

# ***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>	Magdalena Jaszczur
<b>Director of Religious Education</b>	Susan Ferraiolo
<b>Bulletin Editor</b>	Maria Furno Appell
<b>Website Administrator</b>	Karen Hoover
<b>Trustees</b>	Krystyna Kamal Thomas Dente

**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>
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<b>Bulletin</b>	<a href="mailto:bulletin@stmarymiddletown.com">bulletin@stmarymiddletown.com</a>
<b>Ministry</b>	<a href="mailto:ministry@stmarymiddletown.com">ministry@stmarymiddletown.com</a>
<b>Knights of Columbus</b>	<a href="mailto:jpiikofc@gmail.com">jpiikofc@gmail.com</a>
<b>Website</b>	<a href="mailto:website@stmarymiddletown.com">website@stmarymiddletown.com</a>

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

87 South Main Street, Middletown  
(860)347-2978 Website: <http://www.jpil.org/>

#### **Holy Mass Schedule**

**Monday, Thursday & Friday at 7:30 am**  
**Wednesday at 6:30 pm (September 1-June 30)**  
**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.**

# The Baptism of the Lord~ January 9, 2022

## Mass Intentions

- Saturday**      January 8  
**4:00 pm**      **In Celebration of 100th Anniversary of Polish Knights Society**  
Offered by the Polish Knights Society
- Sunday**      January 9  
**8:30 am**      **Living & Deceased Members of the Rosary Society**  
**(Polish)**      +Cecilia S. and Walter J. Smoloski  
**10:30 am**      +Dian E. Smoloski &  
                         +Dr. Walter J, Smoloski Jr.
- Monday**      January 10  
**7:30 am**      **OPEN INTENTIONS**
- Wednesday**      January 12  
**6:30 pm**      +Mary Trzcinska  
Offered by her family and friends
- Thursday**      January 13  
**7:30 am**      +Mary A. Kokoszka  
**On the occasion of her birthday**  
Offered by Carole, Robert and William
- Friday**      January 14  
**7:30 am**      **For Blessings and Graces for Stephanie Deshefy**  
Offered by Susan Sienko
- Saturday**      January 15  
**4:00 pm**      +Anne T. Sienko  
Offered by her loving daughter Susan
- Sunday**      January 16  
**8:30 am**      +John L. Forneris  
**(Polish)**      **Offered by Pat & Halina McGuire**  
**10:30 am**      +Ruth DelPrado  
                         **Offered by her loving husband Bob**



We are currently in need of additional *Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers and Altar Servers.*

For more information contact  
[ministry@stmarymiddletown.com](mailto:ministry@stmarymiddletown.com)  
or the parish office at 860-347-2365



We extend a warm welcome to all 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.

### *Weekly Collections*

January 1-2  
**WILL BE REPORTED NEXT WEEK**

**Thank you for your generosity!**  
Visit [www.stmarymiddletown.com](http://www.stmarymiddletown.com)

### *Sanctuary Lamp*

January 9-15

Is Lit in Loving Memory of

***Mary Kokoszka***

*Offered by Carole, Robert and William Kokoszka*



# Baptism

We Welcome to Our Parish

**Leland David Lord**

Son of

**Alana (Campanelli) and Jeremy**

**Lord**

Whose Baptism Is This Weekend

*Take this little one dear Father into your loving arms,  
Cover and protect them, guide them from all harm.*



## ***Pray for Vocations***

**Join Bishop Cote in prayer**

***January 20th, 6 pm***

***Sacred Heart, Groton***

Come pray for those who are called to priestly or consecrated religious life.

