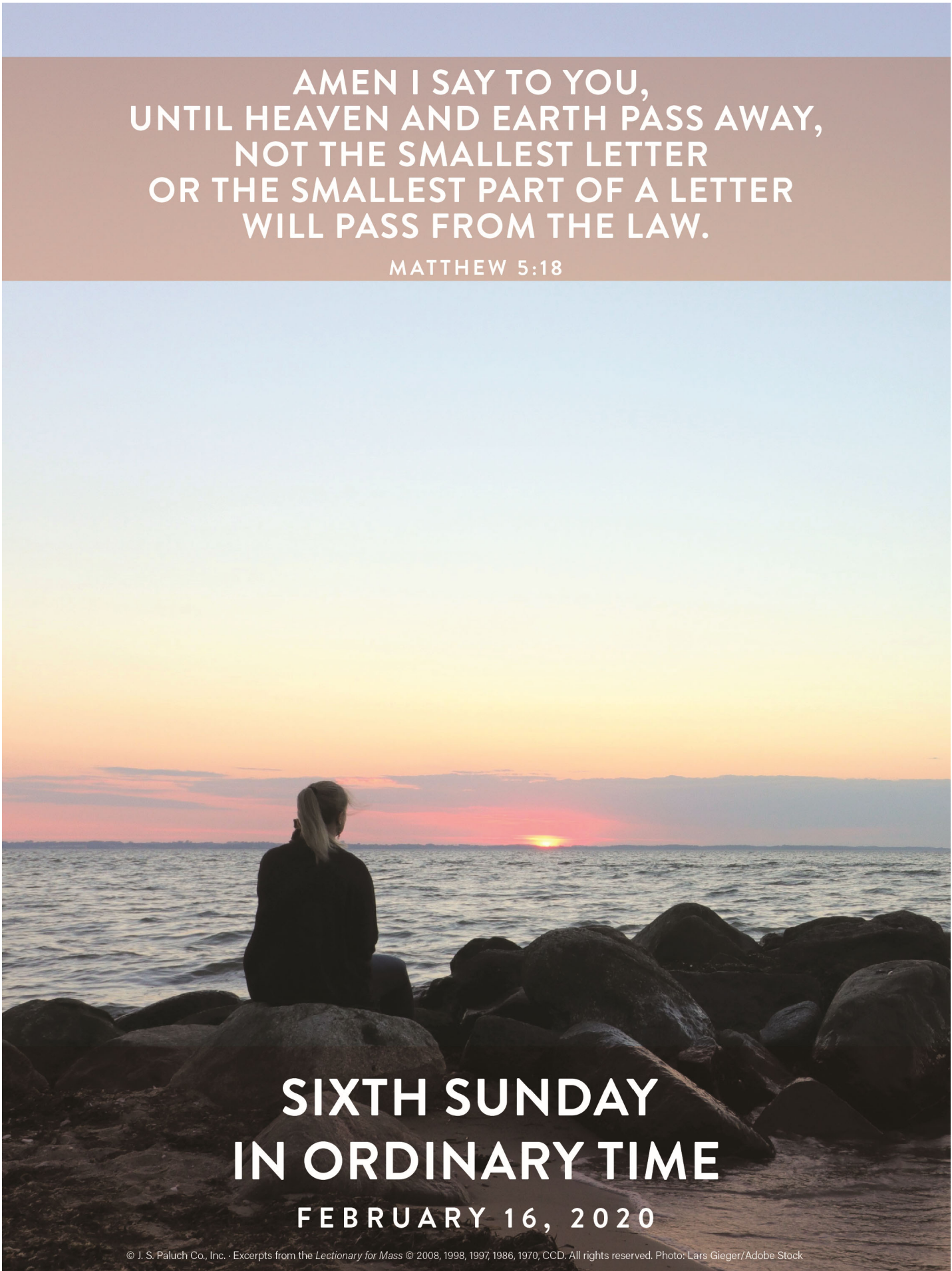


A person with blonde hair in a ponytail, wearing a dark jacket, is sitting on large, dark, wet rocks at the edge of a body of water. The sun is setting on the horizon, creating a vibrant orange and pink glow across the sky and reflecting on the water. The sky transitions from a deep orange near the horizon to a pale blue at the top. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

AMEN I SAY TO YOU,
UNTIL HEAVEN AND EARTH PASS AWAY,
NOT THE SMALLEST LETTER
OR THE SMALLEST PART OF A LETTER
WILL PASS FROM THE LAW.

