

The Church of the Incarnation

544 Prospect Street
Wethersfield, CT 06109



Rev. James M. Moran
Pastor

Mrs. Noranne Wamester
Pastoral Associate

Mrs. Maggie Seaver
**Coordinator of Middle School Faith Formation
Youth Minister**

Mrs. Audrey Saharek
Pastoral Assistant

Mrs. Teri Aiudi
**Rectory Office Assistant
Faith Formation Secretary**

Mrs. Theodora Niver
Director of Music

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

Toni Munoz
Sacristan

Marguerite Heinimann
Rectory Assistant

Mass Schedule

Confessions on Saturdays from 3:45 - 4:30p.m.
Vigil Mass: Saturday at 5:00p.m.
Sunday Masses: 8:30 & 10:30 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 12:30 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

Fax
(860) 721-6595

Church E-Mail
cincarnation@sbcglobal.net

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

Website address:
www.thechurchoftheincarnation.com

SAT., DECEMBER 27TH

5pm - Tommaso Maccarone

SUNDAY, DEC., 28TH8:30am—George, Stanley &
Jerome Czaja

10:30am—Anthony Melillo

MONDAY, DECEMBER 29TH9:00am—Sarah Ann Marie Privitera, Myles
Connolly Sr., Mark Rioux & Nicholas
Damato**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30TH**

9:00am— David Dolge

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31ST9:00am—Deceased members of the
Women's Club & Men's Association**NEW YEAR'S EVE - VIGIL MASS**

5:30pm— Paul Montinieri Sr.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 1ST - 2015**NEW YEAR'S DAY MASSES**

9:00am— For all our parishioners

11:00am— For all our parishioners

FRIDAY, JANUARY 2ND

9:00am—Nicholas & Helen Rago

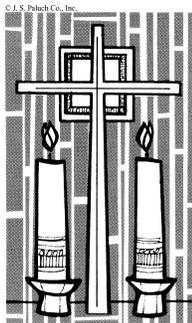
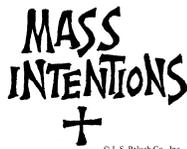
SATURDAY, JANUARY 3RD5:00pm— Nicholas & Mary Champ & the
Deceased members of the Champ &
Fanelli Families**SUNDAY, JAN. 4TH**

8:30am— Desneige Lamore

10:30am—Frances Satriano

The Sanctuary Candle will
burn from 12/29/2014—
1/4/2015 in memory of Lillian
Gogulski.

**The Blessed Virgin Mary
Candle** will burn from
12/29/2014-1/4/2015 in
memory of John Robinson &
Baby Siena.



Thank you for your Annual Collection donations! This is a special appeal we make each year to our parishioners for our own parish. Numerous repairs & improvements anticipated in the near future necessitate rebuilding our contingency fund. Our annual collection enables us to do this. Goal is \$100,000. We have collected \$98,220.

Thank you to all who donated to the Retired Religious collection. Your gift benefits 35,000 senior sisters, brothers & religious order priests. May God bless you for your generosity.

There will be a "Project Baby Love" collection next weekend. Disposable diapers & wipes are requested. Thank you to all those who have donated throughout the year! We collect these items on behalf of St. Gerard's Center For Life. This loving ministry distributes these items to new mothers who choose life for their babies! We pray for the continued support of this most needy cause.

Mass Schedule for
The New Year:

Thursday, January 1, 2015 is
The Solemnity of Mary the
Holy Mother of God,
A Holy Day of Obligation...

There will be a 5:30 pm Vigil Mass on
Wednesday, December 31, 2014.

Masses on Thursday, January 1, 2015
will be at 9:00am & 11am.

Friday is the First Friday in January.
Mass will be held at 9am on Friday.

Vocations Holy Hour will be held on
Friday from 9:30-10:30 am in the
Blessed Sacrament Chapel.

Join us to pray for Vocations!

The rectory will be closed on New
Year's Day. Emergency calls only
please.

Wishing everyone a
Happy, Holy & Healthy New
Year!!



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CHILDREN OF ETERNITY

You are children of eternity. Your
immortal crown awaits you, to reward
your duty and love. You may indeed
sow here in tears, but you may be sure
there to reap in joy.

—St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

TIME

Do not squander time, for that is the
stuff life is made of.

