



Saturday, 4:30 PM	November 29, 2008 Happy 50 th Anniversary to Joseph & Teresa Gondek by their children
Sunday, 7:30 AM 9:30 AM 11:00 AM	November 30, 2008 George & Amelia Kramer Babe & Grace Lesiak by their family Phyllis Tribuzio by Lucy & Edward Stanisz & family
Monday, 7:45 AM	December 1, 2008 Ed McCoy (11 th anniversary) by his wife Ann-Marie
Tuesday, 7:45 AM	December 2, 2008 Anna Kovall by her family
Wednesday, 7:45 AM	December 3, 2008 Grace Clancy by her son
Thursday, 7:45 AM	December 4, 2008 Fr. James Boyle
Friday, 7:45 AM	December 5, 2008 Eileen Rolfe by Judy Welcome
Saturday, 4:30 PM	December 6, 2008 Bill McAuliffe by friends and family
Sunday, 7:30 AM 9:30 AM 11:00 AM	December 7, 2008 Adele Slabinski by Bob & Marilyn Slabinski Intentions of Thomas & Joan Gunning by the Gunning family & Kathy Arle Thomas & Frederica Walsh by the Walsh/Cunningham family

Readings for the Week of November 30, 2008	
Sunday:	Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7/ 1 Cor 1:3-9/Mk 13:33-37
Monday:	Is 2:1-5/Mt 8:5-11
Tuesday:	Is 11:1-10/Lk 10:21-24
Wednesday:	Is 25:6-10a/Mt 15:29-37
Thursday:	Is 26:1-6/Mt 7:21, 24-27
Friday:	Is 29:17-24/Mt 9:27-31
Saturday:	Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Mt 9:35---10:1, 5a, 6-8
Next Sunday:	Is 40:1-5, 9-11/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8

The second collection next weekend is the monthly offering.

Calendar

11/30	1:30 p.m.	Ornament Workshop – Gathering Space
12/1	9:30 a.m.	Legion of Mary – Hart House
	7:30 p.m.	Legion of Mary – Hospitality Room
12/2		2 nd grade Church tours
	7:00 p.m.	Usher Meeting – Gathering Space

The sanctuary candle will burn this week in memory of:

Ed McCoy

This is a venerable tradition and we ask you to keep him in your prayers.

Religious Education News

Grade 2 Parents - Church tours are scheduled for December 2. The tours will take place at the times indicated in the “First Reconciliation/First Holy Communion 2008/2009 Program Schedule” and will last approximately 15 minutes. Please mark your calendars and be prompt for your assigned time.

Grade 2 Student Information - Student information forms and documentation are due for those students planning to celebrate the sacrament of reconciliation for the first time in January. Please note – all required forms and documentation must be on file in the Office of Religious Education prior to the celebration. There can and will be no exceptions in this regard.

Grade 9 & 10 Students - Deacon Arthur Miller from the Archdiocese of Hartford’s Office of Black Catholics will be the guest speaker for the Grade 10 Confirmation class on **December 14th at 6:00 p.m. in the church.** Deacon Art will talk about efforts to stem the violence plaguing our inner cities and what we can do to help. **Grade 9 students and all parents are invited to attend.**

First Friday Adoration

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place this Friday, December 5 from after the 7:45 a.m. Mass until 5:00 p.m. concluding with Benediction. Once again we encourage you to plan your schedule to include an hour of adoration. Our aim is to have a minimum of three adorers for every hour. **Kindly sign your name and phone number on the poster in the gathering space.** We need your phone number in case there is a funeral or a cancellation. Thank you.

“Come, Lord Jesus, come.

Come and be born in our hearts”

Advent is a season of waiting and longing, of repentance and hope, meditating on the incredible love and humility of our God taking on the flesh of the Virgin Mary. In the midst of the hustle and bustle of the season, let us follow in Mary’s Advent footsteps and patiently wait with her for the birth of our Savior. By praying the rosary you will take that walk with Mary through our Lord’s birth, his public ministry, his crucifixion and his resurrection. It is an especially crucial time to pause as a family nightly and embrace quiet prayer. He is the reason for the season. The Legion of Mary will have available at the entrances special Advent rosaries and pamphlets. They encourage you to prepare in your hearts a peaceful place where our Savior may come to dwell.

Have a Blessed Advent Season!

The Legion of Mary

**Our Lady of Lourdes Praesidium
of St. Mary's Church Legion of Mary**

invites all parishioners to say the rosary with them next Saturday for the intention of World Peace. Interested parishioners are asked to join Legion members in front of the statue of the Blessed Mother after the 4:30 mass for about 15 to 20 minutes.

