

# ***The Parish Family of Saint Mary of Czestochowa Church***

Rectory: 79 South Main Street, Middletown, CT 06457

Church Entrance: 28 Hubbard Street (GPS Directions)



[www.stmarymiddletown.com](http://www.stmarymiddletown.com)

<b>Pastor</b>	Rev. Richard Sliwinski
<b>Administrative Assistant</b>	Maureen Czentnar
<b>Director of Religious Education</b>	Susan Ferraiolo
<b>Bulletin Editor</b>	Maria Furno Appell
<b>Website Administrator</b>	Karen Hoover
<b>Trustees</b>	John J. Ziomek, Sr Susan Sienko

**Office Hours** Mon thru Fri 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

**Telephones** Rectory/Cemetery (860) 347-2365

Fax (860)347-2110

#### Email

<b>Office</b>	<a href="mailto:office@stmarymiddletown.com">office@stmarymiddletown.com</a>
<b>Pastor</b>	<a href="mailto:pastor@stmarymiddletown.com">pastor@stmarymiddletown.com</a>
<b>Faith Formation</b>	<a href="mailto:faithformation@stmarymiddletown.com">faithformation@stmarymiddletown.com</a>
<b>Bulletin</b>	<a href="mailto:bulletin@stmarymiddletown.com">bulletin@stmarymiddletown.com</a>

#### St. John Paul II Regional Catholic School

Mr. Lawrence Fitzgerald, Principal  
87 South Main Street, Middletown  
(860)347-2978 Website: <http://www.jprii.org/>

#### Holy Mass Schedule

Monday, Thursday & Friday at 7:30 am

Wednesday at 6:30 pm

Saturday Vigil at 4:00 pm

Sunday at 8:30 am (Polish) & 10:30 am

#### Confessions

3:15 pm Saturday or by appointment

#### Anointing of the Sick

Please contact the rectory office

#### Baptism

By appointment

#### Wedding

Arrangements must be made six months in advance

Our Church is equipped with a personal PA system for the hearing impaired. Please ask an usher for assistance. We extend a warm welcome to visitors, and hope that you find our community a place to nourish your faith. Please introduce yourself to the Pastor and call the rectory to register.

# Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time~ January 31, 2021

## Mass Intentions

©J.F.P.C.

<b>Saturday</b> 3:15 pm 4:00 pm	<b><u>January 30</u></b> Confessions +Kazinierz Kusek Offered By Sister Josephine Rogers
<b>Sunday</b> 8:30 am Polish 10:30 am	<b><u>January 31</u></b> +Adam Wilczynski Offered By His Loving Parents OPEN INTENTIONS
<b>Monday</b> 7:30 am	<b><u>February 1</u></b> +Eugene Dunn Offered By His Loving Family
<b>Wednesday</b> 6:30 pm	<b><u>February 3</u></b> OPEN INTENTIONS
<b>Thursday</b> 7:30 am	<b><u>February 4</u></b> Living & Deceased Members of the Rosary Society
<b>Friday</b> 7:30 am	<b><u>February 5</u></b> Living & Deceased Members of the Wiesnieski Wiercioch Families
<b>Saturday</b> 3:15 pm 4:00 pm	<b><u>February 6</u></b> Confessions +Frank Bogdan Offered By His Loving Family
<b>Sunday</b> 8:30 am Polish 10:30 am	<b><u>February 7</u></b> +Andrzej Czuwara Offered By His Loving Family Manuel Del Prado Offered By Robert Del Prado

*In Our Thoughts  
& Prayers*



Anyone not comfortable with receiving communion can make an Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

### Weekly Collections

**January 23-24**  
Offertory~ \$2310.  
Air Conditioning~\$ 5242.

[stmarymiddletown.com/donate](http://stmarymiddletown.com/donate)

**Thank you for your generosity!**

### The Diocesan Pro-Life Mass

will take place at the  
**Cathedral of St. Patrick in Norwich**  
**Saturday, Feb. 6**  
**at 8:30 A.M.**

Please join our celebrant  
**Rev. Walter Nagle**  
at Mass as we pray to end abortion and  
for the healing for those who have had an abortion.  
Following the Mass, the Rosary  
will be prayed both at the Cathedral  
and Planned Parenthood.

### The Sanctuary Lamp

January 31-February 6

Is Lit in Loving Prayer for

**All Parishioners For A  
Happy & Healthy New Year**



# St. John Paul II Catholic School

# Open House

January 31, 2021 1-4 pm



Call now to schedule a tour

860.347.2978

[www.jpil.org](http://www.jpil.org)

## *Raffle Fundraiser*

Every year we looked forward to our annual Polish dinner and raffle, but now due to the pandemic we have had to cancel. We decided to have at least a fundraiser by selling raffle tickets.

On March 6, 2021 we will hold a drawing.

**1st Prize is \$2000**

**2nd Prize is \$700**

**3rd Prize is \$300**

Each raffle ticket booklet will contain 10 tickets at \$5.00 each. All proceeds will go towards a new AC System for the church.

You should have received a mailer with tickets and a letter from our pastor. Additional tickets are available at the rectory. All unsold tickets must be returned. Please continue to check the bulletin for further announcements.

