

The very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and strewed them on the road. The crowds kept crying out and saying: "Hosanna to the Son of David; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; hosanna in the highest."



St. Patrick-St. Anthony Church • 285 Church Street • Hartford, Connecticut  
March 29, 2026 • Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

*Entry into Jerusalem, Duccio di Buoninsegna (c. 1250/1255 - 1318/1319); Museo dell'Opera metropolitana del Duomo, Siena, Italy*

# St. Patrick-St. Anthony Church and The Franciscan Center for Urban Ministry

285 Church Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06103  
tel 860-756-4034 • info@spsact.org • www.spsact.org



*Open Hearts  
Open Minds  
Open Doors*

We are a welcoming and dynamic community of Christian disciples. Rooted in the Franciscan experience of the Roman Catholic tradition, we proactively endeavor to extend hospitality both at the Eucharistic Table and as we minister reciprocally and in solidarity among the alienated and the poor, nurturing the mind, body, and spirit in the Greater Hartford Community. All are welcome!



## Celebration of the Eucharist

Masks are optional at all Masses

### Saturday Evening Mass of Anticipation

4:00 PM Public

### Sunday Masses

8:00 AM Public

10:00 AM Public & Livestream

11:45 AM Public

5:00 PM Public

### Weekday Masses

7:30 AM Public

12:05 PM Public & Livestream

## Sacrament of Reconciliation

Monday, Wednesday, Friday 11:15 to 11:45 AM

Saturday 3:15 to 3:45 PM

## Mass Intentions for the Week

### Saturday, March 28, 2026

4:00 PM Joe Melzen

### Sunday, March 29, 2026, Palm Sunday

8:00 AM Querino Genca

10:00 AM Teresa Giansanti

11:45 AM Prayers for deceased members of the Borowiak,  
Danych & Murawski Families

5:00 PM Maryellen & Gerald Baginski

### Monday, March 30, 2026

7:30 AM Marie Sullivan

12:05 PM Larry Adoian, requested by Nancy Bricuglio

### Tuesday, March 31, 2026

7:30 AM Prayer intentions for our Parishioners

12:05 PM Jean & James Buggle

### Wednesday, April 1, 2026

7:30 AM Melissa Corning

12:05 PM Charlie Kirk

### Thursday, April 2, 2026, Holy Thursday

7:00 PM Prayer intentions for our parishioners

### Friday, April 3, 2026, Good Friday

3:00 PM Prayer intentions for our parishioners

### Saturday, April 4, 2026, Holy Saturday

8:00 PM Prayer intentions for our parishioners

### Sunday, April 5, 2026, The Resurrection of the Lord (Masses at 8, 10, 11:45 AM, and 5:00 PM)

Intention for ALL MASSES: Prayer intentions for our parishioners

## Daily Mass Readings



Monday, Mar 30 Is 42:1-7; Jn 12:1-11  
 Tuesday, Mar 31 Is 49:1-6; Jn 13:21-33, 36-38  
 Wednesday, Apr 1 Is 50:4-9a; Mt 26:14-25  
 Thursday, Apr 2 Ex 12:1-8, 11-14; Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18; 1 Cor 11:23-26;  
 Jn 13:1-15  
 Friday, Apr 3 Is 52:13 — 53:12; Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25; Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9;  
 Jn 18:1-19:42  
 Sunday, Apr 5 Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23; Col 3:1-4 or  
 1 Cor 5:6b-8 Jn 20:1-9 or Mt 28:1-10

Go to <http://www.usccb.org/> for readings online.

REMINDER: If you have scheduled a Mass and you would like to bring up the gifts, please make yourself known to one of the sacristans prior to the start of the Mass.

# The Pastor's Corner

March 29, 2026

Dear Parishioners and Friends,



Last weekend's visit by Dr. Amy-Jill Levine was a tremendous success, and she was very grateful for the opportunity to spend time with us and to share her expertise of biblical scholarship. Dr. Levine (or "A-J") is a distinguished scholar and teacher in New Testament and Jewish Studies. She is the first Jew to teach New Testament at Rome's Pontifical Biblical Institute. Her presentations on "The Bible and Sexuality" on Saturday and "Jesus, Women and the Family of Faith" on Sunday, both had capacity audiences. She also spent time on Sunday morning with our preschool and elementary age children and their families. We are grateful to Hartford International University for inviting us to partner with them in bringing Dr. Levine to our parish.