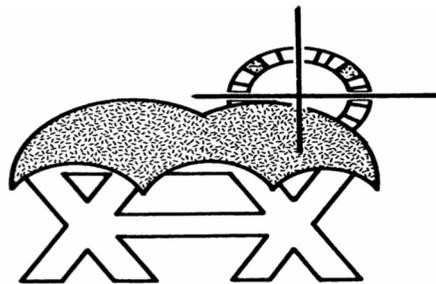
—Benjamin Franklin

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary,
and Joseph.....

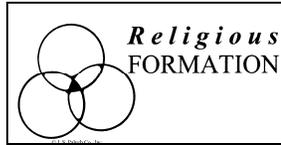
December 28, 2014

My eyes have seen your salvation,
which you have prepared
in the sight of all the peoples.

Luke 2:30-31



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Angel Tree: Thank you to all who donated to help the less fortunate. We thank the Carcia Family and our 2015 Confirmation Candidates for their wonderful help with this giving ministry.



All Faith Formation communities are in recess for the Christmas vacation.

The next Children's Liturgy of the Word will be held on Saturday, January 3rd the 5pm Mass.

Parent Meeting for those who are preparing their children for First Reconciliation on Monday, January 19th from 6:30pm—7:30pm in Fr. Crawford Hall.

SNOW CANCELLATIONS: will be announced on WFSB, WVIT & WTIC and also via our website. Please do not call the rectory regarding class cancellations

We will begin accepting the 2016 Masses, Sanctuary & Blessed Virgin Mary Candles on Monday, January 5, 2015 at 10am and not prior to that date. Please keep in mind that our parish has a large number of parishioners who remember their loved ones with Memorial Masses and we request that you limit your Masses to two per household. **Thanks for understanding....Fr. Moran.** We still have a few 2015 candles.

If you are leaving Wethersfield for the winter, please notify the rectory so that we can place your envelopes on inactive. When you return, kindly call and we will re-activate them. Thank you.

The Archdiocese of Hartford is searching for highly qualified candidates for leadership positions in our Catholic Elementary Schools. Successful candidates will possess the following qualifications: Practicing Catholic in good standing with the Roman Catholic Church, Masters Degree from a regionally accredited college or university, five years of successful teaching and/or administrative experience. Please call Deputy Superintendent Mrs. Maria Maynard at (860) 242-5573 for information.

A Weekly Bible Study



Feast of the Holy Family Luke 2:22-40

Parents and grandparents often gaze into the fresh face of their newborn and imagine the greatness to which the child will aspire. Welcoming a new child is not only a time of great joy, but one of hope and expectation.

In today's Gospel we encounter an elderly pair that espouses the hopes and expectations of Israel. Described as righteous and devout, Simeon and Anna have spent their lifetimes "awaiting the consolation of Israel." They are now assured of their hopes' fulfillment as they behold the child Jesus presented this day in the temple. Why are they so sure that they are in the presence of the Messiah, the long-awaited Savior?

Scripture tells us that Simeon and Anna are led by God's Spirit in whose Word is assurance of the revelation they are awaiting. Devout in their faith they have recognized repeatedly God's intervention throughout their spiritual history and once again anticipate a profound revelation.

It is more than just their advanced years and patient waiting that enable Simeon and Anna to recognize the Messiah. It is their contemplative listening, their living and praying in the Spirit, and their fidelity to God that lead them to see in this child the fulfillment of God's promise to Israel. These faith-filled individuals are not simply in the right place at the right time, welcoming the Holy Family into the temple. Their hearts are in the right place *spiritually* to recognize the presence of God.

As we join with Simeon in his twilight canticle, the evening prayer of the Church, can we acknowledge that we have *today* witnessed salvation? Are we in that right place spiritually to recognize God's presence within us and around us? As we gather to celebrate the Paschal Mystery in God's holy temple, our Church, have we beheld this day, in the face of the Holy Child, the hope and expectation of our God's gift of eternal salvation.



