

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS



- Monday, April 25th, @ 8:30AM, Mass for **Elizabeth Zile**, requested by Bob Zile.
- Tuesday, April 26th, @ 8:30AM, Special Intention for **Mike Daly**, requested by JoAnn Cwikla.
- Friday, April 29th, @ 8:30AM, Special Intention for **Anne Millham**, requested by JoAnn Cwikla.
- Saturday, April 30th, @ 5:00PM, Mass for **Nancy Tribou**, requested the Family.
- Sunday, May 1st, @ 8:00AM, Mass for **John Hayes**, requested by Gloria Rose.
- Sunday, May 1st, @ 11:00AM, Mass for **Jean Gormley**, requested by the by the 10AM Small Christian Community Group.
- Sunday, May 1st, @ 5:00PM, Mass for **Jennie Yablonski**, requested by the Cordani Family.
- Tuesday, May 3rd, @ 8:30AM, Mass for **Mildred & George Gerath**, requested by Barb & Dick Hopkins.

SAINT MARY SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE— *Got*



Faith? Come to an Open House at Saint Mary School to learn about its academics and extracurricular activities in a faith-based, nurturing community on Thursday, April 28th, at 6:30PM, 946 Hopmeadow Street, Simsbury. To learn more about our school and RSVP, call 860/658-9412 or

view the website at www.stmarysschoolsimsbury.org.

MEN'S CLUB MEETING - Tuesday, April 26th, @ 7PM in Russell Hall. Pizza and beverages will be provided. Join us!

UPCOMING PARISH MEETINGS

Tuesday, 4/26 @ 7PM - **Men's Club Meeting** - Russell Hall
 Tuesday, 5/3 @ 7PM - **Parish Council Exec. Comm.** - Rectory

Offertory Collection - April 17, 2011



Regular Collection:	\$ 11,151.05
<i>Loose Cash/Checks</i>	\$ 1,570.05
<i>Envelopes</i>	\$ 9,581.00
Budgeted for Week:	\$ <u>2,000.00</u>
Overage:	+ \$ 2,151.05
Refurbishment/Repair:	+ \$ 5,045.15
Cathedradicum*	- \$ 557.56
School Tax*	- \$ 557.56

Thank you for your generous support!

* 5.5% of Collection paid to the Archdiocese.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

CATECHISTS NEEDED!! We presently have openings in Grade 1, 2, 7, 8, and Confirmation I (Grade 9). For more details please contact Kathi Bonner, DRE, @ Kathidre@aol.com or call 860/658-4737.

First Communion Rehearsals are Thursday, May 5th, 4-6PM (morning group) and Friday, May 6th, 4-6PM (afternoon group). Please be on time so we can begin at 4PM. Rehearsals are mandatory - no exceptions.



Confirmation Rehearsal is Thursday, May 12th, from 4:15 - 6PM. Rehearsal in mandatory - no exceptions. Sponsors are welcome to attend, but are not required to.

SCRIP TIP



With **Mother's Day** right around the corner, Bath & Body Works is pleased to offer a 5% bonus rebate on Bath & Body Gift Cards from April 2nd - April 29th. That means gift cards will have an **18% contribution**, instead of the normal 13% contribution, during that period only. Bath & Body Works makes fragrance fun! From head-to-toe and through your home, Bath & Body Works has the perfect gifts and so much more!

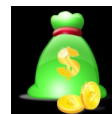
There will be no card sales after Mass until the weekend of April 30th/May 1st. You can still place an order on line at www.shopwithscrip.com when you use St. Catherine's enrollment code, **7A65C56C279L1**. Orders will be processed and available in the office for pick up!

WOMEN'S & MEN'S CLUB SCHOLARSHIP

The clubs are now accepting applications from Saint Catherine of Siena high school seniors based upon past service at church or community service. Forms are in the atrium and vestibule. **Deadline is May 1, 2011.**



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SCHOLARSHIPS



The Knights of Columbus promotes the Catholic Faith, family values and active involvement in Church activities. Since an educated, involved believer promotes those values more effectively, Council 2758 offers scholarships based on that focus. **Two(2) \$1,000 scholarships** for post-secondary education will be awarded to a member of the parishes served by Council 2758, namely, St. Mary's, St. Catherine's, St. Bernard's, and St. Theresa. **Award will be made in late July.** A student is eligible in any year of post-secondary education. Applications must be submitted by 6/15/11. Get applications by calling **Dennis Gacioch** @ 651-9653 or email gacioch@hartford.edu.

Welcome and Easter blessings to all!

As we celebrate the glorious Resurrection of Christ our Savior and all that that means for our lives, I warmly welcome all those who are visiting us this weekend. Whether you are visiting relatives from away or are attending our parish for the first time on this Holy of holy days, I welcome you and wish that the peace of Christ be with you and your family.

