



OUR LADY OF GRACE PARISH

WELCOME TO OUR LADY OF GRACE PARISH

*Please join us to Pray, Smile, Listen, Encourage,
and Invite Others to Come Home!*

May 8, 2022

SABBATH MASSES

Saturday

4:00 pm.

Sunday

8:00 am & 12:00 pm.

*Videos Mass available on
Saturday & Sunday

DAILY MASS

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday,
Friday at 9:00 am.

Wednesday
Communion Service

CONFESSION

Saturday 1:15 pm - 2:15 pm

Monsignor Martin P. Ryan,
D. Min.
Pastor

Mrs. Denise Bartelson
Director of Faith Formation

Mrs. Stacey Breyan
Office Staff

Ann Baker
Bookkeeper

Mr. Matthew Roumeles
Director of Music Ministry

Mr. Howard Wardlow
Finance Council Chairman

Parish Website: www.olgstratford.com



4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

"My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them
eternal life, and they shall never perish." - Jn 10:27-28b

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

OLPI

Sacrament of Baptism

If you wish to have your child baptized at Our Lady of Grace, we ask families to register in the parish and attend "Growing-up Catholic," our parish baptism program.

For information regarding dates and times of baptisms, please speak with Stacey at the Parish Office: (203)377-0928 x113 during the week or email: staceybreyan@olgstratford.com. For additional information regarding "Growing-Up Catholic," contact Melissa Lembo by email: baptismprogram@olgstratford.com.

Sacrament of Matrimony

For those wishing to enter the Sacrament of Matrimony, please contact the Parish Office (203)-377-0928 x113 one year prior to the date of your wedding. The couple must meet with the parish priest to review all the legal and canonical requirements.

PARISH INFORMATION

Office/Rectory: 203-377-0928 x113
FAX: 203-377-5235
Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
Religious Education: 203-375-6133
Bingo: 203-375-2005
Finance Council Chairman: 203-745-6655
Parish Website: www.olgstratford.com

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Please pray for: Bernard Ardry, Diane Bajorinas, Ted Balga, Nina Sica Collins, Anna Curry, Barbara Dlouhy, Sandy Erickson, James Farrell, Dennis Festa, Joanne Giba, David Gombos, Mike Gorlo, Roberta Greiner, Stephen Hutton, Marie Iannucci, Carolyn Kordish, Lesley Kostyszyn, Elaine Lagor, Lee Lagor, Annette LaFleur, Joshua Craig LaFleur, Barry Latham, Mary Ann Mainak, Mary Maraczi, Marge Martire, Cindy Maurer, Owen McNaboe, Michael Meade, Arline Nelson, David Oleynik, Sal Pace, Marion Petrino, Debbie Pfeifer, Mert Pruzinsky, Eugene Richard, Jamie Rivera, Dhiaa Shubber, Michael Shulick, James Sinnott, Rev. Leo Spodnik, Phil Stinson, Andrew Yankowski
 +Shirley Richmond +Veronica Sokolowski

*Welcome to
 "Our Little Church."*



Online Giving Program

Another easy way to manage your church giving is with Online Giving. You can manage your giving or give a one-time gift right from home. Visit our church website (olgstratford.com) and click the Online Giving link and register with our church. Your support during the year helps sustain our church. Please contact Stacey Breyan at (203) 377-0928 x113 or staceybreyan@olgstratford.com with questions.

Second Collection: May 22: Hope for the Future

Make up envelope

Thank you for your support by making up your weekly envelopes! With the present uptick in Covid-19 cases, and the busy month of May, we ask your support! The winter months have taken a toll on our church steps, and the parking lot. We hope to have the steps repaired soon! If you have been away or have been isolating because of Covid-19, we need your help for your "Little Church". We ask that you make up envelopes when you are away! You may drop your donations in the mail or in the parish drop-box at the side of the parish garage. We thank those who make their donations by our online giving program. Your consistent giving has been very important to our parish financial stability! We thank you for your generosity in the past and ask all to help us support our "Little Church".

Pastor's Letter

Dear Friends,

I would like to take this opportunity to ask God's Blessings on the Mom's of our parish. This day causes us to remember the caring moments of our lives. Mothers were the teachers of our lives and the healers when we had fallen. They like the Blessed Mother carried many challenging moments in their hearts but they always cared for us with a smile and a hug!

