



"He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord." Jesus said to them, "Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing." - Lk 4:18b-19, 21

## Mass Intentions

### Sunday, January 24, Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 5:00 Vigil: Max and Mary Corvo, r/b their family
- 7:30 Ann Bradley, r/b Dick & Jan Czapiga
- 9:30 All parishioners living and deceased
- 11:30 Lawrence "Red" Grassi, r/b the Crandall Family

The Rosary is prayed before Mass daily at 8:35 a.m.  
Perpetual Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the Chapel of Divine Mercy (entrance from lower parking lot).

### Monday, January 25, The Conversion of St. Paul, apostle

- 9:00 Antonina Szkoda, r/b her family

### Tuesday, January 26, St. Timothy & St. Titus, bishops

- 9:00 Frances Franklin, 21<sup>st</sup> anniversary, r/b Stanley & Lucille Kalish

### Wednesday, January 27, St. Angela Merici, virgin

- 9:00 Birthday blessings for Nina Dino, r/b her family

### Thursday, January 28, St. Thomas Aquinas, priest & doctor of the Church

- 9:00 Greg King, r/b Barbara Zalewski

### Friday, January 29

- 9:00 Greg King, r/b Barbara Zalewski

### Saturday, January 30

- 9:00 Month's Mind Mass for Ann Bradley, r/b her family
- 5:00 Maria & Luigi Gallitto, r/b their daughter & son-in-law

### Sunday, January 31, Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 7:30 A special intention
- 9:30 All parishioners living and deceased
- 11:30 Paul Pappalardo, r/b his family



### PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Shannon Cody, Benjamin Cantwell, Ellie Frisk, Alice Young, Rose Spagnulo, Michael Peck, Richard H. Peck, Dominic Serlise, Charles V. Conte, Mary Kelly Brown, Josephine Reck, Carol Netti, Bridget Flanagan, Sarah Lorenzo, Rose Roberto, Donna Callahan, Kathy Rand, Armand Cook, Claudia Kondracky, Bill Connell, Robert Stetson, Florence McIntyre, Henrietta Bernal, Carolyn Record, Rosalie Pitruzzello, Peter Young, Janis Gianni, Karen Ireland, Phyllis Kelly, Josie Anderson, John Dooney, Howard Nielsen, Jr., Richard "Rick" Brown, Mary DeJohn, Kathleen Linehan, Richard Bobrowski, Margaret Ward, Jerilyn LaFargue, Carol Goulart, L. Johnson, Pasquale & Natalia Fasciani, Christine Guerriero, Maureen Schappert, Michelle Delisle, Kelly Franklin, William Revis, Marc Revis, Francis Ethier, Mike Cosker, Dr. John Conroy, William White, Cameron Rahman, Katherine Sabb, Thomas Danaher, Carolyn Mueller, Bob Matus, Marie Griffin, Linda Coons, Sylvia Costa and Judy Nocera.

Please call 635-5590 to add or remove names from the prayer list

## Your Sacrificial Offering

Thank you for your sacrificial giving.

Last weekend the National Combined Collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious, the Annual Appeal for the Holy Father, Catholic Communications, and the Catholic University of America was taken. To all those who made a gift, thank you for your generous response. If you were unable to bring your gift envelope, extras are available at all Church entrances. Your support of these needs of the Universal Church is greatly appreciated. Your envelope can be dropped in the collection basket next weekend or mailed directly to our Parish.



### WE NEED YOUR HELP IN RELIEF AID FOR EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS

This weekend a special collection will be taken to support Haitian Relief for those directly affected by the devastating earthquake on January 12. Thank you for your generosity, it is greatly appreciated.

### YEARLY CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

Your 2009 yearly contribution statement will be mailed by the end of January. If you do not receive yours and would like to, please contact Shelly at 635-5590.

**Our Parish Pastoral Council will meet** in the parish center room 202 on Monday, January 25 from 7 – 9 p.m.

**Mercy High School Entrance Exam Registration**, Test Date: Saturday, January 30, 2010, 8:00 A.M.. Pre-registration is required. Visit <http://www.mercyhigh.com/> or call 860-346-6659.

