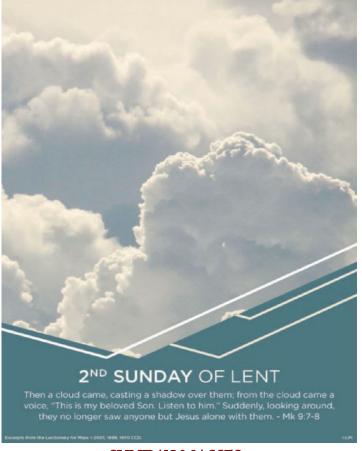
# Precious Blood Parish

Parish Office: 70 Gulf Street Milford, CT 06460



#### **SUNDAY MASSES**

Saturday Vigil

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

#### Sunday

Saint Mary

8:30 am, 10:00 am, 11:30 am & 4:30 pm **Saint Agnes** 7:30 am & 10:30 am.

#### **DAILY MASSES**

8:00 am St. Mary 9:00 am (Mon-Fri) St. Agnes

#### MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA

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

#### NOCTURNAL ADORATION

First Friday of the Month 7:00 pm St. Mary



#### PARISH CLERGY

Rev. Aidan N. Donahue, Pastor Rev. Lijo Thomas, Parochial Vicar Rev. Alen Mathew, Parochial Vicar Deacon Nicholas Genovese Deacon John Hoffman

## PASTORAL ASSOCIATE CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Deacon John Hoffman (203) 878~3571 harold.john.hoffman@gmail.com

#### PARISH SECRETARY

Danielle Hogan (203) 878~3571 dhogan@pbpmilford.org

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Tori Saxer (203) 877~5874 tsaxer@pbpmilford.org

#### **CEMETERY OFFICE**

Robert Lynch (203) 874~9270

#### ST. MARY SCHOOL

www.saintmaryschoolmilford.org Principal Deacon Dominic Corraro (203) 878~6539

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Noel Dubois and Dennis Hrabchak

#### RECTORY OFFICE HOURS

Monday ~ Friday 9:00 am—2:00 pm.

#### RECONCILIATION

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

Bulletin Notices, Newsletter & Social Media Requests dhogan@pbpmilford.org (203) 878~3571

## Mass Intentions

#### St. Agnes Church

Monday, February 26 Weekday 9:00 Joseph Trapletti by the Saranora Family

Tuesday, February 27 Weekday St Gregory of Narek, Abbot & Doctor of the Church

9:00 Paz Zipagan by the family

Wednesday, February 28 Weekday 9:00 Jim Edwards by Mary Jane Robbins

Thursday, February 29 Weekday 9:00 All my children & grandchildren by Kim Nguyen

> Friday, March 1 Weekday 9:00 Intention of the Presider

Saturday, March 2 (Vigil Mass) 5:00 Jennie Catalano by Margaret Magnotta

> Sunday, March 3 Third Sunday of Lent

7:30 People of Precious Blood Parish
10:30 Deceased members of the Mettler &
Barrett families

#### Policy for Daily Mass During Snowstorms

Precious Blood Parish follows the Milford Public School emergency system in the event of snow. Therefore, please be aware that daily Mass will not be held if Milford public schools are closed due to weather. Any Mass intention will be rescheduled.

Scan the QR Code to go directly to our online giving page Totals include online giving

Weekly total February 18th: \$11,547

Next Week: Weekly Collection

#### St. Mary Church

Monday, February 26 Weekday 8:00 Annette Lessard by Bud & Diane McEntee

Tuesday, February 27 Weekday St Gregory of Narek, Abbot & Doctor of the Church

8:00 Frank Ladra by Maria Proud

Wednesday, February 28 Weekday 8:00 Maria Carlos by the family

Thursday, February 29 Weekday 8:00 Annette Lessard by Chris & Robin Counihan

Friday, March 1 Weekday 8:00 Lillian Goralski by the family

Saturday, March 2
8:00 Ann Ryan Romano
by the Ryan family
4:30 (Vigil Mass)

Theresa Uliano by Francine & Dorothy

Sunday, March 3 Third Sunday of Lent

8:30 Joseph Frank Monteleone by Joe & Tatiana Monteleone 10:00 Deceased members of the Matchett family 11:30 Raymond Wicklund by Eileen Murphy 4:30 Mr & Mrs Arthur Vollmer by Sophina Oxer

The Sanctuary lamp at Saint Mary is lighted this week for Joseph Carollo

There is Group Rosary Recitation at Saint Mary Monday -Saturday after the 8:00 am Mass and Sundays after the 8:30 am Mass. At Saint Agnes Monday-Friday at 9:30 am and Sundays at 9:45 am.