May we take a moment to say thank you to our mothers, whether living or deceased. May we place them in the loving hands of Jesus!

Happy Mother's Day!

Msgr. Ryan

Medical Leave

I will be on medical leave from May 4th through May 19th. I will be undergoing Cornea eye surgery on May 5th. Please keep me in your prayers. Thank you for your support and understanding!

Msgr. Ryan

Covid Protocol

The Covid-19 status for Stratford is at an "**RED Alert**" status.

As a parish we need to be considerate and keep each other safe. Therefore we ask that:

1. If you are feeling sick, please stay home and recover!
2. We recommend all people wear masks in parish buildings especially in areas designated for social distancing.
3. All unvaccinated persons should follow state guidance in wearing masks inside buildings!
4. We recommend parishioners to sign-in. We have learned through the pandemic that phone is the best way to communicate with our parishioners.
5. May we care for each other in the name of Jesus!

Catholic Communication Collection

On May 28/29 our parish special collection supports the Catholic Communication Campaign. This campaign engages and builds Catholic communities in the United States and developing countries using the internet, television, radio, and print media. Half of the money collected remains here in the Diocese of Bridgeport to fund local communications efforts. Your support helps spread the Gospel message! To learn more visit. www.usccb.org/cc

Global Synod

We are asking our parishioner to participate in the worldwide Synod. You can still participate by going to the parish website and completing the questionnaire.

My Spiritual Life

Mass from Our Lady of Grace

Please join us for Sunday Mass from OLG Parish by
"Live Stream"

Saturday at 4:00 pm.

You can also find our Sunday Mass on our website:

www.olgstratford.com

On Youtube: search Our Lady of Grace Roman Catholic
Church, Stratford, CT

On Facebook: search Our Lady of Grace Catholic
Church, Stratford, CT

TV Masses

We invite you to pray with us by watching mass on TV.

Here are the Channels:

Optimum

Channel 137 Catholic Faith Network

Channel 135 EWTN

Frontier TV

Channel 12 Hartford 10:00 am

Channel 562 EWTN

Formed.org

Take a walk through the community life after the Resurrection. Search The Acts of the Apostles on Formed and Mark Hart will give you a guided tour..

Registering for FORMED is easier than ever:

1. Go to formed.org/signup
2. Select your parish: Enter parish zip code 06614 and select Our Lady of Grace from the provided dropdown menu
3. Register with your name and email address
4. Check that email Inbox for a link to start watching FORMED

People of Hope

Throughout the month of May, the Institute for Catholic Formation will be hosting a series of online workshops, keynotes, and webinars. These workshops will feature more than 60 topics from a wide array of speakers. All events will be held online and are free to attend. Preregistration is required for each week.

Special workshops for:

Parents, Catechists, Catholic School Teachers, Parish Staff, Faith Formation Leaders, Special Needs Ministry, Young Adults, and Youth Ministry Leaders

Workshops will be in English, Spanish, or Vietnamese Plus, everyone who registers will receive a packet in the mail with prayer cards, Rosary, and a free gift from the Institute. For further information visit Formationreimagined.com.

Confessions

There will be no Confessions on Saturdays while Msgr. Ryan is on sick leave. Confession will resume on Saturday May 21st. You may attend Confessions at:

St. Mark Church on Saturday 3:30-4:30pm

St. James Church on Saturday 12:15-1:30pm

Holy Name of Jesus on Saturday 3:00-3:30pm

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, MAY 7

4:00pm Our Parishioners

SUNDAY, MAY 8

8:00am Stella Soisson r/b Soisson Family

12:00pm Vicki Hartz r/b Family

MONDAY, MAY 9

9:00am Richard W. Tompkins r/b Carol & Fred Haines

TUESDAY, MAY 10

9:00am Thomas Boiano r/b Family

WEDNESDAY, MAY 11

9:00am Our Parishioners

THURSDAY, MAY 12

9:00am Beatrice Corsino r/b Joan & Mert Pruzinsky

FRIDAY, MAY 13

9:00am Gunther & Kiley Families r/b Pace Family

SATURDAY, MAY 14

4:00pm Thaddeus Walewski r/b Walewski Family

SUNDAY, MAY 15

8:00am Our Parishioners

12:00pm Thomas & Carmella Ettore r/b Michael Ettore



Sanctuary Lamp Intentions

May 8, 2022 - May 14, 2022

Lamp I: Marion Finnegan

Lamp II: William Finnegan

Project Rachel

Are you or someone you know experiencing pain and sorrow from losing a child to abortion? You are not alone! For information and resources or to find out about our upcoming focal Days of Prayer and Healing, contact Maureen at 203-416-1619 or projectrachel@diobpt.org. God's mercy, healing and forgiveness are waiting for you!

