

December 8, 2019

SECOND SUNDAY

of

Advent



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John the Baptist appeared, preaching in the desert of Judea and saying,
“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!”

Matthew 3:1

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, DECEMBER 7TH

5:00pm—Marge & Jim Amodio

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8TH

8:30am—Flora Colasacco

10:30am—Sarino Giarratano

MONDAY, DECEMBER 9TH

9:00am— Nancy Cavallaro, Loreto DiMattia, and Vincenzo & Maria Frederica DiMattia

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10TH

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

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11TH

9:00am— For all our parishioners

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12TH

9:00am— Maryellen Noonan

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13TH

9:00am— John A. Vignone Sr., John Pontillo & Josephine Vignone

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14TH

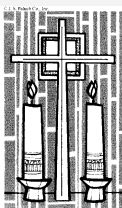
5:00pm— Miguel & Mariana Gaspar

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15TH

8:30am— Pasqualino D'Appollonio

10:30am— Art Boudreau

The Sanctuary Candle will burn from 12/9/2019–12/15/2019 in memory of the deceased members of the Vignone & Munoz Families.



The Blessed Virgin Mary

Candle will burn from 12/9/2019—12/15/2019 in memory of the deceased members of the Forgetta, Labbadia & Davia Families.

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 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 \$91,600 towards our goal of \$100,000. There are envelopes at all the entrances.



Warmest thanks to the Men's Club for sponsoring their 18th Annual Incarnation Children's Christmas Party last SUNDAY. It was such a pleasure to see our youngest parishioners enjoying the day! 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.

We continue 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 this wk. Disposable diapers & wipes are requested. Thank you!

The second collection this weekend is the Retired Fund for Religious collection.

Women's Club Cooking Team will meet this Monday, December 9th from 1-3pm in the kitchen of Fr. Crawford Hall.

Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet this Wednesday, December 11th at 9:30am in Fr. Crawford Hall.

The Second Collection next weekend will be the monthly collection. Thank you.

There is one collection on Christmas and it is for our parish. This collection will be taken up at the Christmas Eve Vigil Masses & Christmas Morning Masses.

We offer congratulations to the newly nominated executive board of the Incarnation Men's Club:

President: Joseph Agiato
Vice President: Jeff Lojko
Secretary: Mike White
Treasurer: John Ewaski

MARRIAGE BANNS

**NICHOLAS NAUMANN &
MELISSA JORGENSEN**





FAITH FORMATION (GRADES K-6)

Class Schedule info. is also on our website at:

www.thechurchoftheincarnation.com



Class Schedule:

Grade 1 & Little Lambs: Sat., Dec., 7th, 8:30-9:45 am.

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

Grade 3: Wednesday, December 11th, 5:00-6:15 pm.

Grade 5: Wednesday, December 11th, 6:30-8:00 pm.

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

Grade 4: Thursday, December 19 from 6:00-7:30 pm.

All Classes Meet in Father Crawford Hall.

DECEMBER: KIDS' CAFÉ COMMUNITY SERVICE:

For the month of December, Grades K-8 students & their families are asked to contribute to our Kids' Café community outreach program. Flyers will be distributed to all students asking for contributions to help us fill goodie bags for Christmas. This has been a Faith Formation tradition for years. Bring ALL donations to class.

HATS, GLOVES, AND SOCKS FOR KIDS' CAFÉ:

Kids' Café is also in great need of gloves, hats, & socks. Help decorate and fill our "Kids' Café tree displayed in the hall with these items. Thank you in advance

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD:

CLW will be Sunday, December 8th at 10:30am Mass. We invite ALL GRADE 6 STUDENTS to attend. Thanks to Presiders Filomena Marinelli & Trisha Pesce for preparing the liturgy.



CLW CHILDREN'S NATIVITY PLAY:

The Children's Nativity Play is Sunday, Dec., 22nd at 10:30am Mass. Children will attend the play during Mass at Children's Liturgy of the Word. Parishioners are invited to also enjoy the play immediately following 10:30 a.m. Mass in Fr. Crawford Hall as the children will perform once again for the adult community. Please come enjoy a short variation of the Story of Christmas. Our 2nd & 4th Grade students will participate. Refreshments served.

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



Confirmation 2020: Our next mtg. is this afternoon, December 8th for all girls & next Sunday, Dec., 15th for all boys from 3-6pm in Fr. Crawford Hall. Registrations/forms are past due. Please bring papers to the retreat if you are still holding onto them. We will be collecting new hats, gloves, and/or scarves. An email and letter was sent to families.