#### Readings for the week of February 25, 2024

Sunday: Gn 22:1~2, 9a, 10~13, 15~18/Ps 116:10, 15, 16~17, 18~19 (116:9)/

Rom 8:31b-34/Mk 9:2-10

Monday: Dn 9:4b~10/Ps 79:8, 9, 11 and 13/Lk 6:36~38

Tuesday: Is 1:10, 16~20/Ps 50:8~9, 16bc~17, 21 and 23/Mt 23:1~12

Wednesday: Jer 18:18-20/Ps 31:5-6, 14, 15-16/Mt 20:17-28

Thursday: Jer 17:5~10/Ps 1:1~2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 16:19~31

Friday: Gn 37:3~4, 12~13a, 17b~28a/Ps 105:16~17, 18~19, 20~21/Mt 21:33~43, 45~46

Saturday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

Next Sunday: Ex 20:1~17 or 20:1~3, 7~8, 12~17/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 (Jn 6:68c)/1 Cor 1:22~25/

#### Bereavement Support Group 10 Week Free Program (Spring 2024)

When: Thursdays March 14th-May 16th

Time: 1:00~3:00pm

Where: St. Mary Church Hall

70 Gulf Street Milford, CT

Anyone coping with the loss of a loved one, whether recent or years ago, is welcome. Since 2008, this group has helped people dealing with grief.

For more information & to register (required ahead of time) call Ellen at (203) 283~1934

Please note. End of year donation statements for tax purposes are available. Please call the office or stop in during regular office hours.

Please consider registering to use our envelope system if you would like credit for your donations.

## Precious Blood Parish MILFORD, CONNECTICUT Lenten and Holy Week Schedule, 2024

#### **Daily Mass**

St. Mary Church, Monday-Saturday at 8:00 AM St. Agnes Church, Monday-Friday at 9:00 AM

#### Stations of the Cross

Fridays, February 16 to March 22 at 7:30 PM at St. Agnes

#### Tenebrae

Wednesday, March 27, at 7:30 PM at St. Agnes

#### THE EASTER TRIDUUM

#### Holy Thursday, March 28

Morning Prayer at 8:30 AM at St. Agnes Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:30 PM at St. Mary

#### Good Friday, March 29

Morning Prayer at 8:30 AM at St. Agnes The Celebration of the Lord's Passion at 3:00 PM at St. Mary

#### Holy Saturday, March 30

Morning Prayer at 8:30 AM at St. Agnes Blessing of Easter Food at 12:00 Noon at St. Mary The Great Vigil of Easter at 8:00 PM at St. Mary

#### Easter Sunday, March 31

Mass at St. Mary at 8:30 AM, 10:00 AM and 11:30 AM

Mass at St. Agnes at 7:30 AM and 10:30 AM

#### CONFESSIONS [The Sacrament of Reconciliation]

Saturdays from 3:30 to 4:30 PM at St. Agnes Mondays from 6:00 to 7:00 PM at St. Mary Holy Saturday morning, March 30, from 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon at St. Agnes.

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## HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING

Monday, Feb 26 7:30pm Novena St. Mary Church **Knitting Group** 10:00am Tuesday, Feb 27 St. Agnes Classroom Legion of Mary 10:30am Rectory Basement Legion of Mary Wed, Feb 28 6:30pm St. Agnes Classroom Choir Rehearsal Thursday, Feb 29 7:00pm St. Mary Church Lenten Dinner Friday, Mar 1 5:30pm St Agnes Fr Callahan Hall Nocturnal Adoration 7:00pm St Mary Church Stations of the Cross 7:30pm St Agnes Church Consecration to the Saturday, Mar 2 Immaculate Heart of Mary 8:30am St Mary Church (after mass) Angels of Mary 10:30am Rectory Basement Sunday, Mar 3 Junior Legion of Mary 10:00am Rectory Basement

Kids Corner!

**Baptism Prep Class** 

Rectory Basement

3:30pm



Precious Blood Parish Lenten Fish Dinner Sponsored by The St Josephs Society Friday, March 1, 2024

St Agnes Fr. Callahan Hall 5:30pm~7:00pm

Menu catered by The Plate will include:

Baked Stuffed Sole

New England Clam Chowder

Mac 'n Cheese Baked Potato Vegetable

Coffee, Tea, and Dessert

Tickets \$15 per person (5 years old and younger Free)

Reserved tables for 6 will be available.

