

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

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
Gianna Bielenda
Cantors

Marguerite Heinimann
Rectory Assistant

Toni Munoz
Sacristan

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

Mass Schedule

SATURDAY, JANUARY 7TH

5:00pm— Maryann Walmsley and
Lorraine Walmsley

SUNDAY JANUARY 8TH

8:30am— Wladyslawa & Edward Skrzyniarz
10:30am—Deceased members of the
Brassard, White and Joyce Families

MONDAY, JANUARY 9TH

9:00am— Sal & Dolores Brunetti

TUESDAY, JANUARY 10TH

9:00am— Joel Ayotte

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11TH

9:00am—Mary Mudano, Anne Renza &
Lillian Vasquez

THURSDAY, JANUARY 12TH

9:00am—For all our parishioners

FRIDAY, JANUARY 13TH

9:00am— Fred & Joanne Lepore

SATURDAY, JANUARY 14TH

5:00pm—George & Sally D'Esopo

SUNDAY, JANUARY 15TH

8:30am— Tiberio Pace

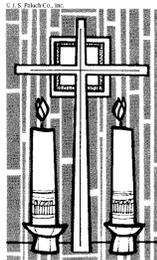
10:30am— Rose Airo Mangiafico

The Sanctuary Candle

will burn from 1/9/2017–
1/15/2017 in memory of
Flora Salvatore.

The Blessed Virgin Mary

Candle will burn from
1//2017-1/15/2017 in
memory of Rose Airo Mangiafico.



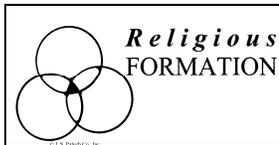
The second collection this weekend is the monthly collection.

There is a “Project Baby Love” collection this wknd., January 7th & 8th. Disposable diapers & wipes are needed. We continue to pray for all unborn children throughout the world. Our collections benefit St. Gerard’s Center for Life a Catholic Crisis Pregnancy Center. Thank you to all who so kindly donate to this most worthy cause!

The Women’s Club Cooking Team will cook this Monday, January 9th from 1-3pm in the kitchen of Fr. Crawford Hall.

There will be a Men’s Association meeting this Wednesday, January 11th at 7pm in Fr. Crawford Hall.

There will be no January or February Prayer Shawl Meeting. Thank you! If you know of a parishioner who was recently in the hospital or is grieving the loss of a loved one and would benefit from a prayer shawl please call Audrey at the rectory (860) 529-2533. We offer heartfelt thanks to all members of this wonderful ministry!



Children's Liturgy of the Word:

We will begin our 2017 Winter/Spring session this Sunday, January 8th at the 10:30am mass. We welcome presiders: Maura Buyak & Kathy Stickley and Catechists; Lynn Odell, Julia Hughes and Morgan Pacheco. Please join us for refreshments in Fr. Crawford Hall after Mass. Thank you to the Paruta Family for hosting!

Youth Ministry will gather on Monday Jan. 9th from 6:30-8pm. Please note that this is a Monday night. All high schoolers are welcome to this night of looking ahead into 2017, and taking small steps to make it a year in which we recognize our blessings from God. Any college students are also most welcome to come. Join us for fun, prayer, music, food and sharing! We will meet in the Chapel.

There will be a parent meeting for all parents of children preparing for the Sacrament of Holy Communion on Monday, January 9, 2017 from 6:30-7:30pm, Father Crawford Hall.

Emerson-Williams Faith Formation Grades K-6 Sat., January 14th at 9am—10:15am.

Gr. 8: Faith Formation will be on Tues., January 17th & **Gr. 7: will be held** on Wed., January 18th—6:30-8pm, Fr. Crawford Hall.

Parish Family Home communities will meet at designated times.

Confirmation Retreat: There will be a retreat for all of our young women receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation in 2017 on Sunday, January 22nd from 12:30-3pm in Fr. Crawford Hall.

Our Lady of Calvary Retreat Center is located in Farmington, Ct. It is a beautiful space for women to come and spend a weekend retreat or to come to partake in the many wonderful daily and evening programs that the Retreat Center offers. The weekend retreat theme is "Embracing Joy; Learning to Bear the Beams of Love." Women of the parish, please go to their website at www.olcretreat@sbcglobal.net and discover the beauty of this treasure and also discover the wonderful programs offered.

Northwest Catholic High School Entrance Exam to 8th & 9th graders will be on January 23rd at 8:30am. Call (860) 236-4221, Ext. 140 for info.



A Weekly Bible Study

The Epiphany of the Lord Isaiah 60:1-6

We are the exiled people rising up in splendor in today's first reading. Joy is renewed in us as Emmanuel, God-with-us, has visited his people. The darkness of our sin and division has faded away. The Lord has been re-born in our hearts and His glory shines upon us. We bask in a kind of "afterglow" of the Christmas experience. And Isaiah paints an illuminating and glorious picture.

