

YOU MUST BE PREPARED,
FOR AT AN HOUR YOU DO NOT EXPECT,
THE SON OF MAN WILL COME.

MATTHEW 24:44



FIRST SUNDAY OF
ADVENT
DECEMBER 1, 2019

The Church of the Incarnation

544 Prospect Street
Wethersfield, CT 06109



Rev. James M. Moran
Pastor

Mrs. Noranne Wamester
Pastoral Associate
Director of Faith Formation

Mrs. Audrey Saharek
Pastoral Assistant

Toni Munoz
Sacristan

Mrs. Filomena Marinelli
Coordinator of Elementary Faith Formation Gr. K-6

Ms. Gina Burby
Coordinator of Middle School Faith Formation Gr. 7-12
Confirmation Coordinator for next year, (2020)

Mrs. Maggie Seaver
Youth Minister

Mrs. Marguerite Devitt
Faith Formation Secretary
Rectory Office Assistant

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

Marguerite Heinimann
Rectory Assistant

Mass Schedule

Confessions on Saturdays from 3:30 - 4:15p.m.
Vigil Mass: Saturday at 5:00p.m.
Sunday Masses: 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.
Daily Mass: (Mon. - Fri.) 9:00 a.m.
Recitation of the Rosary before
9:00 a.m. daily Mass

Sacrament of Baptism

By previous appointment by calling the rectory.
Sundays at 12:30 p.m.
Celebrated in the Baptistry
of the Blessed Sacrament Chapel.

Weddings

Please contact a priest 6-10 months prior.

New Parishioners and Faith Formation Registration

The Church of the Incarnation
welcomes new parishioners.
All forms are available at the
main entrance of the church.
Please mail or place in the collection basket.
You may also visit our website for printable forms at:
www.thechurchoftheincarnation.com

Rectory Hours

9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Rectory
(860) 529-2533

Fax
(860) 721-6595

Church E-Mail
cincarnation@sbcglobal.net

Faith Formation Office
(860) 529-6765
gotellit15@gmail.com

Website address:
www.thechurchoftheincarnation.com

Mass Schedule

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30TH

5:00pm—Marc Synnott

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1ST

8:30am—Rita Ware

10:30am—Deceased members of the Murphy & Lawlor Families and Jack Lawlor

MONDAY, DECEMBER 2ND

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

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3RD

9:00am— For all our parishioners

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4TH

9:00am— Alessandra DiMattia

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5TH

9:00am— Anthony DiCicco Sr.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6TH

9:00am— Raymond C. Esposito

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7TH

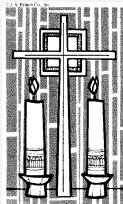
5:00pm— Marge & Jim Amodio

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8TH

8:30am—Flora Colasacco

10:30am—Sarino Giarrantano

The Sanctuary Candle will burn from 12/2/2019–12/8/2019 in memory of the deceased members of Joseph Salvatore.



The Blessed Virgin Mary

Candle will burn from 12/2/2019—12/8/2019 in memory of Raymond C. Esposito.

Monday, December 9th is The Feast of The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is not a Holy Day of Obligation this year.

Attention parents: During Mass we request that children would always be accompanied to the restrooms by a parent/adult. Thank you!



Thank you for your donations to the Catholic Campaign for Human Development.

Thank you to the Incarnation Social Action Committee for sponsoring the Continental Breakfast after the parish Mass of Thanksgiving. It is always such a wonderful tradition! Thank you to those who helped with clean up.

Women's Club Cooking Team: Monday, December 2nd, from 1-3pm, Fr. Crawford Hall.

Employment Support Group: If you are seeking employment, call Ken at (860) 729-5960.

Thank you to all who have supported our 2019 Annual Collection. Donations will be gratefully received through 2019. Since the collection began on the first wk. of October, we have received \$89,750 towards our goal of \$100,000. There are envelopes at all the entrances.

