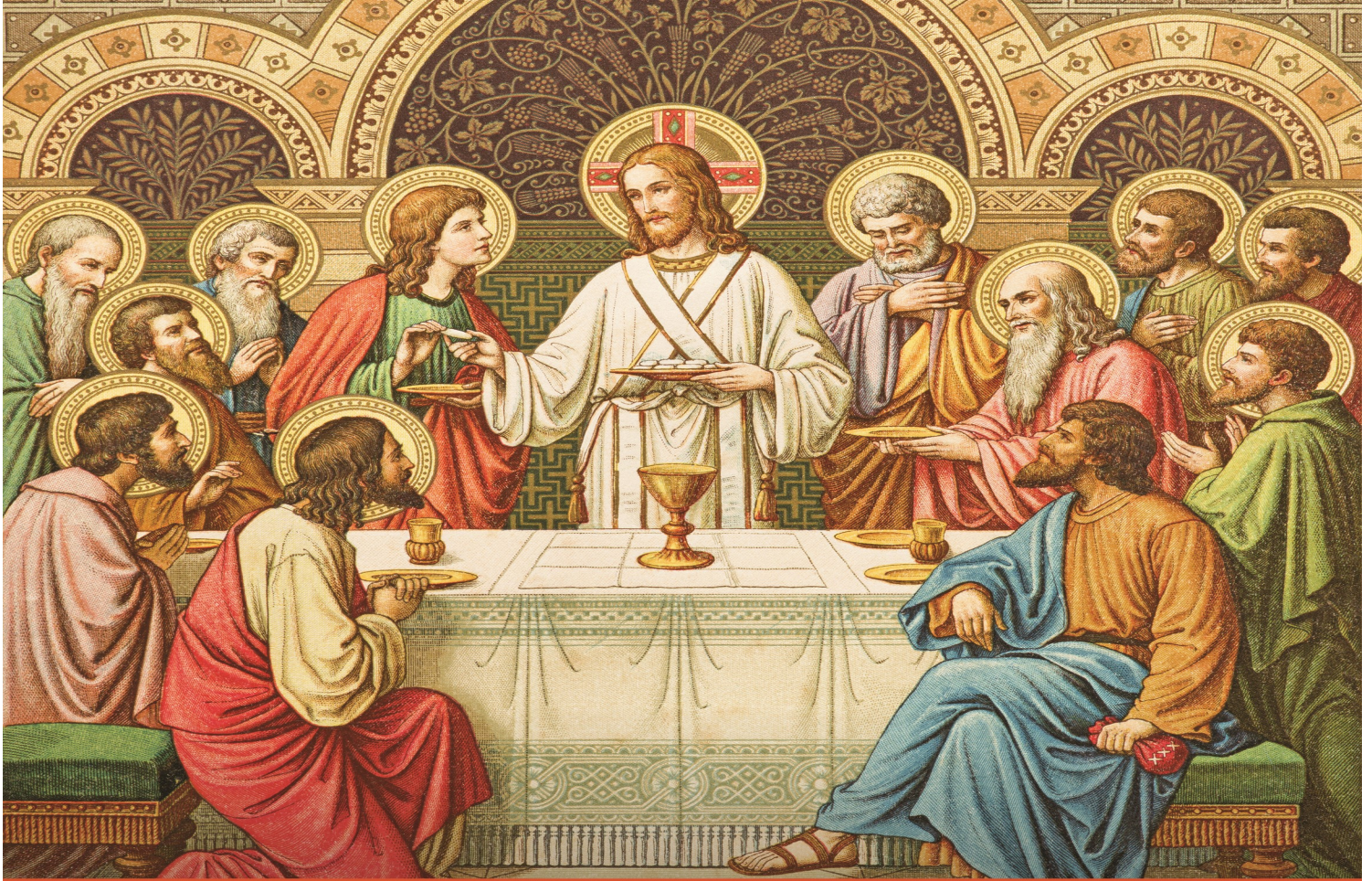


THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES OF
ST. PIO OF PIETRELCINA

REVEREND JEREMIAH N. MURASSO, PH.D., ED.D., PSY.D., PASTOR
REVEREND MATTHEW CHERIAN, PH.D., PAROCHIAL VICAR



THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST



Then he took a cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, and they all drank from it. He said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which will be shed for many. Amen, I say to you, I shall not drink again the fruit of the vine until the day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God." - Mk 14:23-25

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

©LPI

Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ
June 2, 2024

Mass Intentions for the Week

SATURDAY, June 1 - First Saturday

8:00am ST. B + Ann Bianco

SATURDAY, June 1 - Vigil – Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ

4:00pm OLOP + Peter & Natalie Signore
by Signore Family

4:30pm SVDP + Barbara Coppola (1st Anniversary)
by Friend, Marie Esposito

SUNDAY, June 2 – Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ

8:00am OLOP + Filomena Lavorgna
by Husband, Attilio

9:00am SB + Deceased Members of Knights of Columbus #44

10:00am OLOP + John & Julia Bellonio
by Family

11:15am SVDP + Martha Luca
by Patty, Carol, Mary & Barbara Ann

MONDAY, June 3 - St. Charles Lwanga

8:00am OLOP + Cora & Harold Hall, Sr.
by Marianne Hall

8:00am SVDP + Gloria Henderson
by Family

TUESDAY, June 4 – Weekday

8:00am OLOP + Angelo Chiarello
by Porto Funeral Home

8:00am SVDP + Mary Varunes
by Daughters

WEDNESDAY, June 5 – St. Boniface

8:00am OLOP + Rose Elko & DiLallo Family
by Kathy Mauro

8:00am SVDP + Laura Anderson

THURSDAY, June 6 - St. Norbert

8:00am OLOP + Ann DeLucia
by Marie & Bob Lunney

8:00am ST. B + Living & Deceased Mem. of Popolizio Families
by Patricia Mahoney

FRIDAY, June 7 - First Friday

8:00am ST. B + Madelyn Vece & Christine D’Agostino
by Rena

SATURDAY, June 8 - Vigil – 10th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00pm OLOP + Maureen DeRose
by Family

4:30pm SVDP + Louis Carfora, Sr.
by Christine & Lisa Carfora

SUNDAY, June 9 – 10th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00am OLOP + Henry ‘Hank’ Luzzi
by Family

9:00am SB + Robert Imperato (8th Anniversary)
by Mom, Shirley Skeens

10:00am OLOP + Giannelli Family
by Family

11:15am SVDP + Jacquelin Tracey
by Monique

STEWARDSHIP

May 25 & 26

Regular Collection

\$9,798.00

**June 8 & 9 Second Collection:
Utility**

Thank you to the many of you who have been so generous and responsive in these difficult times.