But is this enough? The real question is: are we a *radiant* people? The very word "radiance" suggests more than reflected light. We often speak of a radiant bride, one whose love is captured in the very words of Isaiah as he describes the heart that throbs and overflows. We also speak of the radiant woman with child whose new life pulsates within her. This unborn life gives new meaning to the woman's existence and fills her with hope and promise. As people who celebrate Christmas our hearts should overflow with the joy of love and life reborn.

When Isaiah proclaims that "nations shall walk by your light," to whom is he referring? A cursory read might point us to Christ, light of the world, one of the beautiful images of the Christmas season. But it is to Jerusalem that the prophet speaks. And we, as church, are that very Jerusalem.

If nations and neighborhoods are to walk by *our* light, what kind of radiance do they see? Do others see deep joy in our countenance? Do others experience the very hope and promise our faith embodies? Our radiance must come from within, from loving hearts and joy-filled spirits. Our radiance must be powered by that very Source of incarnational love and life.

Epiphany. Christ is made manifest to the nations. We carry that manifestation within our hearts. This is our radiance, one that will enable others to walk not only by the light of Christ, but by our light as well.

The magi brought gold, frankincense and myrrh. What treasures do I have to give to the Lord? Is he calling me to be a priest, brother or sister? To explore please call Fr. Jeffrey Gubbiotti, Director of Vocations, Archdiocesan Center at St. Thomas Seminary, Tel. (860) 242-5573, or contact him via email at:

vocations@aohct.org or visit the web at www.vocationshartford.org.

Join us at The Church of the Incarnation the First Friday of the month at 9:30am, Blessed Sacrament Chapel, for Vocations Holy Hour.



PRAYER FOR PEACE:

Join us at Incarnation Church 30 minutes prior to 9am Daily Mass to pray for peace in the troubled areas of our world.

SAVE THE DATE: The men's retreat for all men of the parish will be FEB 24 - 26, 2017 at the Holy Family Retreat Center in West Hartford. This year's theme is: **The Light of Simplicity.** Visit their website at www.holyfamilyretreat.org.

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.

Join The Wethersfield Knights of Columbus for Dinner at Bertucci's restaurant on the Berlin Turnpike in Newington. Pick up a Flyer & Coupon at the exits of the Church to enjoy a good family meal and help raise money for the Knights of Columbus's local charities. This is an on going event on the last Tuesday of each month.

Thank you for your Annual Collection donations! Due to the generosity of so many parishioners, we have exceeded our goal! Any donations will continue to be graciously accepted.

Wethersfield UNICO

Macaroni Dinner

Save the Date: Wethersfield UNICO's 38th Annual World Famous Macaroni Dinner will be held on Sunday, February 12th at the Wethersfield Community Center, Greenfield Street. More information will follow. Please come and join UNICO, your family and friends for a delicious dinner of pasta with home made sauce and meatballs, garlic bread, and more. This is UNICO's primary fundraiser for all the charitable activities that we do year round, including our College Scholarships for residents of Wethersfield and Rocky Hill. For more information about our scholarship program and an application please visit our web site at www.WethersfieldUnico.org

**The Epiphany of the Lord
January 8, 2017**

They opened their treasures
and offered him gifts
of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

• *Matthew 2:11b*

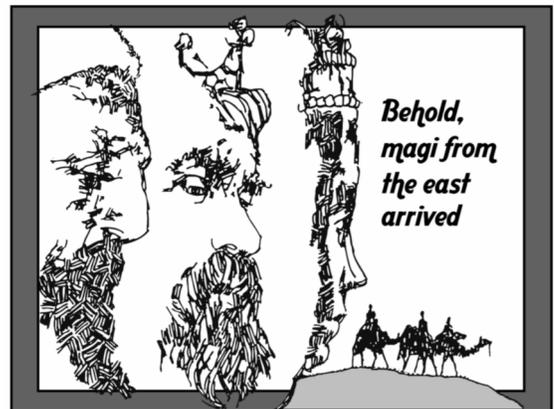


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**Baptism
of the Lord**

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

A big thank you to all parishioners who donate throughout the year to all of our collections for the needy. Your donations help to make the lives of those who are less fortunate much better!!

THE STAR OF BETHLEHEM

The unfolding of the story of the Incarnation continues today as the Church celebrates the Epiphany. The tale of the magi from the East is one of the most fascinating in all of scripture. It has much to teach us about what we can come to expect, even in circumstances and places that may seem insignificant or small. Bethlehem was a tiny town, what we might refer to today as a town without even one stop light. Yet it is over this seemingly insignificant place that the guiding star stops in its own search for the place where the Savior would be born. Too often we fail to recognize the fact that the star of Bethlehem comes to rest in our everyday lives, where we can experience God's presence, manifested in ever new ways. Epiphany calls us to shake off our stupor and recognize the One who comes to save us.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! The Lord shines upon you and the glory of the Lord appears over you (Isaiah 60:1-6).

