

## 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 is 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*".

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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](http://www.ctstopsuicide.org)

*Connecticut Catholic Public Affairs Conference*

# INSTITUTE OF CHRIST THE KING SOVEREIGN PRIEST

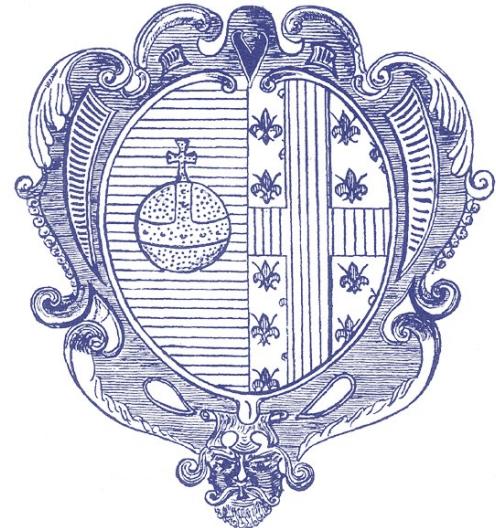
*Veritatem Facientes in Caritate*

## SAINT PATRICK PARISH AND ORATORY

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## SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT FEBRUARY 28, 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

### CONFESIONS

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)

## 2ND SUNDAY OF LENT

Consider that in the Transfiguration of Our Lord, His witnesses, Saints Peter, James and John were transformed in some way; they had a glimpse of a glory as would come to them after their life of fidelity to God, through hardships and trials.

Our Lord had told the apostles of His coming Passion before He gave them this encouraging experience of seeing the Transfiguration. Christ as man had the glory of the beatific vision from the first instant of His existence in Mary's womb. But He was not to have the "overflow of heavenly glory into His body" until His Resurrection from the dead.

In the Transfiguration, our Lord showed by way of anticipation the clarity of His bodily glory. This was the essential clarity of true heavenly glory, here manifested in a new mode, that is, as miraculously produced. In the glory following the Resurrection, the clarity of the glorified body is not a miracle; it belongs to the glorified body as such.

Our Lord chose as witnesses to the Transfiguration, not only the three Apostles, but Moses and Elias who appeared visibly.

As at the baptism of Christ by St. John, so here on the mountain of Transfiguration, the voice of God the Father proclaimed the divine Sonship of Christ. The baptism of Christ by St. John foretold the true baptism which brings grace; the Transfiguration foretold the triumph of grace in glory. Both grace and glory are available to man, but only through the Son of God who became man. Hence it is notably suitable that the divinity of Christ should be divinely proclaimed on these two occasions: the baptism by St. John, and the Transfiguration on the mount. (reflection of the *Summa Theologiae*, IIIa. Q. 45)

St. Francis de Sales saw the Transfiguration as a "glimpse of heaven." During this season of Lent, may our eyes, our minds and our hearts be transfigured and transformed. May we see more clearly the glory of a God who always loves us, who redeems us, who heals us, who forgives us, who challenges us, who pursues us, who strengthens us and who inspires us. May we grow in our ability, through the quality of our lives, to make that "glimpse of heaven" visible in the lives of others.

"The more you know and the better you understand, the more severely will you be judged, unless your life is also the more holy. Do not be proud, therefore, because of your learning or skill. Rather, fear because of the talent given you. (from *Imitation of Christ*)"

## 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)**.

## Do you like to talk about people & gossip?

St. Philip Neri was an Italian priest who lived in the 16th Century. Known as the “Third Apostle of Rome” after St. Peter and St. Paul, St. Philip Neri was a saintly priest.

One day a woman visited St. Philip Neri. Known for her wicked tongue and gossip, often stirring up the pot sharing other peoples’ faults, St. Philip gave her some money to go buy a chicken at the store. After the chicken was killed, St. Philip asked her, as she walked back, to pluck all the feathers off the chicken. The woman was delighted that the saintly St. Philip had asked her to do something for him. She went to buy the chicken, got it and as she walked back to St. Philip, she plucked every feather off and when arrived, handed him a freshly plucked chicken. He thanked her and then asked her another favor. “Now go back once more, and gather all the feathers of the chicken you just plucked.” She objected, “That is impossible, Father. The wind has scattered the feathers in every direction.” Then St. Philip Neri responded, “Let this be a lesson for you, for it is exactly the same with your wicked words. Just as the chicken feathers have been scattered by the wind in every direction, so have your wicked words been scattered in every direction by other people, repeating your stories!” Let us remember this story when we are tempted to repeating to others what they did not need to hear about a situation. Here St. Paul gave sound advice centuries earlier than St. Philip Neri, “Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for edifying, as fits the occasion, that it may import grace to those who hear. And do not grieve the Holy Ghost of God... Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, with all malice, and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.” (Ephesians 4:29-31) The next time we are about share information that could hurt another person’s reputation (even if it is true) let us think of the plucked chicken with its feathers everywhere and God asking us to retrieve every last feather that the wind of gossip has scattered. Gossip hurts everyone.

