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Pastor

Rev. Michael Dogali

Weekend Assistants

Rev. Msgr. Matthew Bernelli Rev. Raymond Petrucci

Permanent Deacons

Guillermo Bernal Bradford Smythe

Religious Education Dept.

Mr. Joshua St. Onge, Director Tel.: 203-924-9677 Email: RelEd@sjcshelton.org Classes for all ages are held weekly during the academic year. Contact the Religious Education Dept. for more information.

Lay Members of the Parish Corp.

Mr. Joseph Kudravy Ms. Mary Jane Paris

Finance Council Chairperson

Mr. John Lawrence

Parish Membership

Through baptism we become God's sons and daughters, and brothers and sister of each other in Christ. We ask that every family in the Parish be registered. Registration forms may be acquired at the Parish Office. This registration is our only means of certifying anyone as a member of our Parish Family.

Parish Office Hours

Monday through Friday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

www.SJCshelton.org



www.facebook.com/sjcshelton



www.Instagram.com/sjcshelton



www.Twitter.com/sjcshelton

St. Joseph Church is wheelchair accessible. Accessible parking is located in the rear parking lot. We thank you for turning off all personal electronic devices before entering the church.

Mission Statement

We, the members of St. Joseph Parish, are an open and inviting Roman Catholic Family of Faith centered in the Eucharist, nourished by God's Word and faithful to the sacramental life of the Church. We strive to imitate Christ in all that we say and do. We are committed to teaching and sharing the Faith, supporting one another in prayer and action, and to reaching out to those in need. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, we seek always to be just, gentle, and forgiving as we walk humbly with our God.

Weekly Mass Schedule

Monday through Friday 7:00 am Saturday Vigil 4:00 pm Sunday 7:30, 9:00 a.m., 10:30 am, 12:00 pm (Spanish)

Holy Day Mass Schedule

5:30 pm Vigil Holy Day 7:00 am, 12:05 pm, 5:30 pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation Saturdays 3:00 to 3:45 pm

Devotions

Thursday evenings 7:00 to 8:00 pm in chapel. Stations of the Cross on

contact the Rectory.

Baptism

Pre-Baptismal class is held once a month on a Sunday at 1:00 pm. Pre-registration is required. Please call the Parish Office for information. Baptisms are celebrated Sundays at 1:00 pm.

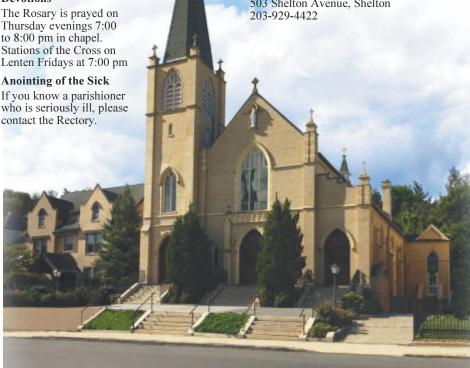
Marriage

Registered parishioners should make arrangements at least nine months in advance. There are no Sunday weddings.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (R.C.I.A.)

The Rite of Initiation of Adults is available year round to anyone who wishes to inquire about our Faith, baptism, or completing their initiation as Roman Catholics with Eucharist and/or Confirmation. Please telephone R.C.I.A. Coordinator Jessica Medoff at 203-924-9677 for more information.

Catholic Elementary School Holy Trinity Catholic Academy (Grades PreK-8) 503 Shelton Avenue, Shelton 203-929-4422





Monday, September 13th

7:00 a.m. †Frank J. Dogali (req. by Maria Dogali)

Tuesday, September 14th

7:00 a.m. In Thanksgiving for Rosemarie Sanon

& Family

(req. by Rosemarie Sanon)

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15th

7:00 a.m. For Mothers Broken by the Memory of

a Child Lost to Abortion

(req. by St. Joseph Respect Life Ministry)

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16th

7:00 a.m. †Daniel E. Gothers, Jr.

(req. by the Arena Family)

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17th

7:00 a.m. In Thanksgiving for Crispi Sanon

(req. by Rosemarie Sanon)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18th

4:00 p.m. †John & Bernadette Zaleha

(req. by Joseph & Arline Russo)

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19th

7:30 a.m. †Peter Pagliaro & Edith Welton Boland

(req. by Gary Valinsky & Lauren Casalvieri)

9:00 a.m. †Al & Frances Barvenik

(req. by the Rectory)

10:30 a.m. †Eric Smarz

(req. by Mark & Sherry Smarz)

12:00 noon †Angel Martinez Fariño

Spanish (req. by Mr. & Mrs. Ernesto Marin)



Coffee Café will be returning Sunday, October 3rd after the 7:30, 9:00 & 10:30 a.m. Masses.

