

St. Teresa of Calcutta PARISH

MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil

4:00 PM (Chester)

5:30 PM (Essex)

Sunday

8:30 AM & 12:00 PM (Essex)

10:00 AM (Chester)

Daily Mass

Monday,

Wednesday & Friday

8:30 AM (Essex)

Tuesday,

Thursday & Saturday

8:30 AM (Chester)

Holy days

Vigil: 7:00 PM (Essex)

Feast Day: 7:00 PM (Chester)

DEACONS

Deacon Larry Money Penny
(Chester)

deaonchestr@stocpct.org

Deacon William Kaiser
(Essex)

deaconessex@stocpct.org

MUSIC DIRECTORS

Wendy Hummel

(Chester)

860-559-9807

musicchester@stocpct.org

Irene Listorti

(Essex)

860-388-9884

musicessex@stocpct.org

SEXTON

Bob Sumner - 860-510-3679



Fr. Arul Rajan Peter, Pastor

pastor@stocpct.org

Caitlin Riley, Office Administrator

office@stocpct.org

Joyce Leach, DRE

dre@stocpct.org | 860-227-8778

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

CHESTER

48 MIDDLESEX AVE

CHESTER, CT 06412

Tuesday & Thursday | 8:30 AM - 12:00 PM | 860-526-5495

ESSEX

14 PROSPECT STREET

ESSEX, CT 06426

Monday & Wednesday | 8:30 AM - 12:00 PM | 860-767-1284

www.stteresaofcalcuttaparish.org

DECEMBER 26, 2021 THE HOLY FAMILY

MASS INTENTIONS

St. Josephs—Chester

Saturday December 25 *Christmas Day*

10:00 † Eva Tar by family

Sunday December 26

10:00 † Stephen White by Anne and Pat Fleming

Tuesday December 28

8:30 † Rev. Msgr. Michael T. Donohue

Thursday December 30

8:30 † Rev. Msgr. Michael T. Donohue

Saturday January 1 *New Year's Mass*

10:00 Parish family

4:00 † Benedict Novinski, SR by Cindy and Cathy

Sunday January 2

10:00 † Josephine Marshall by Wiernasz family

Our Lady of Sorrows—Essex

Saturday December 25 *Christmas Day*

8:30 † Todd Walier by Joe and Judith Walier

12:00 † John Flanagan by Riley Family

Sunday December 26

8:30 † Fr. Paul Gaumond by Parish family

12:00 † Andrew Masiukiewicz by Wife and son

Monday December 27

8:30 † Czeslawa Brzozonowicz by Urszula Masiukiewicz

Wednesday December 29

8:30 † Kerrie Massaro by family

Friday December 31

8:30 † Terry Butler by Prayer Cenacle Members

Saturday January 1 *New Year's Mass*

8:30 Parish family

5:30 † Alfred Gagnon by Len and Jo Ann Dongweck

Sunday January 2

8:30 † Edward and Veronica Bogden by Michael and Maryann Dean and Family

12:00 † Savino Civitillo by family

If the members of the family for whom a Mass is being celebrated would like to bring up the gifts, please notify one of the ushers.

OFFERTORY

The offertory will be posted next weekend.

Thank you for your support.

CANDLES

The Essex Tabernacle candle will burn in memory of Todd Walier. The Essex Sanctuary candle will burn in memory of Edward and Veronica Bogden. The Chester Tabernacle candle will burn in memory of Joseph and Rose Kuzaro.

Pope Francis' December Intention

Let us pray for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Third Order of Mary

Have a Holy Christmas Season and a Blessed 2022!
No January Meeting. February Meeting is Monday 2/07.
Blessings, Lorraine 860-434-2629

Mass Intentions

The 2022 Massbook is now open please call or e-mail the office to schedule a Mass intention.

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 28 | Strength and Tone 1:00 pm Essex

December 28 | Gentle Flow 2:30 pm Essex

Essex Knight's Food Drive

The Essex Knights are continuing non-perishable food collection for the benefit of the Shoreline Soup Kitchens Westbrook Pantry. A collection bin is located in the OLOS foyer. Canned goods, tomato sauce, rice, pasta, cereals, peanut butter, jelly and juices are requested. Thanks.

