

PEACE I LEAVE WITH YOU; MY PEACE I GIVE TO YOU.

JOHN 14:27

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER MAY 22, 2022

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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

Parochial Vicar Rev. Zacharias Pushpanathan

> *Deacon* Michael Cassella

Religious Education Gina Burby Sharon Reynolds

Pastoral Assistant Mrs. Audrey Saharek

> *Sacristan* Toni Munoz

Director of Music Mrs. Theodora Niver *Cantors* Vanessa Crowley.....Rosanne Sweeney Gowdy Lorissa Heath.....Andrew Russo.....Heather Picard

Rectory Staff Assistant

Mrs. Marguerite Devitt

Rectory Assistant Mrs. Marguerite Heinimann

Mass and Confession Schedule

Vigil Mass: Saturday at 5:00pm Sunday Masses: 8:30 & 10:30 am Daily Mass: (Mon. - Fri.) 9:00 am Confessions: Saturdays from 3:30 - 4:15pm in Father Crawford Hall Recitation of the Rosary for Peace: prior to 9:00 am daily Mass

Sacrament of Baptism

By previous appointment by calling the rectory. Sundays after 10:30am Mass.

Weddings

Please contact a priest 6-10 months prior.

New Parishioner and/or

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



Saturday, May 21st 5:00pm-Angela & Ben Quattrocchi Sunday, May 22nd 8:30am–Lino, Elena, Arnaldo & Filomena Giammarco and Michael Sessa 10:30am–Vincenzo Messina

Monday, May 23rd 9:00am-For all our parishioners Tuesday, May 24th 9:00am- Matteo Pugliese Wednesday, May 25th 9:00am– For all our parishioners Thursday, May 26th, The Ascension of the Lord 9:00am– Gilbert Munoz 5:30pm - Lorraine Walmsley & Robert Walmsley Friday, May 27th 9:00am - Giuseppe Mangiafico Saturday, May 28th 5:00pm-Flora Colasacco Sunday, May 29th 8:30am- Special Intention for Judy Dorsey 10:30am-Concetta & Salvatore Gionfriddo

The Sanctuary Candle will burn from

5/23/2022–5/29/2022 in memory of Gianpietro Iacobucci. The Blessed Virgin Mary Candle y



The Blessed Virgin Mary Candle will burn from 5/23/2022—5/29/2022 in memory of Mary Scully, Thomas Scully & Vincent Scully.

BEYOND BIBLE STUDY: WEDNESDAYS - 7PM, St. Joseph's Hall, Christ the King, Corpus Christi Church Deacon Michael, mecassella@gmail.com. 860-965-2526.

FRIDAY ROSARY ON THE GREEN: Every Friday 12 noon. Meet on the Broad Street Green, weather permitting; otherwise in Corpus Christi Church.

Church of the Incarnation & Christ the King PRAYER <u>SHAWL MINISTRY</u>: Meets 1st & 3rd Thurs., 1pm, Fr. Crawford Hall, Incarnation Church. As weather gets warmer, meetings will be on Broad Street Green. Email Mary Scott: mlvscott33@yahoo.com.

Peace be with you. The Lord gives us his Easter peace. Share that peace with someone who needs it. To share the Peace of Christ with His people as a priest, deacon, brother or sister call Fr. Michael Casey, Director of Vocations, Archdiocesan Pastoral Center, (860) 761-7457, vocations@aohct.org or visit the web: www.hartfordpriest.com.



Archdiocese of Hartford Decree of Merging the following parishes;

Incarnation and Christ the King in Wethersfield, CT. On June 1st, 2022, the parishes of Incarnation & Christ the King in Wethersfield will merge to form a new parish to be know as Christ the King Parish, in accordance with canons 121 & 515 §2 of the Code of Canon. On April 26th, 2022, Archbishop Leonard P. Blair issued a decree effecting the merger of the two parishes in Wethersfield, CT. The decree will be read at all Masses the weekend of May 7th & 8th, 2022 and posted at Incarnation Church, Christ the King Parish and Sacred Heart Church. It is also available on the Archdiocese of Hartford website, under the News/Public notices section,

[https://archdioceseofhartford.org/public-notices/]. Canonical recourse may be made within the peremptory time limit of ten (10) days from the legitimate notification of the decree and in accordance with the norm of law (c. 1734 §2).