As we have just completed the **Sacred Triduum**—the celebrations of **Holy Thursday** and the institution of the Sacred Eucharist by Christ Himself, **Good Friday** and the memorial of the Passion and death of Christ our savior, **Holy Saturday** and the time of mourning when the whole Church prays in silence for *the* life-giving event of the Crucifixion, and the **Great Easter Vigil and the Easter Sunday** celebrations when we remember that morning when Christ was raised by the power of God from the dead and then offers to each of us the gift of Eternal Life.

These weeks have been busy, and I don't just mean liturgically speaking, but as a culmination of the Lenten journey we each made these past five weeks as we listened to Sacred Scripture remind us of the focus of God's timeless message: we heard of sin as a communal aspect (as we remember the sadness of war and violence, the abuse and exploitation of the gift of the earth), we listened to the idea of individual sin (and the failings of our human condition that keeps us apart from our neighbors, our family, and from God Himself); we read of the gradualness of conversion (we remember the Scripture stories of the woman at the well and the man blind from birth and how they both took time to recognize Christ and His power. Like us, we may not "see" Christ right away but in faithfulness we come to know Him and accept Him in our lives, thus we are transformed to be more like Him in the way we live-out our faith); and finally, we listened to the focus of Sacred Scripture during Holy Week and came to see the focus of God's message as the "Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world." Now we see Christ as *our Savior* who alone is our salvation.

Easter Is No Reenactment! As Catholic Christians we are not called to come to Easter Sunday morning thinking that we are simply participating in a *reenactment* of something that happened only once, some 2,000-plus years ago, and today we are just "remembering it". Our faith is more than a simple "memorial" of a past event, and our Mass is more than a "memorial;" our faith is to be fully alive and our Mass is to be celebrated and lived-out each time anew. We, as Catholic Christians, are called to **participate fully in the passion, death and Resurrection of Christ**. We do this in the way we live-out our baptismal vocations. The way we are faithful, first and foremost, to our right relationship with God and in recognizing God as the Creator and ourselves as the created beings who receive the essence of life from God Himself. From that understanding, stems all our other relationships—with our spouses, our children, our parents, our neighbors, our Church, our community—all relationships, both personal and corporate, public and private.

We are called to live in the passion of Christ: to suffer with Him in our own suffering; to feel His abandonment in our personal abandonment—in divorce, in loss of a loved one, in being marginalized by society, in the loss of a job or of our own human dignity. We are called to suffer the death of Christ: to

feel the loss of self due to our convictions, or even to recognize in our own human death a connection with the One who died for us, but in our death we suffer not for others but suffer the emptying of self from this material world into a spiritual world, a world of the unknown and unsure—a world which must be built upon faith and trust and hope in the unseen. In joining our lives to the passion and death of Christ we then can be sure of one thing—the resurrection and joining in with God in His Eternal Life. A Life that will be devoid of pain and suffering, a Life that is full of joy; a Life that is without sin and division—a Life that is complete and full in peace and happiness, Eternal bliss.

When we fully live the pain and suffering as imaged by Christ, we align our lives to His—we fulfill His ministry and His mission by caring for the hungry, the lonely, the forgotten, the unwanted and we take part in that gradual conversion of the self into Christ's image and likeness—the image and likeness of the Savior of the world—the whole world—who rose from the depths of the grave to destroy sin and death and to bring New Life to each and everyone of us.

To think of this gift should bring great happiness to all. To believe that we shall live for every—in complete and utter peace, without sin, hatred, sadness or division—should place a joyful smile across our lips like nothing else could. Then we must also come to understand that this joy is meant to be experienced every Sunday and every day. Let us not reserve this joy just for Easter, but may we experience it and share always and with all people. That is the true Easter Joy, the knowledge of the complete and full Resurrection for all.

As we BEGIN the Easter Season (it is celebrated during the next 50 days until Pentecost), let us recall that it is a gradual experience, this conversion to the image and likeness of God. On Holy Thursday we saw that God is the one who passes over; on Good Friday we recognize that Jesus is our Passover. Today on Easter we ourselves are drawn into the mystery as we consider our own passing over...we are now in the crossing, moving from darkness into light, and we do this by passing into Christ—His passion, His death, **and** His Resurrection. Let us now live out more fully the Christian life we are all baptized into...a life of compassion and concern for our own immortal soul and those of all who we love, a life of fullness of potential, which Christ sees in us as He saw in Peter—and like Peter—let us become the new Rock upon which His Church is built and rebuilt, time again, by His power in us.

Happy and Blessed
Easter to you and yours,
-Father Michael Whyte



THE LORD IS RISEN! It is true! Proclaim it to the world! Pray for those who are called to priesthood and religious life. If you are called to a vocation, call **Fr. Michael Dolan**, Director of Vocations, Archdiocesan Center at St. Thomas Seminary, tel. 860/761-7456 or email vocations@stseminary.org or visit the website at www.vocationshartford.org.



**End of Bulletin
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Run #

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