

SACRED HEART PARISH FAMILY

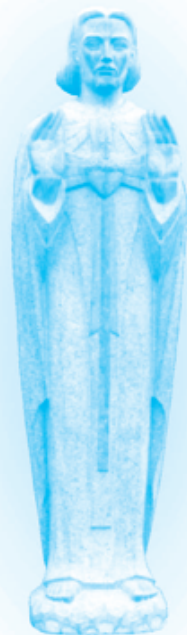
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PASTORAL TEAM

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”

Welcome

The parish family of Sacred Heart welcomes you! You are always welcome here.

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.

Faith Formation News

Confirmation Rehearsal

Rehearsal for those being confirmed this spring will be held on Friday, May 20 at 6:30pm. Reminder – sponsors should attend this rehearsal. Questions? Concerns? Please contact Rella – 860-875-4563 or rella@sacredheartchurch.net.

Confirmation

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be administered by Msgr. Robert Brown on Sunday, May 22nd at the 10:30am Mass to 6 of our candidates for Confirmation. All parishioners are invited to attend this Mass as we celebrate with our young people as they receive this sacrament.

Fr. Stan's 40th Anniversary

Letters were recently mailed out to all parishioners containing information of Fr. Stan's upcoming celebration of his 40th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood.

A Mass of Thanksgiving celebrating this 40th anniversary will be held on Sunday, June 5, 2011 at 10:30am. Following Mass, a luncheon buffet will be held at A Villa Louisa in Bolton for all who have responded to the invitation.

If you have not responded to the invitation, (or have not received an invitation,) please contact Rella as soon as possible (860-875-4563 or rella@sacredheartchurch.net).

Garden Brigade

The "Garden Brigade" at Sacred Heart Church will meet on **Saturday, June 4, at 9am** to work on the parish gardens. Anyone who is able to help for an hour or two that day will be most welcome.

For more information, please call Jean at 860-875-7381.

The Deacon's Corner

In the bulb, there is a flower;
In the seed, an apple tree;
In cocoons, a hidden promise:
Butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter
There's a Spring that waits to be,
Unrevealed until its season,
Something God alone can see.

There's a song in ev'ry silence,
Seeking word and melody;
There's a dawn in ev'ry darkness,
Bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future;
What it holds, a mystery,
Unrevealed until its season,
Something God alone can see.

In our end is our beginning;
In our time, infinity.
In our doubt there is believing;
In our life, eternity.
In our death, a resurrection;
At the last, a victory,
Unrevealed until its season
Something God alone can see.

Unrevealed until its season,
Something yet unknown,
Which God alone can see.

*Hymn of Promise
by Natalie Sleeth*



DIocese OF NORWICH

As of May 6, 2011, our *Parish Gifts and Pledges Report* indicates that we stand at \$23,915.00 given or pledged – 76.28% of our \$31,350 goal.

There is an abundance of human need surrounding us – the poor, the sick, the elderly, troubled families, the disabled, and those in crisis. The Annual Catholic Appeal (ACA) gives us an opportunity to respond to those in need and to show Christ's love by putting our faith in action as a Diocesan family. The Diocesan agencies and programs supported by the ACA help with both spiritual and physical needs and **go beyond what an individual parish can accomplish alone**. Thousands of people, many programs and agencies, our parish, and our Diocese need your help.

If you have not yet had the opportunity to make your gift to the 2011 ACA, **or if you can increase your pledge or donation**, please respond today. Gift envelopes may be found at the entrances of the Church or if you prefer you can make your gift online at: www.NorwichDioceseDevelopment.org. Thank you.

2011 Appeal:

**“Do This in
Memory of Me”**

In the Cluster

The **7-Week Life in the Spirit Seminar** that began May 4 continues at St. Joseph Church, Rockville at 7:30pm on Wednesday evenings. To learn more about Life in the Spirit Seminars, ask Joseph Labrie (860-872-6971) or Helen Syriac (860-643-6564)

St Joseph School Open House - Wednesday May 25th, 2011. Open visits 8:30am-1pm & Information Night 6-7pm. Call 860-875-4943 for more information.