So, here we are, beginning another Holy Week and the solemn commemoration of the Lord's passion, death and resurrection. I am very excited that we will baptize three adult members of our community and receive three members into the Catholic Church at the Great Vigil of Easter on Holy Saturday. On Easter Sunday at the 10:00 Mass we will baptize the infant daughter of our parishioners, Sam and Anna Sherer, and granddaughter of Marc and Sheila Sherer.

In addition to the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday, I hope you will be able to join us for the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday and the Liturgy of the Lord's Passion on Good Friday. These ancient rituals which recall the foundational events of our Christian faith, are vital to us especially as we pass them on to the younger generations. My love for them today was instilled in me decades ago. I hope our young people will find them equally inspiring.

May the Lord bless your remembrance of his sacrifice!

*Fr. Tim Shreenan, O.F.M.*  
Fr. Tim Shreenan, O.F.M.

Pastor



## Palm Sunday

March 28 & 29 Masses:

Saturday at 4:00 pm

Sunday at 8:00, 10:00, 11:45 am,  
& 5:00 pm

**\*\*Parish Food Drive\*\***

## Holy Thursday, April 2

Mass of the Lord's Supper, 7:00 pm

## Good Friday, April 3

Liturgy of the Lord's Passion, 3:00 pm

## Holy Saturday, April 4

Great Vigil of Easter, 8:00 pm

## Easter Sunday, April 5

Masses at 8:00 am, 10:00 am,  
11:45 am and 5:00 pm

## The 2026 Archbishop's Annual Appeal

It is important that when you give to any charitable organization, you are confident that the funds received are being used wisely. Be assured that your gift to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal supports the ministries and programs indicated in the 2026 Appeal literature! Organizations such as St. Anthony's Bread for the Poor right here in our own parish received funding from the Appeal's Vicariate Outreach Program that makes a difference in the lives of our local neighbors. Please visit the Appeal website at [www.archdioceseofhartford.org](http://www.archdioceseofhartford.org) to learn more and make your gift today.

Join us, your parish community, and We Are One, by sharing your blessings with the less fortunate.

*No Appeal funds are ever used for legal fees or settlements.*



## Ongoing Faith Formation Programs:

### Group Spiritual Reflection:

Zoom Meetings: Every Tuesday. Next meeting: March 31, 2026 from 12:30 to 1:30 PM. All are welcome! Please go to <https://tinyurl.com/SPSA-GSP-2025> to register and receive the Zoom Link.

**In Quiet Prayer: Wednesday, April 1, 2026, from 7:30 to 8:00 AM.** Zoom link in Monday email. Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/SPSA-IQP-2025>.

**People of Hope: Next Meeting, Wednesday, April 1, 2026 from 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM on Zoom.** We will use author Amy Ekeh's latest book *Stretch Out Your Hand: Reflections on the Healing Ministry of Jesus*. To register go to <https://tinyurl.com/SPSA-PPL-HP-2025>.

**Divine Reading: Next meeting, April 8, 2026, 7:00, location in the Franciscan Center. We meet every 2nd and 4th Wednesday.** Join us when you can!

### The Drumming Circle

Join us Monday, April 6, 2026 from 6:30 to 7:30 PM. Did you know that drumming is good for the spirit as well as the heart and mind! Anyone can learn to drum - no musical experience is needed. If you have a drum, please bring it with you. Let us know if you need a drum by calling the parish office, 860-756-4034. First-time participants, please arrive by 6:15 PM.



**Facilitator: Elaine Wiatr,**

*Sponsored by the Women of Hope Ministry*

### Prayer Shawl Ministry



Calling all who knit or crochet. The Prayer Shawl Ministers gather both virtually and in-person for our bi-monthly meetings, the 2nd Monday and last Thursday of each Month! And, yes, you can \* learn \* how to knit or crochet through Zoom. Our experienced ministers are skilled teachers as well. Please JOIN US!

**April Meetings: April 13 at 7:00pm on Zoom and April 30th at 10:30AM in the Franciscan Center.**

For more information and the Zoom meeting link, contact Janet Bristow at [janetbristow@sbcglobal.net](mailto:janetbristow@sbcglobal.net) or you may also call the parish office at 860-756-4034, x.113 and leave your contact information. Pat Curtis will get back to you with information.

### Mandala Making Workshop

**Saturday, April 11 from 1:00 to 4:00 PM**

In December 2025, the Clare Gallery hosted the exhibit *Portals and Paintings* by artist Catherine Nogas-Steinberg.



Steinberg is also a shamanic practitioner and an expressive arts workshop facilitator in Connecticut and New Mexico. She regularly runs annual retreats and various expressive arts workshops.

