



The Parish Press

Newsletter Of Saint Ann Parish Family
Milford, Connecticut

June 2017



SAINT ANN CHOIR CONCERT

UNITED IN
ONE SPIRIT

FREE!

Pentecost Sunday
Sunday • June 4 • 6:00 PM
Saint Ann Church
Milford, CT

Rejoice in the Spirit! June 4 Concert, June 7 SALT Celebration

The Easter season comes to a glorious close on June 4, the Feast of Pentecost. Fifty days after the Resurrection of the Lord and forty days after Christ's Ascension back to the Father we remember and celebrate the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles.

"The Holy Spirit has been poured out upon humanity like a vast torrent of grace," Pope Francis writes. Bishop Robert Barron calls the Spirit a "hurricane of mercy [that] has been loosed upon the world."

As recipients of that grace and mercy we'll celebrate on Pentecost Sunday when the choir presents *United in One Spirit*, a 6:00 PM concert in the church. We'll gather again to rejoice in the Spirit on Wednesday evening, June 7 at SALT's annual Pentecost Celebration. Drop in to the Parish Center between 6 and 7:30. There

will be food (pizza, salad, Chinese, sundaes, cake, too!) and fun (spirited activity centers) where you can learn more about Pentecost, the birthday of the Church, and about the 3rd Person of the Trinity, hurricane and dispenser of grace.



**Pentecost Celebration
Wednesday, June 7
6:00 - 7:30 PM**



Fatima Pilgrim Statue Visits This Month June 14 at Saint Ann's, June 15 at Saint Gabriel

The United Nations Pilgrim Statue of Fatima will be at Saint Ann's and Saint Gabriel's this month. Parishioners and friends, all those who have a special devotion to Our Lady of Fatima will be able to see and venerate this Ambassador of Hope and the relics of the newly canonized Saints Francisco and Jacinta. Judy Studer, Custodian, will also bring a piece of the Holm Oak Tree on which Our Lady stood during the 1917 apparitions in Portugal.

The schedule at both churches will include Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction. If you would like to "spend one hour" with Jesus in Adoration, please sign up on the sheets posted at the church doors.

Schedule at Saint Ann Wednesday, June 14

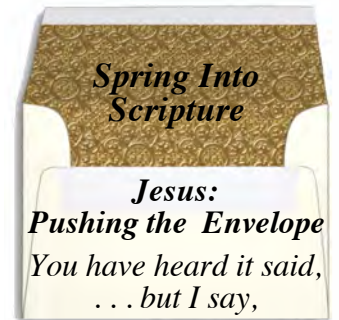
- 12 Noon Exposition of Blessed Sacrament Adoration until 6:00 PM
- 1:00 PM Rosary
- 3:00 PM Divine Mercy Chaplet
- 6:00 PM Benediction
- 6:30 PM Presentation on Fatima
- 7:00 PM International Rosary
Pray the decades in French, Italian, Portuguese, Spanish and Polish
- 8:00 PM Refreshments in Children's Chapel

Schedule at Saint Gabriel Thursday, June 15

- 12 Noon Presentation on Fatima
- 12:30 PM Exposition of Blessed Sacrament Adoration until 4:00 PM
- 1:00 PM Rosary
- 3:00 PM Divine Mercy Chaplet
- 4:00 PM Benediction

Visitors will be able to submit written prayer intentions which will be taken to Portugal and placed in the repository of Our Lady of Fatima's Apparition Chapel. Books, medals and "made in Fatima" rosaries will be available for purchase.

The schedule at Saint Ann's includes the popular International Rosary, each decade prayed in a different language (French, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, Polish) with music under the direction of Peter DeMarco.



*Jesus:
Pushing the Envelope
You have heard it said,
... but I say,*

**Saturday, June 17
10:00 AM**

**Wednesday, June 21
7:00 PM**

Parish Center Library

That Jesus! There He goes again, pushing the envelope, making His followers think about the Law of Moses in a new and different light.

Join Mary Lee Frisbie for *Spring Into Scripture* this month to hear the Carpenter from Nazareth as He presents His radical and revolutionary message.

