

SAINT ANDREW ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross
September 14, 2025



• THE EXALTATION OF
THE HOLY CROSS •

**FOR GOD
SO LOVED
THE WORLD.**

395 Anton Street, Bridgeport, CT
203-374-6171

Website: standrewchurchbpt.org
Email: standrewparish@optimum.net

MASSES

Saturday vigil 4:00 PM
Sunday 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM
Weekday 9:00 AM (Monday thru Friday)

OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday 10:00 AM—2:00 PM
Closed Friday and Saturday

SAINT ANDREW ACADEMY

Gene Holmes, Principal, 203-373-1552
standrew.catholicacademybridgeport.org

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Sunil Pereira, IMS, Parish Administrator
Rev. Msgr. Matthew Bernelli, In Residence
Rev. Lawrence Okwuosa, In Residence
Jeannie Bisson, Pastoral Associate, Adult Formation Dir.
Sandra Kluun, Faith Formation Coordinator K thru 6
Cheryl Camillo, Bookkeeper
Matthew & Andrea DiPalma, Confirmation/Youth Ministers

CONFESSIONS

Saturday 3:00—3:45 PM

ADORATION CHAPEL

Open Monday through Friday 9:00 AM—12:00 PM

BAPTISM

Call the parish office to schedule.

MATRIMONY

Make arrangements with a priest one year in advance.
Dates or times can be arranged only after speaking with one
of our parish clergy.

SICK AND HOMEBOUND

The Sacraments are available to those unable to come to
church. Please call the parish office to make arrangements.

MISSION STATEMENT

We, the people of Saint Andrew Parish are a Catholic community
and disciples of Jesus Christ. We continue the work of Christ by
teaching the word of God, celebrating the Eucharist together,
welcoming and encouraging people to develop and share the
relationship with God. We strive to be grateful, faithful stewards
of God's resources, earthly and spiritual, by being Christ to each
other, our neighborhood, our country, and the world.

ST. ANDREW PARISH, BRIDGEPORT



September 13, 2025—September 21, 2025

Sat.	13	4:00 PM	Joseph & Edith Masulli
Sun.	14	9:00 AM 11:00 AM	Rocco Verrilli Nello & Mary Chistrone
Mon.	15	9:00 AM	Fr. Augustine, IMS
Tue.	16	9:00 AM	Parishioners of St. Andrew
Wed.	17	9:00 AM	Fr. Joe Pereira
Thr.	18	9:00 AM	For those facing tough decisions
Fri.	19	9:00 AM	The Cardellichio Family
Sat.	20	4:00 PM	Michael, Nicolina & Michael, Jr. Rizzitelli
Sun.	21	9:00 AM 11:00 AM	Paola, Maria, & Rosina Mirci Robert & Joan Bissonette and Nicole Loquesse

Readings for the week of September 14, 2025

Sunday: Nm 21:4b-9/Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17

Monday: 1 Tm 2:1-8/Ps 28:2, 7, 8-9/Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35

Tuesday: 1 Tm 3:1-13/Ps 101:1b-2ab, 2cd-3ab, 5, 6/Lk 7:11-17

Wednesday: 1 Tm 3:14-16/Ps 111:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 7:31-35

Thursday: 1 Tm 4:12-16/Ps 111:7-8, 9, 10/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/Lk 8:4-15



The Sanctuary Light burns brightly this week for world peace.



A Message from our Parish Administrator

Dear St. Andrew Parish Family,

I am Fr. Sunil Pereira, and I'm honored to share that Bishop Frank Caggiano has appointed me as your new administrator.

I was born in Mumbai, India, in 1975, the youngest of four children of Francis and Monica Pereira. I go by my first name Sunil (pronounced SUE-NIL). There are three priests and a religious nun in the extended family. So we are so-called "holy family."

About me, I love music, gardening, walking, fishing, cooking—and of course enjoying good food!

I belong to a religious order called The Indian Missionary Society. I was ordained a priest in 2004. I ministered six years in India before coming to the US in 2011. I served as a parochial vicar at St. Thomas the Apostle Church, Norwalk (2011-2014), St. Matthew Church, Norwalk (2014-2022), and St. Thomas More Church, Darien (2022-2025). It has been a great experience working all these years. I have been inspired by the faith of the people.

As I step into this new role at St. Andrew, I humbly ask for your prayers and support. I look forward to meeting you, getting to know you and working with you and for you. Together, let us strengthen and grow our parish family, deepening our shared life of faith.

I am excited to be part of your family!!!

In Christ,

Fr. Sunil Pereira

SECOND COLLECTION

CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA
September 13 & 14



STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Week of September 7, 2025

Offertory — \$ 3377.18

On-line — \$ 742.00

Gaza Collection — \$ 840.00



Weekly expenses: \$5450.00

If you would like to become an online giver and schedule your donations to the parish any day, any time by using your computer or smart device.

