

# Basilica of the Immaculate Conception

*A glorious refuge where faith, hope & charity are awakened, replenished and shared.*

## MASS

**Saturday (Vigil)**

4:15pm

**Sunday**

6:30am, 8am, 10am, 12pm and 4pm

**Monday - Friday**

6am, 8am & 12:10pm

**Wednesday & 1st Friday ONLY**

5:30pm

**Saturday**

6am & 12:10pm

## CONFESSION

**Saturday**

11am - 12pm & 3 - 4pm

**Sunday**

7:15 - 7:45am, 9:15 - 9:45am

& 11:15 - 11:45am

**Monday - Friday**

6:30 - 7am & 11am - 12pm

**Wednesday & 1st Friday ONLY**

5 - 5:25pm



via [waterburybasilica.org](http://waterburybasilica.org)

## Schedule

12:10pm Mass (Mon-Fri)

4:15pm Saturday Vigil Mass

10am & 12pm Sunday Mass



To sign-up, go to

[waterburybasilica.weshareonline.org](http://waterburybasilica.weshareonline.org)



*In their synagogue was a man with an unclean spirit;  
he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth?  
Have you come to destroy us?"*

*I know who you are—the Holy One of God!"  
Jesus rebuked him and said, "Quiet! Come out of him!"*

- Mk 1:23-25

**31 January 2021 | 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

74 West Main Street | Waterbury, CT 06702 | 203.574.0017 | [waterburybasilica.org](http://waterburybasilica.org)



## Clergy & Staff Directory

203.574.0017

Mon-Fri 8:30am-4:30pm  
[www.waterburybasilica.org](http://www.waterburybasilica.org)

### Rector

Very Rev. James M. Sullivan

### Parochial Vicar

Rev. Lee Hellwig

### Senior Priest-in-Residence

Rev. John Mariano

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### Secretary

Kim Halmose

[help@waterburybasilica.org](mailto:help@waterburybasilica.org)

### Communications/ Parish Liaison

Aurora Daly

[info@waterburybasilica.org](mailto:info@waterburybasilica.org)

### Music

Reuben Barnes

[musicdirector@waterburybasilica.org](mailto:musicdirector@waterburybasilica.org)

### Pastoral Outreach

Nicole Plasky

[outreach@waterburybasilica.org](mailto:outreach@waterburybasilica.org)

### Religious Ed

Jackie Tuil

[rel.ed@waterburybasilica.org](mailto:rel.ed@waterburybasilica.org)

## PRAYER LINE

Bob Duff at 203.573.0032

# Mass Intentions

+ = Deceased L/D = Living/Deceased

4:15pm Vigil + Kelly Romanelli, + Arthur Nolta

Sun, January 31 - *National Catholic Schools Week*

6:30am + Julia Samuel

8:00am + Ruby Jefferson - Birthday Remembrance,  
Florence Carroll & Nina Burr

10:00am + John J DePinto Sr

12:00pm + Beverly Perrotta

4:00pm + Mary Santos

Mon, Feb 1

6:00am + Kelly Ann Romanelli

8:00am Sons & Daughters of the Immaculate Conception

12:10pm + Miguel & + Luz

Feb 2 - *The Presentation of the Lord - ☩*

Tue, *World Day of Consecrated Life*

6:00am Feast Day of the Flame of Love, Special Intention

8:00am Happy 1st Birthday Gregory

12:10pm Sanctification of the soul of Catherine E Teitell

Wed, Feb 3 - *St. Blaise*

6:00am + Ruth Ellen Summa

8:00am + John Sr & + Cecelia Pawelchak, + John Jr & + Michael  
Pawelchak, Florence Carrol, Nina Burr

