

From the Pastor's Desk



The Reverend Jeffrey V. Romans, KCHS Pastor St. Bridget of Sweden Parish

Dear Friends in Christ:

Happy Memorial Day...Remember what we celebrate...Memorial Day was traditionally known as 'Decoration Day,' an opportunity to decorate the many graves of the over 600,000 service people who died in the Civil War. It was, by far, the costliest war in our nation's history in terms of the loss of human life. Today, that would translate into 6.5 million people. Memorial Day now honors all who have died in military service to our country since its inception!

I am so pleased to hear that the Town of Cheshire will, once again, be holding the traditional parade and wreath laying ceremony honoring those who served in the pursuit of peace and to ensure our freedoms.

This is a holiday that is about remembering, about being grateful, and about honoring the brave men and women who paid the ultimate sacrifice.



Remember the men and women who paid the ultimate sacrifice to defend of our nation, to ensure our freedoms, and in the pursuit of peace. Remember also the countless men and women who have gone into battle all over the world. Remember those who have suffered the ravages of war, those who suffered bodily injury, and those who continue to suffer with emotional

or psychological conditions.

We express profound gratitude for the unselfish sacrifices the men and women in our armed forces have made through the years to God, to country, and to us. We salute them. We express gratitude for those who support and aid our veterans and those who work to advocate for a greater respect for and recognition of those who have served us.



We honor those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice, who have literally laid down their lives for us, (like Someone else we know!). Our Lord gave His life to save us in the most selfless, intentional, and loving way! His sacrifice is mirrored in the sacrifice of the men and women who have died so that we may live...freely! The civil blessings of stability, prosperity and freedom that we enjoy are a testament to the price they paid. As Catholics, we remember those who have gone before and pray for their souls.

I, like many priests on Memorial Day, will offer Mass at 9AM in our parish cemetery for the repose of the souls of those who have died in service to our great nation. Honoring the fallen is important for us sinners who tend to take our blessings for granted.

Today, I pray that Memorial Day can help inspire us to the greatest thing of which we are capable, by God's grace: sacrificial love. Love that sacrifices for another is divine and the only true love.

To all our parishioners who serve and have served I say thank you for your service and for your willingness to sacrifice for others and for our freedoms, and I hope you know that you have the promise of our grateful prayers for you! Today, we join our veterans and fellow Americans, in praying for all those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice on our behalf.

Here is a Memorial Day Prayer, I have shared in the past, which I think says it all...

Dear Lord, on this day, we remember those who have served us by protecting our freedoms. When we celebrate our long weekend with our friends and family, help us remember, that our freedom to speak of you, and our freedom to worship you, and our freedom to do that which we ought to do, have all been bought at the price and sacrifice of many lives. Your Son died for our eternal life in heaven. So too, our military personnel often gave their lives to protect us here on earth. Help us be mindful this weekend always of the sacrifices made by those in uniform for all of us to enjoy our freedoms. Amen.



As a Catholic people we find ourselves liturgically in this "in between" time. We here in the Northeast celebrated this past Thursday, Ascension Thursday, the great Solemnity that marks the 40th day since Easter when we celebrate Jesus ascending to the Father's right hand. We call this the "in between" time because Jesus has now ascended to the Father, and the Holy Spirit, the Advocate whom Jesus promised to send in His name, has yet to come! This Gift of the Spirit we celebrate at Pentecost, the 50th day after Easter. Even our first reading for this Sunday speaks of this "in between"

time. "After Jesus had been taken up to heaven the apostles returned to Jerusalem...they went to the upper room where they were staying...devoted themselves with one accord to prayer." One can only imagine that this prayer was for the Gift of the Holy Spirit that the Risen Lord had promised. It is in this very Upper Room where the Holy Spirit will descend upon the Apostles and the Church will be born by this Gift of the Spirit.

LOOKING FOR THE YOUNG ARTIST AMONG US...We are holding another art contest as I announced a couple of weeks ago! It is that time of year again when we



need to prepare for our annual parish Christmas card. We are looking for children of all ages to design our parish Christmas card. The

last few years it has been a major hit to hear from our parishioners how much they love to see the artwork of our young people being used to share the holiday joy. We invite all school-aged children to think of Christmas and send us their design. The winner's artwork will be the cover of our parish Christmas card which is sent to all parishioners and friends of Saint Bridget of Sweden Parish. All artwork must be submitted to the rectory by June 30th for consideration! We look forward to many submissions!

