St. John of the Cross Parish

Roman Catholic Church

LOVE GOD, LOVE OUR NEIGHBORS, MAKE DISCIPLES

PASTOR: Rev. Lawrence Symolon • Deacon Michael J. Walsh • Deacon Stephen L. Savarese

First Holy Communion

Congratulations to Our First Communion Class

Carlo Cavallo
Jacob Cubille
Giada deEscobar
Victoria Dunn
Kyle Falk
Riley Grieder
Brynn Halloran
Charlotte Halloran
Alaina Hudach
Giuliana Longo
Caroline Mulhall
Charlotte Mulhall
Kaylee Nichols
Ava Ginger Persenaire
Francesca Purcaro
Gabrielle Randall
Lilliana Scungio
Connor Simpson
Dorothy Squatriglia
Payton St Pierre
Ava Tiru
Tristan Tiru
Zoe Tiru

Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, May 8
4:30pm Carmela Mastroianni & deceased members of the Pannone family
Req. by Joseph Mastroianni & family

SUNDAY, May 9 ***Mother's Day***
8:00am Parishioners
10:00am Maria Ruocco
Req. by Fran & Pat Grandpre & family

MONDAY, May 10 **St. *Damien de Veuster, Priest***
8:00am Grandchildren
Req. by Nana & Pa

TUESDAY, May 11
8:00am Robert Capobianca
Req. by his family

WEDNESDAY, May 12 ***Sts. Nereus, Achilleus, & Pancras, Martyrs***
8:00am Deceased Parishioners

THURSDAY, May 13 ***Ascension Thursday***
8:00am Lucille Heckerman
Req. by her family
7:00pm Parishioners

FRIDAY, May 14 ***St. Matthias, Apostle***
8:00am No Mass

SATURDAY, May 15 ***St. Isidore; Armed Forces Day***
4:30pm Maurice Batrakat
Tania Batrakat
Req. by the Harb family

SUNDAY, May 16
8:00am Parishioners
10:00am Irene Zajechowski

GIFTS TO GOD AND THE PARISH

Needed in Weekly Offertory:	**$ 8,183.00**
May 2 Offertory:	$ 4,780.00
May 2 Offertory/Online:	$ 1,744.00
Mother's Day:	$ 675.00
Gift Cards:	$ 100.00
Candles:	$ 279.00

Mother's Day - May 9th

For your convenience, Mother's Day Spiritual Bouquet memorial envelopes are in the rear of the Church. Complete and drop in the offertory basket. All returned envelopes will be placed on the altar for the month of May.

The Roman Catholic Parish of Middlebury and Southbury is the NEW parish name that will be effective June 1, 2021. The Archdiocese approved this name which reflects the combined parish community while keeping the current names of Sacred Heart and St. John of the Cross to identify the campus locations. The dissolution of St. John of the Cross Parish and Sacred Heart Parish involves a process which retains the Sacred Heart Tax ID #. This is an important financial decision which considers retaining $38,500 in monthly online donations without asking givers to recreate a new online account. Research shows a 25% loss in income when asking members to create a new account. St. John of the Cross online giving is $7800 month and we will contact these generous givers with new online giving information soon. This is a two-step process in which St. John of the Cross is subsumed into Sacred Heart Parish. Then Sacred Heart Parish becomes the new Roman Catholic Parish of Middlebury and Southbury. Both parishes cease to exist and become the new parish with two locations.

Pray For. . .

Please pray for our sick at home, in hospitals and convalescent homes, especially: Mary Arpaia, Carolyn Barbieri, Ellen Barrett, Michael Berardelli, Jenn Bona, Jewel Brice, Joe Capobianco, Eleanor Carroll, Virginia Cartiglia, Mark Cavallero, Ken Crowley, Michael C. Culhane, Gindee Dabkowski, Annie DeLeonibus, Betsy Desmarais, Frank & Rita Dest, Liam Dwyer, Rick Ericson, Kristen Fedor, Claire Fulham, Owen Gallino, Sandy Goldberg, Jaxson, Juanito Josef, Art Johnson, Clem Johnson, Joan Johnson, Violet Kelly, Jacqueline Kliese, John Krejci, Michael Lombardi, Thomas MacDonald, Joseph Martino, Michael, Thomas Monteleone, Lynn Musto, Gary Normandin, Leigh O'Brien, Donna Orsatti, Lou Orsini, Michael Panasci, Marilyn Perin, Greg Phelan, Susan Pimpinella, Evelyn Poremba, Mary Rachich, Joel Rivera, Shannon, Lorraine Shepard, Robert Swift, Ana Valle, Christine Walz, Patricia Watterworth, John Weyant, & J.A. Zawacki.

