



**ST. JOHN CHURCH
5 ST. JOHNS COURT
CROMWELL, CT 06416**

Mass Schedule

**Saturday Vigil: 4:00 pm
Sunday: 7:30 am & 9:30 am**

Outdoor Distribution of Communion

**Saturday: 5:30 pm—5:45pm
Sunday: 11:00 am—11:30am**

Weekday Masses

Monday through Friday: 9:00 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday: 3:00 - 3:30pm

Chapel of Divine Mercy

24 hour Perpetual Adoration

Under the care of
**Conventual Franciscan Friars
of Our Lady of the Angels Province**

Pastor:

Rev. Mark L. Curesky, OFM Conv.

Parish Staff:

Jennifer Brecks - Administrative Assistant

Parish Office Telephone:

860-635-5590

Parish Office Fax:

860-635-5591

Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday 9:30am - 1pm

Friday—Parish Office Closed

Faith Formation Office:

Karen Romegialli - Director

Anne Kaiser - Administrative Assistant

Faith Formation Office: 860-635-5156

Email: sjcfdre@gmail.com

Music Director and Organist:

Michael Mainella

Custodian:

Richard Hughes

Parish Website:

www.saintjohn-cromwell.org

January 16, 2022



2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

There was a wedding at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples were also invited to the wedding. When the wine ran short, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." - Jn 2:1-3

ST. JOHN CHURCH

Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 15 - Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 † Pat Alsup, r/b Donna Mattei

Sunday, January 16 - Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 † Phyllis Marella, r/b John & Jackie Haywood

9:30 † Stephen Ondrick Sr & †Robert Ondrick, r/b their family

The Rosary is prayed before Mass daily at 8:25 a.m.

Monday, January 17 - Parish Office Closed

9:00 † James McCain, r/b his wife, Judy

Tuesday, January 18

9:00 † Santo Roncaioli, r/b his wife, Jean

Wednesday, January 19

9:00 † Giovanni & †Sebastiana Logiudice, r/b their daughter

Thursday, January 20

9:00 † Dick Czapiga, r/b his wife, Jan and family

Friday, January 21 - Parish Office Closed

9:00 † Gary Yaeger, r/b Donna Vickers

Saturday, January 22 - Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 † Domenic Iozzo, r/b the family

Sunday, January 23 - Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 † Anthony & †Dorothy Cecchini, r/b Ron & Johanne Cecchini

9:30 † Irene Kowalski, r/b her daughter, Cathy

St. John Prayer List



PLEASE PRAY FOR: Sarah Aresti, John Barry, Anne Bartolotta, Marie Bedard, RJ Bedard, Bob Byrnie, Maria Cabral, Mike Camilleri, Ernie Cantwell, Janice Carlson, John Carlson, Melissa Carta, Frank Cartelli, Phyllis Cartelli, Mary Lou Conroy, D.F., Elisabeth DeMezzo, Laura DiDomizio, Maureen Fazzina, Janis Gianni, Amanda Jones, Maria Figueredo, Omelio Figueredo, Susan Haswell, John Haywood, Dolores Leightsinger, Jim L., Kelsey M, Susan Martin, Jasmine Masse, Madeline McDermott, Rob Monnes, Jane Morello, Wynn Muller, Kelly Nardo, Judy Nocera, Nellie Nyren, Edmund O'Connell, Barbara O'Keefe, Bill O'Keefe, P.J., Jack Peterson, Donald Piskura, Raymond, Marc Revis, Damon Riddle, Daniel Rybczyk, Michael Salonia, Edward & Joan Siebert, Sue Stender, Jackie T, John P. Treschitta, Josephine Vallera, Jeremy Wilson & Rosi Wittman.

Perpetual Adoration - Divine Mercy Chapel



The Chapel is open to the general public from 7 am to 9 pm and to "committed adorers" with an access code from 9 pm to 7 am.

If you would like more information or are interested in becoming a "committed adorer," please contact Roger Beliveau at 860-983-3648 or the Chapel's email: Chapel5@frontier.com.

