

# ST. PIUS X

310 WESTFIELD STREET, MIDDLETOWN, CT 06457



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## MASSES

**Sunday Vigil:** 5:00 pm  
(Saturday)

**Sunday:** 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 am  
& 12:00 Noon

**Weekdays:** 7:00 & 9:00 am

**Saturday:** 9:00 am Only

**Vigil of Holy Days:** 5:30 pm

**Holy Days:** Please see  
schedule  
inside bulletin.

## FRIARY OFFICE

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F: (860) 347-3001

### Office Hours:

Sun: 8:30 am - 2:30 pm

Mon-Fri: 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

Sat: 9:30 am - 6:30 pm

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## STAFF

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Pastor

**Rev. Ernest Bedard, OFM Cap.**  
Parochial Vicar

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Receptionist

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Supervisor of Maintenance

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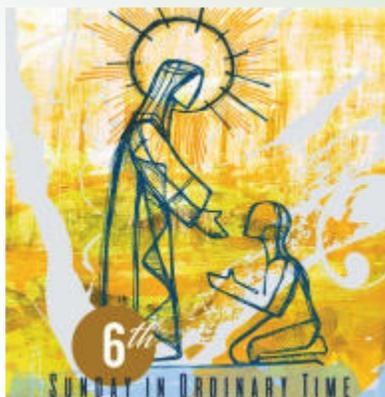
## SACRAMENTS

**Baptisms:** Twice a month at  
1:30 pm for registered  
parishioners. Instruction for  
parents is required. Arrangements  
must be made in advance.

**Marriages:** Arrangements  
must be made at least one year  
in advance.

**Care of the Sick:** Please advise us  
of anyone from your family who is  
sick or hospitalized that we may  
keep them in prayer, visit them  
and bring the sacraments.

**Reconciliation:**  
Saturdays at 3:30 - 4:30 pm  
Thursdays before First Fridays  
at 4:00 - 4:30 pm  
Other times by appointment



## WELCOME TO ST. PIUS X

### WE ARE A TITHING PARISH

We extend a warm welcome to all who attend our church. We hope that you find our parish community a place where your life of faith will be nourished. We also hope that you will share your special gifts with the community. Your prayers, your presence, and your talents are most welcome. Please introduce yourself after Mass. May God bless all of you.

ST. PIUS X, MIDDLETOWN

St. Pius Parish Mission Statement:

We, a community of faith, have come together to respond to God's invitation to become holy by living the Gospel. We strive to do this through our awareness of God's presence, our sense of responsibility to one another, and our response to needs within and beyond the parish of St. Pius X.

"Love one another, as I have loved you." (John 13:34)



Mass Intentions

Saturday, February 13

5:00 PM Dec. Vincent Ciccia

Sunday, February 14

7:30 AM Special Intention Lucy & Fred DiMartino
9:00 AM
10:30 AM Dec. Eva Loffredo
12:00 NN Dec. Sally Haddad

Monday, February 15

9:00 AM Dec. Robert Bakas

Tuesday, February 16

7:00 AM Dec. Walter Gayeski—36A
9:00 AM Dec. Geoffrey Michael Story

Wednesday, February 17—Ash Wednesday

7:00 AM Dec. Mr. & Mrs. Frank Kalinowski
9:00 AM Dec. Carlo Romeo
12:15 PM Service
7:30 PM Living & Deceased Parishioners

Thursday, February 18

7:00 AM Dec. Bill McDevitt
9:00 AM Book of Deceased

Friday, February 19

7:00 AM Special Intention Bob & Meg Malafronte
9:00 AM Dec. Mr. & Mrs. Henry Kalinowski, Sr.

Saturday, February 20

9:00 AM Dec. Bob Frederick
5:00 PM

Sunday, February 21

7:30 AM Dec. Joseph Orlando
9:00 AM Dec. Jaclyn Fitzgerald
10:30 AM Dec. Patricia Colletta
12:00 NN Dec. Felix Sheehan—11A



Monday, Presidents Day, there will be one Mass celebrated at 9 AM. The Friary Office will be

The Altar Flowers this week are donated in loving memory of Florence & Frank Magnano.



