

SAINT  
**MATTHEW**  
PARISH FAMILY

April 21, 2024  
**NEWS**  
StMatthewNorwalk.org



**Christ Came for All...**  
**Whoever You Are, You Are Loved By Him and Welcomed Here**

Fr. Frank Hoffmann, Pastor  
Fr. Jose Ignacio Ortigas, Parochial Vicar | Fr. Miguel Betancur Lenis, Parochial Vicar  
Fr. Paul Sankar, in residence

216 Scribner Avenue | Norwalk, Connecticut 06854



# All Are Welcome

**Address:** 216 Scribner Ave., Norwalk, CT 06854

**Phone:** 203-838-3788; **Fax:** 203-838-8195

**Website:** [StMatthewNorwalk.org](http://StMatthewNorwalk.org)

**Pastor:** Fr. Frank T. Hoffmann

ext. 127; [FrHoffmann@diobpt.org](mailto:FrHoffmann@diobpt.org)

**Parochial Vicar:** Fr. Jose Ignacio Ortigas

ext. 114; [FrIgnacio1971@gmail.com](mailto:FrIgnacio1971@gmail.com)

**Parochial Vicar:** Fr. Miguel Betancur Lenis

ext. 123; [FrLenis@Diobpt.org](mailto:FrLenis@Diobpt.org)

**In Residence, Fr. Paul Sankar:** 361-563-7400

**Pastoral Assistant:** Sr. Sally Norcross

ext. 118; [SNorcross@StMatthewNorwalk.org](mailto:SNorcross@StMatthewNorwalk.org)

**Parish Office:** M-Th: 9am-4pm; Friday: 9am-1pm

ext. 101; email: [StMattParish@hotmail.com](mailto:StMattParish@hotmail.com)

**Business Manager:** Steve Buckett

ext. 103; [SBuckett@StMatthewNorwalk.org](mailto:SBuckett@StMatthewNorwalk.org)

**Special Events/Rec Center Coordinator:** Carol Cosgrove,

ext. 108, [StMattRecCenter@gmail.com](mailto:StMattRecCenter@gmail.com)

**Registration Forms:** available on our website,

[click here for direct link](#) and at the Parish Office.

## Church is open for PRIVATE PRAYER

**Every day: 7am-9pm** (seven days per week)

### CONFESSIONS

**Saturdays:** 3:00pm - 3:45pm in Church

**First Tuesdays:** 7:00pm - 8:00pm in Church

### MASSES

**Monday-Friday:** 12:10pm in Chapel, as of 4/22

**Saturday:** 9:00am in CHAPEL

4:00pm Vigil in Church & Live Stream

**Sunday:** 7:30am; 9:00am; 10:30am;

12:00pm; 5:00pm in Church

**Padre Pio Group Mass,** Last Monday: 6:30pm in CHAPEL

### ADORATION

**First Fridays:** 1:00-7:00pm in the Chapel

### HOLY EUCHARIST

If someone is ill, homebound or hospitalized, please call Sr. Sally Norcross, ext.118

### CONFESSION

Saturday, 3:00-3:45pm; First Tuesday, 7-8pm

### ADORATION CHAPEL

For access, please email: [Chapel@StMatthewNorwalk.org](mailto:Chapel@StMatthewNorwalk.org)

### ANOINTING

To receive the Sacrament of Anointing: please contact Fr. Ignacio, ext. 114 or Sr. Sally, ext. 118, or ext.101.

### BAPTISMS

Sundays, 1pm; Pre-Bap Workshops are held via Zoom.

Contact Lorraine DeRosa: [Lorraine.711@hotmail.com](mailto:Lorraine.711@hotmail.com).

### MARRIAGE

Lorraine DeRosa: [Lorraine.711@hotmail.com](mailto:Lorraine.711@hotmail.com)

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Janet Mitchell, ext. 107; [StMattRelEd@gmail.com](mailto:StMattRelEd@gmail.com)

### CONFIRMATION

Liz Reid, ext. 107; email: [StMattRelEd@gmail.com](mailto:StMattRelEd@gmail.com)

### MUSIC MINISTRY

Val Wyman, ext. 109

### YOUTH GROUP

Katrina Pesta, ext. 115

[YouthCoordinator@StMatthewNorwalk.org](mailto:YouthCoordinator@StMatthewNorwalk.org)

### CONSULTATIONS:

Margaret Riobo: [StMatthewConsultations@gmail.com](mailto:StMatthewConsultations@gmail.com)

### INTERCESSORY PRAYER:

Ramona Bouffard: [StMatthewPrays@gmail.com](mailto:StMatthewPrays@gmail.com)

## This Week at St. Matthew

<b>MON 22</b>	12:10pm Mass in the Chapel 6:30pm Fitness 7:00pm Finance Meeting
<b>TUES 23</b>	12:10pm Mass in the Chapel 2:30pm Bereavement Ministry 6:00pm First Communion Review Class
<b>WED 24</b>	9:30am Curbside Food Pantry through 11:30am 12:10pm Mass 7:00pm Knights of Columbus Meeting 8:00pm AA
<b>THURS 25</b>	12:10pm Mass 6:00pm Youth Choir 6:30pm Fitness Group 7:00pm Adult Choir
<b>FRI 26</b>	12:10pm Mass
<b>SAT 27</b>	9:00am Mass in the Chapel 3:00pm Confessions through 3:45pm 4:00pm Vigil Mass with Rosary Sign up 5:00pm Youth Group, 3rd—5th Grade
<b>SUN 28</b>	Rosary Sign up at all Masses 7:30am Mass 9:00am Mass 10:00am Faith Formation Class 10:30am Mass 11:30am psalm Choir 12:00pm Mass 1:30pm Catholic Daughters Tea (SOLD OUT) 5:00pm Mass, with Gr. 6-7 Confirmation 6:00pm Gr. 6-7 Confirmation Class

## Rosary Sign up: April 27-28

*Praying the Rosary brings us closer to Jesus, through Mary, His mother.*

**Next weekend, April 27-28** we will be signing up to commit to pray the Rosary in our homes for one day in May. We pray the Rosary for our families, and each other.