On Saturday, April 11, 2026, from 1:00-4:00 p.m. the Gallery will host Steinberg's Mandala Making

Workshop. The workshop fee is \$50 which includes supplies. A minimum of 6 participants is required.

Offering: \$50.00 can be made payable to "Franciscan Center for Urban Ministry" and mailed to 285 Church Street, Hartford, CT 06103, Attn. Pat Curtis OR go to <https://tinyurl.com/SPSA-AFF-Pay> to give offering conveniently ONLINE and note the program name in the Memo.

## Introduction to the Gospels

**Tuesdays, March 31 and April 7 & 14, 7:00-8:15 PM at the Franciscan Center.**

Join us at our next session where we will discuss the following:

- Scholarly consensus about the author of that gospel
- Scholarly consensus about the presumed date and place at which the gospel was written
- Presumed sources
- Major themes of the gospel, and key differences between it and the other gospels

We will discuss each gospel in the order in which it was likely written, as follows:

- **Matthew - March 31**
- Luke - April 7
- John - April 14



***Alively discussion is always welcome! No questions will be off-limits.***

**Presenter: Dan Kueper** has a Master's degree in Theological Studies from Harvard Divinity School and has led Bible studies at several parishes.

Please go to <https://tinyurl.com/SPSACT-Intro-Gospels> and let us know you are coming.

## Community Day at the Dunkin' Park

June 14- FLAG DAY!!

\$17.00 Tickets go on sale after all Masses on April 11-12 in the



Franciscan Center Lobby.

Let's visualize a warm June afternoon, sitting in the stands, drinking

a cold beverage, eating a hot dog and cheering on our beloved Yard Goats against some fussy fisher cats. Come support the Yard Goats as they play the Toronto Blue Jays' AA-Affiliate, the New Hampshire Fisher Cats.

## A Novel Idea Book Club

Our next meeting is **April 16 at 7:00 PM on Zoom and in-person at the Franciscan Center.** The book selection for April is *Theo of Golden* by Allen Levi.. For more information and a list of upcoming books, please go to <https://tinyurl.com/SPSA-NBC-Books>. Contact the office at 860-756-4034 or email [info@spsact.org](mailto:info@spsact.org) if you need more information.

## My Narrative ~ Artwork by Linda Martin



Clare Gallery's second exhibition this year continues to celebrate "Voices Left Out at the Founding of Our Country."

**My Narrative** opened March 19. Artist reception on Sunday, April 12, 1:00 to 3:00 PM.

Martin has worked with fabrics much of her life. She appreciates their vast diverse patterns, textures, colors, and designs. Her work is a testament to the history of quilting, as well as the future of collage fiber art, where the only material Martin utilizes is from the world of textiles.

Through her work, she intends to create a conversation with her audiences explaining that it speaks to "who I am, where I come from, what I see, and where I am going." For My Narrative, Martin says, "the pieces that I chose for this exhibit allow me to tell stories of my family, my spiritual belief and my political standing in this country." She believes she is speaking and sharing her truth through her artwork.

# THE DIGNITY INDEX

## THE DIGNITY INDEX 101

Dignity Index 101 is a 3-session program which will provide a forum where participants take an in-depth look at how to be part of building a culture of dignity in our lives, our community, and the political arena.

*Have you experienced first-hand or witnessed within our culture, the use of language which divides us one from another? Perhaps within your school, workplace, community, or even our own country, you've seen up close the divisions created when people are treated harshly, sometimes with contempt. One attempt to reverse this negative impact upon our lives involves adopting "The Dignity Index." Placing dignity at the heart of our conversations, in-person or on social media, can be a choice to build back our humanity.*

Together let's make this choice away from judgment and dehumanizing language. Let us respond to the call in a different way... one which affirms the humanity of all. As Pope Leo XIV said at the beginning of Lent, "Let us begin by disarming our language, avoiding harsh words and rash judgement, refraining from slander and speaking ill of those who are not present and cannot defend themselves. Instead, let us strive to measure our words and cultivate kindness and respect in our families, among our friends, at work, on social media, in political debates, in the media and in Christian communities."

**Facilitators: Elaine Wiatr and Pat Curtis**

Dignity Index 101:

**In-person: Wednesdays, April 15, 22 & 29, 12:45-2:45 PM; Register Here: <https://tinyurl.com/SPSA-DIG-IP-26>**

**On Zoom: Thursdays, April 16, 23 & 30, 6:30-8:30 PM; Register Here: <https://tinyurl.com/SPSA-DIG-Z-26>**

The Offering for this series is \$30.00 which includes either three in-person or Zoom sessions as well as a professionally produced hard copy booklet of course materials.

