Precious Blood Parish

St. Agnes Church 400 Merwin Avenue Milford, CT 06460



St. Mary Church (Parish Office)

(Parish Office) 70 Gulf Street Milford, CT 06460

We Welcome All Visitors

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday Vigil 4:30 pm St. Mary 5:00 pm St. Agnes

Sunday

7:30 am St. Agnes 8:30 am St. Mary 10: 00 am St. Mary 10:30 am St. Agnes 11:30 am St. Mary 4:30 pm St. Mary

DAILY MASSES

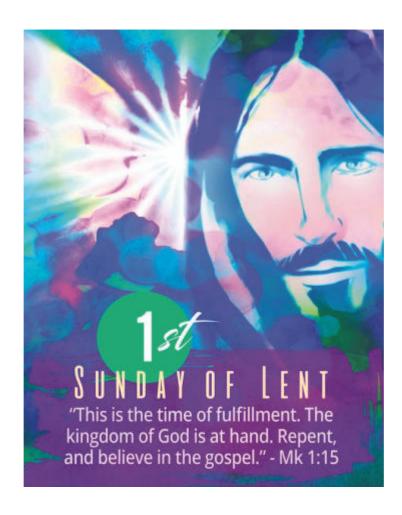
7:00 am St. Mary 7:30 am (Saturday) St. Mary 9:00 am (Mon-Fri) St. Agnes

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 3:30 pm—4:30 pm St. Agnes Monday 6:00 pm—7:00 pm St. Mary (Except Holidays)

preciousbloodparishmilford.org (203) 878-3571 Fax(203) 877-8741

Bulletin Notices bkelley@pbpmilford.org



Precious Blood Parish is a Roman Catholic community of faith in Milford, Connecticut rooted in the Word of God and the sacraments, especially the Eucharist. We are missionary disciples who seek to bring the presence and the message of Jesus Christ to others through prayer, faith formation and assisting the needy through ministries grounded in the works of mercy.



PRECIOUS BLOOD PARISH, MILFORD

Mass Intentions for the Week

St. Agnes Church

Mon February 22 Chair of St. Peter

9:00 No Intention

Tue February 23 St. Polycarp 9:00 *Robert and Sara Broderick* by their son

Wed February 24 Lenten Weekday 9:00 *Anna Pettinella* by the Hoppes Family

Thu February 25 Lenten Weekday 9:00 No Intention

Fri February 26 Lenten Weekday 9:00 *Tom Zech* by Machowski & Swiatek Families

Sat February 27

Vigil

5:00 Janet Cebula by Deborah & Mark Ryba

Sun February 28 Second Sunday of Lent

7:30 No Intention

10:30 Chris Kelleher by his family

Readings for the week of February 21, 2021

Sun: Gn 9:8-15/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [cf. 10]/1 Pt 3:18-22/Mk 1:12-15

Mon: 1 Pt 5:1-4/Ps 23:1-3a, 4, 5, 6 [1]/Mt 16:13-19 Tue: Is 55:10-11/Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19 [18b]/ Mt 6:7-15

Wed: Jon 3:1-10/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19 [19b]/Lk 11:29-32

Thu: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c [3a]/Mt 7:7-12

Fri: Ez 18:21-28/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8 [3]/Mt 5:20-26

Sat: Dt 26:16-19/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8 [1b]/Mt 5:43-48 Next Sunday: Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 116:10, 15,

16-17, 18-19 [9]/Rom 8:31b-34/Mk 9:2-10



"Stand fast, therefore, in this conduct and follow the example of the Lord, 'firm and unchangeable in faith, lovers of the brotherhood, loving each other, united in truth,' helping each other with the mildness

of the Lord, despising no man."

