



# Saint Kateri Tekakwitha Parish

The Member Churches of

Sacred Heart ~ Kent

St. Bernard ~ Sharon

St Bridget ~ Cornwall Bridge

Monsignor Vittorio Guerrera ~ Pastor

Parish Trustees

Mr. Jerry Tobin Mrs. Stephanie Plunkett

## MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday  
and First Friday  
9 AM SACRED HEART ~ KENT

**SATURDAY VIGIL 4 PM**  
SAINT BRIDGET CHURCH  
7 River Road ~ Cornwall Bridge

**SUNDAY 8 AM**  
SAINT BERNARD CHURCH  
52 New Street ~ Sharon

**SUNDAY 10 AM**  
SACRED HEART CHURCH  
17 Bridge Street ~ Kent

HOLY DAY MASS SCHEDULE  
CONSULT THE BULLETIN

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Before Mass or by appointment.

## PARISH OFFICE

Mrs. Sandy Papsin ~ Parish Secretary  
Monday, Thursday & Friday 9 - 4:30  
860-927-3003

Mailing Address:  
PO BOX 186 Kent, CT 06757  
WEBSITE: [saintkaterict.org](http://saintkaterict.org)  
EMAIL: [office.stkaterict@gmail.com](mailto:office.stkaterict@gmail.com)

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATORS

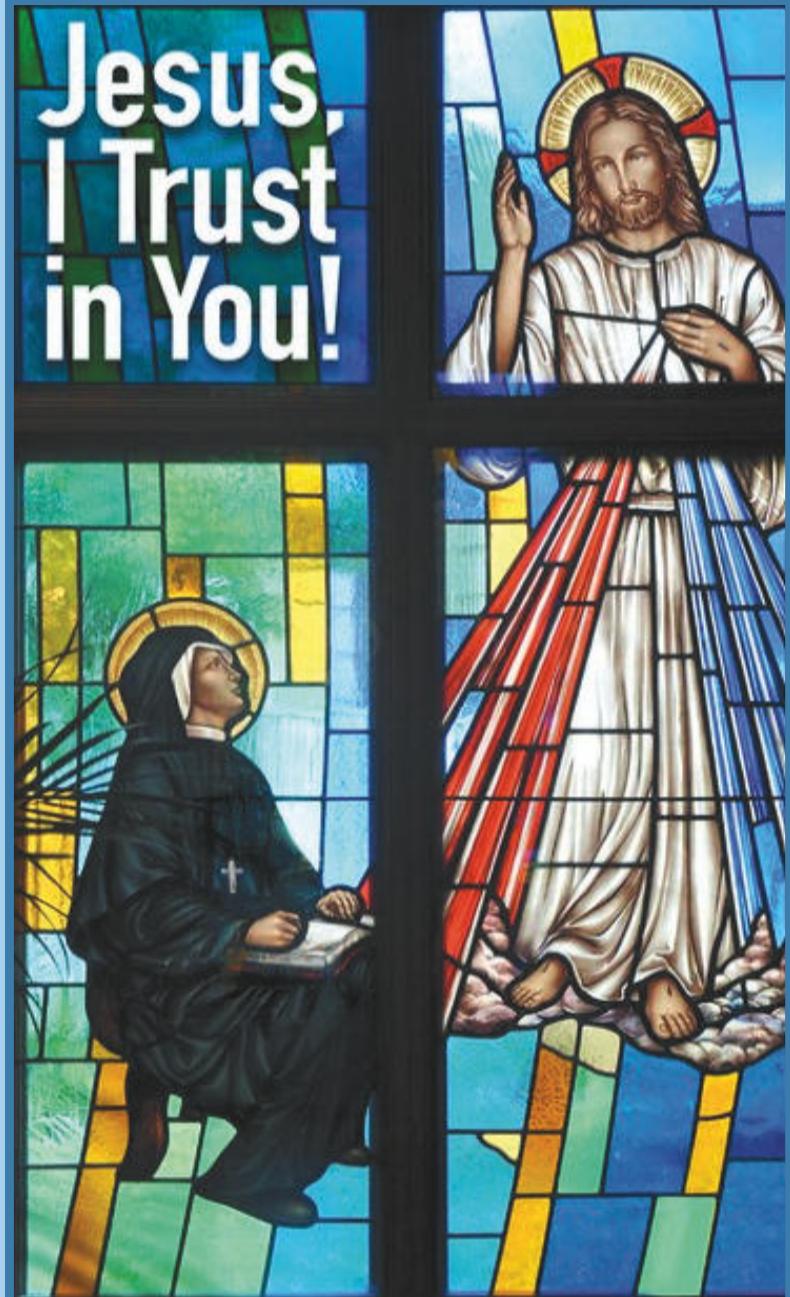
Martha Lane & Kathleen Lindenmayer

## BAPTISM & MARRIAGE

Registered parishioners are asked  
to make arrangements by calling the  
Parish office



