

Parishioner Profiles



Sharon, Markku and Mark Egar

Sharon and Mark Egar were born and attained degrees in Medical Laboratory Science in the Philippines, both graduating in 2000. Mark continued and became an internist as well as obtaining a MS degree in Health and Hospital Management. After graduating, the two lost touch. In 2005, Sharon left for Greensboro, Alabama.

In 2015, they briefly met and began a long distance, on-and-off communication. He was in the Philippines and she in the States.

For 15 years, Mark found fulfillment as a physician, but as time went on, a sense that he was too focused on his career grew. Something was lacking in his life. He turned to God. In 2019, he rigorously awoke before work to alternatively attend the Monastery of the Discalced Sisters of the Carmelites (6:30 mass) and the Transfiguration Abbey with Benedictine monks (5:30 chanting and mass). One day, while kneeling in prayers of thanksgiving, tears flowed as Mark knew in heart and soul that God was transforming his life. Soon after, Mark messaged Sharon, now based in Stratford, asking about the latest Covid diagnostic test in the U.S. They kept in touch and soon became a couple. Mark had found his purpose.

Mark flew to the U.S. in 2020, the two were became, and, at the height of the pandemic, when both churches and Stratford Town Hall were closed, they married. They have one son, Markku Anxo Philippe, who was baptized in Holy Name on the Feast of Christ The King.

Today, Sharon is the Lead Core Technologist in Bridgeport Hospital's laboratory department. In March, Mark completed his exams in Medical Laboratory Science , ASCPi, and late last month, started work in the Lab Department of Yale New Haven Hospital. In 2021-2022, Mark was on our Synod Team at Holy Name, and has volunteered for our December Bake sale for 2 years.

Mark still uses the wooden rosary beads he brought with him. "We must surrender our life one big time to God, believing in His perfect timing, He will fulfill His promise to us," Mark said. "Never did I ever imagine that I will be living abroad in this land of freedom and of opportunity, with a 'Made-In-America' family". The family thanks Holy Name for nurturing its faith.

Officially named **Gabrielle (Carlioni) Faustini**, she calls herself "Gabby".

Gabby was born in a tiny village near Rome, Italy. In July 1970 when 28 years old, she met Jack Faustini who was visiting Italy. On August 20, they married, and he returned to America alone. Three months later, on November 8, she flew to America and moved into "the same house, on the same street" in Stratford where she has lived for 53 years. As soon as she arrived, she started attending mass at Holy Name.

Jack was an electrician who died in 1993 when he was 57. Gabby worked in a convalescent home for 13 years. She has two daughters: Veronica, age 50, who works in health insurance, and Sylvia, 48, in engineering. One lives next door, the other across the street. She has 6 grandchildren. She is an amazing cook, respected for her juicy meatballs at the Lord's Kitchen. She also bakes at our Bake Sale.

"I like everybody," she says with a smile and Italian warmth in her voice.