Join the Diocesan Prayer Team for Vocations

at [vocations@norwichdiocese.net](mailto:vocations@norwichdiocese.net)

and check out the website at [god-call.com](http://god-call.com)

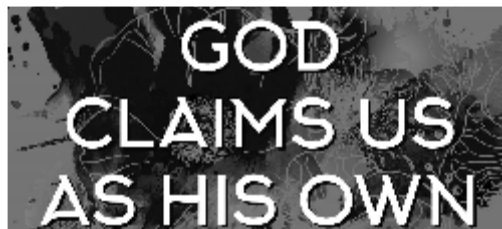
## ***The Baptism of the Lord***

“We are called to live our baptism every day, as new creatures, clothed in Christ.”—Pope Francis

What reference point do you use when making decisions? Many times, impulse takes control and decisions are made based solely on emotion and desire. We all know that these types of decisions can often get us into trouble. When a person has a confident sense of who they are and a real understanding of what is important and of value, the likelihood of kneejerk impulsive choices diminishes. Baptism gives us what we need to make well informed and purposeful decisions. By this simple gesture, God claims us as His own and provides us with the identity and purpose we need to properly live life.

It is tremendously reassuring, when we truly embrace this revelation and realize that we no longer have to wonder about the purpose of our lives or struggle to find our way. The answer of who we are in God has been given to us. We no longer have to fumble around, trip over ourselves or walk aimlessly about. Issues surrounding the sacredness of life, the meaning of death, the protection of those most vulnerable, care for the weak and the poor, offering hospitality to those in search of a home, the purpose and proper place of work, how to create a just social order, caring for creation, and understanding our roles as heralds and stewards are just a few of the wonderful gifts baptism brings. When we make decisions based on things such as these core Gospel truths we really act as Christ himself, revealing to others the new creations that we are. This is how we live our baptism.

It is difficult to walk against the tide. Yet, that is precisely what baptism calls us to do. Although we are sinners, in need of mercy and far from perfection we are called to order our life and make decisions based upon the wisdom and guidance of Almighty God. He alone is the one who can claim us as His sons and daughters. Standing up for our principles will not make us popular. But who ever said Christianity is a popularity contest? Baptism calls us to stand up for that which goes against the grain of secularism. Standing in line with other sinners, we have our anchor to steady us in the tempests of life and God is very pleased. Forge ahead. There is nothing to fear.



### ***Virtual Marriage Enrichment***



For Valentine's Day this year, give your spouse the gift of your time and reenergize your marriage by attending a virtual enrichment entitled ***The Joy of Love*** on Saturday, Feb. 12, 2022, from 10-2.

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](mailto:mmclaughlin@norwichdiocese.net).**

### ***Bishop Flanagan Ministry Center***

We are reaching out to the community during the cold winter months and asking for donations of handmade scarves. Whatever you could do to help support our new



***“Street Ministry”*** to the poor would be greatly appreciated. Drop off any donations in the box in the foyer of the church.

### ***Norwich Diocesan Women's Conference***

Please Save the Date  
**March 26, 2022**

Virtual Spring

#### **Norwich Diocesan Women's Conference**

Keynote speaker, author, and certified spiritual director Liz Kelly will present ideas from her book

#### ***Love Like A Saint.***

The morning will also include a message from Bishop Cote, the naming of this year's Our Lady Queen of Hope Award recipient and much more all from the comfort of your own home!

**For more information, please contact  
The Office of Faith Events  
at 860-848-2237, or  
[manicholas@norwichdiocese.net](mailto:manicholas@norwichdiocese.net)**

## St. John Paul II Catholic School



Open House  
January 30, 2022  
12:00-3:00 pm  
www.jpil.org  
860.347.2978

*Face masks are required while inside the building*



Prayer shawls are available in the foyer of the church for parishioners to take and give to anyone needing comfort in dealing with illnesses or going through difficult times.

Please let us know who will be receiving a shawl by signing our prayer book so that we may continue to pray for those touched by our ministry.

## END OF YEAR GIVING STATEMENTS

Parishioners requiring statements of charitable donations for tax purposes may request one through the parish office. They will be mailed out starting in late January.



**Our Thanks to Biega Funeral Home  
for donating the 2022 calendars.**

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