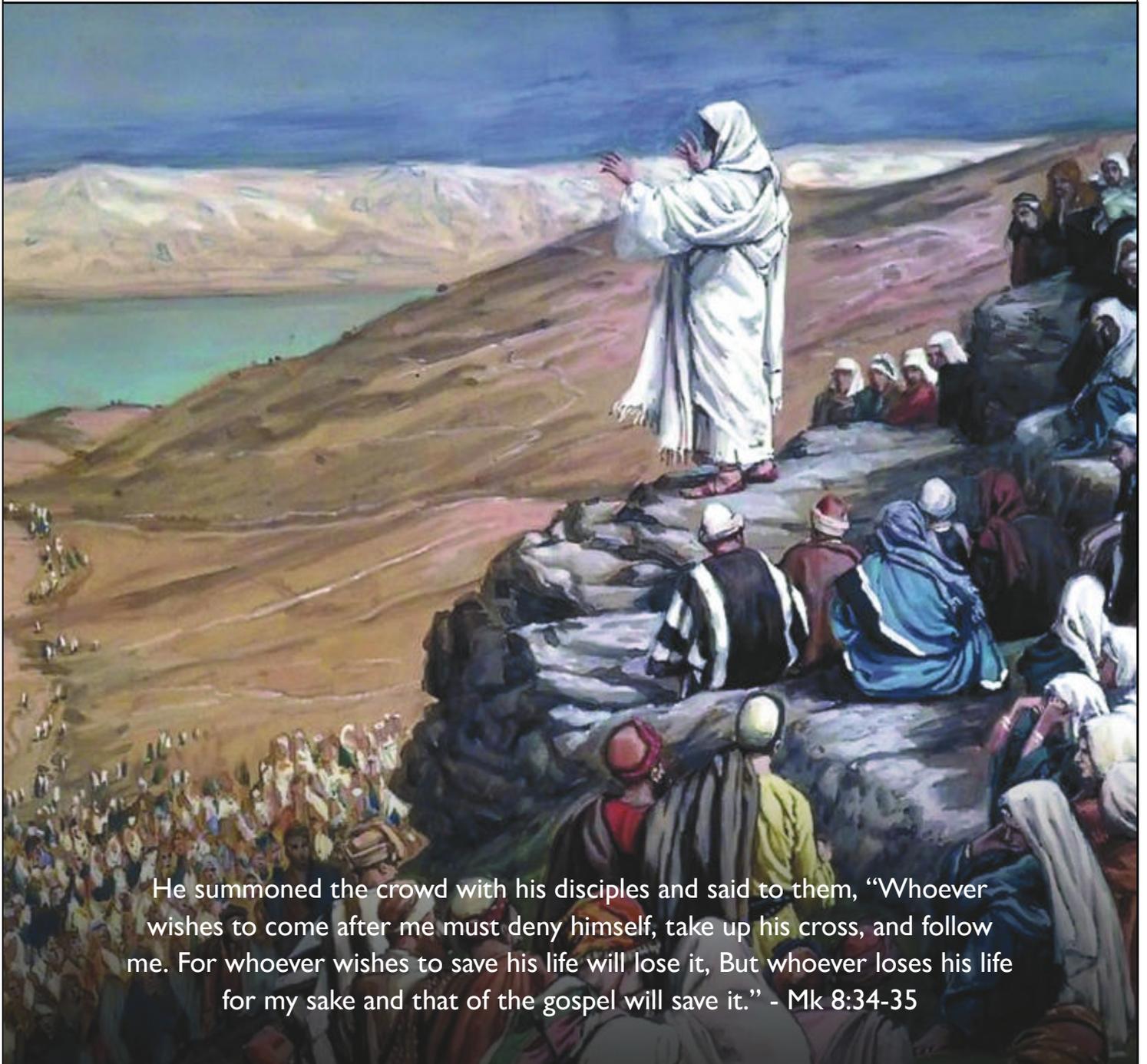


SAINT MAURICE CHURCH

The Catholic Community of Glenbrook



He summoned the crowd with his disciples and said to them, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, But whoever loses his life for my sake and that of the gospel will save it." - Mk 8:34-35

24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

∞ SEPTEMBER 12, 2021 ∞

Saint Maurice Church

Parish Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM

(203) 324-3434 • parishoffice@smcglenbrook.org

Liturgical Schedule

Weekend Masses..... Saturday, 4:00 PM
Sunday, 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM

Weekday Masses Monday-Thursday, 8:00 AM
(schedule on page 3)

