

SACRED HEART PARISH FAMILY

550 Hartford Turnpike, Vernon, CT 06066-5000

(860) 875-4563

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Fax: (860) 872-2535

E-mail: info@sacredheartchurch.net



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!

Whether this is one of your first visits with us or your first visit in a while; 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.

Catechists Needed

Volunteers are needed to be catechists in our Faith Formation Program **for grades K & 5**. Kindergarten currently has 2 children enrolled; Grade 5 currently has 3 children enrolled.

Please consider sharing your faith in God with either of these two small classes. Remember, Faith Formation will begin Sunday, September 25th. Time is running out.

Please contact Rella at rella@sacredheartchurch.net or by phoning 860-875-4563 for more information or to volunteer. Thank you!

Faith Formation Registrations

Registrations for Faith Formation are currently being taken.

If you are new to the parish or are registering a child in the Faith Formation Program for the first time, please contact Rella or Sandy (860-875-4563). You may also e-mail Rella at rella@sacredheartchurch.net.

Classes are held on:

Sunday mornings for Gr. K-5 (9:10-10:25am)

Sunday evenings for Gr. 6-8 and Confirmation

Preparation (both start at 6:15pm)

If there are enough children (Gr. K-5) interested in attending faith formation on Wednesday afternoons from 4pm to 5:15pm, we will certainly meet that need.

Registration fees are:

\$60 for Confirmation Preparation;

\$50 for the first child in your family attending faith formation;

\$45 for the second child in your family attending faith formation;

a total of \$115 per family.

If you are experiencing financial difficulties in these difficult economic times, please speak with Fr. Stan or Rella. No child will ever be denied faith formation!

The Deacon's Corner

"Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

These words of Jesus provide one of the most fundamental descriptions of what we mean by "church." The church is first of all people "gathered together" in the name of Jesus. This is not only a description but an ideal and a goal toward which we strive. We gather together for his - not our - purposes.

To what extent does our gathering show society that the meaning of life is found in the love of God and neighbor? As followers of Jesus we participate in worship, but we do this in order to celebrate and nourish our life as his disciples. That's why we gather together in twos and threes and hundreds and millions, to bring Jesus present in our midst. That's what makes us church.

- Mitch Finley

Readings for the Week

Sunday: Ez 33:7-9/Rom 13:8-10/Mt 18:15-20

Monday: Col 1:24-2:3/Lk 6:6-11

Tuesday: Col 2:6-15/Lk 6:12-19

Wednesday: Col 3:1-11/Lk 6:20-26

Thursday: Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30/Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23

Friday: 1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14/Lk 6:39-42

Saturday: 1 Tm 1:15-17/Lk 6:43-49

Next Sunday: Sir 27:30-28:9/Rom 14:7-9/Mt 18:21-35

Faith Formation Catechist Orientation

Catechist Orientation will be held on Tuesday, September 13, 2011 at 7:00pm in the Fellowship Rooms. Catechists will receive their class lists, their catechist manuals, and all materials relating to Faith Formation at this time.

This is an important meeting. All catechists are asked to make every effort to attend. Questions? Concerns? Please contact Rella.

Welcome to Sacred Heart Parish!

The following family recently registered with our parish:

**Eric & Michelle Reguin and their children,
Olivia & Evan**

We welcome them to the parish and look forward to getting to know them better as we come together to worship.

40 Days for LIFE

The **40 Days for LIFE** campaign begins on September 28th and continues until November 6, 2011. This is our fifth consecutive year of running this round-the-clock prayer vigil to raise awareness for such a critical issue as ending abortion here in Norwich, CT.

Please prayerfully consider two ways to get involved-- as an individual and as a Parish community. One of the best ways for parishes to get involved is to "Adopt-a-Day". A church or organization would decide to "Adopt-a-Day" and then encourage their members to pledge to pray in front of Planned Parenthood at 12 Case St. in Norwich for an hour at a time, on the specific "adopted day". The parish would have one or two people organizing this effort with sign ups at the parish level.

You can also get involved individually by pledging to pray for an hour by logging onto: www.vigilcalendar.com/norwich

Please bring a friend and come down and pray with us!

To "Adopt-a-Day" or for more information please contact Brian J. Daly at: 860-822-1788 or BJDaly@aol.com or go to www.40daysforlife.com/norwich

We pray for an end to abortion here in Connecticut and in our Nation and we ask that you prayerfully discern your personal role in this Fall's **40 DAYS FOR LIFE** campaign...Thank you!

Bishop Cote to Celebrate Mass for 40 Days for LIFE Campaign

The 5th Annual 40 Days for Life campaign kicks off with a Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral in Norwich CT on Tuesday evening September 27, 2011. The main Celebrant and Homilist will be the Most Rev. Michael R. Cote, Bishop of Norwich. Mass begins at 7:00pm and will be followed by refreshments downstairs.

