

Up, Jerusalem!
stand upon
the heights;
look to the east
and see your
children
gathered from
the east and
the west
at the word
of the Holy One,
rejoicing that
they are
remembered
by God. *Baruch 5:5*

Prospect of Jerusalem
Wenceslaus Hollar
(Bohemian, 1607-1677)
1660
Metropolitan Museum of Art
New York

Second
Sunday of *Advent*

December 5, 2021

The Church of the Incarnation

544 Prospect Street, Wethersfield, CT 06109

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Church Website Address

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Pastor

Rev. James M. Moran

Pastoral Associate

Director of Faith Formation

Mrs. Noranne Wamester

Gotellit15@gmail.com

Pastoral Assistant

Mrs. Audrey Saharek

Sacristan

Toni Munoz

Coordinator Elementary Faith Formation Gr. K-6

Mrs. Filomena Marinelli

Coordinator Middle School Faith Formation Gr. 7-12

Confirmation Coordinator

Gina Burby

Director of Music

Mrs. Theodora Niver

Cantors

Vanessa Crowley.....Lorissa Heath
Rosanne Sweeney Gowdy.....Andrew Russo
Heather Picard.....Gianna Bielenda

Rectory Staff Assistant

Mrs. Marguerite Devitt

Rectory Assistant

Marguerite Heinemann

Mass Schedule

Confessions on Saturdays from 3:30 - 4:15pm
in Father Crawford Hall

Vigil Mass: Saturday at 5:00pm

Sunday Masses: 8:30 & 10:30 am

Daily Mass: (Mon. - Fri.) 9:00 am

Recitation of the Rosary for Peace before
9:00 am daily Mass

Sacrament of Baptism

By previous appointment by calling the rectory.

Sundays at 12:30 pm

Weddings

Please contact a priest 6-10 months prior.

New Parishioners - Faith Formation Registration

The Church of the Incarnation
welcomes new parishioners.

Forms are available at the
main entrance of the church.

Please mail or drop off at the rectory.

You may also visit our website for printable forms at:

www.thechurchoftheincarnation.com

Rectory Hours

9:00 am - 4:30 pm

Mass Schedule

Saturday, December 4th

5:00pm—Flora Colasacco

Sunday, December 5th

8:30am—Michael J. Rizzo

10:30am—Raymond C. Esposito

Monday, December 6th

9:00am—For all our deceased
parishioners & benefactors

Tuesday, December 7th

9:00am—For all our parishioners

Wednesday, December 8th

**Immaculate Conception of
the Blessed Virgin Mary,
Holy Day Of Obligation**

9:00am—For all our parishioners

5:30pm—Virginia Vieira

Thursday, December 9th

9:00am—Deceased members of the
DeMilia & D'Onofrio Families

Friday, December 10th

9:00am—Josephine Vignone &
Christine Munoz

Saturday, December 11th

5:00pm—Christine & Paul Console &
Dominick Console

Sunday, December 12th

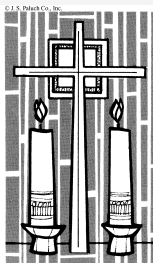
8:30am—Josephine Vignone

10:30am—Jim & Marge Amodio

The Sanctuary Candle will
burn from 12/6/2021—
12/12/2021 in memory of
Joseph A. Salvatore.

**The Blessed Virgin Mary
Candle** will burn from

12/6/2021—12/12/2021 in memory of
Elizabeth Speno.



The Second collection next weekend will be the Retired Religious collection.

Dear Parishioners: Due to the rescheduling of the Hartford Bishops' Foundation Forward in Faith Campaign, which has been rescheduled to next year, the **2021 Church of the Incarnation Annual Collection has been reinstated** and has been held **during the month of November**. So far we have collected \$74,165.00 toward our goal of \$100,000.00. Donations will be gratefully received through 2021. If you need a letter/envelope please call the rectory.

Drive by House of Bread collection is Sunday December 5th from 8am-11am in front of Fr. Crawford Hall. Coffee & sugar are requested.

We are blessed to have a beautiful outdoor Nativity Scene. We invite parishioners to take pictures with your family in front of our lovely Nativity Scene. It is located outside in front of the main entrance of church.

2021 CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE CONFESSIONS AND MASSES:



Christmas Eve this year is Friday, December 24th. Daily Mass will be held at 9am.

Christmas Eve Friday Evening, December 24th we will offer a Christmas Eve Vigil Mass at 5pm and a Mass During The Night at 10pm.

NOTE: There will be NO 12:00 MIDNIGHT MASS on Christmas Eve.

Saturday, December 25th, Christmas Morning Masses will be held at 8:30am & 10:30am.

There will be NO Vigil Mass on Saturday, December 25th for Sunday, December 26th. Sunday, December 26th Masses will be held at 8:30 & 10:30am.

Christmas Confessions will be offered on Monday, December 20th from 7-8pm only.

