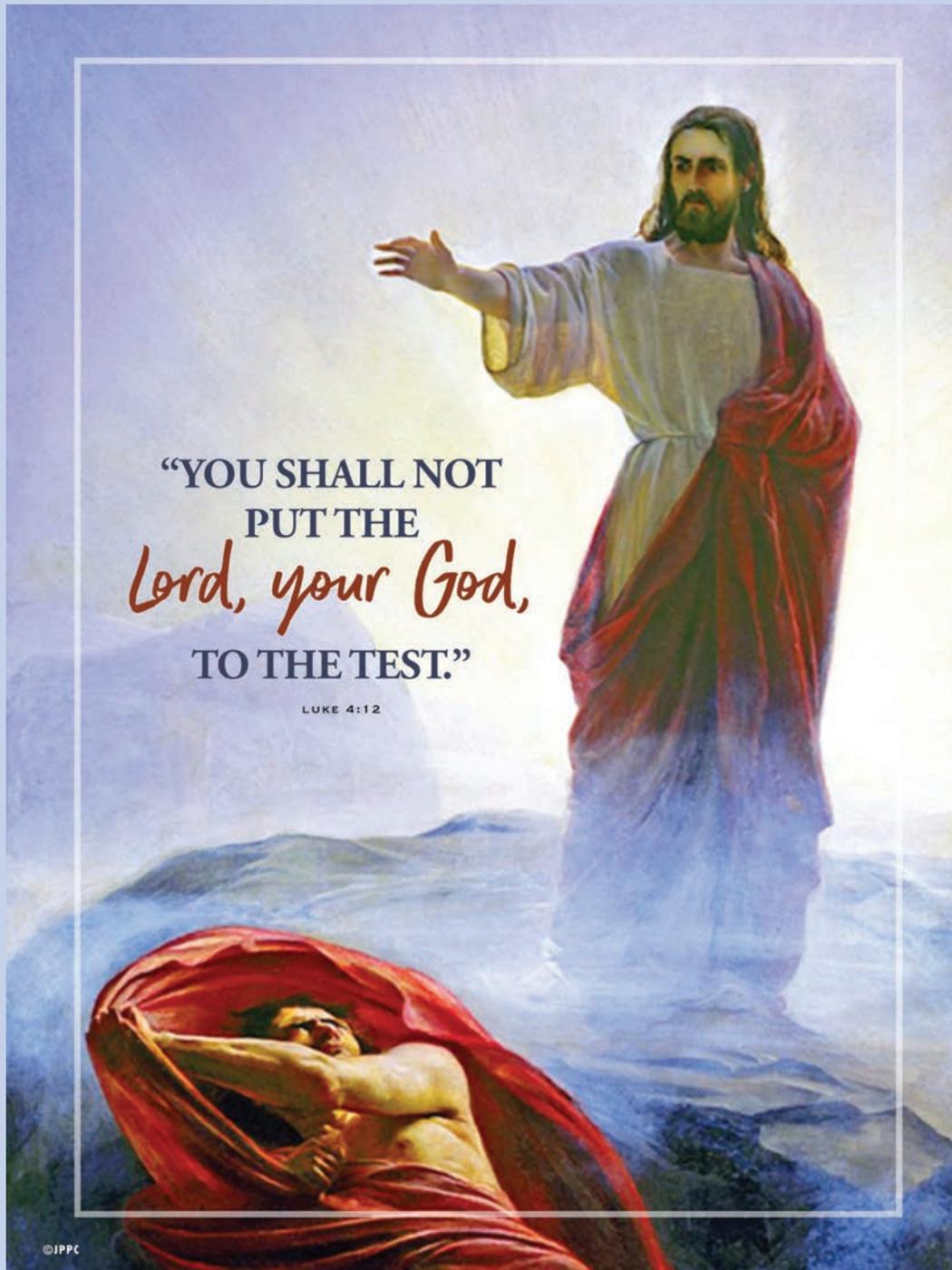


Divine Providence, Holy Apostles,
St. Francis of Assisi, St. Katharine Drexel
Parishes