The Sanctuary Lamp will burn this week in loving memory of most beloved parents, Salvatore J. & Mary A. Scirpo.

Stewardship Is Our Way Of Life

Tithing (Stewardship) is an important way to consecrate ourselves to the Lord. Our gift is made holy because we give thanks and praise to God without strings or conditions.

Stewardship of Treasure

All are asked to prayerfully consider tithing and return 10% of our income to the Lord (5% to the parish, 5% to God's other charities) in gratitude. The spiritual practice of tithing disposes us to place God first in every area of our lives!

Week 31—February 7

Table with 3 columns: Offering Type, 2020 - 21, 2019 - 20. Rows include Actual Sunday Offering, Electronic Giving for the Week, and Souper Bowl of Caring.

"Tithing—Putting God First" - Stewardship

"Brothers and sisters, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God." - 1 Corinthians 10:31

Do a quick check of your priorities. Where does God rank in that list? If He's not first, you have some work to do. Putting God first in everything helps us from putting other "gods" (like our pride, ego, money and possessions) before God.

Stewardship of Time and Talent

Spending Time with God in Prayer:

Come join us for Stations of the Cross every Friday evening during Lent at 7 PM in the Church

Talents in Service to God and Others

Participate in the Diocese of Norwich Operation Rice Bowl. Gather in prayer and sacrifice as a family to pray and to care for the hungry poor. Rice Bowls are available in the foyer of the Church.

Readings for the week of February 14, 2021

Sunday: Lv 13:1-2, 44-46/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 11 [7]/1 Cor 10:31—11:1/Mk 1:40-45
Monday: Gn 4:1-15, 25/Ps 50:1 and 8, 16bc-17, 20-21 [14a]/Mk 8:11-13
Tuesday: Gn 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10/Ps 29:1a and 2, 3ac-4, 3b and 9c-10 [11b]/Mk 8:14-21
Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and 17 [cf. 3a]/2 Cor 5:20—6:2/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
Thursday: Dt 30:15-20/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [Ps 40:5a]/Lk 9:22-25
Friday: Is 58:1-9a/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19 [19b]/Mt 9:14-15
Saturday: Is 58:9b-14/Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [11ab]/Lk 5:27-32

## SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

2/14/2021

This coming Wednesday is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. Here comes the question "What am I going to do for Lent." In its origins Lent was a special time established for Catechumens in the final run up to being initiated into the People of God through the Sacraments on the Easter Vigil. In the course of time, a holy jealousy developed for those who had already been baptized. "We want a special time too, a time to renew our commitment to Christ."

The classic tools of renewal and repentance going back to the time of Jesus and before in the Jewish tradition are prayer, fasting and alms giving. What we have become accustomed too is "giving something up for Lent". That falls under the rubric of fasting, no TV for Lent, no dessert or candy, no meat and so forth.

I am going to suggest that we back it up a second. Let's spend a little time on the bigger, deeper vision, the highest goal. If I was renew in my faith, if I was rebaptized and could start again. What would I look like? From the inside out what would I desire most? What would my attitude look like toward God in prayer, my family and also my society in active charity? What would be my habits and actions? What would be the price I was willing to pay? How would I pray, and how often? How would it be my true self doing these things, not some unreal, saccharine version, but a purer sense of my personality that is already alive in me?

Taking some time on seeing the goal and purpose, what would be a steppingstone? What practice of prayer fits with that vision? What type of fasting would restrain the appetite that could lead me away from my goal? What practice of generosity would set free your sense of charity?

We don't want Lent to be private contest of will-power. Only you know what you are giving up, and you slip up, reset yourself, or give up on it because the failures are too frequent. Or you make it and it proved you were better, better than you had been, better than everyone else. You give yourself the invisible trophy.

Start with the goal in mind- I am going to work with God so I am a real follower of Christ. What discipline of prayer, fasting or charity should I take on?

