

Te burao (The Hibiscus Tree)

1892

Paul Gauguin

French, 1848–1903

Art Institute of Chicago

Jeremiah
17:7–8

Blessed is the one who trusts in the LORD,
whose hope is in the LORD.
He is like a tree planted beside the waters
that stretches out its roots to the stream.

Sixth
Sunday in
Ordinary
Time

February 13, 2022

BLESSINGS AND WOES

Today we hear once again of the deep connection between Jesus and Israel's prophets. In the reading from Jeremiah, God's curses at the opening are counterbalanced by God's blessings in the second part. In Luke's version of the Beatitudes, Jesus begins with blessings, then counterbalances with a "woe" section. The point is clear: the way we live our lives has a direct connection to whether we will experience curses and woes, or blessings instead. Of course, being among God's blessed ones (in Latin, *beati*, from which "beatitudes" comes) doesn't necessarily mean a life free of woe. Jesus, in his fully human nature, knew this. He also knew that when we seek happiness through our own devices, and trust only in ourselves, the woes are guaranteed to come. Let us follow the wisdom of Jeremiah and Jesus, along with the opening of the book of Psalms (echoed by Jeremiah today): "blessed are the ones who trust in the Lord."

I DON'T KNOW

There are times when the smartest, but most difficult, thing we can say is, "I don't know." While we often think of this as a sign of weakness, the amount of humility it takes to say this means that the word of God is alive and well in us. To say "I don't know" means that we look outside of ourselves to learn, and to find those who do know, and—ultimately—accept that we have to look to others and to God to help us, to guide us through life. To place our trust and hope only in this world, Paul tells the Corinthians (and us!), makes us people to be pitied. Jesus echoes this in the "woes" section of Luke's Beatitudes, when he points out that trusting in earthly wealth, full bellies, entertainments, and reputation will, eventually, not be enough when we are called beyond this life.

LOOK 'EM IN THE EYE

Prior to delivering the blessings and woes of his "Sermon on the Plain" in Luke, Jesus had been on top of a mountain in prayer, after which he selected the Twelve to go on his mission with him. Coming down from the mountain, the first thing Jesus does is show them what is at the heart of his—and their—mission: preaching to the multitude, healing all who were in need of it, no matter where they had come from. Luke then carefully notes that Jesus raises his eyes, not to look toward heaven again in prayer, but he raises his eyes to look directly at his disciples, to share the message of blessings and woes. This scene echoes Moses coming down from the mountain to give Israel its command as to how they should live in God's covenant. As followers of Jesus today, we are called to live out his mission to the world, while we also look beyond this world to trust in God, our only hope.

