open the newspaper. The world hasn't changed much. Christians all across the Middle East are being slaughtered for their faith.

"What's ISIS?" my daughter, Clara, asked my wife, Ursula, the other day. The best questions come out of the blue. Luckily, I married well. Ursula steered the conversation away from the death merchants of ISIS to the bigger picture.

All around the world, many thousands of people refuse, daily, to deny Christ even when doing so might help them avoid torture and death. Clara finds that inspiring. I pray she never faces that test. The fact is: We won't all be martyrs. That's not God's plan. As St. Paul wrote in his First Letter to the Corinthians, however, we are called to be holy.

Most of us fall short on that as well. It's okay. Even St. Peter denied Christ a time or three. Jesus forgave him nonetheless. Just like he forgives you and me when we struggle to live up to our Lenten promises.

Lent is a time for preparation. Prepare to be forgiven. ■



# EASTER

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# HOLY WEEK & EASTER GUIDE

## Church of the Holy Spirit, Stamford

### Holy Week 2015

MARCH 29 - PALM SUNDAY

Saturday 5:15 PM

Sunday: 7:30 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:30 AM

APRIL 2 - HOLY THURSDAY

7:30 PM - Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper  
Adoration in the Chapel at the  
Altar of Reposition until 10:00 PM

APRIL 3 - GOOD FRIDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

3:00 PM - Celebration of the Lord's Passion  
4:30 to 5:30 PM - Sacrament of Reconciliation  
7:00 PM - Stations of the Cross

APRIL 19 - HOLY SATURDAY: THE EASTER VIGIL

8:00 PM - The Easter Vigil Mass

APRIL 5 - EASTER SUNDAY

THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

Masses: 7:30 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:30 AM

## Saint Matthew Parish

216 Scribner Avenue, Norwalk, Connecticut 06854 • 203.838.3788 • www.stmatthewnorwalk.org



Saturday, March 28

7:30 am - AI's Angels Easter Basket Assembly  
5:00 pm - Easter Bunny Dinner

**Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord**  
Palms will be distributed at all Masses this weekend

Saturday, March 28 - 4:00 pm, Vigil Mass

Sunday, March 29

7:30 am, 9:00 am, 10:30 am, 12:00 Noon, 5:00 pm

### HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Tuesday of Holy Week, March 31

7:00-9:00 am - Confession

12:10 pm - Mass

1:00-2:00 pm - Confession

7:00-9:00 pm - Confession

Holy Thursday, April 2

9:00 am - Morning Prayer

7:30 pm - Mass of the Lord's Last Supper  
in the Church

9:00 pm - Midnight

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the Chapel

Good Friday, April 3

9:00 am - Morning Prayer;

12:00 Noon - Outdoor Stations of the Cross

3:00 pm - Solemn Liturgy;

7:00 pm - Stations of the Cross

Holy Saturday, April 4

9:00 am - Morning Prayer; 2:00 pm - Blessing of Food

7:30 pm - Great Vigil of Easter - First Mass of Easter

Easter Sunday, Resurrection of the Lord, April 5

6:00 am - Sunrise Mass at the Grotto,

7:30 am, 9:00 am, 10:30 am, 12:00 Noon, 5:00 pm

## SAINT JOSEPH CHURCH

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### HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

MONDAY, MARCH 30

7 p.m. - "Seven Last Words of Jesus"

HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 2

7 p.m. - Mass of the Lord's Supper (*Bilingual Service*)

8 p.m. to Midnight - Eucharistic Adoration (*Pastore Church Hall*)

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 3

3 p.m. - Good Friday Service (*English*)

5 p.m. - Living Stations and Good Friday Service (*Spanish*)

7:30 p.m. - Passion Play (*Students of Saint Joseph School*)

HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 4

3 p.m. - Blessing of Food (*Pastore Church Hall*)

8 p.m. - Easter Vigil Mass (*Bilingual Service*)

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 5

7:30 a.m. - Mass (*Church*)

9 a.m. - Mass with Contemporary Choir (*Church*)

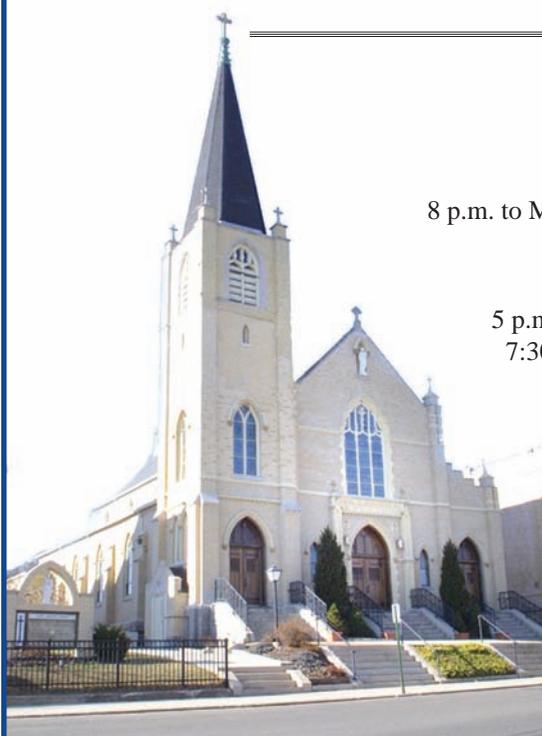
9 a.m. - Mass (*Church Hall*)

10:45 a.m. - Mass (*Church*)

10:45 a.m. - Mass (*Church Hall*)

12:30 p.m. - Mass in Spanish (*Church*)

12:30 p.m. - Mass in English (*Church Hall*)



Schedule  
of Worship for  
Holy Week

### Saint Thomas the Apostle

203 East Avenue • Norwalk, Connecticut

Pastor: Fr. Miroslaw Stachurski • Parochial Vicar: Reverend Rogerio Perri

Palm Sunday Weekend,  
March 28/29

Confessions: Saturday: 4:30 PM to 5:00 PM

Vigil for Palm Sunday at 5:15 PM

Sunday: Masses at 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM (*Family Mass*),  
11:30 AM, and 5:00 PM

Monday, March 30

Masses at 7:00 AM and 5:15 PM

Tuesday, March 31

Masses at 7:00 AM and 5:15 PM  
Confessions at 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Wednesday, April 1

Mass at 7:00 AM and 5:15 PM

Holy Thursday, April 2

No Regularly Scheduled Masses

Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:30 PM

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 9:00 PM to 11:00 PM

Good Friday, April 3

No Regularly Scheduled Masses

Solemn Liturgy of the Lord's Passion at 3:00 PM (Main Service)

Stations of the Cross at 7:00 PM

Holy Saturday, April 4

No Regularly Scheduled Masses

Blessing of Easter Food at 11:00 AM

The Easter Vigil at 8:00 PM

Easter Sunday, April 5

Masses at 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM (*Family Mass*), and 11:30 AM

No 5:00 PM Mass

happy easter!



# K of C Museum

## Exhibit looks at ministry and meds in Civil War

NEW HAVEN—The Knights of Columbus Museum marks the 150th anniversary of the Civil War's end with an exhibition profiling various military and civilian support figures during the four-year conflict (1861-1865).

"Answering the Call" opens March 14 with a focus on religious ministry and medical care for soldiers, as well as a history of the 9th Connecticut, a volunteer infantry regiment whose members were predominantly of Irish ancestry, many of whom were from New Haven.

The show centers on wartime struggles and hardships as well as acts of bravery, charity and compassion in the midst of battle. Catholic soldiers and officers—



ONE OF THE MORE than 150 Civil War images on display at the K of C Museum.

Confederate and Union—are profiled, together with battlefield chaplains and religious Sisters who nursed the wounded in hospitals and prisons.

"Answering the Call" includes references to battles and military campaigns, with emphasis on conditions in military encampments and the aftermath of combat, such as medical care and the spiritual needs of the wounded and dying.

The exhibition is on view through September 20, and includes:

- A Civil War timeline
- Civil War uniform and swords
- More than 150 images, from period photography to modern artwork
- Interactive displays with biographies, monuments, battle stories and a quiz
- Letters from the battlefield
- A reproduction shelter tent and chapel

A series of complementary Civil War lectures and presentations are scheduled throughout the duration of the exhibition.

(The museum is located at 1 State Street in New Haven and is open from 10 am-5 pm daily with free admission and on-site parking. For more info, call 203.865.0400 or visit [kofcmuseum.org](http://kofcmuseum.org).)

# HOLY WEEK & EASTER GUIDE

## SAINT MARY'S CHURCH

"The Mother Church of Norwalk" | 669 West Avenue, Norwalk | Est. 1848  
www.stmarynorwalk.net | 203.866.5546

Pastor: Fr. Greg J. Markey • Parochial Vicar: Fr. Richard G. Cipolla • In Residence: Fr. Paul N. Check, Director of Courage • Deacon Stephan Genovese • Choirmaster: David J. Hughes

### Music for the 9:30am Sunday Solemn High Latin Mass

**March 15: The Fourth Sunday of Lent:** *Missa Cantate* (Sheppard); *Audi benigne Conditor* (Dufay); organ music of Bach

**Thursday, March 19, 7:00 p.m.: The Feast of St. Joseph:** *Missa Ego flos campi* for double choir (Padilla); *Veritas mea* (Palestrina); *Te Joseph celebrent* (plainsong); organ music of Tournemire and Walther; with the Student Schola

**March 22: Passion Sunday:** *Missa Aspice Domine* (Morales); *Infelix ego* (Byrd)

**Wednesday, March 25, 7:00 p.m.: The Feast of the Annunciation:** *Missa Salve Regina* (Langlais); *Ave Maria* (Philips); *Ave Regina caelorum* for double choir (Victoria); organ music of Langlais; with the Student Schola

**March 29: Palm Sunday:** *Missa Videte manus meas* (Hugh Aston); *Passio Domini Nostri Jesu Christi secundum Mattheum* (Eton Choirbook); *Improperium* (Palestrina); *O Jesu Christe* (Jacquet de Berchem); *Miserere* (George Malcolm); with all choirs of the parish

**April 1: Tenebrae:** The complete plainsong office of Matins & Lauds for Holy Thursday; *Lamentationes* (Morales); *Tenebrae responsories* (Victoria); *Miserere* (Allegri); with the Student Schola

**April 2: Maundy Thursday:** *Missa Pange lingua* (Josquin); *Domine, tu mihi lavas pedes?* (Cardoso); *Ubi caritas* (Durufle); *Ave verum corpus* (Elgar); *Pange lingua* (Byrd); with all choirs of the parish

**April 3: Good Friday:** *Passio Domini Nostri Jesu Christi secundum Joannem* (Byrd); *Crucifixus* à 8 (Lotti); *Ecce lignum / Crux fidelis* (Willaert); *Officium de Cruce* (Compère); *Salvator mundi* (Blow)

**April 4: The Solemn Easter Vigil:** *Missa pro Victoria* for double choir (Victoria); *Surrexit a mortuis* (Widor); *Regina caeli* for double choir (Guerrero); *Dum transisset Sabbatum* (Taverner); *Pascha jucundissimum* (Hughes); organ music of Widor; with all choirs of the parish

**April 5: Easter Sunday:** *Missa Pascale* (La Rue); *Haec dies* (Léonin); *Christus resurgens* (Byrd); *Congratulamini mihi omnes* (Willaert); organ music of Bach and Widor

### St. Cecilia Society Concert Series

Sunday, March 15, 4:00 p.m.

