



The devil said to him, "All this will be yours, if you worship me." Jesus said to him in reply, "It is written: You shall worship the Lord, your God, and him alone shall you serve." - Lk 4:6a, 7-8

Mass Intentions

Sunday, February 21, First Sunday of Lent

- 5:00 Vigil: Nellie & Nancy Ondrick, r/b their family
- 7:30 Benedicto & Felicidad Andaya, r/b their family
- 9:30 All parishioners living and deceased
- 11:30 In Thanksgiving, r/b Donna Mattei
- 5:00 Life Teen Mass

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, February 22, The Chair of St. Peter, apostle

- 9:00 Agnese Fabiano, r/b Fiorena Sanzo

Tuesday, February 23, St. Polycarp, bishop & martyr

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

Wednesday, February 24

- 9:00 Jean Marie Fiorella, r/b her parents

Thursday, February 25

- 9:00 Josephine Brennan, r/b Lisa Damato

Friday, February 26

- 9:00 Frank Cusano, 5th anniversary, r/b Jeanine Rivard
- 7:00 Stations of the Cross

Saturday, February 27

- 9:00 A Special Intention
- 5:00 Robert & Stephen Ondrick, r/b their family

Sunday, February 28, Second Sunday of Lent

- 7:30 Helen Sawicki
- 9:30 All parishioners living and deceased
- 11:30 Giovanni Sanzo, r/b Fiorena Sanzo



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, Caroll Nettis, 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, 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.

Join Us For Coffee, Donuts and Conversation

in the Church Hall following 9:30 Mass this Sunday. This month's hosts are our Eucharistic Ministers.

Baptism Instruction Class will be held this Sunday, February 21st at 7:00 p.m. in the Church Proper. Please call the Parish Office to register.

The St. John Church Welcoming Committee will host a Welcoming Gathering/Registration Meeting for **New Parishioners** in the Church hall on Thursday February 25th at 7:00 p.m. All new parishioners and their families are required to attend a registration gathering. Please call the parish office to sign-up. (635-5590)



FIRST WEEK OF LENT: GIVING THE FIRST FRUITS

Lesotho, a country slightly smaller than the state of Maryland, is completely surrounded by South Africa. Most of the country's population—86 percent—engage in subsistence agriculture. Droughts and food shortages exacerbated by the world food crisis have left this population particularly vulnerable to hunger.

GIVE:

Do a little figuring to determine how much on average your family spends per member when eating dinner at home. Put the equivalent in your Rice Bowl in the name of those who may only eat one meal per day.

For further information go to <http://orb.crs.org/weekly-reflections>



Lenten Pro-life Prayer

Lent is a season of repentance, which leads to life. Priests for Life urges all Christians to join us in saying the Lenten Pro-life Prayer, and making a special commitment to help others to see and defend the dignity of every human life, starting with the unborn.

Lenten Pro-life Prayer

Father of all mercy,

We thank you for this season of grace and light.

We know that sin has blinded us.

Draw us ever closer to you, in prayer and penance.

Since you, O God, are light itself,

Give all your people a clearer understanding

Of what is sin, and what is virtue.

Grant in particular that we may see, as never before,

The profound dignity of every human life,

Including the vulnerable unborn children.

Give us grace to defend

Our brothers and sisters in the womb

By our prayers, our words,

And our self-sacrificing actions.

We pray through Christ our Lord. Amen.



Faith Formation

Office: (860) 635-5156

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MARK THESE DATES:

3/6/10:	1 st Holy Communion Parent Meeting
3/6/10	9 th Grade Candlelight Rosary
3/14/10	Triduum Intergenerational Event
3/20/10 – 3/24/10:	Parish Mission
4/24/10	2 nd 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

Xavier High School – Middletown, CT 2nd term Honor Roll

St. John, Cromwell

- High Honors Joseph W. Bibisi `13
- High Honors Jonathan J. Cyr `13
- High Honors Francis R. Rowland `11
- Honors Kevin C. Rizy `10
- Honors Geoffrey J. Vartelas `12
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CONGRATULATIONS!

Youth Explosion 2010! March 7, 2010

St. Bernard High School, Uncasville.