TODAY'S READINGS

Jeremiah 17:5–8

Psalms 1:1–2, 3, 4 and 6

1 Corinthians 15:12, 16–20

Luke 6:17, 20–26

The Church of the Incarnation

544 Prospect Street, Wethersfield, CT 06109

Rectory Phone

(860) 529-2533

Rectory Fax

(860) 721-6595

New Church E-Mail

incarnationrectory@gmail.com

Church Website Address

www.thechurchoftheincarnation.com

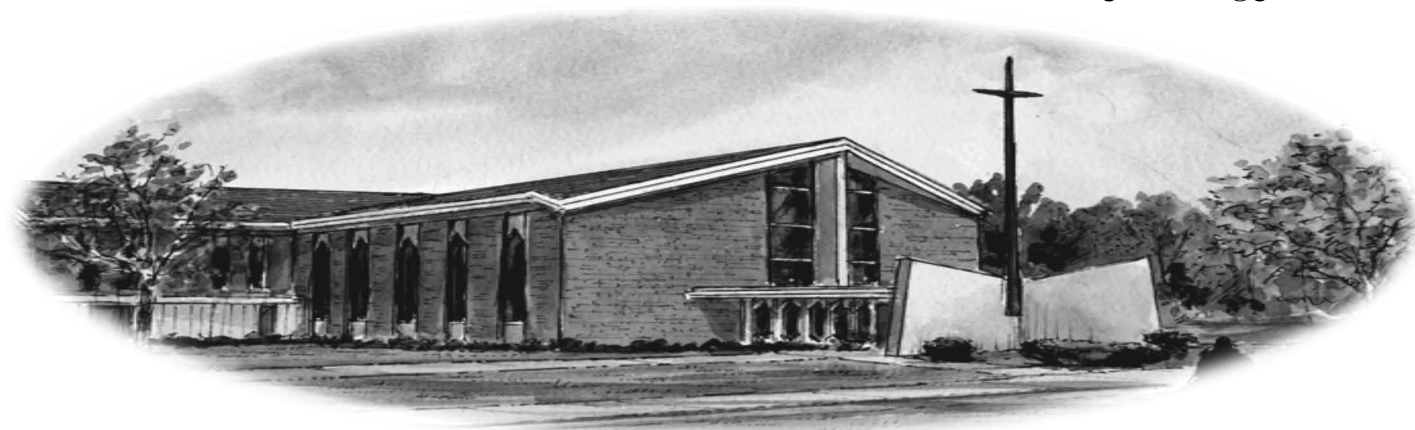
Religious Education

(860) 529-6765

Gina Burby

Sharon Reynolds

Email: gina10272@gmail.com



Pastor

Reverend Nicholas P. Melo

Senior Parochial Vicar

Reverend James M. Moran

Religious Education

Gina Burby

Sharon Reynolds

Pastoral Assistant

Mrs. Audrey Saharek

Sacristan

Toni Munoz

Director of Music

Mrs. Theodora Niver

Cantors

Vanessa Crowley.....Lorissa Heath

Rosanne Sweeney Gowdy.....Andrew Russo

Heather Picard

Rectory Staff Assistant

Mrs. Marguerite Devitt

Rectory Assistant

Marguerite Heinimann

Mass Schedule

Confessions: 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:
prior to 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 Parishioner Religious Education 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

MassSchedule



Saturday, February 12th

5:00pm- Deceased members of the John R. Skinner Family

Sunday, February 13th

8:30am- Christopher Barnoski and Charlie & Millie Christadore

10:30am-Jack & Irene Cahill

Monday, February 14th

9:00am-Deceased members of the Harrington Family

Tuesday, February 15th

9:00am- For all our parishioners

Wednesday, February 16th

9:00am- Erminio & Caterina Presutti

Thursday, February 17th

9:00am- Carol & John Halstead, Thomas & Eleanor Reddin, Matthew Plasino & Family

Friday, February 18th

9:00am- Crescenzo, Marguerita & Maria Luigia Lucci

Saturday, February 19th

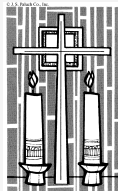
5:00pm- Angelo Aglieco & Son Angelo Aglieco

Sunday, February 20th

8:30am-Pasqualino D'Appollonio & Patricia "Patty" D'Appollonio

10:30am- Lorraine Walmsley & Robert Walmsley

The Sanctuary Candle will burn from 2/14/2022-2/20/2022 in memory of Beth Phillips Kempf.



The Blessed Virgin Mary Candle will burn from 2/14/2022-2/20/2022 in memory of John J. Sugrue.

The second collection this weekend is the monthly collection.

AOH February Food Drive:

Ancient Order of Hibernians Htfd. Division 2 is sponsoring a Food Drive Sun., Feb., 13th - 11:30am - 12:30pm in the Christ the King parking lot that's between the church & middle school. This drive is part of the regular CTK parish food collection. All food will be given to St. Augustine Church food pantry in Hartford. Non-perishable items requested; canned meats & soup, pinto & pink beans. cooking oil, spices & condiments. All who donate will receive a special St. Valentine's Day treat. Thanks!

There will be a Men's Club meeting this Wednesday, February 16th at 7pm in Fr. Crawford Hall located in the back of Incarnation Church. We welcome men from both Incarnation and Christ the King Parishes.

Beyond Bible Study meets Wednesdays at 7pm via Zoom. Contact Deacon Michael Cassella for Zoom link - mecassella@gmail.com or call (860) 965-2526.

Incarnation will not begin accepting 2023 Masses, Sanctuary & Blessed Virgin Mary Candles until further notice. Check bulletin after Easter for details. Thank you for understanding. We still have some 2022 candles available. Please call Incarnation rectory to book.

