

Our Lady of the Assumption Parish

545 Stratfield Road

Fairfield, CT 06825-1872

Tel. (203) 333-9065

Fax: (203) 333-2562

Email: info@olaffld.org

Website: <https://www.olaffld.org>

*“Ad Jesum per Mariam”
To Jesus through Mary.*

Clergy/Lay Leadership

Rev. Peter A. Cipriani, Pastor

Rev. Michael Flynn, Parochial Vicar

Rev. Marcel Saint Jean, In Residence

Deacon Raymond John Chervenak

Deacon Robert McLaughlin

Michael Cooney, Director of Music

Masses (Schedules subject to change)

Saturday Vigil Mass: 4 PM

Sunday Masses: 7:30 AM, 9 AM 10:30 AM
and 12:00 PM (Subject to change)

Morning Daily Mass: (Mon.-Sat.) 7:30 AM

Evening Daily Mass: (Mon.-Fri.) 5:30 PM

Holy Days: See Bulletin for schedule

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday: 3:00-3:45 PM or by appointment.

Every Thursday: 7-8:00 PM

Rosary/Divine Mercy Chaplet

7 AM Monday-Saturday, Rosary

8 AM First Saturday of each month, Rosary

3 PM Monday-Friday, Divine Mercy
Chaplet and Rosary

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

First Friday of each month from 8 AM

Friday to 7:15 AM Saturday. To volunteer

contact Grand Knight, Michael Lauzon at
(203) 817-7528.

