

**ST. MARGUERITE  
BOURGEOYS  
PARISH**

**PASTOR**

REV. SHAWN W. JORDAN

138 Candlewood Lake Rd  
Brookfield, CT 06804  
203.775.5117  
stmarguerite.org  
office@stmarguerite.org

**Mass Schedule**

- Saturday: 4:30 pm Vigil
- Sunday: 8:30 am; 11 am;  
5 pm (no music)
- Monday-Friday: 8:30 am

**Morning Prayer**

8:15 am before weekday Mass

**Confession**

Saturday: 3:30-4:15 pm  
or by appointment

**Adoration Chapel and  
Church are open**  
9 am-5 pm

**Divine Mercy Chaplet**  
daily at 3 pm

**Rosary**

Saturdays at 4 pm

**Office Hours**

Mon-Thurs: 9 am-3 pm

**Offertory**

Feb 10/11: \$4,604.00  
OLG: \$1,372.00

**Staff**

Finance Council Chairman:

Kevin Sheehan

Lay Trustees of the  
Corporation:

James Chester, Jr

Scott Senete

Deacons:

Joseph P Cann, Vincent J Pia

Faith Formation Director:

Mary Ellen Tiernan

Bookkeeper: Larry Rice

Communications Manager:

Jean Piccorelli

Choir Director: Tory Gozzi

Music Director: Jack Basso

To subscribe to E-News, email  
office@stmarguerite.org.



# E-News

## FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT — 18 FEBRUARY 2024

### The month of February is dedicated to the Holy Family.

**Lent is a 40-day season of  
prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.**

**Stations of the Cross:** Fridays at 7 pm.

**Fast and Abstinence** during Lent: Persons aged 18 to 59 are obliged to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday; only one full meal may be taken on those days, two smaller meals (not equaling the full meal) may be taken as well. Catholics aged 14 and older must abstain from meat on those days, as well as on all Fridays in Lent.

Join our Lenten Study **Lectio: Prayer: Finding Intimacy with God** on Mondays (beginning February 26) at 6:30 pm. Fr. Shawn will be presenting this six-week study by Augustine Institute. See the flyer for more information. To reserve your spot and purchase the workbook (\$20), contact the office (203.775.5117, x212 or office@stmarguerite.org).

The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, February 19 in observance of **Presidents' Day**.

**VIRTUS—Safe Environment Program:** In compliance with the Diocese of Bridgeport and

to ensure the safety of our children, all clergy, employees, contractors, and volunteers age 18 and older are required to be VIRTUS trained. They are also required to go through a background check. If you are interested in volunteering or have questions, please contact the parish office.

The parish recently purchased a subscription to **FORMED** which is a Catholic streaming site from Augustine Institute. There is no cost for you to use the site. Set up an account by logging into formed.org, enter the zip code 06804, then choose "St. Marguerite Bourgeoys".

**2024 Bishop's Appeal:** The Institute for Catholic Formation offers parishes resources throughout the year so that leaders can focus on what they do best: engaging with the faithful in the pews. From book clubs to reading groups and workshops to posters in Lent and Advent, the Institute provides free resources to make parish life better, a pastor's life easier, and the faithful more engaged. When you make a gift to the Bishop's Appeal, you support the ministries that continue faith formation. For details or to make a gift, visit 2024BishopsAppeal.org.

**St. Marguerite Parish's goal is \$65,700.**

### MASS INTENTIONS

**Mon, Feb 19**

8:30 +Caroline Perone by her daughter

**Tues, Feb 20**

8:30 Holy Souls in Purgatory by Legion of Mary

**Wed, Feb 21: St Peter Damian**

8:30 +Danilo A Aberin by Carol and Brad Linder

**Thurs, Feb 22: The Chair of St Peter**

8:30 +Frank Santi by Ann Santi

**Fri, Feb 23: St Polycarp**

8:30 Ints of Irene Fische by Aberin family

**Offering:** Mass — \$10; Altar Candles — \$20; Hosts — \$15; Sanctuary Candle — \$10; Sacramental Wine — \$10;  
St Marguerite Candle — \$10. Contact the office for Mass/Candle Intentions for living/deceased.

