

PENTECOST SUNDAY ~ MAY 28, 2023 A.D.



**Father Peter J. Towsley, *Pastor***

**Thomas Fekete, *Deacon***

**Mrs. Susan Padua, *Director, Faith Formation***

*Telephone No. 203-377-4863 ext. 6*

*Email: susan.padua@olopct.org*

**Mr. Michael Petreycik, *Director***

*Music Ministry*

**Mrs. Karen Capozziello, *Cantor***

**Mrs. Pia Ramadanovic,**

*Office Administration*

**Mrs. Mary Beth Rauser, *Bookkeeper***

*Email: marybeth.rauser@olopct.org*

**Mr. Martin Tristine,**

*Finance Committee Chairperson*

*Email: mtris3643@gmail.com*

**Mr. Jack Connell, *Parish Council Chairperson***

*Email: Vijack-4@snet.net*

**Trustees:**

**Mr. John Dobos**

*Email: Jdobosjr@yahoo.com*

**Ms. Janet Lengel**

### SACRAMENTS

**BAPTISMS:** Contact the Parish Office

**RECONCILIATION-CONFESSION-PENANCE:**

Before all Masses -See schedule in Bulletin

Other times by appointment

**MATRIMONY:** Arrangements must be made with the Parish Office.

**R.C.I.A.:** Adults interested in becoming members of the Catholic Church and those who wish to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, First Eucharist, and Confirmation are asked to contact the Parish Office.

## Our Lady of Peace Roman Catholic Church

651 Stratford Road ~ Lordship ~ Stratford

**PARISH OFFICE: 203-377-4863**

**Address:** 10 Ivy Street, Stratford, CT 06615

**Hours:** Monday-Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Friday 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

**Email:** ourlady@sbcglobal.net

**Website:** www.ourladyofpeacestratfordct.weconnect.com

***NEW PARISHIONERS: Welcome to Our Parish Family!***

Please visit the Parish Office or on line to register.

### Gifts and Bequests to Our Lady of Peace Church

Bequests are encouraged and gratefully accepted.

*A Suggestion:* When a loved one dies, advise friends and relatives to make a donation to the "Our Lady of Peace Sanctuary Fund" in memory of the deceased, and include this wish in the Obituary Notice.



The Sanctuary Candle  
burns this week in memory of  
The Parishioners

***Our Lady of Peace will be celebrating the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of becoming a parish on July 3, 1948. In commemoration of that event, and leading up to the Commemoration Mass on July 2, 2023, each week, we will present the story of Our Lady of Peace.***

Part XXIII. The Sixth Parish Pastor  
Reverend Francis Charles (“Frank”) McGrath  
June 13, 2005-June 5, 2006

Father Frank McGrath was born on July 20, 1944 in New Britain, Connecticut, but is considered Lordship’s native son as his family lived at 630 Prospect Drive ever since 1964. After high school he attended St. Thomas Seminary in Bloomfield and St. Mary’s Seminary and University in Baltimore, Maryland where he received a Masters of Divinity degree. On May 9, 1970 he was ordained a priest. It was here at Our Lady of Peace on May 10, 1970, he celebrated his first mass.

His first assignment was as associate pastor at St. Augustine Cathedral in Bridgeport from 1970 to 1976, where Father Gilmartin was the Pastor. While at St. Augustine, the bishop appointed him Diocesan Director of Charismatic Renewal in 1974. Overlapping that role, Father McGrath also served as chaplain for Cathedral High School.

Deeply interested in the Charismatic Renewal, Father McGrath, in 1977 he was granted permission to serve on the staff of the International Communications Office for the Catholic Charismatic Renewal in Brussels, Belgium. After returning from Belgium in 1979, he was assigned to Christ the King Catholic Center in Ann Arbor Michigan, a “personal parish” serving the Charismatic covenant community of the Diocese of Lansing Michigan. After 12 years Father McGrath was recalled to the Bridgeport Diocese in 1993 to become pastor of Assumption Parish in Westport. In 1999, Father McGrath was appointed Director of Clergy Personnel with residence at Our Lady of Peace where he was reunited with Monsignor Gilmartin, now the pastor of Our Lady of Peace.

