LOCATION

Christ the King Rectory

84 Somerset St.

Wethersfield, CT 06109

p: 860-529-2545 f: 860-529-5861

w: christthekingparishct.org

e: corpuschristi1@cox.net

facebook.com/ChristtheKingCT

MASS SCHEDULE

Daily Masses

Mon. - Sat. 7:30am

Weekend Masses

Sat. - 4:00pm Vigil

Sun. - 8:00am 10:15am

5:15pm—first Sunday of the month

Daily and Saturday Vigil Masses also live-stream on Facebook

Reconciliation Sat. - 2:30pm

Holy Hour Sat. - 8:00am-9:00am

PARISH STAFF

Pastor

Rev. Nicholas P. Melo frnickmelo@gmail.com

Parochial Vicar

Rev. George Vellaplackil fgvellaplackil@gmail.com

Deacon

Michael Cassella mecassella@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant

Rose Melvin

Business Manager

Niki Bordieri

Bulletin Editor

Mary Scott

Music Director

Thad Terzo

Plant Manager

Greg Silva

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Director of Religious Education

Sharon Reynolds

p: 860-721-9419

e: corpuschristiccd@aol.com

CORPUS CHRISTI SCHOOL

p: 860-529-5487

e: schoolmail@

corpuschristischoolct.org

w: corpuschristischoolct.org

Principal

Ann Sarpu

Secretary

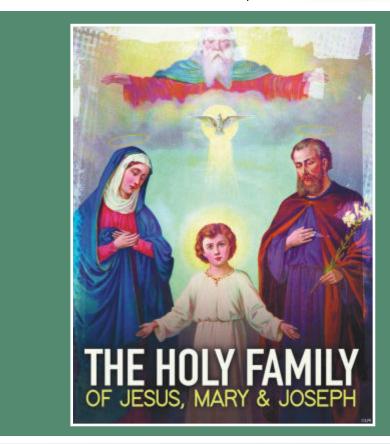
Ann Marie Spina



Our Parish Mission Statement

Nourished weekly at the Table of the Lord, we go forth as disciples of Jesus to proclaim what we believe through our every word and deed.





BAPTISM

After 10:15am Sunday Mass Registration is required. Please call the rectory office.

SACRAMENTS FOR THE SICK

We are happy and honored to visit the sick or homebound. Please notify the rectory.

MATRIMONY

Please contact rectory office at least six months in advance.



WELCOME

UPCOMING EVENTS

BEYOND BIBLE STUDY

MONDAY, 700pm. Meet in St. Joseph Hall.

CHOIR PRACTICE

TUESDAY, 6:30pm. Meet in choir loft.



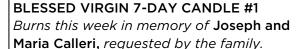
CANDLES-DECEMBER 26-JANUARY 1

SANCTUARY CANDLE #1

Burns this week in memory of Anna Hamel, requested by her daughter Mary Ann.

SANCTUARY CANDLE #2

Burns this week in memory of Concetta Melo, requested by the Aldi Family.



BLESSED VIRGIN 7-DAY CANDLE #2
Burns this week for Christ the King Parish.



MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26—THE MOST HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

8:00am Stephen Skelly, requested by Fred and Mary Anne Hepburn.

10:15am William J. Graver, requested by Bruce and Linda.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 27— Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist

7:30am Richard Davis, requested by his wife.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28—The Holy Innocents, Martyrs **7:30am David John Kaiser,** requested by Rose.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29—Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord; Saint Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr

7:30am Peter Rocco Jeski, requested by the family.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30—Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

7:30am Mass Intention Available.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31—Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord; Saint Sylvester I, Pope 7:30am Mass Intention Available.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 1—The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord; Solemnity of Mary Mother of God
9:00am Mass Intention Available.

Solemnity of Mary Mother of God is not a holy day of obligation this year.

Vigil-Epiphany of the Lord

4:00pm Mass Intention Available.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 2—EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

8:00am Mass Intention Available.

10:15am Ted Jachym, requested by his wife.

5:15pm Mass Intention Available.



WORD TO THE FAITHFUL



I hope and pray that you had a wonderful start to your Christmas season. That's

right, Christmas is not over, even though you could never tell by looking at our society. In fact, we celebrate Christmas for TWO more weeks. Make sure you leave your tree up, as well as the lights and decorations until January 9th! Continue to play those Christmas carols as we rejoice in the birth of our Savior.

Today the church does that with the Feast of the Holy Family. We reflect on Jesus' supporting cast when he came into this world - the influence and role of Mary and Joseph. Without them, Jesus would not have been able to grow into the man he did. We look to the Holy Family for the example of how we can and should live as holy

families as well. Jesus, Mary and Joseph, pray for us!

As a side note, unfortunately, St. Stephen gets overlooked this year because it falls on a Sunday. His feast day is December 26th. Stephen was a deacon of our church, and the first martyr, giving his life for Jesus Christ. Let us pray that through his intercession, we too might always and everywhere give witness to the world around us to Jesus and his Gospel! St. Stephen, pray for us!