## **FROM THE PASTOR & RECTOR**

Dear Faithful of Saint Patrick Parish and Oratory,

During Lent we face a daily struggle and there are many rocks blocking our path. Recalling the Gospel of today, we must struggle to ascend our personal Mount Tabor; we must fight for our personal transfiguration. This is why it is so important to be frequently healed by confession and abundantly fed by Holy Communion. We can go both up and down a slope. We can spiritually progress, but we can also spiritually regress. We can be transfigured by the love of God or we can be disfigured by the attachment to sin. Like progress, regress is not sudden and dramatic; regress is a slope, a slippery slope. Let us take heart, let us remember that being discouraged during Lent may be just the result of the human condition or it may be the devil trying to lead us away from God and into despair. A bit of difficulty in keeping a good Lent is not unusual. But a victory without battle is not a victory. It is why we ask for God’s help and we trust Him to give the graces that are necessary.

Remember the penances we need to practice for this season of Lent. Penance consists in contrition of the soul and mortification of the body. The soul has willed the sin; the body has cooperated in its commission. Also, the body will share with the soul either the delights of heaven or the torments of hell. Therefore both should pay homage to the Creator. The soul must be resolved to give up every sin; it must heartily grieve over those already committed; it must hate sin and shun the near occasions of sin. Penance has more than atoning value. When our own little crosses are borne in union with the suffering Savior, we truly help Christ in uniting ourselves closer to Him. Let us take heart, keep the faith, and make a good Lent!

# LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

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	<i>Pro Populo</i>
Monday, March 1	Feria of Lent
8:00am Low Mass	Jason, Anna, Joshua Elbers, by Michelle Wright
Tuesday, March 2	Feria of Lent
8:00am Low Mass	Logan Murphy by Rachel Murphy
Wednesday, March 3	Feria of Lent
8:00am Low Mass & St. Joseph Devotions	In atonement for all offenses against the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus & Immaculate Heart of Mary
1st Thursday, March 4	Jesus Christ Sovereign & Eternal Priest
8:00am Low Mass	For all living & deceased priests & religious
1st Friday, March 5	Sacred Heart of Jesus <b>DAY OF OBLIGATORY ABSTINENCE</b>
8:00am Low Mass	For all seminarians, oblates, sisters, canons of ICRSS
4:30pm	Holy Hour of Adoration & Confessions
5:30pm	Stations of the Cross & blessing of relic of the True Cross
6:00pm	High Mass <i>Pro Populo</i>
1st Saturday, March 6	Immaculate Heart of Mary
8:00am Low Mass & Perpetual Help Devotions & Conference	Sopie Szwarc, by B.L.
1st Sunday, March 7	Third Sunday of Lent
8:30am Low Mass	Margaret Turner
10:30am High Mass	† Lise Thorn, by daughter Isabelle Phillips
Monday, March 8	St. Thomas Aquinas (transferred)
8:00am Low Mass	Mond K. Zalesny, by B.L.
6:00pm High Mass	<i>Pro Populo</i>

## St. Patrick Parish & Oratory Donations

Week of February 21: **\$5,863.40**

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](http://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*

**"The world tempts us either by attaching us to it  
in prosperity, or by filling us with fear of  
adversity. But faith overcomes this in that we  
believe in a life to come better than this one, and  
hence we despise the riches of this world and we  
are not terrified in the face of adversity."**

## Upcoming Events

- 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. 7** **CANCELLED Lesson in Liturgy** (see Mar. 21)
- Mar. 8** (Transferred) 1st Class Feast of St. Thomas  
Aquinas, 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. 16** Men's Rosary and Conference night, starts at 6pm
- Mar. 17** Patronal Feast of St. Patrick, 8am Low Mass & 6pm  
High Mass
- Mar. 19** Feast of Saint Joseph, 8am Low Mass, 4:30pm  
Adoration & Confessions, 5:30pm Stations of the  
Cross, 6pm High Mass followed by consecration,  
Plenary Indulgence Available
- Mar. 20** Women's Day of Lenten Recollection, Holy Mass  
at 8am followed by morning recollection and  
concludes with rosary and benediction. Please sign  
up (by Mar. 15) with Patricia Murphy if interested.
- Mar. 21** Lenten Lesson in Liturgy after 10:30am Mass