Novenas

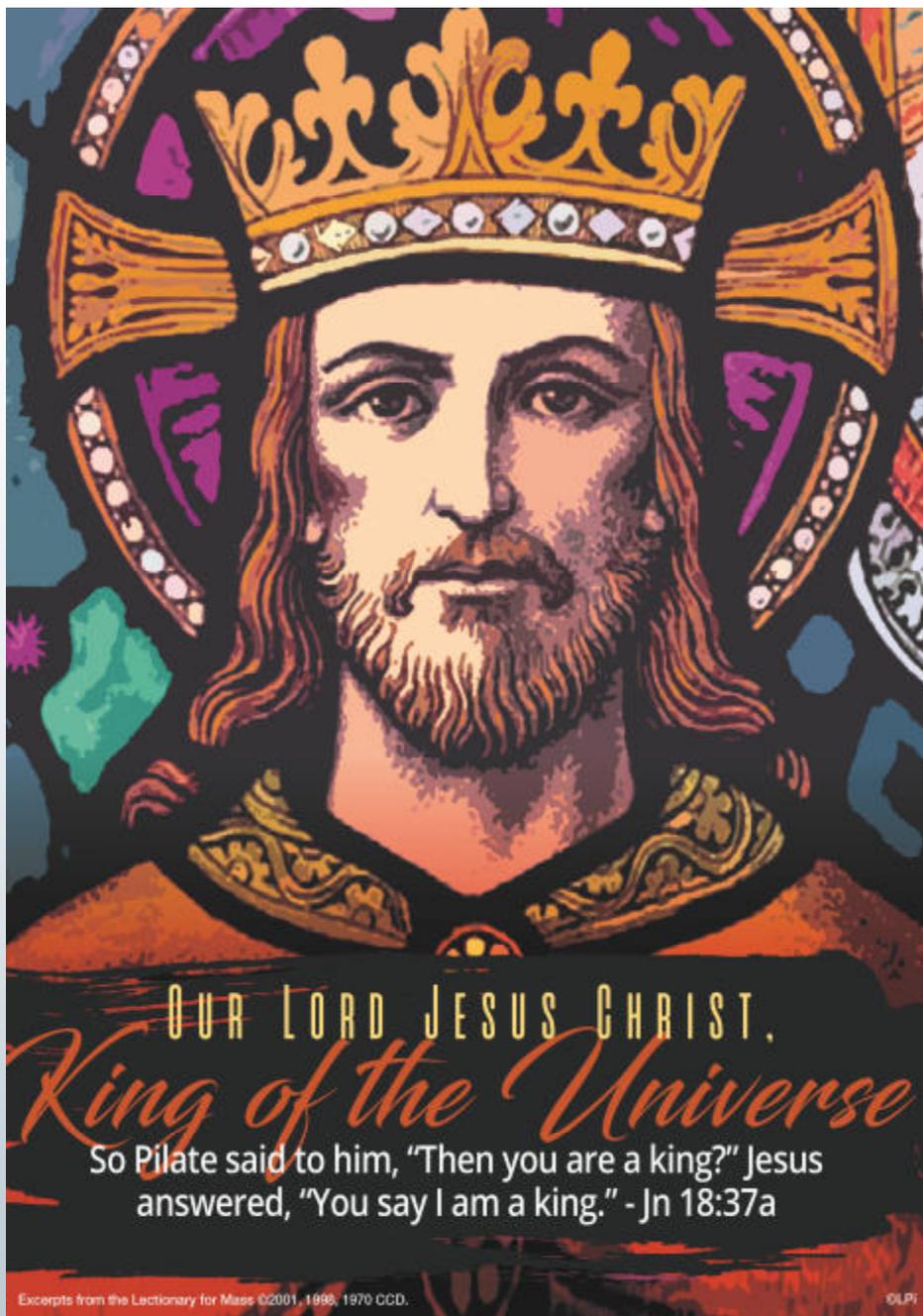
Miraculous Medal-8 AM. Monday

Saint Joseph-8 AM. Wednesday

Divine Mercy-8 AM. Friday

Parish Membership

Our parish family invites all of its members to participate fully in our spiritual and social life. Every family moving into the parish is requested to register at the Rectory or go to our website for a registration form. If you move to another parish, or change your address, notify the Rectory.



Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)

Anyone interested in becoming a Roman Catholic becomes a part of this process, as can any adult Catholic who has not received all the Sacraments of initiation. For further information contact the Faith Formation office.

Sacrament of Baptism

This Sacrament is celebrated on Sundays at 1:00 PM. It is required that parents participate in a Pre-Baptismal class. Classes are held on the third Saturday of the month. Registration is required by calling the parish office.

Sacrament of Marriage

Please contact the parish office as soon as possible so as to ensure a proper time and adequate preparation for this Sacrament. Pre-Cana or Engaged Encounters are required.

Anointing of the Sick Ministry to the Sick and Elderly

This Sacrament of healing expresses the love of God and our Church for our sick, our shut-ins and the elderly, unable to come to Church. For the dying, please contact the Rectory immediately. For the confined, the elderly and our shut-ins, whether at home, or in the hospital, please inform the Rectory.

From The Pastor's Desk - King of Kings Speech -



Based on true events, the film The King's Speech chronicles

England's Prince Albert who must ascend the throne as King George VI, but he has a speech impediment. Knowing that the country needs her husband to be able to communicate effectively, Elizabeth hires Lionel Logue, an Australian actor and speech therapist, to help him overcome his stammer.

The story is less about ascending a throne as it is overcoming one of the greatest impediments to living a fuller and nobler life we all have in common...fear. But in order to succeed, Lionel must get to the root cause of the problem. So Lionel asks: When did the defect start...no infant starts with a stammer?

Who were you closest to in your family, "nannies...with the exception of the first one: I was a lefty but whenever I tried to use it I was punished", any other corrections..."knocked knees...Metal splints were made...worn day and night"... must have been painful..."bloody agony".

"My First Nanny, however; Loved Brother David and hated me, when it came time to be presented to the family each day, she would pinch me so I would cry and then being returned to her she wouldn't feed me...needless to say I developed severe stomach issues...took my parents three years to realize it."

This wouldn't even qualify as conditional love, but conditioned fear...how totally opposite of the unconditional love that Faith and religion is meant to promote and model... beginning in one's home and with one's family.

The opposite of love is not hate it is fear...fear is what fuels hate and fear is what extinguishes the flames of love and its natural or rather supernatural desire to grow, deepen, expand and be generously shared. As the Duke remembers one of his more terrifying memories of his Father King George yelling: "I was afraid of my father and my children are damn well gonna be afraid of me."

