

# SACRED HEART PARISH FAMILY

550 Hartford Turnpike, Vernon, CT 06066-5000

(860) 875-4563

Website: [www.sacredheartchurch.net](http://www.sacredheartchurch.net)

Fax: (860) 872-2535

E-mail: [info@sacredheartchurch.net](mailto: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”

## Sharing & Caring

Sharing is caring! Please share a weekly offering that reflects a sacrifice according to your current means. We need every family to prayerfully consider a reasonable increase from their current level of weekly support. Please support our parish consistently by doing your "fair share" to financially support your parish family.

### 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Catechist

We are pleased to announce that we do have a grade 5 catechist! **Lynn Moulton** has generously agreed to work with this class this year.

We are very grateful to her for stepping forward and ask for God's continued blessings on her and her family.

#### **Attention: Faith Formation Classes & Youth Group**

**ALL** Faith Formation classes (morning and evening), as well as the Youth Group, will **NOT meet** next **Sunday, October 9<sup>th</sup>** because of the Columbus Day Weekend.

Faith Formation classes for **grades K-8 will resume the following weekend at their regularly scheduled times.**

#### **Youth Group News**

Some members of the Youth Group will be going to **Lake Compounce** on **Sunday, October 16<sup>th</sup> (rain date – October 23<sup>rd</sup>)** for their annual Haunted Graveyard.

We will **leave Sacred Heart parking lot at 4pm**. If you plan on attending, please notify Rella and PLEASE remember to bring your forms.

Also, please note that we will **not be holding the Confirmation Preparation session on this evening and that Youth Group meeting will not be held**. We will resume the following Sunday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> at the regularly scheduled time.

*Have you been thinking lately that your spiritual life needs a boost?*

*Have you been too busy to give your full attention to prayer?*

*Have you felt that you're ready to renew and reinvigorate your relationship with Jesus?*

*Have you lost your connection with God?*

Perhaps it's time to go on a retreat. Time to come aside for a while in a prayerful atmosphere.

***If you feel the Holy Spirit nudging you to think about it, talk to Larry. There is a retreat coming up at the Holy Family Retreat Center that may be just right for you.***

### The Deacon's Corner

#### KILLING TIME

How do I kill time?  
Let me count the ways.

By worrying about things  
over which I have no control.  
Like the past. Like the future.

By harboring resentment  
and anger over hurts  
real or imagined.

By failing to appreciate  
the ordinary, the commonplace  
the routine.

By concern over what's in it for me  
rather than  
what's in me for it.

By thinking about what  
might have been,  
should have been,  
could have been,  
and not about what is.

These are some ways I kill time.

Jesus didn't kill time.  
He gave life to it, his own.

Leo Rock S.J.

### Readings for the Week

Sunday: Is 5:1-7/Phil 4:6-9/Mt 21:33-43  
Monday: Jon 1:1-2:2, 11/Lk 10:25-37  
Tuesday: Jon 3:1-10/Lk 10:38-42  
Wednesday: Jon 4:1-11/Lk 11:1-4  
Thursday: Mal 3:13-20b/Lk 11:5-13  
Friday: Jl 1:13-15; 2:1-2/Lk 11:15-26  
Saturday: Jl 4:12-21/Lk 11:27-28  
Next Sunday: Is 25:6-10a/Phil 4:12-14, 19-20/Mt 22:1-14 or 22:1-10

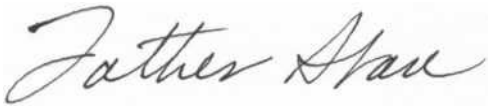
### Wisdom

The Sacred Heart Bible Study Group will be opening up **The Book of Wisdom** on Friday October 7th. If you would like to join us please call Denice Jones @ 860-647-0159 to sign up.

## Thank You

One of the greatest assets and gifts our parish has is our children. They are a blessing to us. They are eager to grow in the faith.

Thank you to all who offered to share their faith with the young people of our parish. Your gifts to them will bring a tremendous reward to you. May Jesus bless you 100-fold for offering the gift of sharing your faith with those who are in the early stages of their faith journey.



## Thank You

A big THANK YOU to

**Jean Merz  
&  
Ann Noel**

Jean and Ann brought flowers to church during the summer so that we would be able to enjoy fresh flowers enhancing our church at every Mass.

That was a big commitment, for which each of us should be grateful.

## Thank You

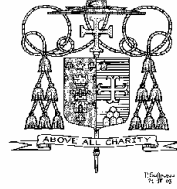
*Dear Father Stan,*

*Thank you for your kind words and prayers. And thank you and the parish family for the Masses to be offered for Philip on November 12, 2011 and September 9, 2012.*

*God's grace has sustained all of us at this time, especially Aggie and Chuck.*

*Yours in Christ,*

*Carol White*



**Diocese of Norwich**  
Office of the Bishop  
201 Broadway  
Norwich, Connecticut 06360  
(860) 887-9294

MOST REVEREND  
MICHAEL R. COTE, D.D.