**Every Sunday:** Pray the Rosary with your Parish Family at 8pm via Zoom. Join by video or phone. The link is on the main page of our website. If you have any questions or difficulty, please contact Patrick Kelley:

[PatWmKelley@gmail.com](mailto:PatWmKelley@gmail.com)

**First Weekend of each month:** The Rosary is prayed one-half hour prior to all Masses (first weekend of every month). The Rosary will end ten minutes prior to the Mass, ensuring silent time for private prayer.

## III Marriage Banns

The Parish Family prays for  
**Caroline DeOrio & Marco Campana**  
as they prepare to receive  
the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony.

## Our Newly Baptized

St. Matthew warmly welcomes  
**Lilah Small & Camilla Grillo**  
to our Parish Family.  
Congratulations to their parents and loved ones!

## Christ Loves and Knows His Sheep...



Today is Good Shepherd Sunday, The Heart of the Good Shepherd tells us that his love is limitless. It is never exhausted and it never gives up. There we find the source of that meek love which sets free and makes others free.

Christ loves and knows his sheep. His flock is his family and his life. He is not a boss to be feared by his flock, but a shepherd who walks alongside them and calls them by name.  
- Pope Francis

## WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Today the Church throughout the world prays for vocations. Will you make a special effort to ask the Lord for vocations to the priesthood and religious life? Pray for the priests who have ministered to you throughout your life, both living and dead. Encourage your children, grandchildren, or other young people to consider a vocation as a priest or religious brother or sister. Pray a rosary for more young men and women in our diocese to respond to God's call.



- Pray for the priests, religious, brothers and deacons who have ministered to you in your life.
- Encourage young people you know— your children and grandchildren— to consider a vocation.
- Pray for the men and women in our Diocese to respond to God's call.

## Calling All St. Matthew Parishioners!

**NEEDED!**  
**BAKED GOODS**



### Needed for May 4

Over 60 of our Parish Youth will be receiving their First Communion on May 4 & May 11 followed by Receptions in the Great Room.

### Can you donate Baked Goods for our First Communion Reception?

Store-bought or Home-made gratefully appreciated!

Please drop off baked goods for the May 4 Reception:  
**by Friday, May 3 by 1pm at the Parish Office**  
OR  
**by Saturday, May 4 between 8am-10am in the Great Room!**

Questions? Please contact Janet Mitchell, DRE  
[StMattRelEd@gmail.com](mailto:StMattRelEd@gmail.com).

## May Crowning of Mary for All Youth



### Sunday, May 12, Mother's Day at the 9:00am Mass

#### To All Youth of the Parish...

As we celebrate Mother's Day on May 12, what could be more special than honoring both your earthly mother and our heavenly mother, Mary? This is a beautiful opportunity for our youth to come together in reverence and love, paying homage to the one who watches over us from above. Let's make this a memorable and meaningful day for all.

We extend a heartfelt invitation to youth of all ages to participate in the upcoming May Crowning of the Blessed Mother on Sunday, May 12 during the 9am Mass.

- We will have a flower for each child to present to the statue of the Blessed Mother in a procession at the beginning of the Mass.
- Please meet Janet Mitchell, DRE, in the Vestibule of the Church at 8:45am. She will line the children up and give them each a flower to present to the Blessed Mother!
- If your child has recently received their First Communion, we encourage them to wear their First Communion dresses and suits. Questions? Janet Mitchell: [StMattRelEd@gmail.com](mailto:StMattRelEd@gmail.com).

## CHRISTMAS FAIR PLANNING MEETING

THURSDAY  
MAY 9  
5:30PM  
MARY & JOSEPH ROOM



Come join us as we plan our 2024 Christmas Fair!

Coming soon, the Saint Matthew Christmas Fair, Dec. 7 & 8! There will be an organizational meeting on **Thursday, May 9 at 5:30 PM in the Mary and Joseph Room**. If you want to get involved, we are looking for people to help make this a success! For more info, contact DeeAnn Dorrico, 203-524-5157; [ddorrico11@aol.com](mailto:ddorrico11@aol.com).



## † Mass Intentions †



### Monday, April 22

12:10 pm † Nick DeRosa

### Tuesday, April 23

12:10 pm † Nicola Ruvo

### Wednesday, April 24

12:10 pm † James Billick

### Thursday, April 25

12:10 pm † George Forte

### Friday, April 26

12:10 pm † Lucy Somma

### Saturday, April 27

9:00 am † Theresa Scuoppo

4:00 pm † Louis DePanflis

† Roger Cloutman

† Lee Rotunno

† Amanda Thompson

† Gemma Mesa

† Dan Thebodo

† Donna Guerin

### Sunday, April 28

7:30 am † Erma Blosser

9:00 am † Parishioners of St. Matthew

10:30 am † Ghislaine Etienne

† Genira Bruno Joseph & Letoina Joseph

† Elizabeth Bochinski

† Lynda Kendy

† In Thanksgiving

† Living Intention, Lauren Grainger

12:00 pm † Living Intention, Beauchette Family

5:00 pm † Carmella Yannetti

## In Loving Memory



Please pray for all those who have entered into Eternal Life, especially:

† Sheila Cook

† Margaret Anastasia

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and may perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God rest in peace, Amen.

