

Our Lady of the Assumption Parish

545 Stratfield Road
Fairfield, CT 06825-1872

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Fax: (203) 333-2562

Email: info@olaffld.org

Website: <https://www.olaffld.org>

*“Ad Jesum per Mariam”
To Jesus through Mary.*

Clergy/Lay Leadership

Rev. Peter A. Cipriani, Pastor

Rev. Michael Flynn, Parochial Vicar

Rev. Marcel Saint Jean, In Residence

Deacon Raymond John Chervenak

Deacon Robert McLaughlin

Michael Cooney, Director of Music

Masses

Saturday Vigil Mass: 4 PM

Sunday Masses: 7:30 AM, 9 AM 10:30 AM
and 12:00 PM (Subject to change)

Morning Daily Mass: (Mon.-Sat.) 7:30 AM

Evening Daily Mass: (Mon.-Fri.) 5:30 PM

Holy Days: See Bulletin for schedule

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday: 3:00-3:45 PM or by appointment.

Every Thursday: 7-8:00 PM

Rosary/Divine Mercy Chaplet

7 AM Monday-Saturday, Rosary

8 AM First Saturday of each month, Rosary

3 PM Monday-Friday, Divine Mercy

Chaplet and Rosary

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

First Friday of each month from 8 AM

Friday to 7:15 AM Saturday. To volunteer

contact Grand Knight, Michael Lauzon at
(203) 817-7528 or email mplauzon1@aol.com.

