



Saint Kateri Tekakwitha Parish Member Churches

Sacred Heart ~ 17 Bridge Street ~ Kent

Saint Bernard ~ 52 New Street ~ Sharon

Saint Bridget ~ 7 River Road ~ 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 CHURCH

SATURDAY VIGIL 4 PM

SAINT BRIDGET CHURCH

SUNDAY 8 AM

SAINT BERNARD CHURCH

SUNDAY 10 AM

SACRED HEART CHURCH

PLEASE CONSULT THE BULLETIN
FOR HOLY DAY MASSES

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Before Mass or by appointment.

PARISH OFFICE

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

Mailing Address:

PO BOX 186 Kent, CT 06757

WEBSITE: saintkaterict.org

EMAIL: office.stkaterict@gmail.com

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATORS

Kathleen Lindenmayer & Gwynne Seufert

LITURGICAL MUSIC

Michael Brown

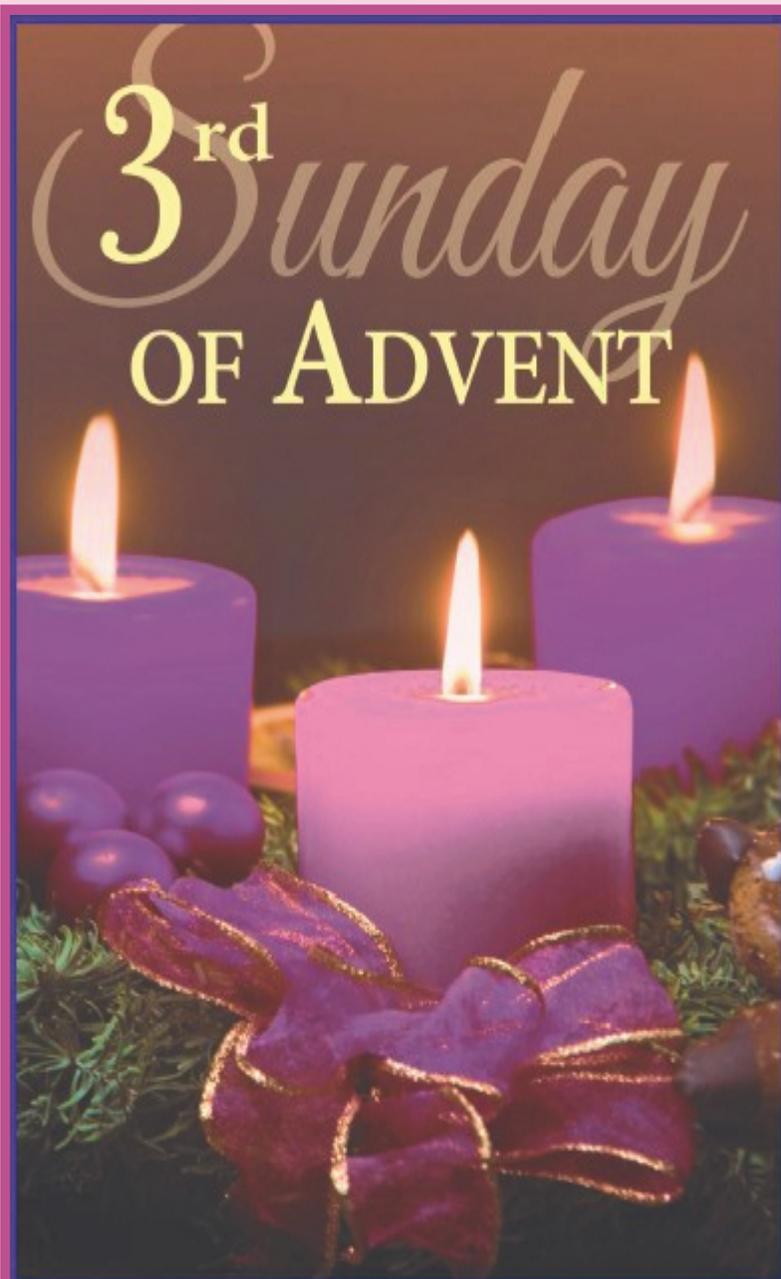
Joseph McDonough

BAPTISM & MARRIAGE

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



**ALL THREE PARISH
WORSHIP SITES**



SUNDAY DECEMBER 12th, 2021

MASS INTENTIONS OF THE WEEK

SATURDAY DECEMBER 11th
SUNDAY DECEMBER 12th
THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