Reconciliation..... Saturday, 2:00-3:00 PM
(or by appointment)

Baptisms/Weddings.....Contact Parish Office

Parish Staff

Rev. James Bates, *Parochial Administrator*.....ext. 701
frbates@smcglenbrook.org

Sandra Kluun, *Faith Formation & Safe Environments*ext. 707
skluun@smcglenbrook.org

Monica Di Costanzo, *Administrative Assistant*.....ext. 705
mdicostanzo@smcglenbrook.org

Tony Recchia, *Facilities Manager*ext. 708
trecchia@smcglenbrook.org

Neil Flores, *Director of Music & Organist*ext. 706
nflores@smcglenbrook.org

Members of the Parish Corporation

Steve Doran..... (203) 324-3434

Mary Lamonte..... (203) 348-6701

Parish Finance Council

Kathryn Jimenez (203) 324-3434

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WHEN DID MASS BECOME OPTIONAL?



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Decreasing Mass attendance is a sad, but no longer new, phenomenon in the Catholic Church. The percentage of families that report attending Mass on a weekly basis has dropped from 75% to below 40% since 1955 and the numbers don't seem to be improving. Happily, here at Saint Maurice, our numbers are steadily increasing, for which I am very grateful, and I hope this trend continues.

As we approach the second anniversary of the COVID-19 pandemic, and with the recent emergence of the Mu as well as the Delta variant of the virus, the rationale for eschewing Sunday Mass seems to have found some validity among many Catholics. Yet a survey conducted last September by America Magazine reported that 36% of young Catholics polled indicated that they will be attending Mass less often when the pandemic is over. So, what is going on here?

Much has changed in the world since 1955, particularly in the fields of technology and communications that have become so much a part of our daily lives. Neither can the effects of the current global pandemic be discounted; the significant threat to life and health are real and must be taken into consideration regarding our personal choices and their attendant risks. Unfortunately, a prudent response to COVID-19 does not serve to explain why fewer and fewer baptized Catholics attend Mass on Sundays and get involved in the life of their church community.

Every baptized Catholic is morally obligated to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation. (Code of Canon Law, 1246). To willfully and knowingly choose not to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation is therefore a Mortal Sin which places the individual soul in danger of damnation if one does not seek absolution through Confession. This reality should beg the question, "Have Catholics forgotten this truth of their faith, or has the Church failed to teach it?" In truth, the answer is probably a little of both.

The realities of modern life, coupled with the values and priorities of an increasingly secularized culture have caused many Catholics to make *Church* their very lowest priority. Sadly, if something needs to be sacrificed to make room in an already demanding schedule, Mass is regularly the first to go. It must also be acknowledged that the unconscionable crimes of some priests and bishops have done much to erode the faith and trust of many in the teachings of the Church. Yet the validity of the Church's teachings is, thankfully, not predicated on the sanctity of its leadership nor of its membership.

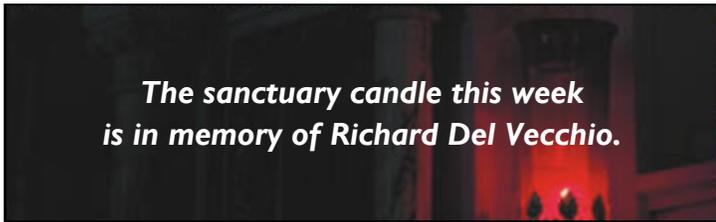


The demands of modern life are often difficult, and the realities of the current pandemic are real, but if we have time to do other things, why do we not have time for Mass? If we feel that we are taking reasonable precautions to keep ourselves safe and healthy when we go to work, or school, or the store, or when we gather with friends and family, why do so many avoid church?

Church is not optional; it is a necessity! The Church isn't about power, control or money, it is about salvation! Coming to Mass is not about being entertained, or even edified, it is about giving glory to God and, as members of the Mystical Body of Christ, coming together as a community to hear the word of God proclaimed and to share the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist.

If you know someone who hasn't been to church in a while, invite them to join you! The greatest form of evangelization is living out your faith and being a Catholic for all the world to see. If you have any thoughts on this topic that you would be willing to share with me, I would very much like to hear from you.

—Fr. Jim Bates, *Parochial Administrator*



The sanctuary candle this week is in memory of Richard Del Vecchio.

