

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.

STAFF

Rev. Martin Curtin, OFM Cap.
Pastor

Rev. Ernest Bedard, OFM Cap.
Parochial Vicar

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Administrative Assistant

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Receptionist

David Rogalski
Supervisor of Maintenance

Kimberly Molski
CRE (Pre K - Grade 5)

Carol Butler
CRE (Grade 6 - Confirmation)

Andrew Berezowski
Michelle Donahue
Gail Saltus
Music Ministry

FRIARY OFFICE

P: (860) 347-4441
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

FAITH FORMATION CENTER

(860) 346-9100

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)



Saturday, January 15

5:00 PM Dec. Genie Dypa

Sunday, January 16

7:30 AM Dec. Carmelina & Thomas Bauer
9:00 AM Special Intention Elisabeth Nite
10:30 AM Dec. Geraldine Stifano
12:00 NN Living & Deceased Parishioners

Monday, January 17

9:00 AM Dec. Julia Badorak

Tuesday, January 18

7:00 AM Dec. Paul & Mary Dickes
9:00 AM Dec. Ron Blank

Wednesday, January 19

7:00 AM Dec. Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Kalinowski
9:00 AM Dec. Joan Barron

Thursday, January 20

7:00 AM Special Intention Tony DiMartino
9:00 AM Dec. Sheila Guerin

Friday, January 21

7:00 AM Dec. Paul & Charlotte Campagnone
9:00 AM Dec. Mr. & Mrs. Charles Kalinowski

Saturday, January 22

9:00 AM Dec. Trudy Rumberger
5:00 PM Dec. Sheila Guerin

Sunday, January 23

7:30 AM Dec. Paul & Frances Miano
9:00 AM Dec. James O'Brien
10:30 AM Dec. Eleanor Pawelczyk
12:00 NN Dec, Kathy Nenninger



Monday, January 17, Martin Luther King Day, there will be one Mass celebrated at 9 AM. The Friary Office will be closed.

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



Congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. Robert Ozimek, who were recently married here at St. Pius. May God bless them with a lifetime of happiness together.

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 28—January 9

Table with 3 columns: Offering Type, 2021 - 22, 2020 - 21. Rows include Actual Sunday Offering and Electronic Giving for the Week.

"Tithing—Putting God First" - Stewardship

"To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit." (1 CORINTHIANS 12:7)

St. Paul tells us that God has blessed each of us for a reason. How has God blessed you? Are you using your gifts according to God's plan? How are you helping to build God's kingdom here on earth? Remember that if you don't do the work God planned for you, no one else can do it. Live the life God has intended for you. Take time to discern your charisms (gifts from the Holy Spirit). Experience the supernatural Peace and Joy God desires for each of us.

Stewardship of Time and Talent

Spending Time with God in Prayer

End with your day with a prayer.

Talents in Service to God and Others

Let God's light shine through you in your words and actions.

Readings for the week of January 16, 2022

Sunday: Is 62:1-5/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 7-8, 9-10 [3]/1 Cor 12:4-11/Jn 2:1-11
Monday: 1 Sm 15:16-23/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23/Mk 2:18-22
Tuesday: 1 Sm 16:1-13/Ps 89:20, 21-22, 27-28/Mk 2:23-28
Wednesday: 1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51/Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10/Mk 3:1-6
Thursday: 1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7/Ps 56:2-3, 9-10a, 10b-11, 12-13/Mk 3:7-12
Friday: 1 Sm 24:3-21/Ps 57:2, 3-4, 6 and 11/Mk 3:13-19
Saturday: 2 Sm 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27/Ps 80:2-3, 5-7/Mk 3:20-2

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

In the Gospel of John, the Miracle at the Wedding Feast at Cana is called the first sign that Jesus offered so that his followers could believe in Him. It seems like a peculiar sort of sign. The Wedding Feast in running out of wine. Running out of wine is hardly a life-or-death circumstance. In fact, I have been at some receptions where running out of alcohol would have done everyone a favor. I do remember the panic about trying to get to a store to buy beer before 9pm when we had blue laws in the state. But that was a rather silly panic made for a silly age of life.

The wine must be about some other thing than getting tipsy. In scripture wine is often mentioned as a short-handed way of talking about joy. The prophets promise that God will provide a banquet with rich sweet wines and succulent meats. So, if wine means joy, what does it mean when we say that the couple is running out of wine? What does it mean that so shortly after embracing a vocation to be married and form a family that there is no more joy.

To run out of joy is a powerful, and sad thing. There are ways that facing COVID people can feel themselves running out of joy. But it isn't just once in a lifetime pandemic that can rob us of our joy. In little ways inside our calling itself we can lose our fervor.

