

2nd Sunday in
Ordinary Time
January 19, 2020



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SACRAMENTAL LIFE

Sacrament of the Eucharist:

Mass: Mon-Fri: 7:30am

Sat. Vigil: 4:00pm

Sunday: 8:00am &
10:30am

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession):

Saturday: 3:00pm -
3:30pm 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

Sacrament of Baptism:

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

Sacrament of 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.

Sacrament of Matrimony:

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

Sacrament of 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:

7:30am & 6:30pm

(No evening Mass the day
before the Holy Day.)

The Rosary is prayed
Tuesdays at 4:30pm.

Sexual Misconduct Services:
800-624-7407



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

STAFF: Mrs. Louise Young, *Pastoral Associate & Director of Faith Formation* 860-434-9873;
Mr. William J. Thomas, *Director of Music*; Mr. Emil (Sonny) Schrafft, *Maintenance*;
Ms. Sulma Garcia, *Church Cleaning & Rectory Housekeeper*; Mrs. Margaret Kuhn, *Secretary*

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Clinton, Dorothy Paine, Director of Music, Pastoral Associate, DRE (designee), Parish Trustees

FINANCE COUNCIL: John Smith-chair, Meg Kolb, Al Page, Jean Wilczynski, Bob Whitcomb

PARISH TRUSTEES: Richard Torrenti and Marylin Clarke

Winter Weather

*If there is a school cancellation or delay
due to snow, morning Mass
will be celebrated at 12:00pm noon.*

MASS Schedule this Week

Saturday Jan. 18

4:00pm Joseph Sapia r/b his wife, Shirley

SUNDAY Jan. 19 2nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00am Marilyn Wilkins

10:30am Varkey Mattam r/b family

Mon. Jan. 20 St. Fabian, Pope and Martyr; St. Sebastian, Martyr; Martin Luther King Jr. Day

7:30am Fr. Phil Pusateri r/b Fr. Walter Nagle

Tues. Jan. 21 St. Agnes, Virgin and Martyr

7:30am The Parishioners of Christ the King

Wed. Jan. 22 Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children

7:30am For all Victims of abortion

Thurs. Jan. 23 St. Vincent, Deacon and Martyr; St. Marianne Cope, Virgin

7:30am Karl and Hilda Jahn r/b family

Fri. Jan. 24 St. Francis de Sales, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

7:30am Fred and Edie Bennard r/b their Goddaughter

Saturday Jan. 25 The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle

4:00pm Elizabeth K. Planeta r/b her family

SUNDAY Jan. 26 3rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00am Don McCue

10:30am James LaChere r/b Pete and Betty Gallagher
Vincent Wilczynski r/b Bob and Sue Staab



*The SANCTUARY lamp in JANUARY
will be lit for Elinsky, Bedard, Clemmons & Tibbo Families*

WHY DO WE DO THAT?

Q: The Bible talks a lot about “testifying” or “giving testimony” to our faith. That makes me think of a courtroom. What does testifying to faith look like in everyday life?

A: The courtroom image isn’t too far off for some Christians. The Church has often been persecuted, and it was especially intense in the early days of the Church, when Acts and the various epistles were being written. For persecuted Christians, it did mean attesting publicly to their faith in Jesus Christ, sometimes before harsh judges. *To testify is to bear witness, and this is something we are all called to do.*

The call of Jesus is, first and foremost, a call to conversion of life. It is a repentance from sin, a casting off of old ways of seeing and moving in the world. The Christian life is one of transformation, becoming more and more like our God of love. In one sense, to testify to faith should happen naturally as we live like Jesus did. Our lives should bear witness in the respect we accord to others and the uncompromising dignity we honor in them. We bear witness in our gratitude, in our joy, in our hope in God’s power and grace. This is where we start! Sometimes others might inquire, as St. Peter puts it, as to “a reason for your hope.” Now you’re on the stand! It’s time to offer, “with gentleness and reverence,” the Good News of the Gospel (c.f. 1 Peter 3:15-16).

LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Our relationships ground and define us.

Understanding where we come from, who matters to us, and to whom we have an allegiance all frame and direct our lives. One unchangeable about who we are is: God formed us in our mother’s womb. Unless understanding of ourselves begins with this solid fact about ourselves, our knowledge will always be incomplete. John the Baptist and Jesus knew who they were and where they came from. This allowed them to understand their purpose and express their identity. To whom do you matter? If your primary answer is God then you are on your way to knowing who you are.

Each of us has a purpose and mission to fulfill.

See God as your strength and get about the business of meeting life’s challenges.

