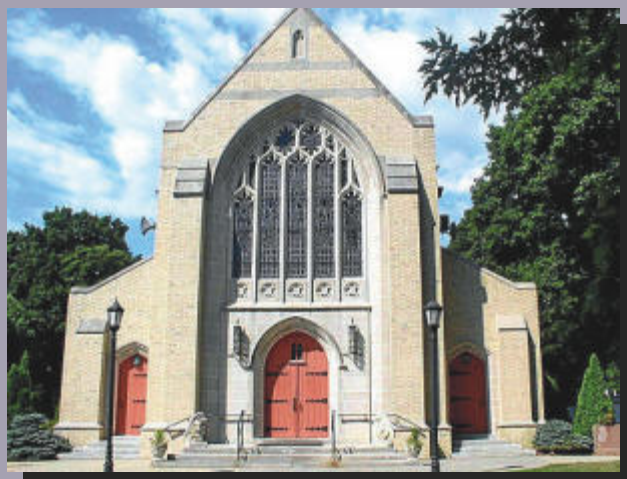
St. Pio Parish

February 7, 2021



St. John The Evangelist

161 Main Street
Old Saybrook, CT 06475

Weekend Masses:
Saturday: 4:00 pm
*Sunday: 7:30 am, 9:00 am & 11:00 am
Confessions:
Saturday from 3:00-3:30 pm and by appointment
***Daily Masses:**
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday at 7:15 am

St. Mark The Evangelist

222 McVeagh Road
Westbrook, CT 06498

Weekend Masses:
Saturday: 5:00 pm
*Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:00 am & 7:00 pm
Confessions:
Saturday from 4:00-4:30 pm or by appointment
***Daily Masses:**
Tuesday & Friday at 7:15 am

*PLEASE NOTE NEW MASS TIMES

Rev. Grzegorz P. Brozonowicz, Pastor
Rev. Martin Noe, Parochial Vicar
Deacon Nicholas Iassogna 860-510-0060
Deacon Thomas Rymut 860-227-3469

""Pray, hope and don't worry. Worry is useless.
God is merciful and will hear your prayer."
St. Padre Pio pray for us.

Rectory Office Phone Numbers: (860) 388-3787 or (860) 399-9207
Rectory Office Hours: Mon. 9:00 a.m.-noon.
Tues. through Friday 9:00 a.m. – noon and 12:30 – 3:00 p.m.
Email: office@saintpioct.org
Website : www.saintpioct.org
St. Pio Faith Formation
Mrs. Lisa Collison, Director: faithform@saintpioct.org

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Educating the Whole Child from PreK3 through Grade 8
42 Maynard Rd. Old Saybrook, CT 06475
(860) 388-0849
www.saintjohnschoolos.org
Mother M. Elaine Moorcroft, S.C.M.C., Principal
Convent: 183 Main Street, Old Saybrook, CT
(860) 388-1517

MASS INTENTIONS
At St. Mark Church

Saturday **February 6—FIRST SATURDAY**

4:00 PM Confessions

5:00 PM **+Stanley Rosick, Sr. & Stanley Rosick, Jr.**
Requested by Jack & Kay Kearns

Sunday **February 7**

Note New Mass Times

8:00 AM **All Parishioners**

10:00 AM **For Those Who Have No One To Pray For Them**

7:00 PM **For All Health Care Workers**

Tuesday **February 9**

7:15 AM **For All Food Pantry Workers and Volunteers**

Friday **February 12**

7:15 AM **All Parishioners**

Saturday **February 13**

4:00 PM Confessions

5:00 PM **+Stanley Rosick, Sr. & Jean Rosick**
Requested by Jack & Kay Kearns

+Joan Carlson
Requested by St. Pio Parish

Sunday **February 14**

Note New Mass Times

8:00 AM **+Martha Urbati**
Requested by Jean U. Johnson

10:00 AM **+Wendy Woody**
Requested by Elinor Feihel

7:00 PM **+The Deceased Members of the Coviello & Zaccagnino Families**
Requested by Lucille

OPENINGS FOR MASSES, SANCTUARY AND ADORATION LAMPS

What better way to remember someone in prayer than to have a daily or weekend Mass said for them or remember them by having a candle lit for them for a whole week! There are many openings for both Masses and Lamps. Call the office to check for availability. 860-388-3787.