Pray with Us...February 8 - 15, 2022

The International Day of Prayer & Awareness Against Human Trafficking was observed Feb., 8, the Feast of St. Josephine Bakhita, who was kidnapped as a child and sold into slavery in Sudan & Italy. St. Bakhita is the patroness of survivors of human trafficking. The Office for Catholic Social Justice Ministry/Respect Life Ministry invite you to invoke her intercession for all those involved in human trafficking & for an end to this societal ill by participating in a novena Feb. 8-15. The link to the daily prayer is posted on OCSJM's Facebook channel, the Archdiocesan website, & the Archdiocesan YouTube page.

The Incarnation Men's Club wants YOU!

Our Annual Membership drive is underway and renewal letters have been mailed to all current members. Applications are at the entrances. All men are invited to join especially members of Christ the King Parish. Dues—\$10 per year. Call Incarnation for more information (860) 529-2533.

Church of the Incarnation...MEN'S RETREAT

The parish men's retreat at Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center in West Hartford will be February 25, 26, & 27, 2022. Join Holy Family's retreat team for a weekend of peace and reflection in an exploration of simplicity. In an age of stress, distraction, and technology, we'll explore the simple and transformative message at the heart of Jesus' teaching. Discover how simplicity can shine a light on what is really essential and important in our lives. We'll explore what it means to live a simple life so that we can discover true freedom and joy. Be renewed and inspired by the paradox of simplicity and the gift of faith. For information call John Ewaski at 860-563-3887 or Bill Carroll at 860-604-6793 or visit Holy Family's web site at: www.holyfamilyretreat.org.

Day 3 of 9 Days for Life: May all who defend life find strength and renewal in the Holy Spirit. Today's prayer and action:
www.respectlife.org/day-3

RACHEL'S VINEYARD RETREAT WEEKENDS FOR HEALING AFTER ABORTION

If you are suffering from an abortion, experience the healing love of Jesus Christ on a Rachel's Vineyard Retreat weekend March 25-27, 2022 in Farmington, CT. The weekend healing process includes discussions, Living Scriptures with meditations, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, a Memorial Service and Mass of Entrustment. Participation is totally confidential and offers a beautiful opportunity to experience God's love, forgiveness and compassion. Both women and men have participated in past retreats and have ranged in age from teens to mid-eighties. The fee for the weekend is \$175.00 for meals, private room and all retreat materials. Scholarships are available for financial assistance. For more information contact Marie at 203-631-9030, email her at mlaffin@prolifeministry.org, or visit our website at www.rachelsvineyard.org.

Building a new Parish from Incarnation and Christ the King

Q: Where can I find updated merger information?

A: The Transition Team has a Communication Committee. They will be sharing information via the bulletin, the websites, Facebook, (facebook.com/ChristtheKingCT), email, and announcements at Mass. If you have questions, send email to incarnation.ctk@gmail.com.

Blessing bags for the homeless:

Thank you! Thank you! On January 30th in conjunction with the social action committee, the religious education students from Christ the King & Incarnation parishes assembled 400 bags for the homeless. These included food items, socks, hats, gloves & hand/toe warmers. What an outpouring of generosity from both parishes and the religious education parents that allowed us to have what was needed to assemble 400 bags! We also thank all the angels who volunteer to continually assist with the project. We are very grateful for your incredible generosity. These bags will be distributed to 4 agencies that provide services to the poor.

Soup Sale

Little Sisters of The Poor
1365 Enfield Street - Enfield, CT 06082
860-265-1872

March 2nd

12pm - 4pm

Drive-Thru

Place orders Online: <https://LSPsoup22.givesmart.com>

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Broccoli & Cheddar



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PRAYER CORNER

FEELING BLESSED

Congratulations! Welcome to the Kingdom! Rejoice and leap for joy! Sounds a little like Easter, doesn't it? Well, in a very real way, it is. This Sunday, the scriptures remind us that we are blessed and beloved, especially when we have difficulties and don't feel especially blessed. Jesus reminds us that God blesses us in our trials, so we should trust in the saving power of God. We are "raised from the dead," as it were, each time we arise from our hardships. The ultimate proof of all of this is our new life in Christ, who died so that we could be free of sin, and was raised from the dead so that we might all have new life. Wouldn't that be something? A new life, in which poverty is riches and sadness is transformed into lightness of spirit? It's a topsy-turvy world, isn't it? Do you feel blessed today?

