

# The Church of the Incarnation

544 Prospect Street  
Wethersfield, CT 06109



Rev. James M. Moran  
Pastor

Mrs. Noranne Wamester  
Pastoral Associate

Mrs. Audrey Saharek  
Pastoral Assistant

Mrs. Teri Aiudi  
Rectory Office Assistant  
Faith Formation Secretary

Mrs. Gina Burby  
Middle School Coordinator

Mrs. Theodora Niver  
Director of Music

Robert & Diana Hamel  
Musicians

Vanessa Crowley  
Lorissa Heath  
Rosanne Sweeney  
Andrew Russo  
Heather Picard Bonney  
Cantors

Toni Munoz  
Sacristan

## Mass Schedule

Confessions on Saturdays from 3:45 - 4:30p.m.  
Vigil Mass: Saturday at 5:00p.m.  
Sunday Masses: 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 a.m.  
Daily Mass: (Mon. - Fri.) 9:00 a.m.  
Recitation of the Rosary before  
9:00 a.m. daily Mass

## Sacrament of Baptism

By previous appointment  
Sundays at 1:00 p.m. in the  
Baptistry of the Chapel

## Weddings

Please contact a priest 6-10 months prior.

## New Parishioners

The Church of the Incarnation welcomes new parishioners. Please fill out the large white index card (registration form) found at the main entrance, and place in the collection baskets.

## Rectory Hours

9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

**Rectory**  
860-529-2533

**Church Fax**  
860-721-6595

**Incarnation Church E-Mail Address**  
cincarnation@sbcglobal.net

**Office of Faith Formation**  
860-529-6765 gotellit@aol.com

**SATURDAY,  
JANUARY 10TH**

5:00pm- George & Sally  
D'Esopo

**SUNDAY,  
JANUARY 11TH**

8:00am- Sebastiano & Concetta Boscarino  
and Sally & Sonny Vaughn  
9:30am- Peter Gangloff  
11:00am- Raffaele Crocitti

**MONDAY, JANUARY 12TH**

9:00 am- Emilio & Teresa Mascaro

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 13TH**

9:00 am- Joanne & Fred Lepore

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14TH**

9:00am- Walter Easinsky

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 15TH**

9:00 am- Myles Connolly Sr.

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 16TH**

9:00 am- For all our parishioners

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 17TH**

5:00pm - Frank Mandile

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 18TH**

8:00 am- Domenico Anzellotti

9:30 am- Deceased members of the Krupa  
Family

11:00 am- Tiberio Pace

**The Sanctuary Candle**

will burn from 1/12/09-  
1/18/09 in memory of Pietro  
Cieri.

**The Blessed Virgin Mary**

**Candle** will burn from  
1/12/09-1/18/09 in memory of  
Sebastiano & Concetta Boscarino & Sally  
& Sonny Vaughn.



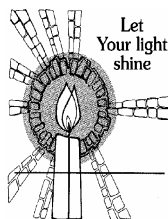
**The Second Collection this weekend is the Monthly Collection. Thank you.**

**The Women's Club Cooking team will meet this Monday, January 12th from 1-3pm in the kitchen of Fr. Crawford Hall. If you would like to help please contact team leader Betty Hebler at 721-0104 for instructions.**

**The Employment Support Group has a number of individuals searching for employment. If you know of any job opportunities, please call Ken Mendoza at 665-1515 or Betty Hebler at 721-0104. The next Employment Support Group meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 13th at 9:30am in Fr. Crawford Hall.**

**The Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet this Wednesday, January 14th from 9:30-10:30am in Fr. Crawford Hall.**

**In this difficult economy, Catholic High Schools remain a sound financial investment. 100% of Catholic High School students graduate, and 100% go on to pursue higher education. These young people will provide the foundation for the Church in years to come. A contribution to the future of our Church. Please be generous to our second collection next weekend which will be the Diocesan High Schools collection. Thank you.**





**We received some lovely thank you notes from Birthright of Newington and from the Sisters at the House of Bread thanking our parishioners for their constant generosity.** Fr. Moran would like to thank all parishioners for all of the support that is given to these most worthy charities.