ALL THREE PARISH  
WORSHIP SITES





# DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

## A Note From The Pastor

Thank you to all those who assisted with the liturgy of the Sacred Triduum leading up to the great Solemnity of the Resurrection of the Lord. I thank the decorators, readers, musicians, altar servers, ushers, our dedicated sanitizing teams at each worship site, and the young people in our Confirmation program who spruced up the grounds at Sacred Heart and planted flowers. I'm also grateful to those who sent Easter greetings and home baked goods. Your generosity is most appreciated.

May the risen Lord bestow His choicest blessings upon you this Eastertide.

*Monsignor Guerrera*

## SOMETHING TO PONDER

What a wonderful joy fills us today as we ponder the inexhaustible mercy of God. "Mercy is the heart of God," Pope Francis tells us. The image of a heart has been used to point to the very life source of a person as it is the organ that allows life to flow through our veins and sustain us. Mercy is the heart of God. Imagine this dynamic, powerful, compassionate, piercing, embracing, loving, propelling, penetrating, absorbing, and enveloping, transforming presence of God flowing into the very depth of our souls. It is God's mercy that allows blood to flow through our veins. It is God's mercy that forms every atom of our being and leads us to what is true. God's mercy reveals all superficiality and falsehood, and lays bare all distortions, empty promises, weakness, and sin.

"Mercy is the force that reawakens us to new life and instills in us the courage to look to the future with hope," Pope Francis continues. God's all forgiving, compassionate love is with us. When we finally believe and accept that Christ's resurrected transfigured presence resides with us, we then find within us a strong confidence to accept life's imperfections and disappointments and move on. Every day is a new adventure in new life. God leaves the past behind and opens doors to the future. It doesn't matter how many mistakes we made yesterday. All that matters is what we do tomorrow and what we learn along the way. It is so easy to remain tethered and mired in the past, but there is no need to do so. God is all about tomorrow and the work God has yet to do in our lives.

Mercy gives birth to hope. Hope for the greatest of sinners and hope for the worst of disasters. There is nothing God cannot do and nothing God cannot fashion. After all, everything we know and treasure was once nothing, and look what God did with the nothing God had! The resurrected Christ stands before us with nail marks in his wrists and wounds on his body as a testament that not even injustice, suffering and death can trample over and destroy God's mercy. What have we to fear? Why do we keep ourselves from peace? Our lack of faith prevents us from going forward and fully receiving the holiness God desires to breathe upon us.

"Jesus, I trust in Thee".

In your prayers, we ask that you please remember fellow parishioners who are sick, hospitalized, recovering, alone, or in nursing homes. They are important to all of us. Thank you for your consideration of their hardships.



## FIRST READING

Acts 4: 32



The community of believers was of one heart and mind, and no one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they had everything in common. With great power the apostles bore witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great favor was accorded them all. There was no needy person among them, for those who owned property or houses would sell them, bring the proceeds of the sale, and put them at the feet of the apostles, and they were distributed to each according to need.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

## SECOND READING

1 John 5: 1-6

Beloved: Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is begotten by God, and everyone who loves the Father loves also the one begotten by him. In this way we know that we love the children of God when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whoever is begotten by God conquers the world. And the victory that conquers the world is our faith. Who indeed is the victor over the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? This is the one who came through water and blood, Jesus Christ, not by water alone, but by water and blood. The Spirit is the one that testifies, and the Spirit is truth.

## GOSPEL

Jn 20: 19-31

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained." Thomas, called Didymus, one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples said to him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger into the nail marks and put my hand into his side, I will not believe." Now a week later his disciples were again inside and Thomas was with them. Jesus came, although the doors were locked, and stood in their midst and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe." Thomas answered and said to him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. But these are written that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that through this belief you may have life in his name.

We are all God's children so it is important to share His gifts. Do not worry about why problems exist in the world—just respond to people's needs.

~St. Mother Teresa ~ Meditations from a Simple Path

"There is nothing more man needs than Divine Mercy - that love which is benevolent, which is compassionate, which raises man above his weakness to the infinite heights to the holiness of God."

~ St. John Paul II



### SAINT BERNADETTE SOUBIROUS' STORY

Bernadette Soubirous was born in 1844, the first child of an extremely poor miller in the town of Lourdes in southern France. The family was living in the basement of a dilapidated building when on February 11, 1858, the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to Bernadette in a cave above the banks of the Gave River near Lourdes. Bernadette, 14 years old, was known as a virtuous girl though a dull student who had not even made her first Holy Communion. In poor health, she had suffered from asthma from an early age.