The Incarnation rectory office will be closed on Tuesday, May 24th for a staff Archdiocesan workshop and Monday, May 30th in honor of Memorial Day. May God bless all those who fought to protect our freedom!

Thursday, May 26th is The Ascension of the Lord...A Holy Day of Obligation. Masses will be celebrated at 9am & 5:30pm at Incarnation Church.

<u>The Second Collection next weekend</u> is the Catholic Communication Campaign.

PARISH PICNIC: We are pleased to let you know that we are having a picnic following the 10:30 am Mass on Sunday, June 5th at Incarnation Church. The picnic is free & all are welcome but we ask that you let us know how many are coming by signing the sheets as you exit the church over the new few weeks. You may call Incarnation (860) 529-2533 to sign up as well or to volunteer to help with the event. Thanks and hope to see you there!

The Feast of Pentecost: On Saturday, June 4th at the 5pm Mass & Sunday, June 5th at the 8:30am and 10:30am Masses at Incarnation, members of our faith community will offer the petitions of the Universal Prayer in their ethnic language representing the Spirit's Gift of Tongues. We invite parishioners from Christ the King and Incarnation to offer one of the petitions in their ethnic language. Please email Audrey at ahsaharek@cox.net to volunteer.

<u>We are searching for volunteers</u> to help water our lovely <u>outdoor</u> gardens. You will be assigned a specific section. Call Tony Colasacco at (860) 836-3064.

Self Confidence...

A God-given free gift and a sure *road to victory*!! "Trust yourself, you know more than you think you do" Benjamin Spock.

"Life is not easy for any of us. But what of that? We must have perseverance and above all confidence in ourselves. We must believe that we are gifted for something and that this thing must be attained" Marie Curie.

Most of us have seen the famous movie "The Sound of Music". It's about the religious novice Maria, who was (temporarily) sent to the House of Von Trapp as the governess of seven motherless children. Totally inexperienced and not sure of what was in store, she musters her courage and sings on her way "I have confidence in confidence alone". Yes, she did succeed in her newfound vocation as a foster mother through, "confidence in confidence alone".

"Optimism is the faith that leads to achievement. Nothing can be done without hope and confidence" Helen Keller.

Of many celebrities of our time, Susan Boyle, a Scottish singer, from a remote village, personifies 'self-confidence' at her best. After having failed 12 times, at the age of 47, she rose to fame in 2009 after appearing as a contestant on the third series of Britain's Got Talent, singing 'I dreamed a dream' from the epic movie 'Les Miserables'. Everyone in the audience was cynical about her age and her modest appearance, but not for too long. When she intoned flawlessly the first line of the song 'I dreamed a dream..." the cynicism and contempt of the audience changed into awe and admiration.

The same crowd rendered a standing ovation and the judges were humble enough to apologize to her for being so critical about her humble status. "Don't be distracted by criticism. Remember-the only taste of success some people have is when they taste a bite out of you" Zig Zagler.

"Skill and confidence are an unconquered army" says George Herbert. "Regardless of how you feel inside, always try to look like a winner. Even if you are behind, a sustained look of control and confidence can give you a mental edge that results in victory". Dianne Arbus.

Living in a stressful world, possibilities are there for one to lose self-confidence. Let us not forget that the obstacles and challenges are the stepping stones to success and to victory. Don't give up.

I hope the following quotes by these world famous personalities could be of great help to you, especially, when challenges and disappointments wear us out.

"People are like strained-glass windows. They sparkle and shine when the sun is out, but when darkness sets in, their true beauty is revealed only if there is light from within" Elizabeth Kubler Ross.

"We gain strength, and courage, and confidence by each experience in which we really stop to look fear in the face...we must do that which we think we cannot" Anonymous

"Don't wait until everything is just right. It will never be perfect. There will always be challenges, obstacles and less than perfect conditions. So what? Get started now. With each step you take, you will grow stronger and stronger, more and more skilled, more and more self-confident, and more and more successful" Mark Victor Hansen.

"Man often becomes what he believes himself to be. If I keep saying to myself that I cannot do a certain thing, it is possible that I may end by really becoming incapable of doing it. On the contrary, if I have the belief that I can do it, I shall surely acquire the capacity to do it even if I may not have it at the beginning" Mahatma Gandhi.

"Have confidence in confidence alone, and you will always win. No one can make you feel inferior without your consent" Eleanor Roosevelt. Cheer up folks!!