Middle School Faith Formation:

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, December 17th for all 7th/8th grade boys & Wed., December 18th for all 7th/8th grade girls, 6:30-8 pm in the Fr. Crawford Hall. We will be collecting for Kid's Café. An email/letter was sent to families. Please let me know if you are not receiving emails at: gina10272@aol.com

Christmas Caroling/Outreach/Celebration

Sunday, Dec. 15th

All High School/College kids are welcome to join our Youth Ministry for a night of caroling, outreach, & fun. We will meet in Fr. Crawford Hall at 6pm to tune up our voices. Then, after some caroling across the street in Collier Farms, we will head back to the hall to put together Christmas goodie bags for Kid's Café in Harford, followed by hot cocoa & holiday treats. Please bring something to contribute to the goodie bags if you can. Join us for some fun! Any ?'s contact Maggie Seaver at bethelight544@gmail.com.

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.

Thank you to our Incarnation Women's Club for sponsoring the Annual Christmas Party last week! It is always a wonderful evening!



A free gifting Christmas event will take place after all Masses this weekend December 7th & 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 are available. All gifts are from Dynamic Catholic as we are members of the Ambassador's Club.

PSALM PRAYER

"We lift our hearts to the Lord."

Psalm 72

Possibly written during the reign of Solomon (1000 B.C.), this Psalm expressed the people's longing for One who would rescue the poor, have mercy on the lowly and rule the world with justice. These were characteristics of the ideal King and a recurring theme in the Hebrew Scriptures.

Scholars say that various lines of this Psalm reflect the very spirit of the Beatitudes. We also hear echoes of Mary's *Magnificat* in its verses. Although this Psalm is descriptive of some of the traits of Solomon, it sketches a Messianic figure, a mysterious King who is to come. Only our Savior could fulfill all the hopes placed on the ideal leader described in this Psalm.

In our Advent prayer this week, and as we honor Mary's Immaculate Conception, let us join our voice with hers and with that of the Psalmist as we pray: *May his glorious name be blessed forever.*



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. Fr. Mike Rogers will join Fr. Moran and will also hear confessions in English, Spanish & Italian.

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.**

We received a lovely thank you note from Fr. William Agvengang, of Blessed Sacrament Church in Waterbury thanking us for our generosity and all of your donations for Ghana. God Bless!!

THE LONG-AWAITED ONE

As the Sundays of Advent unfold the scriptures shift focus from the final coming of the Lord to his historical birth. Today's scriptures blend the two. Isaiah's disillusionment with the kings of his own day led him to envision an ideal king who would rule with divine approval and be led by divine wisdom. For centuries the Jewish people anticipated the arrival of that Messiah, who would usher in a blessed age when the whole world would finally dwell in justice and peace.

After centuries of such growing expectation, the preaching of John the Baptist about the imminent arrival of the Messiah could not help but provoke intense interest. The Baptist's message about preparation for "the one who is coming" (Matthew 3:11) makes clear that Jesus is, in fact, the long-awaited one who is ushering in the new age foretold by Isaiah and all the prophets.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — He shall bring justice for the afflicted; the earth shall overflow with the knowledge of the LORD (Isaiah 11:1-10).

Psalms — Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever (Psalm 72).

Second Reading — Glorify God by living in harmony with one another, welcoming each other as Christ welcomed you (Romans 15:4-9).

Gospel — Produce good fruit worthy of your baptism; repent, for the reign of God is near (Matthew 3:1-12).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

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

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

Wednesday: Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10; Mt 11:28-30

Thursday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Jdt 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47, or any readings from the Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary, nos. 707-712

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: Is 35:1-6a, 10; Ps 146:6-10; Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11



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SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Second Sunday of Advent
 Monday: Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
 Tuesday: International Human Rights Day
 Wednesday: St. Damasus I
 Thursday: Our Lady of Guadalupe
 Friday: St. Lucy
 Saturday: St. John of the Cross

SAINT JUAN DIEGO (1474-1548)**December 9**

How well Mary's own words describe Juan Diego: "God has cast down the mighty from their thrones and lifted up the lowly" (Luke 1:52). Through him, for the diverse peoples of the Americas, indigenous and immigrant, the Mother of God became known as their Mother, too. Cuauhtlatzin, his given name, means "One Who Speaks Like an Eagle," and Juan Diego faithfully delivered the Virgin's request that a church be built at Tepayac where she had appeared to him. To the skeptical bishop's request for a sign, Our Lady showed Juan Diego roses blooming through stony ground, despite winter's cold. When he unfolded his *tilma* to present them to the bishop, imprinted there was Mary's image! Her blue sash and the flower over her womb were traditional Aztec symbols of pregnancy and new life. But her features were those of a *mestiza*, indicating mixed Aztec-European heritage. Thus to peoples too easily prone to a "clash of cultures," Our Lady of Guadalupe remains the enduring icon of unity-in-diversity, the fruit of our one baptism into Jesus, her Son.

Second Sunday of Advent**December 8, 2019**

The earth shall be filled with knowledge of the LORD, as water covers the sea.

— *Isaiah 11:9*

JUSTICE AND OBEDIENCE

Justice is the insurance we have on our lives, and obedience is the premium we pay for it.

—William Penn, English Quaker

POSSIBILITIES

Nothing is impossible for God and his Blessed Mother.

—Don Bosco