

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

Sunday: Jb 7:1-4, 6-7/1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23/Mk 1:29-39  
 Monday: Gn 1:1-19/Mk 6:53-56  
 Tuesday: Gn 1:20---2:4a/Mk 7:1-13  
 Wednesday: Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17/Mk 7:14-23  
 Thursday: Gn 2:18-25/Mk 7:24-30  
 Friday: Gn 3:1-8/Mk 7:31-37  
 Saturday: Gn 3:9-24/Mk 8:1-10  
 Next Sunday: Lv 13:1-2, 44-46/1 Cor 10:31---11:1/  
 Mk 1:40-45

**IT'S A PARTY**

Please join us in a celebration of the life of Celeste Milkie on the occasion of her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday! **THIS SUNDAY**, February 8, 2009 at noon, following the 10:45 Mass



A memory book will be created for Celeste. Please bring any pictures you are willing to donate. (Be sure to put a description of the event and names of people on the back of the picture) Cake, drinks and light refreshments will be served. No gifts, please

**VALENTINE HEART**

We all need a little extra TLC this winter.

Please pick a name from the large heart this weekend and send a card to that name for Valentine's Day, February 14.

Many people at Sacred Heart have submitted these names. If it is someone you don't know – tell a little bit about yourself, or cut out the bulletin notice and enclose it in the card.

Pray for them too.

Let's not forget anyone. It's not too late to submit a name, just call Larry & Carol Deraleau at 749-4139.

**HELP NEEDED**

If you could spare an hour or so every other Tuesday, we sure could use you to bring Eucharist to the patients at Rockville Hospital.

Training will be provided. Interested? Call Larry Deraleau at 749-4139 or Arlene Furey at 875-1007.

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER & LECTOR WORKSHOP**

**For Those Already in Ministry AND Those Contemplating a Ministry**

MARK YOUR CALENDARS -  
**March 7, 9 - 11:30am**  
*(snow date March 14, 9 -11:30am)*

Hosted by St. Mary Church, 70 Central Avenue, Norwich

Presented by Jane Morosky and Beatrice Mackenzie  
 in cooperation with  
 The Diocesan Office of Worship

Registration starts at 8:30am  
 with beverages and light snacks

*For planning purposes please call or leave a voicemail for Ernie or Father Stan at 875-4563. Please provide your name, telephone number, and parish.*

***This is a free workshop – the Parish will make a goodwill offering on your behalf.***

## **PASTORAL COUNCIL PROPOSED MINUTES**

**PRESENT:** R. Bernabucci, J. Crane, L. Deraleau, Fr. Stan, E. Gólnik, B. Gonsalves, D. Maxa, P. Michaud, S. Rice, M. Staggenborg, D. Valli **ABSENT:** S. Dosouto, C. Duhamel, C. Gagnon, J. Higgins, M. Kurban, M. Powell, M. Simcoe, Fr. Tony

The meeting opened with music, scripture reading, reflection and sharing led by L. Deraleau.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

- 1. MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 9, 2008:** Accepted as written.
- 2. 3 1/2 STORIES OF CHRISTMAS:** Many positive comments were heard. Parishioners included in the performance helped to make it great. The number in attendance was approximately 85. There was a free will offering that totaled approximately \$274.00. Mr. Runyeon was pleased with attendance and interaction of the people. He enjoyed himself too.
- 3. YOUTH GROUP: Thanksgiving Pies** – approximately 32 pies were sold. Profits were about \$300.  
**Raffle** – Snow on the second weekend contributed to less tickets being sold. There was about a \$200 profit.
- 4. LARRY'S PLAN:** One person was referred to Larry and when contacted said they had been ill and expect to be back by March. Others called said they had been ill or couldn't get their act together with the new mass schedule.
- 5. PASTORAL COUNCIL POSTER:** It has not been completed at this time.
- 6. BOLTON: Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service** – This went well. A good number of people participated.  
**St. Maurice Christmas Fair** – This was a well attended event. Preparation will begin in February for this year's fair. Crafters will meet on Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- 7. CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE:** Positive comments were voiced.
- 8. ADVENT RETREAT:** Sixty people attended. Fifteen were from other parishes. The presenter was Sr. Virginia Sheehan SND. The program was well received. Soups, sandwiches and desserts were provided by 12 members of Sacred Heart Parish. A free will offering of \$220 was collected. The cost of the presenter was \$150. It was suggested that the balance go to the Caregivers who provided paper goods, milk, cream, coffee etc.
- 9. ADVENT COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE:** There was a large group in attendance. Having two priests there helped to move things along more quickly. Penance services are planned during Lent: **Sacred Heart**, Tuesday, March 24 at 7p.m. **Saint Maurice**, Wednesday, April 1 at 7p.m.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- 1. CHRISTMAS LETTER COMMENTS:** The letter was tastefully done and comments were positive. Sunday snowstorms are adversely affecting collections. Hopefully absent parishioners will make up missed donations.
- 2. WHAT ARE YOU HEARING?** The poinsettias were beautiful but why so many? We had the same number but they were bigger as we used a different florist. Monies collected in the flower envelope are used to pay for flowers throughout the year. The second Christmas envelope was used for debt reduction.
- 3. YOUTH GROUP FUTURE EVENTS:**
  - \***Valentine Party** on 2/7 or 2/8 will include dinner and bingo with the residents.
  - \***Confirmation Retreat** – March 6-8 in Garrison, NY. The Saint Maurice class will be traveling with us for this weekend retreat.