MATTHEW 5:18

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FEBRUARY 16, 2020

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

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, FEBRUARY 15TH

5:00pm— Marino Mattioli

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16TH

8:30am—Deceased members of the
Clark & Masajada Family

10:30am—Christopher Barnoski &
Charlie & Millie Christadore

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17TH

9:00am—Doris & Philip Gabrielli

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18TH

9:00am— Deceased members of the
Harrington & Campittello Families

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19TH

9:00am— For all our parishioners

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20TH

9:00am— Edward T. Intravia Sr. and
Edward “Teddy” Intravia Jr.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21ST

9:00am— Virginia Vieira

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22ND

5:00pm—Frank Cusano

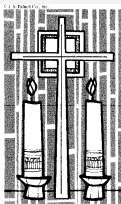
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23RD

8:30am— Pasqualino D’Appollonio

10:30am—Lorraine Walmsley &
Maryann Walmsley

The Sanctuary Candle will burn from
2/17/2020–2/23/2020 in memory of
Marina Mattioli.

**The Blessed Virgin Mary
Candle** will burn from 2/17/2020—
2/23/2020 in memory of John J.
Sugrue.



Rice Bowls will be available at the entrances.
CRS Rice Bowl is a Catholic Relief Services’
Lenten faith-in-action program for families/faith
communities. Thank you for supporting Haiti/
Iraq/Nicaragua/ and other needy countries!



Employment Support Group: Please call Ken at (860) 729-5960 to set up an appt.

Men’s Club: Meeting—Wed., 2/19/2020 at 7pm in the rectory meeting room. Pizza served.

House of Bread collection next weekend. Coffee & sugar are requested. Thank you!!

Church of the Incarnation Men’s Retreat at Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center is this weekend.....We pray for our retreatants this weekend.

Annual St. Patrick’s Dinner, Monday, March 16, Fr. Crawford Hall, 6:30pm..\$15 p.p.

Traditional corned beef, cabbage, potatoes, carrots, Home-made Irish soda bread, coffee/dessert. A GREAT Raffle! Call your family/friends & reserve a table. Make your reservation by calling Victoria at (860) 563-0860. Reservation deadline: 2/28/2020. Reservations must be paid in advance. Checks payable to: Church of the Incarnation & mailed to the rectory 544 Prospect Street, Weth., CT. Flyers at exits.

Our Dynamic Catholic planning team from Incarnation, Christ the King & Saint Josephine Bakhita parishes are beginning to “rev” up our energy as we prepare for the great event “Find Your Greatness” on June 13, 2020 with Dr. Allen Hunt. Discounted tickets will be on sale in each Church after all Masses March 7/8. Sale price will be \$19 that wk. only. Otherwise, regular price tickets (\$25) are always available by going to our website: www.thechurchoftheincarnation and click on to Find Your Greatness event. We pray for the success of this life changing event. **BEST LENT EVER** It is not too early to sign up for Best Lent Ever. You will receive a daily video reflection from Dynamic Catholic which promises to be an inspirational and prayerful way to experience the Holy season of Lent. Just go to DynamicCatholic.com and sign up. **"Don't give up chocolate for Lent.** Lent is not about what you give up, it's about who you become. Who will you become?" Join Matthew Kelly & the Dynamic Catholic team through an incredible Lenten journey beginning Ash Wed. This is a free daily reflection.



Sacristan Toni Munoz teaches Grade 5 children about Vessels and Vestments during their retreat.



Celebrating Father Moran’s birthday!



FAITH FORMATION (GRADES K-6)

Class Schedule information is also on our website at:

www.thechurchoftheincarnation.com



Note: No classes are being held the weekend of Feb. 15 and 16 due to the Winter Vacation Break.

Class Schedule:

Grade 3: Wednesday, February 19 from 5:00-6:15 p.m.

Grade 5 & 6: Wednesday, February 19 from 6:30-8:00 p.m. *(Please note this is a combined class due to the Winter Vacation break).*

Grade 1 and Little Lambs: Saturday, February 22 from 8:30-9:45 a.m.

Grade 2: Saturday, February 29 from 8:30-9:45 a.m.

Grade 4: Thursday, February 27 from 6:00-7:30 p.m.

All Classes Meet in Father Crawford Hall.

