



Saint Matthew • St. Gregory the Great Parish

May 11, 2025 — Fourth Sunday of Easter

Fr. John Dietrich, *Pastor*

Fr. Nathaniel C. Labarda, *Parochial Vicar*

Brian Armstrong, *Deacon* — James Arena, *Deacon*



Heavenly Father, You have created us for a definite purpose. Grant us the grace to know the path You have planned

for each of us in this life, and to respond with a generous "Yes." Make my parish, my home and my heart fruitful ground for Your gift of vocations to the priesthood of Jesus Christ. May our young men respond to Your call with courage and zeal. Stir among them a desire and the strength to be good and holy priests. We make our prayer for priestly vocations to You, Father, in the Holy Spirit, through Christ our Lord. Amen. Mary, Mother of the Church, pray for us. Saint Joseph, Patron of our Archdiocese, pray for us. Blessed Michael McGivney, pray for us.

St. Matthew • (860) 583-1833

120 Church Avenue , Forestville, CT

rectory@stmatthewrcc.com

www.smsgparish.org

Office Hours:

Monday— Friday 9 — 12, 1 — 4

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St. Gregory the Great • (860) 589-2295

235 Maltby Street, Bristol, CT

rectory@stgregoryrcc.com

www.smsgparish.org

Office Hours:

Monday— Friday 9 — 12, 1 — 4

A Prayer for You
ON MOTHER'S DAY



Loving God, as a mother gives life and nourishment to her children, so you give life and care for your Church. Bless these women, as we celebrate this day in their honor. May the example of Mary, mother of Jesus, inspire them to live their vocation as Christian mothers, and may Your grace help them to continue to trust in you all the days of their life. Amen.

Mass Intentions

St. Gregory the Great Church

Saturday 4:00pm	May 11th Vigil 4th Sunday of Easter All Living & Deceased Mothers of St. Matthew & St. Gregory Parish
Sunday 8:00am	May 11th 4th Sunday of Easter All Living & Deceased Mothers of St. Matthew & St. Gregory Parish
10:00am	All Living & Deceased Mothers of St. Matthew & St. Gregory Parish
Monday 9:00am	May 12th Easter Weekday † Raymond & Donald Mazerolle <i>by his sisters</i>
Tuesday 9:00am	May 13th Easter Weekday † Thomas Kozlak <i>by wife</i>
Wednesday 9:00am	May 14th St. Matthias, Apostle † Theresa Letizia Darby <i>by family</i>
Thursday 9:00am	May 15th Easter Weekday † Joey Vita (4th anniversary) <i>by his grandmother</i>
Friday 9:00am	May 16th Easter Weekday † Tom Kozlak <i>by Margie</i>
Saturday 9:00am	May 17th Easter Weekday † Charles Lanosa <i>by Marily, Christen & Maryfrances</i>
Saturday 4:00pm	May 18th Vigil 5th Sunday of Easter All Living & Deceased Members of St. Matthew & St. Gregory Parish
Sunday 8:00am	May 18th 5th Sunday of Easter † Carmen Bolduc <i>by family</i>
10:00am	† Anne Normoyle <i>by the Normoyle family</i>



THIS WEEK THE
SANCTUARY LAMP
BURNS FOR THE
GREATER
GLORY OF GOD
AND IN
HONOR OF

**Nicholas & Ann
Cerrone**

Lord, grant eternal rest to the souls of all our
dearly departed, especially the soul of your loving
servant:



Virginia Quirk

St. Gregory Parish Family extends sincere
sympathy to her family and friends at this time.



Holy Hour

Come spend time with Jesus in the Eucharist

Every Tuesday Night from 7-8 PM
St. Gregory Church, Bristol, CT

Every Wednesday after 7:30 AM Mass
St. Matthew Church, Forestville, CT



Weekly Offertory

We are most grateful for your continued generosity.

April 20, 2025 offertory \$11,255.50

Please remember to mark your envelope so that you may receive proper credit.

SAINT MATTHEW AND SAINT GREGORY

300+ CLUB



Week 32 \$20 - 435
\$10 - 58
\$10 - 286

CONGRATULATIONS!!

PRAYER FOR OUR NATION

St. Matthew Church Outdoor Rosary for Our Nation (Mary Garden)

The first Saturday rosary session will be on May 10, 2025 at 12:30 pm.

Bring a chair and flowers for Mary. If it is inclement weather on either date, we will pray inside the church.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Mon—Sat	Rosary	8:15am
	Divine Mercy	9:30am
Tuesday	Holy Hour	7:00pm



The Mother Theresa Food Pantry at St. Ann Church (215 West Street, Bristol) is open on Tuesday & Thursday mornings from 8:45 to 11:30 am. Pre-registration is required.