SCRIPTURE READING

Sunday: Ex 24:3-8/Ps 116:12-13, 15-16, 17-18 (13)/
Heb 9:11-15/Mk 14:12-16, 22-26
Monday: 2 Pt 1:2-7/Ps 91:1-2, 14-15b, 15c-16/Mk
12:1-12
Tuesday: 2 Pt 3:12-15a, 17-18/Ps 90:2, 3-4, 10, 14 and
16/Mk 12:13-17
Wednesday: 2 Tm 1:1-3, 6-12/Ps 123:1b-2ab, 2cdef/Mk
12:18-27
Thursday: 2 Tm 2:8-15/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14/Mk
12:28-34
Friday: Hos 11:1, 3-4, 8c-9/Ps 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 (3)/Eph
3:8-12, 14-19/Jn 19:31-37
Saturday: 2 Tm 4:1-8/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Lk
2:41-51



Every Monday, immediately following morning Mass at Our Lady of Pompeii, there is one hour of Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

CONFESSION SCHEDULE:

Our Lady of Pompeii: Saturday at 3:00-3:30pm

St. Vincent de Paul: Saturday at 3:30-4:00pm



Please, be mindful that many parishioners arrive early prior to the start of Mass in order to sit reflectively with the LORD in prayer. Please, be mindful of the level of your voice and that voices carry from the back of the church to the front. Please, maintain a subdued tone when speaking so that other’s quiet time is not disturbed.

St. Pio of Pietrelcina Parish

Address: 355 Foxon Road, East Haven, CT 06513

Phone Number: (203) 469-0764

Office Hours:

Foxon Road: Mon-Thu 8:00-12:00 & 1:00-3:00;

Fri 8:00-12:00

Taylor Avenue: Tue. & Thu. 9:00-1:00

E-Mail: stpioofpietrelcina@gmail.com

Website: stpioofpietrelcinaeh.com

2025 MASSES -

Payment due at time of booking and is cash or check only.

Kindly have your Mass requests ready when scheduling. We will continue to have a limit of 2 weekend Masses per individual booking.



MINISTRY & EVENT CALENDAR

SUNDAY, JUNE 2 No Events or Activities	SUNDAY, JUNE 9 No Events or Activities
MONDAY, JUNE 3 Holy Hour - 8:30-9:30am in Our Lady of Pompeii Church	MONDAY, JUNE 10 Holy Hour - 8:30-9:30am in Our Lady of Pompeii Church
TUESDAY, JUNE 4 Bible Study - 7:00pm on Zoom Contact Christine Sandford at 203-469-7823 Rosary Group - 8:00 pm on Zoom Contact Sally Mucka at 203-469-0764 ext. 8	TUESDAY, JUNE 11 Bible Study - 7:00pm on Zoom Contact Christine Sandford at 203-469-7823 KofC #44 Rosary Group - 6:30 at SB Prayer Garden
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5 Bible Study - 6:30pm at SVDP Parish Office Contact Marie Connors at 203-468-1184 Novena - 7:00pm at OLOP Church Rosary Group - 8:00 pm on Zoom Contact Sally Mucka at 203-469-0764 ext. 8	WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12 Bible Study - 6:30pm at SVDP Parish Office Contact Marie Connors at 203-468-1184 Novena - 7:00pm at OLOP Church Rosary Group - 8:00 pm on Zoom Contact Sally Mucka at 203-469-0764 ext. 8
THURSDAY, JUNE 6 Scriptural Rosary - 7:00pm at OLOP Chapel Contact Sally Mucka at 203-469-0764 ext. 8	THURSDAY, JUNE 13 Scriptural Rosary - 7:00pm at OLOP Chapel Contact Sally Mucka at 203-469-0764 ext. 8
FRIDAY, JUNE 7 - First Friday Prayer Shawl - 1:00-3:00pm at OLOP LOMR Rosary Group - 8:00 pm on Zoom Contact Sally Mucka at 203-469-0764 ext. 8	FRIDAY, JUNE 14 Rosary Group - 8:00 pm on Zoom Contact Sally Mucka at 203-469-0764 ext. 8
SATURDAY, JUNE 8 Men's Group - 7:30am-9:00am at SVDP Parish Center	SATURDAY, JUNE 15 Men's Group - 7:30am-9:00am at SVDP Parish Center

**SATURDAY VIGILS FROM
SATURDAY, JUNE 15 to
DECEMBER 14:**

OLOP Vigil at 4:00—Confessions 3:00
SVDP Vigil at 5:30----Confessions 4:30

FROM DECEMBER 21 to JUNE 21, 2025:

SVDP Vigil at 4:00—Confessions 3:00
OLOP Vigil at 5:30----Confessions 4:30

SUNDAYS
Pompeii Campus

7:30 & 10:30

Saint Vincent de Paul Campus

11:45

Saint Bernadette Campus

9:00

2024 Archbishop's Annual Appeal



Through the generosity of our parish community, \$89,286.25 has been pledged to this year's effort; this is 80% of our financial target. I encourage everyone to consider a gift that is appropriate for them; let's work together to exceed our parish goal. Every gift makes a difference and has an incredible impact. Thank you for your consideration.

The Candles burn this week for these special intentions:

Our Lady of Pompeii Candles

Sanctuary Lamp (Right Side) ~ In Memory of Billy Richmond & For All the Souls in Purgatory

Sanctuary Lamp (Left Side) ~ In Memory of the Mauro & Elko Families

Chapel ~

Sacred Heart of Jesus ~

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Icon ~ Our Lady Of Perpetual Help by Carol & Judy

Pascal Candle ~ Deceased Members of the Calamita, Hart, Surprenant & Zito Families