MUSIC FOR THE 24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Organ Prelude: Dietrich Buxtehude—Erhalt uns, Herr, bei deinem Wort, BuxWV 185

Hymn at the Procession: #761—Take Up Your Cross (ERHALT UNS HERR)

Offertory: *Sanctificavit Moyses*

Communion: *Qui vult venire*

Hymn at the Communion: #937—Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether (UNION SEMINARY)

Hymn at the Retiring Procession: #885—Lift High the Cross (CRUCIFER)

Organ Postlude: Buxtehude—Prelude, Fugue, and Chaconne in C Major, BuxWV 137

We welcome the choir back to the 10:30 Mass! While masks are still required indoors, choral music will be mostly limited to unison (single-melody) hymns, and will serve as robust support for congregational singing.

—Neil Flores, *Organist & Director of Music*

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, September 11

4:00 PM Vincent Montanaro

Sunday, September 12: 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM All our parishioners

10:30 AM Paul Hughes

Monday, September 13

8:00 AM Pat Kennedy

Tuesday, September 14

8:00 AM Karen Coddaira

Wednesday, September 15

8:00 AM The Shepherd's Staff

Thursday, September 16

8:00 AM Lucy Marino

Saturday, September 18

4:00 PM Luigi Cardillo

Sunday, September 19: 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM Sister Maria & Sister Rita Scaramuzzo

10:30 AM All our parishioners

READERS: WEEKEND OF SEPTEMBER 19, 2021 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Mass	Reader
4:00 PM, Saturday, 9/18	————
8:00 AM, Sunday, 9/19	Sandie DeFilippis
10:30 AM, Sunday, 9/19	Diane Ezzo

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 12, 2021

Sunday:	Is 50:5-9a/Ps 116:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 [9]/Jas 2:14-18/Mk 8:27-35
Monday:	1 Tm 2:1-8/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 17 [1Cor 11:26b]/Lk 7:1-10
Tuesday:	Nm 21:4b-9/Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38 [cf. 7b]/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17
Wednesday:	1 Tm 3:14-16/Ps 111:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [2]/Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35
Thursday:	1 Tm 4:12-16/Ps 111:7-8, 9, 10 [2]/Lk 7:36-50
Friday:	1 Tm 6:2c-12/Ps 49:6-7, 8-10, 17-18, 19-20/Lk 8:1-3
Saturday:	1 Tm 6:13-16/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5 [2]/Lk 8:4-15
Next Sunday:	Wis 2:12, 17-20/Ps 54:3-4, 5, 6-8 [6b]/Jas 3:16—4:3/Mk 9:30-37

FAITH FORMATION NEWS



2021-2022 Faith Formation

To register for the 2021-2022 Faith Formation program, please contact Sandra Kluun at skluun@smcglenbrook.org or (203) 324-3434 ext. 707. Faith Formation classes begin on Sunday, September 26 for grades Pre-K through five; Tuesday, September 28 for grades six through eight. The first gathering will be a workshop for children and parents. **Registration must be completed before classes begin. There will be no registration on the first days of classes.**

What's the Faith Formation Plan for 2021-2022?

The structure of Faith Formation program is the product of many factors. The ongoing influence of the pandemic, diocesan guidelines, suggestions from the parent survey, the focus on the Year of the Family as announced by Pope Francis, and a much-needed emphasis on Holy Scripture and the Mass were considered during the planning process.

The General Plan

- Grades Pre-K, K, and 1 will meet for Children's Liturgy of the Word on Sundays during the 10:30 AM Mass.
- Grades 2 through 5 will meet on Sundays from 9:00 AM until 10:15 AM.
- Grades 6 through 8 will meet on Tuesdays from 6:30 PM until 7:45 PM.

Catechists and Assistants are Needed

As we look to a new year of Faith Formation, catechists and assistants are needed! Please prayerfully consider sharing your faith with our young parishioners. Please contact Sandra Kluun for information at (203) 324-3434, ext. 707, or skluun@smcglenbrook.org. The **Commissioning and Blessing of Catechists**, and all who are involved in the formation of children or adults at Saint Maurice, will be held on Catechetical Sunday, September 19 at the 10:30 AM Mass.

Mark Your Calendars—The Leadership Institute

The Leadership Institute will be offering many opportunities for ongoing adult faith formation. The complete calendar of events, details and registration information can be found on the diocesan website: formationreimagined.org/events-home/

Celebrating Wedding Anniversaries

All those celebrating their **25th, 30th, 35th, 40th, 45th, or 50th+** anniversary are invited to gather at St. Matthew's Parish on Saturday, September 25, 2021, at either 10:30 AM or 1:00 PM for one of two Masses celebrated by Bishop Caggiano. Space is limited to four guests. To register, please email the first name of both bride and groom, your email, and 

your wedding date to weddingjubilee@diobpt.org or call Barbara at (203) 416-1641.