Happiest Congratulations to our own Assistant Principal, Liz Plazky, who recently received her Doctorate in Education from Southern Connecticut State University! Ms. Plasky joined the St. Bridget School family back in the summer of 2021, after serving for three years as Assistant Principal in Milford, and she has been an amazing member of our administrative team.

A native of Milford, Connecticut, she holds a CT Teaching Certificate (Grades K-6), a Bachelor of Science Degree in Early Childhood Education and a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Southern Connecticut State University. She also holds a Master's Degree in Early Childhood Education from Kennesaw State University, Georgia, and certification as an Ele-

mentary Education Classroom Specialist and her Sixth Year Degree from Southern Connecticut State University. And NOW we are so excited that Ms. Plasky has earned her Doctorate in Education (Ed. D.) in Educational Leadership. CONGRATULATIONS DR. PLASKY!!!



What a blessing it is for our school to be overseen by two extraordinary individuals who have gone through extensive education to ensure we continue to provide our students with academic excellence in a safe and nurturing environment. Dr. Testa and Dr. Plasky please know how blessed we are to have you at St. Bridget School!

Summer Camp and Enrichment Workshops at St. Bridget School... Are you looking for summer care opportunities for your children while you are at work? St. Bridget School offers a weekly camp for all St. Bridget School students as well as all Saint Bridget of Sweden Parish children from grade PreK3 through grade 3 and Enrichment Workshops for all students grades 4 through 8.

This camp will run from June 27th through August 5th. This year we



will have a half-day option from 9am-12n, and a full-day option from 9am-3pm, and the special Enrichment Workshop will run from 9am-12n. Pick one, two, or as many as you like.

Summer camp themes this year will be Awesome Animals, Outdoor Exploration, The Legend of Habbomock (Sleeping Giant), Out of this World: An Outer Space Journey, Adventures with the Avengers, and a Vacation Bible School: Noah's Ark.

Enrichment Workshops this year will be *Spanish Culture and Language, Cooking Fun,* and *Magnificent Math.*

PLEASE NOTE that two of the weeks are already filled to capacity so don't hesitate to contact us to ensure your child(ren) are enrolled for this phenomenal summer experience! For more information please contact Christina Cummings at St. Bridget School at 203-272-5860 or ccummings@stbridgetschool.org.

I have said it before, but I say it again, we want to hear from you! Is there a particular ministry, activity, or event you would like the Pastoral Staff to work toward forming or bringing about for our parish family? Is there a particular devotion you would like to see us offer? Is there a particular topic you would like covered in an evening Adult Education Talk?



This invitation to share your ideas is not empty words. We mean it. In fact, the Blessing of the Bicycles (& Scooters) was an idea that came from one of our parishioners and now will be held on June 5th! Details are on page 9 of this bulletin.

So we really want new ideas to come from our parishioners! Write it out and email it to office@cheshirecatholic.org or drop it in an envelope marked Pastoral Staff in the collection on the weekend. All ideas are possible for consideration.

As always, remember to pray for our parish family and ask God's blessings upon us all in this time of pandemic. With the gracious intercession of Saint Bridget of Sweden, our Patroness, may we be united with one another in prayer! Please pray for me and know that I am praying for you! Continued prayers for you all to know and experience the joy, the peace, and the hope of the Risen Christ!



SAINT BRIDGET OF SWEDEN PARISH—WHERE CHRIST IS OUR LIGHT

St. Bridget Church 175 Main Street, Cheshire, CT St. Thomas Becket Church 435 North Brooksvale Road, Cheshire, CT



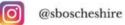
Join our Online Faith Community

FOLLOW US

Get Updates | Grow in Faith Experience Fellowship









@sboscheshire



www.cheshirecatholic.org

The Reverend Jeffrey V. Romans, KCHS, Pastor The Reverend Piotr Buczek, Parochial Vicar

Pastoral Staff

Mr. Paul Iadarola, Deacon, Senior Status
Dr. Richard Wilber, Deacon, Senior Status
Sister Mary Rose Irvine, Pastoral Associate
Mrs. Julia Atwood, Music Director
Mrs. Donna Yatcko, Religious Education Director
Mr. Regis O'Neill, Youth Minister
Dr. Nancy Testa, Saint Bridget School Principal