St. Vincent de Paul Candles

Sanctuary Lamp (Right Side) ~ In Memory of the Balzano & Avitable Families

Sanctuary Lamp (Left Side) - In Memory of Ronald Paolillo

Our Lady's Altar ~ Nicholas, Raffaele & Peter Bertier by Ann

St. Joseph's Altar ~ Thomas Parisi by Parisi & Sabatino Families

Pascal Candle ~ Barbara & Maurice Connolly

St. Bernadette Candles

Sanctuary Lamp (Right Side) ~ Vincent Savo by Mom & Dad

Sanctuary Lamp (Left Side) ~

Pascal Candle ~ Harold Donegan

PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH

Nick Vessicchio, Sally Ann Fallon, Lynette Ely, David T. Boyle, Richard Lucibello, Carmel Ferretti, Bryan Surprenant, Sharon Spadacenta, Marie Zambrano, Helen Langello, Brian Savo, Gerry Andrea, Alan Poirier, Connie Rasimas, Jane Pyka, Harry Clark, Lou DiNola, Geraldine Licciardi, Joseph Anyzeski, Fran Sofo, Elizabeth Kuen, Deborah Sanning, Paula Ferrara, Tina Marie Fionia, Joseph Parise, Frank DelGrego, Moira Ferguson, Danielle Joubert, Frances Polaski, Pauline Condon, Rose Anna Izzo, Angelo DeMatteo, Patricia Aulenti, Michael Pascale, Alyce Richmond, Mark Schettino, Patty DiMilo, Rose Rogalski, Elaine Smith, Karen Rescigno, Virginia Pisano, DJ DiVincenzo, Sgt. Anthony Rybaruk, Philip & Sally DeMilo, Anna Concelmo, Anna Marie Nappi, Brian Higney, Rich Tortora, Denise Bailey, Joseph Peterson, Marion Mahl, Paula Ruddock, Pamela Willis, Laura Luzzi, Brian Wilson, Maureen Redmond, Kristianne Argentino, Shirley Perrelli, Bill Izzo, Andrew & Catherine Criscuolo, Patricia Miles, Joe Coscia, Deborah Verab, Dona Marie, Christina Meoli, Michelle Smith, Ron Mattei, Angela Riccio, Charlene Tantalò, Al Forgione, Gabriella Garrity, Beverly Fucci, W.D. Merkle, Phyllis Anastasio, Cheryl Barbara, Laura-Phyllis Esposito, Diana Vitelli O'Brien, Meghan Keeney, Gennaro Milone, Jo Vuolo, Felicia DeRoche, Mike Barnett, Richard Costanzo, Carole & Frank Casapulla, Michael Bowen, Linda Montone, Carol Esposito, Fred & Barbara Brow, Christopher Farrell, Roberta Sanders-Gray, Jeannette Winston, Marilyn Sisson, Ryder Feeley, Theodore Siwinski, Michael Enders, Nicholas Cerillo, Edwina Cinque, Rudolph Pohlman, Linda Esposito, Renee Flynn, The Cooper Family, Lynn Ely, Ethan Roche, Frances Graney, Megan Maturo, Rose Paula Dziedulonis, Taras Mychajlowskyj, Denise Steiner, Mary Ann Anastasio, Gloribeth R., Stacie Bouchard, Al Sappinetti, Guy Racino, Michael Polaski, Martha Catel, Eddie Villecco, Isaiah Colville, Jennie Nazario, Joan Proto, Caitlin Rustic, Michael Fillion, John Torello, Mauro Antonio Bezanilla, Matteo Criscuolo, Robert Fillion, Lucy Carbone, Dorene Izzo, Lucille Palange, Carmine Riccietelli, Sr., Louise Amato, Mark Houston, Avery Bye, Alex Bernaitis, Vincent Pisano, Barbara Bellucci, Michael Bulger, Joseph Bonie, Mary Katherine Hart, Billy Carr, Andrea Pepe, Anna Sabatino, Audrey Elder, Theresa Polio, Mike Liso, John Mongillo, Sr., Bill Morrison, Juan & Family, Vern Kelly, Terrence King, Monica Cantore, Fr. Lawrence Boch, Antoinette Comiskey, Diane DiLungo, Frances 'Jean' Massimino, Luca Small, Vincent Savo, Louis Cinque, Alex Dugatto, Kim Vincent-Foschini, Dawn Quartiano Ferraro, Sal DeCola, Pasquale Marino, Bernadette Mckiernan, Bill Izzo, Ron Ardito, Michael Giaimo

Please send prayer requests to stpioofpietrelcina@gmail.com so that our parishioners and friends can be remembered in our prayers.

**Midnight Run
Taylor Avenue Campus**

The Midnight Run for June is the **2nd Monday**, which is **June 10th**. Donations of brown bag lunches, water, juice boxes and toiletries are appreciated. These donations can be dropped off to Sue Stacey's home, 82 Forbes Place, up until 7pm on **Monday, June 10th**. Any questions, please contact Sue at 203-214-1762. Thank you and God bless you for all donations. Stay safe & well.

**Midnight Run
Foxon Road Campus**

On the last Monday of each month, we bring 75 bagged lunches to the Columbus House Overflow Shelter.

Donations Needed:

ShopRite Gift Cards or

Gallon Size Ziploc Bags

Quart Size Ziploc Bags

Peanut Butter & Jelly

Juice Pouches

Raisin Boxes

Fruit Cups & Pudding Cups

Granola Bars

Individual Packaged Cookies, Crackers or Chips

We are also looking for small amounts or full skeins of yarn, it will be used to make hats and scarves for the midnight run. Please leave your donations at any entrance of Our Lady of Pompeii church **ONLY**. Thank you.

Midnight Run is the **LAST** Monday of **EVERY** month from Our Lady of Pompeii Church from 6-7 pm. Thank-you for being so generous!



St. Bernadette Food Pantry located at the East Shore Senior Center is open every Saturday from 10:00am-11:00am. We are always in need of non-perishable foods. Top choices are, canned: tomatoes, tomato sauce, vegetables, tuna fish, soups and fruits. Pasta, mac & cheese and peanut butter. Consumption guidelines provided to us from the CT Food Bank: Expiration/Code Date Extensions past expiration: high acid foods (i.e. tomatoes) 12-18 months. Low acid foods (canned meat, most vegetables) 2-5 years. Food in jars, 12 months past expiration, dry cereal 6-12 months, rice/pasta (dry) 1 year. Questions, please contact Deb or Rico at 203-468-7489



THE EAST HAVEN FOOD PANTRY is asking for pasta, sauce, and canned corn for the month of June. Please leave your donations of food at the church entrances.

The Food Pantry will be open from 9:00am-11:00am on Saturdays & Tuesdays for East Haven residents.

