

readings for the week

Sunday: Lk 19:28-40 / Is 50:4-7 / Phil 2:6-11 / Lk 22:14-23:56 or 23:1-49

Monday: Is 42:1-7 / Jn 12:1-11

Tuesday: Is 49:1-6 / Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

Wednesday: Is 50:4-9a / Mt 26:14-25

Thursday: Chrism Mass: Is 61:1-3a, 6a, 8b-9 / Rv 1:5-8 / Lk 4:16-21
Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14 / 1 Cor 11:23-26 / Jn 13:1-15

Friday: Is 52:13-53:12 / Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9 / Jn 18:1-19:42

Saturday: Vigil: Gn 1:1-2:2 or 1:1, 2631a / Gn 22:118 or 22:12, 9a, 1013, 1518 / Ex 14:15-15:1 / Is 54:514 / Is 55:111 / Bar 3:915, 32-4:4 / Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28 / Rom 6:311 / Lk 24:1-12

Next Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43 / Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8 / Jn 20:1-9 or Lk 24:1-12

lenten bible study

Disciples on the Journey will be presented as our Lenten Bible Study. The next meeting will be held on **Thursday morning, April 5th**. If you have missed any sessions, please feel free to come join us. All are welcome to attend at any time.

youth group

Some members of the Youth Group will be going to Cornerstone to prepare and serve lunch on Saturday, March 31. We will leave the church parking lot at 9:30am.

practice for living stations of the cross

Practice for the Living Stations of the Cross will be held on **Friday, April 6 at 10:00am**. Any questions or concerns should be directed to Rella.

living stations of the cross

The annual presentation by the Youth Group of the Living Stations of the Cross will be held on **Good Friday, April 6 at 7:00pm**. All parishioners and their guests are invited to this presentation.

a "thank you" from Haiti

Dear Father Szczapa,

Thank you and the Sacred Heart Parish for the collection of food, medical supplies, layettes, school kits, and other supplies recently delivered to the Haitian Health Foundation!

As you know, medical supplies and food, like that which you've donated, are among the most valued and welcomed in-kind donations to our outreach to Haiti. We are especially grateful for the generous supply of Boost we noticed was included in your recent delivery! This nutritional supplement will be distributed to folks who are in need of immediate relief from malnutrition. Despite our many successes in Jeremie, malnutrition is still a scandalous problem and quite severe, especially among children in rural mountain villages.

I am enclosing three pictures of a precious little boy named Richecarde, who received care at our Center of Hope recently. These pictures illustrate caring and compassion from folks he will never know. Please know that he and his family keep us all in their daily prayers. On behalf of Richecarde and the poorest of poor in Haiti, God bless you all at Sacred Heart for your continued support!

Sincerely,

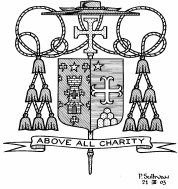


Jeremiah J. Lowney, Jr., DDS, MS, MPH
President

[Pictures removed for the benefit of Dial-Up users]

* Note: Some groups meeting at Sacred Heart including but not limited to *Brownies, Alcoholics Anonymous, Alcoholics Anonymous Big Book and Narcotics Anonymous* are not part of and not acting on behalf of the parish or Diocese

PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION



Diocese of Norwich
Office of the Bishop
201 Broadway
Norwich, Connecticut 06360
(860) 887-9294

MOST REVEREND
MICHAEL R. COTE, D.D.

March 1, 2007

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ:

In this holy week that begins in triumph with Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, we reflect on the great mysteries of our faith by hearing the account of Jesus' betrayal, the disappointment of denial, and the agony of His Passion. The Son of God in all His innocence is led to slaughter and He dies a tortuous death on the Cross. But His life does not end there and now, neither does ours.

In Jesus' Passion and Death, we receive the ultimate victory in which His life conquers death and through His death and Resurrection we gain everlasting life. Looking death in the eye, we can say with Saint Paul, "death where is your victory, death where is your sting?" (1 Corinthians 15:55)

Our Holy Father, Pope Benedict, in his Encyclical, God Is Love, speaking of Jesus' self giving to raise us up and save us, reminds us that in Jesus Christ, God Himself searches for the "stray sheep," for us who through sin are "a suffering and lost humanity." (Cf. No. 12) In Christ's Cross, we grasp the eternal intensity of God's love and the totality of what God does for us in Jesus' Passion, Death, and Resurrection.

The Holy Father instructs us that Jesus' sacrifice is present to us in the celebration of the Eucharist. The Eucharistic Liturgy "lifts us to far greater heights than anything that any human mystical elevation could ever accomplish." (Ibid. No. 13) On Holy Thursday, Jesus and His disciples go to the Upper Room for the Passover Supper. There Jesus institutes two great Sacraments -- the Eucharist, the central mystery of our faith, and the Priesthood, the continuation of Jesus' Priesthood by which the Church is renewed and nourished through the celebration of the Sacraments, especially the Eucharist.

