

HELP STOP STATE SPONSORED SUICIDE

Politicians in Hartford are again considering assisted suicide legislation. The Public Health Committee of the Connecticut General Assembly is considering legalizing a form of suicide in our state commonly referred to as "aid-in-dying" or "physician-assisted suicide". The Committee has raised *House Bill 6425 "An Act Concerning Aid in Dying for Terminally Ill Patients"*.

Modern hospice care and the proper use of pain medications render suicide unnecessary, and we need to be mindful of the threat that a suicide mentality poses to vulnerable people and to people with disabilities

Many people believe that a physician is deeply involved in this process. This not true. The physician orders the mixture of medications, the patient must then consume the deadly cocktail of drugs without assistance. Many times without even a physician or nurse present.

We should never allow legislators to establish suicide as a solution to medical issues. Don't let the state persuade us that it's dignified for an ill person to sign their own execution order. Don't let the state create an environment where ill people will feel they have a "responsibility to die".

Catholic teaching condemns physician-assisted suicide because it, like murder, involves taking an innocent human life:

*Suicide is always as morally objectionable as murder. The Church's tradition has always rejected it as a gravely evil choice: To concur with the intention of another person to commit suicide and to help in carrying it out through so-called "assisted suicide" means to cooperate in, and at times to be the actual perpetrator of, an injustice which can never be excused, even if it is requested. Saint Augustine writes that "it is never licit to kill another: even if he should wish it." True "compassion" leads to sharing another's pain; it does not kill the person whose suffering we cannot bear. (John Paul II, *The Gospel of Life*, no. 66).*

TAKE ACTION: Go to the website below, read more on the issue and then sign the petition to stop the legalization of assisted suicide in Connecticut

www.ctstopsuicide.org

Connecticut Catholic Public Affairs Conference

INSTITUTE OF CHRIST THE KING SOVEREIGN PRIEST

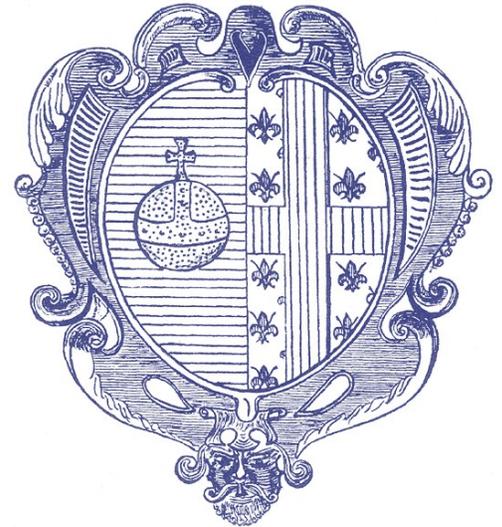
Veritatem Facientes in Caritate

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/



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT FEBRUARY 21, AD 2021

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 May 23, 2021.

MASS TIMES

Sunday: 8:30am Low Mass
10:30am High Mass
Monday to Saturday: 8:00am Low Mass

CONFESSIONS

30 minutes before each Holy Mass **EVERY DAY**
& **DURING** each weekly Holy Hour of Adoration

DEVOTIONS

Wednesday: Litany to St. Joseph after 8am 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
Saturday (except 1st Saturday): Prayers to our Mother of Perpetual Help after 8am Mass
First Saturday: after Holy Mass, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Holy Rosary & Benediction with Spiritual Conference (unless an announcement indicates otherwise)

1ST SUNDAY OF LENT

Our Blessed Lord, the Son of God, was not satisfied with atoning for all our sins by dying on the cross; He deigned to suffer a fast of forty days and forty nights, in order to encourage us to do penance. What are all our penances, even were they done thoroughly, when we compare them with the severity of this fast of our Lord in the desert? Instead of complaining about a slight inconvenience of a few days' duration, we should look upon our innocent Lord who subjected Himself to a most rigorous privation for our sakes. Prayer, devotion, and the knowledge of the exactness of His Father's justice supported Him. When the forty days were over, and His human nature faint from exhaustion, He was then assailed by temptation; but here again, He thinks of us and sets the example: triumphing over temptation, calmly and resolutely. When the Christian soul is exposed to vile insults from Satan, it complains to God for permitting such humiliations. On these occasions the Christian soul must think of our Lord, the Holy of Holies, who was given over to the wicked spirit. Souls under the violence of temptation must resist with all their energies; they are not less in the eyes of God for having undergone the attack -- and Satan, now rejected, retires with one more eternal shame and chastisement upon him. We are all sinners; the occupations of everyday life take up our thoughts, and the weakness of the flesh induces us to relax our usual austerities. So it is that our Lord has providentially given us these forty days to regain our purity of soul. The good works and holy fasting of this season were instituted as an atonement for the sins we commit during the rest of the year. But our fast does not consist in the mere abstinence from food; it is not much use to deny food to our body unless we restrain the soul from sin. We must consider the triple temptations to fight against: the concupiscence of the flesh -- the love of sensual things; concupiscence of the eyes -- the love of the goods of this world; and the pride of life -- that false confidence in ourselves that leads us to vanity and presumption, making us forget that our life and every good gift, comes from God. Every one of our sins comes from one of these sources, and it is Our Savior who should be our model in conquering these temptations -- through forbearance and perseverance.