Tickets will be on sale after all masses Feb. 17-18, and 24-25, 2024. They will also be available at the rectory office during business hours until February 28th.

## Do You Know the Rosery?

We welcome children in **Grades 1 - 6**to join our **Angels of Mary** program and learn about the stories behind the Mysteries of the Rosary.

This month...
The Holy Bucharist & The Last Supper

When: Saturday, March 2, 2024 Where: St. Mary Rectory Basement Time: 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

For more information contact Sharon DiNapoli at 203-799-8670

## Mass Intentions

To request a Mass intention please call the office at 203-878-3571 or email Danielle at dhogan@pbpmilford.org

The 2025 Mass books will open April 8th.

Please note NO requests will be taken

prior to the opening date.

Thank you!

Dear Friends:

At this point of the year, toward the end of February, it seems proper to give you an account of the spiritual state of the parish for the year 2023. As our fiscal year for the parish has been changed recently from a January to December model to a July to June model, a financial report on the state of the parish for July, 2023 through June, 2024 will be coming sometime in late summer or early fall as our data is finalized.

For the year 2023, we celebrated the baptisms of one hundred thirty-nine (139) children. One hundred and four (104) children received their First Communion. Eighty-three (83) young people in their junior year of high school were confirmed at the cathedral in Hartford in November. Eight (8) couples were joined in marriage. We commended one hundred and forty-seven (147) parishioners to God in funeral rites. While these may seem to be little more than statistics, and statistics are not without their importance, these numbers tell us that we are part of a large and active parish.

We must look to the future and it is more proximate than we may think. It is very likely, very probable, that in the near future we will have only two priests assigned to our parish. We have to make plans to deal with one fewer priest, even as the work load will not diminish. With this in mind, it is perhaps providential that recently, all the priests in the Archdiocese received a letter from the Archbishops, and I say *Archbishops* as it was signed both by Archbishop Blair, who is retiring in the near future, and Archbishop Coyne, who will succeed him on his retirement. The letter lays out the case that there are too many Masses scheduled in the parishes of the Archdiocese, especially given the size of some of our churches. The letter directs the pastors to begin to consider seriously a reduction in the number of Masses offered. While celebrating the Mass is a primary and important role for priests, it is not the only thing that we have to do. The desire is to see that we normally do not celebrate weekend Masses with churches less than half full.

With this in mind, after consultation with Fr. Lijo and Fr. Alen, Deacon John and Deacon Nick, as well as the Parish Pastoral Council, I have decided to introduce a new Mass schedule that will take effect on January 1, 2025. This new schedule will entail a reduction of our weekend Masses by two, from the current eight Masses to six, eliminating a Mass at both churches, and a significant reduction of our weekday Masses, from two a day to one. The sheer number of funerals adds significantly to our weekday schedule here, and there are days when there may be two or even three funerals celebrated. It is important that the priests have sufficient energy to celebrate every Mass reverently and well. It seems prudent at this time to reduce the schedule. Furthermore, the new schedule has to be arranged so that one priest, if absolutely necessary, can celebrate all the Masses if the other is away or unable to do so because of illness or another reason. Of course, every effort will be made in such instances to procure assistance from other priests, especially senior (retired) priests, but it is not always easy to do so.

The new schedule will mean that some of you may have to change the Mass which you have been accustomed to attend. Some will have to go to a different church, be it St. Mary's or St. Agnes, if you cannot change the time or the day when you want to participate at Mass. Almost everyone will have to make some changes in this regard, and that includes the priests themselves. While I know that this may seem disconcerting and perhaps upsetting, please understand that these changes are necessary, especially for the physical well-being of the priests. In the long run, I believe that these changes will enhance the spiritual life of the parish as well. Another factor that remains out in the future is the possible merger of our parish with St. Raphael Parish [the former St. Ann and St. Gabriel parishes on the western side of Milford] when the pastor retires. When and if that happens, and I think it is more likely when, some additional modification of the parish schedule will become necessary.

I will leave this as it is for now. I will announce the new Mass schedule in the bulletin for Easter Sunday, and the Mass Book for 2025 will be opened on Monday, April 8. Due to the reduction in Masses available, we may place a limit on how many Masses, be they for Sunday or weekdays, that can be booked at any one time. I ask and hope for the cooperation of all as we seek to adjust to ever new and unfolding realities.
Sincerely, Levelant. Xnahue



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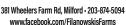
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