Wethersfield Hunger Action Team (HAT)

The Social Action Committee is fortunate to have one member, Maria Alfonso, who participates in Wethersfield HAT. Hunger Action Teams, part of Foodshare, are coalitions that bring people from various communities together to develop local solutions to hunger. Their mission is to develop and implement local solutions to empower our neighbors to be food secure. This is done by leveraging local resources and developing relationships to raise awareness about hunger, connecting services to make it easier for people to get help, and launching new initiatives that strengthen each community's capacity to meet local needs. This comprehensive solution to hunger requires seeking out new avenues of collaboration to create the greatest possible impact. HAT members include individuals struggling with hunger, nonprofit organizations, town government, the faith community, local businesses, food donors & concerned individuals.

On a recent Facebook post, Wethersfield HAT thanked the members of Christ the King Church for their participation in the Dazzling Dozen food drive for the month of May, which our parish has participated in since the program's inception in 2018. Representing Christ the King, Mary Jane Densmore said "Our church has a basic commitment to help those in the margins. We believe that hunger should never be an issue in our country or in our town." The Wethersfield Hunger Action Team is in need of more volunteers to serve on the committee. If interested contact Wethersfield HAT on Facebook or the Community Network Builders for all of HAT, Sarah Hill at 860-286-9999.

Blessing Bags for the Homeless: We are

assembling blessing bags for the homeless in June. These bags will be distributed to many shelters in the greater Hartford area helping those in need during the summer months. Here is a link to purchase the needed items on Amazon.

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ ls/35FBZ8PQW7UJT?ref_=wl_share - Thank you!

The Incarnation Men's Club wants YOU!

Annual Membership drive is underway. Applications at entrances. All men invited to join especially members of Christ the King Parish. Dues—\$10 per year.

We have <u>Low Gluten</u> Hosts for parishioners who need them. Please let the priest know prior to Mass of your request.

Easter Communion Regulation: Catholics are obliged to receive Communion at least once between the First Sunday of Lent and Trinity Sunday.



Lord, Hear Our Prayer

PRAYER CORNER

RETURNING TO ORDINARY LIFE

Six weeks into our Easter rejoicing, the Church gives us readings today that start preparing us for a return to ordinary life. The Acts of the Apostles and the Gospel both dwell on proper daily behavior for followers of Jesus, while the reading from Revelation reminds us why we bother with laws at all.

In Acts, leaders of the church meet to discuss which essential elements of the Mosaic Law converts must obey if they wish to be disciples of Jesus Christ. John's Gospel reflects back to the Last Supper discourse when Jesus himself emphasizes the importance of obeying God's commandments. Observing God's law, says Jesus, shows a desire to be intimate with the Lord. We follow rules not for their own sake, but to love God and neighbor better. This more excellent love brings us closer to Revelation's vision of paradise, gleaming with "the splendor of God."

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The question of whether circumcision is necessary for salvation (Acts 15:1-2, 22-29). Psalm — O God, let all the nations praise you! (Psalm 67). Second Reading — John envisions the holy city, the new Jerusalem (Revelation 21:10-14, 22-23) or Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20. Gospel — The Holy Spirit, sent by the Father in Jesus' name, will teach us everything (John 14:23-29) or John 17:20-26.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Sixth Sunday of Easter Wednesday: St. Bede the Venerable; St. Gregory VII; St. Mary Magdalene de'Pazzi Thursday: The Ascension of the Lord, St. Philip Neri Friday: St. Augustine of Canterbury

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Acts 16:11-15; Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b; Jn 15:26 — 16:4a Tuesday: Acts 16:22-34; Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8; Jn 16:5-11 Wednesday: Acts 17:15, 22 — 18:1; Ps 148:1-2, 11-14; Jn 16:12-15 Thursday: Acts 1:1-11; Ps 47:2-3, 6-9; Eph 1:17-23 or Heb 9:24-28; 10:19-23; Lk 24:46-53 (for Ascension); Friday: Acts 18:9-18; Ps 47:2-7; Jn 16:20-23 Saturday: Acts 18:23-28; Ps 47:2-3, 8-10; Jn 16:23b-28 Sunday: Acts 7:55-60; Ps 97:1-2, 6-7, 9; Rv 22:12-14, 16-17, 20; Jn 17:20-26 or (for Ascension) Acts 1:1-11; Ps 47:2-3, 6-9; Eph 1:17-23 or Heb 9:24-28; 10:19-23; Lk 24:46-53

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Sixth Sunday of Easter Grant, almighty God, that we may celebrate with heartfelt devotion these days of joy, which we keep in honor of the risen Lord, and that what we relive in remembrance we may always hold to in what we do. 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. **Building a new Parish from Incarnation & Christ the** <u>King......</u>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. Questions? Send email to incarnation.ctk@gmail.com.