The offering can be made payable to "St. Patrick-St. Anthony Church" and mailed to 285 Church Street, Hartford, CT 06103, Attn. Pat Curtis OR go to <https://tinyurl.com/SPSA-AFF-Pay> to give offering conveniently ONLINE and note the program name in the Memo.



## Notes from our Director of Music Ministries, David Garrido Cid

### A featured Easter Hymn

This coming Easter Sunday (and a couple more times through the Easter season), you will hear and be able to sing a song/hymn that has come to be special to me. I thought it would be meaningful for me to share the story, and allow everyone to hear it in advance, to be better prepared to “Sing out in Joy”, to celebrate the Resurrection of the Lord!



A couple of years ago, I came across a choral anthem that caught my eye, ear, and imagination. When I started digging into it, I found out that it had originated from what some call a “Contemporary Christian” song. However, unlike other songs that can fall in that category, this one is written in a flexible way that lends itself particularly well to be done in a variety of styles. Here are 3 examples:

1. Contemporary (the original), such as this featuring Keith and Kristyn Getty at the lead: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=18\\_PDY22Sck&t=11s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=18_PDY22Sck&t=11s).
2. Traditional such as this wonderful rendition from Coventry Cathedral in England, from Easter 2012: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=57C7uBkb05E>.
3. As an anthem such as this setting by Steven Strite: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ntPK8FTZAoY>

On Easter Sunday this year at St. Patrick and St. Anthony church, we will use the “traditional” approach (#2) for the 8am, 11:45am and 5pm Masses, and we will enjoy the highlighted setting by Steven Strite (#3) at the 10am Mass, with full instrumentation.

Listen to it, get familiar, don’t miss it, and participate! If we get enough interest from the congregation, we could even share the sheet music in advance!

Looking forward to re-living the most amazing Love story ever lived, experiencing every step with you here at SPSA, and ending with a wonderful Easter celebration, where we will Sing and Rejoice in the Love of our Resurrected Lord.

In Peace, in Joy,  
David

## The Emmaus Grieving Parent Ministry



The Emmaus Ministry for Grieving Parents, in the Franciscan tradition of “All are Welcome,” serves the spiritual needs of grieving parents whose children of any age have died by any cause. We meet at the Franciscan Center at 3:30 on the third Sunday of the month. **Next meeting, April 19, 2026.**

Please call the church office for more information at 860-756-4034.

## Mark Your Calendar - The Walk is Coming



The Walk Against Hunger 2026 will be on Saturday, April 25th at Dunkin’ Park in Hartford. The Walk will start at 10:00 AM, but please arrive at the stadium by 9:15 AM.

To join our team or donation, please scan the QR Code or go to <https://tinyurl.com/SPSACT-WAH-2026> AND Get those walking shoes ready!!

## St. Patrick-St. Anthony Church and the Franciscan Center Regularly Minister to Our Immigrant Neighbors,

particularly through our partnerships with area organizations.

With those community partners, our parishioners volunteer as ESOL tutors and assist with legal emergency planning. As a member of the Greater Hartford Interfaith



Action Alliance (GHIAA), St. Patrick-St. Anthony and the Franciscan Center have advocated for GHIAA’s immigrant rights agenda (<https://cljct.org/campaign/immigration/>). Most currently, a statewide coalition including GHIAA is lobbying Governor Lamont to sign an executive order protecting CT’s National Guard from federal deployment for immigration enforcement. You can add your voice to those calling for this protection (<https://www.acluct.org/lamont-national-guard-eo/>).

If you’d like to become involved with these initiatives, please contact Allison at [aholstgrubbe@spsact.org](mailto:aholstgrubbe@spsact.org).



# Conversations on Work and Spirituality

## Have you wondered about...

- How can I balance all areas of my life?
- How does my work connect to my spiritual well-being?
- How can I become more involved and give back to my local community?
- What advice might those at the end of their careers have for those just beginning?