Parish Trustees

Mr. Mark Izzo • Mrs. Candace Nesbit

Parish Staff

Mrs. Madelyn Banti, Admin Assistant Mrs. Carrie Brabant, Admin Assistant Mrs. Mary Beth Chamberlain, Admin Assistant Mr. Regis O'Neill, Admin Assistant for Communications Mr. Anthony Ginnetti, Sacristan

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Social Media	communications@cheshirecatholic.org
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Summer Experiences for Children and Youth

Would you like your children to have a land-based experience? The Franciscan Life Center is offering two *Franciscan Land-based Experiences* this summer. Monday-Friday, June 27 to July 1, and July 25 to 29, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at 405 Allen Avenue, Meriden, CT. Activities are gardening, animal and environmental care, sports, campfire bread making, arts and crafts.

We also offer a *Youth Leadership Program* for boys and girls transitioning from 8th grade to high school (13-14 years of age). This program is the week of June 27 to July 1 on the campus of the Franciscan Life Center, 271 Finch Avenue, Meriden. Under the direction of Thomas Finn, Ph.D., the youth will engage in confidence and team building activities promoting leadership skills, self-esteem, and communication.

You may register at <u>www.flcenter.org</u> or call 203 -237-8084.



Our collection for the week of May 22nd

<u>Collected</u>
Offertory\$12,516.00
0.1:
<u>Online</u>
Offertory\$7,616.00

Thank you for your kind generosity!



Today we take up the collection for the Catholic Communication Campaign (CCC). Your support helps CCC engage and build Catholic communities in the United States and around the world using the internet, television, radio, and print media. Half the funds we collect remain here in the Archdiocese of Hartford to support local efforts. Be a part of this campaign to spread the Gospel message. Support the collection today! To learn more, visit www.usccb.org/ccc.

MASS INTENTIONS



Saturday, May 28th

9:00 a.m. SBC Ralph Mancini, Jr. The Fuoco, LaBaire &

Tarini Families

4:00 p.m. SBC Eileen & Henry Grehl Maureen Murray &

Family

5:15 p.m. STBC Edward & Marion Halpin The Chamberlain

Family

Sunday, May 29th: Seventh Sunday of Easter

7:30 a.m. SBC Hugh & John McGovern The Family 9:00 a.m. SBC Yvonne Asprelli The Banti Family

10:30 a.m. SBC George Finance The Larkin Family

Monday, May 30th NO 7:00 a.m. Mass

9:00 a.m. Mass in St. Bridget Cemetery

Sebastian Pascarelle His Family

Tuesday, May 31st: The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary 7:00 a.m. SBC

The People of Saint Bridget of Sweden Parish

Wednesday, June 1st: Saint Justin, Martyr

7:00 a.m. SBC Eileen Havrilla Bill & Sandy Walsh

9:00 a.m. SBC Bill Pappas Bob Formica

Thursday, June 2nd

7:00 a.m. SBC Cheryl Thompson The Family

Friday, June 3rd: Saint Charles Lwanga & Companions, Martyrs

7:00 a.m. SBC John Buckman Wilma Buckman 9:00 a.m. SBC School Mass—John Buckman Wilma Buckman

Saturday, June 4th

9:00 a.m. SBC Joe O'Reilly The Haensel Family

4:00 p.m. SBC Lindsay Cunningham Her Family

5:15 p.m. STBC James J. Hoffman Mary & Paul Hawkins

Sunday, June 5th: Pentecost

7:30 a.m. SBC Peter & Lucille Fitzsimmons The Family

and Matthew Fitzsimmons

9:00 a.m. SBC Charles Triano—23rd Anniv. Mike & Nancy

and Patricia Rasmussen— Rasmussen

Birthday Remembrance

10:30 a.m. SBC Edward Plaza—3rd Anniv. His Wife, Judy, and

Son, David



There is NO 7am Mass on Memorial Day, Monday, May 30th.

The 9am Mass will be celebrated in St. Bridget Cemetery on Higgins Rd.



There is NO 4pm Sunday Mass.
The 4pm Sunday Mass will resume on September 25th.



The Rectory Office will be closed on Monday, May 30th for Memorial Day.
On Tuesday, May 31st the office will only be open from 8:30am to 12:00pm.