- St. Polycarp, Letter to the Philippians

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Friday evenings during Lent 7:30PM @ St. Agnes Church







Benediction and Rosary Monday evenings 7:30PM @ St. Mary Church



St. Mary Church

Mon February 22 The Chair of St. Peter

7:00 *Mary Coyne* by her daughter 12:05 No Intention

Tue February 23 St. Polycarp

7:00 *Louie Picitelli* by Leo Brunell 12:05 No Intention

Wed February 24 Lenten Weekday

7:00 No Intention

12:05 Fran Sudusky by Terry Swan

Thu February 25 Lenten Weekday

7:00 Edward Towsley by Wendy Valleau 12:05 Kenneth Shuart by Leo Brunell

Fri February 26 Lenten Weekday

7:00 *M/M Moss* by Anna & Dennis Brown 12:05 *Debbie Warrek* by the Bugaj Family

Sat February 27 Lenten Weekday

7:30 *Patrick H. Kelley* by his family **Vigil**

4:30 George & Elizabeth Sennett by their family

Sun February 28 Second Sunday of Lent

8:30 Virginia Monteleone by Joe & Tatiana

10:00 Billy Fenlon by his family

11:30 People of Precious Blood Parish

4:30 Marek Makoski by Amanda & Don Miller



The Sanctuary Lamp Week of February 21, 2021 Is for *Marie Anne Rival*



SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

"My Jesus, I believe that Thou art present in the most Holy Sacrament. I love Thee above all things, and I desire to receive Thee into my soul. Since I can not now receive Thee sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace Thee, as if Thou wert already there, and unite myself wholly to Thee; never permit me to be separated from Thee."

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Dear Friends:

We stand at the cusp of yet another observance of Lent. The Gospel today, a short passage from Mark, mentions Jesus spending a period of forty days in the desert where he was tempted by Satan. On his return from the desert, Jesus undertook his ministry, beginning with the bold proclamation of the coming of the kingdom of God and a call to respond to the presence of that kingdom. What are we called to do? We are called to "repent" and "believe in the gospel."

Lent is not meant to be a time of drudgery and gloom. Quite to the contrary, Lent has been called the "springtime of the soul," a time for serious reflection and for taking steps to detach ourselves from whatever sins cling to us and to embrace the gospel and the life and hope that it promises us. What is your program for Lent this year? What will you do by way of repentance so that you may more deeply believe in the gospel and the way of life, the hope it promises?

Lent is a time for us to focus on sin in our life, whatever leads us away from God, whatever alienates us from God, others, and ourselves. If you say you have no sins, you either are not being totally honest with yourself or you are not looking at yourself hard enough. Lent is a time to come face to face with whatever ties us down and keeps us from being the fully human, fully alive people that God always intended us to be.

Sin manifests itself in many forms in our lives. Sometimes it is something we do which we know to be wrong and do anyway. At other times it shows itself in our not doing what we are supposed to do. Sin can be serious, deadly, what we call "mortal" sin which isolates us from God, turns us in on ourselves, and if we do not repent of it, we could be lost to God forever. In other words, we can choose hell over heaven, everlasting death in place of everlasting life, and we would have no one to blame but ourselves. If you have committed a deadly (mortal) sin, you most likely will know you have, unless you have mastered the art of rationalization so well that you end up deceiving yourself, and that would be a great tragedy. For most of us, sin shows itself in little things, like malicious words or gossip, lies, cutting corners, avoiding responsibility, not doing what we are supposed to do as well as we can, and more. As for these little sins, we cannot simply excuse ourselves by saying that "everyone does it" or "it's only a little thing." All sin offends God. God does not wink or turn a blind eye toward sin.

The challenge sin presents to us is for us to face it head on, and using the weapons God has provided, root it out of our lives. For us as Catholics, we have some powerful weapons at hand. First and foremost, there is the Sacrament of Reconciliation, confession. In that sacrament, we admit our sins out loud to God through the agency of a priest and then, receive assurance of mercy and forgiveness from God. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is one of the greatest treasures entrusted to the Church by the Lord. In it all sins are able to be forgiven, no sin too great, and through the sacrament, grace is given as a strength in time of temptations to come. It should not be neglected in the life of any good Catholic, but sadly, I must say it is neglected, not used nearly enough. Other weapons include frequent reception of the Eucharist, daily prayer and an active spiritual life, and works of charity.

So, as we launch into Lent, take time to take stock of your soul, your life and its overall direction. Are you living for God, with God at the center? Or are you living only or mostly for yourself and your desires and pleasures in life? Where does God fit in our lives? Do we take time for prayer each day? What about others? Do we show love, care and support for others in our lives or are we living essentially in a self-absorbed way? What do we do with our money? Are we saving only for ourselves, spending only on ourselves, or do we try to share from what we have with those around us, especially those in need?

