

SACRED HEART PARISH FAMILY

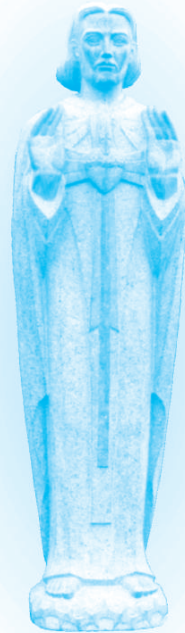
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PASTORAL TEAM

Rella Bernabucci
pastoral assistant

John Crane
trustee

Larry Deraleau
deacon

Donna Gessay
trustee

Ernie Golnik
liturgy and music

Sandy Rice
administrative assistant

Fr. Stan Szczapa
pastor



SACRED HEART MISSION STATEMENT

"We the community of Sacred Heart are committed to serving God and each other through our faith in Jesus Christ. We strive to do this through a joyful celebration of the Eucharist, a spirit of hospitality, a commitment to community outreach, a sense of responsibility to others and through the ongoing nourishment of our minds and hearts."

SUNDAY LITURGIES

Saturday 4:30 PM

Sunday 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Thursday 4:30-6:00 PM

or by appointment

WEEKDAY LITURGIES

As listed inside

WE WELCOME YOU TO SACRED HEART PARISH FAMILY. If you are new to the parish please introduce yourself to Father Stan after Mass. We would also appreciate it if you would come to or call the office and register. We need to know who you are so that we may serve you better.

SHUT INS

Please notify us of parishioners who are in the hospital. If any parishioner is unable to celebrate Liturgy with us because of illness or handicap, please notify the office so that we may bring Eucharist to them.

"Handicapped Accessible"



Annual Catholic Appeal

DIOCESE OF NORWICH

2011 Annual Catholic Appeal

“Do This in Memory of Me”

Your Annual Catholic Appeal (ACA) pledge is part of your personal commitment to Christian Stewardship; giving thanks to God by returning a portion of the blessings God has given you.

There are so many ways God is made visible in the world around us. Our local Church sees God in the hundreds of thousands of people it takes care of every year by teaching, sheltering and caring for all who come to it for help. At times, the needs of many seem overwhelming to us, but like Christ himself, we approach such need with prayers of faith and hope in God. May your pledge to the 2011 Annual Catholic Appeal bring “good news” to those who gather at the doors of the many ministries served by the Annual Catholic Appeal.

For more information about the campaign, please visit the ACA web site at: www.norwichdiocesedevelopment.org. Thank you.

Lenten Activities

Parish Meeting about Restructuring – Monday, March 21 at 7pm in the Church.

Soup and Bread Suppers – each Friday during Lent, and again on Good Friday in the South Community Rooms. Usually at 6pm. 5pm on Good Friday.

If you'd like to volunteer to make or bring soup or bread on one or more of the Fridays, please give a call to the office.

If you'd like to eat some soup & bread on a Friday in Lent, just come!

The Sacred Heart Bible Study group explores *Disciples on the Journey* during Lent.

They meet on Thursdays at 10am. Please call Denice Jones 860.647.0159 if you would like to participate.

The **big jug** in the center of our church is filled with the “sins” our parishioners are “working on” during this season of Lent. Watch them magically disappear into the Easter Fire at the Easter Vigil. Hey, sinners! Don't forget to come back on Holy Thursday to receive your blessing!

Mark your calendar! We will celebrate the **Sacrament of Reconciliation** together on Tuesday, April 12 at 7pm.

The Deacon's Corner

O God, early in the morning I cry to you.

Help me to pray

And to concentrate my thoughts on you:

I cannot do this alone.

In me there is darkness,

But with you there is light;

I am lonely, but you do not leave me;

I am feeble in heart, but with you there is help;

I am restless, but with you there is peace.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Welcome to Sacred Heart Parish!

Robert & Jodi Mansfield and their son, **Benjamin** recently registered with our parish. We welcome them and look forward to worshipping with them as we get to know them better.

Baptized into the Family of God

The following children were recently baptized into the Catholic Church:

Derek Cavalieri, son of **Jeffrey & Julie**

Luca Cavalieri, son of **Jeffrey & Julie**

We congratulate them and their family. May God's blessings continue to be showered on them and their families as they continue to grow in God's love.