At that Supper, Jesus washes His disciples' feet and He imparts a mandate for all ages. "If I, then, the Lord and Master, have washed your feet, you should wash each other's feet. I have given you an example so that you may copy what I have done to you." (John 13:14-15)

As we reflect on these great events, we remember those priests who in the name and person of Christ baptized us, from whom we received the Eucharist, who raised their hands in absolution of our sins, witnessed our marriage, and anointed our sick. We recall priests in whom we saw Christ and experienced God's love, and we pray for them. We call to mind priests who have served long and well and now, because of age or infirmity or both, rest from their labors in the Lord's Vineyard. We have special concern for their needs and we want to help them.

Annually the Easter collection is taken up for sick and retired priests of our Diocese. In the fiscal year ending June 30, 2006, the Easter Collection amounted to \$171,000 and the Diocese spent \$724,000 for sick and retired priests.

The money was spent for medical insurance for sick and retired priests, medical costs not covered by insurance, special housing needs, cost of necessary extended stays in nursing homes after surgery, convalescent home care, counseling, residential care, and monthly compensation for priests on sick leave. Through your Easter gift you help to provide

security and support to these devoted priests who have served our Diocese so well for so many years. Please show your love and care for our retired and infirm priests by offering a generous gift to them in the special second collection at all Masses Easter weekend.

May God bless your generosity to this appeal and may you have a blessed observance of Holy Week and a holy and happy Easter.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Bishop of Norwich

Going, Going, GONE!

Saint Joseph School announces its
11th Annual Goods and Services Auction.
Come for a great night of FOOD, FUN, and BARGAINS!

Date: April 28, 2007

Time: 6pm

Place: Saint Joseph Church Hall, Rockville

Tickets are \$12.00 and include: admission, dinner, appetizers, dessert, and an open bar.

YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THIS FUN!

* All proceeds benefit Saint Joseph School *
Would you like to make a donation? All donations are tax deductible- We greatly appreciate any and all donations- **big or small-we auction it all!**

Please contact the school at 875-4943 or Patty Hess at 875-0404 to make a donation or for further information.

Sample items available: Merchandise from Local Businesses; Gift Certificates; Gift Baskets; Vacation Get-A-Ways; Sport Memorabilia; Art; and much, much more!

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Saint Joseph School
Car Raffle

Win a 2007 Chevy Cobalt LS Coupe
and help Saint Joseph School

The ticket will be drawn on April 28
at the Saint Joseph School Auction

Someone will win this car—WHY NOT YOU?

Raffle ticket- \$50

For tickets and information call Patty Hess 875-0404

APRIL 1, 2007

the work of the church

SATURDAY PALM SUNDAY
5:00pm Mass: *Gertrude Soucy*, requested by Richard & Rella Bernabucci

SUNDAY PALM SUNDAY
8:00am Mass: *Harold & Gertrude Rogers*, requested by Joyce Melia & Michelle Farris
10:30am Mass: *Edward Simcoe*, requested by the Sacred Heart Readers

MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK
9:00am Liturgy of the Word with Communion

TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK
10:30am Chrism Mass: *at St Patrick Cathedral, Norwich*

WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK
No Masses or Communion Services today

HOLY THURSDAY
7:30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper: *Chuck White*

GOOD FRIDAY (ABSTINENCE – MEATLESS / FASTING – ONE MEAL)
3:00pm Liturgy of the Lord's Passion
7:00pm Living Stations of the Cross

HOLY SATURDAY / EASTER VIGIL
8:00pm Easter Vigil Mass: *For the Deceased Pastors of Sacred Heart; Father Kelley and Father Doyle*

EASTER SUNDAY
8:00am Mass: *For the People of the Parish*
10:30am Mass: *Ronald Lavigne & Arthur Lavigne*, requested by Marge Lavigne & family

meetings

SATURDAY Youth Group at Cornerstone
7:00pm **Narcotics Anonymous***, Northeast Rooms

SUNDAY **Good Fellowship & Tasty Goodies after Mass**
9:10am **Faith Formation** – Levels 1 – 5
6:30pm **Faith Formation**, Level 6 – Confirmation Prep
7:45pm **Youth Group**

MONDAY Offices Closed

TUESDAY Offices Closed

WEDNESDAY
4:00pm **Faith Formation**
8:00pm **Alcoholics Anonymous***, South Community Rooms

THURSDAY
10:00am **Bible Study**, South Community Rooms
6:00pm **Brownies***, Northeast Community Rooms
8:00pm **Alcoholics Anonymous Big Book***, South Community Rooms

FRIDAY-
10:00am Living Stations of the Cross Practice
5:00pm **Soup Supper** (Collection for Appalachia)

SATURDAY
7:00pm **Narcotics Anonymous***, Northeast Rooms

SUNDAY **Good Fellowship & Tasty Goodies after Mass**
NO **Faith Formation** – Levels 1 – Confirmation Prep
NO **Youth Group**