I propose these questions, these reflections as a starting point for us as we begin Lent. May each of us make some effort to make this Lent a better Lent than we have had in some time, the best Lent we have ever had. If we do, we will not only celebrate Easter with joy, we will also find ourselves more fully alive and at peace with God, others, and ourselves.

THE CHAIR OF ST. PETER

This feast commemorates Christ's choosing Peter to sit in his place as the servant-authority of the whole Church. Pentecost completed Peter's experience of the risen Christ; only then can he fulfill the task Jesus had given him. At once he became the spokesman for the Twelve before the council of Jerusalem, and the first to preach the Good News to the Gentiles.

Peter described our Christian calling in the opening of his First Letter, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy gave us a new birth to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead...." (1Peter 1:3)

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

Jesus went into the desert to put his life in perspective. This Lent, take a fresh look at a difficult relationship in your life. Concentrate on the positive things that person does, not just the negatives. Try to understand why their behaviors 'bug' you. Can you honestly share your feelings with them without attacking them? Make Lent a time to MEND and FORGIVE!



During Lent the Mission to Haiti Committee of Precious Blood Parish (St. Mary and St. Agnes churches) is conducting its annual Healing Tree fundraiser to help the people of St.

Therese parish in Marbial, Haiti. The fundraiser begins on the first Sunday in Lent when a bare and lonely looking tree makes its appearance on the church altar. By the last Sunday in Lent those bare branches are covered in brightly colored ribbons., the color of the ribbon signifying the amount of each donation.

Haiti's political unrest has forced the cancelation of our medical missions and container shipments. The airport and seaports in Haiti are closed and roads are blocked by insurrectionists. The people of Marbial are starving. A drought followed by torrential rains has destroyed their There is food available in Jacmel, the nearest city, but food costs money.

The church has been sending money to Father Errol, the pastor, on a monthly basis. With that money he has been feeding the school children what is their only meal of the day. Leftover food goes to local families in need.

The people of Marbial are starving. Please help by contributing to the Healing Tree. Donation cards are available in the church or you can send a check to: St. Mary Church, 70 Gulf Street, Milford Ct. 06460. Please write Haiti in the memo.

"Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me." - Mt 26:40

PARISH CLERGY

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Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. Jordan Grassmann USN, Pfc. Ron Murray, Michael A. Eno USN, SR Justin Plantamura USN, Charles J. Grant, John Henry Phelan, Maj. Patrick T. Horvat, Capt. Richard Brantley, Dakota Owen USA, Michael Casey USN, Colin O'Sullivan USAF, SSgt. Armando Lizasuain CPO, SSgt. Michael Foss, Lt. Col. Jason Dymond. Joshua Ehret PolUSN. Pfc. Daniel Hewston, Col. Andrew Whiskeyman, Spec. Anthony Olenski, William F. Gilson USAF, MSgt Carlie Blacklidge, 2nd Lt. Brendan Hayes, SSR Matthew Hunt USN, CDR Matthew Fanning, Maj. Jonathan Rembetsy, AlecRossettiMA2USN

MASS CANCELLATIONS DUE TO WEATHER

We have found it necessary to make a change in how we announce the cancellation of Masses due to \$\diag{8}\$ inclement weather. Previously, we relied on the Milford Public Schools, since our own school follows their lead. However, the public schools in most situations involving inclement weather, resort to remote learning, where the students stay home but go on-line for their school day. Effective immediately, we will post a notification of the cancellation of morning Masses on the parish Facebook page as soon as the decision is made. Please check there and please be sure to let anyone you know who does not have access to Facebook that there is no Mass on a given morning. In any event, the prime consideration should always be your safety and the safety of others. When safety is at all a concern, please remain at home.

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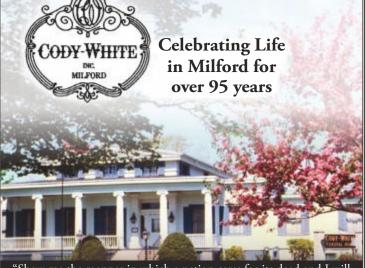


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