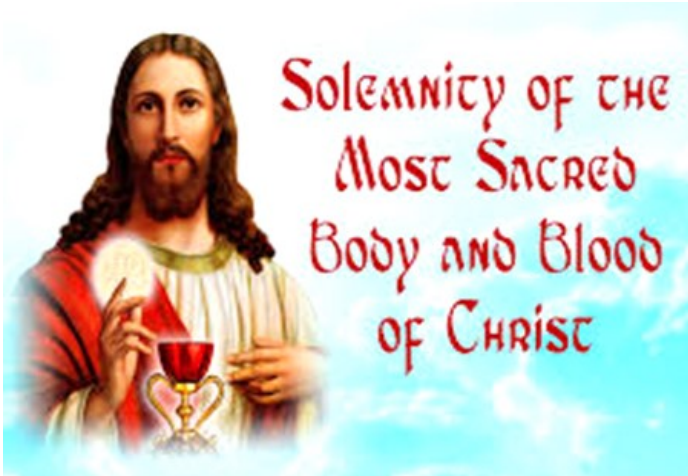
For more info call Christine Sandford 203-469-7823

From the Pastor's Pen

Reverend Jeremiah N. Murasso, PhD, EdD, PsyD

Feast of *Corpus Christi*
The Body & Blood of Jesus
St. John 6:51-58

On this tenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, the Church celebrates the feast of *Corpus Christi*, the Most Precious Body and Blood of Jesus. This ancient feast reminds the faithful of Jesus's Real Presence in the Holy Eucharist.



The feast is also meant to remind Christians of the need to honor and revere the Eucharistic Presence of Jesus in the context of the Sacred Liturgy and to revere his presence in and through creation, in nature and in our fellow human beings. This feast is celebrated annually on the Thursday that follows Trinity Sunday. However, in the American Church, it is moved to the first Sunday after the feast of the Holy Trinity.



St. Augustine

St. Augustine (354-430A.D.) was a holy and scholarly priest, theologian, and philosopher of the Church who played a significant role in the development of doctrine in Catholic Theology. In addition, Augustine made a great impact on Western Christianity and Western Philosophy through his writings on the soul and the Holy Trinity. In his writings on the Holy Eucharist, Augustine speaks of the *Real Presence of Jesus* in the context of the Mass as the "*Most Perfect Prayer of the Church*." He goes on to say that when Catholics receive the Eucharist, they "*Become what they consume: Alter Christus (Another Christ)*." Augustine was proclaimed Doctor of the Church in 1298 by Pope Boniface VIII.

Evolution of the Feast of Corpus Christi

The events leading up to the actual establishment of this feast of Corpus Christi span well over a century and point to one daunting reality that is true even for you and me who live in the twenty-first century: *God always gets His way, even if it takes Him 100 years* to change man's heart. In other words, God's will always prevail, even when, at times, His will clashes with our *perceived* notions of what we *think* is best for our lives.

In the end, God's will *always* triumphs. The story of the institution of the feast of *Corpus Christi* also points to the strong presence of the *Holy Spirit* in the life of the Church and in our individual lives, even during those unexplainable dark nights of the soul when we think that God has abandoned us. God is always with us. He resides quietly and patiently as He waits for each of us to discover what He may be saying.

Juliana of Liege

The institution of the feast of *Corpus Christi* begins with Juliana of Liege (1192-1258) who at a very young age became the *handmaid of the Lord* in the same way that the Blessed Virgin Mary did in cooperating with God's plan. Like Mary, Juliana became an *instrument* through whom God's healing presence was made known to a world that had quite forgotten the Divine.

Juliana was left orphaned at the very young age of five, as both her parents died in the plague that was running rampant through Belgium at the time. The young Juliana was placed in a convent at Mont-Cornillion where her child-like love for Jesus and the Blessed Mother flourished into an insatiably genuine love of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist. This love for the Eucharist appeared to take hold of her life and, consequently, fueled what would become a lifelong quest to establish an official feast in honor of Jesus' Body and Blood.

Juliana's Dream

Very early in Juliana's life, even prior to her placement in the convent, the child had experienced a recurring dream in which she saw a large white moon. However, that which disturbed and actually haunted the young Juliana about this recurring image was its *apparent* incompleteness. Something was missing not only with the image of the moon but also with a clear understanding of the meaning and purpose of the recurring dream. At the bottom of the moon was a dark wedge in the shape of a small piece of pie.



Pondering the meaning of this image, Juliana sought the counsel of several priests who failed to shed light on the child's quandary. By the age of 15, Juliana not only continued to receive the image of the incomplete moon in her dreams, but she also began receiving visions from Jesus, who explained the meaning of her dream. The Lord told Juliana that his heart was heavy with sorrow because man had forgotten him. Men and women of faith no longer honored him in the Eucharist; they no longer received him in the Mass, and they no longer believed in his presence, a presence to be revered and consumed as a source of spiritual sustenance for their souls.



The Lord told Juliana that the moon represented the Sacred Host, his Body. The black wedge indicated that the Body of Christ, the Church was incomplete because it lacked a feast that honored his Body and Blood as a means for Christians to receive spiritual nourishment and strength for combating the evils in the world. He went on to tell Juliana that even many of his priests, those consecrated through the sacred Rite of Ordination to celebrate the sacred Liturgy doubted his *Real Presence* in the Eucharist.

Robert de Thorete

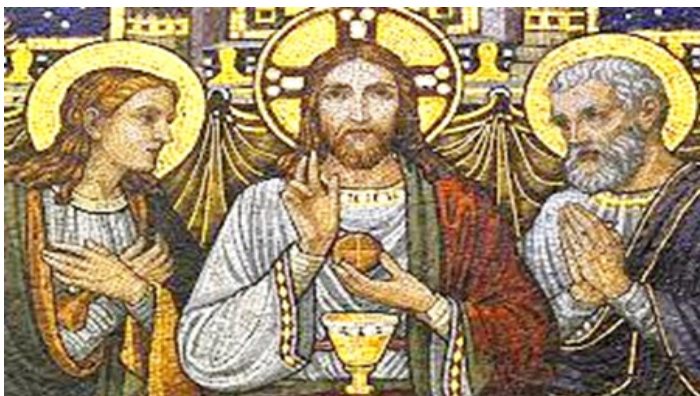
In 1206, Juliana sought the counsel of the Bishop of Liege, Bishop Robert de Thorete, and his Archdeacon, Jacques Pantaleon. She shared her recurring dream with the two men and the Lord's explanation of the black wedge located in the lower half of the moon. Juliana also shared her visions of the Lord and his request for a special feast in honor of his Sacred Body and Blood.

The bishop was quite impressed with Juliana and her story. Yet, while appearing sympathetic and somewhat interested in the young nun's request, he was not entirely convinced that a special feast of this nature was something that he should or wanted to undertake.

The Archdeacon, Jacques Pantaleon (who later became Pope Urban IV), however, appeared quite interested in the notion of a special feast to honor the Body and Blood of Jesus because he, too, had a special devotion to the Blessed Sacrament.