MASS INTENTIONS
At St. John Church

Saturday **February 6—FIRST SATURDAY**

3:00 PM Confessions

4:00 PM **In Thanksgiving for All Parishioners for their Support of Haiti**
Requested by The Walk With Haiti Committee

+Alexander Strand (6th Anniversary)
Requested by His Family

+Mildred Thibault
Requested by Peggy Riccitelli

Sunday **February 7**

7:30 AM **+Joan Carlson**
Requested by The Ladies Guild

Note New Mass Time

9:00 AM **+Gloria**
Requested by Lily & Susan Norz

11:00 AM **+Steve Ucich**
Requested by the Garrity Family

Monday **February 8**

7:15 AM **For The Health of Fred Sevigny**
Requested by Rose Sevigny

Wednesday **February 10**

7:15 AM **All Parishioners**

Thursday **February 11**

7:15 AM **+Mary Formica**
Requested by the Krug Family

Saturday **February 13**

3:00 PM Confessions

4:00 PM **+Emile A. Caouette**
Requested by Michael & Pat Looney

+Charles Temelini
Requested by His Sons

+Bob & Renee Ferrara
Requested by Jack & Sue Redway

Sunday **February 14**

7:30 AM **+Joan Carlson**
Requested by The Daley Family

Note New Mass Time

9:00 AM **+Kelly Bohan Families**
Requested by Mary Bohan & Family

11:00 AM **Intentions of Joan & Victor Peckaitis**
Requested by Stephanie Alfano

ASH WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE
FEBRUARY 17, 2021
St. John —7:15 & 9:15 am Mass & Ashes
St. Mark—12 Noon Ashes only —- 7pm Mass & Ashes

As we gather together on Ash Wednesday 2021, in place of the ashes being made into the sign of the cross on the forehead, the ashes are being ***sprinkled*** on the top of the head of each person who wishes to receive them.

From the Diocese of Norwich:
By decree of the Congregation of Divine Worship and Discipline of the Sacraments (Prot. N. 17/21) dated 12 January 2021, after blessing the ashes in the usual manner, the Priest pronounces either formula as it appears in the Roman Missal ONCE, applying it to all in general, cleanses his hands, puts on a facemask and SPRINKLES the ashes on top of the head of each person who approaches without saying anything.

ST. PIO PARISH MASS/CONFESSION SCHEDULE
Masses and confessions at both St. John and St. Mark Churches have resumed their normal weekday and weekend schedules. (see cover for updated Sunday Mass Times)

However, the dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass remains in effect until further notice. We encourage parishioners who are able to attend Weekday Mass to continue to do so in lieu of attending on Sundays in order to allow those who cannot attend during the week, the opportunity to attend on the weekend.

If the Mass you choose to attend has reached capacity (100) or you would feel safer not being in the crowd . . .

LISTEN TO US ON THE RADIO!
PLEASE NOTE OUR NEW RADIO FREQUENCIES
You can remain in your car and tune your radio to 91.9 at St. John Church or 92.7 at St. Mark Church and participate from your car. At the end of Mass, you may come into the church by the front door and receive Holy Communion. Blessings on your day!

GUIDELINES FOR THE RESTORATION OF PUBLIC WORSHIP

1. The obligation to attend Sunday Mass will remain dispensed for all the faithful in the Diocese of Norwich until further notice. Since Sunday is still the Lord's Day, the faithful are encouraged to do one of the following if not attending Mass:
a. Read and reflect on the Sunday scriptures;
b. Pray the rosary reflecting on the Glorious Mysteries;
c. Watch the Sunday Mass on TV, or via the internet.