St. Joseph School Spring Concert - All our welcome to come and watch the St. Joseph School Children perform! Wednesday May 18th 7-9PM

International Day at Saint Joseph - Sunday, June 5th, 2011 at the 9:30am Mass. Wear your heritage clothing! Show your nationality! Adults and Children are encouraged to participate. There will be a procession into church, so please meet in the church basement at 9:15am. Please bring a special dish from your heritage to share!

In the Diocese

On Friday, May 27, 2011, come join in praying **A Eucharistic Holy Hour for Vocations** with Bishop Cote. This month the holy hour will be at The Cathedral of St. Patrick, Norwich, CT. Come pray for those who are called to priestly or consecrated religious life. Pray for our seminarians and those in the process of applying to the Diocese. Join our Diocesan Prayer Team for Vocations by emailing the vocation office for more information at vocations@norwichdiocese.net and check out our website at www.god-calls.org

Bans of Ordination

The following deacon will be called to the Order of Priesthood on Saturday, May 28, 2011:

Rev. Mr. Luis Henry Agudelo

Should you know of any reason why this man should not be ordained a priest, please write to: The Most Reverend Michael R. Cote, Bishop of Norwich 201 Broadway Norwich, CT 06360

In the Area

Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center 60th Anniversary Liturgy. Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center will hold a special liturgy celebrating its 60th year of ministry at St. Mary Church in Newington on Sunday, May 22 at 2pm. Bishop Peter A. Rosazza will preside. A reception will follow at Holy Family. All are welcome. For more information, visit www.holyfamilyretreat.org, email holyfamilydevelopment@cpprov.org or call 860-521-0440.

Vernon Senior Center Newcomer's Meeting - Thursday, May 26 at 10am. Come and take a tour of the facility and learn about the programs and activities offered. Call 860-870-3680 to register. Refreshments will be served!

A Message from the Diocese of Norwich Catholic School Office

Connecticut Federation of Catholic School Parents ACTION ALERT

Oppose Proposal to Eliminate Funding for Private and Religious School Nursing Services

Action Needed:

We need Catholic school parents, students, administrators, teachers and concerned citizens to send an e-mail to Governor Malloy and your legislators requesting they oppose the elimination of state funding of nursing services for private and religious schools.

Summary:

Governor Malloy's budget director released a list of suggested spending cuts totaling \$1.67 billion if the administration is unable to reach an agreement with the state employee's union. The list is considered a framework but unfortunately it does include a complete elimination of funding to towns to provide religious and private schools nursing services.

This is a vital service and public safety issue for Connecticut's private and religious schools. Our parents pay taxes as well and are already making financial sacrifices to send their children to Catholic schools.

Take Action:

The Governor's office is still negotiating with the state employee unions on concessions. However, he has stated he wants a budget finalized by May 31, 2011. Please contact the Governor and your legislators immediately.

Please visit the Connecticut Federation of Catholic School Parents action alert center at www.ctfcsp.org to send an e-mail to the Governor and legislative leaders. If you have never used our action alert system, you will have to register on the system in order to send an e-mail.

If you have any questions, please contact John Cattelan at the Connecticut Federation of Catholic School Parents at 860-541-6310 or e-mail him at jcattelan@ctcatholic.org.

Principal Search - Sacred Heart School, 50 Sacred Heart Drive, Groton, Connecticut 06340. Sacred Heart Parish in Groton, Connecticut and the Diocesan School Office of the Diocese of Norwich, Connecticut have begun a search process for a new principal at Sacred Heart School effective July 1, 2011. Interested applicants should provide a letter of interest and a completed application sent to: John F. Shine Ph.D., Superintendent of Schools, Diocesan School Office, 43 Perkins Avenue, Norwich, Connecticut 06360. Principal application may be found on the Diocesan School Office website; <http://www.norwichdso.org/> under Career opportunities

Save the Date

Coney Island Picnic – June 26



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

Acts 2:14A, 36–41
1 Peter 2:20B–25
John 10:1–10

MONDAY

John 10:11–18
"I am the good shepherd."