Join teens from the Diocese of Norwich and surrounding dioceses for a faith filled High School Youth Rally featuring great music, spirit-filled speakers, and concluding with an awesome concert with Catholic recording artist Matt Maher. The theme of the day is "Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom." (2 Cor. 3:17). Come experience the freedom of the Lord! Rally (teens only) and concert \$25; Concert only (open to all ages): \$15. To register or for more information: www.youthexplosionct.com or call Jill Patten: 860-460-3947. This event is sponsored by the Office of Faith Events, Diocese of Norwich.

St. John School in Middletown will hold a new student open house on March 4, 11, 18 and 25 from noon until 7:00 p.m. Please bring a copy of your child's baptismal record and birth certificate to register your child. A non-refundable registration and new student fee of \$150.00 is due at the time of registration. For further information call 860-347-3202.

DIOCESE OF NORWICH 2010 Lenten Regulations

1. LAW OF FAST

- Those who are **18 years of age, but not yet 59 years of age**, are obliged to observe the law of fast.
- On days of fast, those bound by the law are limited to a single full meal. Two other meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to one's needs; however, together these two meals should not equal another full meal.
- There are two prescribed days of fast: Ash Wednesday (February 17, 2010) and Good Friday (April 2, 2010).**

2. LAW OF ABSTINENCE

- Those who are **14 years of age and older** are obliged to observe the law of abstinence.
- On days of abstinence, those bound by the law abstain from meat.
- On all Fridays of Lent, abstinence is prescribed.** This, of course, **includes Good Friday.** Abstinence is also prescribed on **Ash Wednesday.**

3. LENTEN DISCIPLINE

- No Catholic will hold himself/herself lightly excused from the law of fast and abstinence. Commenting upon the mitigated Lenten regulations promulgated several years ago by the Holy Father, the National Conference of Catholic Bishops in the United States noted: "The obligations to do penance is a serious one; the obligation to observe, as a whole or 'substantially', the penitential days specified by the Church is also serious."
- Lent is a most appropriate time for the voluntary practice of self-denial or personal penance. This may be physical mortification, temperance, or such works as Christian charity and witness.
- The Code of Canon Law very aptly summarizes the ecclesiastical discipline in Canon 1249: "All members of the Christian faithful in their own way are bound to do penance in virtue of divine law: in order that all may be joined in a common observance of penance, penitential days are prescribed in which the Christian faithful in a special way pray, exercise works of piety and charity, and deny themselves by more faithfully and especially by observing fast and abstinence..."

Reaching for a lifeline for your troubled marriage? Are you feeling hurt, angry or frustrated? Is your marriage being torn apart? Retrouvaille is that lifeline. Retrouvaille begins with a weekend experience in which husbands and wives are helped and given tools to heal, re-establish communication and gain new insight into themselves as individuals and as a couple. A series of 8 post sessions are offered within three months follows the weekend phase. Couples come to Retrouvaille, which is Catholic in origin but open to all from any background and age, with a sincere desire to build a stable, loving marriage. For information or to sign up for the next weekend in CT on March 19-21, 2010 call Bill and Terri Mason 203-879-3842 or email: 3001@retrovaille.org, Website: www.retrovaille.org.

First Sunday of Lent

PRIEST RECOGNITION NIGHT

St. John Church, Cromwell

April 17, 2010

On Saturday, April 17, 2010, the Knights of Columbus – DeSoto Council No.6 of Cromwell will be sponsoring a Priest Recognition Night. This event will take place at St. John Church in Cromwell. The evening will begin with a Mass at 5:00 p.m. Saturday evening, to be celebrated by Reverend Gregory Galvin, Vocations Director for the Norwich Diocese. To continue the celebration and recognition of our Priests, there will be a wine and cheese reception downstairs in the Church Hall to be followed by a pasta supper.

On June 19, 2009, Pope Benedict XVI inaugurated “The Year for Priests”. The Holy Father has called for a year-long celebration for all of our Priests. This celebration began on June 19, 2009 and will conclude on June 19, 2010. The year will be dedicated to prayer for the sanctification and renewal of the clergy. In making this declaration, Pope Benedict XVI has invited all of the faithful to fully participate in this celebration.