**XAVIER Make-up Entrance Exam** 1/27/2010 8:00 AM: There will be a make up entrance exam on Wednesday, January 27th at 8:00 a.m. Please call 860-346-7735 ext. 702 to pre-register.

### ST. JOHN WOMEN'S GROUP MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Come join us, and be sure to invite your friends!

- WHERE: St. John Parish Hall
- WHEN: Wednesday February 10, 2010
- TIME: 7 – 9 p.m.

For more information call: Rosemary Matus, 635-0011  
Joanne Golden, 635-5789.

St. John Church Cookbooks will be available to purchase



## Faith Formation

Office: (860) 635-5156

DRE: Dotty King

e-mail: [faithformationsjc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:faithformationsjc@sbcglobal.net)

Assistant DRE: Joanne Swift

e-mail: [sjcassistantdre@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sjcassistantdre@sbcglobal.net)

Secretary: Pat Alsup

e-mail: [ffsecsjc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ffsecsjc@sbcglobal.net)

### MARK THESE DATES:

2/3/10:	2 <sup>nd</sup> grade 1 <sup>st</sup> penance with family
3/6/10:	1 <sup>st</sup> Holy Communion Parent Meeting
3/6/10	9 <sup>th</sup> Grade Candlelight Rosary
3/14/10	Triduum Intergenerational Event
3/20/10 – 3/24/10:	Parish Mission
4/24/10	2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade Mini-Reflection SJC Hall
4/27/10	FHC Rehearsal
5/1/10	First Holy Communion Ceremony
5/5/10	Confirmation Rehearsal
5/8/10	Confirmation Ceremony

Saint John School in Middletown will hold an Open House and Registration day on Wednesday February 3 from 10 a.m. – 5: p.m. They are accepting applications for students in grade Pre-K through Grade 8. Please bring with you a baptismal record and birth certificate. For further information please call 860-347-3202.

## Teens of Pro-life (TOP-Life) Club of AHF

Academy of the Holy Family

Come share your talents and perform in a family-friendly atmosphere, for a great cause! Singers, instrumentalists and friends welcome! The AHF TOP-Life Club will hold the 2nd Pro-Life Coffee House of the '09-'10 school year, in honor of people who have lost lives in the Haiti earthquake, with proceeds going to the Haitian relief fund of the Diocese of Norwich [www.haitianministries.org](http://www.haitianministries.org). Come and enjoy from 7:00 to 9:00 pm on Saturday, Feb. 6, 2010, in Hanlon Hall at the Academy of the Holy Family, 54 West Main St., Baltic. Come enjoy the music and fellowship of fellow pro-life performers—professionals and students—including singers, dancers, musicians, and family!

Donation requested is \$5.00, \$20.00 per family. Plenty of refreshments are included!!! Questions? E-mail [prolifespainish@ahfbaltic.org](mailto:prolifespainish@ahfbaltic.org) or call Sister Marie-Andre at 860-822-8241. Thanks for your support. Bring your friends and meet new ones!!!

## NOTES FROM THE LOFT



The choir is preparing for Lent and Holy Week. Interested persons are encouraged to join for the season. If you play a musical instrument please contact Joyce at 860-633-1575.

## Immigration Reform could be Considered by Congress

Postcard Campaign to be held Feb 6-7, 2010 at all weekend Masses

With the expectation that comprehensive immigration reform could soon be considered by Congress, it is important that supporters of reform make their voices heard on Capitol Hill. For this reason, the Justice for Immigrants Campaign has initiated a postcard campaign to urge Congress to pass reform legislation.

In a landmark pastoral letter issued by the Catholic bishops of Mexico and the United States, Strangers No Longer: Together on the Journey of Hope, the bishops

acknowledge that the current immigration system is badly in need of reform and that a comprehensive approach to fixing it is required. The bishops offer a comprehensive set of recommendations for changing U.S. laws and policies to reflect the principles contained in Scripture and Catholic Social Teaching and to bring about a more humane and just immigration system in the United States.

