

St. Patrick's Church

Collinsville, Connecticut

Dedicated 1852

"It is here that through the strength of Heaven, we teach the Word, Jesus Christ, the Tradition of His Church and celebrate His Divine Mercy."

Serving the communities of Avon, Burlington, Canton, Collinsville and St. Thérèse, Lilavois, Haiti



Photo courtesy LePerrit Studio



March 14, 2021

4th Sunday OF LENT

"Whoever lives the truth comes to the light, so that his works may be clearly seen as done in God." - Jn 3:21

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

Holy Day Mass Schedule

Please see bulletin for times.

Holy Hour & Adoration

Wednesday 7:00 – 8:00pm

Reconciliation

Saturday 4:00 – 4:30pm

Ministry to the Homebound

If you wish to receive communion, please call the Rectory.

Baptism

Please call the Rectory.

Marriage

Please make arrangements at least six months in advance.

50 Church Street
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www.sp4c.org

Rev. Collins I. Anaeché
Administrator
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Rectory Office Hours

Monday - Thursday
10:00am - 4:00pm

Closed Friday

Ordinary Mass Schedule

Saturday 5:00pm
Sunday 8:00am & 10:00am
Mon, Tues, Wed 8:00am

Mass Intentions

Saturday.....	Mar 13	5:00 pm	<u>Parishioners of St. Patrick's</u>
Sunday.....	Mar 14	8:00 am	<u>Parishioners of St. Patrick's</u> 10:00 am <u>Enderline Anaeché</u> requested by The Parish Council
Monday.....	Mar 15	8:00 am	<u>Parishioners of St. Patrick's</u>
Tuesday.....	Mar 16	8:00 am	<u>Parishioners of St. Patrick's</u>
Wednesday.....	Mar 17	8:00 am	<u>For All Who Hunger</u> requested by John Russo
Thursday.....	Mar 18	No Mass	
Friday.....	Mar 19	No Mass	
Saturday.....	Mar 20	5:00 pm	<u>For All Who Thirst</u> requested by John Russo
Sunday.....	Mar 21	8:00 am	<u>For the Naked</u> requested by John Russo
		10:00 am	<u>For the Homeless</u> requested by John Russo

Mass Intentions: You may honor a special family event or a deceased loved one with a Mass intention by contacting the Parish Secretary or by completing the "Contact Us" form on our website: www.sp4c.org.



Stations of the Cross - Overcoming Racism Sponsored by Human Needs

On Thursday, March 18, at 7:00pm, Stations of the Cross will be streamed via our parish Facebook page. The theme of this Stations of the Cross video will be overcoming racism, hoping to raise awareness during Lent. Our Human Needs Committee is sponsoring this session, please join us!

<https://www.facebook.com/StPats4c/>

Catholic Relief Services Collection

This week we take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection to help **Jesus in disguise**. This collection helps six Catholic agencies to provide relief and support for struggling communities and to work for peace and reconciliation among our marginalized brothers and sisters here and around the world. Please prayerfully consider how you can support the collection. Learn more about the collection at www.usccb.org/catholic-relief.

MESSAGE FROM FR. COLLINS

Dear Friends in Christ,

In this weekend's second reading option from the Letter to the Ephesians 5:8-14, the Apostle Paul says to the church in Ephesus (and by extension to the whole church including ourselves): "Live as children of light, for light produces every kind of goodness and righteousness and truth." These immortal words urge us to keep moving forward in the light of our faith in Christ. They call us to trust in the everlasting love of God, even when the darkness of our human experience in the world seem to overwhelm us. Many of us can relate to having moments in our lives where it appeared as though the rays of divine light seem unreachable. On the other hand, we all can equally relate to having experienced moments where even in the midst of the experience of the 'seemingly distant' divine rays, God still led us through. So, as we continue our Lenten journey, may we strengthen the light of our faith in Christ through spending more time with him in prayer, and seeking to bring the truth of his light to others by our acts of charity.

