

# Welcome / Welcome Home!

## **divorce**

It is very sad to the Church that many people have separated themselves from communion with the Church simply because they were under the impression that a divorce meant automatic excommunication. ***This is rarely the case!*** PLEASE! Call the office and talk to Father Stan for a confidential assessment of your options. Even if you have been remarried, there may be uncomplicated options available to you. You have nothing to lose by inquiring, and **the Church very much wishes you to explore the options available to you.** Call 875-4563 or email fatherstan@sacredheartchurch.net

## **baptism**

Do you have or are you expecting a child for whom you wish the Sacrament of Baptism? We baptize children throughout the year and we are able to prepare you for the Baptism in a painless way – **even if you have been away for a long time.** Please call to get this easy process started.

Are you or an older child unbaptized? Adults and older children are accommodated in a special process that respects their lived experience and their unique appreciation of the experience of Faith. Again, please call Rella or Father Stan to find out more. Call 875-4563 or email rella@sacredheartchurch.net or fatherstan@sacredheartchurch.net

## **did you skip confirmation?**

This happens more often than you might have thought. Sometimes a person just isn't ready for the Sacrament of Confirmation when they are in High School. **This isn't a difficult problem at all** – and, no, you won't have to be placed back into a class of teenagers. Call Rella or Father Stan to find out just how easy this is. Call us whenever you are ready. Call 875-4563 or email rella@sacredheartchurch.net or fatherstan@sacredheartchurch.net

## **getting married?**

If you're planning on getting married in a different Catholic parish, you'll be asked to present a certificate from "your" parish. Don't have a parish? Well, you do now. Here you are and we're glad to have you. This isn't a problem – call the office and register. We'll need your name, address, and ask some simple background questions of you (such as, "Are you already baptized? etc.) Let us know you're planning to be married so that we can help. Call 875-4563 or email rella@sacredheartchurch.net or fatherstan@sacredheartchurch.net. Of course, we'd also be happy to marry you here, if you'd like.

## **parish registration**

Newcomer or long-timer – there are some people who just haven't gotten around to registering in the parish yet. We ask that you please consider doing so. It gives us an understanding of just who our Parish Family truly is, including valuable information about faith experience, approximate age, how many of our family are candidates for sacraments, etc. It's not just curiosity on our part – it helps us to plan both for our present Parish Family and for the Parish of your future. We offer (and recommend) contribution envelopes if you should desire them and choose to use them, *but that decision is entirely yours.*

By the way, registration benefits you in other ways, too. It helps you if we can contact you when you are ill and are needing our assistance. We have a large array of services you might have use of – have you ever needed to photocopy your medical bills or perhaps some paperwork for your child's school? Ever need to send or receive a fax? Borrow some tables or chairs for a party or picnic? We really would like everyone to register, whether here at Sacred Heart or in another place. We are one Church, and registration does help the Church to better minister and become more efficient. Call 875-4563 or email rella@sacredheartchurch.net or fatherstan@sacredheartchurch.net Please also remember to specifically release your parish affiliation information **at the hospital** whenever you are admitted, or they won't let us know you are there.

## **support**

Whether you are grieving a loss or struggling to break from an addiction – we can help. You have lots of different options and we have the experience of many contacts to refer you to. One of them may be perfect for you. This is a Season of Life. Perhaps this is the time for your life to begin again – call the office when you're ready. Call 875-4563 or email fatherstan@sacredheartchurch.net

## **formation**

Faith grows best when it is nurtured and cared for. We can help with the many Faith Formation tools we offer to you. Tailored by age (children through adults) or by where you are in life's journey, our programs can be just the tool you need to give your faith a boost. Most of our members will tell you that worshipping with us at Mass is the best first step (whether the large Sunday Mass or a small Daily Mass) but you don't have to start that way – perhaps you want to learn more about Scripture (one option is Bible Study) or you feel the need to help the disadvantaged (we have many opportunities – from our devotion to the poor of Haiti to our devotion to the poor of our community whom we help through The Cornerstone). Do you love to read? Why not join our Book Club? There is something for you here at Sacred Heart – and if there isn't we want to know about it so we can fill the need. Rella can help you. Call 875-4563 or email rella@sacredheartchurch.net

We could go on and on, but we'll just say again how glad we are that you worshipped with us.

**You are always welcome in this house.**

*Whether this is your first visit to Sacred Heart  
or you have been here before -  
we are glad you are here*

Sacred Heart stands ready to help you  
in a variety of ways

***Here are some of the ways we most often can help you***

## **Yoking of Parishes**

Yoking, or *twinning* of parishes is being used in many dioceses across the country to deal with several factors, among them, population shifts and the decline in the number of priests available for parish ministry. The term "yoking" means that the two parishes (or sometimes more than two) remain open and will work together as a team - sharing the same yoke or framework. In this case, the yoked parishes share the ministry of one pastor.