GOSPEL MEDITATION

(John 1:29-34)

On the cusp of fame, power, or influence, would you turn it down? Today’s Gospel again features John the Baptist. Controversial but popular, John has gathered quite a group of followers. He has disciples. People come from near and far to be baptized by him. Pharisees and government leaders are drawn to his preaching. If John was another man, a lesser man, he would have claimed his own greatness. Instead, John the Baptist is a witness to humility.

“The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and said, ‘Behold the Lamb of God ... he is the one of whom I said, “A man is coming after me who ranks ahead of me.” ... the reason why I came baptizing with water was that he might be made known.’” Rather than point to himself, John points to Christ. John could have grasped at what he had accumulated. He could have seen Jesus as a Messianic competitor. Instead, John knows who he is. He knows his place as forerunner. Because John knows who Jesus is. “I have seen and testified that he is the Son of God.”

A life of humility, a life for others, can be challenging to live. So much of our culture is built around achievement and individualism. We can justify it, too, in pursuit of “greater goods” and higher ideals. In the process, however, we might miss our own participation in the kingdom of God. John, for all of his humility, was not an afterthought. In another Gospel passage, Jesus calls him “the greatest prophet,” even the greatest of men. Why? Because he fulfills the mission given to him by God: to announce the coming of the Messiah. We too are prophets and forerunners. Our witness to the Gospel is meant to point people to Jesus. Consider your own mission this week. To whom are you called to announce the good news of the Son of God?

LPI

Readings for the week of January 19, 2020

Sunday: Is 49:3,5-6/Ps 40:2,4,7-10/1 Cor 1:1-3/Jn 1:29-34

Monday: 1 Sm 15:16-23/Ps 50:8-9,16-17, 21,23/Mk 2:18-22

Tuesday: 1 Sm 16:1-13/Ps 89:20-22, 27-28/Mk 2:23-28

Wed.: 1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51/Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10/Mk 3:1-6

Thursday: 1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7/Ps 56:2-3, 9-13/Mk 3:7-12

Friday: 1 Sm 24:3-21/Ps 57:2-4, 6,11/Mk 3:13-19

Saturday: Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22/Ps 117:1, 2/Mk 16:15-18

Next Sunday: Is 8:23-9:3/Ps 27:1,4,13-14 /1 Cor 1:10-13, 17/Mt 4:12-23





Diocese of Norwich
Office of the Bishop
201 Broadway
Norwich, Connecticut 06360
(860) 887-9294



MOST REVEREND
MICHAEL R. COTE, D.D.

January 19, 2020

My dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

January 22, 2020, marks the 47th anniversary of the Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion. On the anniversary of this date hundreds of thousands of people gather in Washington, DC at the March for Life. This year's March is on January 24, 2020 and it celebrates the centennial anniversary of women's suffrage in the United States with the theme, **"Life Empowers: Pro-Life Is Pro-Woman."**

The Church's teaching on abortion is firm and clear. The Catechism of the Catholic Church states in #2270, "Human life must be respected absolutely from the moment of conception. From the first moment of his existence, a human being must be recognized as having the rights of a person - among which is the inviolable right to life." Saint John Paul II notes in *Evangelium Vitae: The Gospel of Life*, that "life is always a good". He continues: "The life which God gives man is quite different from the life of all other living creatures inasmuch as man, although formed from the dust of the earth, is a manifestation of God in the world, a sign of his presence, a trace of his glory. This is what Saint Irenaeus of Lyons wanted to emphasize in his celebrated definition: 'Man, living man, is the glory of God' ".

For this reason, Pope Francis stated in a conference on life in May of this year ("Yes to Life: Caring for the Precious Gift of Life in all its Frailness"): "Abortion is never the answer... no human being can ever be incompatible with life... Every child is a gift that changes the history of a family... and this child needs to be welcomed, loved, and cared for." Of particular concern to Pope Francis is the health and well being of children in-utero with a challenging prenatal diagnosis. He notes, "Human life is sacred and inviolable and the use of prenatal diagnosis for selective purposes must be strongly discouraged because it is the expression of an inhuman eugenic mentality, which deprives families of the possibility of welcoming, embracing, and loving their weakest children."

Yes. Life is always a good. To be pro-life is to be pro-woman. Consider the heroic witness of Saint Gianna Beretta-Molla. A physician and a mother of four, Saint Gianna died shortly after giving birth to her daughter Gianna Emmanuela in 1962. Saint Gianna once said, "We must be living witnesses to the beauty and grandeur of Christianity." With the offering of her life, Saint Gianna gave witness to the beauty and grandeur of life. She gave witness to the fact that "Life empowers. Pro Life is Pro Woman".

My prayer for each and every one of us is that we will give witness with our lives to the beauty of human life. Life is always good. Thank you for all you do to build a culture of life here in the Diocese of Norwich.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Bishop of Norwich

Parish Pot Luck Supper Friday, Jan. 31 @ 6:00pm



Our *monthly* Pot Luck will be held in Our Lady of Good Counsel (CTK) parish hall on Friday, Jan. 31 @ **5:45pm** for cocktails (wine & beer) **BYOB**, 6:00 pm for dinner.

