

WELCOME TO THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY

MUSIC

Processional	363
Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates	
Responsorial Psalm	769
Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever	
Recessional	356
On Jordan's bank	

Mass Intentions

Daily
7:30 AM Deceased Members of the Knights of Columbus, their spouses and Columbian Squires †

Noon Shrine Intentions

Saturday Vigil

5:00 PM For the people of Saint Mary's Parish

Sunday, DECEMBER 8

8:00 AM Deceased Members of the Knights of Columbus, their spouses and Columbian Squires †

10:00 AM Mary Kissane Doyle †

Noon Shrine Intentions

5:00 PM The Kmec Family †

Monday, DECEMBER 9

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

5:00 PM Patrick J. Walsh †

Tuesday, DECEMBER 10

5:00 PM All Living Dominicans and their families †

Wednesday, DECEMBER 11

St. Damasus I, Pope

5:00 PM Anthony Di Sibio †

Thursday, DECEMBER 12

Our Lady of Guadalupe

5:00 PM Peggy Dick Meads †

Friday, DECEMBER 13

St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr

5:00 PM Victims of Sandy Hook †

ST. MARY'S BIBLE STUDY

St. Mary's Bible study is on hiatus for the Christmas season. Please catch us when we reconvene on Wednesday, January 8th, at 7:00pm in the Priory. For Christmas, consider giving yourself an hour every week to join us to come closer to the Lord through prayerful reading and discussion of His Holy Word. Merry Christmas!

Please note that we will lock the Church at 6:15pm during the coming winter months.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SANCTUARY LAMP

We burn the sanctuary lamps this week for the glory of God and for the repose of the souls of: **DECEASED DOMINICANS**. In your charity, please remember them in your prayers.

FREE HOLIDAY CONCERT DECEMBER 19

Motet Choir, the flagship ensemble from the University of Chicago, will offer a free concert at 6:00 pm on Thursday, December 19 at St. Mary's, after the 5:00 mass. The festive program features songs for Advent and Christmas framed by settings of the "O" Antiphons, traditional chants for the last days before Christmas. Highlights include Poulenc's "Hodie Christus Natus Est," Paul Crabtree's "The Warm and the Cold," and two settings of an Eastern Orthodox hymn to Mary, as well as Motet Choir's signature repertoire of Renaissance music by Josquin, Victoria, and Rossi. For more information, call 773.998.1451 or visit <http://motet.uchicago.edu>.

HELP AGING SISTERS, BROTHERS & RELIGIOUS ORDER PRIESTS

"Each year the need to provide for our elderly (members) becomes more pressing, and we are ever more grateful for these providential funds," writes a religious sister about the financial assistance received from the Retirement Fund for Religious. Your donation helps provide necessities such as prescription medication and nursing care. Please give to those who have given a lifetime.

SILVER ROSE HOUR OF PRAYER

On Thursday, December 12, the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, the Knights of Columbus will be holding their Silver Rose: One Life One Rose Hour of Prayer Program, starting at 7:00 PM in the Church. This program brings Catholics together to turn to the Blessed Virgin Mary, under her title of Our Lady of Guadalupe, to pray for life in all stages, from conception to natural death. This Silver Rose has been traveling throughout various states, including Connecticut, and will conclude at St. Mary's on this day. All are invited to attend. A light reception will follow in the Church Hall.

CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

The Christmas Giving Tree to benefit the Children's Center of Hamden is in the vestibule. Please take an ornament from the tree and return your gifts there the weekends of: December 7 and 8 and December 14 and 15, but no later than Monday, December 16 to ensure delivery by Christmas. Please attach the ornament when you return your gift; gifts are to be new and unwrapped. The items on the ornaments are suggestions, and you are welcome to buy as much or as little as you'd like. Direct any questions to the Parish Secretary or to Phillip Matias at philip.j.matias@gmail.com. Thank you in advance for your generosity!



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

FR. MICHAEL J. McGIVNEY COUNCIL #10705

Members of the Knights of Columbus meet at 6:30pm on the first Monday of the month at the sarcophagus of the Venerable Fr. Michael J. McGivney to recite the Rosary. All are welcome to join us.

WEDDING BANNES

Emilio Germoso & Anna Zanfardino	2nd Bann	December 21
Andrew Gniazdowski & Shannon Hartney	1st Bann	December 28

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT — DECEMBER 8, 2013

CHURCH SUPPORT

Your contribution to St. Mary's regular offertory collection this past week amounted to \$4,650. Households that used envelopes (111) contributed \$3,037 with loose income of \$1,613.

