

SACRED HEART PARISH FAMILY

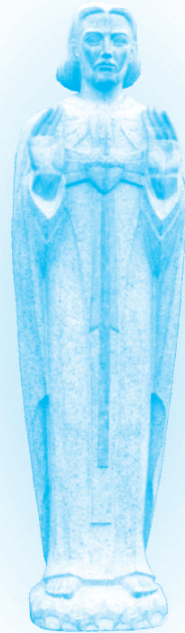
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PASTORAL TEAM

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"

Lenten Activities

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 at our **Lenten Forgiveness Service** on Tuesday, April 12 at 7pm.

The Deacon's Corner

I awoke on Monday, March 7, to find eight inches of water in my cellar. The pressure of the water had bowed up the floor and I had several mini-geysers to contend with. I started to think, why me Lord. I don't need this aggravation. After pumping all week, the flow began slowing down. Needless to say, some things got damaged, the cellar's a mess, and my life was disrupted. I felt sorry for myself.

Then, on Friday morning of that week, I saw the news of the earthquake and tsunami in Japan. It was hard to see the unbelievable and total destruction. So many lost everything in the catastrophe. All at once my problem seemed minor by comparison. At least it was manageable.

It is a lesson that I will not quickly forget.

Tag Sale – SPACE FOR RENT – Tag Sale

The Youth Group will hold their Tag Sale on Saturday, April 30th in the church parking lot. If you would like to rent a table in order to hold your tag sale in the parking lot, the rental cost is \$15 per table.

Please contact Rella (860-875-4563) or rella@sacredheartchurch.net to reserve a table.



Annual Catholic Appeal

DIOCESE OF NORWICH

2011 Annual Catholic Appeal

“Do This in Memory of Me”

This week, you are asked to **review the Annual Catholic Appeal brochure** that you will receive with your bulletin today. The theme of the campaign is: *“Do This in Memory of Me”*. The Annual Catholic Appeal campaign is much different than a one-time special collection. It is a pledge campaign where you can make a gift, payable over an eight month period.

A significant gift to the Annual Catholic Appeal will touch the lives of many others in a very positive way. The Annual Catholic Appeal provides a significant portion of the budget of the Diocese of Norwich. Most dioceses in the country conduct an appeal, once a year, to help with the costs of providing services and programs to their parishes and people. The Diocese of Norwich is no exception. As you review the work enabled by your contribution to the Annual Catholic Appeal, please **reflect on God's gifts to you**. He has given you all that you have. Your gifts to our parish, to the diocese and to the work of the Church throughout the world are given in gratitude for the continuing gifts that God gives you.

Sometimes it is difficult to envision how one pledge can help an organization the size of our diocese, how it can make a real difference. But **each pledge does make a difference** because all parishes participate in the campaign and the gifts of many enable our diocese to deliver needed ministries and services. Our combined gifts not only signify our gratitude to God, **they glorify Him** by enabling the work of our diocese.

If you received your pledge card in the mail, please complete it and mail it back or bring it to Mass next weekend. For those of you that did not receive a mailing or have not had time to respond to it, we will conduct our in-pew pledge process at all Masses next weekend and the following weekend. Thank you for your prayerful consideration and generous response.

Easter is Coming Soon!

The Youth Group will once again be selling **chocolate Easter bunnies and jelly beans from Munson's Candies**. The sale will be held on Saturday, **April 9th** and Sunday, **April 10th** after all Masses.

The cost for a 2 ½ ounce bunny is \$3.00 each.

The cost for a 14 ounce bag of Jelly Beans is \$3.75 each.

All money raised will go towards payment for the cost of transportation for the retreat.

Confirmation Preparation Retreat

Candidates for Confirmation from Sacred Heart and St. Maurice, along with the young adults and peers from Youth Group, are on their annual retreat to Capuchin Youth & Family Ministries in Garrison, NY this weekend. We ask for your continued prayers that the Holy Spirit will touch them as they participate in this retreat.

Attention: Confirmation Prep & Youth Group

We will be returning from our retreat 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.

We thank all who pledged or donated money for the Food Fast. All money received will be sent to Catholic Relief Services.

First Reconciliation

The children who have been preparing to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time will meet either on **Tuesday, March 29th** or **Thursday, March 31st**. If your child has been preparing for this sacrament and you have not heard from Rella, please contact her as soon as possible at 860-798-2910.