## Parish Support

### April 8-14 Offertory

Offertory	\$10,676.00
Online Giving	\$ 4,495.50
Paypal	\$ 785.00
<b>Total Regular Collection:</b>	<b>\$ 15,956.50</b>
Offertory, same week in 2023	\$ 14,276.50
Offertory, same week in 2022	\$ 18,861.50
Votive Candles	\$ 636.00

Thank you for generosity in supporting all of our programs and ministries. For your convenience, we have two Online Giving options.

**St. Matthew Online Giving** (left QR scan) or **PayPal** (right QR)



## The Sanctuary Candle

The Sanctuary Candle burns in Loving Memory of  
**Alonso Enrique Ahumada**  
*offered from his daughter*  
**Giannina Ahumada**  
*Please remember him in your prayers.*



## 2025 Mass Book Open

The 2025 Mass Book is open to schedule Mass Intentions, and memorialize the Sanctuary Candle or Altar Flowers. Masses and Memorials can be offered for a loved one who has died or a living person who has a special need or who is ill or suffering. *Please note: Masses are limited to FIVE Masses per person to give everyone a chance!*


Mass stipends: \$10.00  
Sanctuary Candle for one week: \$25.00  
Sanctuary Flowers for the week: \$200.00



## Little Angels




**Little Angels will conclude their year at the April 21, 9am Mass!**



<b>Pledges</b> \$121,160 79 % of Goal	<b>St. Matthew Goal</b> \$154,000 328 Donors
---	--

The Institute for Catholic Formation supports parish and school sacramental and catechetical programs that provide religious formation for children and their families. This is accomplished through days of formation, parish visits, program assessments and ongoing consultation of catechetical programs from development to implementation. Your gift to the Bishop's Appeal supports the Institute's efforts to reach children and adolescents in their journey to know Christ. Thank you for your support.

Thank you for your support of the Appeal.  
**Ways to Give:**  
 \* Give online: [2024BishopsAppeal.org](https://2024BishopsAppeal.org) or Call 203-416-1470  
 \* Scan the QR Code with your phone ---->  
 \* Send by mail to D.O.B.  
 P.O. Box 110410  
 Trumbull, CT 06611-0410



## Celebrating Msgr. Sabia!

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**MSGR. JOHN SABIA**  
 60th Ordination Anniversary  
 90th Birthday Celebration

**Saturday, May 18 | 4pm Mass**  
**Reception to follow**



Join us as we celebrate the remarkable milestones of Msgr. John Sabia - his 90th Birthday and 60th Ordination Anniversary. The celebration will take place on Saturday, May 18th, starting at 4pm with a Mass, followed by a Reception in the Great Room. We extend a warm invitation to all to join us in honoring this momentous occasion for Msgr., a beloved member of our Parish Family for the last ten years.

In lieu of gifts, Msgr. Sabia humbly requests donations to the St. Matthew Food Pantry. Let us come together to commemorate and express our gratitude for the life and ministry of Msgr. John Sabia, as a tribute to his unwavering faith, service, dedication and compassion for six decades.



**WEEKLY BINGO NIGHT**

**ST. MATTHEW CHURCH**  
 Get ready to shout "BINGO!"  
 and win some amazing prizes at this fun-filled event!

<b>WEDNESDAYS</b> DOORS OPEN 5:30PM FOOD, SNACKS, SOFT DRINKS	<b>BEGINNING</b> <b>MAY 29</b> GAMES START <b>6:45PM</b>
--	---

**Calling all Bingo Players!!!**  
 Weekly Bingo is coming to St. Matthew!  
 Get ready to shout "BINGO" and win at this fun-filled weekly event beginning Wednesday, May 29!

**Volunteers needed!**  
 If you are able to help, please email Frank Billowitz:  
 email [frankjb13@gmail.com](mailto:frankjb13@gmail.com) Volunteers will be scheduled on a rotating basis. Great fundraiser for our church!

## 2024 St. Matthew Youth Scholarships



**HIGH SCHOOL & COLLEGE STUDENTS!**

Our 2024 St. Matthew Scholarships are open to all St. Matthew Youth Parishioners who are attending a Catholic High School or any College. Apply Now Online. Applications due by Wednesday, May 15.

- All information on the Scholarship Form must be complete in order to qualify!
- This is a Catholic Scholarship.
- Youth must be active participants in Parish Life at St. Matthew Church (i.e. Mass Minister, Volunteer, etc.) and must be able to provide evidence from your school that you are doing the same.
  - Youth must attend Mass weekly.
  - Application, Photo, Transcript & One-Page Essay **due WEDNESDAY, MAY 15.**

**NO APPLICATION WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THIS DATE (no exceptions).**

**Scan QR code to apply ---->**





## Fr. Frank's WISH LIST



### \$500 EASTER LILIES FOR OUR HOMEBOUND

Please pray for the generous person and their family who paid for the Easter Lilies!

## Food Pantry Needs

"Whatever you did for one of my least sisters or brothers, you did for me." Each week our Food Pantry serves over 80 families in need. Prayerfully consider donating a couple of needed items from the list below:

**Small bottles of Cooking Oil...Canned Fruit  
Toilet Paper and Paper Towels...Kids Snacks for School**

You can leave your donations in the Church Vestibule, at the Parish Office, or outside the Great Room doors. Thank you for your generosity in helping our community!