Sharon Levin, flute; Gerard Reuter, oboe; David Hughes, piano

works of Telemann, Marcello, Quantz, Corrette, Gaubert

more information: [stmarynorwalk.net/recitals](http://stmarynorwalk.net/recitals)

## HOLY WEEK & EASTER SCHEDULE

### Confessions for Holy Week:

Monday: 11:30-12 noon

Tuesday: 11:30-12 noon, 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Thursday: 3:00-4:30 p.m.

Friday: 1:00-2:30 p.m.

Saturday 3:00-4:30 p.m.

### March 29: Palm Sunday

**8:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m.** (Solemn High Extraordinary Form) - Beginning with an outdoor procession

**11:30 a.m.**

**1:15 p.m.** (Spanish)

### April 1: Spy Wednesday

**8:00 a.m.** Ordinary Form Mass

**6:45 p.m.** Low Mass in the Extraordinary Form - St. Luke's Passion (in the Chapel)

**8:00 p.m.** The Solemn Office of Tenebrae

### April 2: Holy Thursday

**7:00 p.m.** Solemn High Extraordinary Form Mass of the Last Supper - followed by adoration until midnight

**9:00 p.m.** Stripping of the Altars/ "Visit to the Seven Churches"

### April 3: Good Friday

**9:00 a.m.** Matins & Lauds

**11:00 a.m.** Spanish Stations of the Cross

**12:00 noon** English Stations of the Cross

**3:00 p.m.** Lord's Passion

**7:00 p.m.** Seven Last Words

**7:30 p.m.** Outdoor Procession

### April 4: Holy Saturday

**9:00 a.m.** Matins & Lauds

**12 noon** Blessing of the Food

**8:00 p.m.** Easter Vigil - Solemn High Extraordinary Form Mass

### April 5: Easter Sunday The Resurrection of the Lord

**8:00 a.m.**

**9:30 a.m.** (Solemn High Extraordinary Form)

**11:30 a.m.**

**1:15 p.m.** (Spanish)

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Tuesday 11-11:30am and 12:45-2pm | Thursday 12:45-2pm and 3:30-5:30pm

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# Young Church: Convivio 2015

## 'The Power of One Day'

By **WILL MERCIER**

With the synod underway, 2015 is a landmark year in the Diocese of Bridgeport. Contributing to the uniqueness of this year, Convivio, the annual Catholic youth conference, was held on one day this year, rather than the three days it has been in the past.

Convivio took place on March 7 at Sacred Heart University. This year's theme was "The Power of One Day." As an extraordinary benefit, Bishop Frank J. Caggiano was present with us for most of the day!

For those unfamiliar with Convivio, the day consists of many activities which aim to

increase our relationship with the Lord. Inspirational talks are given throughout the day, which serves to reinforce the theme that one day can make a drastic difference. There are also sacramental opportunities throughout the weekend such as Reconciliation, Eucharistic Adoration, and Mass with Bishop Caggiano.

The theme of Convivio especially resonates this year, for it reiterates the importance of what just one day can do. We are shown many times in the Bible, especially with the Apostles, that one day can have a major difference in a person's life. Jesus called people away from their daily lives and told them to

follow him. Because of this one day, their lives were completely changed. Convivio offers such a potential to change you. At Convivio, you encounter Christ many times throughout the day, perhaps most palpably during Mass and Eucharistic Adoration. Each encounter you have deepens your relationship with him.

Speaking from personal experience, I can greatly assure you that these encounters are lasting and they change you for the better. I have learned much from each of the two Convivios I have attended, and at each one I have encountered Christ in a unique way. I experienced this again.

Convivio is only the beginning of opportunities you can partake

in to expand your relationship with the Lord. There are extensions of Convivio such as the "Christmas Extravaganza," a party for special needs children in our diocese. We were also introduced to the High School Apostles program. This leadership program allows youths to continue their service to the Lord by leading Confirmation Retreats throughout the diocese and meeting once a month to discuss and reflect on the faith.

As we are all aware, an incredible amount can happen in one day; one day can completely change your life. We allowed Convivio to be that day, and we all felt a deeper relationship with God by the



**WILL MERCIER**

time the day was over.

Convivio is a fun opportunity that allows Catholic youth to connect, make friends, and grow closer to Jesus. A person's life can change in a matter of seconds; imagine all the opportunities for change this one day offered.

*(Will Mercier, a member of St. Jude Parish in Monroe, attends St. Joseph High School.)*

## HOLY WEEK & EASTER GUIDE

### HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

#### SATURDAY – MARCH 28

3:00-5:00pm Confessions  
5:30pm Mass

#### PALM SUNDAY – MARCH 29

7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am and 12:00pm Masses  
Lenten Mission at all Masses – Fr. Michael Novajosky

#### MONDAY – MARCH 30

6:15-7:00pm Lenten Mission – Fr. Michael Novajosky

#### TUESDAY – MARCH 31

6:15-7:00pm Lenten Mission – Fr. Michael Novajosky  
7:00-9:00pm Confessions

#### WEDNESDAY – APRIL 1

7:30pm Tenebrae Service

#### HOLY THURSDAY – APRIL 2

9:00am Morning Prayers  
9:30am-10:30am Confessions  
7:30pm Mass of Last Supper and Adoration until Midnight

#### GOOD FRIDAY – APRIL 3

10:30am Morning Prayers  
11:00am-12:00pm Confessions  
3:00pm Sacred Liturgy of Good Friday  
7:30pm Living Stations of the Cross

#### HOLY SATURDAY – APRIL 4

9:30am Morning Prayers  
10:00am-12:00pm Confessions  
1:00pm Blessing of Food (in Social Hall)  
8:00pm Solemn Easter Vigil Mass (No 5:30pm Saturday Mass)

#### EASTER SUNDAY – APRIL 5

7:30am, 9:00am\*, 10:30am  
and 12:00pm Masses

\* 9:00am we will have an additional Mass  
in the Social Hall (lower church).

## ST. JUDE CHURCH

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Rev. Henry Hoffman, *Parochial Vicar*  
Rev. Michael Novajosky, *In Residence*  
Rev. Msgr. Richard Shea, *Retired and In Residence*  
Deacon John DiTaranto

Saint Jude Roman Catholic Church

707 Monroe Turnpike (Rt. 111) • Monroe Connecticut, 06468 • 203.261.6404

# Lenten Reflection

## ‘Desire is quenched by desire’

By **MSGR. CHRIS WALSH**

What do we want this Lent? Maybe that is a better way of phrasing the fundamental question for Christian spirituality: what do we truly desire with all our heart? The Gospel says: “For where your treasure is, there will your heart be” (Lk. 12:34). Does our treasure lie in Jesus Christ, he who is the “pearl of great price”? (Mt. 13:46) Or have we settled for cheap costume jewelry instead? What do we truly desire? What do we really want out of life?!

As I mentioned in my homily on Ash Wednesday, St. Jerome, an early Father and Doctor of the Church, wrote a letter to Eustochium, a young Christian

woman in 4th Century Rome who was considering a vocation to the religious life. In it he summed up magnificently the challenge of the moral and spiritual life. He wrote: “It is hard for the human soul not to love something, and our mind of necessity must be drawn to some sort of affection. Carnal love is overcome by spiritual love; desire is quenched by desire (*desiderium desiderio restinguitur*). The problem for most of us is not that our sinful desires are so blazon and out of control. We are not the greatest Scrooges or Machiavellis, Don Juans or Attila the Huns who ever lived! No, the real problem is that our desire for God is so pale, our longing for

what is really Good and Beautiful and True is so weak. And when we are attracted to good, beautiful and true things that God has made, we tend to love them in a way that is often self-centered, disordered and even destructive for them and for us.

This Lent I want to try Jerome’s solution. Normally, for example, if I decide to give up sweets and desserts for Lent, it is amazing how much I can find to replace them with: gooey granola bars, 300-calorie Dunkin Donut muffins, and endless bags of Triscuits and Doritos! Maybe our mistake is that we need to focus more on increasing our spiritual desire.

For example, I love when I can slip away in the middle of the

afternoon to spend an hour in our parish Adoration Chapel before the Eucharist (every Tuesday and Friday from 1-7 pm); so why is it so seldom that I leave my rectory appointments and my text messages to go over and enjoy it?

My priesthood has been renewed by the urgings of Pope Francis to “move from a pastoral ministry of mere conservation to a decidedly missionary pastoral

ministry” and by the example of some bold parishes to heed the recent popes’ calls to make a “new evangelization” the goal and the touchstone of all Church life. So why don’t I spend more of my effort going out to those who don’t truly know Jesus Christ and his holy Catholic Church?