First Sunday of Lent

March 6, 2022

**Divine Providence Parish at
St. Joseph Church
195 South Main St.
New Britain, CT 06051**

**Holy Apostles Parish at
St. John the Evangelist Church
655 East St.
New Britain, CT 06051**

**St. Francis of Assisi Parish
1755 Stanley St.
New Britain, CT 06053
Sunday Mass 10:00a.m.**

**St. Katharine Drexel Parish at
St. Jerome Church
1010 Slater Rd.
New Britain, CT 06053**

**SATURDAY VIGIL
4:00p.m. at St. Jerome**

**SUNDAY
7:30a.m. at St. John
9:00a.m. at St. Joseph
10:00a.m. at St. Francis
11:30a.m. at St. Jerome**

**DAILY MASS at St. Francis
8:00a.m. Monday - Saturday
5:30p.m. Monday - Friday**

**Confessions
will be 1/2 hour before
the weekday Masses
7:30-7:50a.m. and 5:00-5:20p.m.
at St. Francis
3:00-3:45p.m. on Saturday at St. Jerome**

**As of January 1st, St. Andrew, St. Peter and
St. Maurice Churches will no longer be used
for regular Masses.**



Pastor
Rev. Michael Casey

Parochial Vicar
Rev. Eduar Gutierrez

Deacons
James Arena
Alan Bielawski
Joseph Kane

PARISH OFFICE

1010 Slater Rd., New Britain, CT 06053

Office Hours
Monday-Friday, 9:00a.m. - 4:30p.m.

Tel: 860-224-2411

Fax: 860-224-6838

Email: parishoffice@stfranciscatholic.org

Website: stfranciscatholic.org

EMAIL NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

Please join our email notification system which alerts parishioners to changes/cancellations in scheduling due to inclement weather or other unforeseen events. This will be the primary way to communicate to our parishioners.

To opt in, email your request with your full name and email address to:

notification@stfranciscatholic.org

Please note: We do not send texts and cannot make phone calls.

ONLINE GIVING IS EASY!

Visit www.stfranciscatholic.org and look for the "Donate" button. Click on the button and it will bring you to the main donation page. Enter your donation amount on the left and on the right is the "Give to" box. Click on the arrow and choose the parish you wish to donate to.

Or you may simply scan the QR image!

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Pictures of the week...

LifeTeen
High School
Group



Congratulations to Alyssa and Ryan Buchanan who were married at St. Francis on Saturday, February 26, 2022.

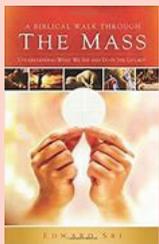
Prayer Line

In need of Prayers? Please call our "Spirit of Love" Prayer Line. Mary M. at 860-225-3890 (Call between 2-4p.m.)



A Biblical Walk Through the Mass

A Book Study Program



In *A Biblical Walk Through the Mass* by Edward Sri, come to discover how the Mass is nothing short of amazing. Through it, we encounter God in the most intimate way possible as we hear Him speak to us in the Liturgy of the Word and as we receive Him Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity in the Holy Eucharist.

The words, the gestures, and the rituals of the Mass are rich in meaning. Everything we say and do in the Liturgy is steeped in biblical language. *A Biblical Walk Through the Mass* explores the extraordinary biblical roots of the Liturgy and reveals what it all means and why it all matters. This fascinating tour of the Mass will renew your faith and deepen your love for and devotion to the Holy Eucharist. Join us the four Mondays in Lent (March 7, 14, 21, and 28) at 6:15p.m. at St. Francis School located at 1755 Stanley St., New Britain.

Archbishop's Annual Appeal



The 2022 Archbishop's Annual Appeal is now underway in our parish. Our goal is to engage our entire parish family in this year's Appeal and to pray for the success of the Appeal, both here in our parish and across the three counties of the Archdiocese. We hope you can help us meet our parish goals.

If you would like to make a gift, please mail in your pledge card. You may also visit the Archdiocesan website at www.archdioceseofhartford.org or call the Appeal Office at (800) 781-2550. Keep in mind that an early pledge will allow you to best use the monthly payment plan. All funds contributed to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal are used exclusively for the purposes outlined in the Appeal literature, which can be found at <https://archdioceseofhartford.org/appeal/>. No Appeal funds are ever used for legal fees or settlements. Please respond generously.