2. Since "social distancing" will remain in place for the foreseeable future, seating must provide for 6 feet of free distance, in all directions, between individuals and/or households. Faithful need to be aware that seating will be limited due to social distancing rules. **Since seating is limited, the faithful should be clearly reminded beforehand that they may not be able to attend the Mass they wish if the church reaches capacity.**

GUIDELINES CONTINUED

3. Those who are considered "high risk" due to age or underlying health condition, are encouraged to stay home.

4. We remind all the faithful of the **responsibilities before you enter the building**.
a. **Wash Hands Frequently**. If hand washing is not possible, hand sanitizer should be used.
b. **Don't touch your face**.
c. **Maintain Social Distancing.**
d. **Wear a Mask**. According to state mandate, face mask that cover both nose and mouth are required of all attending public worship. The use of a face mask is not required by any person who by using it, will act contrary to his or her health or safety due to a medical condition. Children under the age of 5 are not required to wear a mask.
e. **Stay home**. If you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, or not feeling well.

5. With the restoration of public worship and the reception of Holy Communion we remind the faithful about the proper disposition necessary for the reception of Holy Communion.
a. Our attendance is first and foremost for the worship of Almighty God. The faithful are not required to receive Holy Communion every time they attend Mass.
b. All who present themselves for Holy Communion should be properly prepared to receive.
c. This preparation involves a careful examination of conscience and should regularly involve the Sacrament of Penance
6. Those not receiving Holy Communion should be encouraged to make an Act of Spiritual Communion.

An Act of Spiritual Communion
St. Alphonsus Liguori

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You.
Amen.

7. We need to make it clear to the faithful that there is no completely sterile way to distribute and receive Holy Communion.

HERE ARE SOME AT HOME MASS OPTIONS:
norwichdiocese.org/masses—for Sunday Mass and additional local churches livestreaming Masses.
live.holyfamilyretreat.org
ewtn.com for the daily Mass schedule.
ortv.org—TV Mass—Hartford Archdiocese—10am
catholictv.org- 10:00 AM every Sunday. 9:30 AM M-Fri.
saintpatrickscathedral.org - Live Mass from St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York. 10:15 AM every Sunday.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS

January 24	2020	2021
Weekly	$ 11,261	$ 8,283
School	$ 5,337	$ 1,543

We thank you for your generosity as we work through these challenging times.

Weekly envelopes can be mailed to the rectory office at 161 Main St., Old Saybrook, 06475.
Please make checks payable to: ST. PIO PARISH

END OF YEAR OFFERTORY STATEMENTS

Any parishioner who would like an end of year statement for their contributions this past year, 2020, may receive one by emailing (office@saintpioct.org) or calling the parish office (860-388-3787). Please leave your name and phone number (in case there is a question) and we will mail it to you.

RECTORY OFFICE TEMPORARILY CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

Please note that due to the resurgence of the COVID 19 virus, the rectory office will once again be closed to the public until further notice. Office personnel, however, will be available by phone(860-388-3787) and email (office@saintpioct.org) for parish business.

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE IN INCLEMENT WEATHER

If St. John School is canceled or delayed due to bad weather, there will be no 7:15 a.m. Mass at either church that day, but a 9:00 a.m. Mass at St. Mark church instead. If two Masses were scheduled for that day, the intentions will be combined. The parish office follows the school schedule for weather delays/closures throughout the year.

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The Lord, my God lights up my darkness.

The Sanctuary Lamp at St.. Mark Church will burn February 7—13

For those who mourn the loss of a loved one from COVID—19

The Adoration Lamp will burn February 7—13

For All Souls in Purgatory

The Sanctuary Lamp at St.. John Church will burn February 7—13

In Loving Memory of Dominic Spera, Jr

Requested by His Family

Religious Education

SACRAMENT OF FIRST PENANCE

Congratulations and blessings to the St. Pio Faith Formation students who recently received the Sacrament of First Penance: Christopher Antonino, Layla Antonino, Julianne Boyd, Ryan Cassidy, Hannah Donley, Daniel Giacobbe, Greyson Gounaris, Carolynne Kelly, Aubriana Lacy, Emilia LeMire, Clare Lopez, Ellie McKenna, Caitlin Pluck, Joseph Smedick, Leigha Stratton, Isaac Swaoger. May they always know the grace of God's merciful love!