“Desire is quenched by desire.”  
(*Msgr. Chris Walsh is pastor of St. Joseph Parish in Shelton.*)

## & EASTER GUIDE

### Saint Theresa ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

*The Mother Church of Trumbull*

Rev. Brian P. Gannon, *Pastor*      Deacon Salvatore M. Clarizio  
Rev. Michael Flynn, *Parochial Vicar*      Dr. Carolina Flores, *Director of Music*  
Rev. Shawn W. Cutler, *Parochial Vicar*

#### HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE - 2015

**PALM SUNDAY – March 29**

*Blessing and Palm distribution at all Masses*

**Saturday Vigil Mass – 4:30pm**

**Sunday Masses – 7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am and 12:00noon**

**MONDAY-WEDNESDAY – March 30 & 31, April 1**

**Daily Mass – 8:00am, 12:00noon and 5:30pm**

**WEDNESDAY, April 1**

**Tenebrae Service – 7:30pm**

**HOLY THURSDAY – April 2**

**Morning Prayer – 8:00am**

**Celebration of the Lord’s Supper – 7:30pm**

**Adoration at the Altar of Repose – 8:30pm to Midnight**

**GOOD FRIDAY – April 3**

**Morning Prayer – 8:00am**

**Commemoration of the Lord’s Passion – 3:00pm**

**Mary’s Way of the Cross – 7:30pm**

**Good Friday is a day of Fast and Abstinence from meat**

**HOLY SATURDAY – April 4**

**Morning Prayer – 8:00am**

**Blessing of Easter Food – 12:00noon**

**Easter Vigil – 7:30pm (Attendance at Vigil satisfies Sunday Obligation)**

**EASTER SUNDAY – April 5**

**(Please note change from regular Sunday schedule)**

**7:00am, 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:00am and 12:30pm**

**CONFESSION SCHEDULE**

**Tuesday – 7:00pm-9:00pm**

**Holy Thursday – 3:30pm-4:30pm**

**Good Friday – 11:00am-12:00noon and 4:30pm-5:00pm**

**Holy Saturday – 11:00am-12:00noon and 3:30pm-4:30pm**

## HOLY WEEK

### Saint Pius X Parish

Rev. Samuel Kachuba, *Administrator*; Rev. Robert Crofut, *Parochial Vicar*; Rev. Msgr. Ernest Esposito, *Priest in Residence*  
834 Brookside Drive, Fairfield • www.st-pius.org • 203.255.6134

#### PALM SUNDAY

**Holy Hour with Exposition and Benediction - March 29 – 6:30 pm**

**Followed by Solemn Compline at 7:30 pm.** Chanted by Chamber Choir in candlelight, in Chapel

#### EASTER TRIDUUM

##### HOLY THURSDAY – APRIL 2

Morning Prayer: 8:30 am in the Chapel; Mass of the Lord’s Supper: 7:30 pm in the Church

**Adoration of the Eucharist until 11:00 pm**

##### GOOD FRIDAY – APRIL 3

Morning Prayer: 8:30 am in the Chapel;

The Lord’s Passion: 3:00 pm in the Church - *Veneration of the Cross and reception of Eucharist are a part of this service;*

Stations of the Cross: 7:00 pm;

**Tenebrae Service – Immediately after Stations - Holy-Week Devotion dating back to the early Church.**

Scriptural devotion characterized by the successive extinguishing of candles.

##### HOLY SATURDAY – APRIL 4

Morning Prayer: 8:30 am in the Chapel; Blessing of Easter Food: 10:00 am in the Chapel

Sacrament of Reconciliation: 11:00 am to 12 noon and 2:00 to 4:00 pm

##### EASTER VIGIL MASS – APRIL 4 at 7:30 pm

The most important liturgical celebration of the Church’s year!

##### EASTER SUNDAY – APRIL 5 - MASS SCHEDULE

7:30 am, 9:00 am, 10:30 am and 12 noon

Additional 10:30 am and noon Mass will be offered in the Faith Center



5301 Main Street • Trumbull, Connecticut 06611-4195

## Sports

## Teixeira a hit at Shehan-McGivney fundraiser

By **DON HARRISON**

What does it take to become a successful switch-hitter in major league baseball?

For Mark Teixeira, growing up in a Baltimore suburb during the 1980s, it meant playing Wiffle ball in the backyard and taking countless swings from both sides of the plate until it was time for dinner.

"We were Oriole fans, and I would pretend to be Eddie Murray," the New York Yankees first baseman told a gathering of several hundred at Sacred Heart University's Edgerton Center for the Arts.

Teixeira was the guest of honor at a joint fundraiser for the Cardinal Shehan Center and the McGivney Center, both in Bridgeport. The Shehan center offers activities to address the educational and recreational needs of moderate and low-income families and young people, with emphasis on its outstanding sports program. The McGivney

Community Center was founded to provide youngsters with an educational safe haven from the dangers of the streets by providing them with after-school and evening programs, as well as summer camp.

Teixeira was an amiable presence as he chatted with—and autographed baseballs and other memorabilia for—fans of all ages at the former SHU gym.

Bobby Valentine, Sacred Heart's director of athletics and former major league manager and player, joined Teixeira on stage to conduct a raffle. "I was drafted fifth by the Los Angeles Dodgers in 1968 and got \$65,000 to sign," Valentine said with a wide grin. "Mark was the fifth pick and got \$9 million. Things have changed a bit."

The 6-foot-3, 220-pound Teixeira, soon to be 35, is one of the game's premier power-hitting switch-hitters, having thumped 363 home runs across 11 seasons and a portion of another. He's still well behind Hall-of-Famers



NEW YORK YANKEES First Baseman Mark Teixeira fist-bumps a young fan.

Mickey Mantle (536) and the aforementioned Murray (504) on the career list of switch-hitters, but he could pass Chipper Jones (468) and current teammate Carlos Beltran (373). And he's just three behind the retired Lance Berkman (366).

"God blessed me with the ability to play baseball," Teixeira said. Raised a devout Catholic by his parents, John and Margy Teixeira, he attended Mount St.

Joseph High School in Baltimore, where he excelled in baseball, basketball and soccer, and in the classroom as well. ("My uncle is a Catholic priest and is the chaplain at a prison in Baltimore," he noted.)

The Boston Red Sox selected Teixeira in the 1998 free-agent draft, but he bypassed that option and elected to study and continue playing the game at Georgia Tech. "My goal as a kid was to

play college baseball," he said.

That decision paid many dividends.

"I got to play in front of 4,000 fans at every Georgia Tech home game for three years. I played just one year in the minors, and so I didn't have to go through the rigors of riding buses for three years," he explained.

More importantly, at Georgia Tech he met Leigh Williams, the woman who would become his wife. "That's why God sent me there," he said. Mark and Leigh were married in 2002 and now live in Greenwich with their three young children.

As a Georgia Tech sophomore in 2000, Teixeira led the Atlantic Coast Conference in batting (.427), home runs (18) and several other categories, making him a near unanimous selection for the Dick Howser Award as the National College Player of the Year. He became one of just three ACC players to amass a lifetime batting average over .400.

► CONTINUED ON PAGE 27

## HOLY WEEK &amp; EASTER GUIDE

## Saint Thomas Aquinas Church

1719 Post Road, Fairfield, Connecticut 06824  
Rev. Victor T. Martin, Pastor

## HOLY WEEK SERVICES

## PASSION (PALM) SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday, March 28 - 5:00pm  
Sunday, March 29 - 7:00am, 9:00am (Family Mass),  
10:30am and 12:00 noon  
(Palms distributed at ALL Masses)

Evening Prayer and Exposition  
of the Blessed Sacrament - 7:30pm

## CONFESSIONS

During Holy Week: Monday-Wednesday  
following the 7:00am and 12:10pm Daily Masses

## LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE

Tuesday, March 31 - 7:30pm

## HOLY THURSDAY - APRIL 2

Morning Prayer - 8:00am  
Mass of the Lord's Supper - 7:30pm  
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
following the Mass until Midnight

## GOOD FRIDAY - APRIL 3

Morning Prayer - 8:00am  
Confessions - 11:00am-12:00 noon  
Stations of the Cross - 12:00 noon  
Passion of our Lord - 3:00pm  
Tenebrae Service - 7:30pm

## HOLY SATURDAY - APRIL 4

Morning Prayer - 8:00am  
Blessing of Food - 2:00pm in Church

## EASTER VIGIL MASS

8:00pm (Fulfills Sunday obligation)

## EASTER SUNDAY MASSES - APRIL 5

7:00am, 9:00am (Family Mass),  
10:30am and 12:00 noon

Saint Lawrence  
Parish

Huntington Center, Shelton  
Rector's Office: (203) 929-5355

## HOLY WEEK SERVICES

**Tuesday, March 31**

**Confessions ~ 7:00 - 8:00 pm**

**Holy Thursday, April 2**

**Mass of the Lord's Supper ~ 7:00 pm**

**Good Friday, April 3**

**Passion of the Lord ~ 3:00 pm**

**Stations of the Cross ~ 7:00 pm**

**Holy Saturday, April 4**

**Blessing of Food ~ 10:00 am**

**The Great Vigil of Easter ~ 7:30 pm**

**Easter Sunday, April 5**



# Sports

## Notre Dame grads head to Winter Deaflympics

SHELTON—Brothers Peter and Garrett Gintoli of Shelton, both graduates of Notre Dame High School in Fairfield, will participate in the 18th Winter Deaflympics to be held in Khanty-Mansiysk, Russia, March 28-April 5. The competition will include teams from Canada, Finland, Russia, and USA.

Peter and Garrett were selected after attending the U.S. Deaflympic Ice Hockey Team tryouts, hosted by the American Hearing Impaired Hockey Association (AHIHA). Tryouts were held in Buffalo, N.Y., this past August. Peter graduated from Notre Dame in 2010 and went on to play for

the Bay State Breakers Junior Teams in Rockland, Mass., in the Eastern Junior Hockey league. He is currently a junior on the Salve Regina University Men's Team (NCAA DIII). Garrett (

ND '14) is currently with the South Shore Kings U18 Tier 1 team in Foxboro, Mass., in the USPHL.

The brothers have been involved

with AHIHA since 2003. Peter was selected to the 2011 High Tatras, Slovakia U.S. Deaflympic team as well as the 2009 Winnipeg, Canada, and 2013 (Vantaa, Finland, U.S. World Championship teams. Garrett made his first appearance at the

2013 World Championships.

Both boys were born with Melnick-Fraser syndrome, which has caused a progressive moderate to severe hearing loss for which they wear bilateral hearing aids. To qualify for the games, an athlete must have a hearing loss of at least 55 dB in the "better ear." Assistive devices, including hearing aids and cochlear implants are not allowed in competition, in order to assure that athletes are on an even playing field.