Besides the week of my self-quarantine (which I had out of abundance of caution due to Covid-19 concern), this past week was my first full week of work since I came back from the visit with my family in Nigeria. I have to acknowledge that losing my mother unexpectedly on January 8th completely changed the trajectory of my visit and my experience and those of my family members during the time. Though the pain of losing a mother with whom I enjoyed special relationship with remain real, I thank God for giving me the opportunity to be by my mother's side during her last moments. I am also grateful to all of you for your kind thoughts, prayers and supports. I am appreciative of your gifts, condolence notes, cards and best wishes.

I am also glad to know that everything worked out well during my time away. A big shout out to our parish staff members: Deacon Ken Bangs, Margaret Peckham, Carolyn Zimmerman, David Humbarger, David Goldberg and Chris Casey for all their help. Thank you to all our parish cantors, various ministries, committees and all of you who in big and small ways continue to make St. Patrick's parish such a special family of faith to belong. My deep gratitude equally goes to Frs Lawrence Bock and Jim McCormack for their assistance.

Let me as well use this opportunity to express my deep appreciation to the group of parishioners who anonymously raised and donated money that was used to upgrade our streaming system in the church. May God richly reward you!!

God's peace and blessings to all of you.

In Christ,

Regular Bulletin Deadline — Tuesdays, 12 pm

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Scholarship Applications

The Women of St. Patrick's will be presenting scholarships to graduating high school seniors who are active members of St. Patrick's Church and plan to attend an institution of higher education in Fall 2021. These scholarships will be given in memory of the deceased members of St. Patrick's Ladies Guild and Women of St. Patrick's.

Applications are now available on our website and in the back of the Church. Completed applications must be submitted by the **deadline date of Wednesday, April 28, 2021 before 12:00pm** to the Parish Secretary.

No late applications will be accepted.

Word of Life † March 14th

"We are facing an enormous and dramatic clash between good and evil, death and life, the 'culture of death' and the 'culture of life'. We find ourselves not only 'faced with' but necessarily 'in the midst of' this conflict: we are all involved and we all share in it, with the inescapable responsibility of choosing to be unconditionally pro-life" (The Gospel of Life 28).



Stations of the Cross Fridays at 7:00pm

Beginning Friday, March 12, and throughout the rest of Lent we will have communal in-person Stations of the Cross in the church at 7:00pm with proper social distance maintained as we do during Masses.

We encourage everyone to join as we pray together since the Stations of the Cross is a beautiful way of prayerfully making the way of Calvary with the Lord.

2021 Archbishop's Annual Appeal

The 2021 Archbishop's Annual Appeal is now underway in our parish. Your support of this year's Appeal ensures that essential charitable, educational, and pastoral ministries of the Archdiocese of Hartford are carried forward.

We hope you can help meet our parish goal of \$51,000. If you would like to make a gift, please mail in your pledge card. You may also visit the Archdiocesan website at www.archdioceseofhartford.org or call the Appeal Office at (800) 781-2550. Keep in mind that an early pledge will allow you to best use the monthly payment plan.

All funds contributed to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal are used exclusively for the purposes outlined in the Appeal literature: <https://archdioceseofhartford.org/appeal/>. *No Appeal funds are ever used for legal fees or settlements.*



An Archdiocesan Mercy Friday Friday, March 19, 2021

During the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy in 2015-2016, Pope Francis began a personal initiative of celebrating "Mercy Fridays," in which he would engage in specific corporal and spiritual works of mercy. Making visits to locations such as public housing projects, a center for Alzheimer's patients, the newborn section of a hospital, an institute for the blind, and various health care centers, the Holy Father offered a sign of care, support, and mercy to all those he encountered.