\***Living Stations** are being readied for Good Friday.

\***Town Wide Tag Sale** is on April 25. The youth group will have a sale and rent tables to those who want to sell their own items.

\***Confirmation** will take place on May 17, 2009. Archbishop Miot of Port-Au-Prince, Haiti will preside.

\* The **Easter fundraiser** will be candy of some sort. Due to a rise in cost, final decisions have not yet been made.

**4. CONNECTIONS WITH SAINT MAURICE:** Positive comments have been made by those attending the alternate parish periodically.

**5. BENEFICIAL EVENTS FOR SACRED HEART PARISHIONERS:** Please let Ernie know of events you are aware of so they can be published in the bulletin. These might include adult education events or evenings of reflection etc.

**6. JOINT PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING:** This will be planned in the near future to discuss plans for Holy Week.

**7. NEXT AGENDA:** Please make Fr. Stan aware of items that need to be on the next council agenda.

**8. NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:** February 18 @ 7p.m. in the Library

Respectfully submitted:

Donna Valli

## **FIRST RECONCILIATION PARENTS MEETING**

Because the first scheduled meeting of parents with children preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation was cancelled because of snow, that meeting will be combined with the second meeting. The revised schedule is listed below:

Tuesday, February 10 at 7:00 – 9:00pm

Tuesday, February 17 at 7:00pm

All meetings will be held in the Fellowship Rooms. If you have any questions, please contact Rella at 875-4563 or [rella@sacredheartchurch.net](mailto:rella@sacredheartchurch.net).

## **FIRST EUCHARIST PARENTS MEETING**

The second and third meetings of parents with children preparing for First Communion will be held on the following dates:

Thursday, February 12 at 7:00pm

Thursday, February 19 at 7:00pm

All meetings will be held in the Parish Library. If you have any questions, please contact Rella at 875-4563 or [rella@sacredheartchurch.net](mailto:rella@sacredheartchurch.net).

## **FAITH FORMATION/YOUTH GROUP WINTER VACATION**

All Sunday faith formation classes and Youth Group that would normally meet on February 15 will not be held because of the Vernon school system's February break. We will resume classes and Youth Group on Sunday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> at the regularly scheduled times.

## **ADULT CONFIRMATION**

Do you know an adult who has been baptized and receives Holy Communion but has never been confirmed? Would this person like to be confirmed? Registrations for Confirmation preparation classes for adults are now being taken. Please contact Fr. Stan or Rella (875-4563) in order to register or to request more information.

**FEBRUARY 8, 2009**

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## **THE WORK OF THE CHURCH**

- SATURDAY** FIFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (FT)  
5:45pm **Mass: *Stella Golnik***, requested by Richard & Rella Bernabucci, - and -  
***Jennie Langone***, requested by the Sacred Heart Parish Family & Readers
- SUNDAY** FIFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (FT)  
10:45am **Mass: *Stella Golnik***, requested by Ceil Ray, - and -  
***Blanche DiBacco***, requested by the Sacred Heart Parish Family
- MONDAY**  
9:00am **Liturgy of the Word with Communion**
- TUESDAY** SCHOLASTICA, VIRGIN  
9:00am **Mass: *Deceased Members of the Davia & Labbadia Families***
- WEDNESDAY** OUR LADY OF LOURDES  
11:00am **Mass at Welles Village: *For the People of the Parish***
- THURSDAY**  
7:00pm **Mass: *Gaspere Davia***, requested by Maria Davia  
7:45pm **Intercessory Prayer**
- FRIDAY**  
10:30am **Mass at Vernon Manor: *For the People of the Parish***
- SATURDAY** SIXTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (FS)  
5:45pm **Mass: *For Those In Whose Memory Christmas Flowers Were Given***
- SUNDAY** SIXTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (FS)  
10:45am **Mass: *Stella Golnik***, requested by Sandy Rice,  
-and-  
***John Carenza***, requested by Tom & Arlene Furey