Please pray for this couple as they prepare for the Sacrament of Marriage:

II Shaun Bowman & Jessica Solotruk

The Tabernacle candle at
St. Bridget Church
shines this week for
Victims of Gun Violence and

Their Families

The Tabernacle candle at
St. Thomas Becket Church
shines this week for
Lil Padolewski
Requested by the Friends at Southwick

#In-Person Services

Mass Schedule This Week:

Monday-9am-St. Bridget Cemetery Tuesday—7am—SBC Wed-7am & 9am-SBC Thursday—7am—SBC Friday—7am & 9am—SBC Saturday—9am & 4pm—SBC Saturday—5:15pm—STBC Sunday—7:30am, 9am, & 10:30am—SBC

CONFESSIONS in St. Bridget Church Saturdays at 3:00pm until heard 2nd Tuesday, 5-6pm

Rosary Mondays 1:30pm—STBC

Mass in Your Car! Tune in to FM 89.5 and listen to 10:30am Mass in your car in our parking lot! An Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion will bring Communion outside at the appropriate time in the Mass for you to leave your vehi-cle, receive Holy Communion, and return to your vehicle for the closing of Mass and final blessing.

Adoration

Fridays, 1-3pm & 2nd Tuesday, 5-6pm in SBC

SBC=St. Bridget STBC=St. Thomas Becket

NOTE: Masks are optional when inside church or other parish or school properties.



Online Services can be viewed on the homepage of our website at www.cheshirecatholic.org, on YouTube https://bit.ly/SBoSYTChannel or Facebook @stbridgetofswedenparish

What & Why

Join Regis O'Neill and a new guest each week for 'What and Why,' a long-form show where we discuss WHAT the Church teaches on particular issues and WHY it's taught! Come and learn more about (and be able to defend) your Catholic faith! New episodes every Friday at 10am

Our 10:30am Mass is livestreamed every Sunday. Join Us!

Getting to Know Our **Heavenly Family**

Every Monday at 10AM This week, learn about

Saint Charles Lwanga & Companions

The television Mass is simulcast everyday at 10:00 a.m. on WCCT-TV WB20 and WCTX-TV MyTV9. It can also be seen Saturday and Sunday at 5:00 a.m. on WCCT-TV. It can also be viewed online at

https://www.ortv.org/streaming/streaming.htm

LEAVE A LEGACY OF FAITH

Please remember Saint Bridget of Sweden Parish in your will or when making a gift in honor or in memory of a loved one. A bequest in your will to our parish family is an expression of your faith and love of God.

Through your will, you can extend and strengthen your parish to build God's kingdom on earth even after you're gone. You can assist future generations of parishioners as they continue to "go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit."

Thank you for your consideration.

"Come Walk with Me" Concert ALL ARE WELCOME

Sunday, June 12th

6:30 - 8:00pm

St. George, Guilford

Featuring Mark Forrest International Irish tenor

Come worship the Lord through music and meditation as He invites you to a closer walk with Him!

Free To Attend

Love Offering For Ukraine Suggested 3 Ways to Donate:

> CASH • CHECK • ONLINE Checks payable to St. George ("Ukraine Mission" in memo) StGeorgeGuilford.org

For more info call Jay at (203) 915-2021

For more information about Mark Forrest, go to www.markforrest.com



Laptop and Tablet Donations Needed for Ukraine!

There are more than two million displaced Ukrainian people in Poland. They are in need of computers and the

internet to provide information about available resources, to look for places to stay, to understand new government regulations, and to contact their relatives and friends.

In cooperation with Guardian Angel Parish from the Diocese of Brooklyn, Father Peter is collecting new and gently used laptops, iPads and tablets to help them to make this transition.

If you have any to donate, please bring them to the rectory office.



Today is the Seventh Sunday of Easter

The readings for today can be found at https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/052922-sunday.cfm

On the seventh Sunday of Easter, we always read from the 17th chapter of John's Gospel. This chapter of John's Gospel comes at the conclusion of Jesus' Farewell Discourse delivered to the disciples at the Last Supper. The whole of this chapter is a prayer of Jesus, commending himself to the Father and expressing his care and concern for his disciples. At the end of this prayer, Jesus and his disciples depart for the garden, and Jesus is arrested.

Several important themes appear in this prayer of Jesus. First, Jesus' prayer reaffirms the complete union between Jesus and the Father. Throughout John's Gospel, Jesus has been presented as the one who pre-existed with the Father and as the one sent by the Father to do his work on earth. In today's reading, we hear Jesus ask that the unity he experiences with the Father be extended to all who believe in him. He prays that we be one with each other, with him, and with the Father. We are reminded that Christ is the source of Christian unity. Through Christ, we are united with one another and with God our Father.