### Changes in Ash Wednesday:

There are new directives in the United States in term so the manner of imposing ashes. No thumb smudging a cross or dot on the forehead. Rather ashes will be sprinkled on the top of each person's head. This is what Europe has been doing for ages. It reflects the Biblical mentions of imposing ashes- poured over the penitent's head. So, we will adjust. We have been all excited to get the tell-tale mark as a badge of honor. The expectation can be hard to let go of, we will be the better for it.

We won't give out ashes outside of a reading of the scripture. You will need to come to a service. We are working out a manner for the homebound can participate. Whatever the details it will include scripture as well as the ashes.

Priests will be available for confessions between and after each service.



## "2021 Extraordinary Year Extraordinary Giving Auction"

**Dates: March 6th through March 14th, 2021**

This year's auction is anything from ordinary. It is virtual instead of in-person. That means more people can bid. Some businesses may be less able to donate. We can't know who is able- it takes courage that is more than ordinary to ask and give business a chance to give or tell us they need to skip this year.

We are looking for more from members of the parish. What sort of donations that folks give. We are looking at a variety of services. Fr. Ernie is cooking his famous Firehouse

Lasagna and taking it personally to the high bidders house. Fr. Erik is offering 10 minutes of stand-up comedy to be offered by zoom or skype, etc. We have pasta making class and an art class as well. Do you have a talent that could be shared? We know that this is an extraordinary request but we are in an extraordinary year.

For example: If you want to give but are unsure of what to offer please feel free to contact our Auction Committee Chairperson directly, Enzo Dastoli @ 860-680-2879 or by email at [vdastoli1@gmail.com](mailto:vdastoli1@gmail.com)



Everyone is invited to join us for  
**Vespers—Sundays during Lent at**  
5 Pm in the Church



### "The Light is on for YOU"

A priest will be available at St. Pius for the Sacrament of Reconciliation in church on each of the Mondays of Lent from 7 to 8pm. All are welcome!



**Stations of the Cross**  
Fri. Evenings during Lent  
7 PM

Diocese of Norwich, Office of the Bishop, .  
**Lenten Message, 2021**  
**“And your Father who sees what is hidden will repay you.”** Matthew 6:18

Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Lord,  
In the Gospel reading offered for our reflection each Ash Wednesday, the Lord instructs His disciples that when we pray, fast, and perform works of charity, we are not to do so in a public manner that would draw attention to ourselves or with the praise and admiration of others. Instead, we are instructed to give “in secret”, to go to our “inner room” to pray, and to give no outward indication that we are fasting. The Lord is cautioning His disciples to be on guard against behaving like hypocrites who do these things in an overtly public manner that they may appear, in the estimation of others, to be holy and righteous. By contrast, the Lord correctly reminds us that these spiritual disciplines of prayer, fasting and almsgiving are done, not for us, but in supplication and praise to Almighty God as well as for the good of our neighbors that we are called to serve. So it is that the Lord promises that we will be rewarded for our efforts in these areas, not by the world, but by the “Father who sees what is hidden.”

As we begin another Lent, particularly after a year that has been very difficult for so many, it is important for us to remember that nothing escapes the loving gaze of our Heavenly Father. The physical separation necessitated by the ongoing pandemic has resulted in many changes to the way we live our lives of prayer and the manner in which we practice our Catholic faith. Due to the restrictions placed on public worship gatherings, and the fear experienced by many in the face of this pandemic, members of the faithful have been unable to attend Mass in person and receive our Lord in Holy Communion. This has constituted a great spiritual sacrifice for many. Similarly, we have been unable to celebrate the major feast of our faith as we normally would with family and friends. In addition, many in the health care field and front-line workers have made great personal sacrifices in service to others. These challenges, difficulties, and sacrifices, along with many others, have been borne by individuals, largely in secret. It seems, therefore, that the Lord wants to reassure us that the sacrifices and suffering of this past year have not gone unnoticed by our heavenly Father who will reward our fidelity.