Welcome

The parish family of Sacred Heart welcomes you!

Whether this is one of your first visits with us or your first visit in a while; know that you are always welcome here.

Whatever called you to be with us today; know that we were all called here once, just like you were. Pray with us. Celebrate with us. Walk together with us in faith. We eat together a lot; there's always plenty of food and it's always good so please join us for that, too.

Above all, please let us know when there is anything we can do, any question we can help you answer, any need we can fill – anything at all that we can do to help you on your journey of faith.

Confirmation Preparation Retreat

Candidates for Confirmation from Sacred Heart and St. Maurice, along with the young adults and peers from Youth Group, will be going on their annual retreat to Capuchin Youth & Family Ministries in Garrison, NY starting Friday, March 25th and concluding on Sunday, March 27th. **We ask for your prayers that the Holy Spirit will touch them as they participate in this retreat.**

Attention: Confirmation Prep & Youth Group

We will be leaving Sacred Heart Church at 4:30pm on Friday, March 25th to go on our annual Confirmation Preparation Retreat. Pizza and supper will be provided in the Fellowship Rooms at 4:00pm. Please remember to bring your signed forms with you!

We will be returning to Sacred Heart Church on Sunday afternoon, March 27th. Confirmation Preparation sessions and Youth Group will not meet on this day.

Youth Group – Food Fast

The Youth Group will once again be participating in a Food Fast starting on Friday, April 1, 2011 and concluding after Mass on Saturday, April 2nd.

Food Fast is Catholic Relief Services' 24-hour hunger awareness program for Catholic youth in the United States. Focusing on global poverty and justice, Food Fast provides an experience of solidarity with our brothers and sisters overseas.

Members of the Youth Group will be present at all Masses to gather pledges and donations for their Food Fast. All monies received will be sent to Catholic Relief Services.

Thank You

A great big Thank You to all who supported and took part in the Mass of Healing and Hope. May you be blessed with healing and hope and wonderful peace.



Spiritual Renewal Services

Spiritual Renewal Services is a ministry of the Diocese of Norwich. The Charismatic Renewal Ministry in the Norwich Diocese is not a program, or a doctrine, but rather a spirituality, and an experience, a way of life, very deeply rooted in Sacred Scripture. It is a way of life by which a person develops a relationship with God and experiences the presence and power of the Holy Spirit. There are currently more than 15 million people who have experienced this in the United States alone! At the very heart of the Charismatic Renewal is the personal awareness of the presence and power of God dwelling within a person. Thus, one is encouraged to live one's life led by the Holy Spirit. Call Spiritual Renewal Services (860) 887-0702 today!

Now Is A Great Time to Give to Cornerstone

Dear Friends,

To help break the back of poverty we at the soup kitchen have begun teaching those clients who are interested in "how to make a hearty meal on a low cost budget." At the same time, they learned the basic techniques of food handling and the benefits received using coupons. We will do this several times during the year. Low cost meals according to the seasons.

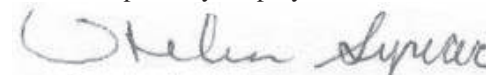
For the 14th consecutive year, Alan Shawn Feinstein will divide \$1 million among hunger fighting agencies nationwide. **The more donations made to the Cornerstone from March 1st to April 30th the more of the Feinstein Challenge the Cornerstone will receive.**

This donation can include cash, checks and food items (valued at \$1.00 per item or pound) or pledges as long as they are obtained from use of this challenge. To learn more about this challenge please visit www.feinsteinfoundation.org

Last year we served 48,420 meals. This includes the soup kitchen and shelter meals and bags of food that were given to those in need. In addition, hundreds of loaves of donated bread, a variety of pastry and beverages were also distributed.

To learn more about the Cornerstone please visit www.cornerstone-rockville.org Thank you for helping us fight hunger.

Please keep us in your prayers. Peace & Blessings,



Helen Syriac
Executive Director
The Cornerstone Foundation

The Word of God This Week

Set time aside each day this week with other members of your household, with other members of your parish or alone to listen to and reflect on the living Word of God. Use these passages from the Lectionary that are assigned for Liturgy this week. Reflect on how the Lord is inviting you to a deeper union with him.

TODAY

Genesis 12:1–4A
2 Timothy 1:8B–10
Matthew 17:1–9

MONDAY

Luke 6:36–38
"Forgive, and you will be forgiven."