Novenas

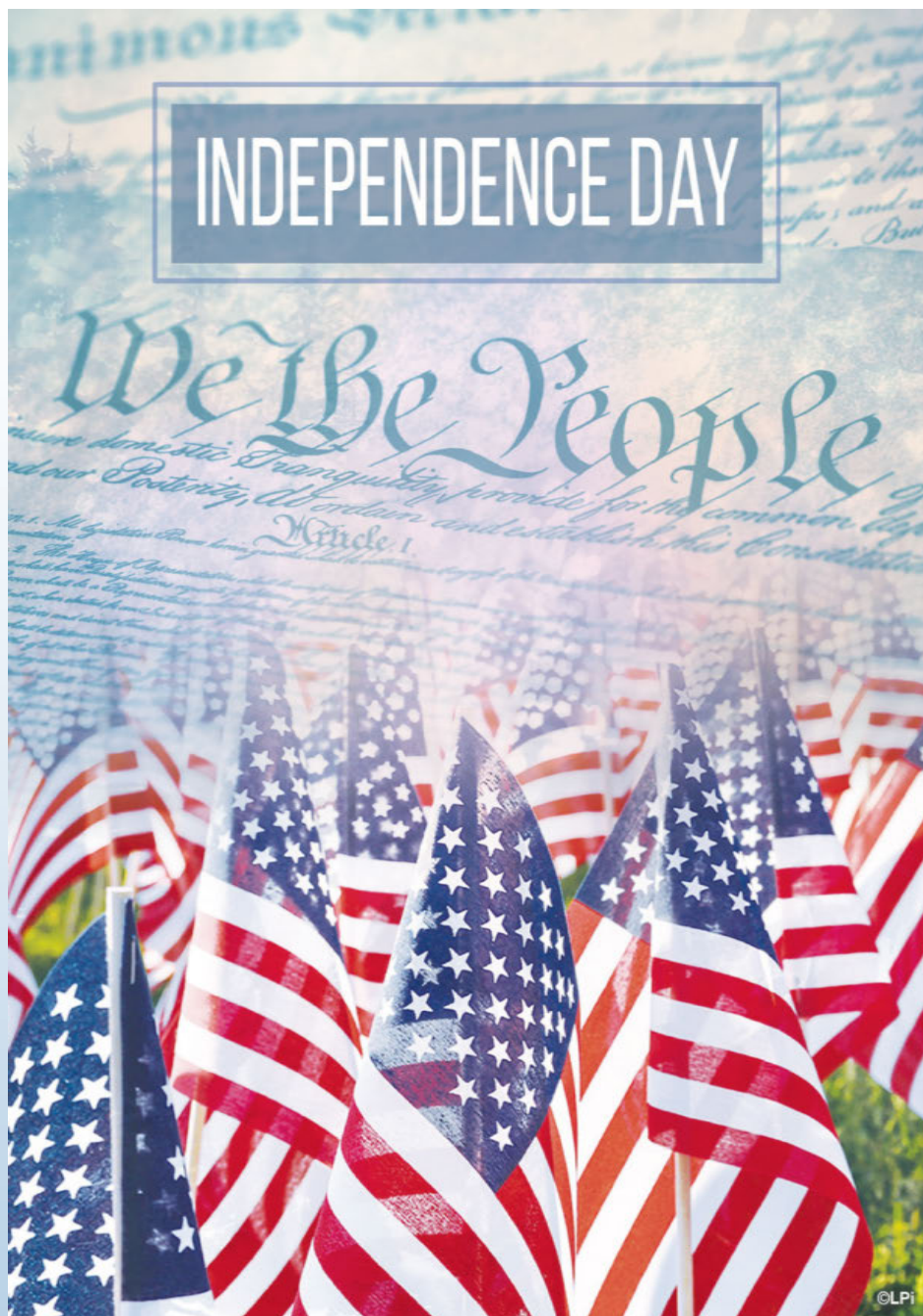
Miraculous Medal-8 AM. Monday

Saint Joseph-8 AM. Wednesday

Divine Mercy-8 AM. Friday

Parish Membership

Our parish family invites all of its members to participate fully in our spiritual and social life. Every family moving into the parish is requested to register at the Rectory or go to our website for a registration form. If you move to another parish, or change your address, notify the Rectory.



Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)

Anyone interested in becoming a Roman Catholic becomes a part of this process, as can any adult Catholic who has not received all the Sacraments of initiation. For further information contact the Faith Formation office.

Sacrament of Baptism

This Sacrament is celebrated on Sundays at 1:00 PM. It is required that parents participate in a Pre-Baptismal class. Classes are held on the third Saturday of the month. Registration is required by calling the parish office.

Sacrament of Marriage

Please contact the parish office as soon as possible so as to ensure a proper time and adequate preparation for this Sacrament. Pre-Cana or Engaged Encounters are required.

Anointing of the Sick Ministry to the Sick and Elderly

This Sacrament of healing expresses the love of God and our Church for our sick, our shut-ins and the elderly, unable to come to Church. For the dying, please contact the Rectory immediately. For the confined, the elderly and our shut-ins, whether at home, or in the hospital, please inform the Rectory.

From The Pastor's Desk

- Dependence Day -

When Founding Father John Adams wrote a letter to his wife on July 3, 1776, he described how future generations of Americans ought to celebrate our nation's Independence Day.

He called for "Pomp and Parade, with Shews, Games, Sports, Guns, Bells, Bonfires and Illuminations from one End of this Continent to the other from this Time forward forever more."

But first and foremost, he who would become the second president of the United States, wrote, "It ought to be commemorated as the Day of Deliverance by solemn Acts of Devotion to God Almighty." In other words: parades, fireworks — and the First Commandment!

At a time when factions of Americans find themselves ensnared in partisan and poisonous passions, and at a time when we struggle to govern according to our nation's founding principles, it's hard to go wrong if our to-do list as a nation begins with the First Commandment. I am the Lord your God; you shall not have other gods before Me.

By solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty, we orient ourselves to our Creator who, through love, holds us in existence and calls us to communion with Himself.

On this Fourth of July, Adams' words remind us that our primary covenant is with God, not with any given political party, nor with the false gods of power, money, and fleeting pleasures.

When we love with all our heart the God who created us in love, we bring order to our lives and thereby claim the freedom He intends for us — freedom definitively bound to the ultimate good, which is God who seeks to dwell in our hearts and sanctify our words and actions.

A nation that adheres to the First Commandment embraces humility, self-sacrifice, and forbearance. It doesn't seek to wound another, to gossip, to boast, and to lie. Its best interests aren't pursued to the detriment of others.

Sadly and recently the country commemorated Juneteenth which marks the day when federal troops arrived in Galveston, Texas in 1865 to take control of the state and ensure that all enslaved people be freed.

The troops' arrival came a full two and a half years after the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation issued by President Abraham Lincoln on January 1, 1863, which established that all enslaved people in Confederate states in rebellion against the Union "shall be then, thenceforward, and forever free."

I cannot imagine anything that disrespects one's human dignity more than to be reduced to an object that is forced to gratify the greed and distorted desires of another person.

After all, is not our Nation founded on this primary principal highlighted in our Declaration of Independence: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

Sin is slavery...who of us do not struggle with some kind of sinful condition that seems to reduce our level of goodness and impede our progress in holiness...who of us do not struggle with some form of addiction that has all but bound up our will power reducing it to will weakness and will paralysis.