BAPTISMS



**JOHANNA MAY COLEMAN
LANDON WILSON LAWLOR**

Women's Club News: Thank you to everyone who's joined the club this year. To date, we have 200 members. If you haven't already signed up, we're still welcoming additional members. Thank you also to those who came to the October and November General Meetings. It was great to see members in person! There is no Christmas party this year. The cooking teams will continue meeting through the winter, while the next General Meeting will be in March 2022. Check the bulletin in February for updated information about the club's spring schedule.

The Incarnation Men's Club held their Election of Officers for 2022. We thank and congratulate the following officers:

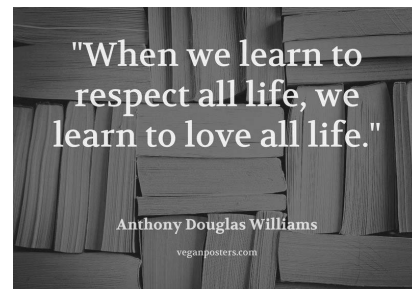
President:	Joe Agiato
Vice President:	Jeff Lojko
Treasurer:	John Ewaski
Secretary:	Bob Caron

Limited Edition of Commemorative Christmas Ornaments of Incarnation Church will not be available until the weekend of December 18th & 19th in the narthex/Fr. Crawford Hall. Sponsored by Incarnation Men's Club. Donation is \$5.00 per ornament. This will be the last weekend that the ornaments will be available.

Christ the King Parish (Corpus Christi Church), Wethersfield will be adding a 5:15pm Mass the 1st Sunday of each month throughout the school year.

News from Fr. Nick

It is my distinct privilege to announce to you the formation of our Transition Team for our pending merger. The ten members – 5 from Incarnation and 5 from Christ the King – are: Debbie Abbate, John Ewaski, Jen Faenza, Mike Fote, Jim Gorman, Tom Mahar, Paula Melillo, Ken Mendoza, Sal Santapaola, and Nora Uricchio. I thank them wholeheartedly for agreeing to serve as an initial Pastoral Council to bring feedback from you to the table, and to help communicate where we are going as the Catholic Church of Wethersfield. Please join me in praying daily for our community.



EAST CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Entrance Exam will take place on Sat., December 11th @ 8:30 a.m. To pre-register, please go to: https://www.echs.com/Visit_ECHS Our Shadow Day program is back!!! If your 8th grader would like to discover the "taste of East", please go to https://www.echs.com/Visit_ECHS to begin the process of scheduling a visit. It's also a perfect time to fill out the admissions application by visiting our website, the Admissions tab. #WeAreEC!

Xavier will have two Winter Open Houses, one in December and one in February.



PRAYER CORNER

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Stand on the heights, Jerusalem; see your children rejoicing that they are remembered by God. A merciful and just God leads Israel in joy (Baruch 5:1-9).

Psalm — The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy (Psalm 126).

Second Reading — May your love increase in knowledge to discern what is valuable that you may be blameless for the day of Christ (Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11).

Gospel — John proclaims a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. All flesh shall see the salvation of God (Luke 3:1-6).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9-14; Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday: Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-3, 10ac, 11-13; Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38

Thursday: Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1, 9-13ab; Mt 11:11-15

Friday: Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19

Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80: 2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a; Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Second Sunday of Advent

Monday: St. Nicholas

Tuesday: St. Ambrose;

Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

Wednesday: The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Thursday: St. Juan Diego

Friday: Our Lady of Loreto Sat: St. Damasus I

Second Sunday of Advent

December 5, 2021

**God has commanded
that every lofty mountain be made
low. — Baruch 5:7**

A DEEP CHANGE OF HEART

When John proclaimed a baptism of repentance, as today's Gospel relates, he called people to a deep change of heart. For John the Baptist, repentance was not simply regret for past failings, but a commitment to orient life around God's desires and purposes. What might living in alignment with God's desires look like? Our readings offer some clues. Baruch indicates that when mercy and justice are embraced like a royal garment, we may see the fruits of repentance. Paul notes how the Holy Spirit has been active within the church in Philippi, forming them to live in a loving and united community of faith, so they may witness to the love of God. And John himself suggests that a repentant heart clears a path for God to enter, leveling the mountains and valleys of our resistance, so that God might dwell within.

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Second Sunday of Advent

Almighty and merciful God,
may no earthly undertaking hinder those
who set out in haste to meet your Son,
but may our learning of heavenly wisdom
gain us admittance to his company.
Who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

An Advent Reminder

Please go to the Dynamic Catholic website : dynamiccatholic.com and sign up for the Best Advent Ever. This is a free daily reflection based on the book Life is Messy. The title sounds strange, but this book is a gem to read. These books are still available at the exits of the Church. This is a wonderful way to reflection the gift of life and one another as we prepare for the coming of Christ. *Blessings & Peace, Noranne S. Wamester, Pastoral Associate & the Dynamic Catholic Parish Team.*

Message from Fr. NickDecember 5, 2021

As we begin this 2nd week of Advent, I share the final three themes of the Synod Pope Francis has initiated throughout the world. The answers to these questions will go a long way to shaping our future church globally as well as here in Wethersfield.