Food collection is the first weekend of each month. Please leave your donation in the St. Matthew Church vestibule. Thank you for your support!

Holy Hour

Our Blessed Mother

St. Matthew Church

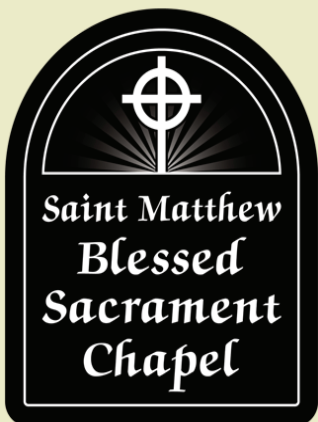
Wednesday, May 14th 6:00 pm

- ◇ Holy Rosary
- ◇ Hymns
- ◇ Benediction
- ◇ All day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (starting after 7:30 am Mass)

All are welcome!



St. Matthew Blessed Sacrament Chapel



Adoration Schedule:

- ⇒ Mondays: 8 am - 6 pm
- ⇒ Thursdays: 8 am - 8 pm
- ⇒ Fridays: 8 am - 6 pm
- ⇒ Saturdays: 9 am - 3:30 pm
- ⇒ Sundays: 12 pm - 4:45 pm

Tuesdays and Wednesdays, the Chapel is open during the day from 7 am until 4:30 pm.

All are welcome!

BOOK CLUB



Sponsored by Ladies Guild

The Ultimate Gift by Jim Stovall

Wednesday, May 13 9:30 am Meeting at Panera, Bristol (Shop Rite Plaza)

For more information, please call Natale Barrett at 860-888-9563

All are welcome ladies and gentlemen!



We Pray For All Our Military Personnel

COLONEL KIRSTEN G. AGUILAR,
SGT TYLER D AKERLEY,
CAPTAIN GREGORY W. ALLEN,
LANCE CORPORAL, MICHAEL BANKS,
CAPTAIN JASON BARBER,
COLONEL PAUL T BARTOK ,
W2 TODD BOEHM, FT2 JOSEPH BOMBASSEI,
MASTER SERGEANT
DAVID BONACCORSO RETIRED,
COLONEL RUSSELL BONACCORSO,
MASTER SERGEANT,
MARY BONACCORSO CONKLIN,
WO 3 PETER CONKLIN RETIRED
STAFF SERGEANT MICHAEL CORRY,
CORPORAL FRANK DENOTO,
E4 MICHAEL DENOTO,
GUNNERY SERGEANT WILLIAM T DOYLE IV,
LANCE CORPORAL JOHN DUNCAN,
MAJOR STEPHAN D'URSO,
LT COLONEL MELISSA FOX,
LT DANIEL GOLSCHNEIDER,
AIRMAN HUNTER R GOSLIN,
AIRMAN ABEAA DAKOTA GREGER,
CORPORAL JARED GREGER,
PFC STACEY LYNN GUERRETTE,
STAFF SERGEANT DAVID GULINO,
SERGEANT ELIJAH KING,
E-2 STEPHANIE LANDRY,
LANCE CORPORAL AUSTIN LAUSIER,
STAFF SERGEANT KAREN-ROSE LEWIS,
PETTY OFFICER 3RD CLASS
JONATHON MARCHETTI,
SERGEANT TAYLOR MARTEL,
E1 JACK MCCARTHY,
PFC JOSEPH MORELLI, JR.,
U.S. NAVY BRANDON MYERS,
PRIVATE NICHOLAS NADEAU,
BRIAN PAGE, JACOB PELLETIER,
SPECIALIST RICHARD PERRI,
LT. COLONEL DANIEL R. RABOIN,
LANCE CORPORAL JAMES RIDER,
CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 5,
LT JAKE SHEEHY,
SERGEANT STEFAN SQUILLANTE,
E3 SEAMAN B J SULLIVAN,
E2 NICHOLAS ZAWILINSKI,
STAFF SERGEANT KEITH ZANETTI,
LT COMMANDER CRAIG ZECCHIN

(If you know of anyone serving in the military, please call the office and we will be honored to list them.)

St. Matthew—St. Gregory the Great
Parish presents:

Maine Lobster!

Kennebunkport, ME

Tuesday, June 24, 2025

Enjoy a Lobster Dinner at **Bull N Claw** in Wells, Maine. Here you will find good food, good spirits, and great company! Menu: Cup of Clam Chowder, salad, choice of: 1 1/8 lb. Maine Lobster, OR Prime Rib, Blueberry Crisp for dessert, coffee, tea, or soda. *Entrée choice in advance, please.*

Enjoy a **guided driving tour of Kennebunk and Kennebunkport**. Drive past the sandy beaches and rocky coastline, past the George Bush estate at Walker's Point, hear the history of these shipbuilding towns and the legend of the Wedding Cake House.