ELEMENTARY RETREATS:

The Grade 4 Retreat will take place on Saturday, February 8 from 1:00-3:00 p.m.

The Grade 3 Retreat will take place on Saturday, February 29 from 1:00-3:30 p.m.

All students must attend their scheduled retreat dates.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD:



CLW will take place on Sunday, February 23 at the 10:30 a.m. Mass. Our Presiders are Tina St. Pierre and Kathy Stickley. All GRADE 2 students are asked to attend along with all of our parish children ages 4-Grade 6.

Middle School Faith Formation:

Our next meeting will be held Tuesday, February 25th for all 7th/8th grade boys and Wednesday, February 26th for all 7th/8th grade girls from 6:30-8 pm in the Father Crawford Hall.

Confirmation:

A retreat will be planned for March. Please watch your email for details on this and sign-ups for the Soup Supper. All candidates are required to participate. All families are encouraged to attend.



Our Confirmation candidates will host a Soup Supper on Saturday, March 28th directly following the 5 pm Mass.



All are invited! It's a wonderful opportunity to bring our parishioners together to share a simple meal while raising awareness about hunger in our town, state, and world. **Free Admission!** Cash donations accepted in support of House of Bread and Wethersfield Food Bank.

Youth Ministry:



Members of Youth Ministry celebrate our Lord's amazing and unfailing love for us all!

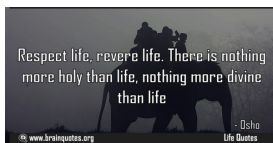
PSALM PRAYER**Psalm 119**

One hundred and seventy-six verses comprise this, the longest prayer in the Psalter. The entire psalm sings the praises of God's law and counts blessed those who walk in its ways.

This psalm is a meditation on the love of wisdom, fidelity to the word of God, a desire to understand and live the truth more deeply, and a palpable joy in observing the Law.

In the verses we proclaim today the psalmist asks for firmness in observing this Law and discernment in carrying out its statutes. His seeking is sincere and his devotion to the Law is heartfelt. It is not based on duty or fear of punishment but on a true regard for God's providence.

There is much that we can read into the response: *Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord.* Do we connect our own blessings with the love and observance of God's law? Do we think about the wonders of God's law, that God knows best what we need? Do we regard God's law as his loving protection and a means of fostering a deeper relationship with Him?



Do you have three hours for Life? On April 15th, Connecticut will hold its **first** March for Life at the State Capitol grounds, to stand for our religious freedom and defend Life at all its stages. This even will bring people from all faiths together in common purpose and we need you to be part of it. The march begins at 11:15 a.m. with the rally to follow at noon on the Northside of the state Capitol. Legislators will be present and this is your chance to be heard. To learn more, go to CTMarchforLife.org, or Text: CTM4L to 58632 to learn about speakers and other news.

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/Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is celebrated at Incarnation Church every Tuesday, 9:30-10:30am, Blessed Sacrament Chapel. All are welcome as we pray for an increase in priestly vocations, the success of our 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.

Knights of Columbus Fr. James J. Gannon Council 4193 Weth., CT... See flyers, **Fundraiser...last Tuesday each month if you eat at Bertucci's on Berlin Tnpk. Newington,** 15% of your order donated to the Knights.

Women's Club General Meeting**Lenten Spiritual Program "Love Beyond Measure" Thursday, March 26th, 7pm Fr. Crawford Hall**

How often do we take time to really reflect on the amazing power of God's love? A love that is all-encompassing, gentle, merciful and challenging. Sheri Dursin, a writer, speaker & experienced retreat presenter will guide us through reflections on Christ and the Prodigal Son and lead us to an understanding on how deeply and individually we are loved by our Divine Creator. Parishioners, friends and guests are welcome.

For your information: We have bathrooms located in the Sacristy, Fr. Crawford Hall and at the Chapel entrance up the stairs by the Choir Loft.

Cell Phones: We request that all cell phones are turned off during Mass. Thank you very much for understanding!

If you have reserved a Mass for a loved one, please let the ushers know prior to Mass if you intend to bring up the gifts. Please follow the Cross Bearer down the aisle before communion.



Wednesday, February 26th is Ash

Wednesday: We will offer imposition

of ashes at the 9am mass, the 5:30pm mass and during a Scripture Service beginning at 3:30pm and ending at 4pm.