Jesus performs a sign. He will provide new joy where it had been lost. Mary intercedes, like she does for us- the couple barely knows that they need her prayers. She walks into the resistance of Jesus to not do miracles before their time. She then sets things in motion confident her Son will do something.

She goes to the servants and tells them to do whatever He tells them. Here is one of the keys to the miracle. The servants are in on the plan, no one else. They do what Jesus tells them- pour water into containers- water the most common of liquids, already at hand for ritual washing. They do a simple service with a simple substance lead by the Lord's command. And there is joy. Not just any joy but the best of joy. The party gets even better with the new joy. The majordomo, or head waiter is amazed at the quality of the joy. But he has no idea where it came from. The servants knew, the servants and those in Jesus' circle.

If we want to find a joy when ours is running low:

- Ask Mary to intercede
- Look for a simple way to serve
- Do whatever He tells you in the manner of your service
- Drink in the sweetness that He gives

A friend of mine who works with Special Olympics had brought 2 of his sons to weekly games with mixed teams. He asked them if they came because they had to because of his role or because they wanted. After he got past the standard monosyllabic teenage response one of the boys said:

"If we went to Disney for a few days, it would be great going on all the rides- then when we had to leave to come back it would suck. This is different. When we are here playing it is great and we have fun. But even when we are driving home it feels great. This is the joy that lasts"

Amen



27th Annual Parish Auction—Sharing Our Strength

Once again this year the auction will be fully virtual .

March 5—March 13th

Donations are needed



An ask from our Auction Committee: Each week leading up to our March auction we will be asking the parish for theme specific donations to help round out our auction selection. This week our theme is "**Service Donations**" Do you know of someone or

own your own business and are willing to donate time or a service? Great examples include home improvement services, yard work, electrical/plumbing services, carpentry etc. Donations may be dropped off at the Friary Office. Thank you for your consideration!




January 30th is a St. Vincent's Service Date

We will be providing a meal for 150 people and we need your help. A basket will be in the foyer to collect your donations. Items needed: sturdy dinner plates, dessert plates, plastic forks, napkins, powdered drink or juice, salad dressing, ziti, and pasta sauce. Please contact Janet (maunejanet@gmail.com) or call the Friary

Office if you can commit to cooking, serving, or providing the following: Frozen meatballs, Italian bread, butter, salad greens, cucumbers, or tomatoes. Let us know by the 23rd so we can purchase what will not be donated. Cooking starts at 1:00. Food must be ready by 4:15. Servers go to St. Vincent's for 4:30 to be ready to serve by 5:00. We are responsible for clean up: sweeping, mopping, emptying garbage, washing any utensils that belong to St. Vincent's.


Bishop Barron's "The Creed" Bible Study



Come join us for a study on the Nicene Creed that we say at mass. We will use Bishop Robert Barron's DVD program, which will explore the roots of the creed from both Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition. We will learn how the early Church developed precise definitions to clarify our beliefs while defending the faith from emerging heresies. If you have ever wondered what exactly the articles of the creed really mean, this is the study for you. The study will be 6 sessions from January through early April. Sessions will be Saturday mornings from 10:00-12:00 in the Church Hall on these dates: 1/22, 2/19, 3/5, 3/19, 4/2

Please e-mail any questions to Terry Boucher at bterryn146@aol.com. Please write "St. Pius X Bible Study" in the subject line.

Spiritual Book Study: The Ladder of the Beatitudes by Jim Forest



Want to take a thought provoking journey! We all know that we are all called to be saints! But how do we approach this daunting task! Jesus gave us the map to sainthood in the beatitudes. While they sound beautiful in print they are challenging to live. **Author Jim Forest** gives us background on the beatitudes and explores these beatitudes individually by using examples from many diverse sources in church history and through contemporary activists in peace and justice. Join us for this **6 week study** Dates: Wed. January 19 to February 23, 2022 from 10:00 to 11:30 am Place: Sacred Heart on the Lake Retreat Center, 194 Candlewood Hill Rd., Higganum. Let us know as soon as possible if you want us to order the book for you. Otherwise you can find it on Amazon. **To register** contact Sr. Patricia at 203-606-4830 or email: cigrandpatricia@gmail.com



JANUARY

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. *Sharon Palmer, Sydney, Jacob, Mike McNamara, Jessie Kulmacz, Cathy Mena, Mark Partin, Dominick Sassano, Helen Goldman, Jeanette Sassano, Donna Mitkoski, George Morton, Ellen, Jenny Boutin, James McAuliffe, Brady Bettinger, Kyle Kiechle, Joan Dyer, Glenn R. Inman.*