Msgr. Walter C. Orlowski  
**Recreation  
Wellness Center**

Jay Egan, Executive Director;  
Carol Cosgrove, Special Events Coordinator  
For operational use or programming inquiries:  
203-838-3788, ext. 108; [StMattRecCenter@gmail.com](mailto:StMattRecCenter@gmail.com)

#### FACILITY HOURS

Monday - Friday: 7:00am - 9:00pm

Saturday and Sunday : 7:00am - 7:00pm

**The Lower Level (court level) is CLOSED to the PUBLIC:**

Mondays : 5:30pm - 9:00pm

Wednesdays: 5:00pm - 9:00pm

Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays: 3:00pm - 9:00pm

Saturdays: 7:00am—12:00noon

**Please help us protect this facility by not giving access to anyone who does not possess a key FOB.**

## Sr. Lucie's Pasta Dinner



### Family Style Dinner

**to benefit Notre Dame Health & Rehab**

**Tuesday, May 7, 2024, 6:30pm**

at St. Ann's Club: 16 Hendricks Ave, Norwalk

Join Sr. Lucie for a great Pasta Dinner at St. Ann's Club, 16 Hendricks Ave, on East Ave. Proceeds to help numerous projects to benefit Notre Dame residents. \$30/per person.

**Reservations are required and can be made by email to: Sr. Lucie: [SrMIMonast@ndhrehab.org](mailto:SrMIMonast@ndhrehab.org).**

**Reservation Deadline April 30**

Can't attend the dinner? Donations can be sent to:

SSTV-Capital Improvement,  
Notre Dame Convalescent Homes, Inc.,  
76 West Rocks Rd., Norwalk, CT 06851



### Daily Mass returns to Chapel

**Our 12:10pm Daily Mass returns to Our Lady of the Visitation Chapel beginning**

**Monday, April 22.**

## The Emmaus Ministry FOR GRIEVING PARENTS



[www.emfgp.org](http://www.emfgp.org)

Losing a child under any circumstance is horrific. Focusing on the spirituality of the grieving process can help tremendously. A ministry for parents whose children of any age have died by any cause, no matter how long ago. Please join us. All are welcome.

**One-Day Spiritual Retreat: Saturday, May 4, 9:30am-7:30pm**

Convent of St. Birgitta, 4 Runkenhage Road, Darien.

Questions? Contact Carolyn Killian at 203-404-0023 or Nancy Bentley at 203-404-0820.

# Eucharistic Procession to stop at St. Matthew Church



Bishop Caggiano has spent much of the last year laying the groundwork for Diocesan renewal by calling all of us to focus on “The One,” the single invitation to all believers to grow closer to Christ and to be accompanied on their faith journey through truth, beauty and goodness.

At the center and the summit of our Catholic faith is the Eucharist: Jesus, truly present, body, blood, soul and divinity under the appearances of bread and wine.

As part of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage, all are invited to join in our 2024 Eucharistic Procession in the Diocese of Bridgeport. It will be a 15-day event including multiple processions, special Masses, daily and overnight adoration, Eucharistic Stations, guest homilists and special events.

## DAY 3 - TUESDAY, MAY 21

*Norwalk, Darien, Stamford*

8 AM	Mass at St. Matthew, Norwalk
9 AM	Procession from St. Matthew to St. John Cemetery, Norwalk
9:30 AM	Eucharistic Station and Rosary Procession at St. John Cemetery
11 AM	Procession from St. John Cemetery to St. Matthew
12 PM	Holy Hour, Adoration and Campus Procession at St. Thomas More, Darien
2:30 PM	Holy Hour and Adoration at St. Mary, Stamford
4:30 PM	Holy Hour and Adoration at the Basilica of St. John the Evangelist, Stamford
5:30 PM	Campus Procession at the Basilica of St. John the Evangelist
7 PM	Stational Chapel at St. Gabriel, Stamford
7:30 PM	Procession from St. Gabriel to St. Cecilia, Stamford
8 PM	Holy Hour and Adoration at St. Cecilia <i>Scripture, homily, Litany of the Blessed Sacrament, Benediction</i>

*All-night Adoration will begin at St. Cecilia at 9:30 pm*

*The Procession will make a stop at St. Matthew Church Tuesday, May 21 for 8:00am Mass with Bishop Caggiano as Celebrant, followed by a 9:00am procession from St. Matthew to St. John Cemetery, and Rosary procession.*

**All are invited to attend the Mass and Procession.**

**If you are unable to walk to St. John Cemetery, you can drive over and take part.**

**The Diocesan Eucharistic Processions will culminate in a Mass of Thanksgiving at Fairfield University on the Eve of Corpus Christi, Saturday, June 1, 2024.**

**The upcoming Eucharistic Procession throughout the Diocese is an historic invitation to celebrate the gift of the Eucharist in our lives. It will be a time of celebration, communal witness, spiritual renewal, and encounter with the Lord.**





Janet Mitchell, Director of Religious Education  
Liz Reid, Confirmation Director  
Contact: [StMattRelEd@gmail.com](mailto:StMattRelEd@gmail.com); 203-838-3788, ext. 107

### Faith Formation

- Sunday, April 21:** Gr. 1-5 9am Mass, followed by Class at 10am
- Tuesday, April 23:** First Communion Review Class at 6pm
- Sunday, April 28:** Gr. 1-5 Class at 10am



6th-7th Grade will meet Sunday, April 28 for 5pm Mass, followed by Class from 6pm-7pm.

