

ST. JOHN CHURCH

Established in 1843



JANUARY 16, 2022

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:00 PM

5:30 PM (St. Sebastian)

Sunday Mass: 9:00 AM

11:00 AM & 5:00 PM (St. Sebastian)

Weekday Masses (Tues. & Thurs.): 7:30 AM in the Chapel.

(Mon. Wed. & Fri.): 7:30 AM (St. Sebastian)

Eucharistic Adoration: Begins in the Chapel after the 7:30 AM Mass on the 1st Thursday of each month, and ends at 9:00AM

with Benediction. (St. Sebastian Hour Adoration 1st Friday of each month, 6:00 PM-7:00 PM)

Confessions: Heard Saturdays, 3:15-3:45 PM.

Sundays, 8:15-8:45 AM.

Holy Days of Obligation: Vigil 7:00 PM & 8:00 AM
12:10 PM & 7:00 PM (St. Sebastian)

SACRAMENTS

Baptism: Please call the Rectory to register your child for Baptism.

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

Call the Rectory for more information.

Religious Education (Including First Communion, First Reconciliation and Confirmation Preparation):

Classes are held at St. Sebastian Church – Mondays, Grades 2 & 3 from 4:45pm – 6:00pm and Sundays, Grades 1,4,5,6,7,8 & 9 from 9:30am-10:50am.

ST. JOHN PAUL II SCHOOL

87 South Main Street

Middletown, CT 06457

Tel: (860) 347-2978

Fax: (860) 347-7267

School Principal

Mr. Lawrence Fitzgerald

Our Church is Air Conditioned

PASTOR

Rev. James Thaikoottathil, J.C.D

PARISH & CEMETERY SECRETARY

Ms. Linda McCarty

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Ms. Mary Ann Majors

PARISH ORGANIST

Mrs. Joanne Swift (860-729-2538)

Email: joanne.swift@yahoo.com

PARISH TRUSTEES

Janice Wendry & Debra Liistro

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Sister Lizzy & Sister Marykuty

Email: dremiddletown@gmail.com

ST. JOHN RECTORY & PARISH OFFICE

19 St. John Square • Middletown, CT

(860) 347-5626 • Fax: (860) 638-3633

Email: stjohsecretary@comcast.net

pastor.st.john.middletown@gmail.com

www.saintjohnmiddletownct.weebly.com

www.norwichdiocese.org

The Parish Office is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

We are closed weekends and holidays

19 St. John Square, Middletown, CT 06457

PARISH COMMITTEE HEADS

Parish Council: Pamela Perrone (860-301-6449)

Building & Grounds: Myron Klein (860-316-7226)

Fundraising Chair: Simonne Mularski (860-301-0825)

Finance Chair: Debra Liistro (860-402-3280)



**Annual March for Life
Friday, January 21, 2022**



Saturday **January 15**
4:00 PM **Vigil Solemn Mass**
 † **John & Josephine Pasquale**, by Family
 by Shirley Milardo
 (St. Sebastian Church)
 5:00 PM

Sunday **January 16**
9:00 AM **Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**
(Community Mass)
 by St. John Parish
 (St. Sebastian Church)
 † **John Cooke**
 11:00 AM &
 5:00 PM

Monday **January 17** **Office Closed**
 7:30 AM (St. Sebastian Church)

Tuesday **January 18**
 7:30 AM † **Ernestine Trotta**

Wednesday **January 19**
 7:30 AM (St. Sebastian Church)

Thursday **January 20**
 7:30 AM † **Louis & Sarah D'Amato**

Friday **January 21**
 7:30 AM (St. Sebastian Church)

Saturday **January 22**
4:00 PM **Vigil Solemn Mass**
 † **John & Josephine Pasquale**, by Family
 5:00 PM (St. Sebastian Church)

Sunday **January 23**
9:00 AM **Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**
(Community Mass)
 by St. John Parish
 (St. Sebastian Church)
 † **Sheila Walsh**
 11:00 AM &
 5:00 PM

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

“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 Jy God desires for each of us.

Offertory
January 8 & 9, 2022



Weekly:

Envelopes: \$2,051.00
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For everything there is a Season and a Time for every purpose under Heaven ... A Time to Heal...



Please keep in your prayers for those who are ill & for those with personal intentions: Dan Coyle, William J. Dillon, Rachel Panckus, Rev. Arkadiusz Skwarek.



Sanctuary Lamp
January 15th - January 21st

For the Parishioners of St John Church

MONDAY JAN. 17th
PARISH OFFICE
CLOSED

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY



A Prayer for Life

Father and maker of all,
 you adorn all creation
 with splendor and beauty,
 and fashion human 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, your Son
 who lives and reigns with you in
 the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 God forever and ever.
 Amen



St. John Paul II
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from 12:00 - 3:00 pm
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Face masks are required while inside the building



MOST REVEREND
MICHAEL R. COTE, D.D.

Diocese of Norwich
Office of the Bishop
201 Broadway
Norwich, Connecticut 06360
(860) 887-9294

January 5, 2022

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 or midst--the unborn.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Bishop of Norwich



ROSARY RALLY

Please join us on **Saturday, January 22, 2022, at 12:00 PM** for a Rosary Rally to be held in front of **St. Sebastian Church**. This public Rosary will be in defense of the unborn. These prayers and reparation are a powerful way to save our precious children from the threat of abortion. Life is a gift and our children (our gift's) are our greatest blessing.

The rally will be held rain or shine.

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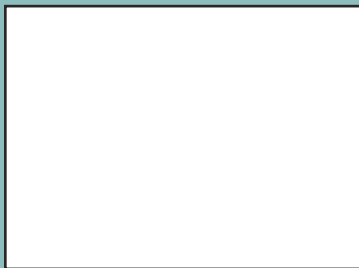
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