

The Roman Catholic Parish of Middlebury and Southbury

St. John of the Cross CAMPUS 1263 West Street Middlebury, CT 06762

Sacred Heart CAMPUS 910 Main St. South Southbury, CT 06488

(203) 264-5071 www.middsouthcatholic.org

APRIL 28, 2024





Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Ten years represent a good part of anyone's life. That's pretty much how long I've been your Archbishop. In some ways it seems like just yesterday that I arrived in Hartford in December of 2013. In other ways, it seems like long ago and a lot of water, as they say, has passed under the bridge.

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MASS TIMES ASCENSION THURDAY May 9, 2024

8am & 6pm - Sacred Heart Campus 12pm - St. John of the Cross Campus

WEEKEND MASSES Saturday Vigil - 5pm Sacred Heart Campus

Sunday Mass

7:30am, 9pm

Sacred Heart Campus **11am** St. John of the Cross Campus

DAILY MASS

Mondays - 8am

St. John of the Cross Campus

Tues & Wed - 8am

Sacred Heart Campus

LIVE WITH PURPO

Welcome!

Midd-South Catholic is a welcoming and accepting Catholic community that fosters a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and lives that faith through love and service.

JESUS CALLING

How is your relationship with Jesus?

What is one way you can stay close to Him today?

REIMAGINE CHURCH



See page 3.

THIS IS US...

Life today presents many daunting challenges, especially for the Church. I am grateful for the understanding and support of you, our Catholic people, and the collaboration of so many talented, dedicated and competent individuals—clergy, religious and laity all of whom have made these ten years possible and dare I say, fruitful, in the sense of bringing forth good for the glory of God and the salvation of souls. All of our priests in particular are owed a debt of gratitude as my closest and indispensable co-workers in shepherding, sanctifying and teaching the flock entrusted to us.

There are many things that I could say about all that has happened over the past decade. Let me just highlight a few significant things.

As for so many dioceses in our country and throughout the world, "pastoral planning" looms large over these last ten years in an effort that is still "a work in progress" to revitalize parish life by bringing parishioners together as they are today, not as they once were in the past and are no more. The same can be said of our schools, which are now enjoying new growth and vitality in keeping with their Catholic identity.

The Scriptures, and Jesus Himself, praise good stewardship. On behalf of all those who have benefited, I want to thank everyone for your generosity over the past decade to your parish, to special collections, the Archbishop's Annual Appeal and the "Forward with Faith" capital campaign, as well as Catholic Charities and many other "good works" that are an essential part of a life of faith.

More than one saint has spoken of the fact that in a mystical sense Christ continues to be crucified until the end of time. Remember how even after His Resurrection, Jesus mysteriously still bears on His body the marks of His wounds. His mystical body, the Church, suffers from betrayal and sin. In our own time nothing shows this more than the sin and crime of sexual abuse of the vulnerable. I can only say that leaving no stone unturned we now have the benefit of knowing that all clergy with some connection to the Archdiocese who have either had a credible claim of sexual abuse of a minor asserted against them, or who have been the subject of a claim of a sexual abuse of a minor that was settled by the Archdiocese, have been identified and their names published. Learning from the past, we remain ever vigilant and proactive in preventing this evil, and we pray for the healing of victims.

My brothers and sisters, the times in which we live are a test of hope. Many people are discouraged by the direction in which our country and the world appear to be headed. In the Church too we witness a diminishment of faith and practice, and are stunned at the reality of sin even among those of us who are clergy. And if we are true to what the Church teaches from Christ and the Gospel about faith and morals, we will quickly bring upon ourselves the world's criticism.

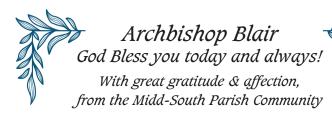
Yet in all this, as Pope St. John Paul often reminded us, we have no reason to lose hope, or to falter in our steps, or to put on a glum face. Hope is possible to the extent that we place our trust in Christ's promises rather than anything this world has to offer. If our hope was set on a perfect world, or even a perfect Church, created by human beings, then we would have cause for despair. But God is the Lord of the world and of the Church. Mysteriously He makes all things—good and bad—serve His plan and purpose, which is the triumph of His kingdom, and our triumph to the extent that we are "in Christ."