Father McGrath had a long-term relationship with Fire Department Rescue Company 1 in Manhattan. He was on hand to minister to their brethren and families following the loss of 11 members on September 11, 2001.

Papal honors were bestowed on April 14, 2008, when Father McGrath was named Chaplain to His Holiness with the title of Monsignor.

On June 5<sup>th</sup> of 2006, Bishop Lori appointed Msgr. McGrath to assume the pastoral duties at St. John ‘s Church in Darien.

Father David C. Leopold, a pastoral assistant, was appointed as administrator of Our Lady of Peace until a new pastor was assigned.

New Week—The Seventh Parish Pastor

## **Our Lady of Peace Diamond Jubilee Celebrating 75 Years**



**Sunday, July 2, 2023**

**11:00 Mass with Bishop Frank Caggiano  
Followed by Lunch in the Parish Hall**

Tickets: \$30 adults \$10 children 12 and under  
On sale after all masses beginning May 6 and at the Parish Center

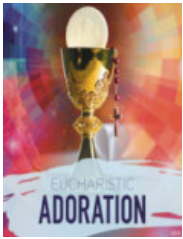
*No tickets will be sold at the door.  
Dress: business casual Catering by Lasse’s Restaurant*



**In-Pew Weekend  
June 3rd and 4th**

A guest speaker from the Diocese of Bridgeport will be at all Masses on June 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> to present an overview of the Appeal. The In-Pew Weekend is an opportunity for all parishioners, who have yet to make a gift or pledge, to prayerfully consider making a gift or pledge to the Appeal. Support for the Appeal is a way to place a share of blessings especially to those most in need. Whatever gift you can make-big or small- is needed and appreciated.

**Thank you to all who have already  
made a commitment  
to the 2023 Bishop’s Appeal.**



**Eucharistic Adoration** is a personal invitation to you from Jesus. It is you and God reaching out for each other. We remain silent in His presence and open ourselves to His graces and overflowing love for us. Adoration is our unique opportunity to have a one on one conversation with our God Jesus, talk to Him, listen to Him and build a relationship with Him.

**Adorers are always welcome to spend some time with our Eucharistic Lord.**

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament takes place in the Church on Tuesdays from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and the first Fridays of the month only from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon.**

### **PART TWO OF A THREE PART SERIES** **ADORATION OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST**

#### **When Can I Go to Adoration?**

This depends on your parish. Some parishes are blessed to have perpetual Adoration, which means that you can pray before the Lord at any time, day, or night. To have perpetual adoration, at least one person must be always present in Adoration because Jesus may never be left alone. For this reason, few parishes can offer it.

If your parish does not have perpetual Adoration, there are usually specific times set aside for Adoration during the week. There is no need to sign up or ask permission to attend, you can just show up and be with the Lord. You may also have the opportunity on retreats and at other special events hosted by your diocese.

#### **What Do I Do During Eucharistic Adoration?**

If you attend Adoration at your parish, it will be in a small chapel or part of the Church. As a form of respect, you should always genuflect when you see the Lord in the Host. Maintain an attitude of respect, and if others are present, silence. On retreats or other special occasions, there may be music playing to help foster a spirit of prayer, worship, and Adoration. Always keep in mind that you are in the presence of God!

Kneeling, sitting, standing, and even laying on the floor before the Blessed Sacrament are all appropriate forms of prayer. Let your posture reflect your worship of the King and do what is comfortable for you.

You really do not have to “do” anything during Adoration. You can just sit there and look at Jesus. Take the time to be with Him. If you are the only person in the chapel, do not be afraid to pray or sing aloud. This is your personal time with Christ.



## **CONFIRMATION**

Our pray full congratulations and best wishes to the young people who received the Sacrament of Confirmation at St. Augustine's Cathedral on Friday, May 26th

They are:

***Benjamin “Joseph” Lothson,  
Adam “Joseph” Matos,  
Cecelio “Francis of Assisi” Santiago,  
Kallie “Veronica” Tenk,  
Zack “Philip” Valdovinos-Torres***

May God bless the children, their families and their dedicated catechists.