CHOICE

"If you choose you can keep the commandments," Sirach tells us. God "has set before you fire and water; to whichever you choose, stretch forth your hand" (Sirach 15:15, 16). This is a great mystery: God does not control us so completely that we cannot choose our own path. We have certain boundaries, of course, but no one but we can choose our way within those boundaries.

In today's reading from Matthew's Gospel, Jesus reminds us of our freedom and our responsibility for our lives. He calls us to look beyond the words of the commandments, all the way to their meaning. Look beyond the adultery to the selfishness that poisons our love. Look beyond the murder to the anger that eats away at our compassion. Look beyond the perjured testimony to the lies and deception that drive our behavior.

Our vocation is to choose life for ourselves, and to choose a path through our part of the world that helps make life possible and more abundant for others as well.

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: 1 Pt 5:1-4; Ps 23:1-3a, 4-6; Mt 16:13-19
 Sunday: Lv 19:1-2, 17-18; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10, 12-13; 1 Cor 3:16-23; Mt 5:38-48

**THE CHAIR OF ST. PETER THE APOSTLE
February 22**

In brushing up for "Catholic Jeopardy," it might help to know that there is only one feast on the calendar for a thing, rather than a person or mystery. It's for a chair: Saint Peter's chair in fact

After the Resurrection, there can be no doubt that the disciples reserved a special place for Simon Peter in the upper room. Later, Peter became the bishop of Antioch in today's Syria, the place where we were first called Christians. From there, he went to Rome, the center of the Empire, where it is said that Peter sat in a chair in the house of Priscilla and Aquila to instruct his flock. Jesus, in entrusting the keys of the Kingdom to Peter and his successors, entrusted his compassion and mercy to them, and charged them with pointing to the Kingdom of God. Compassion and mercy are to resonate through their teaching.

Since the ancient sign of a teacher is the chair ("disciple" literally means one who sits at the feet of a teacher), Peter's chair has long been treasured. Today there is a symbolic shrine of Peter's chair above the main altar of St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. This monument is the last work of Bernini, a huge bronze throne supported by four doctors of the Church: Augustine and Ambrose from the Western Church, and Chrysostom and Athanasius from the East. High above it is the alabaster window of the descent of the Holy Spirit.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
 Monday: The Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order; Presidents' Day
 Friday: St. Peter Damian
 Saturday: Chair of St. Peter the Apostle; Washington's Birthday

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — God allows us to make choices, but we are not to choose injustice or sinfulness (Sirach 15:15-20).

Psalms — Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord! (Psalm 119).

Second Reading — God's wisdom is mysterious and hidden (1 Corinthians 2:6-10).

Gospel — Jesus has come not to abolish but to fulfill the law and the prophets (Matthew 5:17-37 [20-22a, 27-28, 33-34a, 37]).

**Archdiocese of Hartford Synod
Information:**

Incarnation Church parishioners have the opportunity to experience the presentations of the inspiring speakers who spoke to the delegates of the Synod of the Archdiocese of Hartford. All talks from the delegate meetings and homilies are from Masses held during events from March 31, 2019 through January 5, 2020 are available for viewing. Videos may be viewed on the Synod website, <https://www.growandgo.com>. See Updates or videos. Talks may be viewed on YouTube. During the Synod weekend of October 25-27, 2019, the presenters focused their talks on the four themes of Synod discussions.

The Following speakers are recommended for viewing:

Theme 1: Encountering Christ, Bishop David L. Ricken, Diocese of Green Bay, WI. 10/25/19

Theme 2: Becoming Missionary Disciples, Julianne Stanz, Director of Family Life and Evangelization Mission Team, Diocese of Green Bay, WI. 10/25/19

Theme 3: Sent on Mission, Jack Beers, Dynamic Catholic. 10/26/19

Theme 4: Collaborating in the Local Church, Peter Burak, Director of i.d. 9:16 Intentional Disciples. 10/27/19
 Also view Peter Burak's presentation given on June 8, 2019. Parishioners are invited to attend the closing mass of the Synod Sunday, May 31st, 2020, mass beginning at 3pm at The Toyota Oakdale Theatre, 95 S. Turnpike Rd, Wallingford, CT 06492....Details to follow. Contact Paula Melillo or Bob Hamel, our Parish Synod Representatives for info. If you have questions call Audrey at the rectory at (860) 529-2533.

WEDDING BANNES

**DAVID ST. JEAN &
AMANDA HILDEBRAND**