12:10pm Sanctification of the soul of Catherine E Teitell

5:30pm + Angelo Petta Sr

Thu, Feb 4

6:00am + Helen Antonio

8:00am + Thomas E Cullen

12:10pm Michael Jacob Ciarlo, Patricia Hayes

Fri, Feb 5 - *St. Agatha*

6:30am Sons & Daughters of the Immaculate Conception

8:00am + Mary Santos

12:10pm L/D Members of the Klesch & Murphy Families

5:30pm Patrinely, Kathrina & Darick Alteus

Sat, Feb 6 - *St. Paul Miki ☩ Companions*

6:00am + Carmella, Frank & Jerry Grieco,  
+ Gertrude G & + Michael Santone Sr

12:10pm Sanctification of the soul of Catherine E Teitell

4:15pm Vigil Michael Giblin

Sun, Feb 7

6:30am + Timothy Fitzgerald

8:00am + Dominick & + Rose Mirabelle,  
+ Anthony & + Olive Colangelo

10:00am + Donald George

12:00pm + Thomas Perrelli

4:00pm + Margaret H Goggin



# Welcome to the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception!

We invite those who attend Mass regularly but are not officially registered to join and belong! Please go to [waterburybasilica.org](http://waterburybasilica.org) for the online new parishioner form or call the parish office 203.574.0017 for a copy to be emailed to you.



## Further Extension of Dispensation from Sunday Mass Obligation

In light of the recent increase in coronavirus cases within the state of Connecticut and continued uncertainty regarding the extent and duration of the coronavirus in the state and throughout the Archdiocese of Hartford, Archbishop Blair has now extended the dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation for all the Faithful of the Archdiocese of Hartford up to and including Sunday, May 23, 2021, which is Pentecost Sunday. The Archdiocese of Hartford continues to monitor the severity of the situation surrounding the pandemic and will provide updates regarding decisions reached for the archdiocese as they are made.

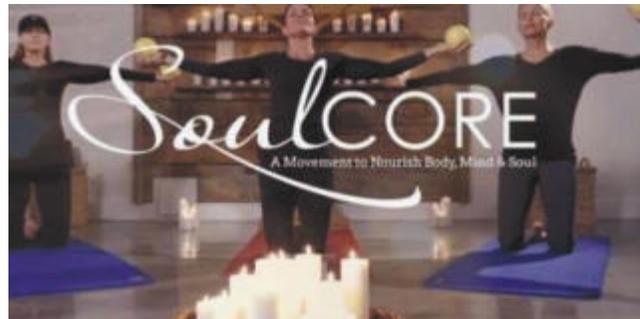


Our parishioner and SoulCore Leader **Barbara Ann Suo**, will be offering complimentary hour-long classes beginning **Saturday, 6 Feb 2021 @ 9am** & **Wednesday, 10 Feb 2021 @ 8:45am**

Participants should bring an exercise mat, bottled water and optional light hand weights (1-3lbs ea), and more importantly, an open heart!



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## From the desk of Fr. Sullivan

Dear Friends,

The COVID-19 vaccine is slowly becoming more available and as we all know from listening to the news, will take many months to be distributed to all who desire it. A few people have asked me questions concerning any moral implications that can be a concern for us Catholics.

On the following page is the **Answers to Key Ethical Questions** from the US Conference of Catholic Bishops' (USCCB) Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities and below is the condensed version of the joint statement of the USCCB Chairman of Doctrine and Chairman of Pro-Life Activities regarding the COVID-19 vaccine. We hope this is a help for anyone who may be questioning whether to be vaccinated or not.

We continue to pray for a swift end to the pandemic and for the safety and well being of all.

Blessings,  
Fr. Sullivan

On December 14, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades of Fort Wayne-South Bend, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' (USCCB) Committee on Doctrine, and Archbishop Joseph F. Naumann of Kansas City in Kansas, chairman of the USCCB's Committee on Pro-Life Activities, issued a statement on the new COVID-19 vaccines. In their statement, the bishops address the moral concerns raised by the fact that the three vaccines that appear to be ready for distribution in the United States all have some connection to cell lines that originated with tissue taken from abortions.