Player funding for the Deaflympics is provided by the American Hearing Impaired Hockey Association through private donations and support from the USA Hockey Foundation. Players are also asked to raise a significant portion of their expenses.

(For online donations, go to [www.AHIHA.org](http://www.AHIHA.org). For more info on the 18th Winter Deaflympics, visit [www.2015deaflympics.org](http://www.2015deaflympics.org).) ■

"Both boys were born with Melnick-Fraser syndrome, which has caused a progressive hearing loss."



DEAFLYMPIC ICE HOCKEY PLAYERS Peter and Garrett Gintoli of Shelton.

## & EASTER GUIDE

### St. James Parish

COMMUNITY OF FAITH  
2110 Main Street, Stratford, Connecticut  
203-375-5887

Rev. Thomas Lynch, Pastor

#### PALM SUNDAY - MARCH 29

Mass Schedule - Saturday Vigil 4:30 pm  
Sunday - 7:00 am, 9:15 am,  
11:15 am, and 6:00 pm

#### EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Monday thru Wednesday  
8:00 am to 8:00 pm - Parish Center Chapel

#### HOLY THURSDAY - APRIL 2

8:00 am - Morning Prayer

**7:30 pm - Mass of the Lord's Supper and the washing of the feet**



#### GOOD FRIDAY - APRIL 3

8:00 am - Morning Prayer

12:00-2:00 pm - Personal Way of the Cross - Chapel

**3:00 pm - Celebration of the Lord's Passion**

5:30 pm Novena of Divine Mercy - Chapel  
7:30 pm - Stations of the Cross

#### HOLY SATURDAY - APRIL 4

8:00 am - Morning Prayer

10:00 am - Blessing of Easter Food

3:00 pm Novena of Divine Mercy - Chapel

**7:30 pm - The Easter Vigil**

#### EASTER SUNDAY - APRIL 5

Mass Schedule - 7:00 am, 9:15 am, 11:15 am

There will be no 6:00 pm Mass

3:00 pm Novena of Divine Mercy - Chapel

Novena will be recited daily at 3:00 pm in the Chapel concluding on Saturday, April 11

#### SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER - APRIL 12

Divine Mercy Sunday - Celebration of Divine Mercy  
Sunday - 3:00 pm in the Chapel

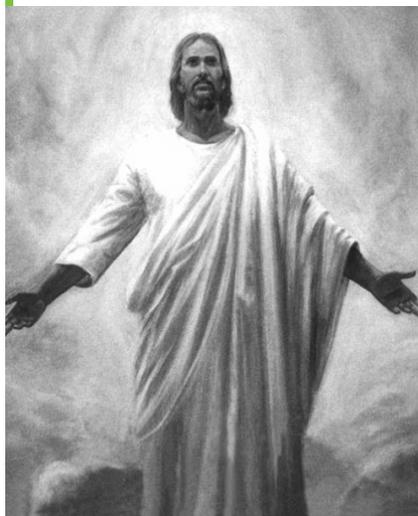
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## HOLY WEEK

### The Cathedral Parish

170 Thompson Street, Bridgeport Connecticut - 203.368.6777  
The Most Reverend Frank J. Caggiano, Bishop of Bridgeport

#### HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE



**Palm Sunday, March 29:** Regular Sunday Mass schedule

**Monday of Holy Week, March 30:** Regular schedule

**Tuesday of Holy Week, March 31:**

Regular schedule plus Confessions 7pm-9pm at St Augustine

**Wednesday of Holy Week:** 7am - St. Patrick  
3pm - Chrism Mass at St Augustine with Bishop Caggiano  
No 12:10 Mass or Confessions

**Holy Thursday:** 8pm - Mass of the Lord's Supper  
at St Augustine with Bishop Caggiano

**Good Friday:** Stations of Cross Procession 11am-12:30pm  
Leaving from St Augustine and arriving at St Patrick  
3pm - Liturgy of The Lord's Passion - St. Patrick (*English*)  
3pm - Liturgia de la Pasión del Señor - St Agustín (*Español*)  
5:30pm - Liturgy of the Lord's Passion - St Augustine (*Vietnamese*)  
8pm - Tenebrae at St Augustine (*English*)

**Holy Saturday:** 8pm Easter Vigil Mass only - St Augustine with Bishop Caggiano

**Easter Sunday:** 8am - St Patrick; 9:30am St Augustine; 11am - St Augustine (*Spanish*)  
12:30pm St Patrick; 2:30pm St Augustine (*Vietnamese*)

Please visit our website at [www.thecathedralparish.org](http://www.thecathedralparish.org) for our Regular Mass Schedule

## 30-Hour Famine

## Teens bring attention to world hunger

By MICHAEL FALBO

Since 2004, teens from in and around the Norwalk area have gathered at Saint Philip Parish to participate in World Vision's 30-Hour Famine. The teens fast to raise awareness and funds for children dying of hunger. The Famine started out in 2004 with 29 high school students who raised over \$4,000, and has been growing steadily ever since. During the 2015 Famine, approximately 200 students participated. They have raised over \$43,000—and still counting.

Many of the participants came from St. Philip, St. Thomas, St. Jerome, and St. Matthew in Norwalk, Holy Spirit and St. Cecilia in Stamford, and Assumption in Westport. In total, students from 17 different churches and 34 schools participated.

The Famine's events kicked-off at 9 am with a 1-mile walk from Norwalk's town green to St. Philip Church. We held banners bringing attention to the problem of world hunger with chants of "We walk for them!" and "What time is it? Famine time!"

Parishioners and parish visitors greeted the marchers warmly after they entered St. Philip. The congregation listened to the Famine's keynote speaker, Dale Williams of the Midnight Run organization, which helps distribute food and clothing to the homeless in New York City. Dale has experienced homelessness himself: he spoke humbly about his personal trials and commended all of those donors and volunteers who have helped him serve the homeless.

After the opening ceremonies,



YOUNG CATHOLICS from the greater Norwalk area marched to help end world hunger. Famine participants wore special T-shirts as they roused the crowd at St. Philip's in Norwalk.

(PHOTOS BY SABRINA HILLER, A SENIOR AT NORWALK HIGH SCHOOL)

the icebreakers began. "Tribe" games sort teens into 10 groups in order to simulate the challenges people face in struggling countries. The challenges are turned into games with tribes competing against each other.

The games are followed by different service opportunities throughout Norwalk. These included visiting the Notre Dame nursing home, receiving donations from shoppers at local grocery stores, packaging food at St. Thomas Parish to be sent to the hungry overseas, and helping out at Norwalk's Open Door shelter.

Allison Hall, a participant from St. Jerome Parish and Norwalk High School observed, "I loved packing the food. Even though we didn't do something extravagant, my group and I still made a big difference in providing food for other families."

In fact, each meal that was packed provides food for a family of six. The Famine participants packed

20,000 meals in total, which means 120,000 people will be fed.

Patrick Connolly, who goes to the Academy of Information Technology and Engineering in Stamford and attends Assumption Parish in Westport said, "It was a really amazing experience that helped me realize the difference that I am making. The event just made me feel good!"

During the course of the day, middle school children (the Mini Famine) and elementary grade students (Micro Famine) also participated in their own versions of the Famine. These groups stayed together for a shorter period of time compared to the high school students, but they still focused on ways in which they can help those who are in need. After both of their sessions ended, we all reconvened in the church for a closing prayer service.

To end our own day, a late night prayer vigil was held within the church. The Famine partic-

ipants spent time reflecting and meditating on the underlying message of the parable of the mustard seed. "For truly I say to you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible to you" (Matt 17:20).

30 People), reminded us that our work is not done. He said that we should make a commitment from now until the next Famine to be in service for parts of 30 more days and positively impact the lives of 30 more people.

The ultimate lesson I learned by participating in the 30-Hour



We used this Gospel passage to demonstrate that even though the Famine started out small in 2004, it has grown to amazing proportions and we have begun to move our own mountain, which is the problem of world hunger. During the vigil, as music played, we lit candles and passed them from person to person, reflecting on the idea that if we want things in the world to be better, it will be up to us to create change.

On Sunday morning at 10 am Mass, Bishop Frank J. Caggiano presided over the liturgy, where we broke our fast with the Sacrament of the Eucharist. The bishop, reiterating the theme of the Famine (30 Hours, 30 Days,

Famine is that we as a community must come together and assist those in need. Not just for a weekend; we need to make a commitment to serve to others throughout our lives.

"Then I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?' Then I said, 'Here I am. Send me!'" (Isaiah 6:8)

(Michael Falbo, a senior at Norwalk High School, is parishioner at St. Philip's. The parish hosted its twelfth annual World Vision 30-Hour Famine on February 28- March 1.

To learn more about the 30-Hour Famine and how you can participate, volunteer or donate, go to [stphilipnorwalk.weebly.com/30-hour-famine](http://stphilipnorwalk.weebly.com/30-hour-famine).) ■



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to see Pope Francis anyone? WYD 2016!  
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[www.bridgportdiocese.com/fcc](http://www.bridgportdiocese.com/fcc)



# Lenten Service

## Compassion leads to action

By LIZ TAMARKIN

With temperatures so low this winter, it makes you cringe to think of waiting 10 minutes for the school bus, never mind spend-

ing great amounts of time outside as some of the homeless guests of the Thomas Merton Center in Bridgeport do. Middle school students from St. Theresa School in Trumbull put their compassion into action. During their recess they learned to use a sewing machine to create fleece necks for

the guests of Merton House. A fleece neck is a tube form of scarf made out of doubled fleece that can extend up to cover the nose and ears and dips down to fill the zipper opening of a jacket. They

are great protection against the cold and wind. The students began by learning to control the sewing machine with paper, then moved on to the thick fleece. It was great to see student participation increase as they saw what classmates were working on.

What did the students do when the sewing machine had to go in for repairs? They picked up needles and thread. Instead of looking down at iPods and phones, they were chatting as they stitched the warm fabric. Every time a student completed a neck warmer, it was another victory as they added it to the box for Merton House. In the end, the students completed 48 fleece neck warmers, which were delivered to the Merton Center, which plans to offer the fleece necks to guests who come and use their bathing program.