Please pray for the souls of our faithful departed and remember those whose anniversary of death occurs this week: *Zolima Reiter, Kevin O'Brien, Mary Magnano, Bela Szentkereszthy, George Shukis, Luigi Aresco, Andrew Ronzello, James O'Brien, Michael Fitzgerald, Hedwig Tyaack, Stella Sirvys, Joseph Kachinsky, John R. Moody, Marie Theresa Corneroli, Nicholas Cazzetta, Emily Udall, Mary Malone, Frank Kurnik, Gloria Landers, Edward A.G. Poirier, Sr., Joseph Santaniello, Timothy Gionfriddo, Paul Miano, Jane Franck, William F. Jeannette, Maureen Saraka, Rosemary Malcolm, Agnes Dawson, Frances Marion Palmer*



Diocese of Norwich, Office of the Bishop

My dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

"Equality begins in the Womb." This is the theme for the 49th annual March for Life which will be held on January 21, 2022, in Washington, D.C.

January 22, 2022, marks 49 years since the landmark Supreme Court decision legalizing (Roe v. Wade) abortion in the United States. According to the General Instruction of the Roman Missal, January 22nd is a particular day of prayer and penance called the "Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children." It notes: "In all the Dioceses of the United States of America, January 22 (or January 23, when January 22 falls on a Sunday) shall be observed as a particular day of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life and of penance for violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion." Scripture affirms the life and dignity of the unborn child. In Jeremiah 1:4-5, we read: "The Word of the Lord came to me: Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I dedicated you, a prophet to the nations I appointed you." King David, in his Psalms, notes: "You formed my inmost being; you knit me in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am wonderfully made; wonderful are your works! My very self you know. My bones are not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, fashioned in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw me unformed; in your book all are written down; my days were shaped, before one came to be." (Psalms 139: 13-16) The catechism of the Catholic Church is clear in its defense of the unborn. It states: "Human life must be respected and protected absolutely from the moment of conception. From the first moment of his existence, a human being must be recognized as having the rights of a person -- among which is the inviolable right of every innocent being to life... since the first century of the church has affirmed the moral evil of every procured abortion. This teaching has not changed and remains unchangeable." (Catechism #2270-71). Why is the church so firm in its defense of the unborn? A civil society cannot stand if its weakest, most vulnerable members are not protected. The catechism states, quoting *Donum Vitae*: "The moment a positive law deprives a category of human beings of the protection which civil legislation ought to afford them, the state is denying the equality of all before the law. When the state does not place its power at the service of the rights of each citizen, and in particular of the more vulnerable, the very foundations a state based on law were undermined." Saint John Paul II also argues that a civil society cannot be maintained if the rights of the unborn are not protected. He notes in *Evangelium Vitae*: "Really what we have here is only the tragic caricature of legality; the democratic ideal, which is only truly such when it acknowledges and safeguards the dignity of every human person, is betrayed in its very foundations; how is it possible to speak of the dignity of every human person when the killing of the weakest and most innocent is permitted? In the name of what justice is the most unjust of discriminations practiced; some individuals are held to be deserving of defense and others are denied that dignity? When this happens, the process leading to the breakdown of a genuinely human co-existence and the disintegration of the state itself has already begun." (EV, 20) We must pray to heal the culture. Healing the culture begins with a respect for life in its most vulnerable moments. There are many points of light. I think of the crisis pregnancy centers that offer material, emotional, and spiritual support to women facing an unexpected pregnancy. I think of the work of the Sisters of Life in New York who offer healing retreats for women who have had abortions and the many faithful in our diocese who work so untiringly to build a culture of life. Thank you for our important work. "Equality begins in the womb." Together let us both work together for a more just society -- a society that recognizes and affirms the equality and gifts of the most vulnerable in our midst--the unborn.

Sincerely yours in Christ, **Michael R. Cote**, Bishop of Norwich

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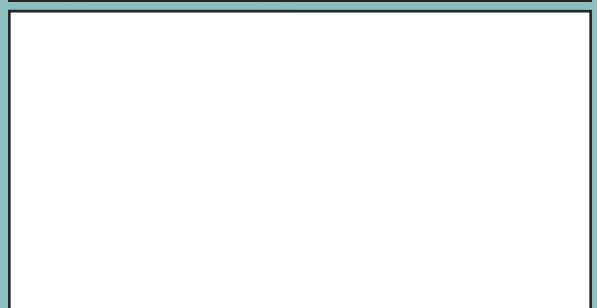
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