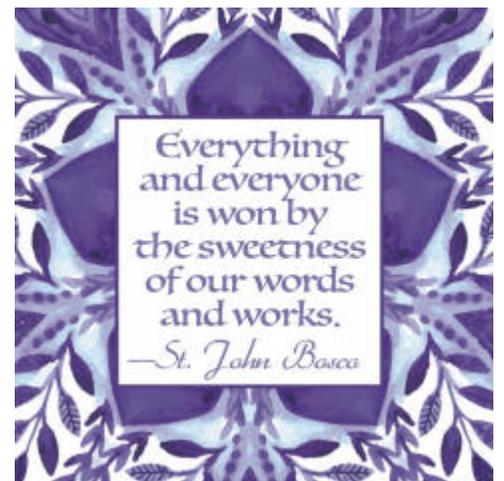
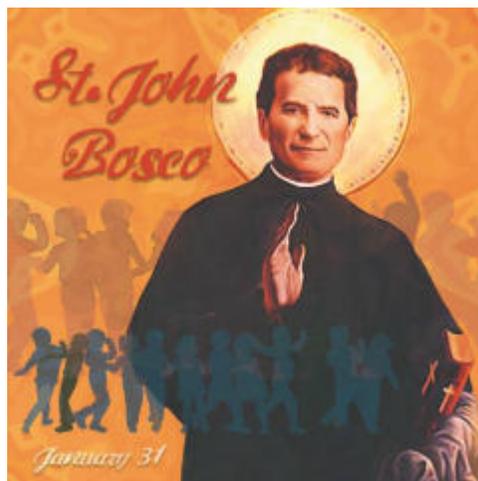
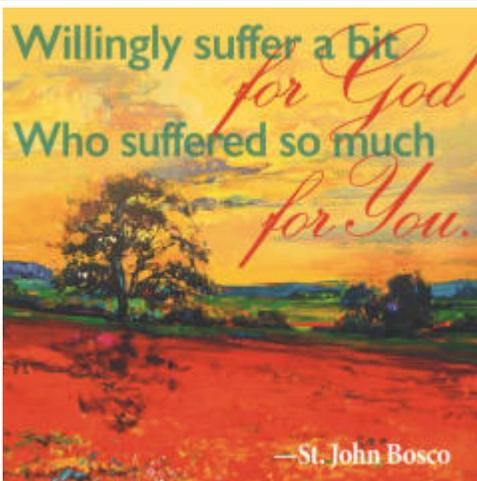
With regard to the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines, they concluded: "In view of the gravity of the current pandemic and the lack of availability of alternative vaccines, the reasons to accept the new COVID-19 vaccines from Pfizer and Moderna are sufficiently serious to justify their use, despite their remote connection to morally compromised cell lines.

"Receiving one of the COVID-19 vaccines ought to be understood as an act of charity toward the other members of our community. In this way, being vaccinated safely against COVID-19 should be considered an act of love of our neighbor and part of our moral responsibility for the common good."

With regard to the AstraZeneca vaccine, the bishops found it to be "more morally compromised" and consequently concluded that this vaccine "should be avoided" if there are alternatives available. "It may turn out, however, that one does not really have a choice of vaccine, at least, not without a lengthy delay in immunization that may have serious consequences for one's health and the health of others," the bishop chairmen stated. "In such a case ... it would be permissible to accept the AstraZeneca vaccine."

At the same time, the bishops also warned that Catholics "must be on guard so that the new COVID-19 vaccines do not desensitize us or weaken our determination to oppose the evil of abortion itself and the subsequent use of fetal cells in research."

The full statement from the bishop chairmen may be found at [www.usccb.org/moral-considerations-covid-vaccines](http://www.usccb.org/moral-considerations-covid-vaccines)



## Answers to Key Ethical Questions About COVID-19 Vaccines from USCCB's Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities dated January 2021

The development of vaccines to combat the COVID-19 pandemic has received much public attention and raised several ethical questions related to their development and use. This document is intended to provide concise answers to some of those ethical questions. *This is an edited version without the footnotes.*

**Is it true that there is a connection between some vaccines and abortion?** *Yes. Several decades ago, tissue harvested from the bodies of aborted babies was used to create certain cell lines for research purposes. The cells in these lines are, in effect, the descendants of those cells that were originally harvested. They have been made to replicate themselves and some cell lines can be reproduced indefinitely. These abortion-derived cell lines are used as a “factory” to manufacture certain vaccines (e.g. rubella, chickenpox, some of the COVID-19 vaccines, etc.). The cells themselves, however, are not present in the vaccines that patients receive.*