These students will never know the positive effect they had on the person who receives their gift, but they hope and pray that when that person received the fleece neck, they will know someone cares and that God is with them.

When teachers and staff empower Catholic school students who are showing compassion through acts of service, they help students learn that they can make a difference and encourage them to see the needs around them, to think about others and to seek Christ in those they encounter.

We look forward to seeing where St. Theresa students find Christ next.



ST. THERESA MIDDLE-SCHOOLERS SEW with love to keep the guests of Merton House warm.

TEIXEIRA FROM PAGE 24

Selected by the Texas Rangers as the No. 5 pick overall in the 2001 free-agent draft, Teixeira developed into a star almost immediately. Beginning with his second season with the Rangers, in 2003, he put together eight straight years with 100-plus runs batted in and 30-plus home runs.



MARK TEIXEIRA

Statistically, 2005 with the Rangers was his best, with career highs of 43 homers and 144 RBIs combined with a .301 average. After trades to the Atlanta Braves and Los Angeles Angels, he signed with the Yankees as a free agent in 2009 and became a world champion.

"The year after the team didn't make the playoffs, expectations were all over the lot," he said, "We had good team chemistry, but we were simply better than everybody else."

With Teixeira leading the American League with 39 homers, 122 RBIs, 344 total bases and 85 extra-base hits, the 2009 Yankees roared to the pennant and their 27th world championship. He also won the third of his five Gold Gloves. In the race for Most Valuable Player, he was runner-up to the Minnesota Twins' Joe Mauer.

However, a broken right wrist limited Teixeira to just 15 games in 2013, and a succession of injuries put a damper on 2014 (22 homers, 62 RBIs, .216). What does the future hold?

"I feel great now," he said, prompting a round of applause from the audience. "I hired a new trainer this year. I don't think I've felt stronger in my life."

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# Consecrated Life

## Lent points us toward what really matters

BRIDGEPORT— “Don’t begin Lent without making a conscious choice toward conversion,” Bishop Frank Caggiano said to about 75 Catholic Center staff and guests who gathered for Ash Wednesday Mass in Queen of Saints Hall.

In his Ash Wednesday homily, the bishop said the Church asks three things of Catholics during Lent, “to spend our days in prayer, to perform acts of mor-

tification and penance, and to do works of charity,” in particular to serve those who are struggling in our midst.

“Love them in their struggles. Help them to remember they are not forgotten, and that they are lovable and they are loved,” the bishop said of all those who are poor, afflicted and suffering in our own communities.

Noting that ashes “are the byproducts of the burning of palms,” the bishop said that ashes are reminders that no matter how much money, power, or glory that people accumulate, “it all ends up a pile of ashes.”

“During Lent we are asked to remember that what really matters is what really lasts—and

that is the love and redemptive power of Our Lord, Jesus Christ, because it has eternal value.”

The bishop said that we wear ashes as a sign of our own failures because we often “put something else into the center of our lives other than Christ’s redeeming love.”

Describing Lent as a “40-day journey, the Church asks us to walk,” the bishop said it is a hopeful one because “Ashes lead to the empty tomb and the victory of love.”

Prior to the Mass, Father



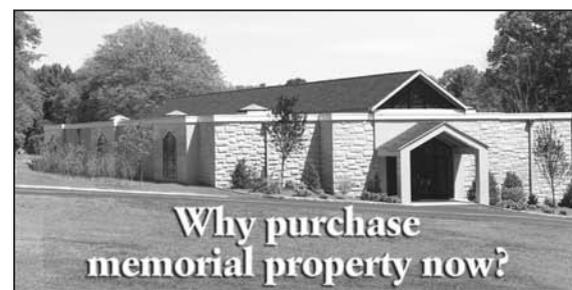
BISHOP CAGGIANO PRESIDED at a Mass on Ash Wednesday as part of a half-day retreat for staff at the Catholic Center.

Charles Allen, S.J., special assistant to the president of Fairfield University, provided a Lenten reflection, “Rejoicing that we are a sinful people now saved by Christ.”

Referencing the statement of Pope Francis on “the globalization of indifference” Father Allen

said that ashes remind us that we’re all sinners, and better able to reach out to those who are wounded and lost because of our own human frailties.

The employee retreat was planned by the Faith Formation Office of the Diocese of Bridgeport.



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- ▶ *Now, because....* you are under normal emotional circumstances.
- ▶ *Now, because....* you can purchase memorial property out of current income.
- ▶ *Now, because....* cemeteries are not exempt from escalating costs.
- ▶ *Now, because* at a time of need, cemetery property must be paid for in full before it may be used.
- ▶ *Now, because....* you will have a full selection to choose from, including community mausoleums, niches and burial plots.
- ▶ *Now, because....* purchasing a burial plot in advance offers you the opportunity to pay over one year. We offer two years **interest free**, when you purchase space in our community mausoleum. The above offer is not available for those who purchase at a time of need.
- ▶ *Now, because....* the purchase of memorial property is an inevitable task.

*You can make the decision now, based on one of the above reasons, or, you can wait until you HAVE to decide. Sometime in the distant future you will be thankful you have taken care of this important matter now. For details call your local cemetery!*

**Catholic Cemeteries Diocese of Bridgeport**  
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#### CEMETERY OFFICES

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Stratford, CT 06615  
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**DANBURY**  
St. Peter Cemetery  
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Danbury, CT 06810  
(203) 743-9626

**DARIEN**  
St. John Cemetery  
25 Camp Avenue  
Darien, CT 06820  
(203) 322-0455

**GREENWICH**  
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**NEWTOWN**  
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**NORWALK**  
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Norwalk, CT 06850  
(203) 838-4271

**STAMFORD**  
Queen of Peace Cemetery  
c/o St. John Cemetery  
25 Camp Avenue  
Darien, CT 06820  
(203) 322-0455

**TRUMBULL**  
Gate of Heaven Cemetery  
1056 Daniels Farm Road  
Trumbull, CT 06611  
(203) 268-5574

**WESTPORT**  
Assumption, Greens Farms  
Assumption, Kings Highway  
c/o St. John Cemetery  
223 Richards Avenue  
Norwalk, CT 06850  
(203) 838-4271

## ‘Give a smile to everyone’: Meet Sister Rosamma

As part of the coverage of the Year of Consecrated Life, the Communications Department has developed a survey to highlight the diversity of personalities, interests and ministries of consecrated women and men in this diocese. Readers will find them in *Fairfield County Catholic* over the coming months, and will be able to see more responses on the diocesan website: [www.bridgeportdiocese.com](http://www.bridgeportdiocese.com).

We hope this simple survey will give readers a chance to think of people in consecrated life in a new way.

**Name:** Sister Rosamma Joseph

**Hometown:** Vellikulam, Kerala, India

**Congregation:** Daughters of Charity of the Most Precious Blood

**Years in Vowed Profession:** 20 years

**Ministry:** Studying to be a pre-school teacher

**A favorite image of Jesus:** Jesus as a Good Shepherd carrying a sheep on his shoulder



SISTER ROSAMMA JOSEPH, DCPB

together and encouraging growing in spiritual life.

**An interesting fact about me:** I enjoy being with small children.

**Slogan that I would give my life:** Be happy and give a smile to everyone I meet in daily life.

What I would say to someone considering choosing consecrated life: Jesus is the center of the religious life. I would be glad to talk to them about my experience as a religious, encourage them and help them choose the right way.

**Person who influenced my faith life:** A Carmelite sister

**A Connecticut place I especially like:** St. Margaret Shrine in Bridgeport

**If I could have lunch with a saint it would be:** St. Joseph and Bl. Thomas Maria Fusco (the Italian priest who founded our order to help serve the poor).

**Something I most appreciate about community life:** Being



# Catholic Charities

## Catholic Charities of Northern Fairfield County

DANBURY—The Advisory Board of the Danbury office of Catholic Charities will now officially use the name Catholic Charities of Northern Fairfield County in its fund-raising and marketing efforts.

The announcement was made by Al Barber, president of Catholic Charities, and Susan LoPiccolo of Newtown, president of the Danbury Advisory Board.

Barber said the Advisory Board will promote Catholic Charities under the Northern Fairfield County banner in order to better reflect the wide range of services that Catholic Charities

provides in the greater Danbury area.

In addition to the city of Danbury, the agency serves Bethel, Brookfield, Ridgefield, New Fairfield, Sherman, and Newtown.

Catholic Charities programs serving Northern Fairfield County include counseling, behavioral health and family services offered in the Danbury office.

The agency also sponsors the Family Loan Program to help families purchase cars and rebuild their credit; the Morning Glory Breakfast Program to feed the hungry at Dorothy Day House

of Hospitality; the Homeless Outreach Team that works with the homeless on the streets of Danbury; the Community Support Program (CSP) and Recovery Pathways (RP), which provide clients with psychiatric disabilities help with skill-building and social integration; and New Heights, a community-based psychosocial recovery program for adults with a mental illness.

Nancy Murphy of Newtown, a member of the Danbury Advisory Board and liaison to the Catholic Charities corporate board, said that the name change will help build support for Catholic

Charities because many people aren't aware of the many services it offers to the entire region.

"People really don't know all of the things we do. They are ready to support our work when they find out how far-reaching our services are," she said. "Even if they don't live in Danbury, they are surprised to learn how the programs of Catholic Charities touch so many aspects of life in the greater Danbury area."

She said the name change will help to better educate people about what Catholic Charities does and the role it plays in reaching out to all families in Northern Fairfield County.

In addition to the Annual Catholic Appeal, the Advisory

Board has been a major source of support for the programs in the greater Danbury area by sponsoring the annual celebrity breakfast and other events.

Murphy is chairing the upcoming 53rd Annual Spring Gala to be held at the Ridgewood Country Club on April 11, at 6:30 pm. The gala will feature a silent auction and raffle, followed by dinner and dancing to the music of the JK Band.