Tag Sale – DONATIONS NEEDED

The Youth Group will once again be participating in the Vernon Town Wide Tag Sale on **Saturday, April 30, 2011 from 8:00am to 4:00pm (rain or shine)**.

As you start your spring cleaning, please remember that the Youth Group will accept clean and usable items for the tag sale. Sorry, we will not be able to accept clothing or shoes/boots.

Please contact Rella (860-875-4563 or rella@sacredheartchurch.net) for more information.

A Thank You & An Important Haiti Update

Dear Father Szczapa & Parish Family,

Thank you for the gift of numerous boxes of hygiene supplies, medical supplies, and miscellaneous supplies to the Haitian Health Foundation, via **Michelle Farris and Odette Bosse**. Your gift brings hope for a brighter future to many Haitian people living in poverty in rural Haiti. I have enclosed photographs of some Haitian children receiving Spam and tuna fish. (See them posted in the Fellowship Rooms!)

Last year was brutal for the poor of Haiti, beginning with the devastating earthquake in January which was responsible for the deaths of a quarter of a million people in Port-au-Prince, and which left millions of people homeless, penniless, and in many cases, missing limbs.

Immediately following the earthquake, approximately 120,000 people fled to Jérémie, seeking shelter, food, and medicine. With the assistance of many donors, volunteers, and staff, the **Haitian Health Foundation has been able to respond to their needs** since the first survivors started arriving last January.

In November 2010, Hurricane Tomas directly hit the Jérémie area, and, while no deaths were reported, **the hurricane destroyed most of the crops in the area**, and damaged some roads. Many of the banana, mango, and breadfruit crops, and other subsistence fruits and vegetables are gone. These crops will take time to restore, adding stress to an already stressed food supply.

I was in Port-au-Prince in early February 2011, and it's still a very sad place. Over **a million people are still living in tents or tarps**, with poor sanitation, no security, and **no hope** at this time for a better future. It is estimated that it will take many years to restore Port-au-Prince.

And now, just when it seemed like nothing else could go wrong for this sad country, **a cholera epidemic** started raging through every province. Jérémie has not been spared. To date, 1250 "known" cholera victims have been identified and, 352 have died of this nasty disease.

The Haitian Health Foundation is responding with education in the villages, teaching sanitation, drinking water preparation, and good personal hygiene, and providing antibiotics and oral rehydration solution with instructions so people can begin treatment at the first sign of symptoms. These initiatives are curbing the spread of this awful disease.

Your gift is very important. Without you and other benefactors who look with kindness and compassion on the poor of Haiti, things would be much worse in the Grand'Anse. On behalf of those you are offering the gift of survival; thank you.

With appreciation,

Dr. Jeremiah J. Lowney, Jr.
President
Haitian Health Foundation

Pastoral Council Minutes

MARCH 1, 2011 - Present: J. Augustyn, R. Bernabucci, P. Chaffee, L. Deraleau, A. Furey, R. Gaughan, D. Gessay, E. Golnik, B. Gonsalves, M. Oliver, S. Rice, K. Smith, Fr. Stan
Absent: J. Crane, J. Higgins, M. Kurban, M. Tracey

The meeting opened with **scripture, reflection, and sharing, led by Larry.**

Note that the **February Pastoral Council meeting was cancelled due to snow.** Therefore, the **February agenda was used** for the March meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

- PAST MEETING MINUTES** – The Council **accepted the 1/4/11 minutes with one small typo error fixed.**
- FAITH FORMATION REPORT** – The **Youth Group** hosted a **Valentine’s party at Rose Commons** – their visit and efforts were **greatly appreciated by the residents**, and a letter was posted in the JI and a note from the residents was received. A young person in the **RCIA** process will be going to the **Cathedral at 2:00 on 3/13/11** for the **Call to Continuing Conversion Rite.** Approximately **thirteen 3rd & 4th grade students** will receive the **sacrament of reconciliation for the first time** on March 29 & 31. **Confirmation candidates** will be going on their **retreat** March 25-27 at the CYFM in Garrison, NY.
- PARISH RESTRUCTURING** – The **restructuring committee** had its **meeting 2/15/11**, and minutes from that meeting were shared and read over. In addition, a document entitled “Criteria for Parish Evaluations” was shared about our cluster. The Pastoral Council discussed several **points of concern:** **1) funding of ministries versus funding parochial schooling;** **2) our parish’s expenses and revenue need to be examined by the Finance Council and reported back to us** at our next meeting by a liaison from the Finance Council; **3) pastor/priest staffing options** if a parish in the cluster doesn’t have a priest.
- COFFEE HOUR** – **Parish Council’s** next date to **host is the second Sunday, 3/13.**
- WELCOME LETTER** – Larry will be adding a sentence about the various **ministries** we offer, and will be placing the letter on **letterhead.**
- SPECIAL MASS** – **Father Ray Introvigne** will present a **Mass of Healing and Hope on March 13th at 2:00.** Plan to be a part of an exciting event.