And where does Christ stand amidst these pains, torments and struggles in our lives, perhaps after the title of Savior the one title that Saint Paul seems most to identify Jesus Christ with is slave...explaining:

He emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness; and found human in appearance, he humbled himself, becoming obedient to death, even death on a cross.

Bound to that Cross by nails as so many men from Israel during the times of Moses to African Americans in the 19th century here in this country were bound by chains, so many whipped for trying to escape their slavery...Christ would be scourged across His entire body...in each strike the scourge of sin embedding itself into His torn flesh and breaking heart. In seeing Christ on the Cross we see that freedom is in fact not free it was purchased for us at the greatest of all prices.

Christ endured this not simply as a show of solidarity but as the means to emancipate us, and what might our Emancipation and Independence Day be? Find out the day of your baptism...and like Juneteenth...Christmas...Easter... Independence Day...celebrate it...for at that moment when those sacred waters were poured upon your head and soaked into your soul. You were freed from the scourge and slavery of the original sin, wrested free from the power of the devil the ultimate slave master. So that these words from Saint Paul might echo loudly in our ears:

For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption, through which we cry, "Abba, Father!"

Knowing the price of your freedom especially at the cost of another's life, God's life, must we not demonstrate a greater and more solemn respect for freedom and refuse to deprive others of freedom as once we did with the men and women from Africa in this country and the world over, so many try to do to the unborn...trying to deprive them of their right of life liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

Nothing enslaves a person more and violates their divinely charged dignity more than sin, but no one liberates us more fully and more joyfully from these chains of misery than establishing that primary First Commandment relationship with God, who Jesus teaches we must love with all our heart, mind, soul and strength and our neighbor as well. So that arriving at our moment to leave this earth, we too can exclaim with great confidence and joy: "free at last free at last...thank God Almighty I am free at last."



Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time July 3, 2022

Parish Office Hours:
Monday-Thursday, 9 AM to 4 PM
Friday, 9 AM to 12 PM

Assumption Catholic School

Mrs. Stacy Clements, Principal - (203) 334-6271
Grades: Pre-K 3 through 8 Hours: 8:40 AM - 3 PM
Before and After School Programs Available
(Before School program begins at 7:00 AM and After School program ends 5:30 PM)

Faith Formation

Mr. Frank Macari, Director - (203) 367-1108
Email address: Our.lady.assumption@snet.net
Tuesday Classes For Grades 1-5 from 4:15-5 PM
For Grades 6-8 from 7-7:45 PM
Office of Faith Formation Hours: Weekdays 10 AM - 3 PM
and Tuesdays 10 AM-5:30 PM (during school year)

Parish Finance Council

Our parish Finance Council is a consultative body of lay persons established to advise the pastor in matters pertaining to the financial affairs of the church. The chairman is Ron Fiske, (203) 330-0375.

Parish Activities

American Heritage Girls Troop #4862: Monthly (except summer), 3rd Saturdays, 2:30 PM, parish center. For girls ages 5-18. Jillian Plomin at jplomin@gmail.com.

Altar Society of St. Joseph the Worker: Monthly, 1st & 3rd Saturdays of the month following 7:30 AM Mass. Cleans and beautifies the Sanctuary and chapels in the church.

Alcoholics Anonymous Friday, 8:00 PM, parish hall.
Narcotics Anonymous Wednesday 7:30 PM, parish hall.

Bible Study: Thursdays, 9:15 AM and 7 PM, parish center. Study sessions will be posted in our bulletin. Currently suspended.

Choir: Adults: Wednesday, 7 PM in the church.
Resurrection Choir: Sings at funeral Masses.
Contact Michael Cooney, Director of Music, at (203) 572-2213 or email music@olaffld.org for details.
Currently suspended

Knights of Columbus: Monthly, 2nd & 4th Tuesday, 7 PM parish hall. Grand Knight Michael Lauzon at (203) 817-7528 or email mplauzon1@aol.com.