### **CHURCH NATIVITY DONATIONS**

We currently have three figurines for the nativity set that adorns the altar at Christmas. We are asking for donations to purchase additional matching pieces. We would like to purchase 3 King statues which match our current nativity figurines. They are 30”, wood and painted in color. Cost \$11,735. The cost includes shipping and handling from a company in Italy. If you would like to make a donation, please contact our Bookkeeper, Mary Beth Rauser at the Parish Office 203-377-4863. We already received donations, however additional donations are needed.



# MASSt INTENTIONS

May 27, 2023 to June 4, 2023

**Saturday, May 27th**

4:30 P.M. *Edward Cummings, Sr.*

**Sunday, May 28th**

8:30 A.M. *All Parishioners Living and Deceased*

11:00 A.M. *George Romano*

4:30 P.M. *Jean Finch*

**Monday, May 29th**

No Mass

**Tuesday, May 30th**

8:30 A.M. *Priestly, Diaconal and  
Religious Vocations*

*Mass will be celebrated by Father Andrew LaFleur  
newly ordained priest to the Diocese of Bridgeport*

**Wednesday, May 31st**

8:30 A.M. *Irene Funk*

**Thursday, June 1st**

8:30 A.M. *Eleanor McCabe*

**Friday, June 2nd**

8:30 A.M. *Carolyn Cipriani  
Mother of Father Peter Cipriani*

**Saturday, June 3rd**

8:30 A.M. *Holy Souls*

4:30 P.M. *Joseph and Anna Fedak*

**Sunday, June 4th**

8:30 A.M. *Edmond Kiely*

11:00 A.M. *All Parishioners Living and Deceased*

4:30 P.M. *Joseph Crudo, Jr.*

## SUNDAY READINGS

**Pentecost Sunday**

**First Reading** Acts: 2:1-11

**Responsorial Psalm:** Psalm 104

**Second Reading:** 1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13

**Gospel:** John 20:19-23

## HELP WANTED!

To help meet current needs in our parish, we are looking for an individual to clean and maintain our church and parish center. 12-15 hours per week. If interested, please call the Parish Office at 203-377-5863.

# Prayer REQUESTS

*Please remember in prayer those who are unable to worship with us-the sick, the hospitalized, the home bound, elderly and nursing home residents and those in need of the comfort of prayer.*

*Hold especially in your prayers:*

Mary Agagliati, Davidson Alagno,  
Infant James Thomas Amos, Alicia Bingham,  
Barbara Brown, Jan Cassidy, Mark Cummings,  
Renee D'Andrea, Angela D'Nardo, Robert D'Nardo,  
John Danko, Frank D'Orio, Nora Fetcho,  
Elaina Flamini, Lauren Flamini, Parker G,  
Deacon Joe Gagne, Marc Gangi,  
Alan Hendrickson, Bobby Hill,  
Victoria Klaff, Jim Leko, Rosa Longo,  
Blanche Loparco, Father George C. Lukus, CSC,  
Daniel Maginnis, Denise Maeseto, Barbara Moroson,  
Gary Normandin, Edith Orlando, Marilyn Owen,  
Grace Parisi, Marjorie Rindos, Ziggy Rogowski,  
Nancy Roberts, Tony R, Matteo S,  
Nicholas S, Henry Showah, Danny Stenson,  
Kate Tourigny, Condolina Vincenzi,  
Joseph Vincenzi, Sal Vizzio.

Please let the Parish Office know if there is a loved one you wish to add or delete to the list. The names of those we are praying for should remain current.

If you would like Deacon Fekete or Father Towsley to visit someone, please let the Parish Office know.