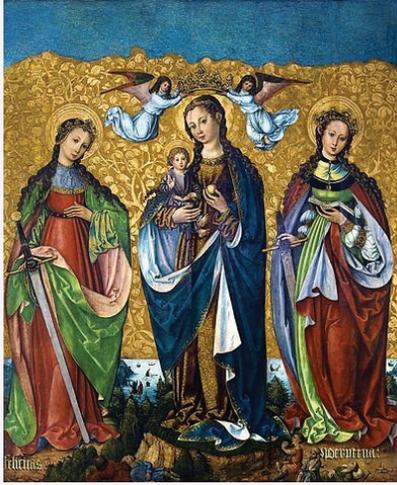
February 26-27, 2022: \$12,219.23
This amount includes the basket, mail in and online donations.

Mass Attendance for the weekend: 690

Thank you to all who support our parish.
Your dedication to your parish is greatly appreciated.

Saints of the Week:

Saints Perpetua and Felicity, Martyrs Late Second Century–203



Vivia Perpetua, twenty-two years old, was married, a noblewoman, and a new mother whose baby was still nursing. Her pagan father begged his favorite daughter to renounce her Christian faith, but to no avail. Felicity was a slave and pregnant when jailed. She gave birth a few days before her martyrdom. Her child would be raised by Christian women in Carthage. Perpetua, in her own hand, recorded the events leading up to her martyrdom, while an eye-witness to her death completed the text later. When they were first thrown into the arena, Perpetua and Felicity were attacked by a rabid heifer, which was chosen because it shared the same sex as its victims. The young women were grievously injured by the mad cow and then momentarily removed from the arena until gladiators were brought in to conclude the day's spectacle. The executioners carried out their duties quickly, though Perpetua had to guide the gladiator's sword to her throat after he first painfully struck a bone instead of a vein. As the narration states, "Perhaps such a woman...could not die unless she herself had willed it." Perpetua and Felicity were imprisoned together, suffered together, and died together in 203 A.D. in Carthage, North Africa, along with other noble martyrs whose names are preserved in the same account.

The vivid description of their deaths was so moving that it was faithfully preserved down through the centuries and has come to us largely intact. Apart from the New Testament writings themselves, only a few documents from the early Church pre-date the passion narrative of Perpetua and Felicity. It invites tantalizing reflection on how many similar first hand testimonies of famous martyrdoms from the early Church have been lost! What could have been known about the final moments of Saints Paul, Cecilia, Irenaeus, and so many apostles and popes! The accounts of Perpetua, Felicity, and Polycarp must fire our imagination for all the rest. The Church in North Africa so often read the account of Perpetua and Felicity in its public liturgies that Saint Augustine, a North African bishop living two hundred years after their martyrdoms, had to remind his faithful that the narrative was not on a par with Scripture itself.

The fact that women and slaves, both mothers who loved their children, were willing to die rather than renounce their faith, is a testament to the revolutionary message of Jesus Christ. The Son of God gave us a true religion. But He also gave us a true anthropology. He has revealed to man his true origins, his high dignity, and his ultimate purpose. Jesus reveals man to himself. So when early Christians, or even present-day Christians, understand that they are made in God's image and likeness, and that His Son died for them as much as He died for anyone else, they stand a little taller. If a Christian is told he is garbage, property, a slave, old, a prisoner, or a foreigner, he shouldn't flinch at the insult, because under such denigrations is a deeper identity: "child of God," "made in God's image and likeness," and "worthy of the blood of the Lamb." These are the titles of a citizen of the Kingdom of God, whose shadow covers the earth and comforts all those who live in its shade. Felicity and Perpetua clung to their identity as Christians in the face of imprisonment, ridicule, torture, and pain. The newness of the faith, and the dignity it imparted, fortified them to accept death rather than a return to rough paganism. May our faith be as fresh to us today.

Credits to: <https://mycatholic.life/saints/saints-of-the-liturgical-year/march-7-saints-perpetua-and-felicity-martyrs/>



STATIONS of the CROSS

Fridays during Lent
12:10pm at St. Peter
7:30pm at St. Francis

Lenten Abstinence

Wednesday, March 2, the holy season of Lent began.
Day of Fast and Abstinence: Good Friday
All the Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence.

