

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. Theodora Niver
Director of Music

Robert & Diana Hamel
Musicians

Vanessa Crowley
Lorissa Heath
Rosanne Sweeney Gowdy
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 and Faith Formation Registration

The Church of the Incarnation welcomes new parishioners. All forms are available at the main entrance of the church. Please mail or place in the collection basket.

You may also visit our website for printable forms at:
www.thechurchoftheincarnation.com

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

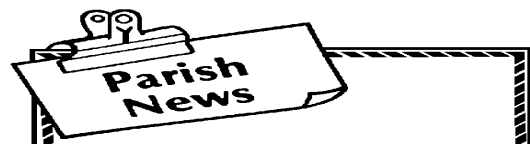
Office of Faith Formation
(860) 529-6765 gotellit@aol.com

Website address: www.thechurchoftheincarnation.com

**SATURDAY,
DECEMBER 8TH**
5pm-Frances D'Onofrio



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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9TH
8:00 am-Anthony DiCicco Sr.
9:30am-Richard Cornelio, Anton & Stefanie
Begusch & Jason DeLucco
11:00am—Stanley Malinowski & George,
Jerome & Stanley Czaja

MONDAY, DECEMBER 10TH
9:00am—Richard & Mary Collins

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11TH
9:00am—For all our parishioners

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12TH
9:00am—Maria Frederica & Vincenzo &
Loreto DiMattia

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13TH
9:00am—Pietro Cieri & Salvatore Santilli

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14TH
9:00am-Loretta & Dario DelMonaco

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15TH
5:00pm -John A. Vignone Sr. & John Pontillo

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16TH
8:00am-Rose Mangiafico
9:30 am-Frank & Tomasina Piscatello
11:00am—Marjorie Amodio

The Sanctuary Candle will burn
from 12/10/2012– 12/16/2012 in
memory of John J. Robinson &
Baby Sienna.



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**The Blessed Virgin Mary
Candle** will burn from 12/10/2012-
12/16/2012 in memory of Joseph A.
Salvatore.

The Second collection this weekend is the
monthly collection.

Prayer Shawl Ministry will
meet on Wednesday, Decem-
ber 12th from 9:30-10:30am
in Fr. Crawford Hall. Thank
you to all the women of the par-
ish who create such beautiful
and prayerful shawls! This min-
istry is dedicated to Our Lady
of Guadalupe.



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Prayer For Healing will gather on Thurs-
day, December 13th at 9:30am in Fr.
Crawford Hall. If you or someone you know
and love is in need of prayers please join us!

The second collection next weekend is the
Retired Fund for Religious collection.

**CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE
OF CONFESSIONS AND MASSES :**



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Confessions

Monday, December 24th
from 11-12 only.

**Monday, December 24th
Christmas Eve:**
Vigil Masses at
5pm and 12 midnight.

Tuesday, December 25th, Christmas Day:
Masses will be held at 9:00am and 11:00am.

Please note time change.
**The rectory will be closed on
Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.**



The Sacrament of Confirmation

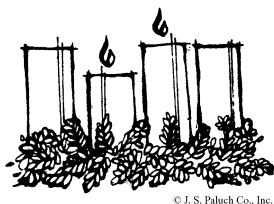
will be administered at The Church of the Incarnation this Sunday, Dec., 9th at 2pm with a Mass. Archbishop Henry J. Mansell will preside. As we await the coming of the Holy Spirit upon our young people, the Confirmation Class of 2012, let us unite our prayers with them and their families and pray that the gifts of the Spirit will be renewed in each of us. *Veni Creator Spiritus!* On behalf of the 2012 Confirmation Community we thank Fr. Moran, Noranne Wamester, Antoinette Munoz, the daily serving team & daily communicants for the beautiful meditations in song this past week, and parents, grandparents & sponsors. It was so moving & inspiring to witness all of the prayers!