*Also remember in your prayers, all caregivers, First Responders, Priests, Deacons and the men and women of our Parish Family who are in the Military and the victims of the war in Ukraine.*

*Ask God's mercy for those who have died from the Coronavirus, His healing for those suffering from it and His protection for all others against it.*

## OBSERVANCES

**For the week of May 28, 2023**

Sunday: Pentecost Sunday  
Monday: Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church;  
Memorial Day  
Tuesday: World Day of Prayer for Vocations  
Wednesday: The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
Thursday: St. Justin, Martyr  
Friday: Sts. Marcellinus and Peter, Martyrs  
Saturday: St. Charles Lwanga and Companions,  
Martyrs  
Next Sunday: The Most Holy Trinity



There are 7 day votive candles, to the left and right of the images of Divine Mercy and St. Michael the Archangel available to memorialize loved ones who are sick, deceased or for special intentions. Please contact the Parish Office. There is a donation of \$10.00 for each candle.

# Calendar of **EVENTS**

**May 29th**

Memorial Day

**June 3rd and 4th**

Annual Bishop Appeal-In Pew Weekend

**June 3rd**

Family Movie Night

**June 11th**

No 4:30 p.m. Mass (see below)

**June 15th**

Knights of Columbus Food Drive

**June 19th**

Knights of Columbus Meeting

**June 23rd**

Family Movie Night

**June 27th**

Prayer Shawl Ministry

**June 28th**

Red Cross Blood Bank

## WEEKLY MEETINGS

### MONDAYS: MSGR. GILMARTIN HALL

Knights of Columbus 6:45-9:00 p.m.

*Third Monday of the month only*

### Tuesdays - Church:

Eucharistic Adoration 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

### Parish Center

Prayer Shawl Ministry 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

*Fourth Tuesday of the month only*

### Wednesdays -Msgr. Gilmartin Hall

Meditation and Art Group 9:30 to 10:45 a.m.

### Thursdays - Parish Center

OLOP Thrift Shop-10:00 a.m. to 12 Noon

Ivy League - 12:30 p.m.

### First Fridays of the Month Only - Church

Eucharistic Adoration 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon

### Saturdays:

Our Lady of Montligeon Prayer Group - Church

*First Saturday of the month only*

8:00 a.m. Rosary - 8:30 a.m. Mass

### Parish Center

Men's Group 8:30-10:00 a.m.

OLOP Thrift Shop 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon

**Please Note: On June 11th, there will not be a 4:30 p.m. Mass at Our Lady of Peace.**

The Five Parishes of Stratford (St. James, St. Mark, Holy Name of Jesus, Our Lady of Grace, Our Lady of Peace) will celebrate the Feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi) on Sunday, June 11th at 3:00 p.m. Bishop Caggiano and the priests of Stratford will concelebrate an afternoon mass at St. James Church, followed by a Eucharistic Procession to Academy Hill. The day will end with Benediction at St. James Church. All are welcome to join in the celebration.



Our generous parishioners and neighbors donated an amazing 681 pounds of food to the Knights of Columbus Council 61 monthly food collection last Saturday, in the rain! We sincerely thank everyone who contributed - every bit helps and nothing goes to waste. Fr. Skip at Blessed Sacrament Church said, "God bless you all." The next collection will be on June 17, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Until then, please continue to support the weekly Our Lady of Peace food collection by placing your donations in the baskets at the doors of the church.

Next meeting June 19th at 6:45 p.m.  
Msgr. Gilmartin Hall

**Movie Night-Church Hall**  
**June 3rd "Pete's Dragon"-7:00 p.m.**  
**June 23rd - "The Incredibles"**

**OLOP THRIFT SHOP -Parish Center-10 Ivy Street**  
Thursday and Saturday 10:00 a.m. to Noon

**COME ON OUT**  
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Our Upbeat Shop offers a thrifful abundance of great clothing items, shoes, jewelry, candles, kitchenware and glassware, small furniture, and miscellaneous items. As always, we appreciate your generous donations by utilizing the shed next to the entrance of the shop. We do not accept books, men's or children's clothes, or electronic items such as CD's or DVDs. All items must be clean, intact, and ready for sale. Thank you and we look forward to seeing you soon!