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The one who trusts in the LORD is like a tree planted beside the waters (Jeremiah 17:5-8).

Psalm — Blessed are they who hope in the Lord (Psalm 1).

Second Reading — Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep (1 Corinthians 15:12, 16-20).

Gospel — Blessed are you who are poor, hungry, weeping. Woe to you who are rich, filled, laughing (Luke 6:17, 20-26).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Jas 1:1-11; Ps 119:67-68, 71-72, 75-76; Mk 8:11-13

Tuesday: Jas 1:12-18; Ps 94:12-13a; 14-15, 18-19; Mk 8:14-21

Wednesday: Jas 1:19-27; Ps 15:2-4ab, 5; Mk 8:22-26

Thursday: Jas 2:1-9; Ps 34:2-7; Mk 8:27-33

Friday: Jas 2:14-24, 26; Ps 112:1-6; Mk 8:34 — 9:1

Saturday: Jas 3:1-10; Ps 12:2-3, 4-5, 7-8; Mk 9:2-13

Sunday: 1 Sm 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10, 12-13; 1 Cor 15:45-49; Lk 6:27-38

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time February 13, 2022

"Blessed are you who are poor,
for the kingdom of God is yours.
Blessed are you who are now hungry,
for you will be satisfied." — Luke 6:20-21a

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time;

World Marriage Day

Monday: Ss. Cyril and Methodius; Valentine's Day

Thursday: The Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order

Saturday: Blessed Virgin Mary

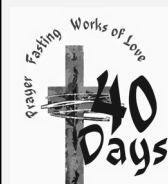
PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

O God, who teach us that you abide
in hearts that are just and true,

grant that we may be so fashioned by your grace
as to become a dwelling pleasing to you.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS WITH BENEDICTION WILL BE

OFFERED BY

DEACON MICHAEL CASSELLA
FRIDAYS DURING LENT AT 7PM
(NOT GOOD FRIDAY)

**STATIONS WILL BE HELD AT BOTH
INCARNATION & CHRIST THE KING
PARISHES ON ALTERNATING WEEKS**

**HERE ARE THE FOLLOWING DATES
& LOCATIONS:**

**FRIDAY, MARCH 4TH...CHRIST THE KING
FRIDAY, MARCH 11TH....INCARNATION
FRIDAY, MARCH 18TH...CHRIST THE KING
FRIDAY, MARCH 25TH...INCARNATION
FRIDAY, APRIL 1ST....CHRIST THE KING
FRIDAY, APRIL 8TH....INCARNATION**

SAVE THE DATE! The First CT March for Life!
Spread the Word!!!! Let our CT legislators and governor know there are people in our state who value all human life. Watch for details. Organize a bus from your parish.

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

A message from the Archdiocese of Hartford: The archdiocese is recommending the wearing of masks in church for everyone.

Pastor's Corner – February 13, 2022

As I sit writing this column, I realize how this is 'old news' by the time you are reading this. That is just the nature of deadlines for publication of the bulletin. But back on January 31, we had our very first combined Liturgy Committee meeting.

I must confess, I had absolutely no idea how many people would come. And so when we needed extra chairs around the table, I was thrilled. That was certainly a wonderful sight, and speaks well for the willingness of both parish communities to begin collaborating, especially on such integral things as our liturgies – that which forms the very fabric of who we are as Catholic Christians. 'Thank you' to all who came out that evening and offered to help.

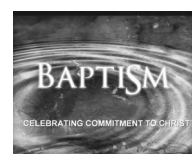
There were over twenty of us, pretty evenly divided from each parish. And we had quite a good discussion regarding the traditions of each parish in terms of celebrating the holy season of Lent. This led to good back-and-forth on how to best celebrate these this year, keeping in mind the needs of our entire community. And while not everyone's suggestions could be enacted, the dialogue was fruitful and respectful.