TUESDAY

John 10:22–30
"My sheep hear my voice."

WEDNESDAY

John 12:44–50
"I have come as light into the world . . ."

THURSDAY

John 13:16–20
"I know whom I have chosen."

FRIDAY

John 14:1–6
"Believe in God, believe also in me."

SATURDAY

John 14:7–14
"Whoever has seen me has seen the Father."

Saved for Abundant Life

The image of the Good Shepherd offers us comfort and hope. Certainly, artistic representations give us a picture of great tranquility and peace. When we hear the words "Good Shepherd," we immediately associate them with today's responsorial psalm (23): "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures."

The readings certainly confirm the sense of solace and security that the Good Shepherd offers, but they also offer us a fuller context of the work of Jesus, the Good Shepherd. He saves his flock that is imperiled in many ways. The context that surrounds the work of the Good Shepherd suggests great danger, not just a peaceful field for grazing.

Peter, in today's first reading, speaks of salvation "from this corrupt generation," the culture that is marked by sin and division. In the second

reading, Peter's letter speaks of the internal divisions and sins we suffer and from which we are healed by the Good Shepherd, our wounds and our straying from righteousness. The words of Jesus in the Gospel speak of violence and destructive forces to which the sheep are subject.

When we let the powerful message of these readings touch us, we realize that the Good Shepherd who knows us and whom we know saves us from external dangers (in the world) and internal dangers (the wounds we carry inside ourselves). We desperately need the Good Shepherd. We clearly need to attach ourselves to his flock. In that flock, we are saved from whatever would diminish or even destroy us. In that flock, we find abundant life.



The Faith of the Church

We all stand in need of salvation. We all need to be saved from the sin and evil that marks our world and our inner lives. Knowing this need, we can turn with confidence to the one who alone can save us, Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd, who lays down his life for his sheep and then takes it up again, so that they may have abundant life (Cf. *Catechism of the Catholic Church* 754).



Questions of the Week

If we are very busy—and so many of us are—we may never stop and take a look at our deepest needs. If we do not recognize our needs, we may not recognize that we need a savior, the Good Shepherd who leads us.

Adults

How do I take stock of my life and come to understand my deepest needs and, ultimately, my complete reliance on the Lord?

Children

How does Jesus, the Good Shepherd, lead me and guide me in my life?

Responding to God's Word . . .

The pastoral ministry of the Church literally means the ministry or service of Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd (pastor) continued in the Church. All of us collectively belong to the flock of Jesus and benefit from his saving work and guidance as our Good Shepherd. At the same time, in the flock of Jesus, we also share responsibility for one another.

We do not save each other. Jesus, the Good Shepherd has saved us. What we do is bring that saving work of Jesus to others through our words, our actions, and our witness. We enable the loving and saving care of the Good Shepherd to

be present and active in our world today.

This Sunday celebrates World Day of Prayer for Vocations. This reminds us of our shared responsibility to make the Good Shepherd real and present in our world. Certainly, the ordained ministry of bishops, priests, and deacons is a graced way that the Good Shepherd remains present to his Church. Religious life, too, offers a witness of life and works to the Lord's shepherding of his people. This vocation or calling to make the Good Shepherd present also happens in the sacrament of marriage and the dedicated single life. It is our shared responsibility.

SUGGESTIONS

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

In the home. As you pray before meals, add a prayer of gratitude for Jesus, the Good Shepherd of our souls and pray for people to fulfill their vocations in life.

In the workplace or in school. Offer a word of encouragement to people as they try to live out their vocation, whether as priests, religious, married couples, or dedicated single people.

In the community. Identify the struggles and dangers particular to your community and focus on the ways that the Good Shepherd might be a saving presence.