Parish Memorial Books

Several years ago the parish instituted a Memorial Fund. The purpose of the Memorial Fund was to provide assistance for purchasing new and needed items for our liturgies. (For example: vestments, ritual books, etc.) This is a wonderful way to acknowledge someone living, deceased or in thanksgiving for a prayer answered. For information or to make a donation please call the Parish Office at 203-377-0928.



First Communion

Our First Communion Children will be receiving their First Communion on Sunday, May 15th at our Noon parish mass. Please keep our children in your prayers.

Faith Formation

Faith Formation Office is open Tuesday and Thursday from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm.

We would like to congratulate our students who made their Confirmation on Friday, April 22, 2022. It was a lovely spiritual ceremony and we would like to thank Msgr Thomas Powers, Vicar General for confirming our students. We would also like to thank Msgr Ryan for his guidance and the catechists who prepared the students. Thank you to the altar servers, to our organist, Matt Roumeles for the beautiful music and to Lauren Baker for taping the ceremony and for photos. Please keep these students and their families in your prayers. They were truly Blessed as they received the Gifts of the Holy Spirit on Friday evening.

Our First Holy Communion students are preparing for their special Sacrament which will take place during the 12:00 Mass on May 15. Please keep them and their families in your prayers.

Registration is ongoing for all the classes, new Registration forms for 2022 – 2023 school year will be available in June. There will be an announcement in our bulletin and website when available. If you have questions on our programs or would like to know when the registrations are available call 203-375-6133 or email Denise at denisebartelson@olgstratford.com.

PRAYER WALK THE FRIEND OF JESUS PRAYER

Sign up on Church Bulletin Board to receive our Prayer Walk every month. You can also email denisebartelson@olgstratford.com with your name and email to get on the list to receive emails. All parishioners can add someone or themselves for prayers just email the information to denisebartelson@olgstratford.com. Prayer is a powerful tool, and I am sure many of you can witness to that, and it is such an important time for all of us to pray for one another. Faith and prayer can get us through many difficult times.

Nazareth Program

If you have a child that has never started Religious Education class or have missed a few years we offer the Nazareth Program. This program meets the children where it is needed, and they can get caught up with special classes and then can start preparing to make their Sacraments. If you would like further information on this program call 203-375-6133 or email Denise at denisebartelson@olgstratford.com.



Plant Sale

Come support our Faith Formation Programs at the Parish Center

Herbs, Veggies, Hanging Baskets, Cocco Baskets, Flats of Flowers, Potted Flowers, and Mosquito Plants
We will be there after the 4:00 pm Mass this Saturday, May 7 and this Sunday, May 8 from 9:00 am – 1:30 pm.

Marriage Moments

This year Mother's Day and Good Shepherd Sunday both fall on May 8. So, what do sheep and mothers have to do with marriage? Perhaps it's about taking care of another. Of course, neither of you are sheep or a child, but seek out a fun way to care for your beloved today.

Parenting Pointers

"These are the ones who have survived the time of great distress." (Rev. 7:14) During these past years of pandemic, you and your children have probably experienced significant changes and stress. Our whole world has. Share what has been hardest but also something positive you've learned from the experience.

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WEBSITE: www.SusanVogt.net

Questions of the Week

MAY 8 • 4th Sunday of Easter

Protected by Christ

Jesus said, "My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand." (John 10:27-28)

- Acts 13:14, 43-52 - Paul's and Barnabas' address to the gentiles
- Revelation 7:9, 14b-17 - Rejoicing of the elect of every nation
- John 10:27-30 - Words at the feast of the dedication of the Temple
- Adults: Whom do you try to protect as Christ protects you?
- Kids: Who helps you feel safe and protected? Whom can you take care of and help feel safe?