Psalms — Lord, every nation on earth will adore you (Psalm 72).

Second Reading — The Gentiles are coheirs, co-partners in the promise in Christ Jesus (Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6).

Gospel — Magi from the east arrive looking for the newborn king of the Jews (Matthew 2:1-12).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Acts 10:34-38; Ps 29:1-4, 3, 9-10; Mt 3:13-17

Tuesday: Heb 2:5-12; Ps 8:2ab, 5, 6-9; Mk 1:21-28 *or* Heb 1:1-6 and 2:5-12; Ps 8:2ab, 5, 6-9; Mk 1:14-20 and 1:21-28

Wednesday: Heb 2:14-18; Ps 105:1-4, 6-9; Mk 1:29-39

Thursday: Heb 3:7-14; Ps 95:6-11; Mk 1:40-45

Friday: Heb 4:1-5, 11; Ps 78:3, 4bc, 6c-8; Mk 2:1-12

Saturday: Heb 4:12-16; Ps 19:8-10, 15; Mk 2:13-17

Sunday: Is 49:3, 5-6; Ps 40:2, 4, 7-10; 1 Cor 1:1-3; Jn 1:29-34

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: The Epiphany of the Lord;
National Migration Week
Monday: The Baptism of the Lord
Tuesday: First Week in Ordinary Time begins
Friday: St. Hilary
Saturday: Blessed Virgin Mary

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

This year, in the United States the celebration of the Epiphany falls on January 8, but the traditional date for the Epiphany is January 6. The date we know as January 6 was established as the solstice in Egypt in 1996 BC, but the Egyptian calendar lost a full day every 128 years. Twenty centuries later the actual solstice had migrated to December 25. People still kept January 6 for the solstice celebration, but December 25, matching nicely with the Roman pagan feast of the Unconquered Sun, launched an extended solstice holiday. By the time of the early church, the whole period of twelve days was celebrated just about everywhere.

Christians began to celebrate Christ as the true light of the world in four themes: the Nativity, the manifestation to the Gentiles, the baptism of the Lord, and the wedding feast at Cana. That was entirely too much for one day to handle. A twelve-day season was ready to be adapted, so Christians borrowed from the pagan calendar for their own season of light. Thus early Christian celebrations of the Christmas season extended from one date for the solstice, December 25, to the older date, January 6. The darkest time in the Northern Hemisphere could now be filled with the Christian observance of the arrival of the Light of the World.

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

EPIPHANY

Solemn things of mystic meaning:

Incense doth the God disclose;

Gold a royal Child proclaimeth;

Myrrh a future tomb foreshows.

—Roman Breviary, Epiphany; Prudentius, fourth century

TRUE HAPPINESS

Abandon yourself utterly for the love of God, and in this way you will become truly happy.

—Blessed Henry Suso

OUR YOUTH CORNER

I chose Saint Augustine of Hippo. Also known as the " Doctor of Grace", he was an early Christian theologian and philosopher. Many of his writings influenced the development of Western Christianity and Western Philosophy. In Numidia, he was the bishop of Hippo Regis. Today he is viewed as one of the most important church Fathers in Western Christianity for his writings in the Patristic Era. Some of his most important works are The City of God and Confessions. His contemporary, Jerome, said that he "established anew the ancient Faith". He was heavily influenced by Manichaeism and by the neo-Platonism of Plotinus in his early years. By accommodating a variety of methods and perspectives, he developed his own approach to philosophy and theology. In the Catholic Church and the Anglican communion, he is a saint, a preeminent Doctor of the Church, and the patron of the Augustinians. The day of his death is August 28th, the day in which his memorial is celebrated on. Many Protestants, especially Calvinists, consider him to be one of the theological fathers of the Protestant Reformation due to his teachings on Salvation and divine grace. In the East, some of his teachings are disputed and have in the 20th century in particular, come under attack by such theologians as John Romanides.

I am choosing this name because St. Augustine's emphasis on man's need for grace inspires me to be more graceful in life. The significance that Saint Augustine holds for me is that learning about him influences me to speak up and spread the word of our religion. His way of doing this was through his writing. It was so powerful that he is known to have some of the most influential written works. Augustine's thought has had a profound impact on both Catholicism and Protestantism. He inspires me to leave my mark on the world, just like he left his. By modeling myself after this saint, I hope to gain the motivation and incentive to leave an impact on the world.