Your Sacrificial Offering

January 9, 2022

Weekly Collection: \$5,106.00

Online Giving: \$1,575.00

Total: \$6,681.00

Thank you for your sacrificial giving.

Pastor's Musings

On Tuesday, we begin the annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. It is rooted in Jesus' own prayer to his Father recorded in the Gospel of John: "...that all may be one, as you, Father, are in me, and I in you; I pray that they may be one in us..." (John 17:21). During our Week of Prayer, we join Jesus in his prayer that all may be one.

Each year, a theme is chosen for the Week of Prayer. This year, the theme uses the story of the Magi following a star to find the child Jesus as recorded in the Gospel of Matthew (2:1-12).

The appearance of the star in the sky represents a long-awaited sign of hope, that leads the Magi, and indeed all peoples of the earth, to LIGHT itself, Jesus. He is the light who came into our darkness when, by the Holy Spirit, he was incarnate of the Virgin Mary and became human. Jesus is the light who went even further into the darkness of the world when for our sake and for our salvation, he emptied himself and became obedient unto death. He did this to light our way to the Father, so that we might come to know the Father and know the love he has for us, who gave his only Son for us.

After worshipping the child Jesus, the Magi returned to their countries by a different way. Similarly, the communion we share in our Week of Prayer together must inspire us to return to our lives, our churches and our world by new ways. Traveling by new ways is an invitation to repentance and renewal in our personal lives, in our churches and in our societies. Following Christ is our new path. What does this mean in practice? It requires a commitment to defending human dignity, to a future in which all human beings can experience life, peace, justice, and love. In this way, Christians, united as one, become a star that leads to the LIGHT we have in Jesus.

By being such a star, we become a sign of hope and a sign of God's presence with his people, accompanying his people through the difficulties of life. By word and through action Christians are called to light the way so that Christ might be revealed, once again, to the nations.

The pandemic continues to prevent us from an in-person gathering for prayer with the other faith communities of Cromwell. However, as we celebrate this Week of Prayer, we are mindful and grateful for the spirit of unity that we have as Christians in Cromwell. The oneness we experience amidst our diverse faith traditions in Cromwell is a light!

God bless,
fr. Mark

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Faith Formation

Office: (860) 635-5156
DRE: Karen Romegjalli
E-MAIL: SJCFFDRE@GMAIL.COM
Faith Formation Office Hours

Mon, Tues & Thurs 9:30am - 1:30pm or by appointment

In observance of the holiday, there are no faith formation classes this weekend. In addition, the Faith Formation Office will be closed Monday, January 17th.



We wish the following faith formation students: **Peter, Sean, Lauren, Chase, Mateo & Connor** birthday blessings as they celebrate their birthday this week.

Open House at Xavier High School

If you are interested in learning more about Xavier, please join us for a tour on Tuesday, February 8th from 6 - 7:30 p.m. Register at xavierhighschool.org (click on Admissions and then chose Open House). Please contact Matthew McCaffrey, Director of Enrollment Management with any questions at (860) 346-7735 x743.

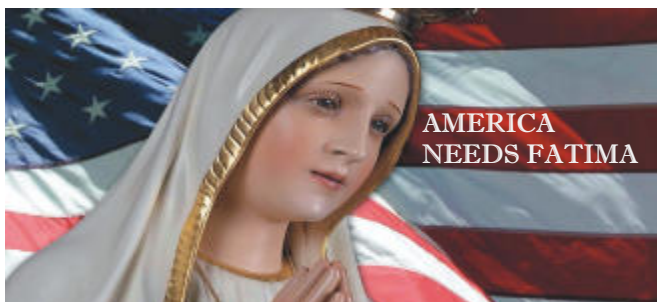


Open House at St. John Paul II



Please join us for an open house on Sunday, January 30th from 12pm to 3 pm at St. John Paul II Catholic School - 87 South Main Street in Middletown, CT.

Please note: Face masks are required while inside the building.