## YOUTH GROUP

Katrina Pesta, Youth Ministry Coordinator  
[YouthCoordinator@StMatthewNorwalk.org](mailto:YouthCoordinator@StMatthewNorwalk.org) 203-838-3788, ext. 115

**April 27th: 3rd-5th Grade Youth Group**  
5:00 PM-7:00 PM

### Save the Dates!

July 11th: 3rd Annual Summer Mission Day  
July 26th - 28th: Steubenville East Retreat in Springfield, MA- application on our website: [StMatthewNorwalk.org/youthgroup](http://StMatthewNorwalk.org/youthgroup)

### Discover the All Saints Difference

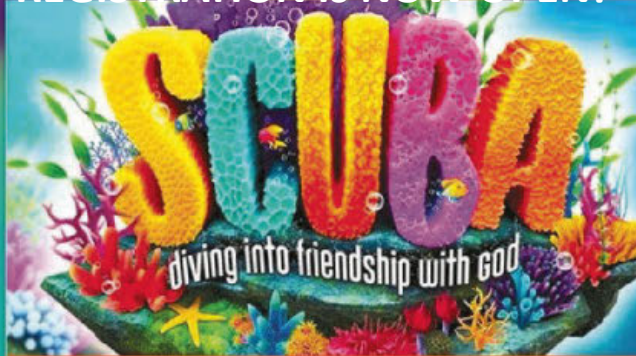


Schedule a Tour Now and experience the difference.



Contact for more info: [allsaintsnorwalk.com](http://allsaintsnorwalk.com)

## REGISTRATION is NOW OPEN!



### VACATION BIBLE CAMP

St. Matthew Church

June 24-28

PreK-Gr. 5

Registration NOW OPEN!!!

Register early & pay less!

### SCUBA Bible Camp: Pre-K\* through Grade 5 Diving into friendship with God

Join us this June as we dive deep into an amazing undersea adventure where we will experience the ever-flowing, never-ending love of God. At Scuba VBS, campers will be immersed in the Word and discover what living water is really all about!

- **CAMP WEEK: JUNE 24 - JUNE 28**
- **OPENING MASS: JUNE 23 at 9AM**
- **This Program runs from 9am-12pm.**

### Early Bird Fee up until June 14:

1 child \$75 | 2 children \$120  
3 children \$155 | 4+ children \$190.

### After June 14 - note fee increase:

1 child \$100  
2 children \$145  
3 children \$180  
4+ children \$215

- 1) Registration is on a first-come, first-serve—space is limited.
- 2)\*Prek-K children must have attended a pre-school program and be potty-trained.
- 3) Fees automatically increase if you register after June 14.
- 4) Adult Volunteers are guaranteed placement for their children!

Scan to Register





# Weekly Prayer

# Worship & Meditation

## Sunday's Readings

### First Reading:

"There is no salvation through anyone else, nor is there any other name under heaven given to the human race by which we are to be saved."  
(Acts 4:12)

### Psalm:

The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone. (Ps 118)  
Or: Alleluia.

### Second Reading:

Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed. We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. (1 Jn 3:2)

### Gospel:

Jesus said:  
"I am the good shepherd.  
A good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep." (Jn 10:11)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

## Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

Jesus the Good Shepherd knows that real love is an action, not an idea. His sacrifice is the proof of his love for his flock. Let us remember to love one another as the Good Shepherd loves us: not just in words but in actions, in choices, in deeds.

## Observances for the week of April 21, 2024

- Sunday:** 4th Sunday of Easter; World Day of Prayer for Vocations
- Monday:** Earth Day
- Tuesday:** St. George, Martyr; St. Adalbert, Bishop and Martyr
- Wednesday:** St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Priest and Martyr; Administrative Professionals' Day
- Thursday:** St. Mark, Evangelist
- Friday:** Arbor Day
- Next Sunday:** 5th Sunday of Easter



## Gospel Meditation

### Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Recently I was with my little dog Libby at a retreat center in the Arizona desert. I sat in a chair near a ravine filled with shrubs. Unbeknownst to me, Libby wandered down there and disappeared. Suddenly an animal's wild shriek erupted from the area. Without thinking, I bolted down into the ravine fully expecting to see coyotes, javelinas, or rattlesnakes. I didn't care. I desperately wanted to get Libby out of there, without any self-regard. Before I could face whatever danger lay hidden, my dog blissfully trotted out from an entirely different area, utterly unaware that I had (quite heroically) just placed my life on the line.

When the adrenaline wore off, I thought to myself: how far would I have been willing to go to save her? I don't know. But I do know, if I had literally died, my friends and family would have certainly thought me insane for dying for a dog. No offense, Libby.

How passionately Jesus wants us to know him and his willingness to die for us! This week he says, "**I know my own and my own know me,**" and "**I lay down my life for the sheep.**" Here we encounter an insanely excessive love for us. Christianity is a relationship and not simply a religion or ethical code. In Jesus, God rescues and saves us. He laid down his life for you and me — and he has taken it up again. So often we are like Libby — blissfully ignorant of the reality of both our spiritual danger and his saving love. This Easter season, the risen Jesus calls us to be more conscious than ever before about his love. He never ceases to lay down his life for us.

— Father John Muir



### Adoration Society

Adoration members sign up to spend time on the First Friday of each month with the Blessed Sacrament. Contact Ramona Bouffard: [RamonaBouffard@WmConnect.com](mailto:RamonaBouffard@WmConnect.com)

### Altar Society & Linens

Assist in the overall cleanliness of the Church & Sanctuary. Contact Carmela Milici: [JCMilici@Frontier.com](mailto:JCMilici@Frontier.com)  
Linen Ladies: Contact Karen Iaco: [KarenClaco@aol.com](mailto:KarenClaco@aol.com)

### Bible Study for Women

Walking with Purpose was created just for women to help them enjoy a deeper personal relationship with Jesus Christ, nurtured through personal Bible study and small group discussions. Contact Amy Esparza: [Wwp.StMatthewNorwalk@gmail.com](mailto:Wwp.StMatthewNorwalk@gmail.com)