The eighth theme is **Authority and Participation**. A synodal church is a participatory and co-responsible Church. How does our Church community identify the goals to be pursued, the way to reach them, and the steps to be taken? How is authority or governance exercised within our local Church? How are teamwork and co-responsibility put into practice? How are evaluations conducted and by whom? How are lay ministries and the responsibility of lay people promoted? Have we had fruitful experiences of synodality on a local level? How do synodal bodies function at the level of the local Church (Pastoral Councils in parishes & dioceses, Presbyteral Council, etc.)? How can we foster a more synodal approach in our participation and leadership?

The ninth theme is **Discerning and Deciding**. In a synodal style we make decisions through discernment of what the Holy Spirit is saying through our whole community. What methods and processes do we use in decision-making? How can they be improved? How do we promote participation in decision-making within hierarchical structures? Do our decision-making methods help us to listen to the whole People of God? What is the relationship between consultation and decision-making, and how do we put these into practice? What tools and procedures do we use to promote transparency and accountability? How can we grow in communal spiritual discernment?

The tenth theme is **Forming Ourselves in Synodality**.

Synodality entails receptivity to change, formation, and on-going learning. How does our church community form people to be more capable of “walking together,” listening to one another, participating in mission, and engaging in dialogue? What formation is offered to foster discernment and the exercise of authority in a synodal way? As I said earlier, this is a lot to think and pray about. We will have an opportunity to share your thoughts and reflections in the coming months.





Church of the Incarnation Faith Formation

Elementary Grades K-6: Our Elementary Faith Formation Program has embarked on a new family structured model. Individual families gather at home to pray, learn, and share their faith. They come together monthly at church for fellowship, to share experiences, and to engage in community outreach.

Middle School Grades 7 & 8: Sunday from 6-7pm at Corpus Christi School on December 12th.

Confirmation Grade 9: Sunday from 6:30-7:30pm at Corpus Christi School on December 12th.

Family Mass for Middle School & Confirmation Grade 9 students & families will be held the 1st Sunday each month, Christ the King Church, 5:15pm. Dates: Dec., 5th & Jan., 2nd, 2022. All families welcome.

Pflaum Elementary Family Gatherings: The next Pflaum Family Gathering K-6: (Parents & Children) will be Sunday, December 12th from 11:30-12:30 pm in Fr. Crawford Hall. Children's Liturgy of the Word will be celebrated at the 10:30am Mass that Sunday.

Pathways Fourth SEEK Family Gathering K-6: Mon., December 13th from 6-7pm Fr. Crawford Hall for Groups 1 & 2 and Wed., 5th from 6-7pm, Fr. Crawford Hall for Groups 3 & 4.



THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE: A GRAND THANK YOU goes out to our entire parish community for the amazing and extraordinarily generous outpouring of non-perishable food items for our Thanksgiving Food Drive on Saturday, November 20! We were overwhelmed by the generosity of our Incarnation community with the wave of donations that came in starting at noon.

Later that afternoon, Elementary Faith Formation Families gathered for an opening prayer, listened to a story about giving, and then began to assemble, decorate, and fill 42 boxes filled with food for a special Thanksgiving meal. The boxes were delivered to the immigrant families from the House of Bread in Hartford.

In addition, volunteers from the Cathedral of St. Joseph's food pantry picked up over 1,000 pounds of non-perishable food to hand out to 196 families in Hartford who they serve on a regular basis. The pantry was overwhelmed with the donations expecting only a carload and leaving with a "truckload" of items. Both organizations were able to distribute turkeys provided by the FOOD SHARE organization.

A very special thank you goes out to our Elementary Faith Formation Families who organized the event. We would like to especially recognize the Kuo family for spearheading the event and thank the entire team of families that made it all possible; the Campailla, Cieri, Grant, Komanetsky, Miele, and Montes families who donated their time and talent to help feed the less fortunate in our area. God Bless!

Advent Angel Tree Toy Drive: The Elementary Faith Formation Families are holding a special drive-by and drop-off Advent Toy Drive on Saturday, December 11 from 12-3pm in front of Father Crawford Hall. The toy drive is this year's Angel Tree project and thanks the Carcia family who organized the Angel Tree ministry over the last 23 years in honor of their daughter Elizabeth. Please check your email for flyer with specifics on how & what to donate.



Advent Event for Elementary Faith Formation Families - Saturday, December 11 from 3:00-4:30 pm. Fr. Crawford Hall. Come enjoy some Advent activities and bring Christmas candy to help fill goodie bags for our friends at Kids' Cafe.

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