Parish Nurses: Monthly, 2nd Wednesday, Sept. to June, at 7 PM St. Vincent Medical Center

Blood pressure screening: Currently suspended

Sisters in Faith: Monthly, 2nd Monday, 7 - 9 PM, parish hall, except July & August. Ministry for women of Assumption Church. Mary Garbe at marygarbe@gmail.com.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, July 2nd

4:00 p.m. Richard Renzulli

Sunday, July 3rd

7:30 a.m. Martin Lang
9:00 a.m. Ronald Fiske, Sr.
10:30 a.m. Mr. & Mrs. Frank DeStefano, Sr.
12:00 p.m. Special Intention of Cindy Plescia

Weekday Masses

Mon. 7/4 7:30 a.m. Rose Gregh
5:30 p.m. Lachance & Grondin families
Tues. 7/5 7:30 a.m. Domenik & Maria Lemma
5:30 p.m. Margaret Jones
Wed. 7/6 7:30 a.m. Timoteo DeBenedittis
5:30 p.m. Christopher Robles
Thurs. 7/7 7:30 a.m. Lachance & Grondin families
5:30 p.m. Mark LeMoult
Fri. 7/8 7:30 a.m. Mark LeMoult
5:30 p.m. Christopher Robles
Sat. 7/9 7:30 a.m. Lachance & Grondin families

Saturday, July 9th

4:00 p.m. Frantz Maurice

Sunday, July 10th

7:30 a.m. Sophie Calcagno
9:00 a.m. Mr. & Mrs. Edward Reese
10:30 a.m. Susan Shean
12:00 p.m. David Timko



*Our Sanctuary Light
will burn this week
For peace & unity
in our country*



*Our Devotional Light
will burn this week
For the friends and family
of Jo-Ann Olsen*

PRAY FOR OUR SICK

| | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Fr. Ronald Amiot | Mary DeLorenzo | Christian Morales |
| Josephine Amiot | Michael Devaney | Leroy Moyer |
| Ellie Art | Sandy Erickson | Sue Neri |
| Rita Bellavance | Diane & Anthony | Louis Pisani |
| Michael Black | Gilbertie | Barbara Reilly |
| Eleanor Bruckmann | Vincent Gordon | Gerry Ressigue |
| Ken Burns | Holly Graham | John Salgado |
| Bella Burns | Amy Hanson | Ann Samperi |
| Francisca Campos | Harold Liskov | Dana M. Shocker |
| Joan Carpenter | Fr. George Mansour | Susan Torney |
| Letitia Ciccio | Robyn McDaniel | David Van Vlack |
| Lucille Costello | Allison McGrath | Patty Vitola |
| Marilyn Croce | Rita Meyers | K.J. Webb |
| Phil DeFelice | Frank Minardi | Peter Zaleski |

June 25/26

2022

Weekend Offertory: \$5,850.00
 Online Giving \$2,423.00
 2nd Collection (Peter's Pence) \$1,444.00

Our second collection next weekend is for Capital Improvements.

Thank You



DONATE Online

We realize many of our parishioners are still not be able to attend Mass regularly, please consider making your offertory through Online Giving. Please visit our website and click on the Tab "Donate" and create an account.

Parishioner's Corner

Looking for some further outstanding reflections on the Sunday Mass Reading? Please visit Assumption's own Dr. Frank DeStefano's wonderful "Sunday Sunday" blogs at <https://doctorfrank.blogspot.com/>.



As the 2022 Bishop's Appeal continues, we are grateful to the parish families who have already made their gift or pledge. For us to achieve our overall goal, it will require the active involvement and personal sacrifice of all members of our faith community. If you have not yet responded to the 2022 Bishop's Appeal, please set aside a moment to prayerfully consider a gift amount that reflect your blessings. Your gift will help tremendously and, together with your fellow parishioners, will enable the dioceses to provide essential pastoral, educational, and human needs throughout Fairfield County. Thank you for your support.

| Our Lady of the Assumption Parish | |
|---|----------------|
| 2022 Bishop's Appeal as of June 24, 2022 | |
| ABA Goal: | \$123,900 |
| Total Pledged: | \$87,560 (71%) |
| Donors to Date: | 201 Donors |



To make a gift, or for more information, please visit us at 2022BishopsAppeal.org, call (203) 416-1470 or scan with your phone.

Enrollment of the Brown Scapular Of Our Lady of Mount Carmel



In celebration of the Feast Day of Our Lady of Mount Carmel on **Saturday, July 16th** we will offer an enrollment of the Brown Scapular for those who would like to do so and are **NOT** already enrolled **at our daily 7:30 AM Mass**. The Brown Scapular is worn as a sign of love and devotion for the Mother of God. Scapulars will be available at the Mass. Please plan on attending and spread the word to your family and friends.