There were 18 appearances in all, the final one occurring on the feast of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, July 16. Although Bernadette's initial reports provoked skepticism, her daily visions of "the Lady" brought great crowds of the curious. The Lady, Bernadette explained, had instructed her to have a chapel built on the spot of the visions. There, the people were to come to wash in and drink of the water of the spring that had welled up from the very spot where Bernadette had been instructed to dig.

According to Bernadette, the Lady of her visions was a girl of 16 or 17 who wore a white robe with a blue sash. Yellow roses covered her feet, a large rosary was on her right arm. In the vision on March 25 she told Bernadette, "I am the Immaculate Conception." It was only when the words were explained to her that Bernadette came to realize who the Lady was.

Few visions have ever undergone the scrutiny that these appearances of the Immaculate Virgin were subject to. Lourdes became one of the most popular Marian shrines in the world, attracting millions of visitors. Miracles were reported at the shrine and in the waters of the spring. After thorough investigation, Church authorities confirmed the authenticity of the apparitions in 1862.

During her life, Bernadette suffered much. She was hounded by the public as well as by civic officials until at last she was protected in a convent of nuns. Five years later, she petitioned to enter the Sisters of Notre Dame of Nevers. After a period of illness she was able to make the journey from Lourdes and enter the novitiate. But within four months of her arrival she was given the last rites of the Church and allowed to profess her vows. She recovered enough to become infirmarian and then sacristan, but chronic health problems persisted. She died on April 16, 1879, at the age of 35.

Bernadette Soubirous was canonized in 1933.

**Q. Who was the greatest female financier in the Bible?**

**A. Pharaoh's daughter. She went down to the bank of the Nile and drew out a little prophet.**

**Q. Who was the greatest male financier in the Bible?**

**A. Noah. He was floating his stock while everyone else was in liquidation.**



### READINGS FOR THE COMING WEEK

Monday: Acts 4:23-31/Ps 2:1-3, 4-7a, 7b-9 [cf. 11d]/Jn 3:1-8

Tuesday: Acts 4:32-37/Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5 [1a]/Jn 3:7b-15

Wednesday: Acts 5:17-26/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [7a]/Jn 3:16-21

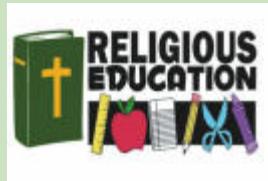
Thursday: Acts 5:27-33/Ps 34:2 and 9, 17-18, 19-20 [7a]/Jn 3:31-36

Friday: Acts 5:34-42/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 [cf. 4abc]/Jn 6:1-15

Saturday: Acts 6:1-7/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19 [22]/Jn 6:16-21



My Jesus,  
I believe that you are truly  
present in the  
Most Blessed Sacrament.  
I love You above all things  
and I desire to possess  
You within my soul.  
Since I am unable at this  
moment to receive You  
sacramentally,  
come at least spiritually  
into my heart.  
I embrace You as being  
already there, and unite  
myself wholly to You. Never per-  
mit me to be  
separated from You. Amen.



Our next Faith Formation Program class will be held this Sunday, April 11th beginning with the 10 AM Mass at Sacred Heart. It is hoped that all of our students will be in attendance at Mass and at class afterwards.

The Catholic Relief Services Lenten Alms Giving Program using the Rice Bowl boxes has ended. Please place your labeled and secured Rice Bowl Box in the collection box located in the vestibule. Thank you!



As of March 30th, 48 families/households from our parish have donated \$ 11,555.00 for the 2021 Archbishop's Annual Appeal. In these trying times, the need of our surrounding community grows and the assistance provided by the Appeal becomes all the more crucial. If you have not yet made your gift to this year's Appeal, please consider doing so in the days ahead. Your gift to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal will help continue the vital services, ministries and programs that help so many throughout our Archdiocese. All funds contributed to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal are used exclusively for the purposes outlined in the Appeal literature, which can be found at:

<https://archdioceseofhartford.org/appeal/>.

No Appeal funds are ever used for legal fees or settlements.



### CATHOLIC BIBLICAL SCHOOL HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE 2022

You are invited to join spiritual guides, Archbishop Blair and Bishop Betancourt for a biblical retreat in the HOLY LAND, set for January 6-17, 2022. Walk in the paths Jesus trod, pray together and share Christian fellowship at biblical sites including the Mount of Beatitudes, Calvary, the Upper Room, Church of the Holy Sepulchre and so much more! If you are interested in this journey, contact BJ Daly Horell at:

[catholic.biblical.school@aohtc.org](mailto:catholic.biblical.school@aohtc.org)

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