**A heartfelt thank you goes out to all the families of the CCD Parish Family Home Classes of Mrs. Cravero, Mrs. Kieselback, Mrs. Marinelli, and Mrs. DiFiore for their generous contributions of holiday sweet breads and treat bags for the children of Kids' Café in Hartford.** More than 200 sweet breads and fun-filled treat bags were delivered to Sister Kris on December 23rd. Kids' Café feeds approximately 300 after-school children everyday in 3 locations in Hartford. If not for Kids' Café and the efforts of Sister Kris and her team, many of these children would go home without an evening meal each night. The breads and bags are an added treat during the Christmas season and something the children look forward to each year. It has become a wonderful holiday tradition for our parish and a simple way to share with our less fortunate brothers and sisters. God Bless You and Happy New Year to all!!

## Religious Education

**Grades K-6 will meet at Emerson-Williams on Saturday at 9:00am.**

**Children's Liturgy of the Word will be held this Sunday, January 11th at the 9:30 am Mass. Presiders are Julie Colangelo, Filomena Marinelli & Audrey Saharek. Our Host Families are the Dunn and Thompsen Families. Hope to see you there!!! We welcome children ages 4 to children in Grades K-6. Please pick up the CLW new schedule for this semester at all entrances.**

**The Grade 3 and Grade 5 retreats have been postponed until March. The information can be found in the January Family Newsletter at the entrances.**

**The Incarnation Parish Census is being completed. We thank you for sending in your census information. However, there are still many parishioners who have not yet responded.** Your attention to this matter would be greatly appreciated this coming week. The parish church office program is going to be a wonderful tool to assist the needs of our parishioners.

**“Because the assembly gathers in the presence of God to celebrate his saving deeds, liturgy’s climate is one of awe, mystery, wonder, reverence, thanksgiving and praise.”**  
 (Environment and Art in Catholic Worship, The Liturgy Documents, 1991)

We trust that the reverence, dignity and beauty of our Christmas floral decoration praised God and created an environment of prayer and as in all liturgical environment became a vehicle to meet the Lord and encounter one another. It is in this spirit that our Flower Ministers invite you to take home on Sunday, January 11th, immediately following the 11:00am Mass, and Monday, January 12th, after the 9am Mass, any of the poinsettias that decorated our sanctuary and church. It is our hope that these flowers which enhanced our Christmas liturgy celebration will now be a source of prayerful thanksgiving and praise of God for you and members of your household. We kindly ask that you take the potted plant but please leave the plastic tray. Thank you.

## **The Baptism of the Lord** **January 11, 2009**

All you who are thirsty, come to the water!

— *Isaiah 55:1*



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**A Family Perspective.....**What Our Heavenly Father said to Jesus in today’s gospel, “you are my beloved. My favor rests on you: is said to each of us. We don’t earn this love; it is give freely. The unconditional love we experience in our families is sacramental for it gives us a glimpse of God’s freely given, all accepting, love.

**Congratulations** to The Incarnation Junior Varsity Boys , The Varsity Girls and The Junior Varsity Girls who all won their basketball games this past weekend! Keep up the hard work!!

**Fourth & Fifth grade boys & girls interested in becoming Altar Servers at Incarnation** are invited to meet with Fr. Moran at 11am on Saturday, January 31st in the Church. The meeting will last one hour and will be the first of four consecutive sessions that will prepare those interested in serving at our Eucharistic celebrations.

**Recently there has been some damage to our church parking lot and railings.** We ask all to use extreme caution when driving on church property, especially when Masses and church activities are in progress.

**Thank you to all who have donated to the Annual Collection.** This collection is particularly important this year and all donations are appreciated. Envelopes are at all the exits and donations will be gratefully received throughout the year. We have collected over \$75,000 towards our goal of \$100,000.

**We are trying to close out our 2008 Mass Book.** If you have any Mass Offerings that you wish to make for 2008, please send them in a.s.a.p.

**If you are receiving church envelopes from our envelope company in Buffalo, New York and are not using them, please notify Audrey at the rectory.** Unused Church envelopes are an unnecessary expense for the Church. Thank you for your understanding!

**Stewardship Message.**....Our baptism, like the Lord's, is a consecration to service. The bishops pastoral on stewardship reminds us that "...there is a fundamental obligation arising from the Sacrament of Baptism that people place their gifts, their resources—their selves—at God's service in and through the Church."