The Mass is to prepare and to pray for *40 days and 40 nights of prayer, fasting, and a peaceful vigil* in front of Planned Parenthood at 12 Case St. in Norwich CT. Please come and bring a friend!

Televised Sunday Mass!

A televised Sunday Mass is now airing on the "ABC Family" channel from 6:30 am to 7:00 am each Sunday morning. THE SUNDAY MASS is produced by the Passionist Fathers and Brothers out of New York City and is available nationally on local affiliates. Too early for you? Tape it, Tivo it, or watch it online. For more information consult the website at www.TheSundayMass.org.

Locally available on AT&T U-Verse channel 178 / HD 1178. Comcast channel 40 / HD 229, Cox channel 37 / HD 1037

School Supplies for Haiti

Needed: Single-Subject Notebooks, Rulers, Colored Pencils, Erasers, Pencil Sharpeners,. Watch the ads for Target, Walgreens, Office Depot, Staples, CVS and Walmart. - There are good sales in August!

At Holy Family Retreat Center

MARRIED COUPLES RETREAT: September 23 – 25 - "The Courage to Hope" An excellent opportunity to spend some quality time together. Retreat begins on Friday evening with a buffet dinner from 6–8pm and ends on Sunday around noon. Retreat Offering: \$450.00 per couple

WOMEN'S RETREAT: September 30 - October 2 - "The Courage to Hope" A retreat is a great opportunity to be with other women and to rediscover the presence of God in your life. Retreat begins on Friday evening with a buffet dinner from 6-8pm and ends on Sunday around noon. Retreat Offering: \$250.00

Register online at www.holyfamilyretreat.org or send name, address and offering to:

Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center
303 Tunxis Road
West Hartford, Ct 06107
860.521.0440

Please Mark Your Calendars

The Annual Sacred Heart Parish Family Picnic

will be held

NEXT SUNDAY

Sunday, September 11

1:30pm to 4:00pm

No charge.

A free-will offering will be gratefully accepted.

HELLO! I am your envelope reminder angel. While you are enjoying the summer sun activity, don't forget your church at home.



Your help will still be needed to meet current expenses. Please remember to use your envelopes during the summer and mail them to: Sacred Heart, 550 Hartford Tpke, Vernon CT 06066. Thank you!

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

Ezekiel 33:7–9
Romans 13:8–10
Matthew 18:15–20

MONDAY

Luke 6:6–11
“Stretch out your hand.”

TUESDAY

Luke 6:12–19
“They had come to hear him and to be healed . . .”

WEDNESDAY

Luke 6:20–26
“Blessed are you who are poor . . .”

THURSDAY*

Matthew 1:1–16, 18–23
“. . . for he will save his people from their sins.”

FRIDAY

Luke 6:39–42
“Can a blind person guide a blind person?”

SATURDAY

Luke 6:43–49
“No good tree bears bad fruit . . .”

*Feast of the of the Blessed Virgin Mary

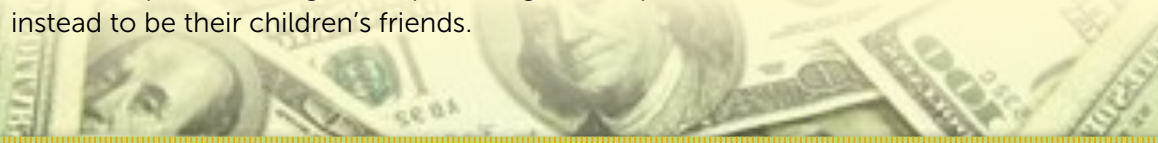
A Very Important Debt

Recently, *The Economist*, reported on an academic study conducted in England examining how character is formed. The study revealed that the most important influence on whether young people developed a healthy and wholesome character was their parents. If parents disciplined their children, held them accountable for their behavior, and practiced “tough love” with them, the children would grow up shaped by the values of the community. When children did not receive this parental guidance, they were much more likely to be shaped by the social norms of the changing culture.

What this study also revealed was that many parents today, at least in England, were reluctant to provide the parenting that their children needed so badly. Too many parents, it seems, didn’t want to fulfill their parental obligations, preferring instead to be their children’s friends.

The National Study of Youth and Religion (conducted in the U.S.) offers us additional thought on this matter. According to Dr. Christian Smith, the head of this ongoing study, the role of the faith community is almost as important as the role of the parent. The more members of the Church who are engaged in the lives of young people, the more likely it is that these young people will develop a strong faith of their own.

All three Scripture readings from this Sunday emphasize the point that we have a responsibility to other members of the faith community. As the reading from Ezekiel says, we have an obligation to speak up as God’s witness so that others may hear and understand God’s message of salvation and choose whether to accept it.



The Faith of the Church

Chastity is a necessary virtue in order to live a healthy, holy, and wholesome life. It allows us to do what is right, good, and truly loving in the areas of relationships and sexuality. As we master the virtue of chastity, we learn to cherish human dignity, treasure sexuality as a gift, and to treat everyone respectfully. Cultivating this virtue requires the practice of decency and modesty through self-mastery and self-control (Cf. *Catechetical Formation in Chaste Living*, USCCB 2007).