There is also, however, a continued challenge contained in these timely words of our Lord: we must never grow complacent with regard to the development of our spiritual lives, no matter the challenges and the external circumstances or limitations we face. It is likely that we will continue to be called upon to sacrifice and to endure comparable challenges for the foreseeable future. Recognizing this reality, we must resist the temptation to close in on ourselves or to despair. We can and should be confident that God is inviting us, here and now, in the midst of these present circumstances, to embrace the Cross in the quiet depths of our hearts. He is likewise inviting us anew to make use of the spiritual discipline of this Lent together with the tools of prayer, fasting, and works of charity to grow closer to Him and to one another, despite our physical separation. If we persist in this work, we can be assured that the Father, who sees our hidden, will reward us with an abundance of His grace.

May Mary, our mother and model, who stood with great love and fidelity at the foot of the Cross, continue to accompany us through these challenging times as we journey together to the enduring light and hope of Easter.

God bless you and may you have a Holy Lent.  
Sincerely yours in Christ, *Michael R. Cote*, Bishop of Norwich



**February 17, 2021**  
**Services**



- 7:00 AM Eucharist in Church
- 9:00 AM Eucharist in Church
- 12:15 PM Service of the Word in Church
- 7:30 PM Eucharist in Church

**PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED** for the members of our parish who are suffering serious or chronic illness. Please take some time this week to remember them. If you or a member of your family would like the faith community of St. Pius to join you in prayers for special needs, contact the parish office at 860-347-4441. They will be remembered during the Masses that week and then listed in the bulletin for three months. To remain on the list after three months, a follow up call to the friary is necessary. *Brady D. Bettinger, Kyle Kiechle, George Morton, Ellen, Jenny Boutin, Fr. Don Bosco, Sheila Guerin, Tito DiBenedetto, Brant Masse, Art Tierney, Green, Joan Dyer, Glenn R. Inman.*



Please pray for the souls of our faithful departed and remember those whose anniversary of death occurs this week: *Anna Wall, Thomas W. Kasper, Ann Duda, Steven Morda, Esther McCann-Leopold, Anna Kennedy, William*

*Moreland, Angelina J. D'Amato, Norman Norton, Helen A. Piasecki, Nancy Cannata, Marion MacNeil, Alphonse Pellerin, George Hannigan, Alfred Moore, Walter Gayeski, Dante Aiudi, Daniel Perley, Jennie A. Scotti, Geoffrey Story, Emanuele Rubera, Lucy Marshall, Nada Hayes, Carol Ellen Spinali, Donald Travis, Grace Fortin, John Pitruzzello, Lucy Perrillo, Emile Briasco, Carl Miceli, Noella Dumont, Lucette Faraci, George Roger Palardy, John Masselli, William Perry. Elizabeth Weinstein, Thomas Gleason, Emily E. Scovel, Beatrice Wilkins, Irene Kosenski, Philip Coughlin, Barbara Blancato, Genevieve Finkle, Julia Fernandez, Louis LaBella, Sr., Aldo R. Scotti, Karen Neliwocki, Stephanie Faraci, Martin Sheehan*

**Diocesan Lenten Mission**

**Faith through the Eyes of Scripture**

**Presenters: Bishop Michael Cote & Fr. Peter Langevin**

The Lenten Mission is an opportunity for us as individuals to deepen our faith, take up the call to conversion and renew our commitment to Christ and His Church. Please join us as we are renewed through the people in scripture and their faithfulness. Each Thursday Night 7:00—7:45 PM, from Feb 25—March 25  
To register, contact Marianne at (860) 848-2237 ext 304 or manicholas @norwichdiocese.net



**Operation Rice Bowl; Our Lenten Program:**  
**For Lent for Life**

On Ash Wednesday, our parish with parishes across the Diocese of Norwich is beginning a program of prayer and sacrifice called Operation Rice Bowl (ORB). For 48 years, ORB has helped to feed the hungry poor. Through our participation in this program, we bring hope and healing to another person or family living halfway across the globe. 75% of ORB funds will feed the hungry poor overseas, the remaining 25% will be used in the Diocese to feed the needy. This Lent, gather in prayer and sacrifice as a family to pray and to care for the hungry poor.



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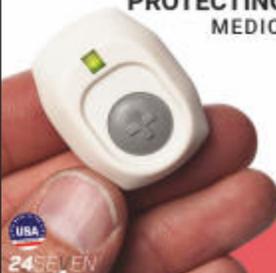


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