## **MEETINGS**

- SATURDAY**  
7:30pm **Narcotics Anonymous\***, South Rooms
- SUNDAY** **Fellowship before and after Mass**  
9:15am **Faith Formation**, Gr. 1-5  
12:00noon **90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party for Celeste Milkie – ALL ARE INVITED**  
5:00pm **Youth Group Valentine party at Rose Commons**  
6:30pm **Faith Formation**, Gr. 6 – Conf Prep
- MONDAY** Offices Closed
- TUESDAY**  
7:00pm **1<sup>st</sup> Reconciliation Parents Meeting #2**, South Community Rooms  
7:30pm **Finance Council**, Living Room
- WEDNESDAY**  
4:00pm **Faith Formation**, Gr. 1-3, 5  
8:00pm **Alcoholics Anonymous\***, South Community Rooms
- THURSDAY**  
10:00am **Bible Study**, South Community Rooms  
7:00pm **1<sup>st</sup> Eucharist Parents Meeting #2**, South Community Rooms  
8:00pm **Alcoholics Anonymous Big Book\***, South Rooms
- SATURDAY**  
7:30pm **Narcotics Anonymous\***, South Rooms
- SUNDAY** **Fellowship before and after Mass**  
NO **Faith Formation & Youth Group**

**WEBSITE ADDRESS FOR ST. MAURICE  
WWW.STMAURICEKOF.C.ORG**

*Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

*Saturday, February 7,*

**4:00 p.m. Vigil Mass: Franklin Delany,**  
request of Barbara and John Spósito, and for  
**Geno Betti,** request of Dolores, Annita and  
Gena Betti.

*Sunday, February 8,*

**8:45 a.m. Mass; Iva Lindberg,**  
request of Lynn Mancino, and for **Linnie**  
**Wimmer,** request of Jennifer and Phil Daly.

*Next Weekend:*

*Saturday, February 14,*

**4:00 p.m. Mass: Mary Varrick and Donald**  
**Holbrook**

*Sunday: February 15,*

**8:45 a.m. Mass: Kathleen Leiner**

**GOD'S PLAN FOR GIVING – TITHING**

Last week's collection was \$ **3,022.00**

Last year's collection was \$ **4,786.00**

Projected amount needed \$ **4,204.00**

(for projected obligations, expenses, repairs and tithing)

*“Rising very early before dawn, he left and went off to  
a deserted place, where he prayed...He told them,  
“Let us go on to the nearby villages that I may preach  
there also. For this purpose have I come.” Mark  
1:35, 38*

Through today's Gospel reading we see a perfect  
example of stewardship. Jesus gives His time to  
doing all that God wishes – healing the sick and  
preaching. Yet Jesus also makes time to be alone in  
prayer. It is only through prayer, through spending  
time with God, that any of us can find the strength  
to do all that God wishes us to do. Be sure to find  
time this week to be with God.

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**THIS WEEK**

**SUNDAY**

**FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

Fr. Stan, celebrant

Ushers Group II

**Pancake Breakfast** from 8 a.m. until 11 a.m.

**Blood Pressure Screening**

KofC Poster Contest Judging

Monday 2/9: Mass at 9:00 a.m.

**Building Committee Meeting,** 7:15 p.m. at the  
Rectory.

Tuesday 2/10: Mass at 9:00 a.m.

**Parish Council Meeting,** 7:15 p.m., at the  
Parish Center. All parishioners invited.

**Choir rehearsal** at 7:15 p.m.

Wednesday 2/11: Mass at 9:00 a.m.

**Christmas Fair Workshop,** 9:00a.m.

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED  
SACRAMENT**

from 3:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.

**First Meeting of the new Finance Committee**

Will be held at 7:30 p.m. at the rectory.

Thursday 2/12: Mass at 9:00 a.m.

**K of C business meeting,** 7:15, Parish Center

Friday 2/13: Mass at 9:00 a.m.

Saturday 2/14: Confessions from 3:00 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.