Your contribution to the monthly collection this past week amounted to \$2,387. Households that used envelopes (93) contributed \$1,855 with loose income of \$532.

Contributions to our Capital Improvement projects amounted to \$155. Contributions for the Campaign for Human Development amounted to \$1,769. Contributions for the Philippine Typhoon Relief amounted to \$3,607. Contributions to the Archdiocesan Military collection amounted \$718. Contributions for the Thanksgiving collection amounted to \$2,769.

As always, I express my gratitude and appreciation for your continued financial support of our parish.

The second collection this weekend will be the Religious Retirement Collection. The second collection next weekend will be the Christmas Flowers collection.

DOMINICAN HOUSE OF STUDIES ALBUM

Enjoy the sacred sounds of our singing Dominican students on their new album of choral music: *In Medio Ecclesiae*. This album from the Dominican House of Studies includes chant, hymns, and polyphony from famous composers like Palestrina and William Byrd. It even features a few original arrangements by members of the schola choir.

Recorded in historic St. Dominic's parish in downtown Washington, D.C., and directed by Fr. James Moore, O.P., *In Medio Ecclesiae* is the first release from Dominicana Records. You can find out how to order the physical CD for \$14.99 or the MP3 download of the album for \$13.99 by visiting our website www.dominicanablog.com/records. *In Medio Ecclesiae* is also available on iTunes for \$13.99. Proceeds from the sale of this album contribute to the formational and other needs of the Dominican students.

CONGRATULATIONS SQUIRES

At the recent State Convention of the Columbian Squires, two of our Squires from St. Mary's were elected to state offices. Congratulations to Vincent Crotta who was elected State Chief Squire and to Daniel Carpenter elected to State Circle Activities Committee Chairman. In addition, THANK YOU to John Woods and Daniel Carpenter who assisted with the outside cleanup project last month.

FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTIONS

The First Saturday Devotions here at St. Mary's remains of significance in the spiritual life of our parish and to those who worship with us. Generally devotions are scheduled for 12:45pm, following the noon Mass on the first Saturday of each month. These devotions to Our Lady of Fatima consist of the prayerful recitation of the rosary and the consecration to our Blessed Mother. On the first Saturdays of 2014, there will be a slight variation for January 4th and June 7th. Otherwise, all other First Saturday Devotions will begin at 12:45 or immediately following the noon Mass. We encourage your participation in this praise worthy devotion for making the five First Saturdays consistently.

DEFENDING OUR RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

The Catholic Church has always been a provider and advocate for accessible, affordable and life-affirming health care. Had the federal government made accommodations to protect religious freedom for all Americans, dozens of lawsuits filed around the country challenging it could have been avoided.

If you haven't done so already, please voice your opposition to the mandate by calling President Obama at the White House at 202-456-1111 or Secretary of Health and Human Services Kathleen Sebelius at 202-205-5445. Let them know that the mandate is in violation of our First Amendment right to religious freedom.

FROM THE DESK OF THE PASTOR

Again I wish to express my gratitude and appreciation to everyone that participated in our Annual Fall Fundraiser to benefit the ongoing capital improvements of our Church. Our records indicate that we experienced a net gain of nearly \$50,000! Pictures from the day can be viewed on the parish website. Our 2014 event is scheduled for Sunday, October 19th.

COLUMBIAN SQUIRES CHRISTMAS SALE

Our Columbian Squires, the youth organization of the Knights of Columbus, will be offering for sale religious Christmas cards, 'Keep Christ in Christmas' car magnets, and other Christmas items following selected Masses December 8-22. Please support our youth.

THE POSADA

The Supreme Council cordially invites the members of St. Mary's Parish to a special celebration of Christmas called the Posada. The Posada is a tradition introduced by Franciscan friars in the New World, used to catechize the people of the Americas. It is a celebration of the birth of Jesus of which families will especially find enriching.

The Posada will take place on the New Haven Green on Saturday, December 14, 2013 from 12:00 Noon to 6:00pm, with the procession beginning at 3:00 PM. There will be musical entertainment, children's activities, a petting zoo and piñatas, as well as food and craft vendors. The event is free of charge to all. Come join us as we prepare ourselves for the coming of Emmanuel, God with us and bring back Christ in Christmas!

ETCHING OF ST. MARY'S

A beautiful etching in black and white of St. Mary's Church was framed and sold during the Reverse Raffle celebration. A few of these prints remain available at \$65 through the parish secretary. Prints are still available that have not yet been framed if you would prefer to buy a print at \$20 unframed. This would make a lovely Christmas gift.