*(The main office of Catholic Charities of Northern Fairfield County is located at 405 Main St. in Danbury. It also provides services at 15 Spring St., Danbury, 24 Grassy Plain St., Bethel, and at 64 West St., Danbury. For more info, call 203.743.4412.)*

## Ernie to do an encore for Catholic Charities

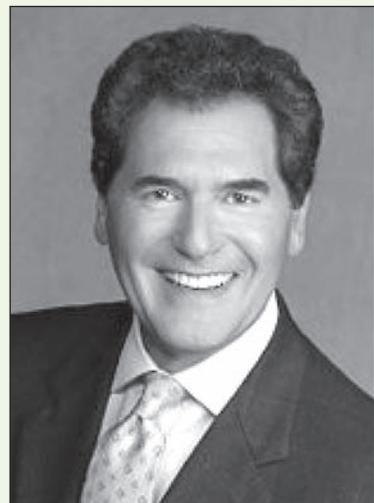
DARIEN—Fox 5 News Anchor Ernie Anastos will be the featured speaker at the New Covenant House of Hospitality celebrity breakfast set for April 16, from 7:30-9:30 am at the Woodway Country Club in Darien.

The soup kitchen, sponsored by Catholic Charities, provides more than 700,000 meals each year to the working poor, homeless and others at risk of hunger in the greater Stamford area.

"We're delighted that Ernie Anastos will be returning to the celebrity breakfast podium in support of New Covenant House of Hospitality. His appearance last Fall in Danbury was a tremendous success for Catholic Charities of Northern Fairfield County. We welcome his great sense of humor, positive thinking and continued support of our work on behalf of the poor," said Al Barber, president of Catholic Charities.

Proceeds from the breakfast go toward the NCH capital campaign, which is funding the move of the Stamford soup kitchen to a new, larger and more modern site across from its present location. The "new" New Covenant House will encompass 8,000 square feet of space at 174 Richmond Hill, a

major expansion from its current 2,000 square foot location. Barber said the NCH move will enable it to provide fresh fruits and vegetables, along with services such as volunteer barbers and hair dressers, personal hygiene products, minor medical procedures and



ERNIE ANASTOS

shower facilities that could not be offered at the present site.

Ernie Anastos is a distinguished and popular anchor for the FOX flagship station WNYW-TV in New York. He is also the creator and host of "Positively Ernie," an upbeat program that presents people who help make our world a better place.

Anastos gained national experience as a news anchor and

substitute host for ABC's Good Morning America and the CBS Morning News. He covered the major stories that shaped the last three decades and interviewed top world leaders.

A member of the New York State Broadcaster's Hall of Fame, Anastos has won more than 30 Emmy awards and nominations. He is also the first New York TV anchor to receive the coveted "Lifetime Emmy Award," the highest honor given for accomplishments in the television industry. *The New York Times* described Anastos as the "ubiquitous anchorman" who has captured the love and respect of New Yorkers.

As a seasoned anchor, Anastos has covered major stories in the New York area comprised of live coverage of breaking news, political conventions and special events. On September 11th, he anchored award-winning news coverage of the World Trade Center attacks.

Recently, Catholic Charities announced the appointment of John R. Gutman as Executive Director of New Covenant House.

*(To register for the event go to: [www.nchcelebritybreakfast.eventbrite.com](http://www.nchcelebritybreakfast.eventbrite.com) or call Betsy Lopez at New Covenant House: 203.964.8228.)*



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For more information on "Unlikely Friends" and to view the trailer, please visit [www.unlikelyfriendsforgive.com](http://www.unlikelyfriendsforgive.com)

## Obituary

## Deacon Tim Sullivan, courageous and cheerful

BRIDGEPORT—Deacon Timothy Sullivan died on March 1 in St. Vincent's Medical Center after a courageous fight with the sufferings and pains of a long illness.

Close friends are remembering him as a man with an elfin presence and of profound faith, whose deep commitment to social justice and fairness was balanced by an equally ingrained sense of humor and acceptance.

"Tim and I go back to his high school days and my pre-high school days," says his good friend Deacon Don Ross, who gave the homily at his funeral Mass. The two boys met at Fairfield University—but not in a classroom setting. "I was delivering the mail. One day I went up to Bellarmine Hall, and Tim was



DEACON TIMOTHY SULLIVAN

working the switchboard. I'll never forget that day."

Years later, the two were classmates in the same deacon formation class. "There is no such thing

as coincidence," Deacon Ross believes. Deacon Sullivan became the Confirmation godparent to two of the Ross children, and a permanent part of their family life.

"He is the epitome of what a deacon is and what a deacon should be," says Deacon Ross.

Timothy Sullivan was born in Bridgeport on April 1, 1948. He held degrees at Sacred Heart University and Fairfield University, where he earned an MA in both counseling and theology.

For five years Deacon Tim was in formation as a brother for the Maryknoll Fathers. He had hopes of becoming a missionary priest but the progression of a debilitating condition stood in the way of fulfilling his dream. Fluent in Spanish and a member

of the National Board of Certified Counselors, he became a counselor for Easter Seal Rehabilitation Center in Stamford.

He was ordained to the diaconate at St. Augustine Cathedral on June 11, 1994 by the Bishop Edward M. Egan. He served first as deacon at Saint Augustine, his home parish, then at Saint Stephen Parish, Trumbull, where he also served as director of religious education (DRE).

Deacon Tim also served on the faculty of Notre Dame High School in Fairfield. He became director of the Propagation of the Faith from 2005-07.

Tim was the first deacon to arrive at continuing education events. He liked to keep up his connections with his ordained brethren. He was cheerful and uncomplaining as his physical health deteriorated. He was devoted assistant chaplain to the residents at Saint Joseph Manor, where he also resided. Tim gave witness to Christ's passion in his own afflicted body to

all who knew him.

"He was an intellectual, a scholar, and he was an example of a person who used his suffering to the very best purpose. There was a deep spirituality that people immediately recognized; there was a magnetism about him," Deacon Ross says.

At the same time, "He had a great, dry sense of humor, with an elfish twinkle lurking in his eye. That's the Irish thing, you know."

His wake was held at St. Augustine on March 7 at 9 am. The Mass of Christian Burial followed at 10 am. Msgr. William Scheyd, vicar general for the Diocese of Bridgeport, was the principal celebrant. Deacon Ross was the homilist. Burial followed at St. James Cemetery in Naugatuck.

Deacon Sullivan is survived by his brother, Patrick Sullivan, of New Britain and sister, Mary Piretti, of Collinsville, Conn. His cousin, Father Edward McAuley, is pastor of St. Bridget of Ireland Parish in Stamford.

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### DECEASED CLERGY OF THE DIOCESE OF BRIDGEPORT: MARCH 15—APRIL 18

#### MARCH

15	Msgr. Francis J. Sugrue.....	1977
	Msgr. Edward G. Zibell.....	1978
	Rev. William J. Galya.....	1994
17	Rev. Daniel F. Golden.....	1955
	Msgr. John F. Murcko.....	1975
	Msgr. Francis X. McGuire.....	1993
18	Msgr. Donald M. Paolucci.....	1990
	Rev. John Fay.....	2006
19	Rev. Bartholomew J. O'Shea.....	1959
20	Msgr. Francis A. Campagnone.....	2003
24	Rev. Jon C. Bokron.....	1993
27	Rev. Bertrand E. Parent.....	1973
30	Msgr. Patrick F. Donnelly.....	1993

#### APRIL

2	Rev. Richard R. Dunn.....	1999
3	Rev. Francis C. Metro.....	1957
4	Rev. David W. Howell.....	2013
	Msgr. John F. Jazowski.....	2010
5	Rev. Hugh F. Gallagher.....	1980
7	Rev. Stephen E. Opra.....	1992
8	Rev. Joseph V. Kazlauskas.....	1968
	Rev. Edward M. Horan.....	1978
9	Rev. John A. MacNeil.....	1994
13	Msgr. Henry M. Callahan.....	1956
14	Rev. Walter J. McCarthy.....	1968
	Rev. William J. Fletcher.....	1988
	Msgr. Edward D. Halloran.....	2001
16	Rev. Edwin F. Agonis, O.F.M. Conv. ....	1998
18	Rev. John E. Hanning.....	1959

# Lenten News

## Rite of Election a 'life changing' experience

TRUMBULL—On the first Sunday of Lent, February 22, parishes across the world celebrated the Rite of Sending for those in the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)



SIGNING the Book of the Elect.

process. This global observance symbolizes the universality of the Catholic Church.

At the parish level, the desire

for full communion in the Catholic Church is celebrated and recognized. The local community has the opportunity to express its approval of the catechumens and candidates and send them forth to the Rite of Election, assuring them of their care, support, and prayers.

The Rite of Election (for the catechumens) and the Call to Continuing Conversion (for candidates) was celebrated in Saint Theresa Church, Trumbull. Twenty-seven parishes participated in this rite, with one hundred catechumens and over 130 candidates. Msgr. William Scheyd, vicar general for the Diocese of Bridgeport, presided over the ceremony, held within the context of the Liturgy of the Word.

Michelle Ballard, an Elect from St. Joseph Parish, Brookfield, said that, "Sunday's ceremony was a life changing experience in my journey

within the Catholic faith; I have been learning and embracing the Word and principles of God."

Her RCIA instructor has been supportive, which has allowed her to embrace, grow, and become the Elect that she is. Her godmother has also been a model and she is most grateful for her in her life.

It is an honor and privilege for Michelle O'Mara to be a godparent for Matthew Ceperly from Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish,



TWENTY-SEVEN PARISHES PARTICIPATED in the Rite of Election at St. Theresa Church in Trumbull. (PHOTOS BY MIKE DONNARUMMO)

Norwalk. As godparent, Michelle promises to pray for him, encourage, support, and teach him God's loving mercy and goodness. She also promises to be a good and true Catholic witness. Michelle hopes to guide him on this pilgrimage so that he can take his

place within the Church, sharing his gifts and talents as an intentional disciple of Jesus Christ.

(For more info on RCIA and adult formation within the diocese, contact Gina Donnarummo: 230.416.1446 or gdonnarummo@diobpt.org.)

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## Column: Joe Pisani



## Standing up for God in a secular society

## SWIMMING UPSTREAM

BY JOE PISANI

*Joe Pisani has been a writer and editor for 30 years.*

The commuter train out of Grand Central Terminal was short two cars, so people were packed in the seats, shoulder-to-shoulder. It was the perfect end to another perfect day in Manhattan. Nevertheless, everyone was relieved to be on board and going home, so they could put their heads on the pillow and get up and do it all over again.