Time to visit the shops in quaint **Kennebunkport** on the beautiful Maine coast.

Cost: \$155pp based on 35-50

Depart: 7:30am, St. Gregory Church
Parking Lot, 235 Maltby St.

Estimated Return: 9:00pm, Bristol

Reservations: Angela Rakowski 860-677-7074
or Anna Sellers 860-747-8440

Tickets are non-refundable

Seats still available!



St. Matthew - St. Gregory the Great Parish

Religious Education

Register now for 2025-26

Religious Education classes!

Introducing our new online
registration system:



For more information, please visit our webpage
at smsgparish.org or contact
mewdre@stmatthewrcc.com



**Blessed Sacrament
Ladies Guild
End of the Season
Luncheon**

Come and treat yourself on Tuesday, June 3rd, 2025 to an enjoyable time at Plan B Restaurant 20 Spring Street Southington, CT (corner of Spring Street and Queen Street) at 11:30. Bring a \$25.00 Gift Certificate to exchange. You can call Debbie at 860-402-9676. We will have a sign up sheet at St. Matthew church starting May 10th.

Hope you can join us!

Join us for Breakfast

To celebrate Mother's Day
Special Gift for all Moms



This Breakfast will Benefit



Circle of Care provides practical, emotional, and financial assistance to Connecticut families through programs and services that meet the unique and challenging needs of pediatric cancer treatment.

Sunday, 5/11/25, 8 am till Noon
Location: St. Gregory CCD Center Hall
1043 Stafford Ave., Bristol, CT

Sponsored by the Bristol, CT
Knights of Columbus Palos Council 35



We are serving: Eggs, Home Fries, Ham, Sausage, Pancakes, Bread, Fruit Cup, Orange Juice, and Coffee.

Tickets are available at the door
or you can call in advance to reserve your Tickets:
George 860-863-7203

Donation: Adults—\$15.00 Kids (under 10) - \$10.00



St. Matthew School

Pre-K3 - Grade 8

860.583.5214 | smsct.org

Congratulations to our bulldogs for another outstanding basketball season! The Boys JV and Girls Varsity basketball teams played in the championship games. The boys put up a great fight but fell short. The girls remained undefeated for the season and won the championship game!



**HOLY FAMILY
PASSIONIST
RETREAT CENTER**

In my Love, Abide

Men's Retreat: June 6-8, 2025

Women's Retreat: May 30 to June 1, 2025

Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center – West Hartford, CT

Jesus calls us to remain in love as the branches remain with the vine for life and sustenance. We know that Jesus prayed often and taught his disciples to do the same. Pope Francis has named this year a "Year of Prayer." He described it as "a year dedicated to rediscovering the great value and absolute need for prayer in one's personal life, in the life of the Church, and in the world."

We invite you to come and explore the depths of a life of prayer and learn ways to maintain the sacred connection to God through Christ, the true vine.

Conferences and workshops will be offered along with the Sacrament of Reconciliation and the Celebration of the Eucharist. Register at holyfamilyretreat.org/themed-retreats.

Generous scholarships are available – email info@holyfamilyretreat.org or contact our registrar Ted at 860.760.9705 for more information.



Branches on the Vine

MAY 10 - 16, 2025

GALLERY IN NEW HAVEN FEATURES ARTIFACTS ABOUT PONTIFICATES, INCLUDING POPE FRANCIS

- Story by Karen A. Avitabile



The Papal Gallery, inside the Blessed Michael McGivney Pilgrimage Center, includes a permanent exhibit related to popes. At right is a photograph of Pope Francis. PHOTOS BY AARON JOSEPH



This Papal Chair was used by Pope Francis during the 2016 World Youth Day in Krakow, Poland.



Coins highlighting the pontificate of Pope Francis on display.

The Blessed Michael McGivney Pilgrimage Center in New Haven is welcoming visitors to view a permanent gallery that highlights the relationship between the Knights of Columbus, Pope Francis and other pontificates.

Called the Papal Gallery, the space consists of an array of artwork, archival materials, artifacts, commemorative papal medallions, Vatican correspondence and photographs. These items recount the relationship between the Vatican, popes and the Knights of Columbus during the organization's 143-year history.

In addition, artifacts on display in the Papal Gallery feature items that were presented to the Knights of Columbus during the 12 years of Pope Francis' pontificate.

