

# 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](http://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](mailto:cincarnation@sbcglobal.net)

**Faith Formation**  
(860) 529-6765  
[gotellit@aol.com](mailto:gotellit@aol.com)

**Website address:**  
[www.thechurchoftheincarnation.com](http://www.thechurchoftheincarnation.com)

# Mass Schedule

## SATURDAY, JANUARY 28TH

5:00pm— Judith Skinner Curcio,  
Robert J. Skinner & Gertrude E. Skinner

## SUNDAY JANUARY 29TH

8:30am— Deolinda Cecere  
10:30am— Mary & Dan Richi & Cora, Henry  
& Mikey Daversa

## MONDAY, JANUARY 30TH

9:00am— Gildo Alberto Colasacco

## TUESDAY, JANUARY 31ST

9:00am— Vincenzo Filippa

## WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1ST

9:00am— Deceased members of the Senatro  
Family

## THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2ND

9:00am— For all our parishioners

## FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3RD

9:00am— Joseph Saltarelli

## SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4TH

5:00pm— Jennie Cusano

## SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5TH

8:30am— Jim & Bette Boyle &  
Wenceslaus Lobo

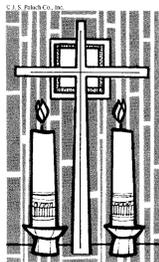
10:30am— Deceased members of the Fazio  
and Brini Families

### The Sanctuary Candle

will burn from 1/30/2017–  
2/5/2017 in memory of  
John L., Leonard J. Sr., &  
Bernadette D'Onofrio

### The Blessed Virgin Mary

Candle will burn from  
1/30/1617-2/5/2017 in  
memory of the Deceased members of the  
Bailardo & Fanelli Families.



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**Thank you to all who donated to the Archdiocesan High Schools collection last weekend.** We pray especially during this Week of Catholic Schools that our Catholic Schools continue to spread the good news!

**In honor of St. Blaise, we will bless throats this weekend...January 28th & 29th during all of the Masses.** This blessing is a sign of thanks for the gift of breathing, speech and taste.

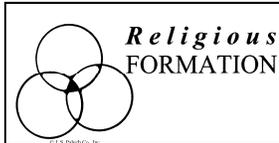
### **Friday is the First Friday in February.**

Mass is at 9am with Vocations Holy Hour to follow in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel.

**Fourth & fifth grade boys & girls interested in becoming Altar Servers at Incarnation are invited to meet with Fr. Moran at 11am on Saturday, February 4th in the Church.** The meeting will last one hour and will be the first of three consecutive sessions that will prepare those interested in serving at our Eucharistic celebrations.

**House of Bread collection next wk.** Disposable diapers & wipes requested! Thanks!

**Prayer Shawl Ministry:** No January or February meeting. 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.



**Gr. 8: Faith Formation** will be on Tues., January 31st & **Gr. 7: will be held** on Wed., February 1st—6:30-8pm, Fr. Crawford Hall.

**Emerson-Williams Faith Formation Grades K-6** Sat., February 4th from 9am—10:15am.

**Children's Liturgy of the Word:** next Sunday, February 5th at the 10:30am mass. **We welcome Presiders:** Melissa Doyle and Maggie Seaver and our **Catechists,** Mariana Carcia, Melissa Doyle and Katherine McDonald. Join us for refreshments in Fr. Crawford Hall after Mass. Thanks to the Paruta Family for hosting!

**Confirmation Retreat:** There will be a retreat for all of our young women receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation in 2017 on Sunday, February 5th from 12:30-3pm in Fr. Crawford Hall.

**Parish Family Home communities will meet at designated times.**

**We received a lovely thank you note from Sister Maureen & Sister Theresa, Co-Directors of the House of Bread Kid's Café in Hartford.** They would like to thank all of our Faith Formation and Youth Ministry classes for the Goodie Bag donations. The children who received them were so very grateful!

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

**Mercy High School:** Open House on Saturday, March 4th from 9am-1pm. Call (860) 347-8957 for more info.

**RACHEL'S VINEYARD WEEKENDS FOR HEALING AFTER ABORTION** If you are suffering from an abortion, experience the healing love of Jesus Christ on a Rachel's Vineyard Retreat weekend March 3-5, 2017 in Litchfield, CT. The weekend healing process includes discussions, Living Scriptures with meditations, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, a Memorial Service and Mass of Entrustment. Participation is totally confidential and offers a beautiful opportunity to experience God's love, forgiveness and compassion. Both women and men have participated in past retreats and have ranged in age from teens to mid-eighties. The fee for the weekend is \$175.00 for meals, private room and all retreat materials. Scholarships are available for financial assistance. For more information contact Marie at 203-631-9030, e-mail her at [mlaffin@prolifeministry.org](mailto:mlaffin@prolifeministry.org), or visit our website at [www.rachelsvineyard.org](http://www.rachelsvineyard.org)



## A Weekly Bible Study

### 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time ■ Matthew 5:1-12

In the spirit of Moses, Jesus ascends the mountain to speak of a new commandment. He has not come to abolish the commands of the Old Testament but rather to give them added depth. Although crowds have gathered, it is to his disciples that the words of the Beatitudes are addressed. Does this have any particular significance?