In the silence before the train

started to pull out of the station, someone sneezed and then sneezed again. A fellow who was reading his Kindle, instinctively said, "God bless you ..." But then, his voice trailed off, as if he suddenly realized he'd done something socially questionable by mentioning God in unfamiliar company—by mentioning God in a fiercely secular society where religion is routinely attacked on editorial pages and in university classrooms. There was

no "thank you."

Times have changed. In the past, mentioning God was perfectly natural for men and women of faith. Now, you never know what'll happen. Crazy as it seems, the only people who enjoy so-called "freedom of expression" are the ones who insult religion.

This fellow realized he had committed ... a politically incorrect faux pas by "God blessing" someone, which could have led to an altercation if the person sneezing was an atheist.

Like most of us, he'd probably been raised in a family where you were taught to say, "God bless you" to someone who sneezed, but we live in strange times when it's more socially acceptable to use four-letter words than to say the name of God or Jesus reverently.

And there's certainly no shortage of people who use God's name irreverently. Remember the

Second Commandment, which we learned in catechism, "Thou shall not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain"? It was number two out of ten, so that must say something about its importance.

However, in the entertainment industry, on city streets, in the workplace and in casual conversation, the only time people utter the name of God and the name of Jesus freely and forcefully is when they're cursing. How tragic is that?

St. Paul had a different view. He told the Philippians that "at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

What has changed so much in a few decades? For one thing, atheists have become more aggressive, and they resent any public reference to God in social gatherings, in the classroom, at Christmas, in speeches, in the Pledge of Allegiance, in political gatherings and on playing fields. But our hesitation to say "Jesus" and "God" in public is more than just catering to the whims and demands of a misguided few.

We feel uncomfortable in mixed

company because God has become controversial in our secular society. Professors are disciplined if they profess orthodox Christian beliefs, students in public schools have their Bibles confiscated, and the athletes who invoke God are ridiculed or treated as embarrassments. Look at the field day the media had with Tim Tebow and his professions of faith.

Boston College professor and author Peter Kreeft claims that the name of Jesus in particular makes people uncomfortable. He says, "Test it in any secular company. The name Jesus will fall with a thud, and produce sudden silences and embarrassment. You not only hear the embarrassment, you can feel it. The temperature drops. Or rises. It never stays the same."

Nowadays, there's a lot of anger against organized religion, especially against Catholics, because our beliefs conflict with the prevailing social agenda, which supports abortion, assisted suicide, pornography, the hooking up culture and every other form of acceptable vice.

But it's time to bring our faith back into the public square in big ways and in small, whether it's one

▶ CONTINUED ON PAGE 33

# ANSWERING THE CALL

Service & Charity  
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# Column: Thomas Hicks



## ‘To God who gives joy to my youth’

### POTPOURRI

BY THOMAS H. HICKS

*Thomas Hicks is a member of St. Theresa Parish in Trumbull.*

As an altar boy, I memorized and rehearsed the Latin responses from that white card with red and black print and stiff lamination. The first dialogue between priest and server was:

Priest: (in Latin) “Introibo ad altare Dei” (“I will go onto the altar of God”).

Server: “Ad Deum qui laetificat iuventutem meam” (“To God who gives joy to my youth”).

My childhood was immersed in Catholicism, and it did bring joy to my youth. Those were the years of novenas, May and October devotions, benedictions, sodalities, Holy Name Societies, keeping nine First Fridays—which guaranteed a holy death.

My life was circumscribed by Catholic culture. It was the very soil in which I was planted. I grew up in a world of scapulars, first-and-second class relics, plenary and partial indulgences (I collected indulgences like autographs), votive candles, the Angelus. It was a world of statues and religious medals, holy water

and holy cards—all that Catholic paraphernalia. My father took me to Holy Name breakfasts and rallies. I played sports on CYO teams.

Masses were in Latin where we knelt at a marble altar railing and, lest the Blessed Host fall onto our unconsecrated hands, hid them under the draping of a railing-long linen cloth. Each Sunday Mass had its quota of what we altar servers called “the sharpshooters”—men on one knee in back, waiting for the sermon to signal them to sneak out for a smoke. We altar boys set special value on priests who could gallop through a Latin weekday Mass in twelve minutes flat.

When I got to Catholic school, I didn’t experience any of the horror stories that some people tell. I had wonderful Sisters. They were

funny, smart, kind. I cleaned chalkboards, dusted the erasers, carried out the wastebasket for them.

To a great extent, it is the sounds I remember: the ring of church bells in the spring twilight; the whisper of First Communion dresses; the dialogue between two sets of hand-held bells during processions; the lilting cadence of the Litany of the Saints; the wailful sweetness of the

*Pange Lingua*; the peculiar charm of the *Tantum Ergo*; the turbulent, insistent, almost defiant “Holy God, We Praise Thy Name.”

It was a time when convents and seminaries teemed with life. In the early 1960s, at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish in Astoria, Queens, there were seven resident priests, nineteen hundred children in the parish school, a reputed twenty-five thousand parishioners, more than a dozen nuns teaching in the school, and fifteen Masses on Sunday morning in three different locations.

I cherish my Catholic upbringing, the Catholicism of my youth. It was mainly a devotional Catholicism. But these devotions remain something I associate with the joy of smooth youth and good

health, with the time I glowed with future promise and dreams were bright and only beginning, the time of uncomplicated faith.

But the devotional world I grew up in, by and large, has disappeared. The Church of my youth is gone. Some try to restore that Church, make a determined effort to go backward. But an historical epoch has come to an end. There are leftovers from this vanished era, but there is a new era and a new spirit, for the better.

I do not believe in the same way I believed as a youth. But I continue to have a Catholic sense of reality, a distinctive Catholic vision. My life remains grounded in Catholicism.

The faith gives me a bigger life to live, a larger world. It opened for me a world of great depth and beauty, a world of intellectual vigor.

Alec Guinness, speaking of the Catholic Church, said, “We collect more bizarre followers of Christ than many.” True. But I enjoy being with Catholic people. When I am with them, I have the sense that this is my country. I speak its language. I’m at home. I’m happy to be there. I enjoy being among other Catholics. They generally have a sense of

humor about themselves. There is a Catholic zest for life.

It is not difficult to find people who describe themselves as “recovering Catholics.” Friends from Catholic high school slipped out of their Catholicism like an old, unwanted sweater. The attrition has been enormous. But the faith has been my anchor in life. It has brought me an equanimity and confidence. I have received so much comfort from my faith throughout my life. And the Catholic faith is a good religion to die in.

P.S. Speaking of things Catholic, a recent experience assured me that, although the Sisters left, St. Vincent’s Medical Center maintains its Catholic atmosphere. I had a medical procedure performed by Dr. Lawrence Muldoon and his team. Dr. Muldoon is a doctor of assured competence who combines with an unflinching gentle kindness and humor. His co-workers and nurses also reflect those traits. They were all unflinchingly kind, wonderfully considerate, and effortlessly forbearing and obliging. This extended to the older gentleman volunteer. St. Vincent’s hospital is a most hospitable place.

SWIMMING UPSTREAM  
FROM PAGE 32

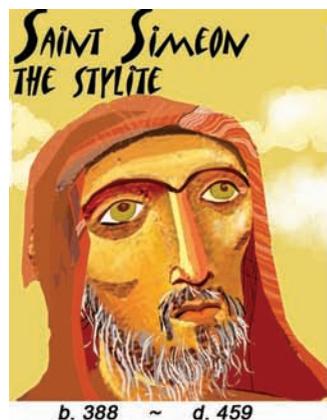
“God bless you” on a crowded train or in a crowded doctor’s office—or defending our faith when it’s belittled at social gatherings.

If you can do only one small thing every day, say, “God bless you” when someone sneezes. Say “God bless you” when someone is troubled and needs encouragement. Say “God bless you,” if for no other reason than to share God’s love and give him glory.

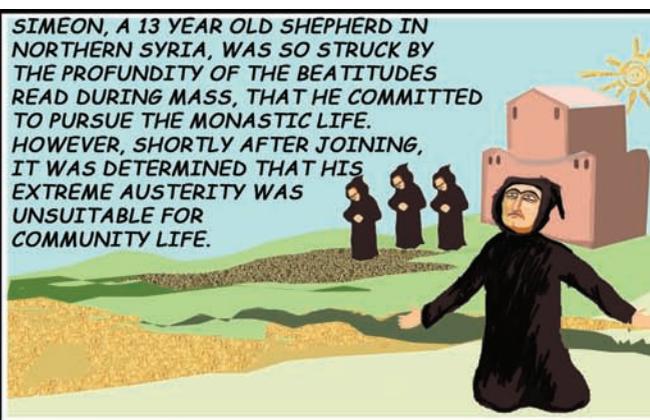
And never forget what Jesus said: “Whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this faithless and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of when he comes in his Father’s glory with the holy angels.”