Angel Tree: On behalf of the many recipients of the generous gifts of the Angel Tree, we say Thank You! We also thank The Carcia Family for bringing this ministry to our parish for the last 14 years during Advent. We are grateful to our Confirmation candidates 2013 for organizing the gifts!

Families in the Light...

Today is the Second Sunday of Advent...

Please let your light shine and sign-up to light the Advent wreath. What a wonderful way to prepare for the coming of the Christ Child. Poster in Narthex. When it is your turn to light the wreath, please tell the celebrant prior to mass that you will light it.



A Family Perspective....

Second Sunday of Advent -

Today's gospel shows John the Baptist and parents have similar vocations. Like the Baptist, parents are asked to make "rough ways smooth" and to "prepare the way of the Lord" for their families. This Advent ask: "Does my life hinder or help my family to know Jesus?"



YEAR OF FAITH 2012
2013

Children's Liturgy of the Word will be held next weekend at the 9:30am Mass. Please join us for fellowship after Mass in Fr. Crawford Hall.

Confirmation 2013 Candidate Mentor-Session will meet on Sunday, December 16th from 12:30-2pm in Fr. Crawford Hall.



The Lord is near

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A Weekly Bible Study

2nd Sunday of Advent Luke 3:1-6

Why all the names?

Luke sets a very political stage in verses 1 and 2: emperors, governors, local rulers. Even the “high priesthood” gets into this line of power brokers! Authority, domination and might usher in the opening scene. Could this be a deliberate act on the part of Luke to provide a striking contrast to what will follow? In the starkness of the wilderness a word will come forth to silence the raging powers. Is this not the Word that will bring forth a mightier kingdom? Is this not the “all-powerful Word that leaps down in the stillness of the night” as the author of Wisdom tells us? Such a contrast to the mighty earthly kingdom and its mighty earthly rulers!

Ponder this amazing scene: a humble, gentle Word (the Incarnate Christ) will break through to bring forth a new age and a new kingdom. It will be a kingdom not of domination and injustice, but one of salvation when all things will be made new.

John the Baptist is the “voice of one crying in the wilderness.” He is the precursor of the Word who will be made flesh. The Baptist has been preparing for this moment throughout his life of prayer and fasting. Tradition holds that John may have been a member of one of the “wilderness communities” before the time of Christ. He certainly would have spent much of his time in prayerful reflection. His very quoting of Isaiah is testimony to John’s knowledge of Scripture. But there is a “baptism of repentance” that must occur first. Unlike our Christian Baptism with its remission of original sin, John’s baptism was a symbolic act of renewal for those who wished to turn to God.

As we continue to ponder this passage throughout the week, we pray...

May the Word who is Christ enter our hearts in quiet and gentle ways

May the Holy Spirit help us to appreciate more fully the gift of salvation

May we celebrate our own “baptism of repentance” by turning (or returning) to God during this season. May all our thoughts, words and actions help to prepare the way of the Lord.

Every time we open the Bible our hearts should tremble.

50th Anniversary of the Founding of our Parish, The Church of the Incarnation, 1963-2013:

Committee work and the planning of events is in place to celebrate our 50th Jubilee Year. In addition to our collection of photographs, relative to church history and events, the Commemorative Book Committee would be pleased to receive any photos that our parishioners may have to add to our collection for publication. If you wish to share your photos, please write your name, address, and phone number on the back of each photograph so they may be returned to you. You may leave your envelope of photographs in the sacristy for Toni Munoz, Coordinator of the Jubilee Celebration. Thank you.

All people shall see



the salvation of God

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In your packet of December collection envelopes you will find an envelope to provide Christmas flowers in memory of loved ones. Kindly return it before Christmas.

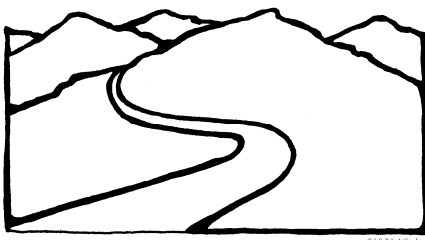
Thank you for your response to our Annual Collection. We have collected \$89,071 so far and are very grateful. Goal \$100,000. There are extra envelopes/letters at the entrances. Donations are still gratefully accepted.