Chester Knights Winter Clothing Drive

The Chester Knights of Columbus have begun our annual winter clothing drive. Collection buckets are available near the main entrances to St Josephs Church. Items of winter clothing can include but are not limited to coats, hats, gloves, scarves, and sweaters. Thank you for your generosity.

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

FR. PETER'S REFLECTION

*Heaven and earth were bonded in love
on this Silent and Holy Night.
Joy descended mercifully; glory filled
the heavens and peace touched the earth.*

*Christmas is incarnation –
God assuming human flesh.
The human race was glorified
as God's son became a man.*

*May this Christmas bring
joy, peace, food, medicine,
support, and love to the needy!
Merry Christmas!*

From the Women's Guild Hats, Gloves and Socks for St. Vincent de Paul in Middletown.

In addition to the personal hygiene items that the Women's Guild collects throughout the year for the homeless in Middletown, we are now adding hats, gloves and socks during the cold weather season. A box is located in the back of both churches and items are delivered to St. Vincent de Paul on a monthly basis. Your continued support and generosity is greatly appreciated as we work to help those in need in the Diocese of Norwich.



*"And the Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us,
and we saw His glory,
the glory as of the Father's only Son,
full of grace and truth."*

(John 1:14)

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

These words speak to us, in a beautifully poetic way, of our Lord's miraculous gift of Himself – a gift which He gave to the world when He humbly took flesh and was born in the simple manger in Bethlehem.

The gift, the true meaning of the Christmas event, is that the Lord, the Eternal Word and Son of God the Father, *became flesh and made his dwelling among us*. The mystery and miracle of our Lord's Incarnation stands at the very heart of our Catholic faith. It is the source of our hope. God's great love and mercy, as proclaimed in the Gospel message, began with the birth of a child who would grow, teach us the truth of the Gospel, and ultimately offer His very life in sacrifice, providing for those who believe in Him the tremendous grace to share eternal life with God and all the saints in heaven.

May we never forget this miraculous gift of God's love.

Our annual celebration of the Lord's Nativity provides an important reminder to us of the true depth of the love that He continues to pour forth upon each of us and our world. The opportunity to encounter the same Lord Jesus who was born in the manger in Bethlehem but is now risen and glorified – who again humbles Himself to become present to us, Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity – is now found in the Most Holy Eucharist. Intimately tied to our Lord's Incarnation, the gift of the Most Holy Eucharist is the mystery by which He continues to make his dwelling among us here and now.

Sadly, as multiple surveys conducted in recent years have shown, belief in the true and real presence of the Lord in the Most Holy Eucharist has declined significantly, even among those who self-identify as Catholics and who attend Mass regularly. This disturbing trend should be a cause of great concern for us all, but we must not lose hope!

In response to these trends, the Bishops of the United States have recently approved a catechetical document on the Most Holy Eucharist that is being prepared for publication in the new year. Plans for a national Eucharistic revival have also been approved. More information about these two initiatives will be forthcoming. It is my hope that they will reawaken and reinvigorate our understanding of this great gift of the Lord's presence in the most Holy Eucharist. In the meantime, let us pray with greater fervor throughout this Christmas season that these initiatives will be successful and that we will never take the miraculous gift of our Lord's birth, or of His abiding presence among us in the Most Holy Eucharist for granted.

May you, your families and loved ones have a truly merry Christmas and a New Year filled with God's blessings!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Bishop of Norwich

PARISH NEWS, EVENTS AND MINISTRIES

NEWS AND EVENTS

St. John School – Open Houses 2022

Saint John School, Old Saybrook is having Open Houses on Sunday, January 30th, 10am-noon and Wednesday, March 9th, 9-11am and 6-8pm. Please register online to attend. We invite you to also visit our website to read about our PreK3-Grade 8 challenging curriculums, extra-curricular after-school programs, our competitive athletics, campus information, before/aftercare program, testimonials and more. Please also visit our Facebook page for recent classroom activities. You are invited to hear about "Educating the Whole Child" – we believe in educating our students academically, emotionally and spiritually. Come see our facilities and campus, talk to our staff, and learn about our challenging curriculum, enrichment & extracurricular programs including our after school sports and clubs. Registration for 2022/23 academic year will commence in February 2022. For more information visit, www.saintjohnschool.org. If you have any questions, please call the school office at (860) 388 0849. All are welcome.