May's Rosary Rally: Praying for Peace in the Rain

More than 25 people gathered on the steps of Milford's City Hall on a rainy Saturday, May 13, to pray the Rosary for our nation and for the world. This Public Square Rosary, sponsored by America Needs Fatima, was one of thousands of rallies held that day in public places all across the country, a response to Mary's request: *Pray the Rosary every day to obtain peace for the world!*"



Father David (of the Fighting Irish) Pursues a PhD

Fr. David Eliaona, a priest of the Congregation of the Holy Cross, has been a welcome presence at our linked parishes for several years. A Christmas and Easter visitor, he stays with us for a few days, sharing his priesthood and his warm smile, before returning to his studies at the University of Notre Dame, where he is pursuing a PhD in Theology.

From the Congregation's founding in 1837, Holy Cross priests have ministered as educators in the faith, and so Father's path from his native Tanzania to Notre Dame was a "natural choice." The University was founded by the congregation in 1842 and Fr. David "wanted to do graduate studies in theology for the purpose of teaching theology in East Africa." The Milford connection? The fortuitous result of the "sister parish" connection between Saint Gabriel's and Saint Brendan's in Kitete, where Fr. David was serving as assistant pastor. Fr. Maroney was "gracious" in having him "help every Christmas and Easter."

Fr. David Eliaona, CSC

Father started graduate school in 2011 and received an MTS (Master of Theological Studies - Systematic Theology) degree in 2014. He is now pursuing a PhD in Theology, World Religions and World Church (WRWC). This department studies different religious traditions in order to gain a deeper understanding of them and to use that knowledge to enrich religious traditions (one's own and others) but also to generate interreligious dialogue among religious traditions.

In his first two years Father took courses in his WRWC major and in his minor, Systematic Theology, where he concentrated on Christology. By taking summer classes, he completed his language requirements (French, German and graduate level Latin). (Already fluent in Chagga his mother tongue; Kiswahili, his national language; and English, Father exemplifies the word *multilingual!*)

Course work completed, Father sat for his exams. For three days he wrote on the theology of suffering and hope; Christology; Muslim-Christian peaceful coexistence; Salvation in Buddhism and Christianity; Global and African Pentecostalism; Christianity and the challenge of African leadership; Christ in popular piety; theology of preferential option for the poor; conceptual frameworks in theology; and the theology of grace. "On April 4," Father told our reporter, "I completed and passed both the written and the oral examinations, making me a candidate for the PhD."

Next step? "I am working on my dissertation Proposal which is supposed to be ready by the first day of class this Fall. I intend to write on Christology in African Christianity." As for the focus on World Religions, Father explained, "My aim was to have an inside look specifically in Christology, as it is understood conceptually within African Christianity, and to do that, I had to be in a program that would let me explore the histories and conceptual frameworks of African religious traditions. Studying world religions has been of tremendous importance."

"After my studies I intend to go back to East Africa and teach theology probably at the Catholic University of East Africa, and Tangaza College where I got my undergraduate theology degree. I think with the knowledge of theology in world religions, I will be a useful asset not just for these institutions, but also for the Church in Africa." We certainly agree, although we would say "valuable" rather than merely "useful." We wish you joy, Father David, as you continue your journey of faith and learning. May God bless you always.

Father closed our interview with a message for parishioners of "the new St. Raphael Parish:" *Even after Jesus' death and resurrection, there were hesitations, struggles, denials. Remember, it was the Easter event that changed the followers of Jesus from being "the 12" or "the companions of Jesus" into Apostles, men with a mission, with a message way too hot for them to handle or control. They were totally transformed, and in their transformation, they transformed so many others that we became part of this mission and the message. You, too, can be women and men on fire! If you have hesitations and struggles, let the Archangel Raphael heal them, and move forward spearheading and spreading the message of Christ, to make him known, loved and served.*



Requirements for the PhD Degree Department of Theology

- *2 years of course work in residency. (including courses outside major field)
- *Pass exams in French, German, New Testament Greek or Latin at a graduate proficiency level
- *3 days of written Candidacy Exams on 7 major field topics and 3 topics outside the major field, followed by a 90-minute oral examination
- *Dissertation proposal submitted following exams (within 8 years of matriculation)

Raphael the Archangel

The patron saint of our newly established parish is one of 3 archangels named in Scripture. (The others are Michael and Gabriel).