**THIS WEEK  
IN THE PARISH**

**Tues, Feb 20**  
9:15 am  
Legion of Mary

**Wed, Feb 21**  
7 pm  
NA

**Fri, Feb 23**  
7 pm  
Stations of the Cross

**Sat, Feb 24**

4:30 +Patricia Ricco by Laurie Parisi

**Sun, Feb 25: Second Sunday of Lent**

8:30 +William Brawley by Macera family

11:00 +Anna Nacinovich by Nacinovich family;

+Peter Kirk by Eleanor Kirk

5:00 +Bob Roberts by Biasetti family

February 19-25:

Our St Marguerite candle is for  
the intentions of Madeline and Ingo Maass.

# LENTEN STUDY

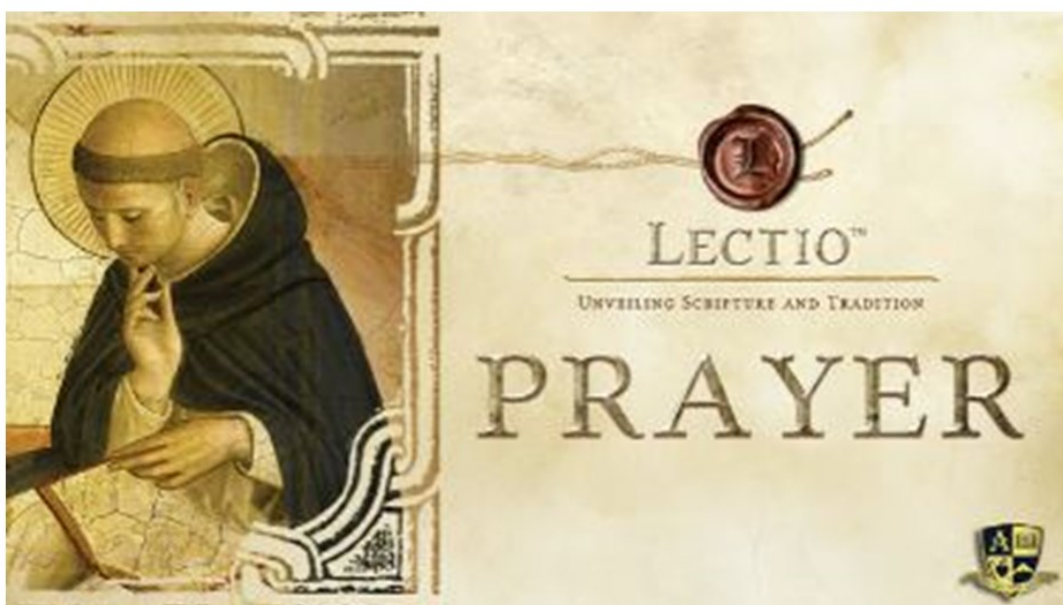
## ***LECTIO: PRAYER: FINDING INTIMACY WITH GOD***

We know the three pillars of Lent to be PRAYER, FASTING, and ALMSGIVING. This Lenten season join us for a Lectio study of prayer. Fr. Shawn will guide us through the study which includes six video sessions with Dr. Tim Gray.

Through Lectio, we will learn how to open “our hearts and minds to Scripture as the means to hear from God and then respond in conversation, basking in his presence and resolving to live in and through his love.”

The study will meet on Mondays (February 26<sup>th</sup>, March 4<sup>th</sup>, March 11<sup>th</sup>, March 18<sup>th</sup>, March 25<sup>th</sup>, and April 1<sup>st</sup>) from 6:30-7:30pm in the church hall.

The fee for the study is \$20 which includes a book that helps participants to use Lectio to “read, reflect, respond and contemplate” with Scripture and develop a deeper “intimacy with God”. Join us for this inspiring Lenten journey by emailing [office@stmarguerite.org](mailto:office@stmarguerite.org) or calling 203-775-5117, x212. Please contact us by February 14<sup>th</sup> so we can order materials before the class begins!





**SCAN ME**



**GET MORE INFORMATION AT  
2024BISHOPSAPPEAL.ORG**



**The Bishop's Appeal is the major source of revenue for supporting the ministries and agencies of the Diocese of Bridgeport.** It is these faith-based programs, services and ministries that enable the Church of Bridgeport under the direction of Bishop Frank Caggiano to reach across parish boundaries in the areas of: Faith and Ministry, Charity and Pastoral Services and Education and Catechesis.