God does not disappoint. Like a distant horizon, our future and the purpose of our life may elude us, but only because the goal transcends what we now can see. The danger is not that life is hopeless. The danger, as St. Augustine says, is that on our journey toward hope's goal we may become so distracted by our surroundings that we forget where we are headed. In this fallen world sometimes the distractions of life consist of things that are very good, sometimes very evil. Only a healthy sense of hope in the midst of good and evil keeps us moving forward on our journey to God.

The wisdom of these words does not come from me, but from the heart of the Church— from the Catholic Faith handed down faithfully and lived heroically by all the saints, whether they are saints on the Church calendar, or God's little ones hidden and known only by their relatives, neighbors and friends.

It is this hope-filled message that I wish to leave with you as I complete my ministry as your Archbishop. To all those who offered me their help, support and encouragement; to those who gave me that precious gift we call "the benefit of the doubt" amid all the voices raised in troubled times; to those who have prayed with me and for me; to those who had a heart for the whole Archdiocese as one family of faith; and above all to those who strive every day to live and bear witness to their Catholic faith in Christ to the best of their ability, I say: Thank you and God bless you.

As we welcome Archbishop Christopher Coyne as the next Archbishop of Hartford, may Mary our Mother, St. Joseph, and Blessed Michael McGivney, intercede for him, so that, in the words of the liturgy, "what he has received by divine commission he may fulfill by divine assistance" for the glory of God and the good of souls.





Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ den P. Rhini

Most Reverend Leonard P. Blair Archbishop of Hartford



The 2024-2025 GIFT theme is **Jesus Calling** Called to be followers of Christ

This year's program theme invites each of us to recognize and respond to the unique way God calls us in our lives. Through learning in the context of the liturgical year and through Sacred Scripture stories, feasts and seasons, we will follow Jesus' journey and discover meaning and purpose in our own. Join us as we Grow In Faith Together!

G.I.F.T. IS FOR EVERYONE AGES 6-106!

It is not only a catechetical program for children and families– it is for adults of every age and stage of life.

Registration for Midd-South's Faith Formation Program G.I.F.T. (Growing In Faith Together) is here!

The 2024-25 G.I.F.T. program is open to single adults, couples and families (Ages 6-106!)

- Please pick up a new family or returning family registration form from the bulletin board area in the atrium or on the website:
 Faith Formation > G.I.F.T. > Registration
- **New Families:** please note that you will also need a parish registration and copies of previous records of faith formation attendance.
- Our Sacramental (First Reconciliation/Holy Communion or Confirmation) programs are a two year process typically beginning in 1st Grade/9th Grade but we accommodate students and adults of every age.
- Returning Family Registrations are due by June 1st. New Family registrations do not have a deadline.

Meet us after 11:00 am Mass <u>next weekend</u> at St. John of the Cross for more information or email: <u>ffo@mscatholic.org</u>

- Please pick up a Returning Family or New Family Registration form from the back tables, Atrium, Faith Formation Office, or download from our website <u>www.mscatholic.org</u> under Faith Formation > G.I.F.T. > Registration.
- Our program is open to single adults and families! All new students must provide any Sacramental certificate copies to the Registrations.

Join us for our REGISTRATION WEEKENDS

April 27th-28th Sacred Heart

-&-

May 5th <u>St. John of the</u> Cross

Stop by! Ask questions! Get information! And register!

Invite friends and family too!

The 2024-25 GIFT Schedule:

Sundays	1:	4-6:30	PM
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Sept. 15th Oct. 13th Nov. 10th

Jan. 5th Feb. 2nd Mar. 9th

Wednesdays: 5-7:30 PM

Sept. 15thJan. 8thOct. 16thFeb. 5thNov. 13thMar. 12th

Fridays: 6-8:30 PM

Sept. 20th Oct. 18th Nov. 15th Jan. 10th Feb. 7th Mar. 14th

Sundays 2: 4-6:30 PM

Sept. 22nd Oct. 20th Nov. 17th Jan. 12th Feb. 9th***** Mar. 16th

* NOTE:

The 2-9-25 session time will be <u>1-3:30pm</u> due to *Super Bowl Sunday*.

PASTORAL CARE & SMALL GROUPS

Do you want to be a "Friendly Visitor"?

