

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

**Telephones** Rectory/Cemetery (860) 347-2365  
Fax (860)347-2110

**Email**

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<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>
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<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="http://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.**

## Second Sunday in Ordinary Time~ January 16, 2022

# Mass Intentions

**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

**Monday**      **January 17**  
**7:30 am**      **Good Health for Mary Tomczak**  
Offered by Phil Rogers

**Wednesday**      **January 19**  
**6:30 pm**      +Andrew Trzcinski  
Offered by her family and friends

**Thursday**      **January 20**  
**7:30 am**      +John L. Forneris  
Offered by the Szczygiel Family

**Friday**      **January 21**  
**7:30 am**      +Adawina Bartosz  
Offered by the Szczygiel Family

**Saturday**      **January 22**  
**3:15 pm**      **Confessions**  
**4:00 pm**      +John J. Ziomek, Sr.  
Offered by Barbara Penney and  
Ann Charton

**Sunday**      **January 23**  
**8:30 am**      +Thomas Grote  
(Polish)      Offered by the Malon Family  
**10:30 am**      +Mary Loretta (Wiernasz) Reale  
Offered by Anne & Ted Nowakowski &  
Shirley & Gene Wiernasz

### *Please Note!!!!*

Due to a post office issue, the next packet of donation envelopes has been delayed. The situation has now been solved and the mail is on its way. In the meantime there are envelopes available in the foyer of the church. Please fill in with your name and address and if possible envelope number .

### *Have you moved?*

Please inform the church office of any address changes. We strive to maintain an accurate mailing list. Returned mail is costly and frustrating for everyone involved. Thank you!



### *Weekly Collections*

**January 1-2**  
Offertory ~\$1942.00  
School Support~\$802.00

**January 8-9**  
Offertory~\$1665.00  
Air Conditioning~\$269.00

**Online Giving December 2021 ~\$2290.41**

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

### *Sanctuary Lamp*

**January 16-22**

Is Lit in Loving Memory of

**Anne T. Sienko**

*Offered by her loving daughter*

*Susan Sienko*



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

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.

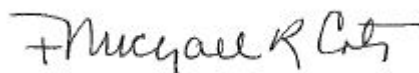
January 22, 2022, marks 49 years since the landmark Supreme Court decision legalizing (Roe v. Wade) abortion in the United States. According to the General Instruction of the Roman Missal, January 22nd is a particular day of prayer and penance called the "Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn 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 our midst--the unborn.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Bishop of Norwich

# Baptism

We Welcome to Our Parish

***Lilia Aldone Szczerbicki***

daughter of

**Melissa Nicole (Razel) and Adam Frank  
Szczerbicki**

Whose Baptism Is This Weekend

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

## ***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 greatly appreciated. Drop off any donations in the box in the foyer of the church.



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



**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)

*St. John Paul II Catholic School*



*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.



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.



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