TUESDAY

Matthew 23:1–12
"... all who humble themselves will be exalted."

WEDNESDAY

Matthew 20:17–28
"Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink?"

THURSDAY

Luke 16:19–31
"If they do not listen... neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead."

FRIDAY*

Luke 1:26–38
"Let it be with me according to your word."

SATURDAY

Luke 15:1–3, 11–32
"... he was lost and has been found."

* Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord

Transformed by God's Grace

There are special days in each of our lives when we experience great happiness. Maybe it's our wedding or graduation day, our first kiss, or when we received Holy Communion for the first time. How did you feel on that day?

Similar language is used in today's Gospel to describe Jesus—"his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white." This event is known as the Transfiguration because Matthew says that Jesus was "transfigured" (17:2). He was changed. Something happened to him that made him appear different than normal—the presence of God shone through him.

Catholics develop what is often called a "sacramental mentality." That means that we learn to look for the presence of God in all of creation, and we learn to recognize it when we see it. So we are not surprised when Jesus' face is transfigured by the power of God within him. It is expected.

In a similar way, we aren't surprised when the power of God transforms the face of a young bride, a graduate, or a First Communicant. We expect to see God bursting through in those situations. That's what God's presence—God's grace—does, it transforms us and makes us glow like the sun.

Think about some of the graced moments in your own life when you have experienced the presence of God. Reflect on the experience. How have you been transformed by the grace of God?



The Faith of the Church

Grace is free and undeserved. God offers it to us so that we may share in the divine life eternally. Grace empowers us, helping us to overcome the evil in the world that keeps us from freely following God. God offers us actual graces, particular interventions in our lives that help us live more fully in Christ, providing us with the assistance we need to follow Christ faithfully (Cf. *U.S. Catechism for Adults*, pp. 329–330).



Questions of the Week

Having a "sacramental mentality" means being able to recognize the presence of God everywhere—in nature, in other people, in signs and symbols.

Adults

How might God be reaching out to me in the people I meet, the stories I hear, or the opportunities that come my way every day?

Children

How is God revealed to me through my friends and classmates?

Visit us at www.FaithFirst.com (click on "Gospel Reflections") and share today's Gospel reading as a family.

Responding to God's Word . . .

Perhaps you've heard the saying, "Think globally; act locally." It expresses the belief that while it is important to think about how we might transform the world, we must start first with our own personal transformation—we must be changed by God's grace before we can ever hope to change anything else.

An ancient Catholic theological belief is that "grace builds upon nature." God takes us as we are and works with us, through grace, to accomplish his divine will.

When we allow God's grace to work through us and within us, we

can't help but be transformed. We will be changed for the better by God's presence in our lives.

But we may not be transformed immediately: like the Tin Man in the *Wizard of Oz*, we may be rusty in our practice and it may take God's grace a while to penetrate the "years of rust." But penetrate it will.

Personal transformation takes place one step at a time. Like physical exercise, shaping up your spiritual and moral life will take time and effort on your part. But with God's grace, it will happen. At times, it may be painful, but the end result is worth the effort.

SUGGESTIONS

Use one of these suggestions or one of your own to respond to God's Word this week.

In the home. As a family, conduct a self-evaluation of your attitudes and beliefs about caring for others. What is your family doing to transform the world? What more could you be doing?

In the workplace or in school. Look for opportunities to bring God's grace into the lives of others. Be generous. Listen carefully. Show people that you care.

In the community. Choose a local charitable organization that cares for those living lives of poverty and despair. Learn how you can better support this organization with your time, talents, and resources.



Meditation Moment

In *Something Beautiful for God*, Malcolm Muggeridge describes the impact that Mother Teresa had upon an audience of people, saying: "Every face . . . was rapt, hanging on her words; not because of the words . . . but because of her. Some quality came across, over and above the words, that held their attention. A luminosity seemed to fill the school hall . . . penetrating every mind and heart."

For reflection . . .

The story of Jesus on the mountain, and the story of Mother Teresa recall that certain people have impacted my life deeply. Who is one of these people?

SAINTS ARE PERSONS WHO MAKE IT EASIER FOR THE OTHERS TO BELIEVE IN GOD.