### **Sacred Heart Church in Vernon is now yoked to Saint Maurice Church in Bolton.**

When parishes are yoked, the goal is that each parish will continue to function independently, and neither will close. It is the task of the pastor and staff of the parishes to find the right balance between activities which bring the parishes together and activities in which the parishes remain separate, so that this goal is accomplished. The task is very difficult, and must be tailored to each situation in which yoking is used.

Working out the details about all these parish activities, ministries and organizations takes time, since there is a real transition involved in going from being an individual parish to being a yoked parish. The transition calls for much communication with the people in the pews, and much collaboration and conversation between the pastor, staffs and parish volunteers. Everyone must be involved if the transition is to be successful for pastors and all parishioners.

Each of the processes involved in this stage of diocesan restructuring presents its own blessings and challenges. Whether the goal is to maintain distinct parishes under the leadership of one pastor, or to unite parishes that once were distinct, the broader goal is to encourage and foster more vibrancy in our life together as Catholics, to have the Eucharist available to us, to grow in our faith and in the knowledge of God, and to bring new vitality to our parish life.

## **Readings for the Week**

Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Col 3:1-4 or  
1 Cor 5:6b-8/Jn 20:1-9 or Mk 16:1-7  
Monday: Acts 2:14, 22-33/Mt 28:8-15  
Tuesday: Acts 2:36-41/Jn 20:11-18  
Wednesday: Acts 3:1-10/Lk 24:13-35  
Thursday: Acts 3:11-26/Lk 24:35-48  
Friday: Acts 4:1-12/Jn 21:1-14  
Saturday: Acts 4:13-21/Mk 16:9-15  
Next Sunday: Acts 4:32-35/1 Jn 5:1-6/Jn 20:19-31

## **Attention: Sunday Faith Formation Classes & Youth Group**

All Sunday Faith Formation Classes and the Youth Group will not meet today, Sunday April 12 in observance of Easter. Also, all Sunday Faith Formation classes and Youth Group will not meet on Sunday, April 19 because of the Vernon school system's Spring Break. These classes and Youth Group will meet again on Sunday, April 26 at their regularly scheduled times. Questions? Please contact Rella.

## **Tag Sale – Space Rental**

The Youth Group will be participating in the town wide Tag Sale once again this year. Our tag sale will be held in the front parking lot of the church. We will be renting space to those who would like to join us in the parking lot. The rental fee is \$15 for 8 feet of space – tables and chairs will be provided free of charge. Please contact Rella (875-4563) or by e-mail ([rella@sacredheartchurch.net](mailto:rella@sacredheartchurch.net)) if you are interested in renting a table.

## **Tag Sale – Donations**

As you begin your spring cleaning, please remember that the Youth Group will take clean, usable items for the tag sale. We cannot take clothing items or shoes/boots. Please contact Rella for information about dropping off items you wish to donate. The proceeds from the tag sale will help to defray the cost of the Confirmation Retreat. Thank you.



Your Annual Bishop's Appeal (ABA) pledge is part of your personal commitment to Christian Stewardship; giving thanks to God by returning a portion of the blessings God has given you. There are so many ways God is made visible in the world around us. Our local Church sees God in the hundreds of thousands of people it takes care of every year by teaching, sheltering and caring for all who come to it for help. At times, the needs of many seem overwhelming to us, but like Christ himself, we approach such need with prayers of faith and hope in God. May your pledge to the 2009 Annual Bishop's Appeal bring "good news" to those who gather at the doors of the many ministries served by this annual appeal.

APRIL 12, 2009

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## The Work of the Church

### HOLY SATURDAY

8:00pm **Easter Vigil Mass: *For the People of Sacred Heart & Saint Maurice***

### EASTER SUNDAY

10:45am **Mass: *Arthur & Ronald Lavigne***, requested by Marge Lavigne & Family

### EASTER MONDAY

9:00am **Liturgy of the Word with Communion**

### EASTER TUESDAY

9:00am **Liturgy of the Word with Communion**

### EASTER WEDNESDAY

11:00am **Mass at Welles Village**

### EASTER THURSDAY

7:00pm **Mass: *For the People of the Parish***

7:45pm **Intercessory Prayer, Eucharistic Chapel**

### EASTER FRIDAY

10:30am **Mass at Vernon Manor**

### EASTER SATURDAY

5:45pm **Mass: *Stella Golnik***, requested by her family

### SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY)

10:45am **Mass: *Ed Kayan***, requested by Knights of Columbus Council 4122 Vernon/Rockville,  
-and-  
***Al Bousquet***, requested by Sally Bousquet