"Friendly Visitor" ministry began years ago at Midd-South Catholic to bring Christian companionship to those who may be lonely or simply need someone to talk to. An outgrowth of Stephen Ministry, Friendly Visitors visit with the homebound or those in a skilled care facility, talking away the hour, playing cards, making music—whatever the "friend" would like. They also might visit stay-at-home moms who long for adult conversation. Friendly Visitors do not relieve professional caregivers. FVs do not bring food into the home or facility or assist with household chores or errands Midd-South Catholic will be hosting a training for new Friendly Visitors after Easter. If you're interested in participating contact BJ in the Parish Office: bj@mscatholic.org.



Please pray for our sick at home, in hospitals and convalescent homes, especially:

Mary Frances J.C. Corr Jennifer Pike Mary Arpaia Michael Berardelli Joe Capobianco Virginia Cartiglia Mark Cavallero John Weyant J.A. Zawacki Ezra Black **Baby Declan Rowe** Baby John Steve Brown Julia Logan Ann Farrow **Bella Burns** Audrey Brody

Jeanne Gray Ethan McGuinness **Doug Mihalko** Elizabeth Walsh Marty Flanagan Sal Lafata Valerie Venezia Raymond DiFonzo Olga Scileppi Ed Villamana Infant John Vincent Carter Razz Paul Pittman Kayla Snabaitis Andrew Perrella Martha D'Eramo **Ray Eliason** George Logan Jim Walsh Paul Beavers Mark Anderson **Brian Logan** Jolynn Parlatore Mary Ann Pingaro Shannon lames Forte Ioan Anderson Maureen Ann Koren Kelli Leanden Harold Olcese Christopher Yonka Lynn **Emilia Ayon** Anthony Desimone

Canadeo

Rick Small

Norma Voels Albert Pagliaro Tony DeFelice Louise Pawlowski Sam Falco Mary Wanag Dorothy McNamara Samantha Lucia Mannello **Brandon Young** Peggy Noel Tammy McAdams **Rhonda Ostrom** Larry Lucas Rosemary Rossomando Marcia Bartow **Michael Browne**

Marian Pelletier Sandy Romano Ed Robinson **Taylor Richard** Frank Locasio Mary Lou Cheek Gayle Horrell Manuel Tomas Esther Vilela Jerelyn Fields Sheila Drakeley Cosmo Mazza Adam Smith **Kristin Nauheimer** Gail Prager Sharon Wooley

Celebrating the Sacraments in the Easter Season

The Sacraments are the most treasured ways we celebrate Christ Alive in the life of our faith community! Lately, you've seen our newest Catholics participating fully in our sacramental life. What sacraments might you be missing at this time? Contact the parish office to get started: 203-264-5071, or contact BJ or Ami directly at bj@mscatholic.org or ami@mscatholic.org.

Baptismal Ministry: If you are expecting a child or considering baptism for a pre-school age child, please contact Donna Ryan in the Parish Office at least three months prior to your target date for Infant Baptism.

Weddings: Please hold in prayer all those preparing for Christian marriage at this time, especially Ashley Lopez and Justin Krajecki who will be married on May 10 at the Sacred Heart campus.



New Reader Ministry Training!

To those who have signed up to attend the Spring Reader Training Session: Your class will be held on Saturday, May 18th at 1 PM at the Sacred Heart Campus. Please mark your calendars. If you have questions, please contact Susan Cassidy, Reader Training Coordinator at susanmcassidy@yahoo.com.

Are you searching for something more? Have you noticed a restlessness, an emptiness within? Do you desire to connect your faith to life, life to faith?

Centering Prayer Group:

Every 1st Monday, online 7:00 PM Every 3rd Saturday, online 8:30 AM To join the online group, please contact: Esther Rada: erada@outlook.com Dawn Fleming: dfleming@ holyfamilyretreat.org

LIFT (Ladies in Faith Together):

Tuesdays, 10:00 AM, SHC, Jerusalem to pray, study, share, and provide service. All women of Midd-South Catholic are invited to attend. For further information or to obtain schedules for future meetings, contact one of the following members: Pat Kugeman: 203-417-9930 pmkugeman@aol.com Hilda Henriques: 203-233-0242 hildahenriques@yahoo.com Nancy Pisani: 203-525-7260 nsvlp4@gmail.com

Little Rock Bible Study:

For further information please contact one of the following facilitators: Mary Ann Kelly (SJCC) Maureen McDermott (SHC) (Zoom) 203-264-5065, ffo@mscatholic.org

Men's Ministry:

In-person and Zoom, Every Saturday, 6:30 to 8:00 AM, SHC, Jerusalem For further information, please contact: Dave Kania: dkania08@gmail.com Patrick Fellin: pfellin21@gmail.com

Mom's Bible Study (MBS):

For information, please contact: Trista DiDonato: 203-313-1556, trista didonato@yahoo.com

Prayer Shawl Ministry:

First Wed every month, 9:30 AM, SHC, Jerusalem, For information or requests, contact: Peggy: 203-888-4298 or Cookie: 203-837-0164 (for Shawls) or Mary 203-264-9497 (for Lap blankets)

The Women's Group at SICC:

For further info: Michele Cambra: 203-228-2001, mrcambra@yahoo.com

Women Sharing Wisdom (WSW):

First Mon every month, 6:30 PM, SHC, **Emmaus Room** Sharing the wisdom that comes to us from our experience of God and faith. For further information, contact: Deb McGrath: 203-733-4239

SOCIAL OUTREACH

Archbishop's Annual Appeal Thank you to the

parish families who have made a gift or pledge a commitment to the 2024 Archbishop's Annual Appeal. We pray that through our participation in the Appeal, we may encounter Jesus Christ and draw others into deeper intimacy with the Lord, building on the wonderful heritage of our Catholic faith. If you have not yet had the opportunity to participate, please prayerfully consider to support the many "Good Works" of the Archdiocese. Every gift will be gratefully received and sincerely appreciated. Please know that every dollar of your gift will have a positive impact on someone's life. Join us, your parish community, and **Do This In Memory of Me**, by sharing your blessings with the less fortunate. For more information, you may also visit the Archdiocesan website at www.archdioceseofhartford.org or call the Appeal Office at 800-781-2550. All funds contributed to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal are used exclusively for the purposes outlined in the Appeal literature, which can be found at https://archdioceseofhartford. org/appeal/. NO APPEAL FUNDS ARE EVER USED FOR LEGAL FEES OR SETTLEMENTS

Catholic Academy of Waterbury

Are you looking for a preschool that feels like a home away from home and a compassionate community where your child will feel comfortable falling in love with learning? Catholic Academy of Waterbury is the place to be! Join us on **Wednesday**, **May 8** between **4-6:00 PM** for a Pre-K3 and Pre-K4 Open House. Tour our classrooms, discover what learning in a STREAM Academy means for our little ones, and fall in love with a community that will set your child up for success now and in the future. For more information, please give Janet or Patti a call at 203-756-5313 and visit us online at: <u>catholicacademywaterbury.org</u>. Register by May 15 for a special \$150 discount! Financial assistance may also be available.

Southbury Food Bank Donations The next delivery of food donations to the Southbury Food Bank is **Saturday, May 11th.** We continue to support the very crucial canned meat supply through the SFB Adopt-A-Shelf program. This includes canned tuna and chicken, chili, corned beef hash and spam. Thank you to all who help to keep our shelf abundantly stocked! If you haven't donated in the past, please consider participating in this important ministry. Canned goods and food supplies can be left in the Food Bank box in the Atrium at the Sacred Heart campus before or after all Masses or any time weekdays from 9 AM to 4:00 PM. Donations can be left anytime up until 10:30 AM on May 11th. Thank you for your continued support. For information about this ministry, contact Susan Salcito at susansalcito@yahoo.com.

Food donated at the St. John of the Cross is donated to the Middlebury





Sandwich Ministry

Sacred Heart Campus Next drop off: May 7 & 21 7:30am - 4pm

Please take necessary steps to make and deliver the sandwiches with safety and prevention guidelines in mind. Sandwiches should be left in the large refrigerator inside the Church. We are in need granola bars, chips, crackers. Thank you for all you do. Please make sure you pick up your new schedule from the Church kitchen. For more information, please contact **Bill Hahn:** bhahn23@sbcglobal.net.

St. John of the Cross Campus: Sandwich Team 2, Week of 4/28

Sandwich Team 2, week of 4/28 Teams meet weekly in Fr. Fanning Hall to make sandwiches. Tuna, mayo and sandwich bags are provided. Each team donates bread and eggs for egg salad. Teams meet in the morning and deliver the sandwiches to the shelter before lunch. For more information, please contact Jackie Desmarais: 203-509-6502

Meal Ministry

Team A will be serving Shepherd's Pie with salad and desert on **Monday**, **May 6th** at the St Vincent DePaul homeless center in Waterbury. Let's share our giving spirit with those less fortunate. We need new members to join our team as well. If you would like to join our ministry, please contact Mike Leonetti at <u>mikeleonetti123@gmail.</u> <u>com</u> or call 203-768- 0820. Thank you for your continued support.



