

INSTITUTE OF CHRIST THE KING SOVEREIGN PRIEST

Veritatem Facientes in Caritate

SAINT PATRICK PARISH AND ORATORY

50 Charles Street, Waterbury, CT 06708

Priory (203) 756-8837 – E-mail stpatrick@icksp.org

www.icksp.org/waterbury-home – www.facebook.com/StPatrickParishandOratory/



3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT, “GAUDÉTE SUNDAY” DECEMBER 13, AD 2020

Superiors of the Institute of Christ the King

Very Rev. Msgr. R. Michael Schmitz,
STD, JCD, Vicar General of the Institute

Rev. Canon Matthew Talarico, Provincial
Superior of the Institute’s U.S. Province

Clergy and Staff of the Parish and Oratory

Rev. Canon Joel Estrada, Pastor & Rector

Abbé Kevin Kerscher, Pastoral Assistant &
Clerical Oblate

David Hughes, Organist & Choirmaster

The Archbishop of Hartford has extended his dispensation from the obligation of assisting Sunday Masses and Holy Days of Obligation through February 16, 2021.

MASS TIMES (registration is required for Sunday Mass)

Sunday: 6:30am Low Mass
8:30am Low Mass
10:30am High Mass

Monday to Saturday: 8:00am Low Mass

CONFESSIONS

30 minutes before each Holy Mass **EVERY DAY**
(*except before Sun. 6:30am*) & **DURING** each Holy Hour

DEVOTIONS

Wednesday: Devotions to St. Joseph after Mass
Saturday (except 1st Saturday): Devotions to our Mother of Perpetual Help after Mass

Friday: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at 5pm
First Friday: additional Mass at 6pm preceded by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament beginning at 5pm
First Saturday: after Holy Mass, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Holy Rosary & Benediction with Spiritual Conference

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED TO ASSIST AT SUNDAY MASSES

Tabernacle Sanctuary Candles this week are for
† Rodger Addil

Sunday, December 13

THIRD "GAUDÉTE" SUNDAY OF ADVENT

6:30am LOW MASS - † Clara Ernestina Ahumada
Soto

8:30am LOW MASS - *Pro Populo*

10:30am HIGH MASS - † Rose Czarnecki, by
Michael Ursini

Monday, December 14

Advent Feria

8:00am Low Mass - John & Jill Pastrone, by
Felicity Pastrone

Tuesday, December 15

Advent Feria

8:00am Low Mass - Jun Lee, by Rob Coviello

Wednesday, December 16

EMBER WEDNESDAY OF ADVENT

8:00am Low Mass followed by St. Joseph
Devotions - Deceased members of the Pierce
family, by Scott & Suzanne Price

Thursday, December 17

GREATER ADVENT FERIA NOVENA BEGINS

8:00am Low Mass - Kristina & Irina
Cunningham & James Galvin, by Cunningham
family

Friday, December 18

EMBER FRIDAY OF ADVENT

8:00am Low Mass - Mrs. Logan
5:00pm Holy Hour of Adoration

Saturday, December 19

EMBER SATURDAY OF ADVENT

8:00am Low Mass followed by Mother of
Perpetual Help Devotions - † Cathryn Quill, by
husband Dennis

Sunday, December 20

FOURTH "RORÁTE" SUNDAY OF ADVENT

6:30am LOW MASS - *Pro Defunctis*
8:30am LOW MASS - *Pro Populo*
10:30am HIGH MASS - Max, by Rob Coviello

FROM THE PASTOR & RECTOR,
REV. CANON JOEL ESTRADA

Dear Faithful of the Parish &
Oratory,

The virtue of hope is more than just optimism or positive thinking. Hope and joy are rooted in the promises of Christ, who does not promise the ultimate happiness in this life, but in the next. The joy of **Gaudete Sunday** does not consist in ignoring the difficulties and trials of this earthly life but rather in rejoicing no matter what the external circumstances are. In fact, the darker the world becomes, the more the world is in need of the Light. Look around you and see the presence of God, despite the difficulties we are in. Remember the last line of the message Jesus sent back to St. John the Baptist in prison, "**Happy the man who does not lose faith in me**". The message of joy given today is not a magical candy which is too good to be true. We are reminded of an episode from the life of Saint Therese of the Little Flower. By the door of her cell, in the Carmelite Convent of Lisieux, scratched into the wood she had written, "**Jesus is my only love**". It was not written in a time of exultation and enthusiasm, but rather in a time when she was in the midst of difficulties, in major despair. She was thus crying out to her beloved. Even when she experienced nothing but absence, emptiness, and darkness, she clung to Jesus, in the assurance of being loved by Him. That is faith and our source of joy.