4 PM ~ CORNWALL BRIDGE

Francis Kwok, MD

Requested by Ellen and John Genovese

8 AM ~ SHARON

Vivian Sullivan ~ Requested by Matt Sullivan

10 AM ~ KENT

Antonette Genovese

Requested by Ellen and John Genovese

MONDAY DECEMBER 13th ~ 9 AM ~ KENT
Saint Lucy

Michael Brown ~ Mass of healing requested by parishioners

TUESDAY DECEMBER 14th ~ 9 AM ~ KENT
Saint John of the Cross

John J. O'Connell III ~ Requested by his wife

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 15th ~ 9 AM ~ KENT
Blessed Mary Frances Shervier

Priest's Intention

SATURDAY DECEMBER 18th
SUNDAY DECEMBER 19th
THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

4 PM ~ CORNWALL BRIDGE

Frank Tansey ~ Requested by Karen Tansey

8 AM ~ SHARON

Deceased Members of the Saint Bernard Senior Group

Requested by parishioners

10 AM ~ KENT

Raymond McCarthy Sr.

Requested by Ellen and John Genovese

This 3rd Sunday of Advent symbolizes Joy with the "Shepherd's Candle" reminding us of the Joy the world experienced at the coming birth of Jesus.

The Sanctuary Lamp signifies the Eucharistic presence of the Lord Jesus in the Tabernacle and burns for seven days.

This week, the Sanctuary Lamp at Saint Bernard Church burns for the glory of God and in loving memory of Vivian Sullivan requested by her nephew Matt Sullivan.

Sanctuary Lamps may be memorialized in each of the three churches of St. Kateri Tekakwitha. If you would like to reserve a week in any of our churches, please contact Sandy at the parish office.



SACRIFICIAL GIVING FOR THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

WEEKLY ENVELOPES: \$ 3,635.00.
DECEMBER MONTHLY: \$ 1,206.95.
ON LINE GIVING: \$ 1,105.00.

Thank you for your generosity and steadfast commitment to our Parish. May God bless you and your families.



A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

Today's Gospel tells us to SHARE! This Christmas try to resist the pressure to give token gifts. Instead, use some of those funds to give necessities to the poor. If our impoverished brothers and sisters are not on our gift list, we've missed the true meaning of Christmas.



PRAY THE ROSARY

The Rosary prayed to Mary is a powerful prayer as Mary intercedes for each of us. Her Son never denies His mother. This Tuesday, the Rosary is prayed at Sacred Heart following the 9 AM Mass. The intention this week is for military families who are separated from loved ones this Christmas. Spend just twenty minutes praying the rosary. Your prayers will always be heard.

Mass Intentions

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is the most precious gift that one can offer for another person as it is the offering of the sacrifice of Jesus Himself on the cross. The Eucharist is "the source and sharing of the Christian life" [CCC # 1324].

The Saint Kateri Parish Mass Intention Book for 2022 is open for those wishing to schedule Mass Intentions for family members, loved ones, or special intentions. Mass offerings are \$20 for a Sunday Mass and \$15 for a weekday Mass.

If you would like to schedule a Mass Intention, please give Sandy a call at the Parish Office.



Thank you for remembering those in our parish family and local communities who are sick, hospitalized, and elderly in your daily prayers. Your simple acts of kindness do not go unappreciated, especially as the effects of the pandemic continue to affect many. A phone call to check in, a note with heartfelt thoughts really make a difference, so thank you!

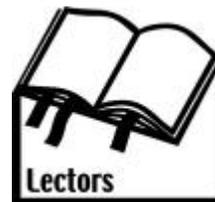
GIVE YOUR GIFTS ONLINE



We are so very grateful for your continued support of Saint Kateri Parish.

ON LINE GIVING allows you to make contributions without writing checks or worrying about cash donations. This site:

stkateriparishkent.weshareonline.org allows you to set up automatic contributions and to change the timing and/or amount of your gift at any time.



We are seeking parishioners to come forward who are willing to serve as Lectors at Mass. You may serve at the church that you usually attend. If you are interested, please call the parish office or speak with Monsignor after Mass.



CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Envelopes may be found in the vestibules for anyone wishing to make donations in memory of loved ones and to decorate our sanctuaries for Christmas. Thank you.

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS WHAT IS THE RCIA?