Growing up Catholic Pre-Baptism Class

We will be conducting a GUC Baptism Class on Tuesday, May 24th at 7:00 pm. The GUC class will be conducted by videoconference. We ask all parents wishing to baptize their children to join us for the class. Please register for the class by Tuesday, May 17th by contacting Stacey Breyan at 203-377-0928 x113 or email at staceybreyan@olgstratford.com.

Book of Healing Prayer

We thank the Lord Jesus for his continued healing presence in our parish family. There have been many prayers heard and more individuals and families are requesting "Healing Prayer"! Please remember the requests for prayers for the names listed in our book! Please also remember the names of those listed in our parish bulletin. We thank you for your many stories of encountering the Healing Lord! The Book of Healing Prayer has gathered more than 3300 names of people seeking "Healing Prayer". We will continue to have the book available! Please feel free to continue to add names and the parish will keep you in prayers. May Jesus Heal You

PARISH CALENDAR, COLLECTIONS

PARISH FINANCES*			
Sunday Offertory	Actual	Budget	Over (Under)
Income for the week of 4/19/22 - 4/25/22	\$5,024.	\$7,019.	(\$1,995.)
Budget Year-to-date	\$268,093.	\$300,090.	(\$31,997.)
Collection for Catholic Home/Black Mission \$618. Hope for the Future \$1,152. Second Collection: May 22; Hope for the Future			
*Please note: Due to the printing deadline, the Parish Finance Report will be delayed by one week.			



***Parish Office** is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. **Please call prior to visiting the Parish Office (203) 377-0928 x113. We will continue to try and keep everyone safe.**

***Church** is open for prayer Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm.

We Stand with Christ

Our Lady of Grace Parish	
2022 Bishop's Appeal as of April 29, 2022	
ABA Goal:	\$67,800
Total Pledged:	\$47,497 70%
Donors to Date:	159 Donors
To make a gift, or for more information, please visit us at 2022BishopsAppeal.org , call (203) 416-1470 or scan with your phone.	

Bishop's Annual Appeal

The Sacred Heart Guild is a new program designed to evangelize, encourage and inspire Christ in the arts through pilgrimages, workshops, concerts and talks, and is centered on sacred music and art, architecture and literature, with a particular attention to the needs of young people in our diocese. Your gift to the Bishop's Appeal helps support this new initiative. Thank you for your generosity.

Church Air Conditioning

Our parish church, air-conditioning units will be serviced on May 9 & 10.

OTHER NEWS

A Stewardship Moment

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Jesus, the "Good Shepherd," makes a promise in today's Gospel to those who hear his voice and follow him. He promises them eternal life. Amidst all the other voices that clamor for attention in their daily lives, the voices that make demands, give advice, seek to persuade or like to gossip, Good stewards listen for the Good Shepherd's voice. The other voices are legion and we do not always recognize how contrary they are to the voice of the Good Shepherd. Good stewards know that it takes a compassionate heart, a habit of prayer, a hunger for the Eucharist and a love of neighbor for them to truly hear the voice of the Good Shepherd. What might we do in our daily lives to prepare us to more authentically hear the voice of the Good Shepherd?

Virtus Training

We have been in conversation with parishioners who wish to return to ministry. Over the past two years many people and programs stopped because of the virus and the fear of becoming infected. In looking at steps that are needed to renew our parish life, we all need to commit ourselves to "A Safe environment, and Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults".

Every parish volunteer must complete the training, background check, and review the Diocesan handbook. Denise Bartelson will create a process where you can check your status as people return to ministry. The process can be as easy of activating your status, but some parishioners will need to update training, complete a background check, and review the Diocesan manual. Denise can be reached at denisebartelson@olgstratford.com.

Diocesan Mandate for Readers and EMHC

The Diocese will be contacting our Readers and EMHC for further training and to renew their diocesan mandate!

The renewal process will begin in May!

Armed Forces Day

Armed Forces Day will be celebrated on Saturday, May 21st. We will recognize the women and men serving in the military services of our country at the 4:00pm Mass. There will be a special prayer and music during the time of recognition. May we all be thankful for those who serve our nation!

Callingpost

We will be using "callingpost" for our weekly update. As the summer months come upon us, we may not need to send a weekly update! When we send a weekly update it will be sent on Friday at 7:00 pm.