## Meetings

### SATURDAY

7:30pm **Narcotics Anonymous, South Community Rooms**

### SUNDAY **Fellowship before and after Mass**

NO **Faith Formation Grades 1 - Conf Prep or Youth Group**

### MONDAY Offices Closed

7:00pm **Haiti Ministry, Deacon Chuck White Memorial Haiti Ministry Room**

### TUESDAY Offices Closed

### WEDNESDAY

4:00pm **Faith Formation, Gr. 1-3, 5**

7:00pm **Finance Council, Living Room**

8:00pm **Alcoholics Anonymous, South Community Rooms**

### THURSDAY

10:00am **Bible Study, South Community Rooms**

8:00pm **Alcoholics Anonymous Big Book, South Community Rooms**

### SATURDAY

7:30pm **Narcotics Anonymous, South Community Rooms**

### SUNDAY **Fellowship before and after Mass**

NO **Faith Formation Grades 1 - Conf Prep or Youth Group**

**E-Mail:** [stmauricechurch@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stmauricechurch@sbcglobal.net)  
**Fr. Stanley Szczapa cell phone 841-0221**  
**WWW.STMAURICEKOF.C.ORG**

**EASTER SUNDAY, THE RESURRECTION  
OF THE LORD**

**Saturday, April 11, 2009**

**8:00 P.M. Easter Vigil Mass:** Renato Vezzetti,  
request of Richard, Gail, & Terri Gidius

**Sunday, April 12, 2009**

**8:45 A.M. Mass:** Levi Fournier, request of  
Solange Fournier

**Next Weekend**

**Saturday, April 18, 2009**

Franklin Delany and Ida Ottone

**Sunday, April 29, 2009**

Deceased members of the Henry Clark family;  
Chad Normington

**GOD'S PLAN FOR TITHING**

**Last week's offertory \$ 4,360**

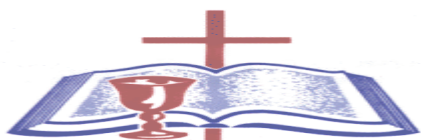
**Last year's offertory \$ 5,295**

*"They were saying to one another, 'Who will roll back the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?' When they looked up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back: it was very large....."*

**Our weekly tithing helps to roll back the very large stone that closes in our works of charity to our neighbor. It makes way for Jesus to act through us and provide for those less fortunate.**

**Readings for the week of April 12, 2009**

Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Col 3:1-4 or  
1 Cor 5:6b-8/Jn 20:1-9 or Mk 16:1-7  
Monday: Acts 2:14, 22-33/Mt 28:8-15  
Tuesday: Acts 2:36-41/Jn 20:11-18  
Wednesday: Acts 3:1-10/Lk 24:13-35  
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**THIS WEEK**

**EASTER SUNDAY**

**THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD**

*"Do not be amazed! You seek Jesus of Nazareth, the crucified. He has been raised, He is not here...." He is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him, as he told you.*

*Fr. Tony, celebrant*

*Ushers Group III*

*2<sup>nd</sup> Collection for Retired/Sick Priests*

**BAPTISM OF BROOKE OLIVIA SHEETZ**

**AFTER THE 8:45 A.M. MASS**

**Mon. Apr. 13: Mass at 9:00 a.m. for Donald**

**Sullivan, request of Ann Reigler**

**Building Committee Meeting at 7:15 p.m.**

**Tue. Apr. 14: Mass at 9:00 a.m. for Suzanne**

**Dower, request of Lynn Mancino**

**Parish Council Meeting at 7:15 p.m. at P.C.**

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

**Wed. Apr. 15 Mass at 9:00 a.m. for the Intention**

**of Michelle Bounomano**

**Christmas Fair Workshop at Parish Center**

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**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED  
SACRAMENT**

**3:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M.**

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**Thu. Apr. 16: Mass at 9:00 a.m. for Donald**

**Sullivan, request of Ann Reigler**

**Fri. Apr. 17: Mass at 9:00 a.m. for Doanld**

**Sullivan, request of Ann Reigler**

**Sat. Apr. 18: Confessions 3:00 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.**

**NEXT WEEK**

**DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY**

**2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 2009**

**4:00 P.M. MASS**

**ALTAR SERVERS:** Kevin & Audrey Dean

**LECTOR:** Dolores Betti

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:** Jean Gately,  
Peggy Peruccio, Linda Wiley

**SUNDAY, APRIL 19, 2009**

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

**ALTAR SERVERS:** Emily Carpenter,

Kirsten Cianci

**LECTOR:** Joel Cohan

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:** Lou Cloutier,  
Kathleen Smythe, Donna Bradford b

Diocese of Norwich  
Office of the Bishop  
201 Broadway  
Norwich, Connecticut 06360

EASTER MESSAGE 2009

My dear sisters and brothers in the Lord,

Alleluia! “The Lord has indeed risen. Christ now raised from the dead will never die again.”