And how completely opposite of the relationship that God the Father desires with His Children as Saint Paul explains: For those who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God.

For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption, through which we cry, "Abba, Father!"

And the Spirit of God is pure unconditional love...affection over tyranny...or as Saint James insists: For the judgment is merciless to one who has not shown mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment. This sensitivity to mercy and compassion is what drove Lionel to develop his talents as a speech therapist..

His unique approach was not about mere mechanics but getting to the heart of the matter...plumbing deep the pains and hurts of individual souls and the darkness that lies therein...as he explained, "those Soldiers coming home from the First World War...shell shocked...couldn't speak. Those poor blokes cried out in fear and no one was listening to them. My job was to give them faith in their own voice and let them know a friend was listening."

Whatever our particular defects are, they started from the very beginning with the original sin, we all have negative genetic dispositions...to any number of potential health issues...depression, heart disease, alcoholism, any number of cancers...original sin is the primary genetic defect that causes all other defects in us and in nature.

There is no greater impediment and one we all share in common that prevents our good from being great than SIN.

As the Duke shares with Lionel: "You're the first ordinary Englishman I've spoken to. When I'm driving through the streets and I see the "common" man staring at me, I'm struck by how little I know of his life and how little he knows of mine."

This is not the case with the Kingship of Christ who knows everyone in His Kingdom with an eternal intimacy, we were not simply thought of once we were conceived in our Mother's womb but rather conceived as a precious and cherished idea in the Eternal Mind of God. As Jesus assures us of this awesome intimacy: Are not five sparrows sold for two small coins? Yet not one of them has escaped the notice of God.

Even the hairs of your head have all been counted. Do not be afraid. You are worth more than many sparrows. And speaking of fear and tyranny...the backdrop of the story is quite significant: The gathering storm of World War II...and this on the heels of the horrors inflicted by World War I

As the Prime Minister impresses upon the future Monarch: War with Germany will come and we all need a King we can stand behind...united. Eventually there is a scene of now King George staring down the threat of Hitler's show of force...the crown quite heavy...how similar to the one Christ wore as He mounted the throne of the Cross...woven with thorns.

He is now ready for His speech, the most important that he would give...not to demonstrate his success for overcoming a speech impediment, but reach into the homes and hearts of his people with compassion encouragement and great resolve.

Jesus promised that the gates of Hell shall not prevail against His Church, and if not against the Church those forces of Hell will try then to prevail against us individually or collectively as families, nations, schools and people who cannot seem to remain united under one God...there is no greater sanctuary and guarantee of safety security victory and salvation than within Christ's Church.

Thus says the LORD:

Say to those whose hearts are frightened:
Be strong, fear not!
Here is your God, he comes with vindication;
with divine recompense he comes to save you.

So that elevating that Host during Mass we may hear in our hearts: Here is your God here is your King in the flesh!
God save the King...God is the King...Jesus Christ the King of Kings.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe
November 21, 2021

Parish Office Hours:
 Monday-Thursday, 9 AM to 4 PM
 Friday, 9 AM to 12 PM

Assumption Catholic School

Mrs. Stacy Clements, Principal - (203) 334-6271
 Grades: Pre-K 3 through 8 Hours: 8:40 AM - 3 PM
 Before and After School Programs Available
 (Before School program begins at 7:00 AM and After School
 program ends 5:30 PM)

Faith Formation

Mr. Frank Macari, Director - (203) 367-1108
 Email address: Our.lady.assumption@snet.net
 Tuesday Classes For Grades 1-5 from 4-5 PM
 For Grades 6-8 from 7-8 PM
 Office of Faith Formation Hours: Weekdays 10 AM - 3 PM
 and Tuesdays 10 AM-5:30 PM (during school year)

Parish Finance Council

Our parish Finance Council is a consultative body of lay
 persons established to advise the pastor in matters pertain-
 ing to the financial affairs of the church. The chairman is
 Ron Fiske, (203) 330-0375.