Next Sunday the Christmas celebration continues with the Feast of the Epiphany, recalling Jesus' being made manifest to the entire world. God sent His Son not just to save a few close, chosen people. He came so that everyone could have the hope of a new and eternal life. When you come to church next weekend, we invite you to bring

your Nativity from home to be blessed during Mass. If it is a large set, simply bring the baby Jesus. During Mass you will be asked to hold the Nativity as we say a prayer of blessing and sprinkle them with holy water.

And finally, we will conclude the Christmas season the following Sunday – January 9th – with the celebration of Jesus' baptism. This marked the beginning of his public ministry, doing the work which his Father sent him to do. We recall, at the same time, our own baptism, and the work we were asked by God to do here on earth.

As we conclude the calendar year, let us give thanks to God for all the blessings of 2021, and let us ask Him to open our hearts to receive all that He will give us this coming year. Happy New Year to all!

Father Nick



Dear friends, I wish you a wonderful, Blessed Christmas to all of you. May the Baby Jesus bless you and

your family with good health, peace, joy and happiness.

There is an interesting legend of how a mother was cleaning the house in preparation for Christmas. Not a speck of dust was left and even all the spiders were banished from their cozy homes in the ceiling.

It was Christmas Eve and the Christmas tree, and the Crib was also decorated.

But, at the farthest end of the attic, the spiders, after having been chased away and taken refuge in

that corner, were feeling miserable. They too wished to see the Christmas tree and especially have an encounter with the Baby Jesus. But they were afraid, since the mother of the house would chase them away. The oldest spider among them, however, came up with a proposal, that they could perhaps peep across the side door and have a glimpse of Baby Jesus. So, the spiders silently crept out of the attic, down the stairs, across the floor, and waited in the crack in the side door. But suddenly the door was opened by someone, and the spiders, in fear, ran to the room. But all of them still desired to see the Christmas tree from close. So they decided to make a bold attempt... They quietly crept over the whole Christmas tree... over

every branch and twig, till their desire to see its beauty was fulfilled.

But to their dismay, each of them had left their webs behind. When Child Jesus saw the Christmas tree marred by the spider webs, He was in a dilemma. On one side, He was impressed by the simple desire of the spiders... On the other side, He did not want the mother of the house to be offended.

So He touched the spider webs,

so He touched the spider webs, and they all turned to sparkling and shimmering, silver and gold!

(This is probably the origin of hanging colorful tinsels on our Christmas trees, and sometimes even including a spider!)

.....continued on next page

OUR FAITH COMMUNITY

FROM FATHER'S DESK—Continued

One of the important dimensions seen in this legendary story is the intense desire of the spiders and their willingness to take the chance to be bold in their attempts and even be ready to risk their lives to have their Divine longing fulfilled.

Such is to be the readiness of every Christian... Having an intense desire. Being willing to take chances. Being bold. Ready to even risk their lives in defense of faith and in growing to be a Disciple - in the likeness of Christ.

Have a great week and here is a thought;

During a Sunday school lesson, a child learned about how God created human beings. The child became especially focused when the teacher explained how Eve was created from Adam's ribs. Later in the week, the boy's mother saw him lying down on the floor, so she asked him what was wrong. His reply was priceless: "Mom, I have a pain in my side—I think I'm getting a wife."

Father George



CHRIST THE KING/ INCARNATION MERGER

The Transition Team encourages all parishioners to refer to the parish websites for the FAQ's which were included in the Bulletins on the weekend of December 18 and 19 regarding the merger that will be taking place within the Christ the King and Incarnation communities. In addition, if there are any questions or concerns that you would like to share with the Transition Team you may e-mail them to the team at the following e-mail address: incarnation.ctk@gmail.com

The websites can be found at:

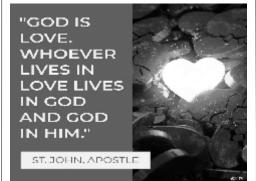
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www.thechurchoftheincarnation
.com
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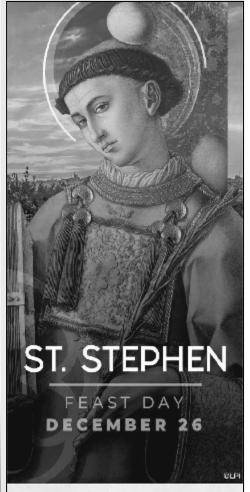
WEEKLY FOOD DRIVES

We will continue to collect food for our Town and Hartford Churches each week. Ongoing food needs per the Wethersfield Hunger Action Taskforce include:

Canned green beans, carrots, and peas, canned ravioli, ramen noodles, instant oatmeal, soups

(Chunky or Progresso), snacks, jelly, peanut butter, and pasta sauce.





SAINT OF THE WEEK

The Acts of the Apostles tells the story of St. Stephen, the first Christian martyr. A man filled with grace and power, he worked great wonders among the people. Some Jews debated with St. Stephen but could not match his wisdom and spirit. Eventually, a charge of blasphemy was brought up against him, and the local population demanded that he be tried and sentenced. He was seized and carried before the Sanhedrin.