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

WEEKLY FOOD DRIVE SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE

NON PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS MAY BE LEFT IN THE BOX IN THE VESTIBULE AT CORPUS CHRISTI CHURCH ANYTIME. SUPPORTS LOCAL FOOD BANK.

Yankee Stadium Bus Trip

Saturday, June 4th.....Yankees vs Detroit Tigers Sponsored by The Church of The Incarnation - Men's Club, Wethersfield. Tickets include deluxe bus transportation, stadium seating (Section 200 level) All for only \$ 110.00 per ticket. Call Jim Pettit for reservations at (860) 402-3074 or email: spencer3600@yahoo.com — Bus leaves at promptly at 9am from Church of The Incarnation side lot.

Archbishop's Annual Appeal...Incarnation Church

As Catholics in the Archdiocese of Hartford we have a profound impact on our local communities not only in the spiritual realm, but intimately connected to it, the realm of social services, charities and outreach services performed by, or with help from, our Church. 2022 Theme is Stronger Together. Goal: \$135,000.

CALLING ALL GOLFERS!!

Please join us for a fun filled day for a great cause!! The Annual Corpus Christi School Golf Tournament is rapidly approaching. Here are the details: WHEN: Mon., May 23rd check in 11:30-1pm shotgun start WHERE: Wethersfield Country Club COST: \$190 per golfer or \$50 per person for dinner and cocktail reception only If you don't golf, please join us for dinner. Sponsorships are still available and there are many exciting raffle prizes including a large flat screen TV, family fun activities, and tickets to sporting events. For more information or to register, please contact Coleen Antico at: cantico@corpuschristischoolct.org or 860-529-5487. We

appreciate your support of our great school!

Due to the merger of Incarnation & Christ the King Parish details are still being worked out and we will not begin accepting 2023 Masses, Sanctuary & Blessed Virgin Mary Candles until August of 2022. Incarnation Church still has some 2022 candles available. Christ the King Parish has some 2022 candles/Masses available. Call either parish to book.

<u>Thank you to all who donated to the AOH May</u> <u>Food Drive collection last weekend.</u>

Pastor's Corner - May 22, 2022

I write this column having just returned from the Cathedral, celebrating with 125 young people who were fully initiated into the Catholic Church through the Sacrament of Confirmation, including those from our parish.



I could not help but notice that this happened on the Feast of St. Matthias, the man selected to replace Judas as an Apostle of Jesus. We are told that it was through the power of the Holy Spirit that Matthias was chosen.

And as I watched Bishop Betancourt confer the gifts of the Holy Spirit on those gathered there this morning, it was crystal clear that they too were now being called to be an apostle of Jesus. In fact, each of us are apostles as well, called to give witness to Jesus and the Good News by the way we live each and every day.

This Thursday we as a church will also celebrate the Solemnity of the Ascension of Jesus, and begin the ten-day period of intense prayer for the gifts of the Holy Spirit to come upon us at Pentecost.

It is those gifts that enable those recently confirmed and all of us to live out our baptismal promises and further the mission of Jesus.

The Ascension reminds us that while Jesus did indeed return to his Father in heaven, nonetheless he promised to never leave us alone, to never abandon us, but rather that he would send a Paraclete – a Helper – so that we might know that he continues to be with us constantly.

How important that is for us to remember as we look to merge into one faith community in just ten days. Jesus <u>is</u> with us always, and he **has** sent the Holy Spirit to lead us and guide us. Come Holy Spirit. Fill the hearts of your faithful. Kindle in us the fire of your love!

Prayer for Ukraine

God of infinite mercy and goodness, with grateful hearts we pray to you today for Peace. You offer us your peace continually (Jn.14:27) and constantly remind us that peacemakers are blessed, "for they shall be called children of God" (Mt.5:9). May your voice resound in the hearts of all, as you call us to follow the path of reconciliation and peace, and to be merciful as you are merciful.

We pray to you for the people of the Ukraine who are experiencing conflicts and deaths. Bless the leaders with wisdom, vision and perseverance needed to build together a world of justice and solidarity, and to break down walls of hostility and division.