Parish Activities

American Heritage Girls Troop #4862: Monthly (except
 summer), 3rd Saturdays, 2:30 PM, parish center. For girls
 ages 5-18. Jillian Plomin at jplomin@gmail.com.

Altar Society of St. Joseph the Worker: Monthly, 1st & 3rd
 Saturdays of the month following 7:30 AM Mass. Cleans
 and beautifies the Sanctuary and chapels in the church.

Alcoholics Anonymous Friday, 8:00 PM, parish hall.
Narcotics Anonymous Wednesday 7:30 PM, parish hall.

Bible Study: Thursdays, 9:15 AM and 7 PM, parish center.
 Study sessions will be posted in our bulletin. Currently
 suspended.

Choir: Adults: Wednesday, 7 PM in the church.
Resurrection Choir: Sings at funeral Masses.
 Contact Michael Cooney, Director of Music, at
 (203) 572-2213 or email music@olaffld.org for details.
 Currently suspended

Knights of Columbus: Monthly, 2nd & 4th Tuesday, 7 PM
 parish hall. Grand Knight Michael Lauzon at
 (203) 817-7528 or email mplauzon@aol.com.

Parish Nurses: Monthly, 2nd Wednesday, Sept. to June, at
 7 PM St. Vincent Medical Center

Blood pressure screening: Currently suspended

Sisters in Faith: Monthly, 2nd Monday, 7 - 9 PM, parish
 hall, except July & August. Ministry for women of As-
 sumption Church. Mary Garbe at marygarbe@gmail.com.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, November 21st

4:00 p.m. Bernice Hull

Sunday, November 22nd

7:30 a.m. Msgr. Ernest Esposito

9:00 a.m. Michael Cordero

10:30 a.m. Antonio Masone

12:00 p.m. Daniel Falvey

Weekday Masses

Mon. 11/22 7:30 a.m. Charles Rusak

5:30 p.m. Special Intention of
 Fr. Peter Cipriani

Tues. 11/23 7:30 a.m. Dave Reynolds

5:30 p.m. In thanksgiving of our
 parishioners

Wed. 11/24 7:30 a.m. William Haffey

5:30 p.m. John Opalak

Thurs. 11/25 7:30 a.m. Luisa Marie Vaz &

Claudette Pires

5:30 p.m. No Mass

Fri. 11/26 7:30 a.m. Andrew Prucinsky

5:30 p.m. Christopher Robles

Sat. 11/27 7:30 a.m. Raiselis & Savage families

Saturday, November 27th

4:00 p.m. Albert Lachance, Malcolm Lachance

Sunday, November 28th

7:30 a.m. Luisa Marie Vaz & family

9:00 a.m. Fred Frillici

10:30 a.m. Bossio & Ricca families

12:00 p.m. Tom Quinn



Our Sanctuary Light
Will burn this week in
loving memory of
Pearl Van Vlack

Our Devotional Light
Will burn this week in
thanksgiving of
our parishioners



PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Mary Alberico	Nicholas DeMaio	Noah Martinez
Paul Alvarez	Michael Devaney	Kaitlin McLaughlin
Josephine Amiot	Larry DiPalma	Norma McNerney
Christopher Amiot	Tricia Duffy	Rita Meyers
Lorraine Artale	Dolores Kuczo	Frank Minardi
Ellie Art	Dcn Joe Gagne	Meghan Moore
Carol Bertanza	Charles Gordon	Leroy Moye
Michael Black	Holly Graham	Al Panico
Gene Bullard	Leanne Gransden	Craig Renzulli
Eleanor Bruckmann	Amy Hanson	Gerry Ressigue
Letitia Ciccio	John Howley	John Salgado
Brian Coleman	Clare Kelleher	Donna Schmidt
Lucille Costello	Harold Liskov	David Van Vlack
Rick D' Amico	Jamie Mack	Patty Vitola



November 13/14

Due to the early submission required for this bulletin, the offertory and second collection for November 13 and 14 will appear in our next bulletin.

There is no second collection next weekend.