God's Plan

That which Bishop Robert de Thorete lacked in enthusiasm, the Archdeacon possessed in passion as he repeatedly pressed the bishop to call a special meeting of cardinals for their input and suggestions with regard to the implementation of a new feast that would give honor to the Body and Blood of Jesus. Whether it was the constant nagging of the Archdeacon or perhaps Divine intervention in the form of a dream, no one really knows. However, the bishop decided to call a special synod in the year 1246.



The cardinals gathered and within two days, it was unanimous that such a feast should be established to raise man's awareness of the *Real Presence* of Jesus in the Eucharist. Consequently, the bishop decreed that in the following year (1247), on the Thursday that followed the feast of the Holy Trinity, the feast of *Corpus Christi* would be recognized and celebrated by all the faithful in his Diocese of Liege. Unfortunately, the bishop never lived long enough to see Juliana's dream and his *Decree* take fruition.

Despite the bishop's death, however, the feast of *Corpus Christi* was celebrated as planned. The annual celebration of the feast of *Corpus Christi* was confined to one diocese; thus, it appeared to Juliana that her dream and God's request for a Church-wide celebration was a long way off. Several years passed and in 1258, Juliana also died. It now appeared that with her death, any possibility of a Church-wide celebration was shattered. Or was it?

Urban IV

Although many were saddened by the death of Bishop Robert de Thorete, their sadness was short-lived with the surprise elevation of Archdeacon Jacques Pantaleon to the Papacy, who took the name Pope Urban IV. The former Archdeacon who years before lent a compassionate ear to the young Juliana was now Pope Urban IV. Although Urban was a devout advocate of the implementation of the feast of *Corpus Christi*, the demands of the job became a source of distraction; thus, the Good Lord needed to take matters into his own hands once again.

Father Peter

Soon after his elevation to the Papacy, Urban journeyed to Orvieto, the summer residence of the popes. The year was 1263, and a young Bohemian Priest, Father Peter was on pilgrimage to Rome. During his final days in Rome and prior to returning to his country, the young priest desired a blessing from the Pope, which was the custom.



However, after paying his respects at the tomb of St. Peter and realizing that the Pontiff was at Orvieto, the young priest decided to journey to Orvieto. Upon his arrival, Father Peter was informed that the Pope had taken ill and was unable to greet the priest. Feeling a bit discouraged, Father Peter decided to return to his country, but not before he celebrated Mass.

Miracle at Bolsena

Father Peter stopped at the Chapel of *Santa Christina*, which is located in the small town of Bolsena, outside of Orvieto. The young priest initially decided to go on a pilgrimage because his faith was weak and also because he struggled with believing that Jesus was actually present in the Eucharist. As the young priest began to celebrate the Mass, his struggles with his faith, as well as his disappointment in not seeing the Holy Father, consumed him. As he said the words of Consecration and broke the Host attempting to place a small particle into the consecrated wine, the Host began to bleed over the corporal, on the priest's vestment and onto the floor.

News of this spread quite rapidly, as one would imagine; thus, it reached the ears of the ailing Pontiff. Urban confirmed the priest's testimony as a sign from God and immediately, proclaimed it to be a miracle. This was all that the Pontiff needed to get him moving. Urban quickly promulgated the Papal Bull *Transiturus* on September 8, 1264, in which he ordered the annual feast of *Corpus Christi* to be celebrated Church-wide on the Thursday after Trinity Sunday. Unfortunately, however, Urban died before he saw the fruits of his labor.

Council of Vienna (1311)

For years after the death of Urban IV, the feast of *Corpus Christi* continued to be celebrated, yet, not in all the dioceses throughout the Church. It was not until 1311, at the Council of Vienna, that Pope Clement V published a new *Decree*, which reiterated the *Decree* of Urban in the ordering of a Church-wide celebration of the Feast of *Corpus Christi* that honored the Body and the Blood of Jesus once and for all times. The feast had finally been established, a little more than a century after the young Juliana of Liege first shared her dreams and her visions with Bishop Robert de Thorete and his young Archdeacon, Jacques Panaleon.

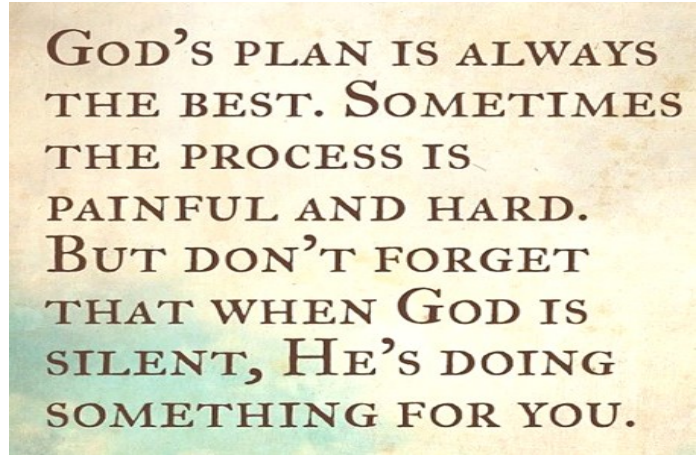
Cathedral of Orvieto



The Cathedral at Orvieto, which was commissioned by Urban IV prior to his death, is dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary and was built specifically to house the Bloody Corporal and vestments from the miracle at Bolsena, which occurred in 1263 at the tiny chapel of *Santa Christina* in Bolsena. To this day, visitors are able to view the blood-stained corporal behind glass as well as visit the Chapel of *Santa Christina* to see the blood-stained floor. As a result of extensive investigations and thorough examinations, the blood has been confirmed to be human blood, a type, however, unfamiliar to any blood type presently known.

God's Plan

As men and women of faith, we must believe that God has a plan for each of us. As we reflect on the saints of the past, we clearly see that despite their own *dark nights of the soul*, God used each of them to bring about something great for the world and for His Church. If this is true throughout the history of salvation, what makes us so sure that God has stopped communicating to twenty-first-century men and women of faith in the same way that He communicated with hundreds of simple yet faithful individuals in the past?



In a twenty-first-century world gone mad, a world that *appears* to thrive on negative themes instead of discovering the unconditional meaning and goodness that life offers to each of us, God waits quietly and patiently for faithful disciples like Juliana to act on their faith and to strive to create a better world.

In last week's Gospel on the feast of the *Holy Trinity* (Matthew 28:16-20), Jesus assures his disciples: "*Behold, I will remain with you always until the end of the age*" (28:20).

The question is: "*Have we as a people remained with God?*" It begins with you and with me. It begins with recognizing the need that we all have for re-discovering and re-cultivating a closer relationship with the Lord by venerating his presence not only in the Eucharist but in one another. JNM

Knights of Columbus Rodrigo Council #44

PRAY THE ROSARY

KofC Rodrigo Council #44 Rosary, every 2nd Tuesday of the month at St. Bernadette Church as we pray for an increase in priestly vocations as well as all religious vocations and the Holy Spirit to inspire our priest and religious.