WE ARE GOD'S HOLY FAMILY

The scriptures of Israel are filled with many stories of barren couples who were miraculously granted the gift of children by God. Surely the best known among these is the first reading from today, from which Luke took inspiration when he recounted the miraculous birth of John the Baptist to Zechariah and Elizabeth, and the more miraculous birth of Jesus to Mary and Joseph. In each instance, we are given examples or role models of those who trusted in God. More than examples of those who trust, they are models of self-surrender. They abandoned their own presuppositions and prejudices about the workings of the world and turned their lives over to belief in a God who can make life grow where none ought to; a God who can turn death around into a new and unimagined life; a God who can, today, take a tiny child of humble parents in an insignificant town and make him into a light for all the world. This is what we, as God's holy family, are called to do each day: to trust not in ourselves and the way we think things should be, but to open ourselves and surrender ourselves in faith to a God of endless promise.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Those who honor their parents will be greatly blessed and will atone for sins (Sirach 3:2-6,12-14) or *Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3*.

Psalm — Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways (Psalm 128) or *Psalm 105*.

Second Reading — Be thankful; do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus (Colossians 3:12-21 [12-17]) or *Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19*.

Gospel — The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom (Luke 2:22-40- 22, 39-40).

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

In the last century, a few new feasts were blended into the Church year, including today's. After World War I, the chaos of daily life in Europe made its impact felt on the family structure. Partly to offer Christians an image of hope and holiness in married family life, and also to promote the welfare of children, today's feast was "invented" in 1921. In 1969, it became a feast of Christmas.

The prayers today remind us not only of family life, but of life in the community of faith. We ponder the mystery of a God who loves us dearly enough to embrace the struggles, joys, and daily sorrows of family life. The message of Christmas shines through: God-with-us is available to us in the ordinary patterns of our lives and commitments. The lives of people who raise their children in difficult circumstances, and of people who remain faithful to life in the Church in spite of some of their own family struggles, occupy a special place in our hearts today in prayer.



***Incarnation Women's Club
Celebrating 50 Years
1964 – 2014***

The Women's Club 50th Anniversary book of history and highlights of the *Spiritual, Social and Charitable* projects accomplished throughout the years will be available for purchase at the Women's Club general meetings. Please call Paula Melillo at (860) 563-9506 for more info. The cost of this commemorative book is \$5.00.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22-35

Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-10; Lk 2:36-40

Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-13; Jn 1:1-18

Thursday: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

Friday: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28

Saturday: 1 Jn 2:29 — 3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-6; Jn 1:29-34

Sunday: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

Your family may not be the Holy Family, but you still belong to a Holy Family. Share an expression of gratitude for the gift of your family today,

*Pray for Holiness and Wholeness for all members of the family of God. If a member of your family is considering the call to priesthood or religious life, call Fr. Anthony Smith, **Director of Vocations, Archdiocesan Center at St. Thomas Seminary,** (860) 761-7456 or e-mail him at: vocations@stseminary.org or visit the web at www.vocationshartford.org.*

Please join us each first Friday of the month in our Blessed Sacrament Chapel at 9:30am for our Vocations Holy Hour.

Thank you to all who donated to the Christmas flower collection.

SAVE THE DATE: The men's retreat for all men of the parish will be FEB 20 - 22, 2015 at the Holy Family Retreat Center in West Hartford. This year's theme will be KNOW GREATER JOY. Visit their web site at; www.holyfamilyretreat.org to register.



Thank you to the Men's Association for sponsoring Incarnation's 13th Annual Children's Christmas Party! A special thanks to Santa Claus and his Elf!! It was a pleasure to see all of the children and their smiling faces as Santa appeared from the North Pole! **The pictures with Santa continue to be available in the Narthex (main entrance of the church) for pick up.**

Thank you to the Women's Club for planning the Women's Club Christmas Party. It was enjoyed by all.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

Monday: Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord; St. Thomas Becket

Tuesday: Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

Wednesday: Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord; St. Sylvester I; New Year's Eve

Thursday: The Octave of the Nativity of the Lord; Mary, the Holy Mother of God; World Day of Prayer for Peace; New Year's Day

Friday: Ss. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen; First Friday

Saturday: The Most Holy Name of Jesus

BEAUTIFUL FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS — SAVE the DATE: Sat., May 2, 2015 - Nationally-recognized master floral designer Ruth Loiseau will arrange seven stunning pieces as she shares her experiences as a White House special events florist during the presidencies of Ronald Reagan through Barack Obama. You won't want to miss this special event and fund raiser sponsored by the Incarnation Women's Club to be held in Fr. Crawford Hall. Tell your friends and block your calendars while we finalize the details. More information will follow over the next several months."