**You are not alone** with these questions. **Meet and discuss** with those asking the same questions.

## TAKING THE BIG RISKS

SPIRITUAL INSIGHTS FOR PEOPLE IN BUSINESS

WILLIAM FARLEY

FOUNDER AND CEO OF THE FARLEY COMPANY



Click [Here](#) or Scan to RSVP



## An Evening with Bill Farley

### Author of *Taking the Big Risks*



Bill Farley is the founder and former CEO of The Farley Company, once CT's largest commercial real estate firm, and a lifelong leader in the Hartford community. He has served on over 20 nonprofit boards and helped lead initiatives such as Journey Home and

House of Bread. Bill earned his MA in Religious Studies from Hartford International University and recently authored *Taking the Big Risks*, a book about how spiritual values guide decisions in work, leadership, and everyday life. He is a model for living a life balanced between family, friends, faith, work, and community. **Join us as we talk with Bill on his spiritual insights for people in business!**

### Who

Working individuals interested in engaging in conversations around work and spirituality. **Bring a friend!**

### What

An event to **learn from and connect with other working individuals** centered around work, spirituality, and community  
◆ **Dinner Provided! RSVP by 4/13!**

### Where

Franciscan Center for Urban Ministry  
285 Church St, Hartford, CT 06103

### When

#### Tuesday, April 21st

4:30 PM — Catch-Up with Bill

**5:00 PM — Evening Begins – Fr. Mike**

5:10 PM — Bill Speaks

5:45 PM — Dinner & Table Discussion

6:45 PM — Come Back to Large Group

7:00 PM — Closing Reflections & Prayer

7:15 PM — Dessert, Coffee & Networking

**7:30 PM — Evening Concludes**

**St. Patrick-St. Anthony Church and  
The Franciscan Center for Urban Ministry**

285 Church Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06103

860-756-4034

[www.spsact.org](http://www.spsact.org)

## Volunteer Today:

Feeling the need to give back? Consider volunteering for one of the following ministries:

**Care Ministry Team:** help to guide families through the planning process of their loved one's funeral.

**Friday Shoppers Ministry.** Every Friday we place two orders at BJ's Wholesale for the House of Bread Weekend Meal Program and the Franciscan Center.

Please go to <https://spsact.org/current-volunteer-opportunities/> to view current offerings.

Please contact our Director of Community Engagement, Allison Holst-Grubbe at [aholstgrubbe@spsact.org](mailto:aholstgrubbe@spsact.org) for more info!

## Looking for a Few Good Nurses!



The Parish Nurse Ministry is inviting nurses to join our team! Our ministry includes both active and retired nurses from a variety of professional backgrounds. Together, we serve our parish community by offering monthly blood pressure screenings and health consultations, as well as sharing information and resources to support wellness throughout the parish.

We're a friendly, supportive group, and we'd love to welcome new members! Our next screening will be held on April 12, 2026 following the 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM Masses in the Conference Room at the Franciscan Center—a great opportunity to stop by, meet the team, and see what we do.

If you have questions or ideas, feel free to reach out to co-coordinators, Maureen at [Maureen.pepin@gmail.com](mailto:Maureen.pepin@gmail.com) or Donna, at [dmd27@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dmd27@sbcglobal.net)

Healthfully yours,  
The Parish Nurse Ministry Team

## We are here to serve you...

We are here to serve you. The programs and ministries listed below are just a sampling of our many offerings. Please go to [www.spsact.org](http://www.spsact.org) or call the Parish Office at 860-756-4034 for more information.

**Baptism:** Baptism of infants and young children may be celebrated during Sunday Mass and Group Baptisms on the 1st Saturday of each month outside of the seasons of Advent and Lent.  
*Patricia Curtis, Pastoral Associate; 860-756-4034, EXT. 113.*

**Matrimony:** The Sacrament of Marriage at St. Patrick-St. Anthony Church are celebrated Friday and Saturdays. The Bride or Groom should contact *Carolyn Abramo, Wedding Manager; 860-756-4034, EXT. 111* or <https://spsact.org/wedding-request-form/> to begin preparation for Marriage, normally one year in advance and before any other arrangements are made for a reception.

**Pastoral Care Outreach Ministry:** We offer holistic care in collaboration with the parish staff (friars, ministry coordinators, and parish nurses). Members of this team are responsible for visiting parishioners at home or in long term and short term care facilities. *Fr. John Leonard, O.F.M.; 860-756-4034, EXT. 129.*

**Prayer Network:** The St. Patrick–St. Anthony Prayer Network consists of approximately fifty parishioners who commit themselves to praying daily for those in need. <https://spsact.org/prayer-network-prayer-request/> or Parish Office; 860-756-4034.