EMBER DAYS IN ADVENT, BY DOM GUERANGER

[Wednesday], the Church begins the fast of Quatuor Tempora, or, as we call it, of Ember days: it includes also the Friday and Saturday of this same week. This observance is not peculiar to the Advent liturgy; it is one which has been fixed for each of the four seasons of the ecclesiastical year. We may consider it as one of those practices which the Church took from the Synagogue; for the prophet Zacharias speaks of the fasts of the fourth, fifth, seventh, and tenth months. Its introduction into the Christian Church would seem to have been made in the apostolic times; such, at least, is the opinion of St. Leo, of St. Isidore of Seville, of Rabanus Maurus, and of several other ancient Christian writers. It is remarkable, on the other hand, that the orientals do not observe this fast.

From the first ages the Quatuor Tempora were kept, in the Roman Church, at the same time of the year as at present. As to the expression, which is not infrequently used in the early writers, of the three times and not the four, we must remember that in the spring, these days always come in the first week of Lent, a period already consecrated to the most rigorous fasting and abstinence, and that consequently they could add nothing to the penitential exercises of that portion of the year.

The intentions, which the Church has in the fast of the Ember days, are the same as those of the Synagogue; namely, to consecrate to God by penance the four seasons of the year. The Ember days of Advent are known, in ecclesiastical antiquity, as the fast of the tenth month; and St. Leo, in one of his sermons on this fast, of which the Church has inserted a passage in the second nocturn of the third Sunday of Advent, tells us that a special fast was fixed for this time of the year, because the fruits of the earth had then all been gathered in, and that it behoved Christians to testify their gratitude to God by a sacrifice of abstinence, thus rendering themselves more worthy to approach to God, the more they were detached from the love of created things. "For fasting," adds the holy doctor, "has ever been the nourishment of virtue. Abstinence is the source of chaste thoughts, of wise resolutions, and of salutary counsel. By voluntary mortification, the flesh dies to its concupiscence, and the spirit is renewed in virtue. But since fasting alone is not sufficient whereby to secure the soul's salvation, let us add to it works of mercy towards the poor. Let us make that which we retrench from indulgence, serve unto the exercise of virtue. Let the abstinence of him that fasts, become the meal of the poor man."

Let us, the children of the Church practice what is in our power of these admonitions; and since the actual discipline of Advent is so very mild, let us be so much the more fervent in fulfilling the precept of the fast of the Ember days. By these few exercises which are now required of us, let us keep up within ourselves the zeal of our forefathers for this holy season of Advent. We must never forget that although the interior preparation is what is absolutely essential for our profiting by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, yet this preparation could scarcely be real unless it manifested itself by the exterior practices of religion and penance.

The fast of the Ember days has another object besides that of consecrating the four seasons of the year to God by an act of penance: it has also in view the ordination of the ministers of the Church, which takes place on the Saturday, and of which notice was formerly given to the people during the Mass of the Wednesday. In the Roman Church, the ordination held in the month of December was, for a long time, the most solemn of all; and it would appear, from the ancient chronicles of the Popes, that, excepting very extraordinary cases, the tenth month was, for several ages, the only time for conferring Holy Orders in Rome. The faithful should unite with the Church in this her intention, and offer to God their fasting and abstinence for the purpose of obtaining worthy ministers of the word and of the Sacraments, and true pastors of the people.

