PARISH MISSION STATEMENT
All Saints Parish in Somersville, Connecticut is committed as a faith-filled community to meet the spiritual and temporal needs of those we encounter in all ministries of our faith. Through prayer, sacramental life and works of charity, in love and obedience to God, the Lord of all life. All Saints stands ready to proclaim the Good News in word, sacrament, and service to all.

SACRAMENTS
Sacrament of Baptism
Please contact Father Gerry six months in advance to make arrangements.

Sacrament of Reconciliation
Saturdays: 3:30pm and by appointment.

Sacrament of Matrimony
Please contact Father Gerry one year in advance to make arrangements.

Sacrament of the Sick
If you know of anyone who is hospitalized or homebound and would like to receive the Sacraments, please contact the rectory office.
From Bishop Cote

“Respect Life Month” 2020
and the 25th Anniversary of The Gospel of Life

One year ago, even before the unthinkable effects of the pandemic and the social unrest and division that we are now witnessing, a piece in the New York Times stated: “The world we live in now is one in which no place is safe, no lives really matter, when it comes to violence” (9/2/19). This statement was prompted by the tragedy of repeated mass shootings in our country. To this we must now add the outbreaks of random violence and the deaths that have prompted outrage and have called into question the level of force employed by law enforcement in some cases, especially with regard to people of color.

This year marks the 25th anniversary of Evangelium vitae (The Gospel of Life), written by Pope St. John Paul. He urged the world to uphold the sacred value and inviolability of human life rather than giving way to a culture of manipulation and choice in life matters, as evidenced in abortion, euthanasia, biological engineering, ecological destruction and unnecessary recourse to the death penalty. Violating the right to life, the Pope stated, only results in the destruction of values that are fundamental not only for the preservation of the lives of individuals and families, but of society as well. This message has been strongly echoed by Popes Benedict and Francis.

Amid all the ominous polarization, acrimony and even violence that are increasing in our country, we would do well to ponder Pope St. John Paul’s teaching. He said that respect for innocent human life from conception until natural death is a “transcendent truth” that surpasses any one religion, philosophy, law code or system of government. Religion can and should serve that truth, but it does not create it. If there is no God-given higher truth about the human person than the one we feel free to create, then everything degenerates into competing views of personhood and life itself; the “force of power” prevails, and the inalienable God-given meaning of the human person, and his or her dignity and right to life, are trampled.

Until recent times the religious beliefs of the vast majority of Americans did acknowledge the transcendent truth that all innocent human life is to be respected as inviolable. Indeed, the first thing that struck the French observer Alexis de Tocqueville about the United States in 1831 was its “religious atmosphere.” He wrote: “… while the law allows the American people to do everything, there are things which religion prevents them from imagining and forbids them to dare.” Religion taught virtuous behavior, which is essential if liberty is to be ordered to the common good. By bringing a moral dimension to issues, religion also helped ensure that majority rule not deteriorate into an immoral tyranny. Religion in America also created an allegiance and devotion among its adherents that counteracted the tendency of government to swallow up all aspects of life.

Today the withering away of respect for the transcendent truth about the right to life, and for traditional religious teaching about the sin and crime of taking innocent human life, has created what Pope St. John Paul called a “culture of death.” It is reflected in the words we cited from the New York Times that “the world we live in now is one in which no place is safe, no lives really matter, when it comes to violence.” In his new encyclical Fratelli tutti Pope Francis speaks of a “throwaway” world in which “persons are no longer seen as a paramount value to be cared for and respected” (n. 18). Hopefully the 25th anniversary of Evangelium vitae will be an inspiration for all people of good will to work for a “culture of life” that cherishes, serves, defends, and protects human life from conception until natural death.

Local pro-life leaders across the world are currently conducting an annual 40 Days for Life campaign that runs through November 1. Walking with Moms in Need is a year of service where Catholic parishes and communities “walk in the shoes” of local pregnant and parenting women in need. And then there is Project Rachel, a network of caregivers, including clergy, mental health professionals and others who provide one-on-one care to those struggling after involvement in an abortion. The church continues to advocate strongly for hospice care for the dying, not death imposed by others or by suicide, and for an end to the death penalty because it is no longer needed to protect society.

For well over half a century the U.S. Bishops have spoken out nationally as a body about the evil of racism, most recently in 2018, calling yet again for Catholics and all Americans to take to heart in particular the lived experience—past and present—of African-Americans, Hispanic Americans, and Native Americans. Without equal respect and opportunity for the life and dignity of each and all we cannot hope to have a nation at peace with itself.

Likewise, Pope Francis has dramatically and urgently spoken of the plight of refugees, immigrants and all those who are vulnerable and at risk across the world. Our Church strives to uphold the life and dignity of every person by providing education, health care and works of charity on a large scale, and by advocating for economic justice, immigration reform, and the alleviation of the desperate plight of so many of the world’s migrants, near and far.

These are just some of the ways the Catholic Church is working to promote a gospel of life. We invite you to join us, so that, in the words of Pope St. John Paul, “together we may offer this world of ours new signs of hope, and work to ensure that justice and solidarity will increase and that a new culture of human life will be affirmed, for the building of an authentic civilization of truth and love.”
Mass Intentions

Saturday, October 17
Vigil: Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Saint Ignatius of Antioch, bishop and martyr
4:30pm: † Howard Muska
r/b Ron and Michele Muska

Sunday, October 18
Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time
9:15am † Francis, Alyre, Anna and
Gerald Boudreau
r/b Their Family
And
Deceased members of the Catholic
Daughters Court All Saints #2435

Father Gerry will be away next week.
There will be no weekday Masses during
this time. God bless you!

Saturday, October 24
Vigil: Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Saint Anthony Mary Claret: bishop
4:30pm: † Joseph and Mary Radziewicz
r/b Their Family

Sunday, October 25
Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
9:15am † Roy and Esther Emery
r/b Chuck, Donna
and Michael Emery

Let us occupy ourselves entirely in knowing
God. The more we know Him, the more we
will desire to know Him. As love increases
with knowledge, the more we know God, the
more we will truly love Him. We will learn to
love Him equally in times of distress or in times
of great joy. ~ Brother Lawrence from
The Practice of the Presence of God

This week, the Sanctuary Lamp
will burn in loving memory
of
Gardner Gerich

To our current registered families in the
Faith Formation Process, as well as any new
family at All Saints Church, our registration
forms are now available to access from our
website, www.somersallsaints.org. Please
take your time in filling them out as it’s a
new endeavor for all of us. If you have any
difficulties, please contact the Faith
Formation office at 860-763-0348. If your
child/ren were not baptized in this parish,
we will need a copy of your child’s Baptismal
certificate and if they received their First
Eucharist in another parish, we will also
need a copy of their certificate.

First Eucharist families 2020—We are
going close to putting a program together
that will assure everyone that our children
and their families are prepared for the
reception of their First Holy Eucharist. Once
this has taken place, dates will be
announced. As always, check your email
and our website for updates.

Parish Giving October 11, 2020

Envelopes and Cash:  $ 1381.50
EFT & Online Giving:  $ 1437.46
Monthly Collection:  $ 275.00
Weekly Total:  $ 3093.96
Minus Diocesan Tax:  $ 309.40
Actual Deposit for Parish:  $ 2784.56

DIOCESAN COLLECTION
Mission Combined:  $ 435.00

Thank you for caring and sharing.