IF YOU ARE 75 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER, YOU QUALIFY FOR PHASE 1B, AND ARE CURRENTLY ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE A COVID-19 VACCINE.

Please see the bulletin boards at each church for the green poster to see how you can make an appointment to receive the vaccine. Also, please see the last page of the bulletin on vaccine facts put out by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

ST. JOHN SCHOOL ENROLLING FOR 2020/21 ACADEMIC YEAR

St. John School has been in session each day with **in person** learning since reopening on September 1. We are continuing to accept new students for the current school year and have begun enrolling new students for the upcoming 2021/22 academic year. (online or by calling our office at the number below). We invite you to visit our website to read about our PreK3 to Grade 8 challenging curriculums, extracurricular after-school programs and clubs, our competitive athletics, campus information, before/aftercare program, testimonials, and much more. Please also visit our social media Facebook page for recent activities. Our mission is to "Educate the Whole Child" - academically, spiritually and emotionally. If you would like to speak with the St. John School Principal or teachers, take a tour, or have questions about St. John School or the recent COVID-19 policies and procedures, please call our office at (860) 388 0849. Office hours are 8am—3pm. For all information, please visit www.saintjohnschoolos.org . All are welcome.

NEW EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

St John school is looking for a **part-time P.E. Instructor--for Grades PK through Grade 8--10 hours/week, 2 days/week**, **substitute teachers** for all grades, and an **Aftercare Aide** from 3:00-5:30pm on full days and 12:00-5:30pm on early dismissal days. For more information please contact Mother Elaine at : 860-388-0849 or email principal@saintjohnschoolos.org

VOCATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD

Please continue to remember our own Brian Daley in your prayers as he explores his vocation into the priesthood.

ST. PIO PRAYER LIST

Please remember the following parishioners in your prayers. If a name should be added/removed from the list below, please call or email the rectory office and let us know. Thank you.

SICK: J.J. Evola, Torin Perret, Pat Creco, Rich and Nancy Ronne, Kimberly Doobee, June Brown, and Margaret Farina , Tom M., John K., Skip Beebe, Jeanne Szostak,Tom Armentano, Terry Anselmo, Jean Tencza, Dolores Cardon, and Fr. Richard Albamonti .

MILITARY: Greg Allen, Sean Heenan, Michael Gallagher, Kyle Madigan, Christopher and Wendy Perrotti, Benjamin Long, Dominic Giampietro, and Joseph Finnegan .

2020 WALK WITH HAITI SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Please make checks payable to
"WALK WITH HAITI" and send to
Walk With Haiti, St. Pio Parish, 161 Main St, Old Saybrook, CT 06475

THIS YEARS GOAL: 53

PLEDGES RECEIVED TO DATE: 44

Name:_____

Address: _____

Phone# _____

Donation Amount:_____ and/or

check a pledge amount:_____

Quarterly Pledge:_____ Monthly Pledge: _____

Other: _____

THE DOUG AND DAVE SHOW- FAMILY, FAITH, AND FUN

National Catholic musicians and talents, The Doug and Dave Show, will join the Office of Faith Events on February 11th at 7pm for Family, Fun and Faith- everyone is encouraged to join us. Filled with characters that delight young and old, songs that will make you sing out loud, stories which will inspire, and Catholic truths learned in a new and light-hearted ways. Join the live streamed event on the Diocese of Norwich page- https://www.norwichdiocese.org/Live-Events If you would like to have the links sent to you of where you can see the event, please contact Marianne Nicholas at manicholas@norwichdiocese.net or call (860) 848-2237 ex.304.