Knights Corner Msgr. Mooney Council #13228

Happy Mothers Day to all our Mothers! Our gift to you are **Family prayer cards** in parish racks, please take one. This meaningful prayer is needed now more than ever.

A Century of Service - Join us in congratulating the following members of Msgr. Thomas Mooney Council who celebrate **25 years as Knights of Columbus** this year: Nick Burruano, Gary Moyer, Lou Nagy and Nick Santangini ! Brothers, we thank you for your combined century of service to the Order and those in need! Find out why their membership is so important to them by learning more about the Order and discover how you too can serve as a Knight of Columbus. Text or call Terry Morgan (203-913-7225) or Pat O'Keefe (203-400-8712).

Our council **Annual Scholarship Program** is now open. ...to BOTH young men and women!! We award **ONE \$500.00 scholarship** for members of Our Lady of Grace parish who graduated High School or completed a GED and who will go on to trade school or college. Rules and Application Forms are available for downloading at msgrmooneycouncil13228.weebly.com/contests.html.

Applications with attached essays *must be submitted on or before 1:30 p.m. Sunday, June 5, 2022* to: Mr. Terry Morgan C/O Our Lady of Grace, 497 Second Hill Lane, Stratford, CT 06614 or may be dropped in the collection box for delivery. The scholarship will be awarded on Father's Day weekend, Sunday, June 19, 2022. Time and place TBD.

People in Ukraine need our prayers and our help. That is why Council 13228 has launched a **Ukraine Solidarity Fund** in connection with Knights of Columbus around the world, to provide for the spiritual and material needs of Ukrainian refugees. By partnering with us, you will bring much needed shelter, food, medical supplies, clothing and religious goods to the displaced communities that are now in Poland and western Ukraine. Every dollar you donate has an immediate effect, and 100% of every donation goes directly to those in need. So donate today! The process is fast, easy, and secure - *and tax deductible using this webpage: donate.kofccharities.org/team/421132* . Why not dedicate your donation in honor or memory of someone?

Learn more about how Knights of Columbus are responding to alleviate suffering in Ukraine with these short videos found here: [youtube.com/playlist?list=PL8dhS0o-trLijWN1wMTHHzCXhth-jikF](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL8dhS0o-trLijWN1wMTHHzCXhth-jikF)

Parish Bulletins for Seniors

We would like to recognize the members of the Msgr. Mooney council Knights of Columbus, who deliver our parish bulletin to our seniors. If you are a senior and would like to receive a bulletin, please contact the parish office.

Parish Senior Call Ministry

We thank our Senior call ministry Team. They make weekly calls to our parishioners and offer support to our senior parishioners.

We have been very successful in keeping in contact with our senior members. A group of volunteers have been calling our parishioner once a week. The callers offer pastoral support. If you are a parish senior and would like to receive a call, contact the parish office with your name and phone number.

Hospital and Nursing Home

As the rate of Covid infections are decreasing and Stratford has a Yellow Alert Status, the visitation of our parishioners in hospitals or nursing homes continues to be dependent on the visitation directives of each medical institution. The local medical facilities are updating their visitation policies. Please let the parish office know when you are in the hospital or in one of the area nursing facilities. When you call the parish office leave the name and the phone where the patient can be reached.

Funeral Ministry

When we are contacted by a Funeral Home, to schedule a Funeral Mass and Burial, the Parish Bereavement Team will contact the family to extend the sympathy of the Parish. The Bereavement Team will schedule a meeting with the family to plan the readings and sacred music for the Funeral Mass. We invite the family to participate in the Funeral Mass. We have a mass booklet and song list to use in your planning. We can meet in person or through email to plan the funeral.

Lord's Kitchen

The volunteers from Our Lady of Grace Parish will be serving the meal at the Lord's Kitchen on Monday, May 23rd. We ask our parish family to keep our volunteers in their prayers as they take care of those who are in need. Our volunteers also ask the help of our parishioners by donating bars of soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes and toilet tissue. We are accepting monetary donations to assist with the meal expenses! The collection buckets will be available **May 14/15** to receive your donations. The buckets will be placed outside the rectory garage.

Parish Registration

We continue to see new faces at mass each weekend! We ask you to register at Our Lady of Grace Church. You may register at our parish office Monday-Friday between 9:00 am and 3:00 pm. You may also register by using the registration form below or by submitting a registration through our website.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Email _____