Thank You



DONATE Online

We realize many of our parishioners are still not be able to attend Mass regularly, please consider making your offertory through Online Giving. Please visit our website and click on the Tab "Donate" and create an account.

Holiday Closing



The Parish Office will be closed for regular business on **Thanksgiving, Thursday, November 25th and the following day, November 26th**. If you have an emergency, please call the rectory and following the instructions for emergencies.

Christmas Flowers in Memoriam

Remember your loved ones during this Christmas season in a very special way by making a Christmas Flower donation in their name. A memorial list will be displayed in our parish bulletin during the Christmas season. Please use the envelope provided in your envelope packet. Flower envelopes may be placed in any offertory basket or you can mail it to the rectory. **Due to the early submission of our bulletin during Christmas, please return your donation and completed envelope by Monday, December 13th.**

Resuming Our Choir Ministry

Despite the fire in church, we will be resuming our Choir Ministry. The rehearsal schedule will be email to our current choir members. If anyone is interested in joining the choir and singing at Christmas, **please contact our Music Directory,**

Mac Cooney at music@olaffld.org. You must be vaccinated to sing in the choir. Masks are not required. It will be up to each person to judge whether or not to wear a mask. We are looking forward to bringing our Choir Ministry back to our parishioners.

Book of Remembrance

A Book of Remembrance with the names of all whose funerals rites occurred at Assumption Church or a prayer service offered by our priest during the past year (**November 1, 2020 to October 31, 2021**) will be visible during the month of November. Please do not write in any additional names. Let's remember the souls of our faithful departed in your prayers.



Mass of Thanksgiving

On Tuesday evening, **November 23rd, we will celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving at 5:30 PM.** This Liturgy will be offered in Thanksgiving for the great families who make up our wonderful parish and for all your special intentions and needs. Looking forward to this "bonus" time of worship and connecting with our parish family.

Thanksgiving Day Evening Mass & Reconciliation

Due to the holiday, our **5:30 PM daily evening Mass and the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 25 will NOT be offered.** The morning Mass at 7:30 AM will be celebrated.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Will take place on **First Friday, December 3rd**, following the 7:30 AM Mass and will conclude on **First Saturday, December 4th**, prior to the 7:30 AM Mass (in the parish hall). **Due to Masses on Friday at 9:00 AM and 5:30 PM and other activities the Blessed Sacrament will be reposed from 8:45 to 10:00 AM and 5:15 PM to 6:00 PM.** Come and spend an hour with Jesus.

Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Wednesday, December 8th is a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses will be celebrated on:



5:30 PM Vigil (12/7)
7:30 AM
12:10 PM
5:30 PM

Memorial Ornaments

Perhaps one of the greatest symbols of hope and comfort is a well-lit and well-decorated Christmas Tree. The Christmas season, though referred to as the Season of Joy can also be a season of profound sadness for families whose loved ones have passed into the arms of Christ who celebrates Eternal Christmas in Heaven.

Our loved ones are never forgotten nor do they ever forget us. As we did last year, Our Lady of the Assumption Parish would like to set up a Memorial Christmas Tree. We would like to commemorate those deceased love ones with Memorial Ornaments to be placed on the tree with their names. Remaining visible during the Christmas Season, the Tree will foster many opportunities to pray for the repose of their souls and those who mourn them.

If you would like to have your loved one memorialized by way of an ornament on the Tree, please send an **email to: lreed@olaffld.org** with your loved one's name. **There is a limit of ONE ornament per family; however, you can include up to two first or two last names.** For example, Sue & John Smith or Smith & Jones Families. We will have the name displayed on the ornament and placed on the tree. **Submit names by Thursday, December 2nd.**

On **Sunday evening, December 5th, there will be a special Memorial Tree Lighting/Commemoration Mass at 4:00 PM** for the deceased names who appear on the ornaments and for their families. This will also be a live-streamed Mass.

Stained Glass Window Tour

Due to the temporary closure of our church, the Stained Glass Window Tour originally scheduled for this **Sunday, November 21st** has been postponed to a later date.