In support of this celebration, the Supreme Office of the Knights of Columbus has called upon its members to conduct an appreciation/recognition event for Priests. The Knights of Columbus DeSoto Council 6 of Cromwell invites all Catholics to join us in honoring those priests serving St. John Church in Cromwell, the greater Middletown Deanery, and Holy Apostles College and Seminary. Tickets are \$10.00 per person for the Dinner.

As Catholics, we mark many special occasions in our lives with a Priest. How important are Priests to us as Catholics? Let us ask ourselves the following: Who welcomed your soul at the beginning of your life? The Priest. Who administered the sacraments of communion and confirmation? The Priest. Who feeds your soul and gives it strength for its journey? The Priest. Who will prepare your soul to appear before God, bathing it one last time in the blood of Jesus Christ? The Priest. It has always been the Priest.

To purchase your tickets in advance for this special event, please call either Dick Czapiga at (860)635-6004 or Frank Golden at (860)534-5789. No Tickets will be sold at the door.



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.

2 a.m. – 3 a.m.

3 a.m. – 4 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.



Our prayers and heartfelt sympathy go out to the family of:

† **Carolyn Mueller**

Please keep her and all our departed in your prayers

St. Pius X Haitian Ministry Benefit, Saturday March 6th

At 12:30 PM there will be a Rosary followed by a lunch provided by the Imperial Caribbean Restaurant at 1 PM. A speaker from the Norwich Diocese will give a presentation on some of the emergency needs of the six Haitian staff members of Norwich Mission House and the projects and twinned parishes partnered through the ministry. All Family and Friends are Invited. Free will donations will be accepted and Haitian crafts will be available. All proceeds will benefit the Norwich Haitian Ministry. For more information visit our website: St. Pius Haitian ministry or contact Bill Maune: 860-635-6007 or bmaune@sbcglobal.net.

Are you silently grieving over a past abortion? RACHEL'S VINEYARD RETREAT for Healing after Abortion. For information or to register for the upcoming Retreat March 19-21, 2010 in Hamden, CT call Mary Hayden at 203-882-1326. Rachel's Vineyard Website: www.rachelsvineyard.org

The Knights of Columbus DeSoto Council 6 Cordially Invite You, to Our Red, White and Blue Mass, honoring the Fire Dept, Police Dept, Emergency Services and Military Personnel
Date: Sunday March 14, 2010, Time: 7:30 am, Place: St. John's Church in Cromwell. A continental breakfast will follow the Mass. Please come and join us in honoring the protectors of our community and country, celebrate mass with us. Should you have any questions Michael Parent, CO-Chairperson (860) 316-8018 Stan Stachura, CO-Chairperson (860) 982-9177

First Sunday of Lent

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, FEBRUARY 21, 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.

Divorce Recovery: New Hope, New Beginnings, Seminar Weekend March 12, 13, 2010, plus 8 weekly follow-up sessions on Wednesdays evening. First Church of Christ, Wethersfield. Brochures are available in the main entrance to the church.

Catholic Charities, Behavioral Health Clinic provides counseling for children, adolescents, adults and families experiencing challenging life issues including loss, stress, anxiety, depression, divorce and addiction. Appointments available days and evenings. Please call 860-342-0760 for the Portland Office or 860-889-8346 for the Norwich Office.

Mercy & Xavier present "Guys and Dolls", March 5, 6 & 7th. Admission is \$10.00. Please visit www.mercyhigh.com for further information.

St. Mary of Czestochowa Lenten Schedule: Weekday Masses Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday at 7:30 a.m. Saturday at 8:00 a.m. St. Jude Novena begins on February 17- ends April 14th. Mass on Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

Readings for the Week of February 21, 2010

Sunday: Dt 26:4-10/Rom 10:8-13/Lk 4:1-13
Monday: 1 Pt 5:1-4/Mt 16:13-19
Tuesday: Is 55:10-11/Mt 6:7-15
Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10/Lk 11:29-32
Thursday: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/Mt 7:7-12
Friday: Ez 18:21-28/Mt 5:20-26
Saturday: Dt 26:16-19/Mt 5:43-48
Next Sunday: Gn 15:5-12, 17-18/Phil 3:17---4:1 or 3:20---4:1/Lk 9:28b-36