Belief is a major theme in the Gospel of John. It begins in the prologue and continues in the response to Jesus' signs. Belief is the reason Jesus performs signs (2:11, 4:53, 6:69, 9:38) and the reason signs have been recorded in the Gospel (20:30-31). Here Jesus prays not only for those who believe in him but for all who will come to believe in him. And he prays that the love of the Father in him may also be in all who believe so that Jesus might be in them as well.

www.loyolapress.com

Sunday Reflection "A Crisis of Identify" — bit.ly/3IFRhDs



"If we accept the great principle that there are rights born of our inalienable human dignity, we can rise to the challenge of envisaging a new humanity. We can aspire to a world that provides land, housing and work for all. ... This requires us to place at the center of all political, social and economic activity the human person, who enjoys the highest dignity, and respect for the common good. May this determination help us flee from the temptation for revenge and the satisfaction of short-term partisan interests (Fratelli Tutti Paragraphs 127, 232)."

The previous statements from Pope Francis challenge us to safeguard human dignity not only through our individual actions, but also through our political system. Politics is more than partisan bargaining; it can be true charity. "For whereas individuals can help others in need, when they join together in initiating social processes of fraternity and justice for all, they enter the 'field of charity at its most vast, namely political charity.' ... I appeal for a renewed appreciation of politics as 'a lofty vocation and one of the highest forms of charity, inasmuch as it seeks the common good.... While one person can help another by providing something to eat, the politician creates a job for that other person, and thus practices a lofty form of charity that ennobles his or her political activity (Fratelli Tutti, Paragraphs 180, 186)."

"Too many good and faithful Catholics remain unaware of the connection between institutional racism and the continued erosion of the sanctity of life. We are not finished with the work (Open Wide Our Hearts, pg. 10)." "Serving our neighbors spiritually, morally and materially in the name of Christ is at the heart of our 2022 Annual Appeal, Stronger Together (Archbishop Blair)."

Access the documents here: https://www.usccb.org/resources/open-wide-our-hearts-enduring-call-love-pastoral-letter-against-racism



St. Bridget School Update

Principal: Dr. Nancy Testa Assistant Principal: Ms. Liz Plasky

2022 SBS Play Day!!!







SBS Summer Camp and Enrichment Workshops

June 27th - August 5th

Be part of the best summer ever!

> Summer Camp: Students entering Prek - 3rd Grade

Enrichment Workshops Students entering 4th - 8th Grade















Half-Day Hours:

Full-Day Hours: 9:00am - 3:00pm

Enrichment Workshop Hours: 9:00am - 12:00pm Pick one, two, or as many as you like!

Week One of the PK 3-Grade 3 Weekly Camp is now closed for registration. Spaces for most other weeks is limited. Please call the school to find out which weeks are currently available.

Each week is a new adventure. Please visit our website or call us for more information and registration forms.

Thank you so much to our Play Day Committee Chairs, Mrs. Otto and Mrs. Bernier and to the many volunteers who made this day so successful. We love our SBS Families!





Congratulations to Yzabella Latorrilla for winning First Place in the Knights of Columbus Spelling Bee!

Join our School Community

SCHEDULE A TOUR

Find Your Family at St. Bridget School f

St. Bridget School, Cheshire



@st_bridget_school



www.stbridgetschool.org



St. Bridget School 171 Main Street Cheshire, CT 06410

203-272-5860



Academic Excellence | Community Awareness | Spiritual Growth

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Office of Religious Education Donna Yatcko, DRE

dyatcko@cheshirecatholic.org 203.272.6504

Monday - Friday 8:30 am to 1:30 pm

Classes for this year have finished.

Homeschool families please be sure to complete the materials for this year as soon as possible.

Please watch the bulletin for information regarding registration for the 2022-2023 school year.





May 17, 2022

Dear Father Romans and Parishioners of St. Bridget of Sweden,

Thank you so much for your generous donation of \$5,064 (Ch# 18550 dated 5-9-2022), funds raised through 2022 Corporal Works of Mercy, and your continued support of the Mission.

Your support helps us to continue offering our network of services, aiding, supporting and empowering people experiencing poverty, homelessness, hunger, and mental health challenges so they may recover with dignity and develop sustainable solutions for a brighter future.