Thank you to the Men's Association for sponsoring their 7th Annual Children's Christmas Party. It is always so well done and the children love seeing Santa!

Thank you to the Women's Club for organizing their Christmas Party. It is always lovely!

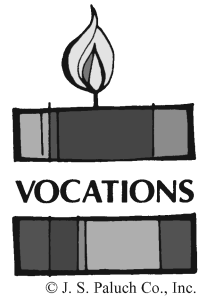
**Second Sunday of Advent
December 9, 2012**

God has commanded
that every lofty mountain be made low.
— *Baruch 5:7*



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John the Baptizer made ready the way of the Lord. Who will make ready the way today? If you are being called to make ready the way as a priest or religious, call Fr. Michael Dolan, Director of Vocations, Archdiocesan Center at St. Thomas Seminary, (860) 761-7456 or e-mail at: vocations@stseminary.org. Let us pray for an increase to the vocation of priesthood and for the priests who serve us.



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Defending Our Religious Liberty: We must continue to fight for Freedom of Religion, as guaranteed in the First Amendment of the U. S. Constitution. There has been no other time in our history, when the government has forced people to choose between violating Church teaching and breaking the law. We should not be forced to choose! If you haven't expressed your opposition to the Federal Healthcare Mandate, please contact the White House at: www.whitehouse.gov/contact or call (222) 456-1111. Thank you.

SAVE THE DATE: The Incarnation Parish Men's Retreat at Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center in West Hartford will be held February 15, 16 & 17, 2013. More info. to follow.



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AWAITING THE SALVATION OF GOD

The world does not seem big enough to contain the jubilation of the first reading. In the Gospel reading, the Roman empire isn't big enough, either. The great powers of Rome are named and made to stand waiting for the arrival of God's salvation. And we find Paul meditating joyfully on what really matters.

According to Baruch, the city of Jerusalem is like a person standing on tiptoe looking for God's salvation, which is coming from the east. Those who were led away on foot, heads down, now come back, a proud people. Why, the very way is smoothed out. The path is lined with fragrant, lush trees.

It can't get any better than this, can it? Well, yes, it can. For a voice calls out in the desert. Here is the beginning of the salvation of God.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Take off your robe of mourning and misery; put on the splendor of glory from God (Baruch 5:1-9).

Psalm — The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy (Psalm 126).

Second Reading — I am confident that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Christ Jesus (Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11).

Gospel — The winding roads shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth (Luke 3:1-6).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9-14; Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday: Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-3, 10ac, 11-13; Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Jdt 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Thursday: Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1, 9-13ab; Mt 11:11-15

Friday: Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19

Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80: 2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a; Is 12:2-6; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday:	Second Sunday of Advent;
Monday:	International Human Rights Day
Tuesday:	St. Damasus I
Wednesday:	Our Lady of Guadalupe
Thursday:	St. Lucy
Friday:	St. John of the Cross

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Look around most Catholic churches, and you will discover an image of John the Baptist, often in the old baptistery, or in a window near where the font is or was located. He has two feast days in the calendar: one commemorating his birth, and the other his death. There are only three nativities in our calendar: for Jesus, for Mary, and for the Baptist. John's birthday is reckoned according to the schedule given in Luke's Gospel of the angel's announcement to Mary. The angel tells her that her cousin Elizabeth is in the sixth month of pregnancy, and so Mary hastens to help her. Reckoning Christmas as December 25, we count backwards nine months to March 25 for the Feast of the Annunciation. Then we count forward three months to June 24 for John the Baptist's birth. Halfway to Christmas, his nativity gives ample reason for rejoicing in the summer, and his symbols of fire and water are used playfully in bonfires and dives into the sea. Even at the polar opposite of Christmas in the calendar, the energy of Christ's birth in the Incarnation provides cause for rejoicing.



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