Sandwich Team 3

Second Collection
May 16, 2021
Catholic Communications

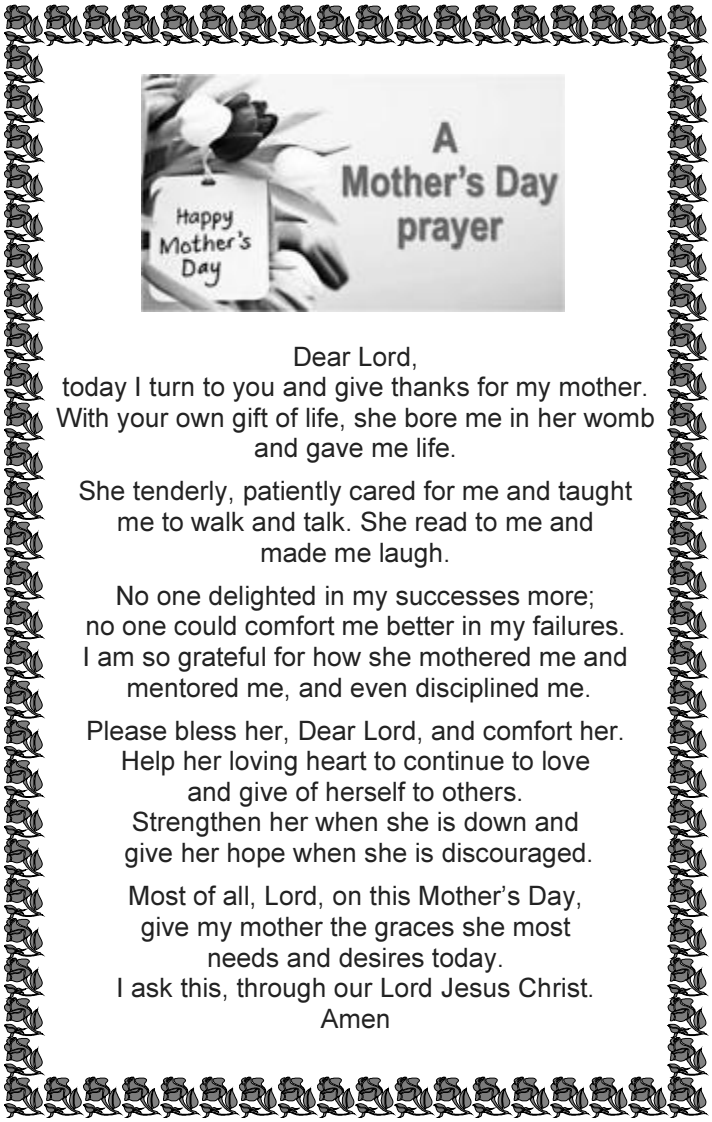
From Archbishop Blair . . .

In light of continued uncertainty regarding the extent and duration of the coronavirus in the state of Connecticut and throughout the Archdiocese of Hartford, Archbishop Blair has made the determination to extend the dispensation from the Sunday and Holy Days of obligation through **Sunday, May 23, 2021, which is Pentecost Sunday**.

Religious Education News

Third Graders Received
First Holy Communion
May 8, 2021

May the Lord bring them joy and peace as they continue their faith journey. Please remember these little ones in your prayers.



Dear Lord,
today I turn to you and give thanks for my mother.
With your own gift of life, she bore me in her womb and gave me life.

She tenderly, patiently cared for me and taught me to walk and talk. She read to me and made me laugh.

No one delighted in my successes more;
no one could comfort me better in my failures.
I am so grateful for how she mothered me and mentored me, and even disciplined me.

Please bless her, Dear Lord, and comfort her.
Help her loving heart to continue to love and give of herself to others.
Strengthen her when she is down and give her hope when she is discouraged.

Most of all, Lord, on this Mother's Day,
give my mother the graces she most needs and desires today.
I ask this, through our Lord Jesus Christ.
Amen

Parish News

Ascension Thursday - May 13
Holy Day of Obligation - Masses at 8:00am & 7;00pm

Christ's Ascension marks the definitive entrance of Jesus' humanity into God's heavenly domain, whence he will come again; this humanity in the meantime hides him from the eyes of men.

Jesus Christ, the head of the Church, precedes us into the Father's glorious kingdom so that we, the members of his Body, may live in the hope of one day being with him forever.

Jesus Christ, having entered the sanctuary of heaven once and for all, intercedes constantly for us as the mediator who assures us of the permanent outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

- The Catechism of the Catholic Church

Graduating Seniors

Three scholarships are again available to 2021 graduating high school students. Applications are located in the back of the church. If you have any questions, please contact Fr. Symolon.

If you have been an active member of our parish, please consider applying.

The scholarships are:
Bozzuto Family Scholarship
Knights of Columbus
St. John of the Cross Women's Group

Applications must be postmarked no later than May 10th.