Food Bank.

Our Common Home Last weekend we celebrated Earth Day at our parish by distributing wildflower seed packets as a way to enhance the beauty of the Earth. Hopefully, this encouraged us to consider our call to protect God's gift of creation. This is the mission of the parish ministry, Our Common Home, which has undertaken other actions in the past and is considering future possibilities for the parish (e.g. tree or pollinator garden planting, litter pickup, hiking, book club). If you have additional suggestions or would like more information, please contact Kate Clarke at 203 528-7841or email k.clarke39@yahoo.com or Steve Tanneberger: stevetpots@comcast.net.





Sacred Heart CAMPUS 910 Main Street South Southbury, CT 06488 (203) 264-5071

Staff Positions: All offices are located at Sacred Heart campus

PASTORAL STAFF: Father Philip Sharkey

Administrator, EXT 204

Ami Conlan Pastoral Associate, EXT 102 ami@mscatholic.org

BJ Daly Horell Pastoral Associate, EXT 203 bj@mscatholic.org

PARISH OFFICE:

Mary Korsu Office Manager, EXT 202 mkorsu@mscatholic.org

Donna Ryan Secretary, EXT 107 dryan@mscatholic.org

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS:

Mark Bentivoglio Head Custodian, EXT 106 mbenti@mscatholic.org

Chris Calabrese Custodian ccalabrese@mscatholic.org

Brian Mallane Custodian

MUSIC MINISTRY:

Tim Smith Director tsmith@mscatholic.org Allan Dabkowski Director adabkowski@mscatholic.org

Jennifer Lafreniere Cantor jlafreniere@mscatholic.org

Noelle Chave Choir Director

FAITH FORMATION, COMMUNICATIONS & EVANGELIZATION: 203-264-5065

Ami Conlan Pastoral Associate ami@mscatholic.org

Fran Walsh GIFT & Confirmation (9-10) fwalsh@mscatholic.org

Christian Galasso Jennifer Lynch Administrative Assistants ffo@mscatholic.org

Kim Sherwill Graphic Designer

Parish Office Hours:

All offices are located at Sacred Heart campus 9am-4:30pm (Mon-Thur); 9am-12pm (Fri)

Church Sanctuary Hours:

St. John of the Cross Campus: **7am-12pm (7 days/wk)** Sacred Heart Campus: **9am-4:30pm (Mon-Thur), 9-12 (Fri) 4-6pm (Saturdays) and 7am-10am (Sundays)**

Confessions/Reconciliation:

Saturdays 3-3:30pm

St. John of the Cross Campus: **1st & 2nd Saturday each Month** Sacred Heart Campus: **3rd, 4th & 5th Saturday each Month**

Online Platforms

BROADCAST LIVE: Saturday 5pm, Sunday 7:30, 9 or 11am

shcsouthbury.online.church: An innovative space where our community can gather and experience Mass in real time! We strongly encourage you to gather together on Sundays on the <u>shcsouthbury.online.</u> <u>church</u> platform at 7:30am, 9am, 11am or 5pm Saturday Vigil. Chat with others from our community, offer your prayer intentions during the Prayer of the Faithful and be uniquely connected when it is not easy to be together physically. If you can't be at Mass onsite- this is the place to be!

www.middsouthcatholic.org: See post on homepage for easy connection to *live* masses.

YouTube Our Youtube channel: <u>https://www.youtube.com/c/</u> <u>SacredHeartSouthbury</u> has a library of our previous broadcasts of Masses and reflections and can be watched live.