Men's Club 18th Annual Incarnation Children's Christmas Party is this SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1st

 Join us after 10:30am mass. Parents/Grandparents & children of all ages are welcome. Flyers at exits. Pastries/beverages will be served. *Don't forget to take your picture with Santa!* Call John Ewaski (860) 563-3887. If you forget to call or decide the last minute all are welcome. **Sponsored by the Incarnation Men's Club at no cost to attendees.** *We invite all families to take a Christmas picture in front of our beautiful outdoor Nativity Scene located outside in front of the main church entrance.*



This wk. we begin our 21st Advent Giving Program Angel Tree: Flyers at exits. Angels are available at locations throughout the church for you to take home. **Please return your UNWRAPPED gifts WITH YOUR ANGEL ATTACHED no later than Dec., 15th** & place them under the Advent Giving Christmas Tree in the Narthex. The gifts must be returned by **Dec 15th** so they can be delivered on time. God Bless you for helping those less fortunate during Christmas!

"Project Baby Love" collection next wk. Disposable diapers & wipes are requested. Thank you!

The second collection next weekend will be the Retired Fund for Religious collection.

MARRIAGE BANNS

NICHOLAS NAUMANN & MELISSA JORGENSEN



FAITH FORMATION (GRADES K-6)

Class Schedule information is also on our website at:

www.thechurchoftheincarnation.com

**Class Schedule:**

Grade 2: Saturday, December 14 from 8:30-9:45 a.m.

Grade 6: Tuesday, December 10 from 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Grade 3: Wednesday, December 11 from 5:00-6:15 p.m.

Grade 5: Wednesday, December 11 from 6:30-8p.m.

Grade 4: Thursday, December 5 from 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Grade 1 & Little Lambs: Saturday, December 7 from 8:30-9:45 a.m.

All Classes Meet in Father Crawford Hall.

DECEMBER: KIDS' CAFÉ COMMUNITY SERVICE OUT-REACH:

For the month of December, Grades K-8 students and their families are asked to contribute to our Kids' Café community outreach program. A flyer will be distributed to all students asking for contributions in helping us fill goodie bags for Christmas. This has been a Faith Formation tradition for many years. Please bring ALL donations to your next class.

HATS, GLOVES, AND SOCKS FOR KIDS' CAFÉ:

Kids' Café is also in great need of gloves, hats, and socks. Help decorate/fill our "Kids' Café" Christmas tree displayed in the Fr. Crawford Hall with these items. Thank you!!

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD:

The next CLW will take place on Sunday, December 8 at the 10:30 a.m. Mass. We invite ALL GRADE 6 STUDENTS to attend on December 8. We thank Presiders Filomena Marinelli & Trisha Pesce for preparing the liturgy.



Let us go forth to **LIGHT THE WAY AND BE THE LIGHT** in a world so hungry for God's message of love, peace and mercy!

Middle School Faith Formation: Our next meeting will be held Tuesday, **December 3rd** for all 7th/8th grade boys and Wednesday, **December 4th** for all 7th/8th grade girls from 6:30-8 pm in Father Crawford Hall. We will be collecting for Kid's Café. An email and letter was sent to families.

Confirmation 2020: Our next meeting is Sunday, **December 8th** for all girls and Sunday, **December 15th** for all boys from 3-6 pm in Father Crawford Hall. We will be collecting new hats, gloves, and/or scarves. An email and letter was sent to families.

**The Sacrament of Confirmation**

was celebrated at The Church of the Incarnation on November 17th, 2019 at 2pm with Mass. The Very Reverend James A. Shanley presided. May the Holy Spirit strengthen them and may they be filled with the joy of our Lord's presence.

RESPECT LIFE CORNER:**Prayer for December**

Isaiah 9:5 "For a Child is born to us: upon His shoulder dominion rests. They name Him Wonder-Counselor-God Hero-Father-Forever, Prince of Peace."

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that He gave us His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him might not perish, but might have eternal life."

Loving God, You are the Word made flesh. Let us choose to live by Your counsel, so that all may see Jesus living in us.

Incarnation Women's Club Annual Christmas Party

Thurs., Dec., 5th - Wethersfield Country Club

6pm Social, 7pm Dinner...



Menu: Cheese/Crackers, Salad, Roasted Potatoes, Vegetable Medley, Cheesecake, Coffee/Tea...Chicken Francaise \$34.....Broiled Salmon \$34...Petite Filet Mignon...\$36....Reservations: Rita Sulick 860-372-4744....The Past Presidents of the Women's Club look forward to hosting this traditional holiday party. Members/guests are welcome. See flyers at church entrances for details.