ST. RAPHAEL PRAYER MINISTRY

Prayer teams are available in St. John church all Sundays following the 11:00 a.m. Mass and on Mondays from 1-2 p.m.

PRAYER CHAIN (860) 388-2307

To place a name on the Prayer Chain, please call Elaine Alfano at the number above. If it's someone else's name you want to add, please be sure to get their permission before adding their name.

NEW! PRAYING THE ROSARY

In addition to our 13th of each month Rosary at St. Mark Church (6pm) you can now join us EVERY Friday at 2pm to recite the Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet. All are welcome. For questions, please call Domenica (860) 853-8414.

THE EUCHARISTIC ADORATION CHAPEL

at St. Mark Church is Open, and Needs Adorers for Jesus Monday through Friday 6:00am to 9:00pm. Please accept one hour to visit with our Lord. See sign-up sheets in the back of the Church.

FOOD PANTRY TUESDAYS 11:30—2:15

In St. Mark Church hall. It takes many people to make the pantry run. We are grateful to all who volunteer or through donations make it possible. Right now the items most needed are: **Cereal, Spaghetti Sauce (no glass jars, please), Jelly or Jam, Juice, Oatmeal, Bar soap, Shampoo, Toothpaste**

ST. PIO VOCATIONS CHALICE MINISTRY

Welcomes parishioners to pray for an increase in holy vocations to the priesthood and religious life.
To receive the Consecrated Chalice into your home for one week, or for more information, please contact Barbara DiBella at 860-227-1215.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF FEB 7©LPi

Sunday: Jb 7:1-4, 6-7/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [cf. 3a]/1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23/Mk 1:29-39. **Monday:** Gn 1:1-19/Ps 104:1-2a, 5-6, 10 and 12, 24 and 35c [31b]/Mk 6:53-56. **Tuesday:** Gn 1:20—2:4a/Ps 8:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [2ab]/Mk 7:1-13. **Wednesday:** Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17/Ps 104:1-2a, 27-28, 29bc-30 [1a]/Mk 7:14-23. **Thursday:** Gn 2:18-25/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1a]/Mk 7:24-30. **Friday:** Gn 3:1-8/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7 [1a]/Mk 7:31-37. **Saturday:** Gn 3:9-24/Ps 90:2, 3-4abc, 5-6, 12-13 [1]/Mk 8:1-10. **Next Sunday:** Lv 13:1-2, 44-46/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 11 [7]/1 Cor 10:31—11:1/Mk 1:40-45.

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF FEB 7 ©LPi

Sunday: 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time. **Monday:** St. Jerome Emiliani; St. Josephine Bakhita, Virgin. **Wednesday:** St. Scholastica, Virgin. **Thursday:** Our Lady of Lourdes. **Saturday:** BVM. **Next Sunday:** 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time; World Marriage Day; Valentine's Day.

SECRETARIAT OF PRO-LIFE ACTIVITIES

Answers to Key Ethical Questions About COVID-19 Vaccines

The development of vaccines to combat the COVID-19 pandemic has received much public attention and raised several ethical questions related to their development and use. This document is intended to provide concise answers to some of those ethical questions as well as links to more in-depth resources.

Is it true that there is a connection between some vaccines and abortion? Yes. Several decades ago, tissue harvested from the bodies of aborted babies was used to create certain cell lines for research purposes. The cells in these lines are, in effect, the descendants of those cells that were originally harvested. They have been made to replicate themselves and some cell lines can be reproduced indefinitely. These abortion-derived cell lines are used as a "factory" to manufacture certain vaccines (e.g. rubella, chickenpox, some of the COVID-19 vaccines, etc.). The cells themselves, however, are not present in the vaccines that patients receive.