Change is certainly not an easy thing for any of us. No one likes to change or would offer to change if we didn't have to. And yet, change can lead to new and improved things for everyone. Growth cannot happen without change. And so while I hear some grumbling about changes that have occurred or soon will occur, I am encouraged by the number of people who are willing to enter into the process, who are willing to join committees and work to create the best possible parish for us here in Wethersfield.

We are in this together. As the Body of Christ, we can do amazing and wonderful things. We can become a vibrant community that attracts the people of God for generations to come. Please join me in praying Fr Richard Rohr's *Prayer For Our Community* daily, asking the Lord to continue to bless us, to take away our natural temptation for cynicism, denial, fear and despair, and to allow our every thought, word and deed to assist in the building of His Kingdom here in our midst.

BAPTISM

ISLA IRENA STEBBINS





Church of the Incarnation Faith Formation

Middle School/High School...SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

On February 13th, over 100 million Americans will tune in to the Super Bowl Football Game. There will be parties with abundant food and yet at the same time there will be people worrying about staying warm and having a hot meal to eat. On Super Bowl Sunday, young people all across the country, including our Religious Education Students, will demonstrate God's love by participating in the Souper Bowl of Caring Project. They will fill grocery bags with food and collected spare change to help those who don't even have a bowl of soup to eat. We hope you will be willing to donate when you see them at 10:30 Mass at Incarnation on Super Bowl Sunday.

Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLW) is this Sunday, February 13 at 10:30 am Mass. All children ages 4-grade 6 are welcome. Younger children may be accompanied by their parents. Our presider for this week is Trisha Pesce.



The Incarnation Women's Club recently donated numerous food items to St. Elizabeth House in Hartford. Ground beef, chicken breasts, turkey breasts, bacon, juices & fresh fruit and vegetables were purchased and delivered by Paula Melillo & Joyce Suffish. Usually the club's cooking teams prepare and deliver pasta dishes, meat & vegetable casseroles, salads & desserts for the residents of St. Elizabeth House each month. However, for January and February, due to COVID protocol, cooking team members were unable to cook meals in Fr. Crawford Hall. So, at this time we are donating food and good wishes to the residents.

Christina Lessard from Mercy Housing and Shelter accepted our donation.



CORPUS CHRISTI SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

We are delighted to share that registration is now open for the 2022 – 2023 school year. Our preschool program is extremely popular and spots are filling up fast!! Don't be left out in the cold - schedule your personalized tour today. If you, or anyone you know, are interested in learning more about our great school, please email Coleen Antico at: cantico@corpuschristischoolct.org for more information and to set up a tour. Come and see how much MORE we can offer your family!! The school encompasses Pre K - 8th grade.

Christ The King Holy Family Women's Retreat March 4th-6th, 2022

The holiday season is behind us and winter has come to stay for a while. So let's fast forward to the warmth of spring for a relaxing weekend of restoration and Rebirth. The theme is: **In the Spirit of Trust.....** To have a relationship with God, we need to be able to trust that God will provide for us and guide us on our journey through life. That kind of trust begins in our relationships with others. Let's join our fellow parishioners on a weekend retreat at Holy Family. Mark your calendars now! Contact: Mary Tyler (860) 202-9400.

EAST CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Our enrollment process is in full swing. New students are still inquiring and filing applications. Entrance Exam: Saturday, February 26th. Families interested in our school always have a chance to schedule a private tour. We also will have a Parent Preview Night (mini-open house) Tuesday, March 1st. Pre-registration for this event becomes available on our website in the near future.

Xavier High School \$25,000 School Cash Raffle is back and \$5K richer.

- Tickets are \$100 each. Only 800 will be sold and it is winner takes all.
- The drawing will be at 11 a.m. on April 1st at Xavier High School. You do not need to be present to win, but you must be at least 18 years old to purchase.
- All tax liabilities are borne solely by the purchaser.

Tickets may be purchased by mailing a check (no cash) to Xavier High School, 181 Randolph Road, Middletown CT 06457. For more information, call the advancement office at (860) 346-7735

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