**Valentine's Day Dinner** after the 4:00 p.m. Mass

**NEXT WEEK**

**FEBRUARY 14/15**

**SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**SATURDAY, 4:00 P.M. VIGIL MASS**

**ALTAR SERVERS:** Josh Meyers

**LECTORS:** Judy Knox

**EUCHARTISTIC MINISTERS:** Vi Sobol,  
Ted Lloyd, Arlene Giglio

**SUNDAY, 8:45 A.M. MASS**

**ALTAR SERVERS:** Brendan & Katelyn  
Donahue, Kirsten Cianci

**LECTORS:** David Delorme

**EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:** Maureen  
Mozzer, Betty Aitkin, Kathleen Smythe

### A THANK YOU NOTE

Dear members of St. Maurice

The Massey family would like to thank you for all your support when we were having a hard time. We would also like to thank you for letting us have the luncheon at your church. Your support has been a great comfort to our family.

Love, the Massey family.

### WHAT IS OPERATION RICE BOWL?

Operation Rice Bowl is the Lenten solidarity program of Catholic Relief Services. Just as we celebrate the Eucharist on Sundays, we can use Operation Rice Bowl throughout Lent as a way to “break bread” together with family and loved ones. We join in the traditional practice of Lent and pray as a community, fast in solidarity with those who are hungry, give concrete assistance to those most in need, while we learn about the joys and challenges in the lives of our brothers and sisters around the world.

**How does Operation Rice Bowl make a difference in my faith community and in communities around the world?**

Operation Rice Bowl makes a difference through:

**PRAYER:** Using the Operation Rice Bowl materials, participants are reminded to pray and reflect on the realities, challenges, and gifts of our neighbors around the world who struggle with hunger and poverty.

**FASTING:** Operation Rice Bowl’s challenges us to fasting, using this traditional Lenten practice to express solidarity with our brothers and sisters who do not have enough food.

**LEARNING:** Operation Rice Bowl invites us to visit [www.crs.org](http://www.crs.org) to learn more about what is happening in Ghana, Honduras, and Tanzania today.

**GIVING:** Participants put their faith into action by giving of their time and resources in a thoughtful manner. Operation Rice Bowl began in 1975 as a response to a food crisis in Africa and continues to raise millions of dollars to assist our brothers and sisters around the world who are affected by the current global food crisis.

### AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE

On the weekend of February 14 and 15, the Diocese of Norwich will launch a postcard campaign to urge the U.S. Congress to retain all laws prohibiting federal funding and promotion of abortion. The campaign urges those in public office to oppose any bill that includes provisions contained in the **FREEDOM OF CHOICE ACT (FOCA)** or any other similar measures.

Passage of FOCA would establish a fundamental legal right to abortion, surpassing even the limits set by the 1973 *Roe vs Wade* Supreme Court decision and sweep away hundreds of federal, state, and local laws and regulations that presently regulate abortion, establish conscience clauses for health care professionals, and protect the lives of persons waiting to be born.

The implications of FOCA are staggering. Through their tax dollars, taxpayers **would be compelled** to pay for abortions, and states would be required to permit and even to fund partial birth abortion. FOCA would **prevent parents** having a legal right to be involved in their minor daughter’s abortion or pregnancy decisions. Doctors, nurses and other health care professions would no longer have legal protection to opt out of performing abortions. **Bans on “reproductive” human cloning** would be abolished. It would mean that **in vitro fertilization and reproductive human cloning could not be banned at public hospitals and that taxpayer dollars** would have to be used to fund such procedures for people receiving public assistance. Lawsuits resulting from passage of this legislation would be endless and further deplete the limited resources of the government, institutions and individuals.

Our faith calls us to take a stand for life and responsible parenting; and thus, **we have a duty** to let our elected officials know of our commitment to protect and defend the right to life of all persons **born and unborn**. The postcard campaign is a means for all of us in our diocesan family to express our moral opposition to FOCA and any similar measures to our elected representatives in the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives. With conviction, we believe that **all life** is sacred and deserving of the protection of law; we must make known our abhorrence for legislation that places the right to life of the unborn in such jeopardy, or worse, **eradicates** that right to life. I urge you to read the postcard’s message and, then, act by signing and mailing a postcard addressed to your Congressman and Senators. Express your conviction that all human life is sacred and deserving of legal protection.

May the Lord lead us to appreciate anew His gift of life and each person born and waiting to be born.

+Michael R. Cote, Bishop of Norwich.