## **ST MARK SOCIAL TEAM** **CAMELOT**

"It's May! It's May! The lovely month of May!" So, goes one of the most entertaining songs on Broadway and an opportunity to be Chauffeured right to the door of Lincoln Center where the Vivian Beaumont Theater will present Camelot, with some of the most beautiful music composed by Lerner and Lowe.


Then it's off to Carmine's for the most delicious Italian meal in NYC. Finally, we are delivered back home to St. Mark's right where we started.

Get your tickets now. They will go fast. DATE: Wednesday, August 16. Price per person is \$199 (which includes bus ride, show, and dinner).

Checks made out to St. Mark Church.  
Payment can be left at Parish Office  
or call Ruth Masso at 203-378-1878.

<b>One In Christ – The 2023 Bishop’s Appeal</b>	
<b>Our Lady of Peace Parish</b>	
<i>2023 Bishop’s Appeal as of 5/12/2023</i>	
ABA Goal:	\$42,400
Total Pledged:	\$21,640 (51%)
Donors to Date:	53 Donors

The Diaconate Formation Program supports those called to the diaconate at all phases of their discernment. From inquiry to their formation, ordination, and beyond, all are supported through gifts to the Annual Catholic Appeal. In June 2022, five candidates were ordained as deacons, and they now serve their assigned parishes throughout our diocese! Currently, six men are in the formation program, with several additional inquirers and applicants discerning their calling. Through your donation to the Annual Catholic Appeal, the financial burden of our formation program is minimized. This allows our deacon candidates to focus on their studies and discern their vocation in preparation for supporting our church and serving in their assigned parishes upon ordination.



If you have made your gift to the 2023 Bishop’s Appeal, **THANK YOU**. For those who have not yet given, please make a gift today at: [2023Bishopsappeal.org](https://2023Bishopsappeal.org). We are grateful.

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The Parish Office will close on Monday, May 29th in observance of Memorial Day.

**MASS SCHEDULE**

**DAILY MASS:**  
**Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday**  
**8:30 a.m.**  
**Rosary: 8:00 a.m.**  
**No Mass or Rosary on Monday**  
**SATURDAY: Vigil ~ 4:30 p.m.**  
**SUNDAY: 8:30 a.m. ~ 11:00 a.m. ~ 4:30 p.m.**  
**The Church is open for private prayer seven days a week beginning at 7:15 a.m.**

**CONFESSIONS**  
**BEFORE ALL MASSES**

Other times by appointment by calling the Parish Office

**Financial Blessings**

Our Lady of Peace receives no outside financial support. We rely entirely on your generosity to meet our many expenses. Every contribution furthers our Parish’s mission of faith, worship, and service, as we seek to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ, to serve those most in need, and to worship the living God.

**Week of May 21, 2023**

Offertory Collection	\$ 3,622.00
Online Giving	\$ 2,594.00
Catholic Communications	\$ 569.00

Online Giving provides a secure, time saving solution for weekly offertory and extraordinary collecting giving.

visit our parish website or

<https://osvhub.com/ourladyofpeacestratfordct/funds>

If you need to modify your account log into your personal account and “Add or Update My Payment Method” or contact Donor Support at 1-800-348-2886, ext. Option 1.

As always thank you for your generosity, support and make-up donations. May the Lord reward your generosity.

**OUR LADY OF PEACE**

**WE STAND WITH CHRIST CAMPAIGN REDEMPTION**

To make a payment on your pledge, please visit [GiveCentral.org/WSEC](https://GiveCentral.org/WSEC) or call 203-648-9050.

Total Pledged:	\$343,075
Total Collected (as of 12/31/2022)	\$236,059



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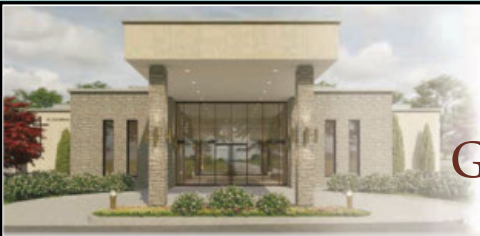


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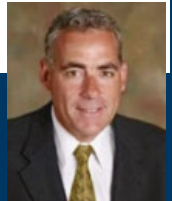
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