The bishops' call for reforms includes the following elements:

1. Global anti-poverty efforts
2. Expanded opportunities to reunify families
3. Temporary worker program
4. Broad-based legalization
5. Restoration of due process

For further information about this reform please visit:

<http://www.justiceforimmigrants.org/index.html>

## SJC Pro Life Ministry

Next Meeting: February 2, 2010

Parish Library at 7:00 p.m.

The group has a simple goal: to respect, protect, love and serve life - every human life, from the womb to natural death.

All are welcome to join this Committee: age, faith or background make no difference...just a strong commitment to promote life is needed. Perfect attendance is NOT required! For further information contact our parish secretary Shelly King at 635-5590.

GET INVOLVED: Everyone has a talent or ability to contribute, if only for one hour per week or per month.



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

SATURDAY, April 10, 2010

Mark your calendar and plan to attend our 12th Annual Parish Auction. Our Auction Committee is busy with great plans. If you can lend a hand please call Mike Holcomb at 860-635-4311

St. John Church 4th Annual Parish Picnic  
Saturday, June 12, 2010

1 p.m. - Sunset, Watrous Park, Cromwell



## Perpetual Adoration

**“THE MASTER IS HERE AND IS ASKING FOR YOU.”**

John 11:28

### OPEN ADORATION HOURS

Please fill shaded areas first:

**Monday:** 1 a.m. – 2 a.m.

5 a.m. – 6 a.m.

**Wednesday:** 3 a.m. – 4 a.m.

2 p.m. – 3 p.m.

**Thursday:** 1 a.m. – 2 a.m.

2 a.m. – 3 a.m.

3 a.m. – 4 a.m.

4 a.m. – 5 a.m.

5 a.m. – 6 a.m.

5 p.m. – 6 p.m.

**Friday:** 7 p.m. – 8 p.m.

**Saturday:** 2 a.m. – 3 a.m.

3 a.m. – 4 a.m.

4 a.m. – 5 a.m.

**Saturday:** 9 p.m. – 10 p.m.

Call Roger at 635-1918

**A COMMITTED ADORER IS ONE WHO PROMISES TO BE HERE ON A CERTAIN DAY AT A CERTAIN TIME FOR ONE HOUR.**

January 24, 2010, 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

“Go, eat rich foods and drink sweet drinks, and allot portions to those who had nothing prepared...” - Nehemiah 8:10

Ezra’s instructions to the people show us that God does not forbid us from enjoying the good things in life. However, He expects us to share our blessings with those who are in need.

## Celebrating the Year for Priests

**Never be in a hurry; do everything quietly and in a calm spirit. Do not lose your inner peace for anything whatsoever, even if your whole world seems upset.**

- Saint Francis de Sales (1567-1622), Bishop and Doctor of the Church, Feast Day January 24



## In Loving Memory

Divine Mercy Chapel Fund

\$555.00 in memory of Ann Bradley

## My dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The immigration issue is, undoubtedly, one of the most important social issues facing our country today. It affects not only a few states along the border or the big cities, but it impacts virtually every community in our nation, including the parishes of our own Diocese of Norwich. In the last twenty to thirty years both our country and our Church have experienced an unprecedented wave of immigration. How that phenomenon is handled will determine what kind of nation – and church - we will be in this twenty-first century. As Congress readies itself to take up the debate on immigration reform, I urge you to join with Catholics and other people of good faith across this nation to stand in solidarity with our brothers and sisters who continue to live in the shadows, many of whom have been in this country for several years and are productive members of their civic and church communities.

A simple way to offer this support is by participating in the national postcard campaign, an initiative of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Committee on Migration. The Justice for Immigrants Campaign of the USCCB is making available postcards to parishes as a tool to build support for immigration reform. The goal of this initiative is to enhance the ability of the church community to advocate for immigration reform and to encourage our Federal officials to enact reform legislation as soon as possible.