### Mass Ministry

All youth and adult parishioners are welcomed and encouraged to participate in Liturgical Ministries: Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion; Readers; Ushers; Altar Servers. Contact JoAnn Esposito: [JMStMatthew@gmail.com](mailto:JMStMatthew@gmail.com)

### Music Ministry

All are welcomed to lift their voices to God - no audition required! Little Angels (4yrs-Gr. 2)  
Youth Choir (Gr 3-8)  
Psalm (13-24yrs)  
Adult (18yrs +)  
Contact Val Wyman: 203-451-5959

### Parish Rosary via Zoom

All are welcome to pray the Rosary every Sunday, 8pm via Zoom. Click here to join on Sunday night: [stmatthewnorwalk.org/parish-rosary-on-zoom/](http://stmatthewnorwalk.org/parish-rosary-on-zoom/)  
Contact Patrick Kelley: [PatWmKelley@gmail.com](mailto:PatWmKelley@gmail.com)

### Padre Pio Prayer Group

Meetings set around Mass, prayers, Adoration, Benediction with Rosary and prayers for the Holy Father's intentions. Meets last Monday/mo, 6:30pm in Chapel. Contact Fr. Ignacio: [Frlgnacio1971@gmail.com](mailto:Frlgnacio1971@gmail.com).

### Prayer & Rosary Group

A resource in times of urgent prayer need. For prayer requests, or to join, contact Ramona Bouffard: [StMatthewPrays@gmail.com](mailto:StMatthewPrays@gmail.com)

### Pastoral Services

#### Bereavement Group

Provides consultation and spiritual support to parish families in need. Contact Sr. Sally Norcross: [SNorcross@StMatthewNorwalk.org](mailto:SNorcross@StMatthewNorwalk.org)

#### Communion for Homebound

For anyone who is homebound, in the hospital or nursing facility, who wishes to receive Holy Eucharist, please contact Sr. Sally Norcross: [SNorcross@StMatthewNorwalk.org](mailto:SNorcross@StMatthewNorwalk.org)

#### Home Blessings

Provides families the opportunity to have a priest visit and bless their home. Contact Mare in the Parish Office: [StMattParish@hotmail.com](mailto:StMattParish@hotmail.com)

### Catholic Daughters

Members support the Catholic Church, the clergy, and various educational and charitable causes. Meets 2nd Sunday of each month after the 10:30am Mass. Contact Nancy Piro: [nap21861@aol.com](mailto:nap21861@aol.com)

### Finance Committee

Members help the Pastor with oversight, planning and counsel. Contact Mike Munisteri: [Mick\\_06854@yahoo.com](mailto:Mick_06854@yahoo.com)

### Fitness Group

A ministry for women to encourage health of body and mind through exercise. Meets Mondays and Thursdays at 6:30pm in the Great Room. Contact Aggie Squeo: [FitAgi50@aol.com](mailto:FitAgi50@aol.com)

### Flower Committee

Dedicated to decorating the church with flowers for special liturgical celebrations and the different seasons of the year. Contact Aggie Squeo: [FitAgi50@aol.com](mailto:FitAgi50@aol.com)

### Food Pantry

Provides groceries and basic necessities to those in need in the Norwalk Community every Wednesday, 10am-11:30am. Contact Beverly Martin: [BeverlyDMartin@aol.com](mailto:BeverlyDMartin@aol.com)

### Knights of Columbus

Membership is open to Catholic men, 18 yrs + committed to organizing charitable functions benefitting the church and community. Meet 2nd & 4th Wednesdays, 7:30pm. Contact Chris O'Connor: [ChrisOConnor14@yahoo.com](mailto:ChrisOConnor14@yahoo.com)

### New Horizons

(for Parish Members 60yrs & older)  
Our goal is to provide enrichment for the spiritual and social life of our members (single or couples). Contact Joan Walsh: [JoanMWalsh@optonline.net](mailto:JoanMWalsh@optonline.net)

#### Movies in the Newman Center

Every Tuesday at 1:30pm—no reservations!  
**Cards & Games**  
1st & 3rd Wednesdays, 1pm Reservations, contact Claire Bartoli:

[Claire\\_Bartoli@yahoo.com](mailto:Claire_Bartoli@yahoo.com) or  
Karen Iaco: [KarenClaco@aol.com](mailto:KarenClaco@aol.com)  
Bring your own game and snacks.

### Open Door Shelter

Outreach to the hungry in our community. Members prepare meals four times annually to be served at the Open Door Shelter in Norwalk. Contact Theresa Figueiras: [TreNard@optonline.net](mailto:TreNard@optonline.net)

### Parish Mailing Group

Members assist in folding, stuffing, sealing envelopes for parish mailings. Contact MaryJane Johnston or Barbara Sibiskie: [WJohnston7861@SBCglobal.net](mailto:WJohnston7861@SBCglobal.net)

### Parish Nurses

Promotes wellness and healing of parishioners through blood pressure screenings on the First Weekend of each month. Contact Nancy Mola: [NancyMola@gmail.com](mailto:NancyMola@gmail.com)

### Professional Consultations

Provides free, remote Professional Consultations in the areas of Finance and Immigration Assistance. Contact Margaret Riobo: [StMatthewConsultations@gmail.com](mailto:StMatthewConsultations@gmail.com)

### RCIA

**Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults**  
For adults who wish to be fully initiated into the Catholic Church through the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation; First Eucharist. Contact MaryAnn Roberts: [CinMare@yahoo.com](mailto:CinMare@yahoo.com)

### Sewing Ministry

Members create needed textiles such as Baptism Robes for babies, and costumes for our children's Christmas pageant. Contact Pam Kress: [ArfPam@optonline.net](mailto:ArfPam@optonline.net)