NEW BUSINESS

- HELPING HANDS** -- a couple of **new volunteers** are working with our Helping Hands/Caregivers ministry as they reach out to assist those of our community who are in need.
- SHORT-TERM PASTORAL COUNCIL FOCUS** – We will be putting our efforts towards **assisting in the restructuring process.**

- COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE** – Will be held at **7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 12th.** Please join us to take part in this important sacrament.
- PARISH-WIDE RESTRUCTURING MEETING** -- There will be a **parish-wide meeting regarding restructuring on Monday, 3/21/11 at 7:00.** Please come to **receive more information** about the process taking place, and to **ask any questions or to give feedback.**

The meeting closed with prayer.

The **next meeting** of the Pastoral Council will be a **spiritual meeting on Tuesday, March 22nd.** Our **next regularly scheduled post-lent meeting** will be **Tuesday, April 26th at 7:00 p.m.** Betty offered to do the **scripture reading** for us.

Respectfully submitted,
 Peggy Chaffee

Assumption School Pre-K - 8th Open House

Are you looking for an exceptional, faith-enriched, solid educational experience for your child? We invite you to come and meet our dedicated teachers and families and see what a wonderful educational future we can provide for your child. Open House will be held on Sunday March 30th 10:30am-1pm at the Main Campus. If you are unable to attend our open house or have any questions, please contact our school office at 860-649-0889 to arrange a personal tour at your convenience.

Assumption School's Main Campus is located at 27 South Adams St, Manchester, CT. www.assumptionschoolct.com

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Readings for the Week

Sunday: Ex 17:3-7/Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42
 Monday: 2 Kgs 5:1-15b/Lk 4:24-30
 Tuesday: Dn 3:25, 34-43/Mt 18:21-35
 Wednesday: Dt 4:1, 5-9/Mt 5:17-19
 Thursday: Jer 7:23-28/Lk 11:14-23
 Friday: Hos 14:2-10/Mk 12:28-34
 Saturday: Hos 6:1-6/Lk 18:9-14
 Next Sunday: 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

MARCH 27, 2011

Prayer, Praise and Sacrament

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 Desrosiers***, requested by the Sacred Heart Parish Family - and -
Ann Martin, requested by the Madden Family

TUESDAY

9:00am **Mass:**

7:00pm **First Penance**

WEDNESDAY

9:00am **Mass:**

THURSDAY

*NO Adult Sacrament of Reconciliation at the usual time this week, **but** remember that you always can call at any time for an appointment that suits your schedule*

5:00pm **First Penance**

7:00pm **Mass: *Martha McCarthy***, requested by Art Martineau

7:30pm **Intercessory Prayer**, Eucharistic Chapel

FIRST FRIDAY

9:00am **Mass: *For the Living and Deceased Members of Sacred Heart Parish***

9:30 am-5pm **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

SATURDAY

4:30pm **Mass: *Mildred Rondini***, requested by Rich & Rella Bernabucci

SUNDAY

8:00am **Mass: *For the People of the Parish***

10:30am **Mass: *Muriel Iadarola***, requested by Pat Iadarola & Family

Meetings

SATURDAY CONFIRMATION RETREAT IN-PROGRESS

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

MONDAY OFFICES CLOSED

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 Comm Rms

FRIDAY

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

6:00pm **Youth Group Food Fast Begins**

SATURDAY

4:30pm **Youth Group Food Fast Ends**

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 –**

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 –

To report sexual abuse by a representative of the diocese of Norwich, or for assistance to victims / survivors, call
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860-889-4455

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