Meditation Moment

A woman was diagnosed as being terminally ill. For a while, she continued to live pretty much as she always did. Then, one day, she said to herself, "What am I doing? What am I building a bank account for? What am I living this way for?" Then she decided to begin living as her heart dictated. That woman lived 15 more months. Before she died, she confided to a friend, "The last 15 months of my life were the richest of my entire life."

For reflection . . .

The woman's experience invites me to ask: What was one of the richest periods of my entire life?

I SHALL PASS THROUGH THIS WORLD BUT ONCE. ANY GOOD THAT I CAN DO, OR ANY KINDNESS THAT I CAN SHOW TO ANY HUMAN BEING, LET ME DO IT NOW AND NOT DEFER IT. FOR I SHALL NOT PASS THIS WAY AGAIN.

ATTRIBUTED TO STEPHEN GRELLET (ADAPTED)

FROM *VISION* BY MARK LINK, SJ

Let Me Know Your Voice

Lord Jesus,
you said that your sheep
recognize your voice. Help
me to recognize your voice
within and beyond the noises of
this world. Help me to hear you
when circumstances seem
overwhelming and even crushing.
Help me to hear your voice when I
am caught up in my own enjoyment
and pursuits. Help me to hear your
voice in other people, in your holy
Church, in your holy Word.
In every circumstance, make
me alert and attentive.
And be my Good Shepherd
forever and ever.
Amen.

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

In the book of the prophet Ezekiel, the Lord God says, "I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out" (34:11). Know that God does not just watch over us passively but actively cares for us and pursues us.

Profile in Faith

Shepherds of Bethlehem

The shepherds of Bethlehem, tending their flocks, went in faith to see the newborn Jesus who would shepherd his people, Israel. They took what they had seen and experienced and joyfully shared the good news of the one who would be a Good Shepherd for all.

NIHIL OBSTAT
Rev. Msgr. Robert M. Coerver, Censor Librorum
IMPRIMATUR
† Most Reverend Kevin J. Farrell, DD, Bishop of Dallas
January 26, 2011

The Nihil Obstat and Imprimatur are official declarations that the material reviewed is free of doctrinal or moral error. No implication is contained therein that those granting the Nihil Obstat and Imprimatur agree with the contents, opinions, or statements expressed.

Author: Louis J. Camelí

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MAY 15, 2011

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

SATURDAY

4:30pm **Mass: *For All Those In Whose Memory
Easter Flowers Were Given***

SUNDAY

**THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF FATHER
STAN'S ORDINATION TO THE
PRIESTHOOD**

8:00am **Mass: *In Thanksgiving***

10:30am **Mass: *In Thanksgiving***

TUESDAY

9:00am **Mass: *For the Success of Our Deanery
Cluster Meetings***

WEDNESDAY

9:00am **Mass: *For the People of the Parish***

THURSDAY

4:30-6pm **Sacrament of Reconciliation**, living room

7:00pm **Mass: *Frank, Tomasina & Mariastella
Aiello***, requested by Frank & Maria Neri

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

FRIDAY

9:00am **Mass: *For an Increase in Vocations to
Priesthood & Religious Life***

THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

SATURDAY

4:30pm **Mass: *Sally Chapparo***, requested by the
Sacred Heart Parish Family, and
Mary Simon, requested by Jeanne & John
Swart

SUNDAY

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

10:30am **Mass: *Confirmation***, with Msgr. Robert
Brown

Meetings

SATURDAY

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

SUNDAY

Fellowship before and after Mass

MONDAY

OFFICES CLOSED

WEDNESDAY

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

THURSDAY

10:00am **Bible Study**, South Community Rooms

7:30pm **Alcoholics Anonymous Big Book**, South
Community Rooms

FRIDAY

6:30pm **Confirmation Rehearsal**

SATURDAY

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

SUNDAY

Fellowship before and after Mass

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
800-624-7407 or
860-889-4455

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