Once again this year, we are pleased our parish family can come together for **Fellowship, Food, Fun**. Please join us for our Parish Family picnic on **Sunday, August 14th at 1:30 PM in the Parish Hall** as we celebrate Our Lady of the Assumption's Feast Day. The church will provide a catered barbeque lunch (from Mission BBQ in Orange) that includes smoked meats, rolls, cornbread, homemade sides, salad and dessert. A variety of drinks will also be available. We hope you can be join us in our celebration!

RSVP is REQUIRED

Please RSVP by Sunday, August 7th, a final count must be provided to the caterer. Please fill out the information below and return it in the collection basket, or email Lisa at Ireed@olaffld.org with this information. Please no walk-ins!

Name (s): _____

Adults Attending _____ # Children Attending _____

Phone # _____

Weekly Flower Offerings

What better way to celebrate someone's birthday, an anniversary, honor someone or something special, or remember loved ones who are no longer with us than by placing fresh flower arrangements on the altar or by the tabernacle. An announcement will appear in the bulletin to acknowledge your request. Please contact the parish office at least two weeks in advance to reserve an available week during this year, **except during Advent**. The cost of the flowers are **\$50.00 for the Altar and \$30.00 for the tabernacle**.

Altar Server Invite!

Jesus says: I have come not to be served but TO SERVE!

Other Reasons for becoming an Altar Server.

You learn why we do everything in the Mass: Sure, swinging the censer (the smelly incense thing) is kind of fun but why is it that we do it? By becoming an altar server you begin to learn these things and it makes all the symbols of the Mass so much more understandable and interesting.

You get fully involved in the Mass and get more out of it: When you start to understand why we do something you get so much more from it. By focusing and understanding what's going on, the Mass can then lead you into a much deeper relationship with God and you feel the impact of Mass far greater!

You learn some fantastic life skills: Communication, teamwork, perceiving what needs to be done and doing it, punctuality, self-confidence, and the list goes on. Serving on the altar is a great place to start building these skills.

You become more involved in the community: By taking up a responsibility at Mass you start to recognize more and more people in the church in general. This slowly changes your experience of the church community, from a group of random people you stand next to at Mass, to a large and diverse family who you care for more deeply and will increase your love and concern for the global Church family as well.

It helps you discern your vocation (purpose in life) better: Every vocation (whether marriage, consecrated singlehood, religious life or priesthood) is awesome and leads us to a greater and deeper understanding and relationship with God and others. Altar Serving is a great way to begin to see that beauty more fully.

Any child in 3rd grade or higher is eligible to serve at God's altar. Parents, if your son or daughter is interested, please email **Janet Gardella** at janetgardella@optonline.net or call the office at 203-333-9065. A date for the training will be determined.

**Annual Parish Raffle**

Tickets have been mailed to your home. Please sell or purchase tickets yourself for chances to win these great prizes. Tickets can be returned in any offertory basket or the parish office with cash or check made payable to Assumption Church, kindly note on check, "*Raffle 2022*". **Please return unsold tickets to the parish office, as well.** If you would like additional tickets to sell, please contact the parish office. Good Luck! Drawing will take place on Sunday, September 18 at 6:00 PM. Winner need not be present to win.

Three Cash Prizes to be Awarded!

- **Grand Prize: \$10,000 Cash Prize**
- **1st Prize: \$3,500 Cash Prize**
- **2nd Prize: \$1,500 Cash Prize**

**6th Annual Sword & Shield Golf Classic**

The Our Lady of the Assumption Knights of Columbus Council 11077 and St. Matthews Knights of Columbus Council 14360 would like to thank Fr. Cipriani, Our Parish and all who contributed to the Sixth Annual Sword & Shield Golf Classic.

The Tournament was held on Monday June 13 at Brownson Country Club in Huntington. A great time was had by all of the golfers, dinner attendees and volunteers during the day.

This event supports great charities such as Homes for the Brave, Malta House, Off the Streets and many more.

We could not do this work as Knights without your continued support and we thank you for all you do!

Looking forward to another successful event again next June.

Sword & Shield Golf Committee

**Convalidation of Marriage**

Like other couples in your parish or family, you may be wondering if your marriage is fully recognized by the Catholic Church. Catholic Church law ordinarily requires baptized Roman Catholics to marry before a priest or deacon.

