

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

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

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

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Pastor	pastor@stmarymiddletown.com
Faith Formation	faithformation@stmarymiddletown.com
Bulletin	bulletin@stmarymiddletown.com

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 an 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.

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time~ February 7, 2021

Mass Intentions

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Saturday 3:15 pm 4:00 pm	<u>February 6</u> Confessions +Frank Bogdan Offered By His Loving Family
Sunday 8:30 am Polish 10:30 am	<u>February 7</u> +Andrzej Czuwara Offered By His Loving Family +Manuel Del Prado Offered By Robert Del Prado
Monday 7:30 am	<u>February 8</u> +Joseph, John, & Weronika Pawelczak Offered By Mary Pawelczak
Wednesday 6:30 pm	<u>February 10</u> Living & Deceased Members of the Lachowicz Family
Thursday 7:30 am	<u>February 11</u> OPEN INTENTIONS
Friday 7:30 am	<u>February 12</u> +Thomas Coughlin Offered by John & Hilda Forneris
Saturday 3:15 pm 4:00 pm	<u>February 13</u> Confessions +Mary A. Kokoszka Offered By Caroline, William & Robert Kokoszka
Sunday 8:30 am Polish 10:30 am	<u>February 14</u> +Mateusz Kalinowski Offered By His Loving Family +Camilla Dente Offered By Her Loving Family

*In Our Thoughts
& Prayers*



Anyone not comfortable with receiving communion can make and 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 30-31

THE OFFERTORY TOTALS WILL BE REPORTED NEXT WEEK

stmarymiddletown.com/donate

Thank you for your generosity!

Rectory News

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic and social distancing guidelines, the rectory office is only open for emergency issues.

If you wish to reserve masses or a Tabernacle candle for loved ones, please email or mail your list of intentions to the rectory office.

The Sanctuary Lamp

February 7-13

Is Lit in Loving Prayer

For the Intercession of St. Jude



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.

RAFFLE TICKETS FOR SALE

©LPI

THANK YOU
for your generosity

We would like to thank Emily Wysocki who very generously donated \$5000 towards the replacement of the Air Conditioning System for the Church.

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.



Life is a Journey

If I only knew then what I know now, how different life would be. This sentiment, expressed in myriad ways, is found on every human being's lips at one point or another. Life may have brought us to a vulnerable place where we see some of the poor choices we made and the effects they are having. Perhaps we fell into some destructive and dysfunctional relationships or behaviors and are finding how they held us captive. Our zeal and passion for life may have drifted away and we are waking up to the reasons apathy has taken hold. Life can be hard. In fact, some would describe their lives as a drudgery. They walk through each day with an anxious unsettledness, wondering when their restlessness will cease.

There is a temptation to believe that what I see is all I will get. Mortality and hopelessness await the dawn. If I could only have known what would come in the future, I could have made better choices and avoided all of this misery!

Really? While we can certainly give into weakness, sin, impulsiveness, and idiosyncrasies that cause us to stumble over ourselves, life is really a journey. If we don't make the mistake of wallowing in the mire of self-pity and realize the new life God is calling us to, then there are thrills, adventures, surprises, and soulsearching graces we can surely miss. We are not tethered to our past nor are we bound to the ills life can bring upon us. We are never hopeless or helpless. The problem is that our myopic vision only allows us to see the misery and misfortune that is before us, not the potential that can come from choosing healthier and more life-giving options. Jesus came that we might have fullness of life. We need to learn how to reach for Jesus' hand and let him help us to our feet.

We need to allow God into our pain and heal our past. We have to wrestle with our histories, agonize and search and cry out for the Divine healing we need to restore our faith, hope, and love. Job could not see how his story would end or trust the guidance of the God who called him. We live in that same blindness and suffer from the same lack of confidence. Once we allow ourselves to be touched by God's healing power, we begin to see that all of the pieces of our lives are necessary parts of a greater whole. Along the way of our lives, God uses our omissions and failures to create new things and possibilities. When doors close, others open and we can be amazed by the joyful and unexpected surprises we receive. Once we know the power of God's creative, healing, life-giving, forgiving, and dynamic presence, it is no wonder we want to put ourselves at the service of others and show them what life can be.



Lenten Season

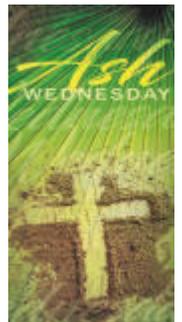
(all Masses and services will be held in the church)

Weekdays Masses during Lent season

Monday – 7:30am
Wednesday – 7:00pm (St. Jude Novena)
Thursday – 7:30am
Friday – 7:30am

Ash Wednesday – February 17 **(with sprinkling the ashes on the head)**

7:30am – morning Mass
7:00pm – Mass
(St. Jude Novena starts)



St. Jude Novena

Every Wednesday starting Ash Wednesday
(February 17 until April 14) , at 7:30 pm



Stations of the Cross:

Every Friday during Lent season
7:00pm – (English /Polish)

Polish Lamentations (Gorzkie Zale) – **Every Sunday (starting February 21)**

8:10am - (before Polish Mass which starts
8:30am each Sunday)

Lent Confessions:

Every Saturday – 3:15pm-3: 45pm
March 27 (Saturday) – 3:00pm- 3:45pm
March 31 (Wednesday) – 7:30pm



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