Please bring a dish, salad or dessert to share.

Come to enjoy a good dinner & good company!

Questions? Call Nancy Gatto, 860-390-6314.

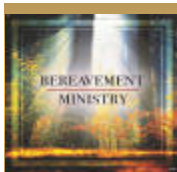
New Altar Servers Needed:

A brief altar server training session will be held after all masses on February 1 and February 2.

We need new altar servers at all masses, but especially at the 4pm Vigil Mass, children or adults.



Bereavement Ministry: We gather on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6:30pm in the St. John's rectory. If you want to be with others who understand feelings of loss, please join us. Contact: Donna MacNeill 860-395-7326.



Regularly scheduled parish events:

Children's Choir	Tuesday 6:15pm
Adult Choir	Tuesday 7:30pm
Eucharistic Adoration	M-F 6:15-7:15am
Rosary	Tuesday 4:30 pm
Men's Club	1 st Thursday 6:00pm
Holy Trinity Pro-Life Group	1 st Wednesday 7:00pm
Small Christian Community (scripture sharing)	Wednesday 7:00pm
Bible Study (for all)	Thursday 9:00am
Women's Bible Study	Wednesday 9:30am
Parish Pot Luck Supper	last Friday of month 6:00pm
'God Squad' Prayer Group	M-F mornings after 7:30am mass
Shoreline Soup Kitchen <u>Sign-up</u>	2nd Sun, even months
Shoreline Soup Kitchen <u>Serve</u> (Sat. breakfast)	3rd Sat, even months
N.L. Soup Kitchen <u>Sign-up</u>	1st Sun, odd months
N.L. Soup Kitchen <u>Serve</u> (Sun. Supper)	2nd Sun, odd months

OUR PARISH SUPPORT:

January 12, 2020 \$ 9,494.78

Thank You for your generosity!

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 call the office, 860-434-1669. Or, you can fill out the following and return via the basket, drop it at the office, or mail to: 1 McCurdy Road, Old Lyme, CT 06371

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

E-mail address _____

_____ New registration _____ Envelopes

_____ Change of address

"We can do no Great Things...Only Little Things with Great LOVE."

- Saint Mother Theresa of Calcutta

47th March for Life in Washington D.C.

On Friday, Jan. 24, 2020, a quarter of a million people from across the nation will assemble in Washington, D.C. to visibly express their support of human life. January 22, 2020 marks the somber 47th anniversary of the Supreme Court's infamous abortion -on-demand ruling. Because of that decision, tens of millions of pre-born babies have been denied their most basic right - their right to life.

On Thursday, January 23, 2020 at 9 P.M., buses sponsored by the Connecticut Right to Life Eastern Chapter will leave from the Norwich Municipal Parking Lot (Exit 11, I-395) and travel to D.C. to attend the March For Life on Friday, January 24, 2020. Bus fare is \$70 per person.

If you are unable to attend the March For Life, consider sponsoring a seat on the bus. For information or to reserve a seat or to sponsor a seat, please call Lisa Duda at 860-494-0049.



LIFE. We are here to add what we can do, not to get what we can from life. -Samuel Taylor Coleridge

On the Lighter Side: The New Baby

After the birth of his baby brother, a little boy was thoroughly annoyed at all of his crying and screaming.

"Where did we get him anyway?" he asked his mother.

"He came from heaven," his mother said.

"Well, I can see why they threw him out!" the boy replied.



Mass of Thanksgiving for Consecrated Life

Sunday, February 2nd at 10:30 a.m.

Cathedral of Saint Patrick in Norwich

All are invited to join **Bishop Michael R. Cote** in thanking God for the gift of consecrated life and for the sisters, brothers, and religious priests who enrich the Church and the Diocese of Norwich by building up God's Kingdom with the witness of their religious commitment.

The homilist for the Mass will be **Father Jacinto Chapin, FI**. Father Jacinto is a member of the **Franciscan Friars of the Immaculate** and is currently the delegate superior for the **Marian Friary of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Griswold, CT**.



DIOCESAN PRO-LIFE MASS
Saturday, Feb. 1, 2020, 8:30am
at St. Patrick Cathedral, Norwich

Pray for the pre-born, the sanctity of all human life, and healing for all who have suffered because of abortion. Join Fr. Ray Introvigne, celebrant. The Power of Prayer is Endless.

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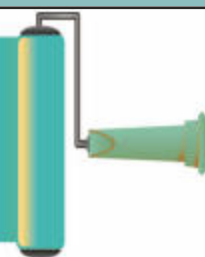
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