Raphael, whose name means *God heals*, appears in the Old Testament Book of Tobit. There he guides Tobit's son Tobiah through a series of fantastic adventures which lead to a 3-fold happy ending: Tobiah's marriage to Sarah, the healing of Tobit's blindness, and the restoration of the family fortune.

Raphael is the patron saint of travelers, the blind, bodily ills, happy meetings, nurses, physicians and medical workers. Migrants, too, seek his intercession, as do those in search of a spouse. The Church honors Michael, Gabriel and Raphael on the Feast of the Archangels, September 29. Pope Francis has said, "Let us invoke the archangels in prayer so that in every moment they remind us of the presence of God."



A New Parish, A New Administrator

As of Thursday, June 29, by decree of Archbishop Leonard Blair, the parishes of Saint Ann and Saint Gabriel, linked since November 25, 2013, will merge and form a new parish, Saint Raphael.

In his letter to the parishes, read at all the Masses on May 6/7, the Archbishop explained that the decision for merger had been made “after a lengthy and prayerful period of consultation, discussion and research involving both clergy and lay leadership.” Each church, Saint Ann and Saint Gabriel, “will retain the name under which it was dedicated.” Saint Raphael, the new parish, will have one Finance Council and one Pastoral Council.

The Archbishop has appointed Father John F. Brinsmade to be the Administrator of Saint Raphael Parish, effective June 29. (Saint Ann parishioners might remember Father John, who served as co-pastor of Saint Ann’s from 1990 until 1993.)

We are a pilgrim people. As we journey into the future we ask for the guidance and the fruits of the Holy Spirit: love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

Beautiful First Communion Weekend!



First Communion weekend was a special and beautiful time for the young people (Grades 2-8) who received Jesus in the Eucharist for the first time and for the entire parish family who celebrated with them. If the pews could talk they would proclaim to all the world the love and joy that filled the church at all the weekend Masses. Congratulations to all the First Communicants. May you bring the presence of Jesus, His kindness, His gentleness and His love, to everyone you meet.

Kieran Shea Burns	Camryn Irby	Cheyenne E. Pasacreta
Braden Butler	Samantha Kiss	Isaac Rockman Rodrigues
Jacy Cizkowski Jr.	Emma Kurowski	Hunter Rodrigues
Alexandra Cooper	Avery Lucke	Pierce Scudder
Arianna E. Cruz	Jacob Madarang	Sadie Timmeny
Brooke Cristina Gachi	Aislyn Ree McKernan	Casey Kae Utzler
Gabriel Greenwood	Brian Nichols	Andrew Velasquez
	Krista Nichols	

Comfort Shawl Ministry Blessing at Saint Vincent’s June 7

Delores Creatore invites all the generous people who create prayer shawls, blankets and lap robes for our shawl ministry to come to the very moving ceremony of blessing at Saint Vincent’s Hawley Conference Center on Wednesday, June 7 at 2 PM. The program includes readings, the blessing ceremony and personal testimony on the impact of the comfort shawls. Please call Delores (203-878-3376) if you would like to attend.



Want to Learn More About the Bible?

Consider enrolling in the Archdiocese of Hartford Catholic Biblical School! Here’s what some of the folks had to say who sampled the Biblical School during the 6-week extension course that just concluded: “Great class - gives an overview and different perspective to the readings. This is the best bible study class I’ve taken.” Another added, “I enjoy the sharing of ideas and thoughts with others. It makes for lively discussion and broadens my own understanding of what I’ve read.”

And, happy news! CBS fall classes will be offered in Milford beginning on Monday evening, September 11, from 7-9 PM. For more information, check the website www.CatholicEdAOHCT.org or contact the Office of Education, Evangelization and Catechesis at 860-242-5573 or at catholic.biblical.school@aoht.org. Applications are due August 15th.

Graduation Celebration Sunday, June 11



We’re staging an all-class celebration on Sunday, June 11, to honor all Class of 2017 graduates who are part of the Saint Ann Parish family. 8th grade grads, high school grads, college grads, come with family and friends and join us for this 8th annual event.