Bulletin Minutes

Parish Council Meeting of November 11, 2008

The Parish Council met on November 11, 2008.

Discussions and actions included the following:

Planned Giving: Mr. Robert Tiernan, Manager of Major Gifts and Planned Giving for the Archdiocesan Office of Development, presented an overview of how parishioners may be able to endow gifts to the parish. There are numerous ways to designate a gift. Wills and Trusts are the primary instruments. All types that were reviewed work in the best interest of the donor. The Council will review and discuss all the information at the next council meeting.

Small Church Core Group: They are discussing how they will celebrate the 25th anniversary of Small Church Communities within the Archdiocese.

RCIA/ Faith Formation: As of this date, there are no RCIA candidates.

The Pilgrim Virgin is currently visiting several different residents at New Horizons.

The Catholic Bookstore visit was a success. Those conducting it said it was a wonderful experience with an unusually strong parish response.

Faithful Citizenship Campaign concluded with the election. Most comments were favorable and recognized the balanced message of the issues for voters.

First Friday Adoration was conducted on November 7th. We will continue with this beautiful adoration of our Lord on the first Friday of every month.

A Parish Mission will be held on February 22 - 25, 2009 conducted by Fr. John Murray, a Redemptorist priest.

After the first of the year, a presentation for caregivers of persons with Alzheimer's will be conducted. A seminar on what our faith means to us is being considered and was supported by the Council. The Letters of St. Paul will be discussed during two separate sessions in Lent.

Minutes will conclude in next weekend's bulletin.

The Women's Guild

will hold their annual Christmas party on December 9 in the gathering space. This year's party will start with a social hour at 6:00 p.m. followed by a pizza party at 7:00 p.m. Cost for the party will be \$10 per person. The telephone committee will be calling members for reservations and payment can be made to St. Mary's Women's Guild and mailed to Barbara Wolf at 14 Catalpa Court, Avon. Please call Barbara at 673-0273 with questions. Reservations must be made no later than December 1. If you would like to participate in the evening's festivities, please bring a \$10 wrapped gift.

The Guild will be selling cookbooks after masses during the month of December. They will be beautifully wrapped with a blank gift card, - a great way to do some Christmas shopping.



GIVING TREE

This weekend members of the Human Needs Committee have put up the Giving Tree. Tags for various organizations including Town of Farmington residents, Hispanic Health Council, H.O.M.E., Family Life Education, Farmington Fuel Bank, Hospital for Special Care, Tabor House, pediatric aids diapers (unwrapped) and Light One Little Candle have been hung on the tree. Parishioners may remove the tags and return the gifts no later than the weekend of December 14. Some of the tags represent a specific gift for someone. If you take a tag, please be certain to provide the item. ***If a gift is not returned or returned late, that person's wish will not be met. Please return wrapped gifts with matching tags attached as soon as possible but not later than December 14.*** If you have any questions, please call Alice Crozier 673-4282.

St. Mary parish family welcomes through the sacrament of baptism:

Owen Christopher Belisle
Landon Thomas Carrier

✓ Check This Out...

St Matthew School in Forestville, CT is having its 11th Annual Craft Show on Saturday, Dec 6 from 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Start your holiday shopping at the 25 vendor booths. There are several raffles to participate in, a bake sale, and homemade food from the kitchen. The drawing for the school's annual raffle will take place at 2 p.m. For \$2, you could win a trip to Orlando, FL, a 42" flat screen T.V., an \$800 heating oil gift certificate, a \$500 gas card, a \$400 Stop & Shop gift card or a \$300 Shop Rite gift card. Please contact Sally Pauloz, 583-6582 with questions.

On Dec. 10 Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center in West Hartford will sponsor a day or evening retreat on *Merton's Message for the 21st Century, Exploring Great Themes of Thomas Merton*. 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and will repeat from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The requested offering of \$30.00 includes lunch or dinner. Thomas Merton is one of the most influential Catholic thinkers of the 20th century. Presenter Brandon Nappi, M.Div., is Associate Retreat Director at Holy Family and a graduate of Notre Dame and Yale Universities. For more information, visit www.holyfamilyretreat.org or call Brandon Nappi at 860-521-0440 ext. 118.

Fr. Michael Sequeira, Pastor of St. Mary's Church of the Visitation in Clinton, CT will be leading a group of people to Cusco, Peru, to work among the poor, orphans, children abandoned on the streets, or to construct new orphanages or schools or to teach English or to be a nurse/doctor from June 21 - July 2, 2009. An inquiry session will be held on Tuesday, January 13 at the Church on 54 Grove Street, Clinton. Please call 860 669-8512 with questions.