September 26, 2011

My dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

For nearly forty (40) years, the Church in the United States has observed October as Respect Life Month and the first Sunday of the month as Respect Life Sunday. This is a time of prayer, reflection, and renewal. As disciples of the Lord, we are committed to loving and caring for others and to showing them the respect their dignity, as sons and daughters of God and sisters and brothers of Jesus, demands.

Our care for others begins with prayer for them. In a particular way this month we pray for unborn children and for their expectant parents. We give thanks for the precious gift of life and we ask for the grace that we will always give witness to our conviction that life is sacred in all stages of human existence. We pray, too, for the courage to protect and sustain the lives of the weak and vulnerable, the elderly and the infirm, and of those who are tempted to give up on life.

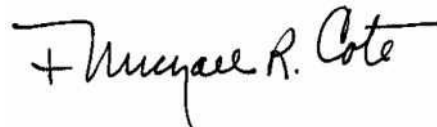
In our reflection on the gift of life, we see the essence of its beauty. Life is the handiwork of God. We are not only created by God but also redeemed by God's only begotten Son. Through the gift of redemption, we are embraced by God our loving Father, and given the gift of new life. Our late Holy Father, Blessed Pope John Paul II, has written: "The Church firmly believes that human life, even if weak and suffering, is always a splendid gift of God's goodness. Against the pessimism and selfishness which cast a shadow over the world, the Church stands for life. In each human life, she sees the splendor of that 'yes,' that 'amen,' Who is Christ Himself."

To embrace life is to witness to Christ and to continue His mission: "I came so that all might life and have it to the full." (2011 Respect Life Program Theme)

During his visit to the United States in 2008, our Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI, reminded the faithful that they are to be a leaven in society. Daily, we must be renewed in fulfilling that responsibility. With our Holy Father, we pray that the light of the Holy Spirit will guide our choices so that all may recognize and respect the sacred nature of life of every human being. Through the intercession of Mary, our Mother, we ask from our Lord and Savior the strength to love and serve life.

May the Lord open our hearts to receive His Word of life, Jesus, Who has come among us so that we might have life in abundance!

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Bishop of Norwich

## 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

Isaiah 5:1–7  
Philippians 4:6–9  
Matthew 21:33–43

### MONDAY

Luke 10:25–37  
“... do this, and you will live.”

### TUESDAY

Luke 10:38–42  
“... there is need of only one thing.”

### WEDNESDAY

Luke 11:1–4  
“... forgive us our sins ...”

### THURSDAY

Luke 11:5–13  
“Ask, and it will be given you.”

### FRIDAY

Luke 11:15–26  
“Whoever is not with me is against me ...”

### SATURDAY

Luke 11:27–28  
“Blessed ... are those who hear the word of God and obey it!”

## Vintage Time

Isaiah and Matthew both pull us into a pastoral scene. It is vintage time; the harvest is ready. A crowd gathers on the fertile terraced slopes of a vineyard ready to celebrate. Workers pick sun-warmed red globe grapes, which are then pressed into a delicate sweet wine.

But in the first reading, we find a song of lament with a lesson. While the vineyard was tended in a loving way, just as Yahweh cared for his people, the bitter yield of wild, sour grapes symbolizes the result of the nation's infidelity and injustice: their betrayal of the covenant.

Matthew builds upon this well-known passage from the Old Testament to offer his second parable in a series of three. The mere mention of vintage time indicated urgency about the coming of the Messiah in the Old Testament, and for us, the coming reign of God.

In this Gospel story, the evangelist wrote of three servants sent to the vineyard: one was beaten, another killed, and the third stoned. The very son of the owner was thrown out of the vineyard and killed.

The tenants represent the Jews or their leaders; and the servants who were sent to them are the Hebrew prophets; and the son, the final emissary, is Jesus who was condemned to death by the religious leaders. The warning in this Gospel is meant for the chief priests and elders. Because they rejected Jesus—the cornerstone—God opened up “the vineyard, his kingdom,” to other tenants.”

The kingdom of God is now the inheritance of all believers who are challenged to yield a rich harvest.



## The Faith of the Church

In a *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*, care for the environment is one of the many topics. Stating the mutual connectedness within the cosmos, Blessed Pope John Paul II reminds us of the interdependence of all beings in the universal order of the Creator. From this perspective, he sees care for the environment as a responsibility for all individuals and institutions (#466).



## Questions of the Week

Ordinarily, the first Sunday in October is designated as *Respect Life Sunday*. The parable of the vineyard calls us to become fruitful stewards of God's gifts, especially since God graces us over and over again with mercy, justice, and loving care.