Sunday Reading and Background

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Second Reading: *James 2:14-18*

In this reading James emphasizes the difference between merely talking about faith and practicing it. What good are kindly wishes to those who need clothing and food for today? Faith without good works is dead. The love of Christ urges us to act for justice and peace for all God's people.

For reflection and discussion: The first Christians were known for their sharing with one another and their help to one another and to all in need. "See how these Christians love one another!" their neighbors said. We are witnesses to Christ. How does what we do bring people to Christ? When we neglect to help others, what does that tell people about Christ? How does it feel to be a witness, a representative, of Christ to the world—to have Christ's reputation resting on your actions?

Meet a Saint Who Was a Faithful Witness in Word and Action

Blessed Frédéric Ozanam

Born: April 23, 1813; Died: September 8, 1853

Feast Day: September 9



His Story

Frédéric was the fifth of Jean and Marie Ozanam's 14 children, one of only three to reach adulthood. As a teenager he began having doubts about his religion. Reading and prayer did not seem to help, but long walking discussions with Father Noirot of the Lyons College clarified matters a great deal.

Frédéric wanted to study literature, although his father, a doctor, wanted him to become a lawyer. Frédéric yielded to his father's wishes and in 1831, arrived in Paris to study law at the University of the Sorbonne. When certain professors there mocked Catholic teachings in their lectures, Frédéric defended the Church.

A discussion club which Frédéric organized sparked the turning point in his life. In this club, Catholics, atheists, and agnostics debated the issues of the day. Once, after Frédéric spoke about Christianity's role in civilization, a club member said: "Let us be frank, Mr. Ozanam; let us also be very particular. What do you do besides talk to prove the faith you claim is in you?"

Frédéric was stung by the question. He soon decided that his words needed a grounding in action. He and a friend began visiting Paris tenements and offering assistance as best they could. Soon a group dedicated to helping individuals in 

need under the patronage of Saint Vincent de Paul formed around Frédéric.

After Frédéric earned his law degree at the Sorbonne, he taught law at the University of Lyons. He also earned a doctorate in literature. Soon after marrying Amelie Soulacroix on June 23, 1841, he returned to the Sorbonne to teach literature. Meanwhile, the Saint Vincent de Paul Society was growing throughout Europe.

In 1846, Frédéric, Amelie, and their daughter Marie went to Italy; there he hoped to restore his poor health. They returned the next year. The revolution of 1848 left many Parisians in need of the services of the Saint Vincent de Paul conferences. The government asked Frédéric and his coworkers to supervise the government aid to the poor. Vincentians throughout Europe came to the aid of Paris.

In 1852, poor health again forced Frédéric to return to Italy with his wife and daughter. He died on September 8, 1853. His liturgical feast is celebrated on September 9.

His Legacy

Frederic Ozanam dedicated his life to serving the poor. He understood that charity and justice go together. He wrote that his service to those who were in need taught him about God’s love. Inspired by his work and his strong faith, people throughout the world volunteer their service to the needy through the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul.

MEET A SAINT: FRANCISCANMEDIA.ORG & SADLIER

PARISH OFFERING

Weekend of September 5, 2021

Saturday, 4:00 PM (33).....	\$610.00
Sunday, 8:00 AM (42).....	\$354.00
Sunday, 10:30 AM (85).....	\$437.00
TOTAL	\$1,401.00
Mailed into Parish Office.....	\$710.00
Online Giving.....	\$1,710.00
Capital Expenses.....	\$716.00
Catholic University.....	\$143.00

Thank you for your continued and generous support and for your consideration in participating in online giving!
 May God bless you in your care and concern for the financial wellness of Saint Maurice Parish.

WE STAND WITH CHRIST

Campaign Redemption as of May 6, 2021

Total Pledged for Saint Maurice.....	\$260,045.00
Total Collected (49%).....	\$127,367.00

To make a payment on your pledge, please visit GiveCentral.org/WSWC or call (203) 648-9050.

ONLINE GIVING

Online Giving is a safe, secure, and easy way for you to make your weekly offertory and special collections and contributions in support of our Parish. The service is easy to set up and manage. To sign up, visit our Parish website and click on the Online Giving logo located on the main page. Thank you for your consideration.

Online Giving is also available as an app for Apple and Android devices. Scan the QR code to the right and enter Church ID 1376 when you register.