RCIA is the program for anyone wishing to receive their sacraments of initiation - Baptism, Holy Eucharist or Confirmation. The program is an exploration of the fundamental teachings of the Catholic faith. All are welcome. For further information please speak with Monsignor Guerera after Mass or call the Parish Office (860) 927-3003.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John, "What did you go out to the desert to see? A reed swayed by the wind?" (Matthew 11:17) Jesus might ask each of us the same thing: "What did you go to the Mass to see?" Did you go to be strengthened by the Eucharist, to hear the Good News? Or did you go out of obligation or habit, because it's what you're supposed to do? Or maybe you weren't expecting anything at all. Today, let's ask ourselves, what do we go to see at Mass? What does this sacrifice, memorial, and celebration mean for us? Incidentally, there's a lot to see at Mass today. Look for the rose color everywhere. Today is Gaudete Sunday, "*Gaudete*" means rejoice. The Entrance Antiphon of Holy Mass takes up St Paul's words in the Letter to the Philippians where it says: "Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I will say, Rejoice". Today we light the rose candle on the Advent Wreath as we rejoice in the Lord's coming.

Why ROSE today? The season of Advent originated as a fast of forty days in preparation for Christmas, commencing on the day after the feast of St. Martin (November 12).

St. Gregory the Great was the first to draw up an Office for the Advent season, and the Gregorian Sacramentary is the earliest to provide Masses for the Sundays of Advent. In both Office and Mass, provision is made for five Sundays, but by the tenth century four was the usual number, though some churches of France observed five as late as the thirteenth century. Notwithstanding all these modifications, however, Advent still preserved most of the characteristics of a penitential season which made it a kind of counterpart to Lent, the middle (or third) Sunday corresponding with "*Laetare*" or Mid-Lent Sunday. As on Laetare Sunday, the music and flowers, forbidden during the rest of the season, were permitted to be used; rose-colored vestments were allowed instead of purple (or black, as formerly). Gaudete Sunday, therefore, makes a breaker like Laetare Sunday, about midway through a season which is otherwise of a penitential character, and signifies the nearness of the Lord's coming.

The Church is God's special dwelling place and people come to pray, so please be aware of this and kindly refrain from idle chatter before and after Mass. Also, please remember to silence your phone before entering church—conversations in church are reserved for those between you and God.
Reminder: No Food or drink in church.

OUR SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND IS THE ARCHDIOCESAN COLLECTION FOR OUR RETIRED RELIGIOUS WHO HAVE SERVED GOD AND HIS PEOPLE WITH THEIR VOCATIONS.



In today's Gospel, there is a question posed three times: "What shall we do?" It is raised to John the Baptist by three categories of people: first the crowd in general, second, the publicans or tax collectors, and third, some soldiers. They want to know what must be done to implement the conversions that he is preaching. John's reply to the question of the crowd is sharing essential goods. He told them to share basic necessities, and therefore says: "He who has two coats, let him share with him who has none, and he who has food, let him do likewise." Then, he tells the tax collectors to collect no more than the amount owed. What does this mean? No taking bribes, John the Baptist is clear. And he tells the soldiers not to extort anything from anyone and to be content with their wages. There are three answers to the three questions of these groups. Three answers for an identical path of repentance, which is manifested in concrete commitments to justice and solidarity. It is the path that Jesus points to in all his preaching: the path of diligent love for neighbor. We feel that this question is ours also. In the words of John, it is necessary to repent, to change direction and take the path of justice, solidarity, sobriety: these are the essential values of a fully human and genuinely Christian life.

GIVE YOURSELF A CHRISTMAS PRESENT

Lord, Jesus, every Christmas, I need a quiet moment, just one silent moment. A moment outside of time, a moment without bells. Without carols or cards. A moment away from worrying about presents and parties. Just ONE quiet moment, either in church or when all have gone to bed. A moment when I can be still and picture myself, one by one, as a shepherd, wise man, Scrooge, inn keeper, Little Drummer Boy, as George Bailey discovering "It's a Wonderful Life," a moment when I can experience You with me as the Christmas Present.

PARISH WINTER WEATHER POLICY

If schools in Region 1 are either delayed or cancelled due to the weather, weekday morning Masses will not be celebrated

For weekend Masses, please use your own judgement regarding safety. If weekend Masses are cancelled, it will be posted on all of the major television networks...CT NBC, CT FOX 61 and WFSB. You can also access these stations on line and check their cancellation listings. Again, please use your judgement and be safe.

The measure of greatness is not the number of servants you have, but the number of people you serve.