A free gifting Christmas event will take place after all Masses the weekend of December 7th and December 8th in Fr. Crawford Hall. Our parishioners are invited to take for FREE books and CD'S, to gift people with an inspirational life giving Christmas remembrance.

Members of our parish Catholic Dynamic Team are: Mary Breton, Ann Mallin, Lisa Marotta, Tricia Pesce, Michael Stefano, Noranne Wamester and Janet Zimmerman. Flyers will be available next weekend. All gifts are from Dynamic Catholic as we are members of the Ambassador's Club.

PSALM PRAYER

As we begin the new liturgical year we introduce a weekly column based on the Responsorial Psalm for each Sunday.



This column joins reflection and Scripture Study to enable the reader more deeply to "lift up one's heart to the Lord." Commentary is taken from *The Psalms: New Catholic Version* © 2004.

Psalm 122:

This psalm presents a scene of jubilation as multitudes of exiled pilgrims begin to return to their beloved holy city. With joyful faces, they are filled with Messianic hope as they behold the restoration of their temple.

In this season we envision similar throngs beginning to gather in churches for spiritual preparation, in homes for food and fellowship, at malls to partake of the gift-giving rituals, in the streets to make holiday merriment and melody.

In all of our holiday activity this Advent, may we come each week "rejoicing to the house of the Lord" that we may be renewed in our own Messianic hope and celebrate the coming Savior with hearts filled with the joyful anticipation.



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

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

PLEASE NOTE: There will be NO MIDNIGHT MASS.

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

Christmas Confessions will be offered on Monday, December 23rd from 7-8pm.

Christmas Flowers: In your church packet of December collection envelopes you will find an envelope to provide Christmas flowers in memory of loved ones. Kindly return it before Christmas. Thank you.

Please pray for an increase in vocations to the priesthood, & religious! If you want to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ as a priest/religious, call Fr. Michael Casey, Director of Vocations, Pastoral Center 860-761-7456, e-mail vocations@aohct.org or visit the web at www.hartfordpriest.com.

Vocations Holy Hour and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is celebrated at Incarnation Church every Tuesday from 9:30-10:30am, Blessed Sacrament Chapel. All are welcome as we pray for an increase in priestly vocations, the success of our upcoming Archdiocesan Synod, Affirming Life and reparation for the sin of clerical sexual abuse.

Prayer For Peace: Incarnation Church 30 minutes prior to 9am Daily Mass.

Come, O Holy Spirit, & Renew the Face of the Earth! **Legion of Mary mtg. every Monday** at 9:45am, Fr. Crawford Hall, Incarnation Church. The object of the Legion of Mary is the Glory of God through the holiness of its members developed by prayer active co-operation in Mary's & the Church's work.

The Mission of Dynamic: Dear Parishioners,

As we begin to prepare for our Dynamic Catholic Event Find Your Greatness, I invite you to go to DynamicCatholic.com and scroll down to Our Mission. There you will view an inspiring 5 minute video with Matthew Kelly explaining the mission of Dynamic Catholic. It will hopefully fill you with enthusiasm as we enter into the preparation time.

Also, as you scroll up to the top of the site, please sign-up for Best Advent Ever: "Join Matthew Kelly and the Dynamic Catholic team for this free e-mail daily reflection that will help you enjoy a few minutes of peace and prayer each day during the hectic holidays." "Amazing Possibilities; God sees them all. It's time you see them too." Blessings and Peace, Noranne S. Wamester, Pastoral Associate and the Members of the Dynamic Catholic Event Planning Team.

Knights of Columbus Fr. James J. Gannon Council 4193 Weth., CT....Attention Men:

The Knights of Columbus is the largest Catholic fraternal organization in the world. Its core principles are CHARITY, FRATERNITY, UNITY and PATRIOTISM. Membership is limited to Catholic men aged 18 & over. Consider joining! Call Jeff at (860) 965-8036 or Joe at 1-516-459-9489. Mtgs. held 2nd Tues. of the month, St. Joseph Hall, below Christ the King Church.

Also, the last Tuesday of each month if you eat at Bertucci's on the Berlin Turnpike in Newington, 15% of your order will be donated to the Knights. See flyers.