**CHURCH RAFFLE**

## *Marriage Preparation Classes*

With the uncertainty surrounding Covid-19, the Catholic Family Services Office will be offering virtual or one-on-one marriage preparation classes for engaged couples. All formal live classes have been suspended through July 1, 2021.

Couples getting married in 2021 or beyond, should contact Mary-Jo McLaughlin at the Catholic Family Services Office to establish class dates. She can be reached Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays at **860-848-2237, Ext 312** or by email at [mmclaughlin@norwichdiocese.net](mailto:mmclaughlin@norwichdiocese.net).



## Thanks to You!

**Catholic Charities** deeply appreciates your ongoing support which has allowed us to continue to provide much needed basic human necessities to those in our community.

With your generous donations over the holidays, Catholic Charities was able to provide 313 individuals and families with a Thanksgiving meal and 404 families and children with toys, gift cards, food and much more this Christmas!

You have made an impact in the lives of your neighbors in need, and we

**THANK  
YOU!**

Visit [www.ccfns.org](http://www.ccfns.org) to see how you can help!



Catholic  
Charities

### **XAVIER HIGH SCHOOL'S \$20,000 RAFFLE**

will yield one winner. It could be you!

The winner will be chosen on April 30 at 11 a.m. in front of Xavier. Tickets are \$100 each, and there is no limit to the number you can purchase. You do not need to be present to win, but you must be 18 years or older to participate.

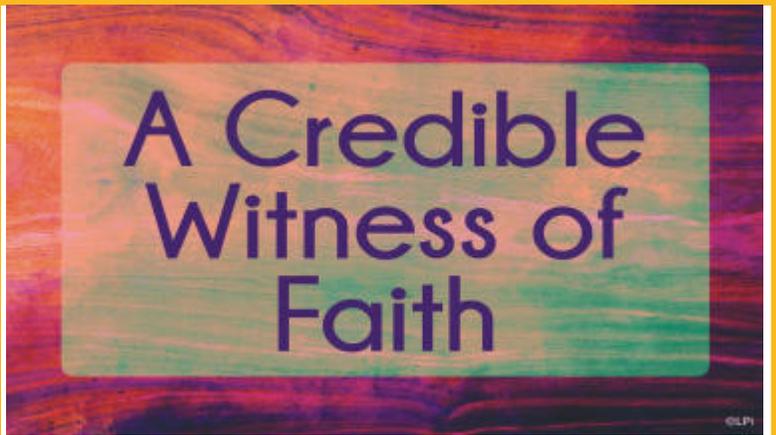
Tickets can be purchased online, through the mail or in person in the Advancement Office, Room 105.

Information on online purchases or a form to be mailed in can be found at [xavierhighschool.org](http://xavierhighschool.org). Click on **Alumni & Giving**, and then click on **\$20,000 Cash Raffle**. The raffle is a game of chance, as such it is not considered a charitable contribution as per State of Connecticut and IRS guidelines.

All proceeds will benefit the Xavier Annual Fund.

For more information contact the  
**Advancement Office 860-346-7735 or email**  
[advancement@xavierhighschool.org](mailto:advancement@xavierhighschool.org).





# A Credible Witness of Faith

Most of us are quiet people who desire to live a good and holy life, promote the values and mission of the Gospel as best we can and desire to one day inherit the surprise of life eternal God promises to us. We are not trail blazers. We are simple people who want to do the simple things of life well. But there are others who left a more profound impact along the way of the paths they walked. Folks like Dorothy Day, Martin Luther King, Thomas Merton, Gandhi, St. Teresa of Calcutta, and many others left lasting impacts and legacies. Like Moses, they show us by word and deed who God is and what integrity and a purpose driven life look like. They show us how to be holy. We need Moses people like these to give us inspiration, hope and an example of holy living. We do not need to do what they did or even mirror their relationship with God. Each one of us is God's special creation, with a purpose and soul known only to us. We need to learn how to open up and bring, without compromise, our soul-ness to life. We know when someone is authentic and centered because they always point to truth, even though they struggle and sin themselves, and they embody an unspoken timeless wisdom that just sounds and feels right. Jesus taught with this same type of authority and it astonished many who listened. We do not need to move mountains, advance a cause, write books or become notable. All we have to do is become credible witnesses of the faith we profess. Moses people can teach us how to do this.

St. Oscar Romero was an amazing man and a Moses figure for sure. He saw God in the burning bush and brought the flame of Gospel faith to the poorest of the poor, challenging the evils of the society in which he lived. He was tireless and persistent. He must have gotten very close to the problem because it cost him his life. He suspected it would. St. Romero said, "When we leave Mass, we ought to go out the way Moses descended Mt Sinai: with his face shining, with his heart brave and strong to face the world's difficulties." We can learn from this wisdom. If we allow the power of the Mass to truly transform us, we will leave that holy encounter changed. Our face will shine, and we will have courage. We can then bring what we have received to life's challenges. That sounds doable, doesn't it? Because of the example of our simple holiness, people will be amazed.

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## St. John Paul II

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