St. Vincent DePaul Mission was founded in 1978 by the late Reverend Philip J. Cascia. His philosophy of care was to assist our less fortunate neighbors in recovering their full sense of self-worth and rightful place in the community. We could not continue this work without you. The mission is extremely grateful for your compassion and your kindness!

With deepest gratitude, *Gary Beaulieu*Executive Director

FORMED in FAITH

Only 2 Sacramental episodes of Formed in Faith remaining! This week, we focus on Holy Orders, the Sacrament where a man is ordained. It has three stages: Ordination as a Deacon, Ordination as Priest, and Ordination as a Bishop. Holy Orders can only be given by a man who has already undergone all three stages (a Bishop himself).

This Sacrament was instituted by Jesus at the Last Supper. While there were many instances where the Lord asked His Disciples to carry out His works once He was gone, the first was when He told them to "Do this in memory of me," referencing the Eucharist. In saying this, He showed that others were to take on the mantle of Christ's priesthood for generations to come.

By instituting this Sacrament, Jesus ordained the first Bishops. Later on, He made Peter the first Pope. These two actions institute the crucial principle of Apostolic Succession. The Disciples were ordained by Jesus Himself. Because they were the first Bishops, and only Bishops can ordain, every Priest and Bishop can trace their authority directly back to Jesus Christ.

Think of is this way; the Bishop that ordained Father Romans was ordained by another Bishop...who was ordained by another Bishop...so on and so forth, all the way back to the Disciples and Jesus. That's pretty cool, and it's the reason that Priests can act *in persona Christi*, as we've mentioned so much throughout this series.

With that concept in mind, let's sink our teeth into the matter of the Sacrament. As with the Sacrament of Confirmation, the matter of Holy Orders is the laying on of hands. At the turning point in the Mass of Ordination, the priest-to-be kneels before the Bishop. **The Bishop lays his hands on the man, sharing priestly authority with him.** Sometimes, other priests present will also come forward and lay their hands on him.

Finally, the man's hands are anointed with sacred Chrism (one of the Sacramental oils we've spoken quite a bit about already). The newly ordained priest then joins the Bishop and other priests on the altar for the celebration of the Mass! It is truly a beautiful and moving Sacrament, and one that everyone should attend when they have the opportunity.

Regis has fond memories of attending the Ordination of Fr. Philip O'Neill, his cousin, at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph in Hartford, while Father Romans of course looks back on his own Ordination with pride and joy. It is a sacred and vital Sacrament of the Church, and all young men should remain open to the Lord's call by keeping close to Him in prayer! Let's all pray for a rise in vocations to the priesthood.



The St. Bridget School HSA presents Family Eat Out Night



906 S Main Street, Cheshire, CT

<u>Tuesday, June 7th</u>

4pm – 8:30pm (Food)

4pm – 9pm (Ice Cream)

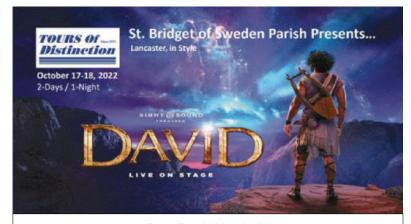
(Rain Date: Wednesday, June 8th)

Come join other parish & school families and enjoy dinner and/or dessert at Rose Dairy!

The restaurant will donate a portion of all proceeds back to our school.

Dine on-site or take-out.





2-Day 'David' Includes:
Roundtrip Motor-coach
1-Night, The Historic Cork Factory Hotel
3 Meals: 1 Breakfast | 1 Lunch | 1 Dinner
Kitchen Kettle Village Hands on Experience
Private Wine, Cheese and Painting Party
Reserved Orchestra Tickets for 'David' at
Sight & Sound Theatre
Roundtrip Baggage Handling
Tours of Distinction Tour Director
Gratuities for the Tour Director and Bus Driver

<u>Day 1</u>: This morning we depart at 7:30am from St. Bridget Church parking lot. Our travels take us to the Pennsylvania Dutch Country. Our first stop is at the historic **Lititz Springs Inn & Spa**, where lunch is served. Built in 1764 and originally named The Zum Anker, the hotel later became the Lititz Springs Hotel. In 1930, it became the General Sutter Inn, and recently changed to the Lititz Springs Inn and Spa. You will be entertained with the history of the building during your lunch. After, we depart for Lancaster, arriving at **The Cork Factory Hotel**, our historic accommodations for the night. This 19th Century building once housed the historic Armstrong Cork and Kerr Glass Companies. There is time to freshen up before our **private wine**, **cheese and paint party** hosted by our instructor from **Creatives by Michelle**. While your masterpiece is drying, sit back and enjoy **dinner**.