Please join us on January 22, 2022, at noon, for a Rosary Rally to be held in front of St. Sebastian Church in Middletown. 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 gifts) are our greatest blessing. The rally will be held rain or shine.

Virtual Marriage Enrichment



For Valentine's Day this year, give your spouse the gift of your time and re-energize your marriage by attending a virtual enrichment entitled *The Joy of Love* on Saturday, Feb. 12, 2022, from 10 A.M. to 2 P.M. Based on Chapter 4 of Pope Francis' *Amoris Laetitia: the Joy of Love*, the enrichment will feature four talks on Daily Love, Conjugal Love, Passionate Love and Transformation of Love. Each talk will include practical insights from Pope Francis' wisdom on marriage and family life. This enrichment is for married couples of all ages and years married. There is a \$15 fee that covers workbooks for each couple. Registration and payment are due by Feb. 1. The program takes place online and requires participants to have an internet connection. To register, send your names, address, telephone number, email address and check made payable to the Annual Catholic Appeal to Mary-Jo McLaughlin, Catholic Family Services, 199 Broadway, Norwich, CT 06260 or call her at 860-848-2237, Ext. 312, or email her at mmclaughlin@norwichdiocese.net.

Middlesex Hospital Vocal Chords Scholarships



The Executive Board of the Middlesex Hospital Vocal Chords is requesting applications for its annual scholarships to be awarded to students from Middlesex County pursuing a career in nursing or music who have been accepted at an accredited college or university. The review committee will consider academic records, extracurricular and community service activities, the student's ability to articulate his/her career goals and the recommendations of references. The \$1,000 scholarships will be paid directly to the recipients at the Spring Concert at Portland High School, Saturday May 7th, 7:00 pm at Portland High School. Applications are available at the school guidance office or by calling Dianne at 860-344-0743. Deadline is Tuesday March 8th. Visit us on the web at vocalchords20.org for more information.

Singers Wanted

Do you like to sing. but can't read music? No problem! The Middlesex Hospital Vocal Chords has many members just like you who love to sing. No auditions necessary! Just a love of music, singing and a commitment to rehearse every Tuesday night. Proof of Covid 19 vaccination required for all members.

Rehearsals start Tuesday February 1st at 6:45 pm at St. Francis Church, Msgr. Fox Parish Hall, 10 Elm St. Middletown. A spring concert will take place on May 7th at Portland High School.

For more information, visit www.vocalchords20.org, check us out on Facebook (Middlesex Hospital Vocal Chords-and don't forget to Like us when you're there) and Instagram ([mhvocalchords](https://www.instagram.com/mhvocalchords)) or call Joyce (860-342-3120) or Diane (860-347-2787). We're looking forward to having you join our Vocal Chord family!



JANUARY 16, 2022



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 of a state based on law are 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,

Bishop of Norwich

ST. JOHN CHURCH PARISH POLICIES

BAPTISM: Parents desiring to have their daughter/son baptized must be a registered member of the Parish and need to call the Parish Office to make the necessary arrangements. If this is their first child, they must participate in a Baptismal Preparation process prior to the Baptism.

REGISTERING AS A PARISHIONER: To register as a parishioner, please call the Parish Office.

SPONSOR CERTIFICATES: To obtain a sponsor certificate from St. John Church for the Sacraments of Baptism or Confirmation, one must be a registered, active and supporting member of St. John Church for at least 6 months.

MARRIAGE: Arrangements for a wedding need to be made in person by the parties of the proposed marriage at least one year in advance and prior to setting any date.

SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING: is given to those who are seriously ill or about to undergo surgery. Please call the Parish Office, 860-635-5590 to make arrangements.

Readings for the week of January 16, 2022



When the wine ran short, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." And Jesus said to her, "Woman, how does your concern affect me? My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servers, "Do whatever he tells you." - Jn 2:3-5

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 3:20-21

Next Sunday: Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15/1 Cor 12:12-30 or 12:12-14, 27/Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21

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