



# Our Lady Star of the Sea

Roman Catholic Community  
in the Diocese of Bridgeport  
phone: 203-324-4634

## 5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT

Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Amen, amen, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit." - Jn 12:23-24



*This week the Sanctuary Candle  
burns for  
all those we have lost  
through the Covid-19 pandemic.*



## Mass Intentions

### **SATURDAY, MARCH 20**

4:30pm **Maria Jan Dobrzynski** (req. by family)

### **SUNDAY, MARCH 21**

9:00am **Joe Masone**

11:00am **Edward J. Lalor**

(req. by Linda Vlahakis, daughter)

### **MONDAY, MARCH 22**

8:00am **Special Intention**

### **TUESDAY, MARCH 23**

8:00am **Special Intention**

### **WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24**

8:00am **Barbara & Peter M. Ryan** (req. by family)

### **THURSDAY, MARCH 25**

8:00am **Special Intention**

### **FRIDAY, MARCH 26**

8:00am **Antoni Michalowski** (req. by family)

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

### **SATURDAY, MARCH 27**

4:30pm **Mary Carol Bolatti**

(req. by Neil & Meg Broderick)

### **SUNDAY, MARCH 28**

9:00am **Joe Masone** (req. by Martino family)

11:00am **John Hogan** (req. by family)



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Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Amen, amen, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit."  
- Jn 12:23-24

Any good teacher or parent will tell you that once a lesson is really learned it doesn't need to be taught again. When we internalize things we have learned, they become a part of who we are and influence how we perceive and interact with our world. The same is true for the law God has written upon our hearts. Once humanity learns this lesson, we will simply know it to be true and act accordingly. Sometimes, it is hard to get people to learn the lessons they need to learn. They are often distracted, disinterested, conflicted, misdirected, or just too stubborn and unable or unwilling to see what is right before their eyes. Understanding that God is in a loving and committed relationship with those fashioned and formed in God's own image, seems like such a simple lesson to learn. But history and experience has proven that it is not.

We struggle with faith, especially when that faith asks us to learn something very particular about ourselves. We must, like a grain of wheat, fall to the ground and die. Because God's DNA is at the very core of who we are, there are specific pearls of wisdom that must be acquired before we can live a full life. One very powerful lesson is that it is not the task of the world to tell us who we are and what has meaning, but God. For many, death is not an opportunity for greater life but a permanent ending to the life they have known. Jesus knew every dimension to what it means to be fully human because he was! He knows the joys, limitations, sorrows, frustrations, wonders, suffering, opportunities, and joys of the human experience. Jesus can teach us a wealth of knowledge and life's lessons from his example, especially obedience.

When we accept the law God has placed in our hearts and gain wisdom from it, then when we suffer we learn to listen more attentively to the Voice behind that law. We naturally flee to our Creator for inspiration, consolation, hope, direction, and comfort as we navigate through this time of darkness. We will not need to run from it, subdue it, fight it, or be overcome by it because we will know, having internalized this profound lesson before, that God will bring new life. God's law is love and love never fails. Even in the moments of Jesus' deepest despair, he glorified the name of his Father. What he learned allowed him to put everything in perspective and be obedient to the tender, loving Voice that echoed within. As Lent quickly winds down, may we learn the same! Then, may we gain the fortitude and wisdom to help others see what is right before their eyes.

## Thank You *for your* Generosity

### **WEEKLY COLLECTION:**

This Year (03/14/21)  
\$3,401;

Last Year (03/15/20)  
COVID-19 Shutdown



WITH JOYFUL HEARTS,  
WE WELCOME OUR  
NEWLY BAPTIZED.

Celeste Vale  
Compton



**HOLY THURSDAY\***

7:00pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

**GOOD FRIDAY\***

3:00pm Passion of the Lord/  
Veneration of the Cross

7:00pm Stations of the Cross

**HOLY SATURDAY**

12:00pm Blessing of the Food

7:00pm Easter Vigil Mass

**EASTER SUNDAY**

Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord

7:30am, 9:00am & 11:00am

\*No 8:00am Mass

DEEPEN YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS THIS LENT. WATCH "CHOSEN"!

Join Zoom Meeting  
Thursday's, Feb. 18th - April 1st  
6:00 - 6:45

Click on [JOIN MEETING](#)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87154492427?pwd=LzFDcnpNbjRYUEV5NUUrWXk3a1Vndz09>

[Watch episode 7 Invitations](#)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K09a7148VD0>



Join fellow OLSS Parishioners via ZOOM for a live Rosary daily.  
M-F @ 4:30pm S-S @ 4:00pm  
Meeting ID: 724 106 329  
Passcode: 5jZxtq



Fridays 5:15 - 5:30pm  
Live on ZOOM

For more information contact:  
Scott Heekin-Canedy:  
scotthc@outlook.com

**A Call to Renewal**

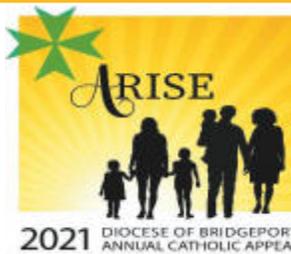
The Diocese has created a website that will contain all the materials associated with our efforts at spiritual and pastoral renewal. It is entitled "A Call to Renewal" and it can be accessed at <https://www.bridgeportdiocese.org/call-to-renewal/welcome/>, or click "A Call to Renewal" at the top of the Homepage of our diocesan website.

*Lent is a time for change of heart...*

All money donated will be sent to Catholic Relief Services to assist in their work to bring clean drinking water to areas affected by drought, war and the absence of clean water.



EVERY "DROP" IN THE BOTTLE COUNTS!



*What a challenging year it was and thanks to the generosity of so many we were able to serve thousands of Fairfield County individuals and families through our ministries*

*and programs. Catholic Charities alone served over 1.2 million meals since the pandemic began.*

*Last week you should have received information by mail about our 2021, Arise Annual Catholic Appeal and how your support assists the ministries and programs our parishes cannot provide to the community on their own. We cannot do it without you and I am immensely grateful for your support of works of Faith and Ministry; Education and Catechesis; and Charity and Pastoral Services the Appeal provides to all people in the Diocese of Bridgeport.*

*Early Spring Giving for New Covenant Center*

The Covid-19 pandemic has been hard on all families, especially those struggling to buy food and household items. NCC's goal is to provide a roaster chicken and or ham and the essential items, such as paper towels, tissues and toilet paper to all families in need. No need for you to go to the store; NCC will take care of the shopping - all you need to do is be as generous as you can with your monetary donation and they will handle the rest! Please visit: <https://www.newcovenantcenter.org/springgiving/> for all the information you need. Thank you in advance.



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