THE STORY OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

The feast in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe goes back to the 16th century. Chronicles of that period tell us the story.

A poor Indian named Cuahtlatohuac was baptized and given the name Juan Diego. He was a 57-year-old widower, and lived in a small village near Mexico City. On Saturday morning December 9, 1531, he was on his way to a nearby barrio to attend Mass in honor of Our Lady.



Juan was walking by a hill called Tepeyac when he heard beautiful music like the warbling of birds. A radiant cloud appeared, and within it stood an Indian maiden dressed like an Aztec princess. The lady spoke to him in his own language and sent him to the bishop of Mexico, a Franciscan named Juan de Zumarraga. The bishop was to build a chapel in the place where the lady appeared.

Eventually the bishop told Juan to have the lady give him a sign. About this same time Juan's uncle became seriously ill. This led poor Juan to try to avoid the lady. Nevertheless the lady found Juan, assured him that his uncle would recover, and provided roses for Juan to carry to the bishop in his cape or tilma.

On December 12, when Juan Diego opened his tilma in the bishop's presence, the roses fell to the ground, and the bishop sank to his knees. On the tilma where the roses had been appeared an image of Mary exactly as she had appeared at the hill of Tepeyac.

"It is good to be children sometimes, and never better than at Christmas when its mighty Founder was a child Himself." Charles Dickens



The Pastor was clearly nervous as he cast Jimmy, the middle school class clown, as Joseph in the annual Christmas pageant. His fears were realized when Jimmy decided to do a little improvisation by pulling out his cell phone in the pageant's opening scene.

The astonished priest, who was narrating, asked, "What are you doing with your phone?"

Jimmy smiled and replied, "Father, this year I'm phoning that inn to make a reservation!"

READINGS FOR THE COMING WEEK

Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9 [4]/Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 and 23 [7a]/Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday: Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21c-25/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [Is 45:8]/Lk 7:18b-23

Thursday: Is 54:1-10/Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a, and 13b [2a]/Lk 7:24-30

Friday: Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:1-17

Saturday: Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:18-25

CONFIRMATION

THE NEXT CLASS TAKES PLACE NEXT SUNDAY,
DECEMBER 19th BEGINNING AT 8:30 AM IN SACRED
HEART CHURCH HALL FOR ALL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS.



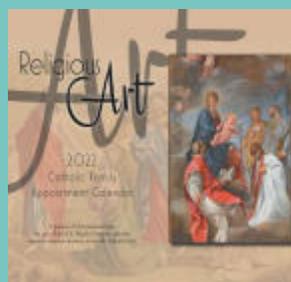
ALL GIFTS ARE DUE THIS WEEKEND. THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO HAVE WORKED ON THIS TRADITIONAL PARISH PROJECT, AND ALSO TO THOSE WHO DONATED TO MAKE THIS A BLESSED AND MERRY CHRISTMAS FOR MANY FAMILIES. GOD LOVES YOU!



Christmas Eve Mass ~ 4 PM
Saint Bridget
Saint Bernard
Sacred Heart



Christmas Day Mass
10 AM Sacred Heart



OUR 2022 PARISH RELIGIOUS ART CALENDARS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR EACH PARISH FAMILY COMPLIMENTS OF THE LILLIS FUNERAL HOME PLEASE BRING A CALENDAR HOME FOR YOUR FAMILY TODAY

GAUDETE SUNDAY

We are now midway through Advent and today is a day of rejoicing, traditionally called "Gaudete Sunday" (gow-DAY-tay). "Gaudete" is Latin for "rejoice" and antiphon for the Third Sunday of Advent. Before we started singing hymns in English, the Introit was normally chanted in Latin as the priest approached the altar. It helped to set the mood and theme of the Mass of the day. The Introit for the Third Sunday of Advent comes from Philippians 4, Paul's warm and loving letter to the community at Philippi. The optional use of rose-colored vestments underscores the joyful character of today's liturgy.

Gaudete Sunday dates back to the Middle Ages, when the season of Advent bore a penitential character similar to that of Lent. At that time, Advent was a forty-day period of fasting and penance in preparation for Christmas. It commenced on the day after Saint Martin's Day (November 12) and was thus often referred to as "St. Martin's Lent." In the midst of a dark and serious Advent, Gaudete Sunday helped to brighten the mood. In the ninth century, Advent was reduced to four weeks and its austere character gave way to a new understanding of Advent as a time of longing, hoping, and waiting for the Lord.



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