

SAINT MARTHA PARISH

214 Brainard Road - Enfield, Connecticut 06082 - Founded 1963

Phone: 860-745-5616 Fax: 860-741-6731

E-mail: businessoffice@stmartha.necoxmail.com

December 5, 2021

The Second Sunday of Advent

Rev. Robert Villa, Pastor

Rev. Anthony J. Bruno, Weekend Assistant

Deacon Michael Torres Lori Kedzior, Business Administrator

E-mail: businessoffice@stmartha.necoxmail.com

Website www.saintmarthaparish.org

The parish of Saint Martha aspires to be an inviting community, welcoming people from all walks of life. Holding to the call of Jesus to repentance and to believe in the Gospel, our community seeks to offer everyone that comes through our opened doors the tools and support needed to achieve this call to holiness, by sound Catholic teaching, beautiful liturgies, cross generational faith formation and serving those in need. Our ultimate goal is to become vivid images of Jesus Christ in the world, so that we share in the salvation of the world.

Confession:

Saturday – 2:30 PM

Baptisms:

Saturdays at 12:00 PM by appointment only –
Please contact the rectory at least one month in advance.

Marriages:

Contact the rectory at least six months in advance.

Weekday – 8:30AM (Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs.)
Saturday 9:00AM English (1st Saturday TLM only)

Religious Education Program:

Sunday mornings during school year – Grades 1 – 8
Brian LeMay, D.R.E. – (860) 749-8457

Confirmation Program:

Lori Kedzior – (860) 745-5616





Mass Intentions

December 4th/ December 5th

SAT/SUN	4:00 PM	r/s Jason Alexander , Fr. Villa
Spanish	5:30 PM	Parish Intentions
	9:00 AM	The Intentions of the Eckel Family, r/b The Smith Family
TLM	11:00 AM	r/s John Paul Eckel , r/b Ernie & Kay Teixeira & Maslow Families
MONDAY: 8:30 AM		The Souls in Purgatory
TUESDAY: 8:30 AM		The Souls in Purgatory
The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary		
WED.: 8:30 AM		r/s Anna Rice, r/b her daughter Lori Kedzior
	5:30 PM	r/s Patricia & Richard Jr Welch, r/b Ed & Treasa Mastella
TLM : 7:00 PM		r/s Rosemary Hetzer, r/b Rory Rosencrans
THURSDAY: 8:30 AM		The Souls in Purgatory
SATURDAY: 5:30 AM TLM		Intention of Michael Ford, r/b The Ford Family
	9:00 AM	r/s Anna Rice, r/b The Bishop Family
MASSES SCHEDULED FOR: December 11th / December 12th		
4:00 PM	r/s Joan Payne	
5:30 PM	Intentions of Carmen Mato	
9:00AM	r/s Ronald III & Laurie Scovill	
11:00 AM	r/s Raymond Easterling	

Thank you

The November 21st Collection \$4558.00
 Campaign for Human Development Collection was \$ 416.00
 The November 28th collection was \$3313.57
 Today's second collection is the Utility Collection \$1352.00
 Online Giving for October was \$1817.00
 The Service Fees for Online Giving were \$53.11

2nd Sunday of Advent

St. Ambrose shares some wisdom on our need to prepare the way and open the door for Christ. “You see that when the Word of God knocks hardest on your door, it is when his hair is wet with the dew of the night. In fact, he chooses to visit those who are in tribulation and trial, lest one of them be overwhelmed by distress. So, his head is covered with dew, with drops, when his body is laboring hard. It is important to keep watch so that when the Bridegroom comes, he is not shut out. If you are asleep and your heart is not keeping watch, he will go away without knocking; but if your heart is alert for his coming, he knocks and asks for the door to be opened to him.” When life gets overwhelming and difficult and we find ourselves feeling a bit downhearted and miserable, these words can bring great comfort.

We sometimes choose to remain stuck in our uncomfortable darkness and being stuck becomes our norm. In this time of self-focus our hearts are closed to the graces and life God desires to give us. Wrapped in the robe of mourning and misery, we fail to see the mercy, justice, and love the Bridegroom wants to bring. If we take seriously the need to prepare the way for Christ and open our hearts in preparation for his visit, we can hear God’s gentle voice calling us deep within. It beckons us to seek out its source and discover the inner calm and peace that can prevail over the darkness of despair. Sometimes our darkness is so dark that it may seem unsurmountable. Trusting in the spiritual friends who journey with us, and God’s promise may bring a glimmer of light even when it is most difficult to keep our hearts’ doors open. Sometimes, the only light in the darkness is found in trusting the faith of others both past and present.

We have to trust that God has already begun the accomplishment of good work in us and that humanity is on an incredible journey to something wonderful and awesome. God is not done. When we open the doors of our hearts, straighten the paths of our lives, and prepare the way, Jesus can come with God’s simple gifts of peace, grace, and joy. Life throws a great deal at us. It is easy to get tired and confused. We have to train our hearts to keep watch, discern what is of value, and forge ahead. Not allowing ourselves to become so weighed down by things and brought out of focus is a tremendous goal to achieve this Advent season. God is **knocking. Answer the door. You will see and understand life in ways you never thought possible before.** ©LPI

For the Repose of the Soul of :

Anne-Marie Wellspeak

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let our perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.



**MESSAGE TO ST. MARTHA PARISHINERS
FROM REV. ANTHONY J. BRUNO**

My Dear Friends:

On November 16, 2021, the Vicar For Priests of the Archdiocese of Hartford, Msgr. James Shanley, wrote to me asking that, with the transfer of Rev. Sebastian Kos from St. Raymond of Penafort Parish here in Enfield to New Haven, if I would be “available and interested to take a more active role in St. Raymond of Penafort Parish on a temporary basis as the Pastoral Planning discussions take place to make a more permanent plan”? I immediately responded with three unequivocal words: “Yes, absolutely, positively”.