NATHAN SODERBLUM

FROM *VISION* BY MARK LINK, SJ

Bend Me, Shape Me, Anyway You Want Me

God, You are the potter,
I am the clay. Through your
grace, shape me to become
the person I need to be to
follow you more fully.
Mold me so that I am more
understanding to the needs of
others. Transform me so that I may
become a work of art that reveals
your loving generosity. May your
grace shine forth from
everything I do and say
so that others may
see you in me.
Amen.

Carry this thought in your heart as a guide for your faith journey this week.

As the objects of God's love, men and women become subjects of charity, they are called to make themselves instruments of grace, so as to pour forth God's charity and to weave networks of charity.

Caritas in veritate, #5

Profile in Faith

César Chávez

César Chávez (1927–1993) dedicated his life to improving the lives and livelihood of America's farm workers. He lived his life guided by Catholic moral teaching, especially its social teaching. He respected the dignity of each person and felt that people should be paid justly for their labor.

NIHIL OBSTAT
Rev. Msgr. Robert M. Coerver, Censor Librorum
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† Most Reverend Kevin J. Farrell, DD, Bishop of Dallas
December 6, 2010

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Prayer, Praise and Sacrament

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

SATURDAY

4:30pm **Mass:** *Carol Deraleau*, requested by her family,
- and -
Joseph Franek, Sr., requested by his wife, Anastasia

SUNDAY

8:00am **Mass:** *For the People of the Parish*
10:30am **Mass:** *Tony Gonsalves*, requested by his wife, Betty

TUESDAY

9:00am **Mass:** *For Peace in the World*

WEDNESDAY

9:00am **Mass:** *For an End to Hatred, Prejudice, Violence & War*

THURSDAY

4:30-6pm **Sacrament of Reconciliation**, Living Room
7:00pm **Mass:** *For an End to Abortion and the Death Penalty*
7:30pm **Intercessory Prayer**, Eucharistic Chapel

FRIDAY

9:00am **Mass:** *For an Outpouring of the Holy Spirit Upon the Members of Sacred Heart Parish*

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

SATURDAY

4:30pm **Mass:** *Edward Casey*, requested by Arthur & Pauline Casey

SUNDAY

8:00am **Mass:** *Ann Jemilo*, requested by the Sacred Heart Parish Family
10:30am **Mass:** *Ronnie Desroshers*, requested by the Sacred Heart Parish Family - and -
Ann Martin, requested by the Madden Family

Meetings

SATURDAY

7:30pm **Narcotics Anonymous**, North Activity Rooms

SUNDAY - Fellowship before and after Mass

9:10am **Faith Formation, Grades 1-5**
6:15pm **Faith Formation, Grade 6 – Confirmation Prep**
7:30pm **Youth Group**

MONDAY OFFICES CLOSED

7:00pm **Parish Meeting about Restructuring**, Church

WEDNESDAY

8:00pm **Alcoholics Anonymous**, South Community Rooms

THURSDAY

10:00am **Disciples on the Journey**, South Community Rooms
7:30pm **Alcoholics Anonymous Big Book**, South Community Rooms

FRIDAY CONFIRMATION RETREAT BEGINS

6:00pm **Soup and Bread Supper**, (Almsgiving to benefit the Cornerstone)

SATURDAY

7:30pm **Narcotics Anonymous**, North Activity Rooms

SUNDAY - Fellowship before and after Mass

9:10am **Faith Formation, Grades 1-5**
6:15pm **Faith Formation, Grade 6 – 8**

CONFIRMATION RETREAT ENDS

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

– BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

Parents please call three months prior to baptism date for an appointment with a Pastoral Team member who will detail the program for parents.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY –

Couples planning to marry take part in marriage information program at least nine months prior to the wedding date.

FAITH FORMATION SESSIONS –

October through May
Call 875-4563 for information

MONTHLY ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT – Oratory

The first Friday of each month
– 10:00 AM - 7:00 PM

ROSARY – Oratory

Monday Thru Friday - 8:30 AM

INTERCESSORY PRAYER – Oratory

Thursday - 7:45 - 8:15 PM

PASTORAL CONDUCT –

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860-889-4455

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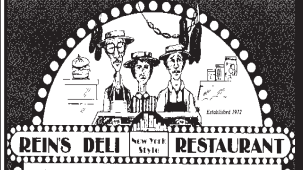
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