October 18, 2020

## SACRAMENTAL LIFE

**Eucharist:**
**Mass:**
***M-F New Time:* 8AM**
**Sat. Vigil: 5:00PM**
**Sunday: 8:00AM & 10:30AM**
**Adoration:**
**M-F: 6:30-7:30AM**

**Reconciliation :**
**(Confession)**
**Saturday: 4:00pm - 4:30pm and *anytime* by appointment.**

**Anointing of the Sick :**
**(& Ministry to the Sick)**
Call the rectory anytime a person is sick and would like anointing or a visit

**Baptism:**
Please call our parish office to arrange pre-Baptismal instruction and the time of the ceremony.

**Holy Orders:**
Contact Fr. Joe Ashe or Fr. Walter Nagle, 860 434 1660, if you want *to learn more about becoming a* ***priest or deacon***, or, contact Fr. Greg Galvin, Vocations Office: 860 887 9294.

**Matrimony:**
Preparation for marriage must begin at least six months before actual ceremony. Please call our parish office.

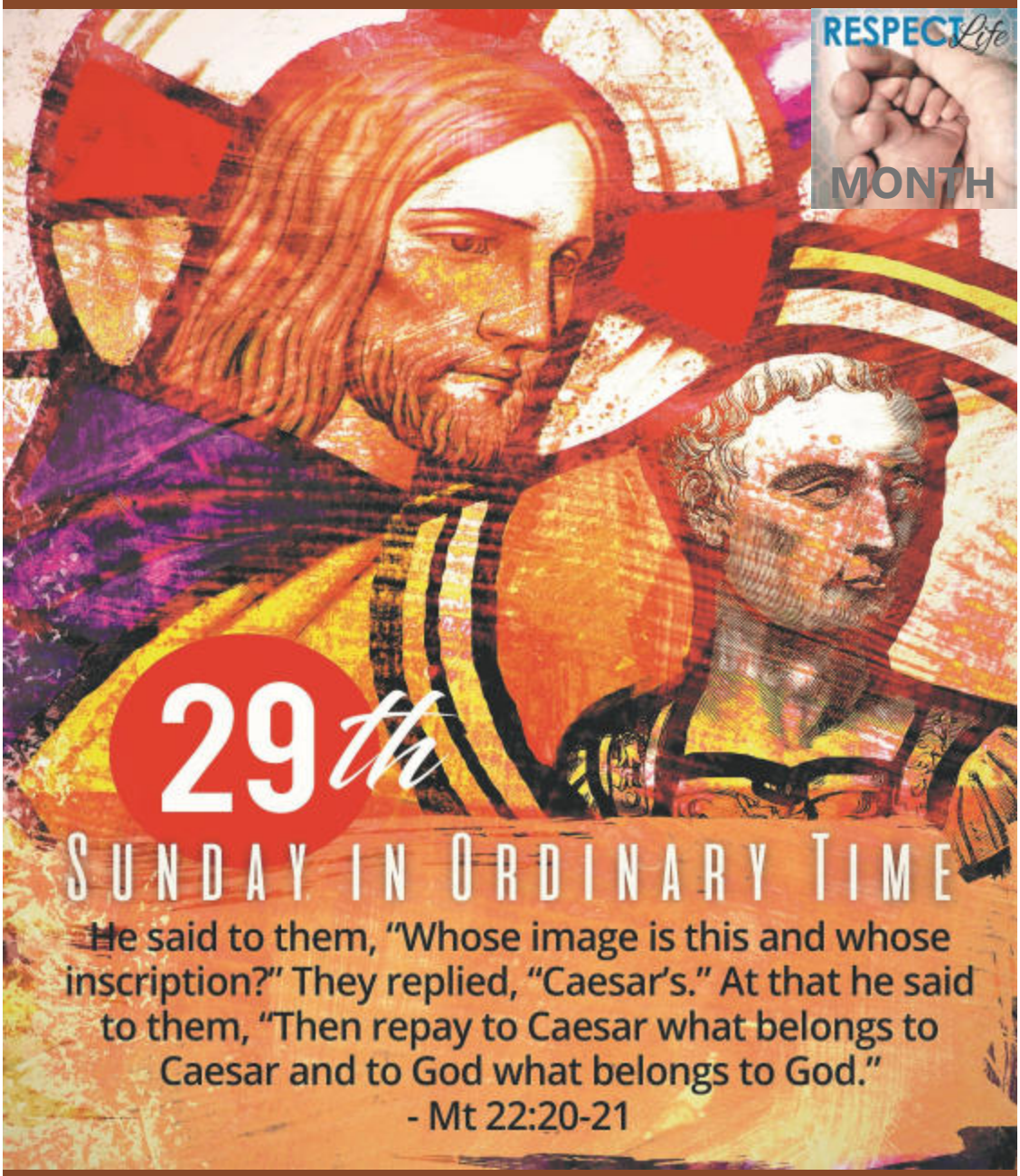
**Confirmation:**
Confirmation preparation begins in the 9th grade and the sacrament is received in the 10th grade. Adults can join the **RCIA.**