## SAINTLY LIVES

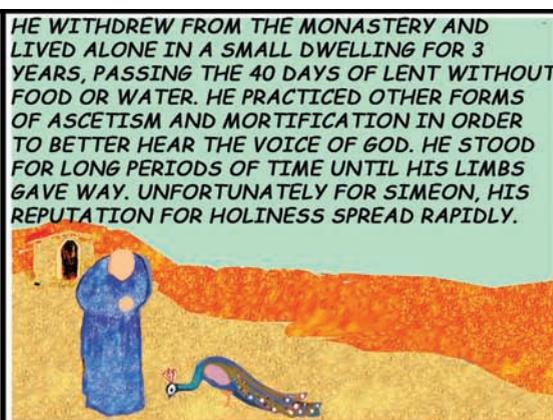
BY ED WALDRON



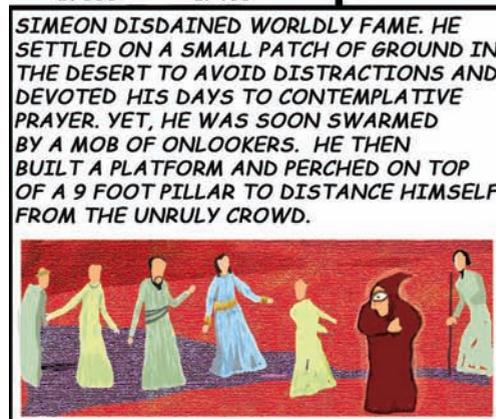
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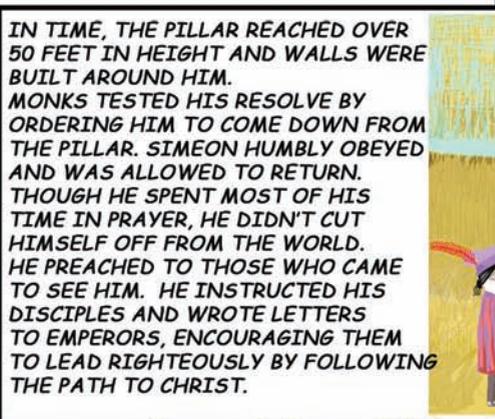
SIMEON, A 13 YEAR OLD SHEPHERD IN NORTHERN SYRIA, WAS SO STRUCK BY THE PROFUNDITY OF THE BEATITUDES READ DURING MASS, THAT HE COMMITTED TO PURSUE THE MONASTIC LIFE. HOWEVER, SHORTLY AFTER JOINING, IT WAS DETERMINED THAT HIS EXTREME AUSTERITY WAS UNSUITABLE FOR COMMUNITY LIFE.



HE WITHDREW FROM THE MONASTERY AND LIVED ALONE IN A SMALL DWELLING FOR 3 YEARS, PASSING THE 40 DAYS OF LENT WITHOUT FOOD OR WATER. HE PRACTICED OTHER FORMS OF ASCETISM AND MORTIFICATION IN ORDER TO BETTER HEAR THE VOICE OF GOD. HE STOOD FOR LONG PERIODS OF TIME UNTIL HIS LIMBS GAVE WAY. UNFORTUNATELY FOR SIMEON, HIS REPUTATION FOR HOLINESS SPREAD RAPIDLY.



SIMEON DISDAINED WORLDLY FAME. HE SETTLED ON A SMALL PATCH OF GROUND IN THE DESERT TO AVOID DISTRACTIONS AND DEVOTED HIS DAYS TO CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER. YET, HE WAS SOON SWARMED BY A MOB OF ONLOOKERS. HE THEN BUILT A PLATFORM AND PERCHED ON TOP OF A 9 FOOT PILLAR TO DISTANCE HIMSELF FROM THE UNRULY CROWD.



IN TIME, THE PILLAR REACHED OVER 50 FEET IN HEIGHT AND WALLS WERE BUILT AROUND HIM. MONKS TESTED HIS RESOLVE BY ORDERING HIM TO COME DOWN FROM THE PILLAR. SIMEON HUMBLY OBEYED AND WAS ALLOWED TO RETURN. THOUGH HE SPENT MOST OF HIS TIME IN PRAYER, HE DIDN'T CUT HIMSELF OFF FROM THE WORLD. HE PREACHED TO THOSE WHO CAME TO SEE HIM. HE INSTRUCTED HIS DISCIPLES AND WROTE LETTERS TO EMPERORS, ENCOURAGING THEM TO LEAD RIGHTEOUSLY BY FOLLOWING THE PATH TO CHRIST.

# Bits & Pieces

(Space limits entries to religious observances. For a full calendar, visit [www.bridgeportdiocese.com](http://www.bridgeportdiocese.com).)

## WALKING THE CROSS:

Parishioners of the seven parishes in Norwalk will carry a cross from one church to another Sun., **March 15**. The Walk begins after 9 am Mass at St. Matthew Parish and ends before 6 pm Mass at St. Jerome's. For more info, call Kali DiMarco: 203.434.8407.

**MASS MOB III** coming to Danbury Sun., **March 15**, at 10:30 am at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, Danbury. Website: [massmobfc.webs.com](http://massmobfc.webs.com).

## TAIZE PRAYER

**MEDITATION** at St. Gregory the Great Parish, Danbury, featuring music by the parish choir, Sun., **March 15**, at 2 pm. For more info, email Maynard Robin: [maynardrob@aol.com](mailto:maynardrob@aol.com)

## ST. CASIMIR

**CELEBRATION** and Mass sponsored by Knights of Lithuania of St. George Church, Bridgeport, on Sun., **March 15**,

at 12 noon; luncheon at 1 pm. For more info, call 203.878.0519.

## CURSILLO ULTREYAS

to be held on Mon., **March 16**, at St. Bridget of Ireland Parish, Stamford, at 7:30 pm; Thurs., **March 19**, at St. Mary Parish, Bethel at 7:30 pm; Thurs., **April 9**, at St. James Parish, Stratford at 7:30 pm; and Thurs., **April 16**, at St. Mary, Bethel, at 7:30 pm. For more info, email [jkovacs@snet.net](mailto:jkovacs@snet.net).

## WOMEN'S EVENING

**RETREAT:** "What Would You Have Me Do For You?" on Wed., **March 18**, from 6-9 pm at Holy Family Retreat Center, West Hartford with Sr. Eileen Dooling and Joan Linley. Cost: \$40, includes dinner. Call 860.760.9705 or [www.holyfamilyretreat.org](http://www.holyfamilyretreat.org).

**MASSES OF HEALING AND HOPE:** Mon., **March 16**, at 7:30 pm at St. Lawrence Parish, Shelton, with Father Bob Kwiatkowski; Thurs., **March 19**, at 7:30 pm at Sacred Heart Church, Greenwich, with Father

Larry Carew; and Christ the King Parish, Trumbull on Mon., **April 13**, at 7:30 pm with Fr. Carew.

For more info, call 203.268.8253

## ST. PATRICK'S DAY

**MASS** will be celebrated at 11 am on Tues., **March 17**, at St. Peter Parish, Danbury. For more info, call 203.743.2707 or email [mdanahermelody@aol.com](mailto:mdanahermelody@aol.com).

**LIVE STATIONS OF THE CROSS** for children, held in Spanish at St. Mary Parish, Norwalk, on Fri., **March 20**, at 8 pm. For more info call Lucas Romero: 203.820.6874.

**PRAISE & PIZZA II** hosted by St. Mary Parish, Bethel, Youth Group on Sun., **March 22**, at 6:30 pm. All high school teens welcome. For details, email [stmarybethelyouth@gmail.com](mailto:stmarybethelyouth@gmail.com).

## LENTEN MISSION:

"Fullness of Purpose" Mon.-Wed., **March 23-25**, at 7 pm at St. Mary Parish, Bethel, with author Ken Yasinki. For more info, call the parish: 203.744.5777.

## DIOCESAN LENT

**RETREAT:** Sat., **March 28**, at Our Lady of Peace Parish, Stratford, 8 am-12:30 pm. Performance by Glenn Smith on the life of St. Paul. For more info or to register, contact Gina: 203.416.1446 or [gdonnarummo@diobpt.org](mailto:gdonnarummo@diobpt.org).

**AL'S ANGELS** Easter & Passover Basket Assembly needs volunteers Sat., **March 28**, from 7:30 am-2 pm at St. Matthew Parish, Norwalk, to assemble Easter and Passover gift baskets for children. For more info, go to [www.alsangels.org](http://www.alsangels.org).

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS** and Benediction, Palm Sunday, **March 29**, at St. Margaret Shrine, Bridgeport. Mass 11 am; Stations begin at 2 pm. For more info, call 203.333.9627.

**LENTEN MISSION** at St. Jude Parish, Monroe, with Fr. Mike Novajoski will start with Palm Sunday Masses, **March 28-29**, and Mon. and Tues. of Holy Week from 6:15-7 pm. For more info, call the parish office: 203.268.5048.

## "THE WAY OF THE

**CROSS"** at St. Rose of Lima Parish, Newtown, on Wed., **April 1**, at 7:30 pm. Admission free. For more info, go to [www.ihcschools.org/spiritual-life/mystery-players](http://www.ihcschools.org/spiritual-life/mystery-players).

**BEAREVEMENT PROGRAM** starting Wed., **April 1**, at Our Lady of Peace Parish, Stratford. The group will meet from 7-8:30 pm for 10 weeks. Register at the parish office: 203.377.4863, ext.10.

**DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY, April 12**, at St. Theresa Parish, Trumbull, beginning at 3 pm. Chaplet of Divine Mercy before the Blessed Sacrament, reflection, veneration of the Divine Mercy image and relic of St. Faustina, and Benediction. There is NO Mass during this devotion. For more info, call the parish: 203.261.3676.

**"COME & SEE" MASS** with the Secular Franciscan Holy Spirit Fraternity at St. Emery Church, Fairfield, on Sat., **April 18**, at 9:30 am. Father Eugene Szantyr will celebrate Mass, followed by a meeting. For more info, call 203.255.8801. ■

## The 2015 Henri J. M. Nouwen Lecture on Contemporary Spirituality

# SPIRITUALITY & ART

## EMILY CARR AND VAN GOGH

### Stephanie McKenzie, Ph.D.

Poet, Editor, Professor  
Grenfell Campus, Memorial University  
Corner Brook, NL, Canada

March 18 at 7:30 p.m.

Schine Auditorium  
(Refreshments following)



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## Seventh Annual EDUCATORS' COMMUNION BREAKFAST

Sunday, March 22, 2015

### SACRED HEART UNIVERSITY

Chapel of the Holy Spirit  
8:30 a.m. Chapel art tour  
9 a.m. Mass  
Celebrant: Frank J. Caggiano  
Bishop, Diocese of Bridgeport

University Commons  
10 a.m. Breakfast and talk  
12 p.m. Book signing

(Books will be available for purchase.)



FEATURED  
SPEAKER



EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR HONOREE  
Rev. William Sangiovanni  
Notre Dame Catholic High School  
Fairfield, CT



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All are welcome. Go to [www.sacredheart.edu/CAPP2015](http://www.sacredheart.edu/CAPP2015)  
or call 203-396-8201 to register.

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*and the*

**Diocese of Bridgeport**

*in giving thanks to God  
for the life and ministry of our  
esteemed brother Knight  
and faithful servant of the Church*

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Edward Cardinal Egan**

*1932 – 2015*

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