**Open Hearts LGBTQ+ Ministry:** This ministry consists of two Groups: **Open Hearts** holds monthly fellowship meetings, and **Friends and Family (LGBTQ+) Support Ministry**, which supports members and allies of the LGBTQ+ community.

*For information on Open Hearts:*

<https://spsact.org/contact-open-hearts-ministry/>

*For information on Friends and Family contact:*

<https://spsact.org/contact-form-for-friends-family-ministry/>

### Volunteering and Outreach Ministry Information:

St. Patrick-St. Anthony invites individuals to give freely of their time and expertise in order to make a difference. Our volunteers participate in liturgical ministries as well as other forms of service to the church, the Franciscan Center for Urban Ministry and the community at large. *Allison Holst-Grubbe, Director of Community Engagement; aholstgrubbe@spsact.org; 860-756-4034, EXT. 110.*

## Weekly Offering Update

March 15, 2026:

*Thank you for your continued support*

## Please Pray for the Sick

Paula Molitar, Joseph Shertick, Greg Reed, Kathryn Eagers, Tommie Henry, Syl Ciraulo, Mary Ertel, Mary Joyce Castafero, Rosemarie Perkoski, Fran Rago, Susan Degennaro, Albert Tornatore, and Deborah Godin.

## PASTORAL STAFF

Fr. Timothy J. Shreenan, O.F.M., Pastor, [tshreenan@gmail.com](mailto:tshreenan@gmail.com)

Fr. William Beaudin, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar & Guardian,  
[wbeaudin@gmail.com](mailto:wbeaudin@gmail.com)

Patricia Curtis, Pastoral Associate, [pcurtis@spsact.org](mailto:pcurtis@spsact.org)

Kristina DiDominio, Business Manager, [kdidominio@spsact.org](mailto:kdidominio@spsact.org)

David Garrido Cid, Director of Music Ministry,  
[dgarridocid@spsact.org](mailto:dgarridocid@spsact.org)

Allison Holst-Grubbe, Director of Community Engagement,  
[aholstgrubbe@spsact.org](mailto:aholstgrubbe@spsact.org)

Fr. Michael Johnson, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar & Director of Franciscan  
Center for Urban Ministry, [mikeinbolivia@gmail.com](mailto:mikeinbolivia@gmail.com)

Fr. John Leonard, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar, [jleonard@spsact.org](mailto:jleonard@spsact.org)

Fr. A. Francis Soucy, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar & Senior Associate Friar,  
[afsofm@gmail.com](mailto:afsofm@gmail.com)

## ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Carolyn Abramo, Parish & Center Administrative Assistant  
[cabramo@spsact.org](mailto:cabramo@spsact.org)

Sarah Christopher, Parish Communications Director,  
[schristopher@spsact.org](mailto:schristopher@spsact.org)

Stacie Mawson, Saturday Receptionist

Barbara Sullivan, Saturday Receptionist

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION STAFF

Deborah Pelletier, Religious Ed Team Coordinator,  
[dpelletier@spsact.org](mailto:dpelletier@spsact.org)

Sarah Christopher, Catechesis of the Good Shepherd  
Mary Gray, Family Program

Lauren Kasperowski, Traditional Program

Abigail Sheehan, Focus 4:12 Youth Ministry, 7th, 8th & 9th Grades

Faith VosWinkel, Focus 4:12 Youth Ministry, 10th Grade

## MAINTENANCE STAFF

A.J. DuVerger, Director of Maintenance

Gilberto Lisboa, Church Custodian

Juana Dominguez, Friary Custodian

### Watch 10:00 AM Mass Online:



<https://www.facebook.com/St-Patrick-St-Anthony-Church-109359789104825/>



<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8Vhk8-hhlyAJenBxueHySQ>

StreamSpot

<https://venue.streamspot.com/cdc76f52>

**MAKE A 115% DIFFERENCE WITH JUST ONE GIFT!**

SUPPORT THE ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL THROUGH BIRDIES FOR CHARITY

2026 Archbishop's Annual Appeal **WE ARE ONE** ARCHDIOCESE OF HARTFORD

BIRDIES FOR CHARITY TRAVELERS CHAMPIONSHIP

Sponsored by WebsterBank

Supported by aetna

### HOW IT WORKS

1. Donate to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal through our special Birdies for Charity link by June 28<sup>th</sup> – no fees!
2. Webster Bank will contribute a 15% bonus on top of your gift – automatically!

SCAN QR CODE TO DONATE!

Your support helps fund crucial ministries, outreach programs, education, and charitable works across our Archdiocese. And now, every \$1 you give becomes \$1.15 to serve even more people in need.