***Holy Days of Obligation:***
8:00am & 6:30pm
(No evening Mass the day before the Holy Day.)

Sexual Misconduct Services:
800-624-7407

# *Faith Formation (K-8): Sundays @ 9:15am*

**Forms are available in the narthex, office & online.**

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Mr. William J. Thomas, ***Director of Music***
Ms. Sulma Garcia, ***Church Cleaning*** & ***Rectory Housekeeper***
Mrs. Margaret Kuhn, **part-time *Secretary*** 860 434 1669
Mr. Emil (Sonny) Schrafft, **part-time *Maintenance***

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## MASS SCHEDULE

**Sat. Oct. 17 St. Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop and Martyr**
*5:00pm The healing of America*
*Francis Buckley, Jr. r/b his family*

**SUNDAY Oct. 18 29th SUNDAY in Ordinary Time; World Mission Sunday**
*8:00am Rev. Paul A. Messer, SJ r/b John and Janice Messer*
*10:30am Frank and Pricilla Marek r/b their daughter Dawn and family*
*Guy Sylvain r/b his wife Dawn, Shawn and Shauna*
*Rita Sulick r/b Ross and Pat Baiera*

**Mon. Oct 19 Sts. John de Brébeuf and Isaac Jogues, Priests, and Companions, Martyrs**
*8:00am Annemarie O'Brien r/b Sean O'Brien*

**Tues. Oct. 20 St. Paul of the Cross, Priest**
*8:00am The Parishioners of Christ the King*

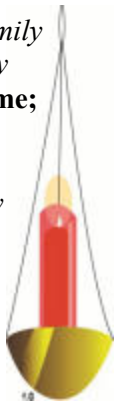
**Wed. Oct. 21**
*8:00am Peter Toole r/b The McNamara Family*

**Thur. Oct. 22 St. John Paul II, Pope**
*8:00am John Toohey r/b The McNamara Family*

**Fri. Oct 23 St. John of Capistrano, Priest**
*8:00am Healing for the Ryan & Hoffman Families r/b The McNamara Family*

**Sat. Oct. 24 St. Anthony Mary Claret, Bishop**
*5:00pm Ciro Carlo Carboni*
*Lawrence & Veronica Keating r/b their family*
*Anthony & Katherine Joyce r/b their family*

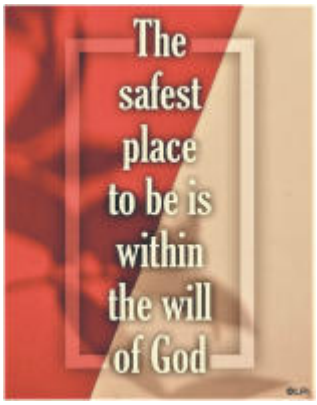
**SUNDAY Oct. 25 30th SUNDAY in Ordinary Time; Priesthood Sunday**
*8:00am Anne Desnoyers r/b her husband Roger*
*10:30am Ralph & Elizabeth Sturges r/b their family*
*Robert MacDonald r/b his wife Kathy*
*Alice McCarthy Oliva r/b The Mount Friends*



***The Sanctuary Lamp this week will be lit for the First Communicants.***

## WELCOME BACK TO CHURCH !

**COME TO SUNDAY or SATURDAY VIGIL MASS**
***(Public WEEKEND Masses began on July 4 & 5)***
**SAT @ 5PM and SUN @ 8AM and 10:30AM**




***...OR* WEEKDAY MASS**
***(began June 8th)* M–F *NEW time*: 8AM**

**The Most Reverend Michael R. Cote, Bishop of Norwich, has *dispensed of the Sunday Mass obligation*.**

As of Oct. 8, limitations on religious worship are now 50% building capacity or 200 people as amended by CT Executive Order 9F. We comply with state orders by social distancing, every other pew is taped and unused; **masks are to be worn by attendees and hand sanitizer used at the entrance**. See **norwichdiocese.org** for details.