The Appeal enables Catholic Charities to make a difference in the lives of vulnerable and needy people across Fairfield County through 30+ programs that:

**Nourish the Hungry:**

- ~ Catholic Charities served over 2 million meals since the pandemic began via its soup kitchens, food pantries, the Morning Glory Breakfast Program, the Meals on Wheels program for homebound elderly, and for the families of the Room to Grow Pre-school.
- ~ The SNAP Program was launched to assist food insecure clients in receiving food stamp benefits and other important resources.

**Shelter the Homeless:**

- ~ Bethlehem House II in Stratford opened to house increasing numbers of formerly homeless families that are able to be offered transitional and supportive housing for a fresh start.
- ~ Caseworkers are assisting clients with disabilities or special needs to assist with life skills and case management services.

**Strengthen Families and Individuals:**

- ~ Catholic Charities' Mental Health Counseling services provides in-person and telehealth counseling to clients suffering from an array of issues, including anxiety and depression due to the pandemic. The program is open to clients of all income levels and is currently scheduling appointments for new clients, including individual, marital and family therapy.
- ~ Room to Grow Preschool in Norwalk opened a food pantry and Family Resource Center to provide families with the essential wrap-around services as an additional support throughout the pandemic and beyond. Room to Grow serves hard working families, many of whom either lost jobs or had their income reduced due to the effects of the pandemic.
- ~ Immigrant Services assists newcomers to the US with immigration legal assistance and connects them with support services.
- ~ Operation Help was created to help identify resources and provide support to help meet basic needs of clients across agency programs.
- ~ The Family Loan Program provides low-interest loans to working parents throughout the entire loan application process and teach them the skills they need to improve their credit score, and help them move towards financial independence.

**Your gifts to the Appeal also helped make it possible to:**

- Award financial scholarships to 85% of students in the Catholic Academy of Bridgeport;
- Award financial assistance for Catholic education through the Bishop's Scholarship Fund;
- Ensure that children and young adults had the opportunity to participate in religious education programs;
- Educate and train 22 men for ordination to the priesthood in our Diocese;
- Educate and train 6 men for ordination to the Permanent Diaconate program;
- Care for 74 senior priests in their dignified retirement;
- Afford our youth with meaningful opportunities to mature as holy and active members of society through a wide range of faith-based programs;
- Respond to spiritual, educational and social needs of persons with disabilities through the St. Catherine Center for Special Needs.

**THIS WEEK'S SPOTLIGHT...**

The Institute for Catholic Formation offers parishes resources throughout the year so that leaders can focus on what they do best: engaging with the faithful in the pews. From book clubs to reading groups and workshops to posters in Lent and Advent, the Institute provides free resources to make parish life better, a pastor's life easier, and the faithful more engaged. When you make a gift to the Bishop's Appeal, you support the ministries that continue faith formation. Thank you for your gift. For details, visit [2024BishopsAppeal.org](https://2024BishopsAppeal.org).

**Donate at [2024BishopsAppeal.org](https://2024BishopsAppeal.org).**



**ONE** *in Christ*

**2024 Bishop's Appeal**

DIOCESE OF BRIDGEPORT

***Teaching and Preaching the Gospel***

*"Catholic school not only educates children but nurtures their spirituality and the values of the Catholic faith. Children are learning from an early age to be kind, caring and faithful to God."*

– Colleen Pratt, Parent & Alumnus – All Saints Catholic School



**Your gift to the Bishop's Appeal helps parents, like Colleen, provide a Catholic education to their children through the Bishop's Scholarship Fund.**

*Make your gift to the Bishop's Appeal today!*

*Visit: [www.2024BishopsAppeal.org](http://www.2024BishopsAppeal.org)*

## Eucharistic Miracle of GRUARO (VALVASONE)

ITALY, 1294



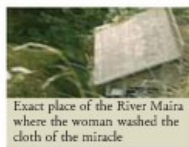
Among the most authoritative documents which describe the Eucharistic miracle which took place at Gruaro in 1294 is that of local historian Antonio Nicoletti (1765). A woman was washing one of the altar linens of the Church of St. Giusto in the public wash house of Versiola. Suddenly she saw the altar linen become tinged with Blood. Observing more closely, she noted that the blood was flowing from a consecrated Particle remaining among the folds of the cloth.