Day 2: This morning, a full breakfast is included before travelling into the heart of Lancaster County to take our reserved orchestra seats at Sight & Sound Theatre for their brand new production of "David." Master Poet, Fearless Warrior, Anointed King. From still waters to shadowed valleys. David's ascent to the throne is filled with towering giants, wild animals, and Philistine soldiers. After unprecedented victories lead to devastating failures, this passionate warrior will face the biggest battle of all: the one within himself. Join this young shepherd on his journey to become a man after God's own heart. With original music inspired by the Psalms, "David" is a state of the art theatrical experience. Watch as this Bible story comes to life with spectacular special effects, massive sets, and live animals. After, we travel to Kitchen Kettle Village, known to be a quick stop where we stock up on jams and jellies, but today, we'll stay for a bit longer to take part in the flavorful 'local bites' experience! Upon arrival, receive a tote andjourney throughout the Village, collecting local favorites. This afternoon, we travel home with great memories of a more stylish side of Lancaster County. PA.

October 17-18

\$440.pp Double | \$415.pp Triple | \$520. Single
FOR INFORMATION & RESERVATIONS CONTACT:
Sister Mary Rose | 203.272.3531 x1312
Checks Payable: Tours of Distinction

Ask Father

Dear Father: Recently at Coffee-& a few moms and I discussed yoga. Yoga is becoming more popular as a form of relaxation, stretching, and meditating in the United States. There are many different types of yoga, some even with catchy names like goat-yoga, dog-yoga, or hot-yoga amongst many. Regardless of the different kinds, I recently learned that each movement in yoga includes a pose that invokes a god or story attached to Hinduism or Buddhism. With that said YOGA may be a gateway to unconsciousness things that one had no intention of invoking. If that is all true, is it contrary to our Catholic faith to practice any yoga; is it a sin?

Dear friend in Christ,

When starting our reflection on yoga, we need to take into account its unequivocal connections of physicality and spirituality. On the surface, it is only a set of exercises; while in practice everything remains based on the spiritual foundation. It is because of this that there are many concerns about practicing yoga. Reflecting on whether yoga is a sin from the point of view of the Church, one should reach for the institution of deep care of the clergy for each of the members of the Christian community. Participation in the Holy Mass, daily prayer and living in accordance with the Decalogue, are the absolute basics in the process of getting closer to God. Opening up to spiritual possibilities outside of this zone can lead to enormous problems, including inviting Satan to interfere more deeply with our spiritual space. The crowning argument among skeptics and staunch critics of the Church's position is the saying "it's just an exercise!"

Moving on, some say that this activity can be combined with deep prayer in the Christian spirit, drawing closer to God. Nothing could be more wrong - the best idea for a spiritual feast is to attend the Holy Mass along with receiving communion. The presence of "secret energies" permanently associated with yoga philosophy is definitely detrimental to a Catholic who desires spiritual peace and development. Although most of the typical lists of light and serious sins do not mention yoga, the topic is definitely worth discussing with your confessor. It should be remembered that during confession you can also talk about various concerns related to spirituality and conduct in everyday life. A conversation in the confessional can be a great way to better understand the threat and work out protective measures. Whether yoga is a sin has been argued for years by supporters of this activity, bystanders and representatives of the Christian community. In practice, it is very difficult to say an unequivocal "yes", but you have to bear in mind the multitude of risks that are associated with it. When we practice yoga, we do not sin, but we open ourselves very much to going down the path of sin. Whether it is worth following this direction, everyone must decide in their conscience.

Best, Fr. Peter





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Help Needed!