## FIRST Communion

**All this month our parish is celebrating First Holy Communion for 22 of our children in two sessions.**
**As a parish family, please join with Fr. Joe, Fr. Walter, our Faith Formation Director Louise Young, and the 2nd gr. teacher Doug McAdams, praying for all of our children receiving the Most Holy Sacrament of the Eucharist this month.**

### LIVE THE LITURGY (Matthew 22:15-21)

In the time of Jesus, a Roman coin bore the image of Caesar and it was precisely this coin that was returned to the emperor in the form of tax. What bears God's image? Scripture tells us that human beings are made in the likeness and image of God. In truth, however, all of creation, even the entire universe, is fashioned in the image of God! Everything radiates Divine Presence and the spark and essence of God's very life exists in all things. God breathes the life of Himself into all things. If we have to give back to civil authorities what speaks to them, then what do we give back to God? While the answer is simple, the implications are profound. We are asked to give back to God our very selves! Ultimately, all creation is in the process of returning to God and is on a journey of finding its final truth and essence in Him. As we continue that journey, all we have, all we are, all we see, and all we are responsible for must be offered back to Him. God is the beginning and the end of all things. Do our lives reflect this Divine allegiance?

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## "Respect Life Month" 2020and the 25th Anniversary of *The Gospel of Life*

One year ago, even before the unthinkable effects of the pandemic and the social unrest and division that we are now witnessing, a piece in the *New York Times* stated: "The world we live in now is one in which no place is safe, no lives really matter, when it comes to violence" (9/2/19). This statement was prompted by the tragedy of repeated mass shootings in our country. To this we must now add the outbreaks of random violence and the deaths that have prompted outrage and have called into question the level of force employed by law enforcement in some cases, especially with regard to people of color.

This year marks the 25th anniversary of *Evangelium vitae* (*The Gospel of Life*), written by Pope St. John Paul. He urged the world to uphold the sacred value and inviolability of human life rather than giving way to a culture of manipulation and choice in life matters, as evidenced in abortion, euthanasia, biological engineering, ecological destruction and unnecessary recourse to the death penalty. Violating the right to life, the Pope stated, only results in the destruction of values that are fundamental not only for the preservation of the lives of individuals and families, but of society as well. This message has been strongly echoed by Popes Benedict and Francis.

Amid all the ominous polarization, acrimony and even violence that are increasing in our country, we would do well to ponder Pope St. John Paul's teaching. He said that respect for innocent human life from conception until natural death is a "transcendent truth" that surpasses any one religion, philosophy, law code or system of government. Religion can and should serve that truth, but it does not create it. If there is no God-given higher truth about the human person than the one we feel free to create, then everything degenerates into competing views of personhood and life itself; the "force of power" prevails, and the inalienable God-given meaning of the human person, and his or her dignity and right to life, are trampled.

Until recent times the religious beliefs of the vast majority of Americans did acknowledge the transcendent truth that all innocent human life is to be respected as inviolable. Indeed, the first thing that struck the French observer Alexis de Tocqueville about the United States in 1831 was its "religious atmosphere." He wrote: "… while the law allows the American people to do everything, there are things which religion prevents them from imagining and forbids them to dare." Religion taught virtuous behavior, which is essential if liberty is to be ordered to the common good. By bringing a moral dimension to issues, religion also helped ensure that majority rule not deteriorate into an immoral tyranny. Religion in America also created an allegiance and devotion among its adherents that counteracted the tendency of government to swallow up all aspects of life.

Today the withering away of respect for the transcendent truth about the right to life, and for traditional religious teaching about the sin and crime of taking innocent human life, has created what Pope St. John Paul called a "culture of death." It is reflected in the words we cited from the *New York Times* that "the world we live in now is one in which no place is safe, no lives really matter, when it comes to violence." In his new encyclical *Fratelli tutti* Pope Francis speaks of a "throwaway" world in which "persons are no longer seen as a paramount value to be cared for and respected" (n. 18). Hopefully the 25th anniversary of *Evangelium vitae* will be an inspiration for all people of good will to work for a "culture of life" that cherishes, serves, defends, and protects human life from conception until natural death.

Local pro-life leaders across the world are currently conducting an annual *40 Days for Life* campaign that runs through November 1. *Walking with Moms in Need* is a year of service where Catholic parishes and communities "walk in the shoes" of local pregnant and parenting women in need. And then there is *Project Rachel*, a network of caregivers, including clergy, mental health professionals and others who provide one-on-one care to those struggling after involvement in an abortion. The church continues to advocate strongly for hospice care for the dying, not death imposed by others or by suicide, and for an end to the death penalty because it is no longer needed to protect society.

For well over half a century the U.S. Bishops have spoken out nationally as a body about the evil of racism, most recently in 2018, calling yet again for Catholics and all Americans to take to heart in particular the lived experience—past and present—of African-Americans, Hispanic Americans, and Native Americans. Without equal respect and opportunity for the life and dignity of each and all we cannot hope to have a nation at peace with itself.