For Online Giving, go to: https://osvhub.com/middsouthcatholic/giving/funds

Mass and Prayer intentions

Saturday, April 27

5:00 PM Celeste Morningstar Requested by The Prayer Shawl Committee Helen Marzullo Requested by Barbara Coghlan

Sunday, April 28

7:30 AM Robert T. Shannon Requested by The DePalma Family

9:00 AM Tom Magrane Requested by Bobbie Calabrese and Chris Calabrese Antonio Villadolid

Requested by his wife & family

11:00 AM Pauline Blakaitis

Requested by Jack & Paula Walsh Eugene & Evelyn Slason Requested by their children

Monday, April 29

8:00 AM Tony & Rosa Setaro Requested by The Longo Family

Tuesday, April 30 8:00 AM Rolf Vierling

Requested by Gina Tomanelli

Wednesday, May 1 8:00 AM Intentions of our Parishioners

Thursday, May 2 8:00 AM NO MASS

Friday, May 3 8:00 AM NO MASS

Saturday, May 4 – ROC Mass 5:00 PM Intentions of our Parishioners

Sunday, May 5

7:30 AM Elaine Lynch Requested by John Lynch 9:00 AM Thomas Richard Minter Requested by Emily Sampino Kathy Conklin-Tompkins Requested by Patrick Griffin 11:00 AM Robert & Barbara Brennan

Requested by their family



Presentation of the Gifts Those who have requested prayer intentions will be invited first to offer the gifts at your mass. Thank you in advance as we begin to celebrate again more fully together.





For those who are serving in our Military, please keep the following in your prayers God, keep special watch over these men and

women serving in the Navy, National Guard, Army, Marine Corps., Air Force, Coast Guard and keep them safe: R. Jay C.; Alicia C., Scott D.; Miles G.; Jeremy Gibbons (Staff Sargent).; Michael I.; Patrick P.; Brandon S.; Julian S.; Matthew Wynne,; Andrew P.; Gordie Fry-Coast Guard; Gill Rosario, Special Forces-US Army; Jack S., Ryan Mercede, Major Sarah Mobilio-USMC, Captain Andrew Perrella, USAF; SWCC Kevin Howe, SGT. Jay DeZinno, The 142nd Medical Company, Danbury, CT., PFC Brody Schwartz, US Army, Private John Massi, USMC

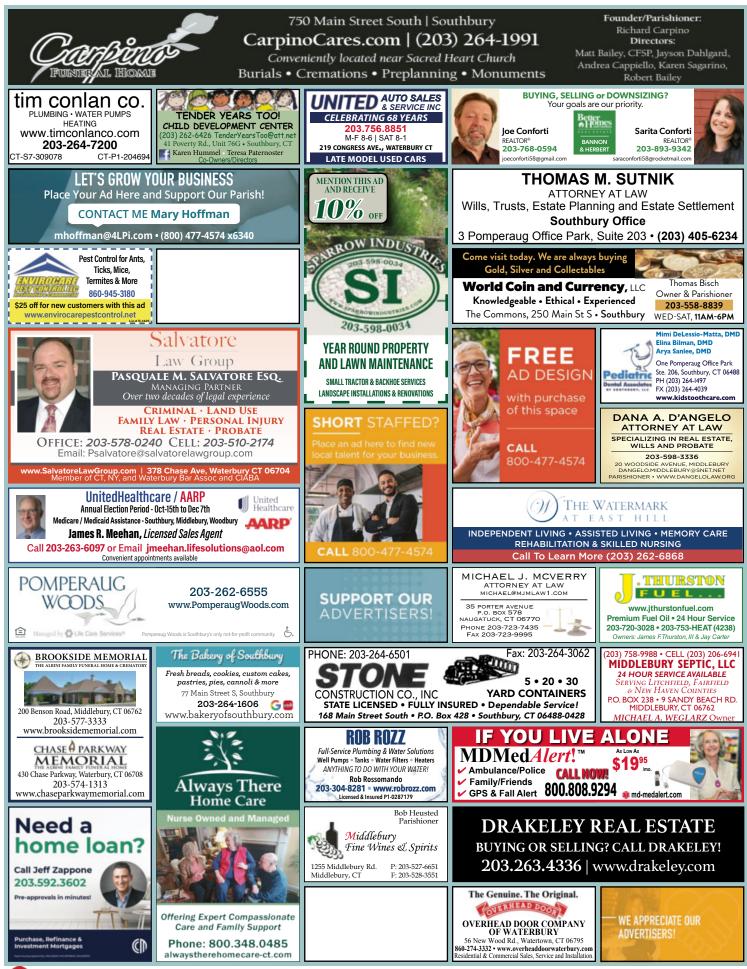
 Mailing address for Midd-South Catholic Parish: 910 Main Street South, Southbury, CT Please make sure to use this address for any correspondence to the Parish Office.
Deadline for all bulletin articles is Monday, 12 pm. Send articles to: mkorsu@mscatholic.org





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