SACRAMENTAL LIFE

Eucharist:

Mass:

Mon. -Fri.:
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

Baptism:

like anointing or a visit

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.

Sexual Misconduct Services: 800-624-7407

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THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

This is what John the Baptist proclaimed: "One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." - Mk 1:7-8

Fr. Joseph Ashe, Pastor; Fr. Walter Nagle, Parochial Vicar 860 434 1660 (Rectory)

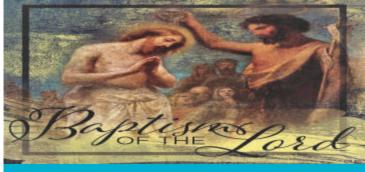
<u>STAFF</u>: Mrs. Louise Young, *Pastoral Associate & Director of Faith Formation* 860 434 9873 Mr. William J. Thomas, *Director of Music Ministries*

Ms. Sulma Garcia, Church Cleaning & Rectory Housekeeper

Mr. Emil (Sonny) Schrafft, part-time Maintenance; Mrs. Margaret Kuhn, part-time Secretary 860 434 1669

<u>PARISH COUNCIL</u>: Kevin Hogan-chair, Lauren Girasoli, Will Clinton, Ron Paine, Dorothy Paine, Sharon Torrenti, Mike Rafferty, Director of Music Ministries, Pastoral Associate, Dir. of Faith Formation (designee), Parish Trustees FINANCE COUNCIL: John Smith-chair, Al Page, Meg Kolb, Bob Whitcomb, Jean Wilczynski, Parish Trustees

PARISH TRUSTEES: Richard Torrenti and Marylin Clarke



MASS SCHEDULE

Sat. Jan. 9

5:00pm John Torrenti, Jr. r/b a friend

SUNDAY Jan. 10 The Baptism of the Lord

8:00am

10:30am Richard and Josephine Dell'Erba r/b Elizabeth Flanigan

Anson "Buzz" Clinton, III

Mon. Jan. 11

8:00am Robert Cobb r/b the Skaar and Cobb Families

Tues. Jan. 12

8:00am Sue Bennett r/b Amanda Babineaux

Wed. Jan. 13 St. Hilary, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

8:00am Don McCue

Thur, Jan, 14

8:00am Nancy Stark

Fri. Jan. 15

8:00am Mabel Moore

Sat. Jan. 16

5:00pm Varkey Mattam r/b the family

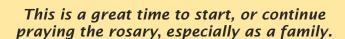
John Torrenti, Jr. r/b D. Lavoie-Gonci & family Mary Levassur r/b D. Lavoie-Gonci & family

SUNDAY Jan. 17 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00am

10:30am

The Sanctuary Lamp this week will be lit for the Holy Souls in Purgatory.





WELCOME BACK TO CHURCH! COME TO SUNDAY or SATURDAY VIGIL

MASS

(Public WEEKEND Masses began on July 4 & 5) SAT @ 5pm and SUN @ 8am & 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.

UPDATE: As of Nov. 6, limitations on religious worship are now 25% building

capacity or 100 people as amended by CT's Governor. 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. norwichdiocese.org.



GOSPEL MEDITATION (Mark 1:7-11)

We need history. We need it in order to understand ourselves, personally and collectively. The pieces of our histories may not have always been the most positive, honest, exemplary, dignified, proud and best moments of our lives, but they are ours. We have to acknowledge, remember, accept, and often heal them. We cannot forget them or pretend that they never existed. As horrible as the atrocities of events like Auschwitz, brutal injustices committed throughout the human journey, or personal painful experiences in our own stories, we need to remember. These times when humanity in general or people in particular have lost their way are times that need to be reconciled and redeemed.