Despite the danger he faced, in front of the Sanhedrin and his accusers, St. Stephen gave a long speech about the history of Israel and the blessings that God had given upon His chosen people. He talked about how Israel had become disobedient despite God's abundant mercy. This enraged his accusers, and eventually the crowd dragged him out of the city and stoned him to death.

Even in his final moments, St. Stephen displayed great. For giveness and even asked God not to hold the sins of his attackers against them. Hundreds of years after his death, he is still a role model for us to follow.

JOIN US

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



Next week: January 2 No Class Happy New Year!!

> Grades 7-10 5:15pm Mass

Parish Support

Due to the Christmas holiday, this bulletin was submitted to the publisher prior to our December 19 collection. Amounts will appear in next week's bulletin.



FRIDAY ROSARY

Due to the uncertainty of the weather in January and February, the Friday Rosary group will not meet.
However, private recitation of the Rosary on Fridays is an option. Watch the bulletin for further information.

BLESSING OF NATIVITIES

Next weekend the church continues our Christmas celebration with the Feast of the Epiphany, marking Jesus' being made known to people in every part of the world.

The crèche, while a depiction of Jesus' birth in a manger, also reflects the people who created that particular crèche. As a result, every crèche is unique and different, and tells a story about the people in the region it is from.

We invite you to bring a Nativity from your home to be blessed at Mass next weekend. If it is too large, you can bring just the Baby Jesus. During Mass we will say a special prayer of blessing and sprinkle them with holy water, so that you can bring that blessing back home with you.



HOMELESS BAGS

Thank you for all you donations this far. Because of your generosity we have been able to make 400 bags to be distributed thus far. We recently made 100 bags for children. These will be distributed to the children in need in Hartford for Christmas. They will receive snacks, warm hats and mittens.

We have currently collected \$2300. All this money is matched by a generous donor. They will continue to match up to \$100.

We are continuing this project. Our next assembly will be January 30. Our religious education students will be assembling an additional 400 bags.

We have created an Amazon link to make it a little easier for purchases.

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3I5TLCG70N9S0? ref =wl share

We continue to collect in church and accept monetary donations. The success of this endeavor is all because of your incredible generosity!

Thank you and God bless you all during this Christmas season.





LEARN AND GROW

Prayer Shawl Ministry 2021

The Christ the King Prayer Shawl Ministry met during the warm weather on the Wethersfield Green. We sat, chatted, ate our lunch, and knitted or crocheted. Now that it is colder outside, we meet in St. Joseph Hall the first and third Thursday of the month at 1:00pm. Anyone interested in joining us is welcome to just stop by.

Following is a breakdown of the donations made by our ministry in 2021. If you or someone you know would benefit from receiving a prayer shawl, please contact Mary Scott at 860-202-7163 or mlvscott33@yahoo.com.

Prayer Shawls - 30

Requested by/for CTK parishioners	
Corpus Christi School 8th Grade Graduates	14

Baby Blankets

Prayer Cloths-76

Prayer Ciouris—76	
Corpus Christi School First Communion	29
Religious Education First Communion	24
Religious Education Confirmation	23

Key Chains

Religious Education Confirmation	23

Hats for Homeless Bags

Neck Warmers /Scarves for Homeless Bags (to be included in bags assembled in January)





9

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP -RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

All in the Family

At first glance, we can often find the image of the Blessed Mother, St. Joseph and the Christ Child intimidating — who are we to aspire to that level of discipleship? How could we ever hope to conform ourselves to that mold? Sometimes, it can even be painful — perhaps we hail from a broken family or struggle with a broken relationship within our family, or perhaps we long to be a mother or a father ourselves and that state in life has eluded us.

But the image of the Holy Family is, in reality, a beautiful invitation to us all, no matter our vocation or our state in life, and the example of Mary, Joseph and Jesus is rich with the symbolism of stewardship.

You need not be a biological mother who has carried a child in her womb to be a mother in spirit. Who in your world needs you to love them with the heart of a mother?

The same goes for fatherhood. The Church and the world are crying out for the courageous witness of Christian men like St. Joseph. Who can you love with the steadfast, selfless protection of a father?

Who in your life needs you to love them with the faithful, unconditional love of a son? Who needs your gentle and constant love as a daughter?

We are the Body of Christ, friends. Those of us rejoicing in heaven, those of us suffering in purgatory, and those of us struggling here on earth. We are the great family. Let us love each other well.

- Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

Are you a registered parishioner of Christ the King Parish? If not, you can find the registration form on our parish website under "Forms," or, call the Rectory at 860-529-2545.

Registration shows you belong. It is also necessary for certain benefits, like scheduling sacraments,



obtaining sponsor certificates, and getting donation statements for taxes.

Most importantly, it lets the parish count on you. Registering in your parish is a statement of faith and confidence in the life and work of your parish.



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