Please mark your calendars!

A MESSAGE FROM Fr. RAYMOND PETRUCCI

Whenever I think about Our Lord's call to carry the cross and to follow him, I am reminded of the summer vacations from school spent working for my father's construction company. The "cross" was a plank that I was carrying to the site of where laborers were building a scaffold. Although in the full vigor of youth, many trips seemed to add to the weight of that wood. Finally, the workday is done, the scaffold looks great, the foreman is happy, the bricklayers are happy, my father is happy, and I, filthy and tired, am satisfied.

In the words of Rose Kennedy, "I have always believed that God never gives a cross to bear larger than we can carry. No matter what, he wants us to be happy, not sad. Birds sing after the storm. Why shouldn't we?" After all, the crucifixion is the great sign of God's love for us. The victory over the cross for our sins, the anxiety and fears of a mother and father for their children, the youth's false bravado in facing uncertain challenges, or the desperate feelings we all have at one time or another depend on the strength of the victorious Savior over anything the world can do to us.

Even if the pathway to the Kingdom of God seems to be mostly uphill, Jesus is with us. We need the will to endure. A time comes when we put down the "plank," view the job done, and I pray, be satisfied.

God bless, Father Ray



St. Joseph Parish Staff

Ann Baker Bookkeeper (203) 924-8611 finance@sjcshelton.org
Katie Conti Parish Office Assistant (203) 924-8611 rectory@sjcshelton.org
Daniel Horstmann Director of Music (203) 924-9677 Dan@SJCshelton.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS



NOW IS THE TIME to register your child/children for Religious Education classes for **Kindergarten through 8th Grade** for the **2021/2022** Religious Education school year. If you have a child entering First Grade in public school in September, it is time to enroll them in Religious Education classes for them to be eligible to receive First Holy Communion at the end of second grade.

To register or for more information, please call the Religious Education Office (203-924-9677) or visit our website at http://www.sjcshelton.org.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION DATES TO REMEMBER

September 14 & 15: Parent meeting 7:00 p.m. in

Church

September 19: Catechetical Sunday celebrated

at the 9:00 a.m. Mass

September 21: 1st day of classes will start in

Church at 4:10 p.m. & 7:00 p.m. and end in school at 5:20 p.m.

and the in school at 3.2

and 8:15 p.m.

October 5: Bible presentation for 6th and

7th grades in Church at 7:00 p.m.

October 10: 8th Grade Rite of Acceptance

at the 9:00 Mass

PREPARATIONS FOR THE SACRAMENTS

First Reconciliation/First Holy Communion and Confirmation preparation are 2-year programs.

- A student must be enrolled for 2 consecutive years to be eligible to receive a Sacrament.
- First Reconciliation/First Holy Communion preparation program is typically for First and Second Graders.

Confirmation preparation is usually for 7th and 8th Graders. If you have any questions, please call the Religious Education office at 203-924-9677.

CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

13th Comunidad de Oracion y Evangelizacion Hijos de Maria Santisima (5:30 p.m., Pastoral Ctr. Meeting Rm.).

14th Eucharistic Adoration (1-7 p.m., Chapel). Religious Ed. Parent Meeting (7 p.m., Church).

15th Religious Ed. Parent Meeting (7 p.m., Church).

Women's Bible Study (9:30 a.m., Rel. Ed. Mtg. Rm.).
Holy Hour for the Dying (12:30 p.m., Chapel).
Eucharistic Adoration (1 -7 p.m., Chapel).
Hispanic Charismatics (6:30 p.m., Upper Room.).

18th Sons of St. Joseph (6:30 a.m., Pastoral Center Meeting Room).

MEETINGS AND EVENTS

16th T.O.P.S. (6 p.m., Pastoral Center Mtg. Room).