- ⇒ Peace in the World
- ⇒ For a Return to Christ and the Blessed Virgin.
- ⇒ Increase in Priestly vocations

WHEN: Tuesday, June 11 at 6:30pm. (Rosary)*

WHERE: St. Bernadette Church

Monthly Rosary is held the second Tuesday of every month.

*Weather permitting, Rosary will be out doors in the Prayer Garden please bring a folding chair



From the Pen of the Parish Nurse
Kimberly Petrillo, R.N.

Lyme Disease

The warmer months are approaching; thus, with the warmer weather, ticks emerge and can cause very serious health problems to the body if bitten. Each year in the US more than 300,000 cases of Lyme disease, a potentially debilitating condition, are diagnosed. Cases of Lyme disease, traditionally more prevalent in the Northeast, have now been found in all 50 states and the District of Columbia according to a 2018 study from Quest Diagnostics.

The Northeast continues to have the highest reported cases; however, it's alarming to note that California and Florida had the highest percentage increase in positive test results from 2015 to 2017 (cf. WebMD.com), indicating the spread of Lyme disease across the country.

Ixodes spp. ticks



Lyme disease is an infectious disease caused by the bacteria *Borrelia burgdorferi* B. This bacteria is transmitted to humans by a bite from an infected black-legged (*Ixodes scapularis*) or deer tick. The tick becomes infected after feeding on infected deer, birds, or mice. The same tick can also spread other diseases, including *anaplasmosis*, *babesiosis*, and *Powassan Virus*.

Symptoms can occur anywhere from 3 to 30 days after the bite has occurred. In some cases, symptoms may occur months after the bite, depending on the stage of the infection. Black-legged ticks must be attached to the body for 36 to 48 hours to transmit Lyme disease. If the tick or ticks are removed within 48 hours, chances are low that the infection will be transmitted to you.



Most tick bites happen in the summer months when ticks are most active and people spend more time outside. Tick bites can occur in the warmer months of fall or even late winter if the temperatures are unusually high. If the winter is mild, ticks will come out earlier than usual.

It is important to know that not all ticks carry bacteria that cause illness. However, it is crucial to remove ticks from the body as quickly as possible when found. This means that after most outdoor activities, check the whole body for ticks.

The size of ticks can vary. Deer ticks are roughly 1/8" the size of a sesame seed and have a flat, broad, oval-shaped body. Dog ticks are much larger, roughly 1/2" after feeding on a host. By being vigilant and proactive, you can significantly reduce the risk of Lyme disease.

Who is at risk for Lyme disease?

Anyone can get a tick bite. People who spend a lot of time outdoors in wooded, grassy areas are at the highest risk. This includes hikers, campers, landscapers, and people who work in gardens and parks. A recent new study shows that these black-legged ticks have migrated into new environments near beaches, for example, and are found in grasses and scrubs. Ticks are often found in the backyard of homes that are *not* wooded.



Symptoms of Lyme Disease

The symptoms of Lyme Disease include some of the following:

- Severe headache or neck stiffness
- Bull's Eye rash to the bite area or other parts of the body
- Arthritis with severe joint pain and swelling (especially knees and large joints)
- Heart palpitations or irregular heartbeat (Lyme carditis)
- Inflammation to the brain and spinal cord
- Intermittent pain to tendons, muscles, joints, and bones
- Shooting pains, numbness, or tingling in the hands or feet, as well as fever, chills, fatigue, and swollen lymph nodes

Diagnosing Lyme Disease

A healthcare professional will evaluate symptoms, decide how likely it is that an individual was exposed to the infected black-legged tick, and rule out the possibility that another illness is the cause of similar symptoms. This will usually be followed by lab testing.



Most Lyme disease tests check for antibodies made by the body in response to the infection. The antibodies can take several weeks to develop. If the blood test is done in close proximity to the bite, it may not indicate positive for Lyme Disease, even if the infection is present.

Treating Lyme Disease

Lyme disease is treated with antibiotics. The earlier treatment is started, the better the chance for a quick recovery. Typically, oral *Doxycycline* is used for 10 days to 3 weeks, or *Amoxicillin* and *Cefuroxime* for 2 to 3 weeks.



If the disease involves the central nervous system, the doctor may recommend the use of IV antibiotics for 14 to 28 days. This would also be the correct procedure if the disease had progressed, and, in the determination of the doctor, oral medication would not be an effective treatment.

Late forms of disseminated Lyme Disease occur when the infection has not been treated in stages 1 and 2. Stage 3 (Late disseminated Lyme Disease) can occur months or years after the tick bite. As the infection progresses, brain disorders can also occur, such as: (*encephalopathy*), mental fogginess, problems with following conversations, sleep disturbance as well as arthritis in one or more large joints in the body.

Prevention

One simple way of preventing Lyme Disease is to know where ticks are likely to be. When outdoors, it is important to get in the habit of using repellent (DEET) on the skin, clothing, and hiking or camping gear. Wearing light-colored protective clothing, such as long-sleeve shirts and long trousers, is also recommended.

It is also recommended that you tuck your shirt into your pants and the pant legs into your socks.

Remember to shower after coming in from outside and check the body for ticks. Also check clothing as well as pets for ticks after being outdoors. It might also be good to provide your pets with an anti-tick treatment. Dry clothes at high temperatures to kill ticks. You might also consider asking a pest control service about how to keep ticks out of the yard.



Examining the Body for Ticks

Once you have returned from the outdoors, it is important to perform a thorough inspection of your body before taking a shower. Several important areas of the body include under the arms and behind the knees, in the belly button, all areas of the scalp and hair, between the legs, around the waist, and in and around the ear.



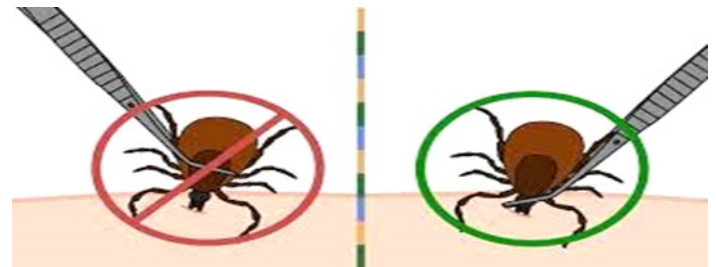
Removing a Tick

When attempting to remove a tick from your body, the body of another person, or of a pet, do not handle the tick directly. Use fine tweezers, avoiding the use of a blunt eyebrow tweezers. Gloves may work if tweezers are not available, and the tick is large enough to grasp with the fingers.