The Beatitudes express the actual condition of discipleship. One who professes to be a follower of Jesus Christ should expect to be poor, hungry, hated and persecuted. But the “blessedness” or joy this follower will come to know is not something reserved for a future time. It is here and now, the unique joy one experiences who surrenders to living Gospel values.

Pope Benedict XVI tells us that within the Beatitudes there is an interconnectedness of the Cross and Resurrection. He explains in his writing that although a follower of Jesus in this world is still living the story of his suffering, the splendor of the Resurrection shines through and brings a joy or blessedness far greater than that which is found through worldly pursuits.

And there is more. In the various expressions of the Beatitudes are found the very One who calls us to that discipleship. Jesus is the one who is poor, has nowhere to lay his head, who is meek and lowly of heart. He weeps over Jerusalem, suffers persecution and death. He is peacemaker. “The Beatitudes,” writes Pope Benedict, “display the mystery of Christ himself.”

The Beatitudes represent our path for putting on the mind of Christ, for embracing a dying to self that leads to new life. They are a proclamation of hope, a true source of Christian joy, a richness of life and the only way of love.

The crowds gathering at the edge of the mountain will hear this day an invitation within each Beatitude. But it is the true disciple who will listen to and heed the words of Jesus.



## **Presentation of the Lord**

**Do you feel The Lord is calling you to be a priest, brother or sister? To explore 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](http://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.

**Join The Wethersfield Knights of Columbus for Dinner at Bertucci's restaurant on the Berlin Turnpike in Newington.** Pick up an updated 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.

## BAPTISM



**CODY JOHN  
PALAZZO**

## Wethersfield UNICO

### Macaroni Dinner

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](http://www.WethersfieldUnico.org)

### Defending Our Religious Liberty #257 **Jan. 29, 2017**

The Catholic Church invests in the common good. It runs and operates schools, hospitals, universities, charities and social services. Our government and society have long relied on them for help and taken advantage of the vast network that churches and religious institutions provide to aid people in need and to help form good citizens. But, when we are told we've got to stop being who we are, to put aside our beliefs, or plainly go against our conscience in order to be allowed to contribute to the common good, we must speak out. If you haven't done so already, please voice your opposition to the federal health care mandate by calling U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Sylvia Mathews Burwell at 202-205-5445, and your elected representatives. Let them know that the mandate is in violation of our First Amendment right to religious freedom.

**Church of the Incarnation MEN'S RETREAT:** The parish men's retreat at Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center in West Hartford will be February 24, 25, & 26, 2017. Join Holy Family's retreat team for a weekend of peace and reflection in an exploration of simplicity. In an age of stress, distraction, and technology, we'll explore the simple and transformative message at the heart of Jesus' teaching. Discover how simplicity can shine a light on what is really essential and important in our lives. We'll explore what it means to live a simple life so that we can discover true freedom and joy. Be renewed and inspired by the paradox of simplicity and the gift of faith. For more information call John Ewaski at 860-563-3887 or Bill Carroll at 860-604-6793 or visit Holy Family's web site at: [www.holyfamilyretreat.org](http://www.holyfamilyretreat.org).

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

**We received a lovely thank you note from Archbishop Leonard P. Blair thanking our parishioners for the generous response and support of the 2016 Archbishop's Annual Appeal.** His letter can be found on the Narthex bulletin board.

**If you will be staying in the hospital for more than a day, please make the hospital staff aware that you are a parishioner of The Church of the Incarnation.** With all of the recent privacy laws it has become exceedingly difficult for priests to locate parishioners who are a patient in the hospital. It may be helpful to contact the rectory as well if you will be going into the hospital.

### **The Men's Association wants YOU!**

Our annual membership drive is underway and renewal letters have been mailed to all current members. Applications are at entrances. All men are invited to join! Dues—\$10 per year. Call Michael White (860)-667-2099.

## THE CHOSEN REMNANT

Zephaniah is one of the least-known of the Old Testament prophets. He speaks in today's first reading of impending judgment. But the Lord will leave a "remnant" in Israel. This image of a remnant, or remainder, was to become vital to both Judaism and Christianity.

Paul's letter to Corinth makes obvious his deep concern for the Christians there. They are too self-confident, he says, too sure of themselves. He admonishes them to remember that Christ has given them all they have.