The blood-stained linen cloth is kept in the Church of the Most Holy Body of Christ in Valvasone



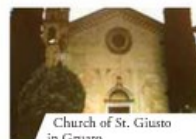
Maira Stream



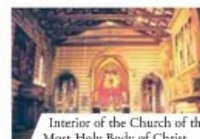
Exact place of the River Maira where the woman washed the cloth of the miracle



Large memorial built to recall the miracle and the reconciliation between Gruaro and Valvasone



Church of St. Giusto in Gruaro



Interior of the Church of the Most Holy Body of Christ



Detail of the corporal



Church of Gruaro, Rose window depicting the miracle



Reliquary built by a Venetian craftsman in 1755



Notarized copy of Pope Nicholas V's decree in 1454 that permitted the Counts of Valvasone to keep the relic of the miracle on the condition that they build a shrine in honor of the Most Holy Body of Christ

The relic of this Miracle is kept in the Church of the Most Holy Body of Christ in Valvasone, but the miracle happened in Gruaro. In 1294, a young housemaid went to the public wash-house of Versiola to wash the altar linens of the Church of St. Giusto in Gruaro. Suddenly, the woman noticed that a consecrated Host had remained by mistake among the folds of the cloth and that Blood was flowing from it. Frightened by this inexplicable event, she immediately ran to alert the pastor who then informed the Bishop of Concordia, Giacomo di Ottonello from Cividade. The Bishop, having learned the facts, asked to be able to keep the cloth of the miracle in his Cathedral in Concordia. However, the pastor of Gruaro and the family of the Counts of Valvasone, patrons of the churches of Gruaro and of Valvasone, wanted

to keep the cloth. No agreement was reached, and so it was decided to seek recourse with the Holy See. In the end, Rome let the Counts keep the relic, on the condition that they would build a church dedicated to the Most Holy Body of Christ. The construction of the church was completed in 1483.

*The oldest and most* authoritative document describing the miracle is a decree of Pope Nicholas V written in 1454. The title of the parish church, formerly St. Mary and St. John the Evangelist was thereby changed to the Church of the Most Holy Body of Christ (March 28, 1454). Today, the cloth is kept in a crystal cylinder, held by a precious reliquary of silver made by master craftsman Antonio Calligari. The celebration of the Holy Cloth is

commemorated on the 5th Thursday of Lent, at the end of days of adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, with the participation of the priests and of the community of Valvasone. During the celebration of Corpus Christi, the reliquary is carried in procession with the Most Blessed Sacrament.



- white 8.5x11 copy paper 20 lb, 92 bright
- Gift cards to BJ's, Costco, and Amazon

The Amazon list gives the details on the requested item but items can be purchased at any store or website.

Link to Amazon wish list:

[https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/7W2VJHBHP8OI?ref=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/7W2VJHBHP8OI?ref=wl_share)

**We thank our generous benefactors who continue  
to donate items on our list!  
Thank you for your support of the parish!**

**Online Giving** allows you to make donations through the parish website. This convenient option for giving to your parish makes use of current technology and security standards and allows you to easily set up recurring contributions. There are many benefits for you and your parish.



To sign up, visit [stmarguerite.org](http://stmarguerite.org) and click on the "Donate" tab. **Thank you for your support!**

**Parishioner Benefits:**

- \* Secure and confidential. Adheres to banking security standards
- \* Flexible. Start, stop, and change your contributions at any time
- \* Simple and easy account setup
- \* Contribute using direct withdrawal or credit card
- \* Functional. You receive reminders and notifications about transactions

**Parish benefits:**

- \* Stabilize contributions. Allows parish to effectively manage monthly expenses, based on consistent support
- \* Secure and confidential. No need to store parishioners' account information
- \* Convenient. Easy for everyone to contribute to the parish



**We Stand With Christ**  
A CAMPAIGN FOR THE DIOCESE OF BRIDGEPORT

**St. Marguerite Bourgeoys Parish  
We Stand With Christ  
Campaign Redemption**

Total Pledged: \$891,485.34

Total Unrestricted Pledges Collected: \$179,353.67

Total Restricted Pledges Collected: \$127,650.00

Total Cash Due to the Parish: \$307,003.67

as of 9/7/2023

To make a payment on your pledge, visit [GiveCentral.org/WSWC](http://GiveCentral.org/WSWC) or call (203) 648-9050.