LENTEN REGULATIONS TO OBSERVE

1. **Ash Wednesday** (February 17, AD 2021) and **Good Friday** (April 2, AD 2021) are days of **COMPLETE ABSTINENCE FROM MEAT AND ARE ALSO DAYS OF FAST**, that is, only one full meal is allowed with no eating between meals. Two other meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to one's needs but they together should not equal that of the full meal.
2. The other Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence from meat.
3. The obligation to abstain from meat binds on all who have reached the age of 14.
4. The obligation to fast binds all between the ages of 18 and 59.
5. Unless there is a just reason, the obligation to do penance is a serious one and no Catholic should lightly excuse himself from this obligation in the Lenten season. **Practices of Lenten penances and acts of mortification, increased devotion and prayer, and acts of mercy and charity and almsgiving, are worthy elements of our preparation for Easter.**
6. Abstinence on all Fridays of the year (outside of the Lenten season), though not obligatory under pain of sin, is **“especially recommended”**.
7. Fasting on weekdays of Lent, though not obligatory under pain of sin, is **“strongly recommended”** (National Conference of Catholic Bishops, November 18, 1966).
8. Catholics, after having received their 1st Holy Communion, are bound by the obligation of receiving Holy Communion at least once a year. This precept should be fulfilled during the Easter Season (between the First Sunday of Lent and Trinity Sunday).
9. Catholics are also bound to confess mortal sins at least once a year, but this is not limited to the Lenten/Easter Season. We must be well disposed to receive our Lord each time at Holy Communion and therefore **it is strongly recommended to go to confession frequently (at least once a month).**

Temptation

adapted from Saint Francis de Sales

Our Lord did not seek temptation. The Holy Ghost led Him into the desert to be tempted. If we encounter temptation in that place where the Spirit of God leads us, we must be firmly confident that God will strengthen us against these temptations no matter how strong they may be. Yet, no matter how holy and generous we may think ourselves to be, we must never trust in our own strength or courage, and go out and seek temptation, thinking we can confound it. Nonetheless, we must prepare ourselves to rise above temptation. Like Jesus, we must arm ourselves with the truth of God. This truth is nothing other than faith, which shields us from temptations. When we say, "I believe" in God the Almighty, we place our trust in God's power, not in our own strength.

As soon as you are conscious of being tempted, follow the example of children when they see a wolf or bear out in the country. They immediately run to the arms of their parents or call to them for help and protection. If the temptation continues, embrace the Holy Cross and look at our Lord. Then, turn your thoughts to some good constructive activity. Our temptations are like a chained dog. If we do not approach them they will do us no harm, even if they try to frighten us by barking at us.

Sometimes when we are faced with a temptation, in the beginning we feel wounded by some troubled emotion. Alas, we might think that it is almost impossible to serve God in holiness. Don't trouble yourself with such an idle fear. Armed with the truth of God's Word, God will strengthen us and give us the grace to persevere to do what is required for God's glory and our own welfare and happiness.

FROM THE PASTOR & RECTOR

Dear Faithful of Saint Patrick Parish and Oratory,

Please know how grateful we are for your continued support materially, financially, and especially spiritually for Saint Patrick. One of the fruits and blessings of your devotedness to our Parish and Oratory is by our strong 2020 financial report. Because of your great generosity, we are able to serve you during these times, and hopefully this 2021 year of grace will be a source of renewal and strength in our One, True, and Holy Catholic Faith.

As we have begun Lent, please do take advantage of the weekly Holy Hours and Stations of the Cross at the Parish and Oratory in order that you may fulfill your penances and sacrifices during this holy time. Plenary Indulgences are attached to these venerable traditions. Holy Confession is always available daily. Let us expiate our sins and fill our souls with much needed graces and blessings.