# Children's Worship Bulletin™

Ages 3+

April 21, 2024 • John 10:11-18

## The Shepherd and His Flock

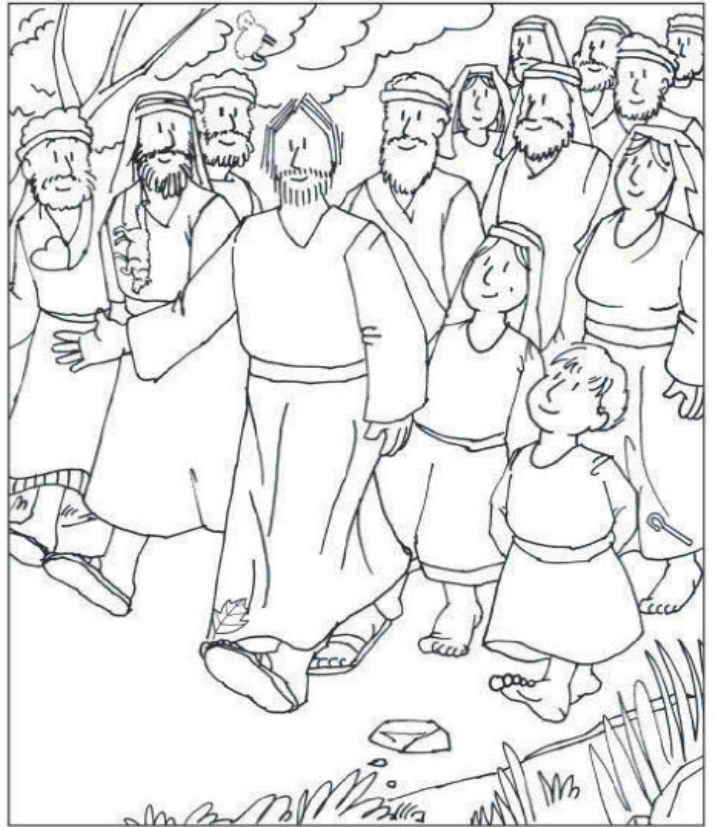
A good shepherd lays down his life for his sheep.

Count how many.  
 4 or 5 ?      5 or 6 ? 



Jesus said, "I am the Good Shepherd."

Find and **circle** these hidden objects in the picture.



**SCIAUDONE'S GARAGE**  
 General Auto Repair  
 Brake Service  
 Ignition Specialist  
 28 LEONARD STREET  
 NORWALK  
 (203) 853-0595  
 www.sciaudonesgarage.com

**Complete Funerals starting at \$6,995**  
 Please visit: [Raymond.care](http://Raymond.care)  
 for more information  
 or call: 844 4 BEST FUNERAL  
 Nos especializamos en devolver a su familiar a su país de origen.

**THE CENTER FOR ADVANCED PEDIATRICS**  
 Comprehensive Care for Infants, Children & Young Adults  
 Trusted by parents for over 60 years For Infants to Young Adults  
 Call for your appointment: 203-229-2000  
 NORWALK OFFICE: 69 EAST AVENUE • DARIEN OFFICE: 85 OLD KINGS HWY N  
 WWW.TCFAPS.COM  
 Urgi-KIDS Pediatric Urgent Care in Norwalk provides emergency medical care for sports injuries, cuts, and burns.

**YOU WILL FEEL RIGHT AT HOME**  
 Renew - Restore - Rehabilitate  
**Cassena Care**  
 State-of-the-Art Rehabilitation. Comprehensive Services & Sub Acute Care  
 Two Beautiful Facilities, One Big Family  
 CASSENA KIDNEY CARE AT NORWALK, is now offering inpatient & outpatient hemodialysis services.  
 Stamford | Norwalk  
 203-351-8331 | 203-853-0010  
 cstamirc.com | cnwnrc.com

**RAYMOND.CARE**  
 BECAUSE WE CARE ABOUT THE ONE YOU LOVE  
 Complete Funerals starting at \$6,995  
 Please visit: [Raymond.care](http://Raymond.care)  
 for more information  
 or call: 844 4 BEST FUNERAL  
 Nos especializamos en devolver a su familiar a su país de origen.

**MANFREDI jewels**  
 Greenwich · New Canaan  
[manfredijewels.com](http://manfredijewels.com)  
 Offering Fine Timepieces & Jewelry

**Bertozzi Electric**  
 19 Taylor Avenue  
 Bethel, CT 06801  
 (203) 744-6376

**Sharon Brunche**  
 Makeup Artist  
 347-443-2360 | [SharonBrunche@gmail.com](mailto:SharonBrunche@gmail.com)  
 @sharonbrunche  
 Certified Makeup Artist available for Weddings, Holidays, Special Events, or Anytime Glam!

**Anita Finn**  
 "THE FINNTASTIC REALTOR"  
 COLDWELL BANKER REALTY  
 Cell : 203-667-1691  
[AnitaFinnTasticHomes.com](http://AnitaFinnTasticHomes.com)  
[anita.finn@cbrealty.com](mailto:anita.finn@cbrealty.com)

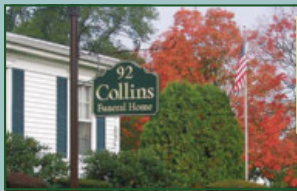
**BENJAMIN F. EDWARDS**  
 INVESTMENTS for GENERATIONS®  
**Lukas Pawlowski | Financial Advisor | P 203-790-8700**  
 Please contact me for a Complimentary Financial Plan and updated CD rates.  
[benjaminfedwards.com](http://benjaminfedwards.com) | 2023-0895 Exp. 3/31/2026 Member SIPC