It is important to hold the tick as close to its mouthparts as possible. It is these parts that are attached to the skin.



Avoid squeezing the tick's distended belly because this could cause fluid to be squeezed into the body, increasing the risk of disease transmission. Gently pull the tick away from the body. Do not twist it; this may snap off the mouthparts, which will remain on the skin and pose a risk of transmitting pathogens.



Should identification be needed, keep the tick in a dry jar or zip-lock bag. Store it in the freezer or refrigerator for up to 10 days, labeling it with the bite date and location. Once the tick is removed from the body, it is important to wash your hands and the bite area with warm, soapy water. Antibiotic ointment can then be applied as extra protection.

Most people with Lyme Disease are treated successfully with an antibiotic regimen. There are some, however, who do not recover fully after treatment. It is not clear to doctors why this is so. Some experts think that the symptoms persist because the *bacterium* was not completely destroyed by the antibiotic. Others believe that the disease damages the immune system and tissues. The immune system continues to respond to the infection even after the bacteria are destroyed, causing chronic symptoms.

To date, nothing has been proven scientifically to validate these theories. Two large pharmaceutical companies have put much effort into developing a vaccine for Lyme Disease in the US, but to date, no vaccine is available. **KP**

Parish nurse can be contacted via mail kimp51@comcast.net or mobile 203-980-0931.

FROM THE *DESK* OF THE *PASTOR*

MASS SCHEDULE CHANGE

Effective June 15 & 16

The following Sunday Mass schedule changes will occur:

SATURDAY VIGILS

The two **Saturday vigils** will be at **4:00 and 5:30**. The time assigned to each church will continue for six months. After six months, the two churches will switch Mass times so that in the span of 12 months, both churches will offer a 4:00 and a 5:30. Holy Trinity and Our Lady of Fatima in Wallingford have had success in this kind of schedule.

BEGINNING SATURDAY, JUNE 15 to DECEMBER 14:

OLOP Vigil at 4:00—Confessions 3:00

SVDP Vigil at 5:30—Confessions 4:30

FROM DECEMBER 21 to JUNE 21, 2025:

SVDP Vigil at 4:00—Confessions 3:00

OLOP Vigil at 5:30—Confessions 4:30

SUNDAYS

Pompeii Campus

7:30 & 10:30

Saint Vincent de Paul Campus

11:45

Saint Bernadette Campus

9:00

It is becoming increasingly difficult to find weekend priests to cover Masses when either Fr. Matthew or I are absent. The present schedule of Masses makes it difficult for one priest to safely move between the three campuses. We continue to do our best to accommodate the spiritual needs of the parishioners who are part of Saint Pio of Pietrelcina Parish.

As you may already know, in addition to a daily weekday and weekend Mass schedule, Father Matthew and I are responsible for four nursing homes and two senior living facilities where a good number of our senior parishioners live. We are on-call 24 hours a day for these facilities and, in addition, are on-call at Hospice in Branford one day a week.

Both of us are pretty s-t-r-e-t-c-h-e-d, given that we are the seventh largest parish in the archdiocese, with two of us ministering to the needs of approximately 3,000 families. Although these changes may be difficult for some, we ask that you look at the big picture.

It is our priority to provide you with a *spiritually meaningful experience* when you attend the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass in a relaxed and unrushed atmosphere. This is compromised if the celebrant worries about quickly leaving at the conclusion of a Mass in order to celebrate Mass across town.

This new schedule, which will go into effect the weekend of **June 15 and 16**, will enable one priest to cover all the weekend Masses if the need arises, ensuring a consistent and *uninterrupted spiritual experience for our parishioners*.

We are extremely fortunate to have Fr. Borino, Msgr. Walker and Fr. Charman; however, although each is retired, they all have extensive daily/weekend commitments at other parishes. JNM

ARCHBISHOP ANNUAL APPEAL

**IT'S NOT
TOO LATE!**

This year, the Archbishop's Annual Appeal is more critical than ever! State and Federal resources have become increasingly limited. Across the Archdiocese of Hartford, more people need our help. If you have yet to make a donation, please consider doing so. **YOUR DOLLARS COME BACK TO OUR PARISH AND PROVIDE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO THE MINISTRIES THAT OUR PARISH SUPPORTS.**

Your contribution will provide funds to four local ministries:

- St. Bernadette Food Pantry,**
- East Haven Food Pantry**
- St. Gianna Pregnancy Recourse Center.**
- Our Blessed Mother's Arms Pregnancy Resource Center.**

If you have not done so, please make a contribution to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal. **Please indicate the parish name so that the above 4 ministries can receive funding.** The more that our parish gives to the Appeal, the more dollars these ministries receive.

SAVE THE DATE

**THIRD Annual
Parish Nite on the Deck
Tuesday, July 9
5:00 to 9:00**

**Amarante's Sea Cliff Inn.
Rain Date: Wednesday, July 10**



This was a great opportunity for our parish family, representing three church campuses, to break bread together before our parish carnival and food festival. This is a great social evening with good food, music, and drink.

For reservations, please call or text Mike Fimiani at 203.627.9216, or call Amarante's.

Please indicate *St. Pio Parish Get Together*.

VESTMENTS



Vestments are desperately needed for the Saint Vincent de Paul Church campus. The present vestments are very old and extremely heavy, particularly during the warmer months.

Several sets consisting of the priest and deacon matching vestments have been ordered. Interesting parishioners who would like to memorialize a vestment in a loved one's name can do so with a donation to cover the cost of each vestment, a donation of \$500 per vestment.



Fundraiser for Veterans

The Knights of Columbus, Hon. W. Patrick Donlin Assembly #2459 is sponsoring a golf fundraiser to benefit "Veteran and Military Programs and other charitable causes" on Monday, August 26, 2024 at Race Brook Country Club in Orange. We're looking for golfers, sponsors and contributors. Please contact Chris Neumann at Hello.Neumann@KOLonline.com or (203) 393-2924 or Ric Raffone at (203) 640-6482 to participate or donate to this worthy cause. Or log on to: www.assembly2459.org to download the brochure.