Fr. William Agyemang, of Blessed Sacrament Church in Waterbury is collecting new/gently used blankets, comforters, twin bed sheet sets, newborn baby hats, sterile rubber gloves for nurses, gauze, and any other items needed for labor & delivery rooms in Ghana. Please bring your items in bags to Fr. Crawford Hall & place on stage by Nov. 30th & Dec.1st. Thanks!

HOPEFUL EXPECTATION

Our liturgical year begins with the season of Advent—a time of hopeful expectation of the coming of the Lord. On the First Sunday of Advent we look forward to the end of time when we will awaken to the dawn of Christ's new day.

Today we hear Isaiah speak of a day when God's power will have brought universal peace and God's Word will have instructed all people, radiating God's "light" (teachings) into all of human society. Only when humanity walks "in the light of the LORD" (Isaiah 2:5), when all people desire to be instructed "in [God's] ways" (Isaiah 2:3), will the world be set aright and our deepest longings fulfilled. The reading from Romans calls us to "awake from sleep" for this final "day is at hand" (Romans 13:11, 12). Together this Sunday's scriptures proclaim our Christian faith that Jesus is the One who will finally come to fulfill God's plan of salvation.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — All the peoples shall stream toward the LORD's house (Isaiah 2:1-5).

Psalms — Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord (Psalm 122).

Second Reading — It is the hour to cast off the dark and clothe ourselves in the light (Romans 13:11-14).

Gospel — Stay awake! Be prepared! The Son of Man will come when you least expect (Matthew 24:37-44).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 4:2-6; Ps 122:1-9; Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday: Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 15:29-37

Thursday: Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday: Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31

Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-6; Mt 9:35 — 10:1

Sunday: Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Rom 15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12

First Sunday of ADVENT: Let's approach Christmas with an expectant hush, rather than a last-minute rush. —Anonymous

BAPTISM

LOGAN CHRISTOPHER ALEX

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: First Sunday of Advent;

Tuesday: St. Francis Xavier

Wednesday: St. John Damascene

Friday: St. Nicholas; First Friday

Saturday: St. Ambrose; First Saturday;

Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

SAINT JOHN OF DAMASCUS (c. 675-749)**December 4**

From almost 1300 years ago, John's message for the church's spirituality and mission is surprisingly contemporary. Pope Benedict said that in our modern culture of images, sacred images often speak more eloquently than words. This "incarnational theology," the concept that visible, tangible elements can give believers access to divine realities beyond, found an eloquent champion in John of Damascus. He challenged the Iconoclasts (image-breakers), whose misinterpretation of the biblical prohibition of idolatrous images (Exodus 20:4-5) led them to campaign for the destruction of all sacred art. Before this controversy, however, John bore witness to Christ in a way that provides a timely example for Christians in today's pluralistic society. Succeeding his grandfather and father, John served as chief financial officer to the Muslim caliph, professing his Christian faith without compromise, while winning the esteem of his Islamic sovereign by his competence and integrity. No wonder John could eloquently defend icons as "windows into heaven"—he had already learned to see Christ in the living icons of people different from himself yet fashioned in the same divine image!

Advent Begins This Weekend***Advent Wreath Lighting — Families in the Light***

As we approach the beautiful season of Advent, we invite our parishioners to participate in the lighting of the Advent wreath during the four weeks of Advent. The lighting schedule sign up poster is on the Narthex bulletin board. The Advent wreath is green in color and is a sign of new life. The circle shape reminds us that God's love for us never ends. The Advent candles signify the strong contrast between darkness & light. As the coming of the Christ Child draws closer another candle is lit, each candle dispelling the darkness a little more as we wait with great expectation for the birth of the Christ Child, the Light of the World. Let us together be LIGHT to one another. We welcome you to light our Advent wreath at a Mass of your choice. When it is your time to light the wreath, alert the Sacristan before mass that you will light it.

Advent Mission — "Advent Presence" "Hurry up and wait" for the wonder of Christmas by joining the Franciscan Sisters of the Eucharist for a dynamic three-night mission on December 2, 3, and 4 at Christ the King Parish (Corpus Christi Church). This is your unique opportunity to encounter the richness of Advent in a time set apart for you. Each evening will bring a different topic, a different approach, and a different experience which will enrich your own in this season of anticipation. As we sing "O Come, O Come Emmanuel," come discover how to be present to one another, receive Christ's Presence with us, and bring His Presence to the world!