Likewise, Pope Francis has dramatically and urgently spoken of the plight of refugees, immigrants and all those who are vulnerable and at risk across the world. Our Church strives to uphold the life and dignity of every person by providing education, health care and works of charity on a large scale, and by advocating for economic justice, immigration reform, and the alleviation of the desperate plight of so many of the world's migrants, near and far.

These are just some of the ways the Catholic Church is working to promote a gospel of life. We invite you to join us, so that, in the words of Pope St. John Paul, "together we may offer this world of ours new signs of hope, and work to ensure that justice and solidarity will increase and that a new culture of human life will be affirmed, for the building of an authentic civilization of truth and love."

| Most Reverend Leonard P. Blair | Most Reverend Michael R. Cote | Most Reverend Frank J. Caggiano | Most Reverend P. Paul Chomnycky | Most Reverend Juan Miguel Betancourt, SEMV |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Archbishop of Hartford** | **Bishop of Norwich** | **Bishop of Bridgeport** | **Eparch of Stamford** | **Auxiliary Bishop of Hartford** |

## First Holy Communion

We are celebrating the Sacrament of First Holy Communion this fall at two masses for the children in the second grade Faith Formation class last year(2019-2020).

- Oct. 24 @ 10AM: last names M - Z
  (Rehearsal at 10am on Oct. 17)

If you have not done so already, please provide Mrs. Louise Young with your child's height. First Communion robes ***and*** (this year) masks will be provided.
For further information, please contact Louise Young, Faith Formation Director at 860-434-9873 or lyctkoldlyme@aol.com.

***Please pray for our dear First Communicants and their families!***

## Prayer Campaign:

**Sept. 23 - Nov. 1**

*Please pray in Norwich for every human life to be valued.*

**40daysforlife.com**

This year, The 40 Days for Life Campaign runs from **Wednesday, Sept. 23rd through Nov.1st**. Please sign up to *Peacefully Pray* OUTSIDE the "Planned Parenthood" Abortion Facility at 12 Case St., Norwich. Sign up for ***any day of the prayer vigil*** at 40daysforlife.com

**Morning Eucharistic Adoration**
**M - F 6:30 - 7:30 am**
*before the 8:00am Mass…a great way to start your day.*

**Prayer Line**
***Intentions are shared via first name only, but can be completely anonymous.*** To request prayers for ***any*** intention, need, or in thanksgiving, call Michele, 860-434-8529.

**A SQUARE AND A PRAYER MINISTRY**

**Now available from the Diocesan Square and Prayer Ministry: Individually wrapped, knitted "prayer squares" with prayer cards - for distribution to convalescent homes, hospitals, etc. *"Prayer squares" are free of charge* and on a first come first serve basis.**
If you are interested in distributing squares or volunteering your crocheting/ knitting skills, contact Marianne, Office of Faith Events: 860-848-2237 ext. 304 or manicholas@norwichdiocese.net

## 2020 ACA Update:

**On Oct. 18th we will host a guest speaker, Mary Ellen Mahoney, to talk about the ACA Appeal.**

As of September 25th, our parish has donated $51,875.31 or 56.01% of its goal, ***but 14.98% of our parishioners*** have donated. We are striving for as close to 100% participation as possible.

From a client of St. Vincent de Paul, *"St. Vincent has been my lifeline through all of this. It's been one thing after another getting me down, but St. Vincent's food and support keeps picking me up."*

## *Walking With Purpose*

Grow in your faith through fellowship with other women and learn how scripture applies to your everyday life. Join Walking With Purpose – a 22-week women's bible study
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**+ WEDDING BANNS +**
*Nils Swenson and Lindsay Stockley*
*Brian Jordan and Laurie Norris Jordan*

*Congratulations to*
*Dennis Rinaldi and Colleen Hanly*
*married on October 10, 2020 at Christ the King Church,*
*and to*
*Patrick Wentling and Allison Colangelo*
*married on October 11, 2020 at Christ the King Church*
*May they continually draw close to the Lord, and so draw ever closer to each other!*

**Readings for the week of October 18, 2020**

Sunday: Is 45:1,4-6/Ps 96:1,3-5, 7-10/1Thes 1:1-5/Mt 22:15-21
Monday: Eph 2:1-10/Ps 100:1-5/Lk 12:13-21
Tuesday: Eph 2:12-22/Ps 85:9ab-10-14/Lk 12:35-38
Wednesday: Eph 3:2-12/Is 12:2-6/Lk 12:39-48
Thursday: Eph 3:14-21/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 11-12, 18-19/Lk 12:49-53
Friday: Eph 4:1-6/Ps 24:1-6/Lk 12:54-59
Saturday: Eph 4:7-16/Ps 122:1-5/Lk 13:1-9
Next Sunday: Ex 22:20-26/Ps 18:2-4,47,51/
1 Thes 1:5-10/Mt 22:34-40

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