Searching for medical professionals to do blood pressure screenings during Monthly Coffee/And. Commitment is a maximum of once per month. Please contact Sister Mary Rose for more details at 203-272-3531 smaryrose@cheshirecatholic.org



Next meeting:
Wednesday
June 1st
6:30-8:30pm
SBS Gym
Sermon on the Mount

<u>Saint of the Week:</u> Saint Charles Lwanga & Companions

Bio: Saint Charles Lwanga was one of 22 Ugandan Martyrs who died between 1885 and 1887. The local Bagandan ruler, Mwanga, would prey on young male pages in his kingdom, and Charles fought hard to protect them. He also taught them the Catholic faith when they were imprisoned for refusing Mwanga's demands. Charles had first heard of Christ while in the court of Chief Mawulugungu. He became an assistant to Joseph Mukaso, head of the court pages. Mukaso was soon martyred for encouraging Catholic young men to resist Mwanga's advances. Shortly thereafter, Charles was baptized, becoming imprisoned himself for this "crime." He was martyred himself by burning on June 3, 1886. He and 22 of his fellow martyrs were canonized together by Pope Paul VI in 1964. Saint Charles Lwanga & Companions, pray for us!

Verse of the Week Exodus 34:6

"The Lord, the Lord God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth."







Our U.S. Military Prayer List







Captain Cassandra Andrea USAF Captain J. Michael Andrea USAF SRA Garrett Barboza, USAF 2nd Lt. Darren Barile, US Army Major David B. Beale, US Army Specialist Alan Bell, US Army Petty Officer 2nd Class Michael Betts, US Navy Captain Kevin Briskin, US Army **ENS Michelle Browning, US Navy Sergeant Brian Caouette** Lieutenant Hollis Ann Capuano, US Navy Seaman Apprentice Robert Carrano, US Coast Guard Private Jack Cavanaugh, US Army Tech Sergeant Edward J. Clark, Jr, USAF Sergeant Aaron Desjardins, USAF Lance Corporal Peter D. Earley, USMC Specialist John Fadus, US Army STS-1 Jake Ford, US Navy PFC Owen C. Fowler, USMC Lt. Colonel Mark Christopher Glenn, US Army Private Alyza Hernandez, USMC Petty Officer 2nd Class Martin Houston, US Navy Cdr. Thomas A. Ianucci, USN, Chaplain Technical Sergeant Michael Irvine, USAF SRA Ryan Jones, USAF Lt. Colonel John Kanuch, USAF Major Leslie Ann Kanuch, USMC Petty Officer 2nd Class Neil P. Kenefick, US Navy

Ryan Kiernan, US Navy

AWO2 Kyle (DeVylder) Kohl, US Navy

Lt. Cdr. Jared Korn, US Coast Guard

Sergeant Gregory J. Kowalski, USMC

Airman First Class Benjamin M. LeClerc, USAF

MA2 Tiana Lefebre, US Navy

2nd Lt. Michael Marotta, USMC Lieutenant Tyler McEvoy, US Army Natl. Guard Petty Officer 2nd Class Brian McGrath, US Navy LTJG Derek Molkenbuhr, US Navy LT Marisa Molkenbuhr, US Navy LT Trevor Molkenbuhr, US Navy Senior Chief Petty Officer Pasquale Moreland, US Navy Corporal Ginamarie Mazzucco, USMC Lance Corporal Kathryn Mazzucco, USMC Airman First Class Anthony Nero, USAF Lt. Christopher Nguyen, US Army Specialist Eric Normand, US Army Captain Philip O'Neill, USAF Captain Denis L. O'Reilly, USMC Specialist Christopher Paier, US Army Natl. Guard **PVT John Pastore, USMC** Sergeant First Class T. J. Petersen, Army Natl. Guard **Private Matthew Planinshek, USMC** Sergeant Alexander Poling, US Army Natl. Guard LTJG Jake Patrick Reid, US Navy Private Quianna Rios, US Army Petty Officer First Class Matthew J. Sansone, US Navy Lt. Ellie Marie Senft, US Army Captain Jack David Senft, US Army SRA Myron Simpson, USAF Captain Alexander James Topitzer, US Army Captain Matthew Neil Topitzer, US Army Captain Ryan Van Wie, US Army **Private 1st Class Connor Valinsky, US Army** Staff Sergeant Joseph Villano, USAF Corporal Bernard Vitti, Jr., USMC LCpl. Matthew Voelker, USMC

Airman Mark Zajac, Jr., USAF

If you have a name to place on our U.S. Military prayer list, please contact Mary Beth in the Rectory at 203-272-3531 or of office@stbridgetcheshire.org with the names of family & friends who are on active duty. Please provide name and branch of service. In this way, our whole parish community can help bring them home safely by our prayers.



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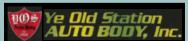
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