DATES TO REMEMBER

Sept. 7-11: New church carpet installation

Sept. 14 & 15: Parent Meeting (Rel Ed. Students,

7:00 p.m., Church)

Sept. 21: First Day of Rel. Ed. Classes

Oct. 1, 2 & 3: Sell Your Old Gold Fundraiser
October 3: Coffee Café after 7:30, 9:00 &

10:30 a.m. Masses

Oct. 4 - 8: New church pew installation

October 5: Blessing of Student Bibles, 7:00 p.m.,

Church

October 10: Welcoming of 8th Grade Confirma-

tion Class of 2022, 9:00 a.m. Mass

October 17: Welcoming of First Penance Class of

2022, 9:00 a.m. Mass

December 18: Visit of Bishop Caggiano, Blessing

of the new pews, 4:00 p.m. Mass

December 20: Advent Penance Service, 7:00 -

8:00 p.m.





OFFERTORY

Weekend of September 4th September 5th 2021

Sunday Offertory \$ 5,327.00
Online Giving \$ 4,559.00
Capital Improvement \$ 1,242.00
Extra Pew Sale \$ 400.00
Extra \$ 182.00
Annual Parish Appeal \$ 1,050.00

For those watching our online Masses, please remember to mail in your contributions.



Please remember St. Joseph Parish when preparing your will. A legacy to the church eases your tax burden and helps continue the good works of our Parish.

Dear Friends in Christ:

Throughout the summer, attendance is very low at all our Masses due to vacations. As you can see from our weekly collection, published collections are on the low side at this time. May I ask you to continue to be generous so that we may cover our weekly bills? We need your continued support whether you are in Church or not during the summer. I know you understand that when income goes down, costs remain the same. Please help us to make it up over the summer. For your convenience, you can make your offertory contribution on your credit card. It can be made monthly, quarterly, semi-annually or annually. Please call the Rectory at 203-924-8611 or visit our website at: www.SJCshelton.org and select the Online Giving link. Parishioners who use the service are pleased with how easy it is to set up and manage. Again, thank you for your generosity.

Sincerely, Fr. Michael

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The Amazon Smile Program donates 0.5% of the price of your purchases to St. Joseph Church. To start helping St. Joseph Church, go to the Church website: www.sjcshelton.org and look for the link to the Amazon Smile Program. Go to smile.amazon.com and choose "St. Joseph Church of Shelton" as your charitable organization who should receive charitable donations from Amazon. Thank you!!



To help meet current needs in our parish, the Altar Server Ministry extends an invitation to all children to join our ministry, learn its duties and participate in the Mass. This is a great ministry for children and youth to serve the Lord, grow in their faith, build relationships as well as fellowship with other servers. Community service hours can also be earned.

Requirements: Children must have received their First Holy Communion and have their parent's permission.

Please contact the Rectory at 203-924-8611 and leave a message for Mrs. Leslie Allaire.







The Red Sanctuary Lamp, signifying the Eucharistic presence of Our Lord Jesus Christ, burns this week in memory of Madeline Terlizzi requested by Theodora Terlizzi.

Our Lady's Blue Memorial Lamp burns this week in memory of Edward Jemioto requested by Diane Sentner.

St. Joseph's Green Memorial Lamp burns this week in memory of Betty Smythe requested by the Rectory.

If you would like to memorialize a Lamp, please send your name and telephone number along with a check for \$25.00 made out to **St. Joseph Church**. *Thank you!*

Readings for the week of September 12, 2021

Monday: 1 Tm 2:1-8/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 17

[1Cor 11:26b]/Lk 7:1-10

Tuesday: Nm 21:4b-9/Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37,

38 [cf. 7b]/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17

Wednesday: 1 Tm 3:14-16/Ps 111:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [2]/

Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35

Thursday: 1 Tm 4:12-16/Ps 111:7-8, 9, 10 [2]/Lk

7:36-50

Friday: 1 Tm 6:2c-12/Ps 49:6-7, 8-10, 17-18,

19-20/Lk 8:1-3

Saturday: 1 Tm 6:13-16/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5 [2]/

Lk 8:4-15

Next Sunday: Wis 2:12, 17-20/Ps 54:3-4, 5, 6-8 [6b]/

Jas 3:16—4:3/Mk 9:30-37

Observances for the week

Monday: St. John Chrysostom, Bishop and

Doctor of the Church

Tuesday: The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Wednesday: Our Lady of Sorrows

Thursday: Sts. Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian,

Bishop, Martyrs

Friday: St. Robert Bellarmine, Bishop and

Doctor of the Church

Saturday: BVM

Next Sunday: 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time;

Catechetical Sunday

SPONSOR CERTIFICATE GUIDELINES

Our parish receives a number of requests for Sponsor Certificates from people who have been asked to be a Godparent at a Baptism or a Sponsor at a Confirmation. This certificate verifies that you are an active Catholic, a member of this parish and eligible for this honor. Being a Godparent or a Sponsor is not just a family or social relationship, as important as these may be. It is a profound spiritual responsibility which entails witness and commitment and there are several requirements:

The Godparent/Sponsor is to be at least sixteen years old.