Ladies Guild

Ladies' Guild
Installation Dinner

June 10, 2024

6:00pm

Our Lady of Pompeii Hall

\$30.00 per person

Tickets will be sold after all Masses on June 1 & 2

For More Information, call Marie Connors
at 203-468-1184



*Knight of Columbus Rodrigo Council 44
St. Bernadette's Church New Haven, CT
"Getting More With 44"*



Join Our Council Knights of Columbus Rodrigo Council 44 of St Bernadette Church Of St. Pio Parish For Our 136th Anniversary And Father's Day Celebration

WHEN: Thursday June 6th 6:00 pm

WHERE: The Estate
(Formerly The Townsend Estate)
709 Townsend Ave. New Haven, CT



THE ESTATE

Donation: \$36.00 pp ~ \$44.00 Family
Children Under 12 Free

We Welcome All Council Members, Parishioners And Friends.

**FEATURING THE PIZZA TRUCK
OF MARCO PIZZERIA OF BRANFORD:**

Serving A Delicious Variety Of Pizza: Fig Pizza, Bacon & Hot Honey,
And All The Traditional Pizza, Salad, And Marco Pizza's Smores.

For Reservations Please Contact:

Sal DeCola 203.641.1857 or Mike Fimiani 203.627.9216

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Single/Double: \$36.00pp _____ Family: \$44.00 _____

Children Under 12 Free _____ Total Guests: _____

Total: \$ _____

ALL RESERVATIONS DUE BY WEEKEND OF May 27th, 28th

ACT FAST!

THE BEST OF ITALY & SICILY

13 DAYS: NOV. 3 TO NOV. 15, 2024
DON'T MISS OUT ON THIS FANTASTIC
ITALIAN EXCURSION

VISITING:
*SORRENTO, *POMPEII, *AMALFI
COSTLINE, *SAN GIOVANNI ROTONDO,
*ROME,
&
OPTIONAL TRIP TO ASSISI

AUDIENCE WITH POPE FRANCIS
DON'T MISS OUT!

Contact Fr. Murasso TODAY at
jeremiah.murasso@aol.com or
860-977-7675 for a
BROCHURE & RESERVATION FORM
WHILE THERE IS STILL ROOM!



This fun and faith-filled **Mary Garden Contest** invites parents, families, garden enthusiasts, parish groups, teachers, and anyone who wants to create a **one-of-a-kind Mary Garden** to honor Our Blessed Mother is invited to participate.

The contest will accept submissions from May 24 to July 16. The winning entries will be announced on August 15.

A **Mary Garden** is its own reward for yourself, the entire family, and everyone who gets to take in its beauty ... but we're offering **prizes** too! The top three in each category will win a gift basket with family gift cards along with items of Family Prayer including items for the whole family to enjoy and embrace your faithful prayer life.

Gardening is a wonderful family activity that teaches important life skills such as patience and responsibility. We want to encourage families to pray together, wherever they are, so why not try a garden dedicated to Our Lady?

Entries will be divided into two groups:

- Private/Family gardens
- Small/Apartment gardens

We created this contest in hopes of offering families a fun, prayerful activity they could do at home. We are hoping we have created a new annual tradition for our parish. We hope that caring for your **Mary Garden** will offer you an opportunity to spend time in prayer with Mary and invite God into your family life. Pray together in this sacred space you've created, and always remember this famous message: "**The family that prays together stays together.**"

For more information contact :

Renae Voira: 203-494-9479
miknae10@yahoo.com

Carol Silva: 203-469-0764 ext. 4
tempccd29@gmail.com

Knights of Columbus
Rodrigo Council #44
May 2024 300 Club Winners

1st - Frank DeVecchio (#94)- \$150.00
2nd - Mark Pietrosimone (#249) - \$100.00
3rd - Desiree DeCola (#105) - \$75.00
4th - Tom Rafter (#118) - \$50.00



St. Pio
Pietrelcina SVDP
campus Family
Prayer Garden
Donor Form

The Religious Education program is doing a Family Prayer Garden Project to spruce up SVDP campus and provide some areas for prayer and reflection on the outside grounds. We need the parishioners help to make this possible. We are looking for parishioners to make donations in any amount or sponsor a perennial, bush, or shrub of their choice. We will have a plaque displaying all the sponsors that helped make our church grounds beautiful plus add a place for prayer and reflection. This is just the beginning of the project which will continue into the fall. Thank you in advance for your generous donation. You may send in your sponsorship in the collection basket or may purchase a sponsorship before or after mass throughout May at various masses.

Any questions please feel free to contact:

Carol Silva tempccd29@gmail.com 203-467-6394
Rena Voira miknae10@yahoo.com 203-494-9479

PLANT SPONSOR CHOICES

Small perennial \$10 _____

Medium perennial \$15 _____

Large Perennial \$25 _____

Rosebush \$30 _____

Shrub \$35 _____

Bush \$40 _____

Miscellaneous; donation of your choice _____



Amount enclosed _____

Please write clearly!

Name of Sponsor



Have you recently lost a friend or family member?
Are you having difficulty concentrating and enjoying everyday activities?

For information, please contact Barbara Natarajan at

Rajnet352@comcast.net or
Phone: 713-898-2563



SHOPPING CARDS *STILL* NEEDED

With the food prices continue to rise, several of our parishioners are having trouble buying food as they *struggle* to purchase other household necessities and pay for rent and utilities.

Grocery Shopping cards in any denomination to any of the local supermarkets would help me help members of our parish family, who are need of assistance for the purchase of food. These gift/shopping cards can be dropped into the collection basket or brought to the parish office. Whatever you can do, is greatly appreciated. Thank you in advance. JNM



SAVE THE DATE
St Pio of Pietrelcina Women’s
ACTS Retreat
September 19-22, 2024
Our Lady of Calvary Retreat Center,
Farmington, CT
More details to follow

MASS SCHEDULE



June 1 & 2, 2024

CORPUS CHRISTI

4:00 pm OLOP: Fr. Murasso
4:30 pm SVDP: Fr. Matthew
8:00 am OLOP: Fr. Borino
9:00 am SB: Fr. Murasso
10:00 am OLOP: Fr. Matthew
11:15 am SVDP: Fr. Murasso

June 8 & 9, 2024

4:00 pm OLOP: Fr. Matthew
4:30 pm SVDP: Fr. Murasso
8:00 am OLOP: Fr. Murasso
9:00 am SB: Fr. Matthew
10:00 am OLOP: Fr. Murasso
11:15 am SVDP: Fr. Matthew

June 15 & 16, 2024

4:00 pm OLOP: Fr. Murasso
5:30 pm SVDP: Fr. Matthew
7:30 am OLOP: Fr. Murasso
9:00 am SB: Fr. Murasso
10:30 am OLOP: Fr. Murasso
11:45 am SVDP: Fr. Matthew



July 23-July 27

**Our Lady of
Pompeii Church
Grounds**