**What does the Church say about abortion-derived cell lines and their connection to vaccines?** *The Holy See, through the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith and the Pontifical Academy for Life, has provided guidance on this topic on four occasions. This guidance has made it clear that it is wrong to create abortion-derived cell lines and for pharmaceutical companies to utilize them, that the use of vaccines produced with such cell lines should be avoided if comparable alternatives with no connection to abortion are available, that grave reasons (e.g., serious health risks) may justify the use of vaccines produced with these cell lines when there are no such alternatives, and that everyone concerned for the sanctity of life should protest the use of these cell lines and advocate for the development of vaccines with no connection to abortion.*

**Do COVID-19 vaccines use abortion-derived cell lines?** *As of the date of this writing, hundreds of vaccines for COVID-19 are in development worldwide, and more than a dozen are in the final stages of testing. Some don't use abortion-derived cell lines at all, some have used such cell lines to test the vaccine's efficacy, and some are using such cell lines in the development and/or the production phases. There are currently two vaccines (Pfizer and Moderna) being distributed for use in the United States, and there are others that are likely to be made available in the coming months (e.g., AstraZeneca, Janssen, etc.). Neither Pfizer nor Moderna used an abortion-derived cell line in the development or production of the vaccine. However, such a cell line was used to test the efficacy of both vaccines. Thus, while neither vaccine is completely free from any use of abortion-derived cell lines, in these two cases the use is very remote from the initial evil of the abortion. The AstraZeneca and Janssen vaccines raise additional moral concerns because an abortion-derived cell line is used not only for testing, but also in development and production.*

**Is it morally acceptable to receive a COVID-19 vaccine that uses abortion-derived cell lines?** *Given that the COVID-19 virus can involve serious health risks, it can be morally acceptable to receive a vaccine that uses abortion-derived cell lines if there are no other available vaccines comparable in safety and efficacy with no connection to abortion. If it is possible to choose among a number of equally safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines, the vaccine with the least connection to abortion-derived cell lines should be chosen. If a vaccine with no connection to abortion-derived cell lines is not readily available, vaccines that used such cell lines only for testing would be preferable to those that use such cell lines for ongoing production. Such choices may not be possible, however, especially in the early stages of vaccine distribution. In that case, one may receive any of the clinically recommended vaccines in good conscience with the assurance that reception of such vaccines does not involve immoral cooperation in abortion.*

**Is there a moral obligation to receive a COVID-19 vaccination?** *The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith has noted recently that “vaccination is not, as a rule, a moral obligation and that, therefore, it must be voluntary. In any case, from the ethical point of view, the morality of vaccination depends not only on the duty to protect one's own health but also on the duty to pursue the common good.” And it said that “in the absence of other means to stop or even prevent the epidemic” vaccination may promote the common good, “especially to protect the weakest and most exposed.” For a vaccine to be effective in protecting society, most people need to be vaccinated in order to break the chain of disease transmission from person to person throughout the community. The Congregation also said that those who refuse to get vaccinated must do their utmost, by taking all the necessary precautions, to avoid “becoming vehicles for the transmission of the infectious agent. In particular, they must avoid any risk to the health of those who cannot be vaccinated for medical or other reasons, and who are the most vulnerable.”*

**What can those who uphold the sanctity of life do to protest against the use of abortion-derived cell lines and advocate for ethical vaccines?** *First, inform yourself and others about how some vaccines are connected to abortion through the use of abortion-derived cell lines, and about which vaccines use such cell lines. Second, inform your doctor about this connection and ask him or her to provide ethical vaccines, when possible. Third, urge pharmaceutical companies and medical researchers to discontinue using abortion-derived cell lines, and thank them when they do.*

**Are the COVID-19 vaccines safe and effective?** *The bishops are not and do not claim to be authorities on the safety and efficacy of vaccines. People should rely on information from authoritative sources in the field of medicine and public health, such as the Food and Drug Administration and qualified health care professionals. The FDA affirms that the vaccines authorized for emergency use in the U.S. have met all the safety and efficacy standards required for such authorization.*

**For more information and the complete, unedited version including footnotes and sources, etc., please go to:** *United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Secretariat of Pro-Life ([www.usccb.org/prolife/biomedical-research](http://www.usccb.org/prolife/biomedical-research))*

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