Catholics who exchange marriage vows in the presence of only ministers from other religious traditions or authorized civic officials (i.e.. Justice of the Peace) are not considered validly married in the eyes of the Catholic Church, which offers Marriage in the unique form of a Sacrament called Holy Matrimony: a sacrament similar in scope and power to that of Holy Communion/Eucharist. In fact, Holy Matrimony is meant to signify (a sacrament is a visible sign indicating a greater invisible and/or supernatural reality) the enduring and unbreakable love for Jesus Christ the Bridegroom for His Bride the Church.

If you feel as though you are in a position where Convalidation is possible, please call the Rectory to discuss the process involved. Couples who are not in a recognized Catholic Marriage should not receive Holy Communion and are not qualified to be Catholic godparent until the Convalidation process is complete.

Regardless of what happened in the past, the Catholic Church invites you to bring new meaning to your lives by embracing the vocation of marriage and dedicating your family's mission to sharing God's love.

**Newly Baptized:**

Last weekend we welcomed

Luke Richard Soldano

Dominic Anthony Twigg

into the Roman Catholic Faith, through the saving waters of Baptism.



Save The Dates

Our 28th annual SeptemberFest will be held on Friday, 9/16, Saturday, 9/17 and Sunday, 9/18. Mark your calendars and look for additional information in our bulletins.

SeptemberFest 2022 Shopping List

Please help to support our 28th annual SeptemberFest Carnival by donating items on the shopping list. This will help to keep costs down and it is a way that everyone can participate in the success of this weekend. Monetary donations can be made payable to Assumption Church and placed in the offertory basket marked on the envelope accordingly. Donations of purchased items can be placed in **the bins marked located in the Church vestibule. Thank you!**

Please donate only store packaged items only.

| |
|--|
| Monetary Donation |
| Aluminum Steam trays (full & half size) |
| Heavy duty aluminum foil |
| Bottled water (case of 12-oz bottles) |
| Boxed ziti or penne |
| Parmesan Cheese |
| Oreo Cookies (single stuffed, no mini's) |
| 9 oz. Chinet clear plastic cups |
| 16 oz. Solo beer cups |
| 9"/10"/10-3/8" paper plates |
| 6"/8" paper plates |
| 12 oz. paper bowls |
| Roll paper towels |
| Napkins |
| Plastic Heavy Duty Cutlery (F/S/K) |
| Ketchup |
| Mustard |
| Pickles (dill chips only) |
| Salt & pepper |
| Diet soda |
| Clorox wipes |
| Antibacterial hand soap |

Readings for the Week

- Sunday: Isaiah 66:10-14c/Psalm 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20 [1]/Galatians 6:14-18/Luke 10:1-12, 17-20 or 10:1-9
- Monday: Hosea 2:16, 17c-18, 21-22/Psalm 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Matthew 9:18-26
- Tuesday: Hosea 8:4-7, 11-13/Psalm 115:3-4, 5-6, 7ab-8, 9-10//Matthew 9:32-38
- Wednesday: Hosea 10:1-3, 7-8, 12/Psalm 105:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/ Matthew 10:1-7
- Thursday: Hosea 11:1-4, 8e-9/Psalm 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16/Matthew 10:7-15
- Friday: Hosea 14:2-10/Psalm 51:3-4, 8-9, 12-13, 14 and 17/Matthew 10:16-23
- Saturday: Isaiah 6:1-8/Psalm 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5/Matthew 10:24-33
- Next Sunday: Deuteronomy 30:10-14/Psalm 69:14, 17, 30-31, 33-34, 36, 37 or Psalm 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [9])/ Colossians 1:15-20/Luke 10:25-37

Communion Antiphon

"Taste and see how gracious the Lord is." - Psalm 34:1

Day of Prayer and Healing

Are you or someone you know carrying the pain and sorrow of losing a child to abortion? You do not have to suffer alone! Join others on **Saturday, July 9th** for a Day of Prayer and Healing. Come experience the healing peace of Christ. For more information or to register, **call Maureen at 203-416-1619 or email projectrachel@diobpt.org**. God's mercy, healing and forgiveness are waiting for you!

Byzantine Iconography Workshop

Join Iconographer, Veronica Royal for 5 days of prayer, individualized instruction, and lectures, **July 18 - 22 at St. Mary Parish, 55 Catoonah Street, in Ridgefield**. Learn to write/paint an icon according to the ancient techniques using contemporary mediums of gouache and acrylic. The Curriculum includes: Prayer, Lectures on Iconography, Byzantine-style drawing, and Icon painting. For more information, please contact **Roula Lee at 203-249-7153 or email roulazlee@yahoo.com**.



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