*Congratulations
St. John School
Honor Roll Students*

ELLA BASCONI, HIGH HONORS
EVAN O'BRIEN, HONORS
ZAHRA ZAIN, HONORS

XAVIER HIGH SCHOOL HONOR ROLL HONORS LIST

SIMON COLLINS, HONORS
JOSEPH CORCORAN, HONORS
CHRISTOPHER DOWIE, HONORS
KYLE HOYNACK, HIGH HONORS
SAMUEL MATT, HIGH HONORS
MICHAEL MCCAULEY, HONORS
MATTHEW REARDON, HIGH HONORS

CONGRATULATIONS!

MINISTRIES & GROUPS

ADULT CHOIR

Thursday | 7:00 PM (Chester)

Wendy Hummel | 860-559-9807 | musicchester@stocpct.org

Thursday | 7:30 PM (Essex)

Irene Listorti | 860-388-9884 | musicessex@stocpct.org

ALTAR SERVERS

Sue Jones | 860-322-4227 | altarserverschester@stocpct.org

Amy Dyer | 860-304-4107 | altarserversessex@stocpct.org

ALTAR SOCIETIES

Angie Johnson | altarsocietyessex@stocpct.org

Catherine Pechinski | altarsocietychester@stocpct.org

CARING HEARTS

1st Wednesday | 6:00 PM (Chester)

Meredith Newman | caringhearts@stocpct.org

BULLETIN | FACEBOOK

office@stocpct.org | facebook@stocpct.org

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

1st Tuesday | 7:30 PM (Chester)

Tony Scierka | knightschester@stocpct.org | 860-301-5737

3rd Wednesday | 7:00 PM (Essex)

Tony Carrano | 860-227-7100 | knightsessex@stocpct.org

LECTORS/EMS

Charlene Janecek | lectorschester@stocpct.org

Vin & Laura Pacileo | lectorsessex@stocpct.org

MARIAN PRAYER CENACLE

Fridays | 10:00 AM

MARTHA & MARY CLUB

2nd Wednesday | 12:00

Sue Pire | marthamaryclub@stocpct.org

PARISH COUNCIL

2nd Thursday | 7:00 PM

Kevin Brough | parishcouncil@stocpct.org

PRAYER CHAIN

prayerchain@stocpct.org

PRAYER SHAWL

1st & 3rd Wednesday | 1:30 PM (Essex)

Gail Morris | 860-767-1223

prayershawl@stocpct.org

RESPECT LIFE

Carol Burdick | respectlife@stocpct.org

RCIA

Dennis Costello | rcia@stocpct.org

THIRD ORDER OF MARY

Lorraine Maloney | 860-434-2629

WOMEN'S GUILD

3rd Tuesday | 7:00 PM (Essex)

Karen Dizenzo | 757-718-1340 | womensguild@stocpct.org

Irene Listorti | 860-388-9884 | womensguild@stocpct.org

SACRAMENTS

BAPTISM

Please contact the office to schedule a Baptism

MARRIAGE

Please contact the office at least 6 months in advance so we can help you start planning your big day.

CONFESSION

Chester -Tues, Thurs, 8-8:25 am
Sat 8-8:25 am 3:15-3:45 pm
Essex-Mon, Wed, Fri 8-8:25 am
Sun 11:15-11:45 am

SICK CALLS

Please contact the office or Fr. Peter



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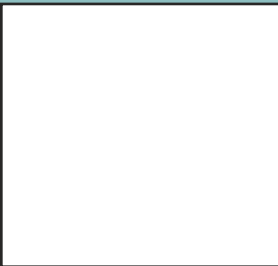

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