CHRISTMAS PREPARATORY NOVENA PRAYER

From December 17 to 25, after each Holy Mass, join us for our Christmas Preparatory Novena, please say it with your family if you can't make it to Mass during the week: **O Divine Infant Jesus, I have recourse to Thee. Please, through Thy Blessed Mother, assist me in this necessity (*mention intention*) because I firmly believe that Thy Divinity can help me. I hope with confidence to obtain Thy holy grace. I love Thee with all my heart and with all the strength of my soul. I repent sincerely of my sins and I beg Thee, O Good Jesus, to grant me the strength to triumph over them. I resolve never more to offend Thee and I come to offer myself to Thee with the intention of enduring everything rather than to displease Thee. Henceforth, I desire to serve Thee with fidelity and, for the love of Thee, O Divine Infant, I will love my neighbor as myself. All-powerful Infant, O Jesus, I implore Thee again, assist me in this need. Grant me the grace of possessing Thee eternally with Mary and Joseph and of adoring Thee with the angels in the Heavenly Court. Amen.**

Saint Patrick Parish and Oratory Donations

Week of December 6: **\$6439.10**

Please mail or drop off your regular offertory envelopes to Saint Patrick rectory or donate securely online at

www.osvhub.com/stpatrick-parish-and-oratory

We truly depend on your help and assistance for the upkeep of our church & operations.

May God reward your generosity!

Wisdom from Saint Francis de Sales

Patron Saint of the

Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest

“One kind word wins more willing service than a hundred harsh orders or stern reproofs.”

Mass Intention Book AD 2021 is OPEN!

We are accepting Mass intentions (preferably without any specific date) for next year. We are first asking for a soft limit of 6 intentions per family in order to accommodate everyone's requests & gradually accept more, if permitting. The pastor has now fixed the suggested Mass stipend at \$10 for each intention (*this stipend, or whichever the requestor gives, benefits the priest celebrating the Mass for his livelihood*). In addition, Mass intention requests must now be accompanied with the stipend in order for the requests be actually reserved & scheduled in the Mass intention book.

IMPORTANT: Safe Environment Training

Due to the **COVID-19**, safe environment training has now been moved to online training with Virtus (about 1.5 hours and consists of a series of videos and questions) and is **REQUIRED TRAINING FOR OUR VOLUNTEERS**. Please see the Pastor on how to fulfill this requirement online.

Pro-life prayer group

Please join us with our weekly prayer group for an end to the grave evil of abortion, every Saturday 10am-12noon in front of the Planned Parenthood building on Watertown Ave. May the Immaculate Heart of Mary triumph!

Receive updates & spiritual reflections via email. Simply text **STPATRICKPARISH** to **84576** to sign up, then follow prompt to include your full name.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Today! - Dec. 13 - 2nd Sunday of the month, Litany of Loreto after each Mass for St. Brigid Women's Guild Members, & **1st Comm. Class** after 10:30am Mass (last class of the year, resumes Jan. 10)

Dec. 15 - St. Patrick Men's Association Meeting at 6pm, Rosary & Catechetical Lesson

Dec. 17 - Christmas Novena Begins!

Dec. 19 - Christmas crèche installation & decoration gathering, **GENEROUS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED PLEASE**

Dec. 22 - Children's Catechism Class at 5:30pm (last class of the year, resumes Jan. 12)

Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve, 8am Mass

Dec. 25 - Christmas Day: Ticketed event ONLY

Dec. 25 - Exceptionally no Holy Hour today.

Dec. 27 - St. John's Traditional Wine Blessing, bring your unopened grape wine bottles/cases/pallets to be blessed & transformed into a holy drink. **Special religious art labels will be available, for a donation, to affix to your bottles once they are blessed!**

Dec. 31 - Holy Hour & Te Deum, 5pm

Jan. 1 - Octave Day of Christmas & First Friday 8:30am Low Mass & 10:30am High Mass, **Veni Creator Spiritus**

Jan. 1 - Exceptionally, no evening Mass nor Holy Hour

Jan. 2 - 1st Saturday, 8am Mass and devotions, spiritual conference

Jan. 3 - "Rudiments of the Faith" Sunday: in accordance with statute 259 of the 1st Synod of the Hartford Archdiocese, the Rudiments of the Faith sermon is to be read on a Sunday in January at all Masses in place of the usual sermon in all parishes.

Jan. 5 - Vigil of the Epiphany: Solemn Blessing of the Epiphany Water, bring your water & salt **ahead of time** to have them be exorcized into a very power sacramental. **Special Holy Water glass bottles with religious art label will be available for a donation.**

Jan. 6 - Feast of the Epiphany, 8am Low Mass & 6pm High Mass

Jan. 7 until Feb. 1 - Epiphany Home Blessings during weekdays.