Questions of the Week

Giving witness to your faith is an important way to spread the Gospel. People make judgments about faith based upon what they see us do not on what we say.

Adults

What one thing can I do this week to show people how my faith shapes my life?

Children

What can I do this week to show others that I believe in Jesus?

Responding to God's Word . . .

The Scripture readings this week emphasize in different ways the importance of "fraternal correction," done with love. This means that when we see someone doing something that might cause harm, we have an obligation to express this concern.

Such correction is currently out of favor in today's world. People seem to feel that what they do is nobody else's business and that they can do anything they want without reproach.

This attitude reveals the rise of individualism and the corresponding loss of community that is a part of modern culture. The loss of the communal has serious consequences

for Christians, both as a people of faith and as individuals.

One way to address this loss of community is to begin to develop closer relationships with people in our parishes who are living examples—witnesses—of what it means to follow Christ. Ask them to serve as our mentors. But also, be open to serving as mentors for others. While we may recognize our own unworthiness, others still look to us as living examples of what it means to follow Christ.

We don't always have to use words to offer loving correction. Frequently, our actions alone will be enough.

SUGGESTIONS

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

In the home. Have each family member identify three things they do well. Then, offer to teach other family members how to do those things.

In the workplace or in school. Look for non-threatening ways to be a mentor to coworkers or fellow students.

In the community. Participate in activities within your community so that you can learn more about your neighbors. Work to build a sense of community with them.



Meditation Moment

George Anderson was a chaplain at New York's Riker's Island prison. One night he was praying with a small group of prisoners over the story of the Good Samaritan. A mentally disturbed prisoner, Richard, was present for the first time. The room was cold, and Richard was wrapped in two blankets. The prisoner opposite him was shivering. At one point while the group was praying in silence, Richard suddenly got up, walked over to the shivering man, and put a blanket around him. Richard's silent action witnessed not only to Jesus' words to us about loving others, but also to Jesus' presence among us when we gather in his name.

For reflection . . .

Can I recall a time when I felt moved by Jesus' words or his presence in a group?

WHEREVER YOU SEE ANOTHER, THERE I AM.

BIBINICAL SAYING

FROM VISION BY MARK LINK, SJ

Speaking the Truth in Love

Father in Heaven,
You call us to love ourselves and to love everyone we meet. Sometimes, showing our love for others is very difficult to do because it requires us to speak the truth to them, a truth that they may be unwilling to hear. Give us the strength to be your witnesses to the world, to have the courage to speak the truth to others through our words and actions, to always be faithful witnesses to your love. In all things, let us be guided by humility and compassion.
Amen.

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

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law.

Romans 13:8

Profile in Faith

Pope Paul VI (Giovanni Montini) (1897–1978)

emphasized just how important it is for families to live healthy, wholesome, and holy lives, and how these families benefited Church and society equally. He was a fearless shepherd who challenged Catholics to live lives of faith so that they would not be seduced by the moral tenor of today's culture.

NIHIL OBSTAT
Rev. Msgr. Robert M. Coerver, Censor Librorum
IMPRIMATUR
† Most Reverend Kevin J. Farrell, DD, Bishop of Dallas
May 23, 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.

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Front: iStockphoto

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SEPTEMBER 4, 2011

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SATURDAY

4:30pm **Mass: *Paul Hemond***, requested by the Sacred Heart Parish Family, - and -
Gerard Hemond, requested by the Sacred Heart Parish Family

SUNDAY

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

10:30am **Mass: *Henry Jakielo***, requested by Helen Jakielo

MONDAY

LABOR DAY

No Mass

TUESDAY

No Mass

WEDNESDAY

9:00am **Mass: *Father Eugene Pilatowski***

THURSDAY THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

4:30-6pm **Sacrament of Reconciliation**, Living Room

7:00pm **Mass: *For the Protection of All Human Life from Conception to Natural Death***

7:30pm **Intercessory Prayer**

FRIDAY

PETER CLAVER, PRIEST

10:30am **Mass at Vernon Manor**

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SATURDAY

4:30pm **Mass: *Mary Piazza***, requested by Lise P. Casella

SUNDAY

8:00am **Mass: *Frank Ray***, requested by his wife, Ceil Ray

10:30am **Mass: *10th Anniversary of the 9/11 Catastrophe – For All Who Died at the World Trade Center, Pentagon, and Pennsylvania, and their families***

Meetings

SATURDAY

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

SUNDAY

Fellowship before and after Mass

MONDAY

OFFICES CLOSED

TUESDAY

OFFICES CLOSED

WEDNESDAY

7:00pm **Pastoral Council**. Library

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

THURSDAY

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

FRIDAY

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

SATURDAY

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

SUNDAY

1:30-4pm **Parish Picnic (Free-will offering)**

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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