Day of Fast means one large meal, no eating between meals for those between 18-59 years of age. Abstinence means that no meat may be eaten. All those 14 years of age and older are required to abstain. Health concerns take precedence over these requirements.

Readings for the Week

Monday: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15; Mt 25:31-46

Tuesday: Is 55:10-11; Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19; Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19; Lk 11:29-32

Thursday: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8;
Mt 7:7-12

Friday: Ez 18:21-28; Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8; Mt 5:20-26

Saturday: Dt 26:16-19; Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8; Mt 5:43-48

Sunday: Gn 15:5-12, 17-18; Ps 27:1, 7-8, 8-9, 13-14;
Phil 3:17—4:1 or 3:20—4:1; Lk 9:28b-36

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

St. Jerome:

Mondays 4:00p.m.-5:00p.m.

St. Joseph:

Wednesdays 12:00p.m. - 1:00p.m.

St. Francis:

Thursdays 6:00p.m. - 7:00p.m.

St. John:

TBD



Pastoral Care Ministry



We are most eager to help anyone who is unable to join us at Mass because of illness, handicap or age. Any parishioner in need of anointing of the sick or sacramental care at home, assisted living, hospital or care facility, please call the Parish Office at 860-224-2411 and we will be happy to arrange a visit.

To schedule a Mass, please call the parish office, located in the Parish Center at St. Jerome at 860-224-2411. The stipend for all Masses is \$20. *Please note we are arranging Masses in a 3 month rolling schedule meaning that beginning March 1, we will accept requests for the month of May. Beginning April 1, we will accept requests for the month of June. Checks should be made payable to **St. Francis Church** regardless of where the Mass is being held. Also, "requested by" will not be printed in the bulletin. Thank you.*



Saturday, March 5:

8:00 am: **St. Francis:** The Priests of the Archdiocese of Hartford

4:00 pm Vigil: **St. Jerome:** + William Domijan

Sunday, March 6:

7:30 am: **St. John:** Intention of the Celebrant

9:00 am: **St. Joseph:** + Rosanna Petrossi

10:00 am: **St. Francis:** + James J. Carey

11:30 am: **St. Jerome:**

+ Veronica and Arthur Steinbruck

All weekday Masses are at St. Francis:

Monday, March 7:

8:00 am: + Anna Buzzi

5:30 pm: Intention of the Celebrant

Tuesday, March 8:

8:00 am: Special Intention

5:30 pm: Special Intention

Wednesday, March 9:

8:00 am: Intention of the Celebrant

5:30 pm: Intention of the Celebrant

Thursday, March 10 :

8:00 am: + Joseph Sideranko

5:30 pm: Pro populo

Friday, March 11:

8:00 am: + Joseph Dubois

5:30 pm: Intention of the Celebrant

Saturday, March 12:

8:00 am: **St. Francis:** Intention of the Celebrant

4:00 pm Vigil: **St. Jerome:** + Betty Fredericks

Sunday, March 13:

8:00 am: **St Francis:** + Barbara Goodrich

9:00 am: **St. Joseph:** + Patrick Hamel

10:00 am: **St. Francis:** Pope Francis

11:30 am: **St. Jerome:** + Gino and Eugenio Riccardi

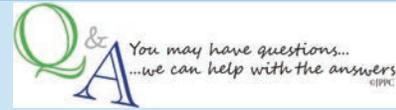


Our parishes are the support for the Food Pantry at St. Joseph's. It is open every Tuesday morning from 9:30a.m. to 10:30a.m. Please consider adding a few of these items on your grocery list.

We are currently in need of the following non-perishable food items:

- Cereal
- Instant Oatmeal
- Peanut Butter
- Jelly
- Canned Soup
- Canned Fruit
- Canned Meats and Tuna
- Instant Potato and Rice Mixes
- Raman Noodles and Soups
- Mac and Cheese
- Snack Items such as:
 Cookies, Crackers and Chips

Monetary donations and gift cards are also accepted. Donations may be brought to any of our open church buildings. Thank you for your generosity.



Why Do Catholics Practice Fasting and Abstinence during Lent?

Lent is the 40 days before Easter in which Catholics pray, fast, contemplate, and engage in acts of spiritual self-discipline. Catholics do these things because Easter, which celebrates the Resurrection of Christ, is the greatest holy day of the Christian year (even above Christmas) and Catholics have recognized that it is appropriate to prepare for such a holy day by engaging in such disciplines.