Weekly Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Mondays after the 8:00 morning Mass. Anyone is welcome to stop by for a prayerful visit any part of the Holy Hour.

The next Bible study meeting will be held on Thursday, May 20, 7:00 - 8:00pm in Fr. Fanning Hall. Please contact Mary Ann Kelly at mk2006ab@gmail.com or call 203-758-1875 with questions.

WOMEN'S GROUP

Wednesday, May 19th, the St. John of the Cross Women's Group will meet at 7:00pm in the Church to celebrate "Our Blessed Mother" with an evening Rosary and Tea. All are welcome!

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ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Readings for the Week of May 9, 2021
Sunday: Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 [cf. 2b]/1 Jn 4:7-10/Jn 15:9-17
Monday: Acts 16:11-15/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b [cf. 4a]/ Jn 15:26—16:4a
Tuesday: Acts 16:22-34/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8 [7c]/ Jn 16:5-11
Wednesday: Acts 17:15, 22—18:1/Ps 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14/ Jn 16:12-15
Thursday: Acts 18:1-8/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [cf. 2b]/ Jn 16:16-20 *Ascension:* Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 [6]/ Eph 1:17-23 or Eph 4:1-13 or 4:1-7, 11-13/Mk 16:15-20
Friday: Acts 1:15-17, 20-26/Ps 113:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 [8]/ Jn 15:9-17
Saturday: Acts 18:23-28/Ps 47:2-3, 8-10, 10 [8a]/ Jn 16:23b-28
Next Sunday: *Ascension:* Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 [6]/ Eph 1:17-23 or Eph 4:1-13 or 4:1-7, 11-13/Mk 16:15-20 *Seventh Sunday of Easter:* Acts 1:15-17, 20a, 20c-26/Ps 103:1-2, 11 -12, 19-20 [19a]/1 Jn 4:11-16/Jn 17:11b-19

Respect Life

Jesus was often at odds with the example provided by the Pharisees, but His love for Israel's religious leaders was never in doubt. Our Lord never confused the sinner with the sin. As Catholic Christians called to imitate Jesus we are also called to separate the sinner from the sin. We love as Jesus loves whenever we seek justice and protection for the child whose life is at risk in the womb. We love as Jesus loves whenever we pray for the conversion of those blind to the sanctity and dignity of pre-born human life. We love as Jesus loves whenever we pray for an end to abortion.

Live the Liturgy

God is love. These three simple words deserve a great deal of attention. They have the power to transform our relationship with God from something that is static and distant to one that is personal and real. We all know the power of love and how important it is to completing all of the human and divine circuits of our lives. But we do not often consider the awesome fact that it is given to us as a gift and is not simply part and parcel of the human package. God is the author of love and love itself. When we truly love another human being, it is really God being God in and through us. The love to which we are called and the love of which the Gospel speaks is a selfless love that seeks the wellbeing of not only our significant others but of all of our brothers and sisters. This love, which is of God, is a love that will endure all things and bring immeasurable joy when experienced. It is the most sincere form of friendship.

Around the Archdiocese

Archbishop's Annual Appeal

"Reaching Out, Healing Together"

Thank you to the parish families who have made a gift or pledge commitment to the 2021 Archbishop's Annual Appeal. If you have not yet had the opportunity, please consider prayerfully supporting the many "Good Works" of the Archdiocese. Every gift will be gratefully received and sincerely appreciated.

All funds contributed to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal are used exclusively for the purpose outlined in the Appeal literature which can be found at:
https://archdioceseofhartford.org/appeal/.

Takeout Chicken Dinner
Middlebury Republican Town Committee
Thursday, May 13th - 6:30pm Drive Thru Pick-up
Shepard Community Center
1172 Whittemore Road, Middlebury
$15.00
For tickets call Shannon Cavallo 203-233-6319
{*Proceeds support the MRTC Annual Scholarship)*

Bereavement Group

St. Thomas the Apostle Church, Oxford is offering two in-person bereavement monthly support group meetings and one Zoom bereavement monthly support group meeting. The daytime in-person support group meeting is on the second Tuesday of the month from 1:30-3:00pm and the evening in-person support group meeting is on the third Wednesday of the month from 6:30-8:00pm. The Zoom bereavement support group is held on the third Monday from 6:30-7:30. Masks are required for all in-person meetings and seating is socially distanced. Reservations are required for all meetings. Please contact Maryjane at 203-888-2382 ext. 104.

Tune into the *Women of Grace* Monday to Friday at 1:00PM. Johnnette Williams and her guests encourage women to reach their full potential of authentic femininity and discover their true dignity as daughters of God.

MOF Moore, O'Brien, & Foti
Attorneys at Law
Garrett M. Moore, Sr.
gmoore@mojylaw.com
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