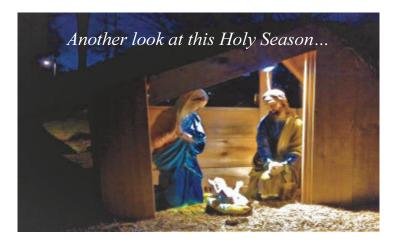
If we lose the memories, we will make the same mistakes again. The human soul needs a strong sense of affirmation, direction, and clear purpose. Without these essentials, we will easily run amuck and repeat the sins of our past. God's voice throughout history has spoken precisely about this! We are reminded through the voices and example of many prophets and witnesses not to make the same mistakes again, come back to center, discover the purpose given to us by God, maintain a sense of proper direction, seek healing for wounds and be reconciled to our Creator.

Baptism is so incredibly important for the salvation of humankind, not only eternally but here and now. Our existence depends upon it. It gives us the affirmation we need from God by gifting us with the same intimate relationship Jesus had with the Father. We are blessed with the direction and clear purpose we need in order to be productive stewards and faithful Christians. Baptism calls us to remember, accept, and deal with the sins and inequities of our past regardless of how hurtful and serious. We consciously choose to turn away from them and put on the new life of Christ. To do this well, we must look hard and long at our sins and failings, listen to what they are saying and learn from them. If we ignore the past, collectively or personally, or pretend that it never happened, we will never grow. We will surely die.

People need to hear the message, lived and spoken, delivered by the baptized members of the Body of Christ. It is an essential message of hope that is layered with visions of justice, peace, reconciliation, redemption, blessing, and healing. It is a message that helps us remember what has gone before, the graces and the sins, and bring ourselves by God's help where we need to be. We are called to do much more than sit home behind our closed doors. We have a message to deliver.

Are we ready to do so?

LPi





Do you know someone who might be interested in being in full communion with the Catholic Church?

IS RCIA FOR YOU? There are many reasons why you may want to become involved in the RCIA. Do any of these fit you?

- I have never been baptized.
 I am married to a Catholic and attend Mass, but just don't know what the next step may be.
- I have been baptized in another Christian denomination and wish to become Catholic.
- I have been baptized Catholic, but have not received any other sacraments.

Do you know someone who might be interested? Ask, encourage and invite them to this program. The journey begins with one small step! Contact Fr Joe & Fr. Walter: 860 434 1660,

or contact Mark or Jo Ann Staves: 860 434 4374, markstaves1122@gmail.com

Advent Giving Tree Thank You!

Thank you all for helping make our *Advent* Giving Tree Project a great success! On behalf of St. Vincent de Paul Place in Norwich. Madonna Place, and the Pediatric Cancer Center, thank you for helping make a Very Merry Christmas for those less fortunate. If you have any questions or would like to help next year please contact Sue Ellen Perry at seperry17@gmail.com or 860-451-8145.

Positions Open at Franciscan Home Care and Hospice Care

Franciscan Home Care and Hospice Care is seeking a full-time Registered Nurse for its hospice care program and a CNA/HHA for its home health care program. Hospice Nurse Requirements:

- •RN license
- •home care and hospice care experience
- driver's license,
- •understand computers.

CNA/HHA Requirements

- •Experience preferred but not necessary
- Driver's license
- Personal and caring

Nurses and staff uphold the mission of caring for individuals and families in their homes. Send resumes to:

RN, Hospice Nurse - Laura Borrelli, RN, Hospice Director,

lborrelli@franciscanhc.org

CNA/HHA: Marie Laffin, RN, Clinical Director,

mlaffin@franciscanhc.org



To all our parishioners and contributors, thank you for your generosity and support throughout the challenging year of 2020. We appreciate your kindness!

Project Rachel Rosary: Please join the Office of Faith Events staff online the third Tuesday of each month as we pray the Project Rachel Rosary for an end to abortion and healing for those who have been involved in an abortion. The next Rosary will be Tuesday, January 19, 2021. Contact Liza Roach at Iroach@norwichdiocese.net to receive a link.

Pro-Life Quote of the Week:

"When we consider that women are treated as property, it is degrading to women that we should treat our children as property to be disposed of as we see fit."