[www.archdioceseofhartford.org/birdiesforcharity](http://www.archdioceseofhartford.org/birdiesforcharity) to donate or learn more!

# LEADING WITH PURPOSE DRIVEN BY IMPACT

Partner with **Catholic Charities** for the Connecticut Golf Classic.

Align your brand with 100 years of impact. Join senior executives and community leaders at the newly renovated Wampanoag Country Club for a day of championship golf and philanthropic leadership.

Monday, June 1, 2026  
Wampanoag Golf Club,  
West Hartford

Join Us!  
Contact:  
David Sellery [dsellery@ccaoh.org](mailto:dsellery@ccaoh.org)  
Suzan Bibisi [golf@ccaoh.org](mailto:golf@ccaoh.org)

POSITION YOUR BRAND FOR GOOD.  
Partnerships & Registration: [www.ccaoh.org/golf](http://www.ccaoh.org/golf)  
In support of our Good Will Follow campaign

Catholic Charities  
Archdiocese of Hartford

# Branches on the Vine

NEWS FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF HARTFORD

MARCH 28 - APRIL 3, 2026

## Guilford Parish Offers Support for Those Living with *Mental Illness*

- Story by Joe Pisani

Almost 25 years ago, Deacon Adam Michaele was moved by a heart-breaking situation when a young woman had her engagement broken and lost her friends because of mental illness.

"She had nothing and no one to go to, and we knew we had to do something," he recalls. That's when he and his wife Rose began a mental health ministry to offer people suffering from loneliness to depression, stress, autism and anxiety a place to turn for support. Since then, they have assisted dozens of people, most of whom had nowhere to turn.

The Mental Health Ministry Spiritual Support Group is hosted by St. George Parish in Guilford and has members from the shoreline parishes. Meetings are held on the campus of St. George Church.

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*"People in the group offer support for each other"*

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"The group offers a safe and confidential environment where people who live with mental illness can meet and share their experiences, their concerns and their faith," says Deacon Michaele. "It is not group therapy, and behavioral health professionals are not involved, but through support, prayer and reflections, members can grow closer in their relationship with our loving God."

Deacon Adam is a certified Catholic mental health minister with a master's degree in spiritual and pastoral care. He was a founding board member of the Association of Catholic Mental Health Ministers, and three years ago received the Archdiocese of Hartford's social justice award for his work.

Rose Michaele provides spiritual accompaniment and previously facilitated a group for caregivers.

"My wife Rose has been there every step of the way and offers a gentle touch and womanly perspective that I cannot provide," Deacon Michaele says.

"People in the group offer support for each other, and a camaraderie has built up," Rose says. "Some of them live alone and don't have family, some can't drive, and older members are lonely and feel their vulnerability. Many suffer from the stigma associated with mental illness and don't want to speak about it because they're afraid of being ostracized."

Meetings begin with a prayer, and Deacon Michaele asks them to share their experiences while members offer suggestions when someone has a problem. Later, they discuss a spiritual reading or the Gospel. The meetings end with a blessing, and Rose gives them treats to take home. The Michaelaes also take members to events, such as the St. George Thanksgiving Day dinner and the parish annual carnival.

"We support them and try to get them out so they're not home alone," Rose says. "Sometimes we treat them to lunch and a movie, which they look forward to."

Members are required to adhere to certain rules.

"We have rules about confidentiality," Deacon Michaele says. "If they have a therapist, they can't abruptly stop treatment without having a plan to get another one. They also can't abruptly stop their medication."

During the week, the Michaelaes make themselves available to members.



Deacon Adam Michaele and his wife Rose oversee the Mental Health Ministry Spiritual Support Group hosted by St. George Parish, Guilford. They are members of St. John Bosco Parish in Branford.

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"Anyone can come in any time and sit with us if they have a problem," Deacon Michaele says. "We get calls and support them with our prayers and understanding. The door is always open."

*The Mental Health Ministry Spiritual Support Group meets the second and fourth Sundays from 2 to 4 p.m. in the Ruiz Center on the campus of St. George Church, 33 Whitfield St., Guilford. For dates and more information, contact St. George Parish, 203.453.2788.*



# Upcoming Events



**MARCH 29 @ 11:30AM**  
**PALM SUNDAY BREAKFAST AND EGG HUNT**  
 St. Mary Church, Derby

Free Breakfast of egg sandwiches, pastries, coffee after Mass. Bring your own basket!