Altar Server Invite and Need!

Jesus says: I have come not to be served but TO SERVE!
Parents, please share these many reasons for becoming an Altar Server with your child:

- 1) You learn why we do everything in the Mass. You get fully involved in the Mass and get more out of it. By focusing on and understanding what's going on, the Mass can then lead you into a much deeper relationship with God and you feel the impact of Mass far greater!
- 2) You learn fantastic life skills: Communication, teamwork, perceiving what needs to be done and doing it, punctuality, self-confidence, and the list goes on.
- 3) You become more involved in the community: By taking up a responsibility at Mass you start to recognize more and more people in church. This slowly changes your experience of the church community, from a group of random people you stand next to at Mass, to a large and diverse family who you care for more deeply.
- 4) It helps you discern your vocation (purpose in life) better: Every vocation (whether marriage, the single life, religious life or priesthood) leads us to a great and deeper understanding and relationship with God and others. Altar serving is a great way to begin to see and live that beauty more fully.

Any child in 3rd grade or higher is eligible to serve at God's altar. Parents, if your son or daughter is interested, **please email Janet Gardella at janetgardella@optonline.net** or call the parish office to register. A date for the training will be determined. If you are already Server and would like to resume your serving, please let us know and we can put you back on the schedule. Your service is greatly needed and greatly appreciated!



Advent 2021 Family Calendar

The Diocese of Bridgeport's Institute for Catholic Formation has prepared once again this year an Advent Family Calendar. This Family Advent calendar, which provides 28 Ways to prepare for Christmas **is available in the parish hall**, please take home a copy to make this year's season of hope something special. We are one week away from the First Sunday of Advent, let's prepare together as a family. Please visit: <https://formationreimagined.org> for more information and useful resources.



Newly Baptized:

Last weekend we welcomed

Everly Ray Gabriele

into the Roman Catholic Faith, through the saving waters of Baptism.

Sisters In Faith Involved with the Great Charity Gingerbread House Project

The Sisters in Faith will be selling beautiful, **home-made Gingerbread House Kits for \$40** to benefit the Charity, Kakes For Kids. Kakes For Kids was founded in 1999 by local mom, Carole Canzoneri, to benefit the After School Program at the Boys and Girls Village in Bridgeport. This program provides a beautiful home baked cake for at-risk kids from ages 6 to 15 who would not otherwise receive a cake on their special day. All proceeds from this sale go directly to benefit this program and make a day special for these kids!

Order forms are located in the hall, please take home a copy to place your orders.

Members of the Sisters in Faith will be available on the **weekend of November 20 & 21** to sell the Gingerbread House kits. You may drop off the form then or email to Mary Garbe with your name and quantity of kids at marygarbe@gmail.com.

The pick-up for all orders will be the weekend of **December 11 & 12 in the Parish Hall entry way after all Masses**. Any questions, contact Mary by email at: marygarbe@gmail.com or #203-767-9652.

Thank you so much your support!



Sisters in Faith Pie Collection

If you would like to donate a pie for Thanksgiving meals at the Bridgeport Rescue Mission, the Sisters in Faith will be collecting baked pies on **Monday, November 22nd in the parish hall entry way from 4:30 PM to 6:30 PM**. Thanks so much!

Support Our Knights of Columbus

On the weekend of **November 27 & 28** after each Mass our Knights of Columbus will selling Christmas magnets for you to proudly display. Each magnet will cost \$5 or you can purchase 3 magnets for \$10. Thank you for your support!

Crèche Set Up

All men of our parish are welcome to join the **Knights of Columbus on Saturday, November 27th at 9:00 AM by the parish center** to help set up our Crèche on the parish grounds. Come see our **Knights in Action** and share in their camaraderie and fellowship.



Blessing and Lighting of the Crèche

Please come share in the spectacular blessing and lighting of the crèche led by our Knights of Columbus and Fr. Cipriani on **Tuesday, December 7th at 7:45 PM**. All are welcome!