During these forty days of Lent we are going to experience a permanent struggle within ourselves. The Gospel of today shows us the reality of the Devil. The Church teaches us that the Devil is a real, personal being, a fallen angel. He was created good by God, but abused his free will and rejected God. Now he hates God and hates all of those created in God's image and likeness. In daily life, the Devil is like a dishonest salesman, trying to tempt us, always using the same ruse: seduction and deception. The word "Lent" is an old English word which means "springtime". May this Lent truly be a new springtime in the lives of each of us. Let this season not go to waste! Through praying, fasting, almsgiving and charity may we be like our Lord in the desert for forty days, overcoming temptation and thus receiving a grace of interior resurrection in order to be able to celebrate Easter.

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Sunday, February 21 First Sunday of Lent

8:30am Low Mass Bruno Thomas Lacaria,
Florence & Humbert Mucci,
Eleanora Lacaria & Michael
Thomas Lacaria

10:30am High Mass † Stefan Gamaj (22nd yr.
anniv.)
by Bianca & Joanna
Czaderna

Monday, February 22 Chair of St. Peter at Antioch

8:00am Low Mass Gabriel Casteñada & Grace
Sparkie by Anna Vitale

Tuesday, February 23 Feria of Lent

8:00am Low Mass † Pierre Lefebvre
by daughter Isabelle Phillips

Wednesday, February 24 St. Matthias

8:00am Low Mass & St. Joseph Devotions
Maresa & Matt Pelletier & family
by Mary Newman

Thursday, February 25 Feria of Lent

8:00am Low Mass Bonemer family liv. & dec.
by George Bonemer

Friday, February 26 Ember Friday of Lent

DAY OF OBLIGATORY ABSTINENCE

8:00am Low Mass Christine Henderson
by Stephanie Breaux
5:00pm Holy Hour of Adoration & Confessions
6:00pm Stations of the Cross & blessing of relic
of the True Cross

Saturday, February 27 Ember Saturday of Lent

8:00am Low Mass & Perpetual Help Devotions
Perrotta & Daigle families
by Corinne Beecher

Sunday, February 28 Second Sunday of Lent

8:30am Low Mass † Walter Edward J. Kulig, Sr.
birthday remembrance
by daughter Lynn
10:30am High Mass *Pro Populo*

St. Patrick Parish & Oratory Donations

Week of February 14: **\$6,305.45**

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!

Please write your donation to "Saint Patrick Parish"

Wisdom from Saint Thomas Aquinas

Patron Saint of the

Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest

**"Rise, for mercy's sake, from your cowardice, and
keep clearly before your mind this infallible truth:
all must be tempted, all must keep readied for
combat in order to win the victory."**

Upcoming Events

- Feb. 21** Lesson in Liturgy after 10:30am Mass
Feb. 21 Baby Bottle Campaign for Carolyn's Place
Pregnancy Care Center, please pick up your
bottle and return it by March 14 filled with
spare change for their benefit!
Feb. 21 Sursum Corda young adult group joint
Virtual Spiritual Conference for St. Patrick
Parish & St. Anthony of Padua Oratory at
4:30pm EST (email pastor for login info)
Feb. 23 Children's Catechism Class at 5:30pm
Feb. 26 5pm Holy Hour & 6pm Stations of the Cross
Feb. 28 1st Comm. Class after 10:30am Mass
Mar. 5 **1st Friday: SPECIAL HORARIUM**
4:30pm Adoration & Confessions, **5:30pm**
Stations of the Cross, & 6pm **High** Mass
Mar. 6 **1st Saturday:** 8am Mass followed by
Devotions & Conference
Mar. 7 **1st Sunday:** St. Patrick Men's Association
devotions after each Mass
Mar. 8 (Transferred) 1st Class Feast of St. Thomas
Aquinas, patron of the Institute, 8am Low
Mass & 6pm High Mass, Plenary Indulgence
Available
Mar. 9 Children's Catechism Class at 5:30pm
Mar. 12 5pm Holy Hour & 6pm Stations of the Cross
Mar. 13 **Requiem Mass** for Rev. Fr. Thomas Hickey
(1st anniv.) at 8am
Mar. 14 **2nd Sunday:** St. Brigid Women's Guild
devotions after each Mass
Mar. 14 1st Comm. Class after 10:30am Mass
Mar. 17 **Patronal Feast of St. Patrick,** 8am Low
Mass & 6pm High Mass