In 2007, legislation failed because opponents contacted their legislators ten times more than proponents. In order for us to win passage of this legislation, proponents, including the Catholic community, must do a better job of generating grass roots support. The purpose of the postcards is to provide a flood of support to the offices of our senators and representatives nationwide, to encourage them to work for comprehensive immigration reform. **Since debate on this issue could be considered in Congress as early as February 2010, the next few weeks are crucial. To that end, I have designated February 6-7, 2010 as “sign-up week-end” for those wishing to participate in this campaign.**

The present immigration system is severely broken and must be repaired. How that is done will make all the difference for the future of this country and the Church. Mass deportations or enforcement-only policies clearly contradict the teachings of our Lord himself, as they violate the integrity of our people and of this great nation. Comprehensive immigration reform, one that looks at all aspects of the issue and strives to respond from a perspective of faith, is the only reform worthy of this great nation. The contributions of immigrants are what have made America what it is today. To abandon this legacy could change the character of our nation and dim our prospects for the future. The challenge before this country is to preserve America’s position as a beacon of hope and freedom to those in need. The challenge before each of us as people of faith, as Catholic Christians, is to see the immigrant through the eyes of faith and so make reality in our lives the explicit teaching of Christ himself: “I was a stranger and you welcomed me” (Mt. 25:35). Jesus identified himself personally with the alien and challenged His followers to see Him in the stranger. Our faith obliges us to meet that challenge. May God bless each of you in this New Year?

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Bishop of Norwich

## ST. JOHN CHURCH PARISH POLICIES

**BAPTISMS:** Baptisms are generally not ministered during the Lenten Season. Parents planning to have their baby baptized must receive instruction prior to Baptism. The next instruction *Class will be held on, JANUARY 24, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.* Please meet in the Church. You must first register with Fr. Raymond (635-5590).

**SPONSOR CERTIFICATES:** A person wishing to be a sponsor for the Sacraments of Baptism or Confirmation must be a registered member in good standing with our Church.

**MARRIAGE:** Arrangements for weddings need to be made in person by the parties of the proposed marriage at least one year in advance and prior to setting any date. **PLEASE TAKE NOTE: Norms for Marriage in the Diocese of Norwich require that those planning marriages should contact the priest one year prior to the marriage.**

**SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING** is given to those who are seriously ill or about to undergo surgery. Please call the parish office, 635-5590.

**COMMUNION TO THOSE WHO ARE HOMEBOUND:** Special ministers of the Eucharist may bring Communion to the home of those who are homebound. The priests will visit once a month.

**On Sunday, February 7, 2010, the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Mass of Thanksgiving for the Gift of Consecrated Life** will be celebrated at 2:00 p.m., Cathedral of Saint Patrick, Norwich. All are invited to join Bishop Cote in thanking God for the gift of consecrated life and for the sisters, brothers, and religious priests who enrich the Church and build up God's Kingdom with the witness of their religious commitment. The homilist will be Reverend Thomas Rosica, CSB, C.E.O., Salt and Light Catholic Media Foundation, Ontario, Canada. All are invited to participate in the Mass.

**RACHEL'S VINEYARD RETREAT for Healing after Abortion.** If you or someone you know is grieving from a past abortion, then experience the healing love of Christ. Retreat combines discussions, spiritual exercises, Sacrament of Reconciliation, Memorial Service and Mass. Participation is confidential and offers a beautiful opportunity to experience God's love and forgiveness. For information or to register for the upcoming Retreat March 19-21, 2010 in Hamden, CT call Mary Hayden at 203-882-1326. For the Holyoke, MA Retreat on March 19-21, 2010 call Mary Petisce at 413-783-8619. Rachel's Vineyard Website: [www.rachelsvineyard.org](http://www.rachelsvineyard.org)

### Readings for the Week of January 24, 2010

Sunday: Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10/1 Cor 12:12-30 or 12:12-14, 27/Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21  
Monday: Acts 22:3-16 or 9:1-22/Mk 16:15-18  
Tuesday: 2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5/Mk 3:31-35  
Wednesday: 2 Sm 7:4-17/Mk 4:1-20  
Thursday: 2 Sm 7:18-19, 24-29/Mk 4:21-25  
Friday: 2 Sm 11:1-4a, 5-10a, 13-17/Mk 4:26-34  
Saturday: 2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17/Mk 4:35-41  
Next Sunday: Jer 1:4-5, 17-19/1 Cor 12:31---13:13 or 13:4-13/Lk 4:21-30