The reason Lent lasts 40 days is that 40 is the traditional number of judgment and spiritual testing in the Bible (Gn 7:4, Ex 24:18, 34:28, Nm 13:25, 14:33, Jon 3:4). Lent bears particular relationship to the 40 days Christ spent fasting in the desert before entering into his public ministry (Mt 4:1-11). Catholics imitate Christ by spending 40 days in spiritual discipline before the celebration of Christ's triumph over sin and death.

Fasting is a biblical discipline that can be defended from both the Old and the New Testament. Christ expected his disciples to fast (Mt 9:14-15) and issued instructions for how they should do so (Mt 6:16-18). Catholics follow this pattern by holding a partial fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Abstinence from certain foods is also a biblical discipline. In Daniel 10:2-3 we read, "In those days I, Daniel, was mourning for three weeks. I ate no delicacies, no meat or wine entered my mouth, nor did I anoint myself at all, for the full three weeks." Catholics use a practice similar to Daniel's when, as a way of commemorating Christ's Crucifixion on a Friday.

Credits to: <https://www.catholic.com/qa/why-do-catholics-practice-fasting-and-abstinence-during-lent>

Holy Hour

The Fatima/Divine Mercy Holy Hour will be held on Sunday, March 13, 2022 at 2pm at St. Francis Church. Please come and pray for personal healing and peace. Sponsored by the World Apostolate of Fatima.

CHANGE IN THE MASS SCHEDULE

**Beginning next Sunday, March 13,
there will no longer be a
7:30am Mass at St. John.
The Mass time is moved to 8:00am and will
be celebrated at St. Francis.**



As was previously announced, we are beginning parish bible studies in the coming weeks. The goal of these is to have small groups of 6-10 people meet each week to read, pray with, and discuss the upcoming Sunday readings. More information will be released in the coming weeks, but for now maybe ask some friends if they'd like to join a group, and starting planning days, times and locations that work for you! Please call the parish office at 860-224-2411 if you are interested.

BINGO!

**Monday Evenings - St. Jerome Church Hall
1010 Slater Rd., New Britain
Doors open at 5p.m. - Games begin at 6:30p.m.
Jackpots: \$1,400 and \$400**

**Sunday Afternoons - St. John the Evangelist
655 East St., New Britain
Doors open at 12:30p.m. - Games begin at 2:00p.m.**

The Martha and Kenneth Revoir Scholarship Application



The Martha and Kenneth Revoir Scholarship is a memorial scholarship primarily available to eligible members of St. Katharine Drexel Parish. In addition thereto, the Trustees have the authority to award scholarships to students who are members of other Roman Catholic parishes in New Britain. **A student/applicant must have been a member of his/her parish for at least one year prior to application.**

The Martha and Kenneth Revoir Scholarship was established in 2016 by Kenneth Revoir in memory and in honor of his mother, Martha Revoir, a parishioner of St. Maurice Church, now known as St. Katharine Drexel Parish. In creating the scholarship trust, it was Mr. Revoir's intention that students be able to pursue the education for which they are qualified in order to become successful, productive citizens. Scholarships with a minimum of \$2,500 may be awarded to full time students who are enrolled at an accredited college, university or community college or are pursuing a course of study which will prepare them for a trade or profession at an accredited educational facility which awards degrees or certification and has a full time faculty. Scholarships may include assistance with tuition, fees, books, and living expenses. Please see the application for complete details.

Scholarship applications may be obtained at the parish office or online at www.stkdrexelct.org. It is extremely important that all requirements and deadlines contained in the application process are met in a timely manner. Failure to enclose the required materials and to meet the deadlines will cause the application to be deemed incomplete and it will not be forwarded to the Trustees for consideration. **Please note the deadline has been extended to April 15, 2022.**

Please pray for the repose of the souls of



**Angela E. Dube
Adeline Roberge
Carol Ravagnani**

and for their families and friends.

AA Meetings

Wednesdays at 7pm: basement at St. Francis Church

Fridays at 7pm: school at St. Joseph
(Spanish speaking group)

Saturdays at 7pm: hall at St. Jerome Church



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