Please go to the parish website,

www.standrewchurchbpt.org

and click on-line giving/click on Parish Finance

Credit Card Donations

Saint Andrew Parish can now accept credit cards for donations, Faith Formation tuition, Mass stipends, and fund raisers. Please call the parish office for more information.

Thank you for your generosity!



If you would like to dive deeper into living Christ life, a discipleship series will start on Thursday, September 18 at St. Andrew Parish. Evening will start at 6:30 PM with Eucharistic Adoration in the Church. Afterwards at 7 PM downstairs in the hall there will be prayer, a video on Discipleship and discussion groups. This will be a time of spiritual growth and reflection on what it means to be a disciple. We will meet every Thursday and conclude on November 21. Please register by email:

christlifefairfield@gmail.com

All are welcome!

GOSPEL MEDITATION

September 14, 2025

Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

One of my favorite movies is the 1991 comedy *What About Bob?* Bill Murray plays a troubled, paranoid hypochondriac named Bob Wiley who innocently but annoyingly hounds Dr. Leo Marvin, played by Richard Dreyfuss. Bob is paralyzed by his fear of, well, everything, and is convinced the psychologist can heal him. But Dr. Marvin's failed attempts to heal Bob end up driving the doctor to attempt to murder Bob. He fails. The surprise is that, having faced death head on, Bob is suddenly healed. He attributes his healing to Dr. Marvin for break-through "death therapy." In facing the cause of his deepest illness and dysfunction, Bob is healed.

Underneath this light-hearted comedy is a dead-serious resonance with this week's feast: the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. Christ is lifted up on the cross to force us to face the truth of sin and death. In that reckoning we find healing. Like Moses' snake on a pole, the cross says: this is what is causing your sickness – rebellion, disobedience, sin. Look at it! Don't run from it. Now seeing it exposed, we see life. We see our physician mercifully healing us. In this sense, we are all like Bob Wiley. The "death therapy" of the cross is our only hope for healing.

This week I invite you to "exalt the cross." If you don't have one in your house, get one. Use it for prayer. Gaze on it frequently. It teaches us to not be afraid. It heals us.

— *Father John Muir*





Rosary
Monday, 7:00 PM
In the outside Chapel.



Please consider joining one of our parish ministry teams: Reader, Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, Social Concerns, Music Ministry, Altar Server, Catechist. We need your help!



Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus to support the St. Andrew Food Pantry

Saturday and Sunday, October 4th and 5th

Before and after all Masses on the grounds of St. Andrew Church

A table will be set up outside the church for your non-perishable food items and members of the Knights of Columbus and Columbiettes will be on hand to assist you with carrying bags from your car. Please help however you can. With your contributions and support, we hope to make this an annual event.

THANK YOU!

SAINT ANDREW PARISH NURSE PROGRAM

Blood Pressure Screening

September 20/21
In the Reconciliation Room

Important Message:

“Wheel it Forward” is an organization you can use to acquire medical equipment or donate any medical equipment you no longer need. Bridgeport Branch is open Monday—Friday, 10 AM—3 PM. Phone: (203) 652-8600.

Website: WheelitForwardUSA.org.



The Social Concerns Committee is in need of the following items to re-stock our food pantry.

Items needed:

- | | | |
|---------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Box potatoes | Oatmeal | Tea |
| Coffee | Ketchup | Mayonnaise |
| Crackers | Napkins | Toilet paper |
| Kleenex | Lysol wipes | Salad dressing |
| Peanut butter | Jelly | Dry milk powder |
| Pancake mix | Syrup | Rice |
| Mustard | Granola bars | Paper towels |
| Spices | Chef Boyardee | Lysol spray |

If any family in our parish and school community is in need of a food, please contact the parish office at 203-374-6171.

BUY A BRICK PROGRAM

Memorialize a loved one. Offer a word of thanks or praise to Our Lord, remember a special occasion

Purchase a 4x8 brick to place in our Memorial Garden. Donation \$150 per brick



Flyer/Order Form available at all church entrances

Please consider donating to this Fundraiser. Invite family and friends to join our campaign. This fundraiser will be on-going.



If you or anyone you know would like to receive the Holy Eucharist at home, please contact the parish office at 203-374-6171.

Fr. Sunil will visit the homebound on the first Friday of the month.

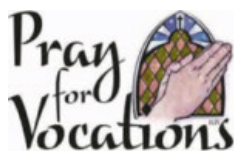
Diocesan Wedding Jubilee Mass

Couples celebrating their 25th, 40th, 45th, 50th and more years of marriage are eligible to attend. The Mass will be held on Saturday, October 4 at 11:00 AM at St. Augustine Cathedral.