He/she is to have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Communion, and Confirmation.

If married, the Sponsor/Godparent must have been married according to the laws of the Church.

For the Pastor to issue a Sponsor Certificate:

You are a currently registered member of the parish.

You worship here regularly.

You are requesting the Sponsor Certificate yourself; please do not ask a parent, spouse or another person to do this for you.

No Sponsor Certificates will be signed or issued before or after weekend Masses.

Please call the Rectory to make an appointment with Leslie Allaire at 203-924-8611.

DIOCESAN MARRIAGE FORMATION

The Diocese of Bridgeport offers formation for couples who wish to be married in the Catholic Church. Formation is available online in English and in person in Spanish. For more information, please visit https://formationreimagined.org/marriage-prepreimagined/

Interested in Becoming a Catholic?

Or, are you an adult Catholic who has not received Confirmation? If you would

like to become a Catholic or have not been fully initiated in the Catholic Church (were only baptized and have not received First Communion and Confirmation) or, if you know anyone who may be interested in seeking full communion with the Catholic faith, please call 203-924-9677 for more information about the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA).

The RCIA program prepares candidates to be received as members of the Catholic Church. Potential candidates are often found among family members and friends of our Parish community. Classes begin September/October.

PARISH COURSE OFFERING

Course is Free of Charge
CATHOLIC IDENTITY: RENEWING OUR
APPRECIATION
By Dr. Joan Marie Kelly

Dates: October 6, 13, 20, 27 7:00-8:15 p.m.

Flowing from this topic would be a different focus each week starting with our foundation HISTORICAL ROOTS OF THE CREED!

Dr. Joan Kelly is a lecturer in the Catholic Studies Department at Sacred Heart University in Fairfield.

She is a graduate of Saint Joseph College in West Hartford (now the University of Saint Joseph) and received a Master's degree in Theology from the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. and a Doctorate from the Graduate Theological Foundation at Notre Dame in Indiana.

Dr. Kelly also teaches in the Diocese of Bridgeport's deacon formation program and, until recently, was engaged with the theological formation of the seminarians at St. John Fisher Seminary in Stamford.

She received the Papal Cross from Pope John Paul II in recognition of her commitment to the teaching mission of the Church.

Please R.S.V.P. to Rectory@SJCshelton.org



ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament takes place in the Eucharistic Adoration Chapel on Tuesdays from 1-7 p.m. and Fridays from 1-7 p.m.

You are cordially invited to come and spend some time with our Eucharistic Lord.



Do you want to get more involved in the church? The first step to volunteering at our parish is taking the VIRTUS youth protection training which is mandated by the diocese.

Every volunteer must go through this training before they are allowed to volunteer in any capacity. Depending on your role, there is a five or ten year renewal.

You can find out more information at: www.virtusonline.org

MONTHLY HOLY HOUR

WE'RE BACK! The Knights of Columbus will hold our monthly Holy Hour on Sunday, September 19, 2021, from 2 - 3 p.m. at St. Margaret Mary Church, Shelton.

All parishioners are invited to attend.

Respect Life Ministry

Proclaiming and supporting God's truth that life is a sacred gift from the moment of conception to natural death.

There is help for mothers and fathers troubled by unexpected pregnancy, and those suffering after abortions. For copies of "Services and Resources for Pregnant Moms, Dads, and Families", call (203) 913-4661 or Lkosko@ymail.com. Copies are also in back of church.

The 40 Days for Life campaign effort to end abortion, starts September 22nd. Sign up for one or more hours at www.40DaysforLife.com/Bridgeport. Also, we pray each Thursday near Planned Parenthood. Meet us at 2:00 p.m. each week in St. Joseph's Church parking lot, and return by 4:00 p.m.

A Prayer for Life: Father and maker of all, you adorn all creation with splendor and beauty, and fashion lives in your image and likeness. Awaken in every heart reverence for the work of your hands, and renew among your people a readiness to nurture and sustain your precious gift of life. Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. Amen. (USCCB)

Thank you for your prayers & support for life!



Holy Trinity Catholic Academy is accepting applications for new families for the 2021-2022 School Year.

Please call our Development Director, Mr. Carmine Rita, at 203-929-4422 on how to apply. No applications will be accepted until you speak with him.

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