Flowers in Memoriam

*This weekend's Altar Flowers
are in memory of
Stephen Bratkovsky*



R.C.I.A. Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults *Who is it for?*

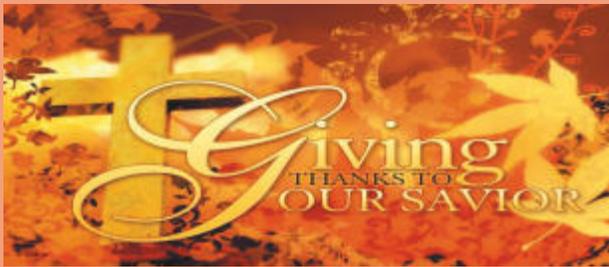
It is for you:

- If you have not been Baptized or received First Communion/Confirmation
- If you as an adult want to know more about your faith
- If you feel your faith is just a habit and you want to know more

It could be for:

- Someone interested in knowing about the Catholic faith
- Someone who might consider becoming a member of the Catholic Church
- Someone who has no church to call their own
- Someone who is a member of another faith community and has expressed an interest in the Catholic faith

Please contact the Faith Formation office at **203-367-1108** for more information.



Thanksgiving Prayer

This Thanksgiving, let us remember all the good things, and people, who have come into our lives. We focus on thanking each one who has helped us, and ultimately thank God for the good gifts of this world.

Let us pray...

God our Father,
Graciously accept from your humble people
a thankful heart and spirit.
Everything we have and are able to share with others
ultimately comes from your love of your creations.
Often we think that everything we have
is our own creation;
we ask you this day to create in us
a spirit of gratitude,
that we may always know
that all good gifts come from you.

We ask this through Christ our brother,
in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Readings for the Week

Sunday:	Daniel 7:13-14/Psalm 93:1, 1-2, 5 [1a]/ Revelation 1:5-8/John 18:33b-37
Monday:	Daniel 1:1-6, 8-20/Daniel 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56 [52b]/Luke 21:1-4
Tuesday:	Daniel 2:31-45/Daniel 3:57, 58, 59, 60, 61 [59b]/Luke 21:5-11
Wednesday:	Daniel 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28/Daniel 3:62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67 [59b]/Luke 21:12-19
Thursday:	Daniel 6:12-28/Daniel 3:68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74 [59b]/Luke 21:20-28
Friday:	Daniel 7:2-14/Daniel 3:75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81/Luke 21:29-33
Saturday:	Daniel 7:15-27/Daniel 3:82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87/ Luke 21:34-36
Next Sunday:	Jeremiah 33:14-16/1 Thessalonians 3:12—4:2/ Psalm 25:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14 [1b]/Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

Communion Antiphon

“The Lord reigns as King forever! May He bless His people with peace.” - Psalm 29:1



Safe Return Network

Safe Return Network was developed to assist emergency personnel in locating community members who suffer from conditions which make them susceptible to “wandering” and safely returning them home. The network places critical information at the fingertips of First Responders to help identify, locate and return your loved one home. There are no age restrictions. For additional information, **contact Officer Anthony Krushinski at akrushinski@fairfieldct.org or call (203) 254-4800. To register, visit fpdct.com/safereturn.**

After You Are Widowed Program

Please join a new social support group for those that are widowed, which allows you to meet new friends in a safe environment. The group will meet every other **Wednesday at Shaughnessey Banks Funeral Home**, located at 50 Reef Road in Fairfield from 2 to 4 PM. Meetings include dynamic speakers that will address: safety and security, avoiding scams, financial planning, elder abuse and volunteer opportunities. For information or to RSVP, please call **Shaughnessey Banks at 203-255-1031** or send an email to **sb@sbfairfield.com**.

Entering Canaan Day of Prayers & Healing

Are you or someone you know experiencing pain and sorrow from losing a child to abortion? Join us for our upcoming Entering Canaan Day of Prayer & Healing on **Saturday, December 4, 2021**. For information or to register, contact **Maureen at 203.416.1619** or **projectrachel@diobpt.org**. Come back to God who is love & mercy!

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