Please contact Sharo Colihan to register at:

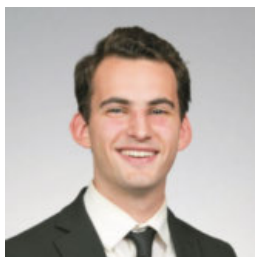
Sharin.Colihan@diobpt.org

(203) 416-1454



Lord, through Baptism, you invite me to share the gift of my life in service to others. Be with me as I choose each day to show your presence in our world. Give me the courage and generosity to respond to your love, to your call. I pray especially for those who serve you as priests, brothers, sisters, and deacons. Keep them close to you. Open the minds and hearts of many other men and women to be witnesses to your gospel. Amen.

This week we, the members of St. Andrew Parish community, pray especially for seminarian, Nicholas Couture.



This Week on Formed

Week of September 14, 2025



The Seven Sorrows of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The Seven Sorrows of Mary is a traditional Catholic devotion featuring meditations on sorrowful episodes in the life of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Join us in prayer as we celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Sorrows.



Stations of the Cross by Saint Alphonsus Liguori

The Augustine Institute presents a beautiful meditation on the Stations of the Cross by Saint Alphonsus Liguori, narrated by Dr. Christopher Blum. This prayerful reflection is accompanied by the Schola Cantorum, chanting the traditional Catholic hymn Stabat Mater to aid your prayer.



The Seven Sorrows of Mary | Brother Francis

Join Brother Francis as he prays and explores the Seven Sorrows of Mary Devotion!

Our parish has a Formed subscription. Visit signup.formed.org and select our parish name.

An offering from the AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE



The Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (formerly RCIA) is for anyone over the age of 18 who:

- Has never been baptized
- Has been Baptized and never received the Sacraments of Holy Eucharist and Confirmation

If you, or someone you know is interested in more information please contact Jeannie at the parish office. This process is on-going so those interested can inquire at any-time.

If Confirmation is the only Sacrament you have not received, our parish also has an adult program to help you complete your Sacraments of Initiation.



Faith Formation children's opening prayer on 9/7/2025, praising God for all creation!

September Schedule

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14
Students only Grades 2 through 8

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21
Students only for First Penance, Holy Eucharist & Confirmation

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

NEXT MEETING — SEPTEMBER 20
PARISH SCRIPTURE STUDY



Classes will take place on Saturday mornings
10:00 until 11:30 in the parish hall.



THE WORD ON WEDNESDAY
"When I found Your words, I devoured them;
Your words were my joy." — Jeremiah 15:16

Explore the upcoming Sunday Gospel.
Apply the Gospel to your daily life.

Parish Hall

Wednesdays 7:00-8:15 PM

(Enter through the office door)

Come when you can. All are welcome.

For more information on Adult Faith Formation Programs
Contact: Jeannie Bisson in the parish office



"SOCKTOBER"
Annual sock collection

Beginning October 1

New socks for men, women, and children are needed.



Collection bins will be at church entrance doors.



"Let go of fear, and watch your faith take flight!"



Please contact the parish office to schedule a Mass in honor of a loved one.

We have many openings for weekday Masses for 2025.

Masses for 2026 are available. Contact us soon if you need a weekend Mass.

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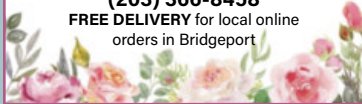
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ST. FRANCES X. CABRINI

Council #4096

Meetings 2nd Monday 8pm

New Members

It is our pleasure to invite you to participate in a special ceremony of admission and advancement.

Please join us for the Exemplification of Charity, Unity and Fraternity immediately following the 11am Mass on the First Sunday of each month.

All invited guests are welcome with pre-registration

Contact Joseph Leonetti
203-414-1827

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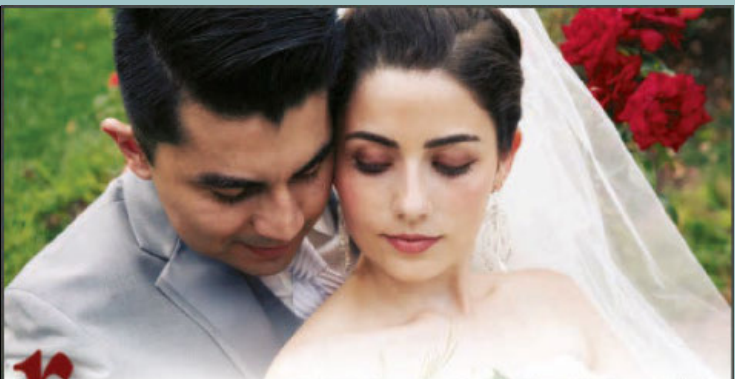


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