BEREAVEMENT GROUP FOR THE WIDOWED

A support group for women and men who have lost a spouse or significant other. The meetings are held in the Saint Maurice Chapel room (located on the south end of Augustana Homes). For detailed information, including dates and times, contact Donna Hughes at (203) 595-0603 or donnahuz@aol.com.



In your prayers...

Remember the men and women in the Armed Forces and all who protect us and put themselves in harm’s way on our behalf; may they be shielded from danger; and for their families and loved ones. In particular, Andrew Anderson, Christopher Blasius, Nick Carella, Ian Francis, Samantha Krom, Brendan Mayer, Steven Nolan, and Dylan Schneider.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Jerry Anderson, Nino Antonelli, Patrick Battinelli, Rosemary Bella, Sal Bonina, Aisha Bonny, Taylor Bova, Estelle Caridi, Frank Carreiro, Josephine Caruso, Mary Caruso, Daniel Caruso, Elena Cates, Toni Coe, Frank Colandro, Sandra Coppola, Sonya Correntee, Anthony Covino, William Dattilo, Marge Denicola, Geraldine DePue, Barbara Eilertsen, Carl Ezzo, Johann Fernando, Gerry Fraioli, Jessica Franco, Adam Godlewski, Marge Hogan, Rachel Hogan, Bernard Izzo, Susan Jacobsen, Jessica Mages, Carol Kane, Liam Kelly, Kathy L., Gerald Laber, Joseph Laria, Caitlin Laria, Megan Lemoung, Gary Livia, Miguel Machado, Mark, Frank McNerney, Mary Montaine, Mary Palmer, Harper Pappas, Michael Pataky, Guillaume Paulemon, Sylvia Privil, Anthony Recchia, Sandy Recchia, Rev. Alfred Riendeau, Julie Salce, Lois Scatton, Gina Stuart, Anthony Tomczyk, Lucille Tomzick, Carolyn Torre, Deanna Ventura, Constante Vergara, and Betty Vittti.

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CELEBRATING 500 YEARS OF CHRISTIANITY IN THE PHILIPPINES



On September 18, Bishop Caggiano will celebrate the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass commemorating the 500th Year of Christianity in the Philippines at the Cathedral of Saint Augustine. The Filipino Catholic Apostolate of the Diocese of Bridgeport invites all parishioners to join in this memorable celebration.

Saturday, September 18, 2021, 2:00 PM
Cathedral of Saint Augustine
399 Washington Avenue
Bridgeport, CT 06604

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR ALL VOLUNTEERS



Continuing Education on abuse prevention is critical in maintaining Safe Environments into the future. All volunteers, especially those who will be returning to parish ministry, are required to review the revised handbook, found on your Virtus account profile. Following the review, the “2020 Safe Environments Handbook Executive Summary for Lay Volunteers” must be signed and submitted to Sandra Kluun, Coordinator.



GETTING MARRIED?

The Diocese of Bridgeport offers formation for couples who wish to be married in the Catholic Church. Formation is available online in English and in person in Spanish. For more information, please visit: formationreimagined.org/marriage-prep-reimagined/

MUSIC MINISTRY RECRUITMENT



We invite you to join the choir as we begin the 2021-2022 season. While our Sunday choral music will be unison fare, **we are in need of voices from all four main types—soprano, alto, tenor, and bass**—as we get a head start on Christmas repertoire! Our major piece for the season will be Tomas Luis de Victoria’s intricate, yet approachable, motet setting of *O magnum mysterium*.

Anyone of high school age and up is invited to sing in the choir! No experience is required—just a good ear and a love of music. Please contact the Director of Music, Neil Flores, at nflores@smcglenbrook.org, or speak to him after any weekend Mass if you are interested in joining.

COVID-19 POLICY



As of August 12, 2021, in compliance with Stamford’s face mask mandate for all indoor public spaces and Diocesan policy, **wearing a mask is currently required indoors, regardless of vaccination status, until the local mandate is lifted.** However, we will not be returning to mandatory social distancing, nor reinstating the sanitary protocols we observed at the start of the pandemic.

Bishop Caggiano writes: “I realize that there will be many mixed reactions [to use of masks]...however, from the start of the pandemic, we have committed ourselves to protect human life [from] the effects of the coronavirus...[and] cooperated with state and local authorities to protect the common good. It is my hope and fervent prayer that these measures, where they are being mandated, will be short-lived as the effects of the Delta variant begin to recede. Please be assured of my prayers for you and your leadership during these challenging and unpredictable times.”

Updates to this policy will come from the City of Stamford. We will publish changes ASAP on our website as well.

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