Gather in the church for the 9:45 Mass then join us for a brunch reception in the Parish Center Hall. RSVP to Maria at atomasetti@snet.net or 203-988-8598 (voice or text) by June 7 and let her know how many guests will be joining you. Thanks!



Reminder from Tina, the Cathedral Termite: Registration is Open for Summer SALT VBS!

Tina’s hoping that lots of kids ages 4-11 will be part of Maker Fun Factory in July. Come and meet Tina and her friends Decker, Bubba, Skyler and Abbee and enjoy Fun Shop Assemblies, Bible Discovery, Exciting Music, Imagination Station (with arts & crafts, too!), KidVid Cinema, Game Makers and Snack Factory!!

Monday, July 17-Friday, July 21

9:00 AM - 12:15 PM

Saint Ann Parish Center

Donation: \$25 (\$5 per day)

Family Maximum: \$75

Help Wanted: Summer VBS Adult and Teen Volunteers

It’s our great volunteers who make Summer SALT’s VBS possible, and we need more of you! Check the bulletin for information and plan to be part of this month’s “all volunteer meeting.”

Please contact Maria (as above) to register your child or to learn more about ways you can help. Thanks.

Support the Families of Injured Veterans

The Fisher House program provides a “home away from home” for the families of veterans receiving care at VA hospitals. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, designate Fisher House of CT as the charity of your choice and Amazon will donate .5% of your eligible purchases. Thank you.

Celebrate Pentecost, Grads and Dads, Walk With Father David

We'll be seeing red this month, lots of red as we celebrate the Feast of Pentecost with special festivities. And, it's June - a time to honor Dads and Grads.



Share a bit of our friend Father David's journey toward a PhD at the University of Notre Dame and learn something about the Archangel Raphael, patron saint of our newly established parish.

Check the schedule for the visit of the UN Pilgrim Statue of Fatima to both Saint Ann's and Saint Gabriel's and sign up for Eucharistic Adoration.

To all parish fathers, grandfathers, godfathers and stepfathers we extend best wishes for a very happy Father's Day.

The Parish Press

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Happy Father's Day!

In Memoriam

Saint Ann's mourns the recent loss of

Virginia M. Booth
John Renzulli
Beverly Ann Doran
Rev. Robert F. Condron

May they rejoice through all eternity in God's Kingdom of light, happiness and peace.



Welcome!

to the newest members of our parish family,

Rosalina A. Castro
Julian C. Jorge
Victoria Legere
Jacob M. Ripple

who were baptized on Sunday, April 23.

God bless you, Rosalina, Julian, Victoria and Jacob. May your lives be filled with joy and wonder.



Bereavement Support Sunday, June 11

Finding Peace



The Bereavement Support group will meet on Sunday afternoon, June 11 at 2 o'clock in the Children's Chapel. Please plan to be with us if you are grieving the loss of someone you love. Together we'll share ways to find peace during our journey of grief, for "nothing is impossible with God."

If you have questions or would like further information you may call Joanne (203-877-4020).

Parish Press Info Due Monday, June 12

Information for the July issue of *The Parish Press* is due by Monday, June 12. Use the Press Release box in the church vestibule or send your info to our office via e-mail (parishpress06460@yahoo.com). We're hoping to get news, notes and photos from both Saint Raphael campuses, Saint Ann's and Saint Gabriel's. Thank you.



Appetizers/Coffee And Father's Day Weekend

Take Dad (and the whole family) out for coffee, snacks and tasty treats on Father's Day weekend, June 17/18. Immediately after Mass head for the Parish Center where you'll enjoy an array of goodies, a great cup of coffee and the lively company of the parish family.

Find something for Dad at the Card & Gift Shop or gift him with a Scrip card to his favorite restaurant or retailer.

Scrip cards make terrific gifts for almost anyone on any occasion. Tuck one into a birthday or anniversary card and really make someone's day. Tuck some into your wallet and use them at the grocery store, the book store, the fabric store or the mall. Shop online? You can use them for electronic purchases, too. Every Scrip purchase benefits the parish. We encourage you to *Shop with Scrip!*