**TUFF LAWN LAWN SERVICE**  
**JOHN HENDERSON**  
 (203) 853-4936      Owner/Parishioner  
 CT Bus. Reg. #B-0747

**THE PATCH BOYS**  
 EXPERT DRYWALL REPAIR  
 Seamless Patches • Superior Services  
 (203) 800-9277  
 Fairfield County area homes deserve flawless walls and ceilings

**THE PATCH BOYS**  
 EXPERT DRYWALL REPAIR  
 Seamless Patches • Superior Services  
 (203) 800-9277  
 Fairfield County area homes deserve flawless walls and ceilings





# Collins Funeral Home & Cremation Services

William A. Skidd  
Andrew D. Skidd • William G. Lahey

203-866-0747 92 | East Avenue, Norwalk | [www.collinsfh.com](http://www.collinsfh.com)

## Magner Funeral Home

Family Owned & Operated Since 1912

Cremation & Traditional Services

James P. Magner, Jr. • Melissa D. Heaphy • William D. Tiani

12 Mott Avenue, Norwalk 203-866-5553

[www.magnerfuneralhome.com](http://www.magnerfuneralhome.com)

## STALZER DESIGN

TIMELESS DESIGN  
RELAXED ELEGANCE

RESIDENTIAL  
ARCHITECT

FREE DESIGN  
RESOURCES

Parishioner

[www.stalzerdesign.com](http://www.stalzerdesign.com)

SANTO A. DELALLO D.M.D.  
Family Dentist  
KATHRYN M. DELALLO R.D.H.  
Dental Hygienist

855-8877

122 West Norwalk Road  
West Norwalk, CT

838-5032 838-0088

COTALING'S  
AUTO BODY  
Complete Auto  
Body Services

130 Connecticut Ave.,  
Norwalk



Angela Mia  
Italian Pastries  
Connecticut Ave. Post. Rd.  
Norwalk



EVENT PLANNING & DECORATION  
475.544.7855

[okazydesigns@gmail.com](mailto:okazydesigns@gmail.com) - Norwalk, CT 06855  
@okazydesigns

## STAMFORD FORD LINCOLN



Dominic Franchella  
Owner / Principal / Parishioner



Barry Pasqualini  
Sales Dept. / Parishioner

203-357-0357

#1 in customer Satisfaction

[www.stamfordford.com](http://www.stamfordford.com)



Val Wyman  
Music Director  
And Realtor

Serving Norwalk, Wilton and  
all of Fairfield County  
203-451-5959

William Pitt Sotheby's  
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

## ADT-Monitored Home Security

Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary
- Fire Safety
- Flood Detection
- Carbon Monoxide

ADT Authorized Provider SafeStreets

833-287-3502

CARING FOR PARENT  
SENIOR HOME CARE

CALL NOW

BEST RATES BEST  
CARE AT HOME

860 310 1999

Family Owned & Operated



Catering Available

34 North Ave.,  
Norwalk

(203) 847-3360

Open Mon-Sat

Ralph D. Russo  
PLUMBING & HEATING, INC.  
Est. 1947

Frank R. Russo  
Proprietor

52 Larkin St  
Stamford

(203) 323-6882  
[frank@drussoplumbing.com](mailto:frank@drussoplumbing.com)

SERVING NORWALK AND THE SURROUNDING AREA

SALVATO  
ELECTRIC



RESIDENTIAL / COMMERCIAL / LICENSED AND INSURED  
Jonathon Salvato - 203.943.9153  
[SalvatoElectric@gmail.com](mailto:SalvatoElectric@gmail.com)

## NEED HELP AT HOME?

We will help you find the right  
caregiver to assist you at home.

- Personal Care
- Mommy Relief Program
- Companionship
- ADL's



(475) 206-0300

[www.actikare.com/stamford-ct](http://www.actikare.com/stamford-ct)

Personal Injury Lawyer

Call Injured?  
**KANCA**

203-806-7003



Kanca Law Firm LLC



John  
Kanca

[connecticutinjury.law](http://connecticutinjury.law)

## LET'S GROW YOUR BUSINESS

Place Your Ad Here and Support Our Parish!

CONTACT ME Lisa Elliott

[lelliott@4LPi.com](mailto:lelliott@4LPi.com) • (800) 477-4574 x6284

## VALENTIN TREE SERVICE

Awarded Best Tree Service  
Professional in Norwalk by  
Expertise.com 2021

- Over 30 years experience  
Serving Fairfield County
- Fully insured arborist

[valentintree.com](http://valentintree.com)  
203-223-5137



## DEVINE BROS.



"Let our family take care of your family"  
A/C & 24/7 Heating Services • Propane,  
Diesel & Heating Oil Delivery • Redi-Mix Concrete,  
Mason & Landscape Materials

203-866-4421

[www.devinebrosinc.com](http://www.devinebrosinc.com)



**MAGGIORE  
CONSTRUCTION INC**

GENERAL CONTRACTOR  
"over 35 years of experience"  
RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL

203-853-0042 | [info@maggioreconstruction.com](mailto:info@maggioreconstruction.com)



203-324-2141



203-866-9163



203-866-9954



DARIEN FUEL

203-655-3045

- ✓ BioHeat Heating Oil
- ✓ Oil Pricing Programs
- ✓ 24-Hour Emergency Service
- ✓ Comprehensive Service Plans

HOD 220, 221, 1183, 303 LICENSE 51-301979



Ad info. 1-800-477-4574 • Publication Support 1-800-888-4574 • [www.4lpi.com](http://www.4lpi.com)

St Matthew, South Norwalk, CT

03-4050