## **TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION**

One of the most ancient and enduring sites for baptism in Rome is the church of San Giovanni in Fonte. This church is in fact a baptistery, and houses the font for the Lateran Basilica, the cathedral of Rome. The Emperor Constantine sponsored its construction in the year 315, and it is therefore the oldest baptistery in the world. It is the model for nearly all later baptisteries, including perhaps the font in your own parish church. In the fourth century, churches didn't contain baptismal fonts. Baptism was a once-a-year event, at Easter, and mostly for adults. Within a century, new practices soon masked the original purpose of Constantine, and later popes made additions, like a nave and altars, and even side chapels.

High above the place where the immersion baptism pool once stood, an inscription in mosaic tile is a lyrical expression of our baptismal tradition. It speaks of the font as the "womb of the church," and encourages the sinner not to be afraid of the water. "Though your sins be many and great, do not draw back afraid. Reborn from this stream, a Christian you shall be." The actual font is very old, but it is not the ancient flowing pool. As you often see in Italy, there are smaller pools carved into the marble railing of the font, just big enough to dip an infant. The present font has a carving of the baptism of Constantine, leading some to think that he was baptized here. That's not the case, since he waited until the last minute for a deathbed baptism, as people often did in the fourth century. It's not on the usual tourist path in Rome, but just a few steps from the Lateran Basilica is the best place in Rome to renew your baptismal vows and to marvel at the life-giving stream that has "washed the whole earth" over the centuries.



## THE WATERS OF BAPTISM

When new sod is put in, it needs constant saturation with water. Landscapers say that this “knits” the sod to the soil. The same when a branch is grafted onto a tree: the poultice that joins them at the splice must be kept wet at all times. Water is the stuff that binds the very cells of our bodies together. No wonder religions throughout all times and cultures have used it so prominently. When Jesus stepped into the Jordan for baptism, he “knit” himself to what had come before him. By going to the Jordan, he made himself one with the people of Israel who had crossed it into their Promised Land. With John the Baptist, Christ wove himself into the prophetic tradition that heralded the coming reign of God. He had become fully human in the waters of Mary’s womb, and by partaking in the rite of the baptism of repentance, Jesus identified himself with our sinful, frail humanity. It is through the waters of baptism that Christ continues to graft new members onto his Body, the Church; through these waters we are cleansed from sin and filled with the promise of grace, given our destiny for eternal life. For us, as for Jesus, it is also the waters of baptism that inaugurate our mission to proclaim the Good News.

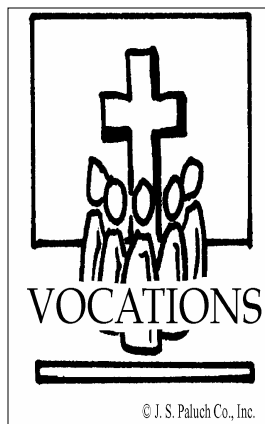
## TODAY’S READINGS

**First Reading** — Behold my servant with whom I am pleased; he shall bring forth justice to the nations (Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7) *or* Isaiah 55:1-11.

**Psalm** — The Lord will bless his people with peace (Psalm 29) *or* Isaiah 12:2-6.

**Second Reading** — God anointed him with the Holy Spirit; he went about doing good (Acts 10:34-38) *or* 1 John 5:1-9.

**Gospel** — You are my beloved Son, with you I am well pleased (Mark 1:7-11).



Are you being called to the Priesthood or Religious?

If you would like more information please call Fr. Michael Dolan at the Archdiocesan Vocation Office at St. Thomas Seminary, Bloomfield 286-7670 or on the web: [www.vocationshartford.org](http://www.vocationshartford.org).

## SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: The Baptism of the Lord;  
National Vocation Awareness Week  
Monday: First Week in Ordinary Time begins  
Tuesday: St. Hilary  
Saturday: St. Anthony

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Heb 1:1-6; Mk 1:14-20  
Tuesday: Heb 2:5-12; Mk 1:21-28  
Wednesday: Heb 2:14-18; Mk 1:29-39  
Thursday: Heb 3:7-14; Mk 1:40-45  
Friday: Heb 4:1-5, 11; Mk 2:1-12  
Saturday: Heb 4:12-16; Mk 2:13-17  
Sunday: 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19; Ps 40; 1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20; Jn 1:35-42



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