### Adults

*How does this Gospel expand my understanding of respect for life?*

### Children

*How can I take better care of God's creatures?*

## Responding to God's Word . . .

Reflect on what *vintage time* signifies in your life. It might be a phase of life where the wisdom of the years and the peace of fewer responsibilities opens the way for appreciation of the beauty of God's creation. Or it might involve a sense of urgency to address environmental issues of global warming; water shortages; and increasing droughts, earthquakes, and hurricanes.

Or maybe you sense a quickening within that draws you into the heart of the divine and urges you to reach out with acts of justice and peace.

Whatever your vintage time may entail, it is the grace of the Spirit that compels us to go deep into the meaning of this Gospel message and to determine our roles in preparing for the reign of God.

We are the tenant farmers of the vineyard of this earth, a small blue planet in the vast universe. The harvest is upon us. Will it yield the wild grapes of injustice, bloodshed, and pollution? Or will the vines break out into a rich, sweet harvest of grapes for the wine of life? We all play a part in the outcome.



In Jesus' parable, the vineyard owner stands for *God*; the vineyard, *Israel*; the tenants, *Israel's leaders*; the servants, *the prophets*; the son, *Jesus*. The parable illustrates both God's patience and God's justice. God dealt patiently with Israel's leaders. But when they refused to respond, God passed judgment on them.

### For reflection . . .

*In what area of my life, especially, has God dealt very patiently with me.*

ALL OF US MUST APPEAR BEFORE CHRIST,  
TO BE JUDGED BY HIM. EACH ONE WILL  
RECEIVE WHAT HE DESERVES.

2 CORINTHIANS 5:10

FROM *VISION* BY MARK LINK, SJ

### Open My Heart to Your Compassion

Help me,  
O God to direct my  
life out of the Gospel,  
the Good News. When I am  
anxious, let me find comfort in  
prayer. When I am filled with chaos,  
grant me the peace that surpasses all  
understanding. When prejudice stiffens  
me with judging fear, open my heart to  
your compassion. Guard my heart and  
mind that I may overflow with life for  
the good of all peoples. Draw me to  
you through the wonders of creation  
and the goodness found in the  
human family. Teach me how to  
stand for your reign and bring  
it into full fruition.  
Amen.

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

Keep your voice from weeping,  
and your eyes from tears; for  
there is a reward for your work,  
says the LORD . . . there is hope  
for your future . . .

Jeremiah 31:16-17

## SUGGESTIONS

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

**In the home.** Take a concrete step this week to reduce your waste of water, as a reminder of those who do not have clean drinking water

**In the workplace or in school.** Collect unused cell phones to donate to an organization that reprograms them for emergency use, such as at a women's shelter.

**In the community.** Gather with neighbors to clean up a nearby park, stream, or natural habitat and together appreciate the beauty of the natural world.

## Profile in Faith

### Rachel's Vineyard

The Book of Jeremiah speaks of Rachel, who mourns her children who are no more. Inspired by this passage, Rachel's Vineyard was developed. Theresa Karminsky Burke, Ph.D., developed a unique support group model for counselors, offering a concrete emotional experience for women grieving the loss of their aborted children.

NIHIL OBSTAT  
Rev. Msgr. Robert M. Coerver, Censor Librorum  
IMPRIMATUR  
† Most Reverend Kevin J. Farrell, DD, Bishop of Dallas  
August 22, 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: Carol A. Gura

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Front: iStockphoto

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*OCTOBER 2, 2011*

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**TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**SATURDAY**

4:30pm **Mass: Frank and Antonette Cybulski,**  
requested by Helen Jakielo

**SUNDAY**

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

10:30am **Mass: Mary Piazza,** requested by Lise P.  
Casella

1:00pm **Blessing of Animals**

**MONDAY**

*No Mass*

**TUESDAY**

FRANCIS OF ASSISI, RELIGIOUS

**9:00am Mass: Sean O'Donnell,** requested by Father Stan

**WEDNESDAY**

9:00am **Mass: For an End to Abortion and Capital  
Punishment**

**THURSDAY**

BRUNO, PRIEST & MARIE-ROSE DUROCHER, VIRGIN

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

7:00pm **Mass: For All Seminarians, and For All Religious  
Priests, Brothers and Sisters**

7:30pm **Intercessory Prayer**

**FRIDAY**

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

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

**TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**SATURDAY**

4:30pm **Mass: Millie Mae Poinatale,** requested by the  
Sacred Heart Parish Family

**SUNDAY**

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

10:30am **Mass: Virginia Latulippe,** requested by the  
Family

**Meetings**

**SATURDAY**

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

**SUNDAY**

**Fellowship before and after Mass**

9:10-10:25am **Faith Formation,** Gr. K-5

6:15-7:30pm **Faith Formation,** Gr. 6-8

6:15-8:45pm Conf. Prep. & Youth Group

**MONDAY**

OFFICES CLOSED  
7:00pm **Haiti Committee,** Deacon Chuck White Memorial  
Haiti Ministry Room

**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**

**Fellowship before and after Mass**

**NO Faith Formation,** Gr. K-Youth Group

## **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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