Today's Gospel comprises the opening of Jesus' "Great Sermon." As God gave Moses the law on Sinai, so now Jesus gathers his disciples on a hillside to teach them the new law. Each of these Beatitudes contrasts the humiliation of the present with the glory of the future: poverty vs. the riches of God's kingdom, hunger for holiness vs. fulfillment in the Spirit, persecution vs. the reign of God. Jesus is here speaking to God's chosen "remnant."

## TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — You humble of the land, seek justice and humility, and the Lord will be your protection (Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13).

**Psalms** — Blessed are the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs! (Psalm 146).

**Second Reading** — God chose the weak of the world, those who count for nothing, so that whoever boasts should boast in the Lord (1 Corinthians 1:26-31).

**Gospel** — Jesus taught from the mountain: Blessed are the poor in spirit (Matthew 5:1-12a).

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Heb 11:32-40; Ps 31:20-24; Mk 5:1-20

Tuesday: Heb 12:1-4; Ps 22:26b-28, 30-32;  
Mk 5:21-43

Wednesday: Heb 12:4-7, 11-15; Ps 103:1-2, 13-14,  
17-18a; Mk 6:1-6

Thursday: Mal 3:1-4; Ps 24:7-10; Heb 2:14-18;  
Lk 2:22-40 [22-32]

Friday: Heb 13:1-8; Ps 27:1, 3, 5, 8b-9; Mk 6:14-29

Saturday: Heb 13:15-17, 20-21; Ps 23:1-6;  
Mk 6:30-34

Sunday: Is 58:7-10; Ps 112:4-9; 1 Cor 2:1-5;  
Mt 5:13-16

## SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time;  
Catholic Schools Week

Tuesday: St. John Bosco

Thursday: The Presentation of the Lord;  
Groundhog Day

Friday: St. Blaise; St. Ansgar; First Friday;  
Blessing of throats

Saturday: Blessed Virgin Mary; First Saturday

## TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Until very recent decades "Holy Thursday" and "Good Friday" were centered on personal pious devotions, not public liturgy. In urban America, at least in cities with a significant Catholic population, Holy Thursday was about veneration of the Blessed Sacrament. People were encouraged to walk to seven churches for a "visit" to each parish's repository, a kind of temporary tabernacle on a side altar, closer in proximity to the faithful than the usual tabernacle on the distant high altar. On Good Friday, the most popular form of devotion was the Stations of the Cross, or a three-hour program of word and preaching beginning at noon.

The Holy Thursday seven-church hike was a way of participating in a custom of the city of Rome. Traditionally, each day in Lent was assigned to a particular parish church or basilica in the city. Each week of Lent thus had seven churches, and pious people tried to get to each one of them. The pilgrimage was a symbol of unity and also the journey of faith. Originally, the pope would go to each place for a liturgy, but political strife removed the pope from Rome in 1305. With the papacy relocated in France, the custom ceased until Pope Leo XIII expressed interest in restoring it in 1900, and Blessed John XXIII fully restored the custom in 1959. By the time Pope Leo began to revive the custom, many American cities had enough parishes and monasteries that the faithful could vicariously participate in the revived tradition of stational liturgies by a very long walk!

**Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
January 29, 2017**

**"Blessed are the poor in spirit,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."  
— Matthew 5:3**

## **OUR YOUTH CORNER**

Saint Cecilia is the patron saint of music. She was known for her loyalty to God when she got married because she sang in her heart to Him and took a vow of virginity/chastity. God heard her song and an angel appeared when Cecilia's husband questioned her promise to God. She was named the patroness of music because music sang in her heart to God through her entire marriage ceremony. She is usually pictured with an organ or organ pipes in her hand which is significant to me because I sing at our Church with an organ as an accompaniment.

I chose the name Saint Cecilia because of my love of music. Every week, I sing at mass and feel especially honored whenever I am asked to sing a solo. To me, singing is praying twice. When I sing, I feel like I am pouring out the emotions from my soul for God. My singing lesson teacher, Teddie Niver, constantly tells me to always know what I am trying to convey in a certain piece for mass. This allows me to feel the emotion of the song and sing out to the entire parish and to God. Whenever she tells me to project more, I just look at the beautiful stained glass windows and sing so He will hear my voice. Singing also has a special meaning to me because all four of my grandparents always love(d) to hear me sing. Ever since two passed away in 2013 (my father's parents) and my grandma (my mother's mother) was diagnosed with Alzheimer's, I have felt a stronger connection with God and all those I know who have passed on to heaven whenever I sing. In my mind before I sing, I say a prayer and dedicate whatever solo I am singing to them and do my best to honor them when I step up to the microphone. I hope to gain an even stronger connection to God through music by choosing Saint Cecilia.

The young woman who wrote this beautiful essay will be singing the Communion Meditation on Sunday, January 29th at the 10:30am Mass.