To you we entrust all families and pray that they may never yield to discouragement and despair, but become heralds of new hope to one another in this challenging time.

May you continue to inspire all of us to oneness of heart and mind, to work generously for the common good, to respect the dignity of every person and the fundamental rights which have their origin in the image and likeness of

God impressed upon every human being. Grant eternal rest to the dead and quick recovery to the wounded, we pray through Christ our Lord, Amen! SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER—MAY 22, 2022

ELEMENTARY FAITH FORMATION (GRADES 1-6): Online registration begins soon for 2022/23. MIDDLE SCHOOL/HIGH SCHOOL Grades(7-9)-Classes complete.

Congratulations to our 23 First Holy Communicants who received our precious Lord on May 7th at Incarnation Church. May Jesus continue to fill them with his grace as they grow in his love.

Social Action Committee News

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Care/Support Program for Human Trafficking victims: Human

Trafficking is a world-wide public health issue that is happening in

increasing/alarming numbers, which violates the sanctity, dignity, fundamental rights of the human person, one of our seven principles of Catholic Social Teaching. Anyone can be a victim of human trafficking regardless of sex, age, race, citizenship status, socioeconomic level/educational achievement.

The Underground New England provides prevention tools and awareness event programs to engage and equip the community into action against sex trafficking and sexual exploitation. The Office for Catholic Social Justice Ministry (OCSJM) of the Archdiocese of Hartford works in partnership with The Underground, drawing on the gifts and talents of the faith community. The OCSJM has developed the *Care and Prayer Support for Mentees* program to create volunteer opportunities for members of the Archdiocese to participate in the anti-trafficking movement. Five members of our Social Action Committee have signed up to be Care Partners in support of mentors and mentees. We are the first group to participate in this new program. Six members of our committee participate in a monthly prayer group sponsored by The Underground.

Other partners for the Care and Prayer Support program are needed. As a partner, you may be asked to send encouragement notes and/or holiday cards to your mentee, provide a holiday gift or food items, and to pray for the mentee(s). The OCSJM is keeping a list of available partners, including individuals or groups of individuals. To become a partner, please contact the Office for Catholic Social Justice Ministry, Lynn Campbell, Director at lynn.campbell@aohct.org or call her at 860-242-5573. Lynn will contact The Underground and you will be assigned a victim of human trafficking who is on their journey towards independent living. If interested in the Social Action Committee's efforts related to this or the monthly prayer group, please contact Nancy Kiely at 860-989-5548 or email: nkiely80331@cox.net

Habitat for Humanity: For many years now, The Social Action Committee at Christ the King has supported Habitat for Humanity financially and up until Covid began in 2020, we provided snacks monthly at a work site, usually in Hartford. The monthly snack delivery will not be resumed, but Habitat is always looking for volunteers in a variety of ways, including helping at one of their construction sites, ReStores, events, specialty committees and many places in between. Since beginning in 1976, Habitat has been built on a foundation of faith. Their mission is to build safe, affordable housing with people in the U.S. & around the world, and that comes from a desire to put God's love into action. All volunteer are welcome, first-time helpers, experienced professionals, large groups, small groups, & individuals to faith ministries, school groups, corporate partners/local businesses. They invite anyone who shares their mission-focus/ who is dedicated to filling these important roles to join them for a day/week/or monthly! Call: 860-442-7890, X215 or engage@habitatect.org

<u>The Social Action Committee</u> at Christ the King Parish is collecting sandwiches at Masses next June 4th and 5th. Please bring the sandwiches to the vestibule at Christ the King.

The sandwiches are distributed by ImmaCare in Hartford to people who don't frequent shelters. If you are new to the sandwich collection, here is a guide.

- Any type of bread may be used.
- Two (2) slices of meat (such as ham, bologna, salami) & a slice of cheese per sandwich
- About one pound of meat is needed for a loaf of bread. You can vary the ingredients if you don't have enough of one kind to finish the loaf.
- Please DO NOT put condiments or butter on the bread.
- Peanut butter & jelly sandwiches are also very popular.

Sandwiches are individually wrapped, put back in the bread wrapper, twist-tied, and placed in the box in the church foyer. We are grateful to the 7th graders at Corpus Christi School who made 325 sandwiches for April's collection!!!



356900 Incarnation Church (A)

www.jspaluch.com

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