Therefore, effective Saturday, January 1, 2022, I will be the Temporary Administrator of St. Raymond of Penafort Parish in Enfield, which includes St. Patrick’s Church and St. Adalbert’s Church. As stated above, this appointment is temporary. The end date of this assignment as Temporary Administrator will be determined in large extent based on the results of the Pastoral Planning discussions that will involve all the parishes/churches in Enfield.

I began weekend assistance here at St. Martha’s at the invitation of Fr. John O’Connell 34 years ago in January, 1987, the same month that I began working as a Chaplain in the Connecticut Department of Correction. I have always been impressed over the years by your intense parish loyalty and deep devotion. You have been a unique blessing to me for all these years.

As I begin this temporary assignment, I ask your prayers not only for me, but for the entire Archdiocese of Hartford as it is engaged in long term Pastoral Planning that will affect every Catholic person in the Archdiocese. Some parts of that plan have already been implemented in other parts of the Archdiocese; more changes will be enacted in the future.

**Seminarian Christmas
Gift Card Program**



There is a Christmas tree set up in back of the Church with envelopes hanging from it. If you want to give a gift to a seminarian this Christmas, please take one or as many envelopes as you wish from the tree. All instructions for givers are included in the envelope. Return your envelope in the collection boxes or to the Parish Office by **Sunday, December 12, 2021**.

Chapel News



On Sunday, Nov. 21st, on the feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, it was the 40th anniversary of our Sacred Heart chapel's opening. Let us all give thanks to the Lord for such a blessing for our parish and for all the many faithful ones who gave up their time to make it possible to keep it open. Surely they received many blessings in return!

Committed adorers are needed for the following hours:

Monday 12-1pm,

Monday 8-9 pm,

Wed. 12-1pm

Wed. 8-9pm

Wed 9-10 pm.

For more information concerning the chapel call: Flo Radziewicz@860-745-1871 or 860-216-7471.

Lector Needed

We are looking for an additional lector for the 9:00 a.m. Mass on Sunday's, scheduling would be every third Sunday. A lector workbook is provided in helping of pronunciation and a brief explanation of the Scripture to help proclaim the Word of God. This is a very important ministry of the Church, please give it serious consideration. If you are interested proclaiming the Word of God or have any questions, please contact me as soon as possible. I can be reached at 860-749-8457 or email brian759@sbcglobal.net.

God bless,
Brian LeMay

Give in gratitude



A donor to the Retirement Fund for Religious writes, “I still remember the lessons the sisters gave us and how they instilled in us the love of our faith.” Show your thanks for the prayerful service of elderly Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. Your gift to next week's second collection helps provide care, medicine, and more. Please be generously next weekend.

The Second Sunday of Advent

St. Martha Rectory

Phone: (860) 745-5616 • Fax (860) 741-6731

E-mail: businessoffice@stmartha.necoxmail.com

Office hours: Monday – Friday: 9:30 AM – 12 N
1:30 PM – 4:30 PM

Devotions:

Rosary –8:00AM before the daily Mass: Mon., Tues.,
Wed., Thurs, Sat. (not First Saturday)

Tuesday Devotion to St. Joseph, after 8:30 AM Mass

Sacred Heart Eucharistic Adoration Chapel— Monday & Wednesday 9:00 AM —10:00 PM

For Questions please call: Flo Radziewicz **(860)-216-7471**

Communion to Homebound: Call the Rectory

Parish Home Visitation – Legion of Mary:
Meets every Monday at 2:30 PM

Prayer Line: 860-745-5616 The Rectory Office

Our Lady of the Holy Spirit Charismatic Prayer Group

Tuesday: 6:00 - 8:00 PM - Peg Connor **(860)745-9861**

Prayer Shawl Ministry: Every 3rd Monday of the Month
at 6:30 PM Contact: Betty Joaquim – **(860)745-2667**

Bereavement Group: Susann Douglas - **(413)-454-8702**

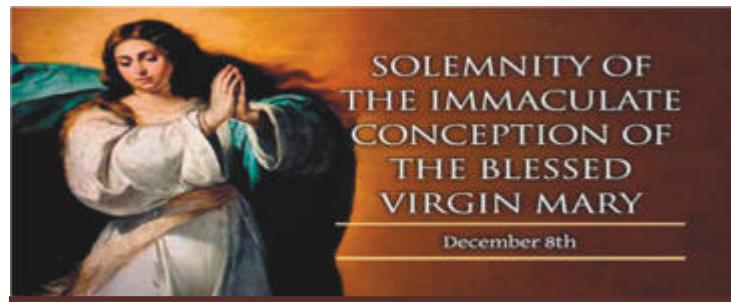


K of C Rev. John B. O'Connell Council 14600
Grand Knight—Raymond Bishop - 860-763-3076
Financial Secretary Joseph Pandolfi - 860-763-2449
E-mail - kofc14600@att.net
The K of C meet the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM



Lay Carmelite Community of Little Therese - #702
Director: Annedda Stiller - 860-416-9600
1st Sunday of the month from 1:00 – 3:30 pm

December 5, 2021



Mass Schedule
8: 30 AM
5:30 PM
7:00 PM TLM



There is a Christmas Tree in the back of the Church that will be decorated with paper ornaments. Each ornament has a gift item written on it. These gifts will help out our struggling parish families this Christmas.

You may take one, or as many ornaments as you wish. **Please return your unwrapped gift with the ornament to the Parish Office by Thursday, December 16th.** If you are not able to shop we will accept monetary donations. For questions please call the Parish Office during normal business hours.(860-745-5616).

Thank you in advance for your generosity!

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