The joy of Jesus’ Resurrection embraces and uplifts us. The joy renews our life and restores our hope. As the events of Easter unfold revealing the immeasurable abundance of God’s love, we rejoice in the gift of the Father’s “wonderful care for us” and His “boundless merciful love.” To ransom us, to pay the debt of our sinfulness, the Father gave away His Son. What a blessing we have been given to celebrate another Easter and to rejoice in Jesus our Risen Lord Whose love never abandons us or lets us down!

For those who carry a cross in life or who struggle with the uncertainty of daily life, Jesus’ Passion, Death and Resurrection offer renewed hope. In His Passion He unites Himself with all who suffer and He teaches us that He understands the crosses that we bear. In carrying His Cross to Calvary, He carries ours as well. Through His Passion and Death, He takes upon himself the burdens that weigh us down and in so doing; He lifts us up to the glory of His Risen life. For Jesus, no cross of ours is too heavy, no burden too difficult! This is the reason for which He was born to restore us to the life God once breathed into us. “See on my face the spittle I received in order to restore to you the life I once breathed into you....See the marks of the blows I received in order to refashion your nature in my image.

Liturgically, our Easter celebration begins in the darkness of night. However that darkness quickly yields to the light of a blazing fire, symbolizing Jesus, Who is the light of the world. The radiance of that fire is the first sign of His victory over sin and death. In blessing this new fire, the Church prays that God the Father “inflames us with new hope.” As the Easter Candle is lighted with the flame from the new fire, we see a rich symbol of Our Risen Lord. May the light of Christ dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds so that we will be recreated in His image.

That flame burns not only on our Easter Candles but it burns in the hearts of all of us who believe that Jesus is Lord and who hear His call to follow Him. That fire dispels the darkness of despair and it renews in us a confident hope. That blaze defeats the darkness of anxiety and doubt and it strengthens our faith. That flame burns away our indifference and self-deceit and it affords us the courage to live, to love, and to serve God and others as Jesus did.

The Easter liturgy helps us to recapture the excitement, the joy and the power of that first Easter. The one flame of the Easter Candle lights so many candles held by the faithful. In sharing that flame we can sense anew how the good news of Jesus’ Resurrection must have filled the dawn of that first Easter with radiance never before imagined or experienced.

The powerful symbolism of that flame sheds the light of Christ upon all who believe in His Name. In response to His Risen Presence, we unite with our sisters and brothers around the world in renewing our Baptismal Promises. Prepared by our Lenten journey, we are ready to reject Satan, all his works, and all his empty promises and to affirm our faith in God, the Father Almighty, in Jesus Christ, His only Son our Lord, and in the Holy Spirit. With conviction, we voice our belief in the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting.

As the news of Jesus’ Resurrection became known, it spread as quickly as the flame of the Easter candle is multiplied among the candles of the faithful at the Easter Vigil. In the reality which that symbolism conveys, we open our hearts to the fire of God’s love, our Risen Lord, and to His gift of the newness of life. No it is our turn. We are Jesus’ followers and the events of His Passion, Death and Resurrection flood our minds with His Risen Presence in the Eucharist, His greeting of peace, His forgiveness of sin, His love for others, His willingness to serve. In short, the Joy of Jesus’ Resurrection must be heard in our words, seen in our deeds, and experienced in our lives.

Through our liturgical celebration of Easter, the mystery of Jesus’ Resurrection is released in us with its power to change and uplift our lives to heal our souls, and to unite us in the Father’s love. This Easter, I pray the throughout our Diocesan family we will experience the joy and the power of Jesus’ victory and that the fire of His live will come alive in us and abide with us always.

We begin the celebration of Easter by participating at Mass. The doors of our Parish Churches are open in welcome to all to celebrate this great event of our faith. With the Father’s love, I welcome you to Mass on Easter and I greet you with Christ’s peace. Together we celebrate Easter as a new beginning of our life in God and we rejoice in the radiance of that new dawn of this Easter day that will never again see darkness. Happy Easter!

Sincerely in Christ  
+Michael R. Cote, Bishop of Norwich