While the official Year of Mercy has been completed and the pandemic has diminished many of our regular opportunities to go places and interact with others, that does not mean that mercy can be forgotten. In fact, Pope Francis has recently expressed on multiple occasions the importance of mercy in these days of difficulty for our world. Just this February in a letter to Bishop Piotr Libera of the Diocese of Płock, Poland marking the 90th anniversary of the first appearance of Jesus to Saint Faustina Kowalska, the Pope wrote, "Let us ask Christ for the gift of mercy. Let it engulf us and penetrate us. Let us have the courage to come back to Jesus to meet His love and mercy in the sacraments." Then, in his official prayer intention for the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network for the month of March, the Holy Father called us "To pass from misery to mercy."

It is with these statements in mind that we invite the clergy, religious, and laypeople, truly all men, women, and children to celebrate a Mercy Friday for this year of 2021. Therefore, on Friday, March 19, 2021, we ask the Catholics of the Archdiocese of Hartford to observe a "Mercy Friday" by engaging in any of the corporal and spiritual works of mercy that might be possible at this time.

Some might recognize that March 19th is also the Solemnity of Saint Joseph, an important day for both our universal and local Church. During this holy Year of Saint Joseph and especially in this archdiocese where we celebrate Saint Joseph as our patron, March 19th will be a day of solemnity and celebration, but it can also be a day for mercy. Recalling the blessed ways in which Saint Joseph supported the Holy Family, we should be drawn into action, and what better way to act in commemoration of this saint than to act with great mercy toward one another.

For those who are interested in taking part in this initiative with others from around the archdiocese, we invite you, your family, your parish, or whatever group you can put together to learn more about the Corporal Works of Mercy and the Spiritual Works of Mercy. Then, as you begin to prepare for your "Mercy Friday" on March 19th and decide which works you will be able to do, all are encouraged to share those plans with us by filling out the form on the webpage <https://archdioceseofhartford.org/mercyfriday/> so that we can put together a full collection of all the moving acts of mercy being performed throughout the whole archdiocese on that day.

Thank you in advance for celebrating with us this important feast day of our patron and for sharing the love and mercy of Christ with all those you can.



March 14	In-Person Faith Formation for Grades 7 & 8 - 9:00 - 9:50am in the Hall
March 17	Holy Hour / Adoration - 7:00pm in the Church
March 18	Themed Stations of the Cross: <i>Overcoming Racism</i> - 7:00pm on our Facebook Page
March 19	Stations of the Cross - 7:00pm in the Church
March 21	In-Person Faith Formation for Grade 1 - 9:00 - 9:50am in the Hall

CONNECTICUT CATHOLIC *Public Affairs* CONFERENCE

Help Stop State Sponsored Suicide

The Connecticut General Assembly is considering legalizing a form of suicide in our state commonly referred to as "aid-in-dying" or "physician-assisted suicide". The legislation is *House Bill 6425 "An Act Concerning Aid in Dying for Terminally Ill Patients"*.

Modern hospice care and the proper use of pain medications render suicide unnecessary, and we need to be mindful of the threat that a suicide mentality poses to vulnerable people and to people with disabilities.

Many people believe that a physician is deeply involved in this process. This not true. The physician orders the mixture of medications, the patient must then orally consume the deadly cocktail of drugs without assistance. Many times without even a physician or nurse present.

We should never allow legislators to establish suicide as a solution to medical issues.

Catholic teaching condemns physician-assisted suicide because it, like murder, involves taking an innocent human life:

*Suicide is always as morally objectionable as murder. The Church's tradition has always rejected it as a gravely evil choice: To concur with the intention of another person to commit suicide and to help in carrying it out through so-called "assisted suicide" means to cooperate in, and at times to be the actual perpetrator of, an injustice which can never be excused, even if it is requested. Saint Augustine writes that "it is never licit to kill another: even if he should wish it." True "compassion" leads to sharing another's pain; it does not kill the person whose suffering we cannot bear. (John Paul II, *The Gospel of Life*, no. 66).*

TAKE ACTION:

Go to this website, *read more on the issue* and then sign the petition to stop the legalization of assisted suicide in Connecticut: **www.ctstopsuicide.org**