What does the Church say about abortion-derived cell lines and their connection to vaccines? The Holy See, through the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith and the Pontifical Academy for Life, has provided guidance on this topic on four occasions. This guidance has made it clear that it is wrong to create abortion-derived cell lines and for pharmaceutical companies to utilize them, that the use of vaccines produced with such cell lines should be avoided if comparable alternatives with no connection to abortion are available, that grave reasons (e.g., serious health risks) may justify the use of vaccines produced with these cell lines when there are no such alternatives, and that everyone concerned for the sanctity of life should protest the use of these cell lines and advocate for the development of vaccines with no connection to abortion.

Do COVID-19 vaccines use abortion-derived cell lines? As of the date of this writing, hundreds of vaccines for COVID-19 are in development worldwide, and more than a dozen are in the final stages of testing. Some don't use abortion-derived cell lines at all, some have used such cell lines to test the vaccine's efficacy, and some are using such cell lines in the development and/or the production phases. There are currently two vaccines (Pfizer and Moderna) being distributed for use in the United States, and there are others that are likely to be made available in the coming months (e.g., AstraZeneca, Janssen, etc.). Neither Pfizer nor Moderna used an abortion-derived cell line in the development or production of the vaccine. However, such a cell line was used to test the efficacy of both vaccines. Thus, while neither vaccine is completely free from any use of abortion-derived cell lines, in these two cases the use is very remote from the initial evil of the abortion. The AstraZeneca and Janssen vaccines raise additional moral concerns because an abortion-derived cell line is used not only for testing, but also in development and production.

Is it morally acceptable to receive a COVID-19 vaccine that uses abortion-derived cell lines? Given that the COVID-19 virus can involve serious health risks, it can be morally acceptable to receive a vaccine that uses abortion-derived cell lines if there are no other available vaccines comparable in safety and efficacy with no connection to abortion. If it is possible to choose among a number of equally safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines, the vaccine with the least connection to abortion-derived cell lines should be chosen. If a vaccine with no connection to abortion-derived cell lines is not readily available, vaccines that used such cell lines only for testing would be preferable to those that use such cell lines for ongoing production. Such choices may not be possible, however, especially in the early stages of vaccine distribution. In that case, one may receive any of the clinically recommended vaccines in good conscience with the assurance that reception of such vaccines does not involve immoral cooperation in abortion.

Is there a moral obligation to receive a COVID-19 vaccination? The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith has noted recently that "vaccination is not, as a rule, a moral obligation and that, therefore, it must be voluntary. In any case, from the ethical point of view, the morality of vaccination depends not only on the duty to protect one's own health but also on the duty to pursue the common good." And it said that "in the absence of other means to stop or even prevent the epidemic" vaccination may promote the common good, "especially to protect the weakest and most exposed." For a vaccine to be effective in protecting society, most people need to be vaccinated in order to break the chain of disease transmission from person to person throughout the community. The Congregation also said that those who refuse to get vaccinated must do their utmost, by taking all the necessary precautions, to avoid "becoming vehicles for the transmission of the infectious agent. In particular, they must avoid any risk to the health of those who cannot be vaccinated for medical or other reasons, and who are the most vulnerable."

What can those who uphold the sanctity of life do to protest against the use of abortion-derived cell lines and advocate for ethical vaccines? First, inform yourself and others about how some vaccines are connected to abortion through the use of abortion-derived cell lines, and about which vaccines use such cell lines. Second, inform your doctor about this connection and ask him or her to provide ethical vaccines, when possible. Third, urge pharmaceutical companies and medical researchers to discontinue using abortion-derived cell lines, and thank them when they do.

Are the COVID-19 vaccines safe and effective? The bishops are not and do not claim to be authorities on the safety and efficacy of vaccines. People should rely on information from authoritative sources in the field of medicine and public health, such as the Food and Drug Administration and qualified health care professionals. The FDA affirms that the vaccines authorized for emergency use in the U.S. have met all the safety and efficacy standards required for such authorization.

Where can I find more information on this topic? United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (www.usccb.org/prolife/biomedical-research) National Catholic Bioethics Center (www.ncbcenter.org) Charlotte Lozier Institute (www.lozierinstitute.org/category/genetics)

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