**MARCH 30 @ 7PM**  
**DIVINE MERCY TALK WITH MEG BAILEY**  
 St. Mary Church, Derby

Come and hear about the extraordinary graces Jesus has promised when we honor His Divine Mercy. In this special PowerPoint presentation we will be introduced to the message of Divine Mercy. Following there will be adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and confession.



**MARCH 31 @ 11AM**  
**CHRISM MASS**  
 Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Hartford

Archbishop will bless holy oils for use in sacraments throughout the year. All are invited to join in celebrating in this special Mass.



**APRIL 11 @ 8:30AM \$75**  
**CONTEMPLATIVE ENRICHMENT DAY**  
 Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center, West Hartford

Inspired by Rilke's "Sonnets to Orpheus," this retreat explores themes of transformation and the courage to "live the questions." Join us to practice "heart-work" and discover how to belong to "the Whole." In-person and online via Zoom. Two Centering Prayer sessions and lunch. Visit [www.holyfamilyretreat.org/calendar](http://www.holyfamilyretreat.org/calendar).



**April 11 @ 10AM - 4PM \$75**  
**SPRING WREATH MAKING**  
 Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center, West Hartford

Make yourself a decorative wreath for Springtime. Using colorful paper, you will create a beautiful wreath to take home and use on front door or inside the house. You will need no experience in wreath making to complete this special wreath and you can hang it year after year! Supplies and Lunch provided. Visit [www.holyfamilyretreat.org/calendar](http://www.holyfamilyretreat.org/calendar).



**APRIL 17 @ 6:30PM**  
**YOUNG ADULT 21+ GROUP**  
 Our Lady of Knock Parish, St. Patrick Church, Farmington

Candlelight Mass will be held at 6:30 PM with Trivia, Tacos, Drinks, and Social following the Candlelight Mass.



**APRIL 17 - 19**  
**INTERNATIONAL EXHIBIT OF EUCHARISTIC MIRACLES**  
 St. George Church, Guilford

**Fri, 17 April, 4:30 - 9 pm | Sat, 18 April, 10 am - 8:30 pm | Sun, 19 April, 9:30 am - 3 pm**  
 Talks on St. Carlo Acutis & St. Manuel Gonzalez Garcia. 1st class relics of both St. Carlo and St. Manuel will be available for veneration. For more information, contact Donna Yatcko at **203-453-2788**.



**MAY 1 - 3 @ ALL DAY**  
**RETROUVAILLE MARRIAGE WORKSHOP**  
 Windsor

If your marriage has become distant, troubled, unloving or uncaring; if you are divorced or separated but want to try again, Retrouvaille can help. Visit [www.HelpOurMarriage.org](http://www.HelpOurMarriage.org).



**APRIL 27 @ 7PM**  
**SPEED NETWORKING AND MENTORING**  
 Holy Angels Center, Meriden

Join Young Catholic Professionals Central Connecticut and meet inspiring professionals, connect with other young adults, and walk away with practical insight for your career and faith. Food and drink will be provided. We will be having Stations of the Cross and prayer at 7pm, and the speed networking and mentoring will start at 7:45.



**MAY 8 @ 6PM**  
**SEEN: A NIGHT OF HOPE & HEALING**  
 The Basilica of the Immaculate Conception, Waterbury

All are welcome for a night of prayer and support for those experiencing infertility or pregnancy/child loss, whether you are personally carrying this cross or desire to intercede and accompany others. We will have welcoming remarks, Mass, a reflection, Adoration with Praise and Worship, and a reception to follow with light refreshments, veneration of relics, resources, community, and opportunities to meet with Religious Sisters and Prayer Teams.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Amanda at [Hello@waterburybasilica.org](mailto:Hello@waterburybasilica.org). Use [www.tinyurl.com/3832yxtz](http://www.tinyurl.com/3832yxtz) to RSVP.



**MAY 10 @ 10AM Adults \$50**  
**MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH**  
 Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center, West Hartford

**Children 4-12, \$15 | Children under 4, Free**  
 Let us help take care of Mom on her special day. Come celebrate Mother's Day with a special Mass for mothers and families, and then enjoy a delicious gourmet brunch prepared by our chef. Visit [www.holyfamilyretreat.org/calendar](http://www.holyfamilyretreat.org/calendar).

## 2026 ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

Scan the QR code to learn how you can make a lasting impact!

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Total Goal: \$10M 46.62% as of 3/17/26

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[www.archdioceseofhartford.org/appeal](http://www.archdioceseofhartford.org/appeal)