> Elizabeth Cady Stanton (Leader in the Women's Rights Movement)



Readings for the week of January 10, 2021

Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, Sunday: 3, 9-10 [11b]/Acts 10:34-38/Mk 1:7-11 or Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 [3)]/1 Jn 5:1 -9/Mk 1:7-11

Monday: Heb 1:1-6/Ps 97:1 and 2b, 6

and 7c, 9 [cf. 7c]/Mk 1:14-20

Tuesday: Heb 2:5-12/Ps 8:2ab and 5, 6-7, 8-9 [cf. 7]/

Mk 1:21-28

Wednesday: Heb 2:14-18/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9 [8a]/

Mk 1:29-39

Thursday: Heb 3:7-14/Ps 95:6-7c, 8-9, 10-11 [8]/Mk

1:40-45

Friday: Heb 4:1-5, 11/Ps 78:3 and 4bc, 6c-7, 8 [cf.

7b]/Mk 2:1-12

Saturday: Heb 4:12-16/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15 [cf. Jn

6:63c]/Mk 2:13-17

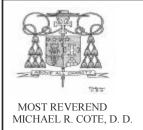
Next Sunday: 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19/Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10

[8a, 9a]/1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20/

Jn 1:35-42

Do you want to register with the parish? Welcome!

| Have you changed your address, are you moving out of or into the parish, or would like to receive envelopes? Please contact the office, 860-434-1669, or ctkoldlyme@aol.com. Or, you can fill out the following and return via the basket, drop it at the office, or mail to: I McCurdy Road, Old Lyme, CT 06371 Name | | |
|--|-----------|-------------------|
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| Address | | |
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| E-mail address | | |
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January, 2021

My dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

January 22, 2021 marks the 48th anniversary of the landmark Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion. The day is set aside as a day of prayer and penance. Traditionally, each year in Washington, D.C. there is the National March For Life. The theme of this year's march (which will be held on January 29) is "Together Stronger, Life Unites".

Defense of the unborn is a pastoral priority of Pope Francis. He often speaks about the "throw away culture". In doing so he echoes the clarion call of Saint John Paul II who noted in his encyclical Evangelium Vitae: "It is no less true that we are confronted by an even larger reality, which can be described as a veritable structure of sin. This reality is characterized by the emergence of a culture which denies solidarity and in many cases takes the form of a veritable 'culture of death'. This culture is actively fostered by powerful cultural, economic, and political currents which encourage an idea of society excessively concerned with efficiency. Looking at the situation from this point of view, it is possible to speak in a certain sense of a war of the powerful against the weak: a life which would require greater acceptance, love and care is considered useless, or is held to be an intolerable burden, and is therefore rejected in one way or another." (EV, 12) Who can be more weak and vulnerable than an unborn child?

At its core, the issue of abortion is fundamentally a spiritual problem. Do we have the trust in God that the developing life within will have enough food, money, resources, love, and support? If not, where is the Christian community? This past year the U.S. Bishops launched a year-long service project to mark the 25th anniversary of Evangelium Vitae - The Gospel of Life. The service project is titled "Walking With Mom's in Need". If our prolife witness is to be effective, we need to be on the front lines of caring for moms in need. In doing so we are heeding the call of our Holy Father, Pope Francis, to go to the margins of society.

One of the bright lights in our culture is the work of crisis pregnancy centers/services. Recent ultrasound technology has now been made readily available so that pregnant mothers can see the miracle of life growing in their womb. Many abortion-minded women have changed their minds with the gift of this technology.

As the U.S. Bishops have noted, defense of the unborn is a "pre-eminent priority" for U.S. Catholics. We turn to the Lord of Life and beseech His aid and guidance. God doesn't need large numbers. Remember, in the Old Testament Gideon was successful in battle with just a handful of men. If we are to transform the "culture of death" into a "culture of life" everyone is called to a conversion of heart. Prayer can obtain all things. May the Lord hear our prayers and pleas for a culture that values and treasures human life.

Thank you for your work in God's vineyard and thank you for all you do to build a culture of life in the Diocese of Norwich.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Mucyale R Cots

Bishop of Norwich



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

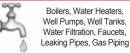
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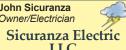
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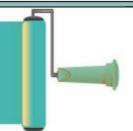
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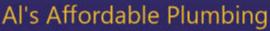
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