They include: an apostolic letter, a papal brief, a letter and holy cards to Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly,

and a book published to mark the first anniversary of the pope's "Urbi et Orbi" blessing to Rome and the world in an empty St. Peter's Square as the coronavirus pandemic swept the world.

A large display case houses the Papal Chair used by Pope Francis during the 2016 World Youth Day in Krakow, Poland.

"The Knights of Columbus has enjoyed a close relationship with the Holy See since almost its existence," says Peter Sonski, manager of education and outreach for the Blessed Michael McGivney Pilgrimage Center.

Portraits of all the popes, including Pope Francis who died on April 21, grace the walls inside the Papal Gallery.

Pope Francis played a significant role in advancing the cause of sainthood for Blessed Michael J. McGivney, a parish priest from New Haven who is being considered for sainthood.

In 1882, Blessed McGivney founded the Knights of Columbus to serve the needs of a largely immigrant Catholic community. He died in 1890 of pneumonia when he was 38 years old.

Blessed McGivney moved a step closer to possible sainthood after Pope Francis approved a miracle attributed to his intercession in May 2020. He was beatified on Oct. 31, 2020, at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Hartford.

Located at 1 State St., in New Haven, the Blessed Michael McGivney Pilgrimage Center welcomes visitors Wednesdays through Sundays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. There is free admission and parking in the lot beneath the building. For more information, call 203.865.0400 or visit michaelmcgivneycenter.org.



Upcoming Events



05/15 - 06/12 THURSDAYS 7PM
WHAT DO CATHOLICS BELIEVE AND WHY? A SURVEY OF CATHOLIC BELIEF
 Our Lady of the Assumption Church Hall, 81 Center Rd, Woodbridge

Fr. Glen will lead another session covering the basic understandings of our Catholic faith. It is important that we know what we believe and profess every Sunday!
 Join us for these special one hour sessions to dive deeper into your faith. Bring your questions too!



05/15 WEDNESDAY 5:30PM - 9PM
A MESSY LIFE IS A HOLY LIFE: COUPLES' EVENING RETREAT
 Holy Family Retreat Center, 303 Tunxis Rd, West Hartford

As Christians, we are called to live a life of holiness. Pope Francis says: "We are all called to be holy by living our lives with love and by bearing witness is everything we do." However, life as a couple can sometimes seem more messy than holy! Perhaps we do not think of ourselves as holy people – we look to others as examples of holiness but not ourselves. How, as a couple, in the midst of our busy, messy lives answer this call to a life of holiness? Pope Francis continues: "This holiness to which the Lord calls you will grow through small gestures."

During our time together, we will explore the small ways in which we bear witness to one another and support each other. This is the path to holiness for couples living in the modern world.

This program will be offered both in-person and online via Zoom. Information on how to access the program on Zoom will be sent to participants in advance.

Offering: \$50 per person (includes dinner and wine & cheese from 5:30 to 6:00 p.m.)



05/30 FRIDAY 7PM
SET-BACK EVENT
 Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church Hall, 2819 Whitney Ave, Hamden

Join us for an evening of cards, community, and fun at the St. Paul VI Parish Set-Back Event! Doors open at 6:00 PM, so come early to get settled and enjoy some refreshments before the games begin at 7:00. No partner is needed—single players are welcome, and everyone has a chance to win great prizes. Admission is \$15 per person. Parking is available near the five-bay garages. Bring your friends, test your luck, and enjoy a lively night out with fellow parishioners and friends!



Novena in Honor of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal
 Every Tuesday at 3:00 pm
 at St. Matthew Church

- ◆ Chaplet of Divine Mercy
- ◆ Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary
- ◆ Miraculous Medal Novena Prayers

2025 ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

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



Total Goal: \$10M

68.28% as of 4/28/25
 \$6,827,634.58 pledges from
 20,485 generous donors

www.archdioceseofhartford.org/appeal

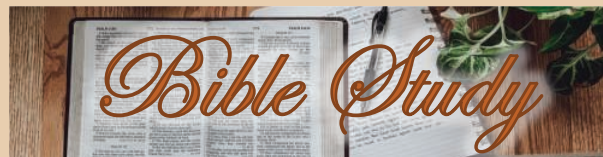
St. John Bosco Women's Group

Craft Fair

Saturday, May 17th
 9:00 AM - 2 PM

St. Therese Church
 105 Leetes Island Rd
 Branford

If interested in being a vendor
 please EMAIL:
SJBCraftandTago6405@gmail.com



Join us for Bible study on Tuesday evenings from 6:00 to 7:30 pm in Rosary Hall.

There is no cost. Bring your Bible. I am using the New American Revised Catholic Edition.

Bring your questions, thoughts, and coffee
 Looking forward to sharing time with you,
 Georgianna Roy



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