

3rd Sunday of Advent December 15, 2019

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE 2019 MASSES:

**CHRISTMAS EVE, TUESDAY,
December 24th**

4:00 PM and 5:30 PM;

Spanish Mass at 7:30 PM

Midnight Mass at 12:00 AM

CHRISTMAS DAY, WEDNESDAY,

December 25th

7:30 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:30 AM

No evening Mass

Sacred Heart Parish MISSION STATEMENT

We are the presence of Jesus Christ manifesting through our Faith Community of Sacred Heart Parish, rooted in the Gospel of Jesus Christ, committed to living and sharing of Faith, to invite all to listen to the message of Christ as expressed in our parish and to foster the Gospel values in and around our parish for the ongoing transformation by the saving power of Christ.

SACRED HEART CHURCH

GREENWICH, CT 06830

95A Henry Street

Greenwich, CT 06830

Phone: (203) 531-8730 Fax (203) 531-8794

Email: sacredheartgrn@optonline.net

Website: sacredheartgreenwich.org

Parish Office

38 Gold Street

Greenwich, CT 06830

Office Hours

9:00 AM— 1:00 PM Monday to Friday

Except Wednesday

9:00 AM —12 Noon

Closed on Saturday and Sunday

PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Fr. Bose Raja Selvaraj

Bookkeeper: Gail MacLean

Secretary: Alice Neal

Masses

(in Chapel)

Monday through Friday: 7:00 AM

(in Church)

Saturday Vigil : 4:00 PM

Sunday Masses:

7:30 AM, 9:30 AM and 11:30AM

5:00 PM (Spanish Mass)

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Church)

Saturdays: 3:20 – 3:50 PM Or by appointment

Sacrament of Baptism

Baptisms are celebrated on Sunday at 12:30 PM.

Please call the parish office in advance
to schedule a baptism.

Sacrament of Matrimony

Should be arranged at least 6 months in advance.

Call the parish office for information.

Religious Education

EMAIL: reledsh@optimum.net

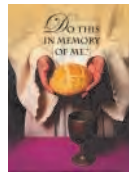
ALL CLASSES ON WEDNESDAY

3:45 – 4:45 PM : Grades 1-5

6:30 – 7:30 PM : Grades 6-8



“REJOICE IN THE LORD ALWAYS.
I SHALL SAY IT AGAIN:
REJOICE!”
PHILIPPIANS 4:4



THE ALTAR BREAD AND WINE
ARE IN LOVING MEMORY OF
JOHN BURNS, SR.
FROM HIS WIFE & FAMILY.



Saturday, December 14
4:00 PM †Mary Ambrosecchio —Ambrosecchio Family

Sunday, December 15
7:30 AM Parishioners
†9:30 AM †Mary Ellen Zuccerella —Mike & Rosemary
11:30 AM †Jose Luis Perez (3rd Anniversary) —Perez Family
5:00 PM Spanish Mass

Monday, December 16
7:00 AM †John J. Bykowski—Family

Tuesday, December 17
7:00 AM †Fr. McCarthy—Mike Kristoff

Wednesday, December 18
7:00 AM Special Intention for Brian Lawler & Family

Thursday, December 19
7:00 AM : Special Intention for Celeste Hughes & Family

Friday, December 20
7:00 AM Special Intention for Clare Kilgallen & Family

Saturday, December 21
4:00 PM †James Mitchell — Family

Sunday, December 22
7:30 AM †Nicholas Lagronegro—Amy & Armando Pennella
†9:30 AM †Victoria Grosse —Catherine Peterson
11:30 AM †The Antonio LaBate Family—Sacred Heart Parish
5:00 PM Spanish Mass

Monday, December 23
7:00 AM †Alice McCourt Keegan (Birthday)—Alice & Marion Neal

Tuesday, December 24--**VIGIL OF THE NATIVITY**
4:00 PM †John, Sr. , Jack Stein & Amie Keenan—Phyllis Stein
5:30 PM †Nickolas Pankosky (11th Anniversary)—Mom & Dad
7:30 PM Spanish Mass
12:00 AM †Rodriguez Family

Wednesday, December 25—**THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD**
7:30 AM †Geraldine Fratello— Husband and Sons
9:30 AM †Anne M. Kristoff—Husband
11:30 AM †Peter Johansen—Mike Kristoff

Thursday, December 26
7:00 AM : Special Intention for Bernadette Sciarabba & Family

Friday, December 27
7:00 AM Parishioners

THIS WEEK—MONTHLY

NEXT WEEK— NO SECOND COLLECTION

CHRISTMAS—MY CHRISTMAS GIFT

Weekly Offertory—December 15— THANK YOU

First Collection \$2,656.00

Second Collection- \$1,048.30—Immaculate Conception

The following list is for the most recent availability for Masses:

Jan. 2020 10, 13, 17, 21, 24, 26, 28, 29, 31. **Feb.** 2, 4, 6, 9, 10, 11, 13, 17, 18, 20, 21, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29. **Mar.** 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 12, 13, 15, 19, 23, 24, 25, 30, 31. **April** 3, 5, 6, 7.

For Altar Bread & Wine: Jan. 2020 5, 26. **Feb.** 16. **Mar.** 8, 22, 29. **May** 31. **June** 7, 14, 28. **July** 5, 12. **Aug.** 16, 30.

For Altar Flowers: Feb. 16. **May** 31. **June** 14. **July** 5, 12, 19, 26. **Aug.** 9, 16, 23. **Sept.** 6, 20, 27. **Oct.** 4, 11, 18.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT REHEARSAL

Dress Rehearsal: Saturday, December 14th
7:00-8:30 PM (in the church)

CONFESSIONS

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 18TH 6:30-7:30 PM

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT -A

John’s disciples, probably with some hesitation, told him that Jesus made no mention of the “coming wrath.” Nor was there anything about rescuing John from prison. Instead, he talked about the blind, the lame, lepers, the deaf, the dead, and about poor people getting good news. Jesus, realizing that his message might not fit John’s expectation, added the remark about the blessedness of the one who hears his words, and does not lose trust in him.

We may find ourselves in situations of violence, suffering and confusion; and we too will have expectations of how God will intervene. Isn’t our expectation that God’s presence will be some manifestation of superior power to make things right? Jesus realized that only the humble power of God’s love can vanquish the reign of evil and bring about a new kingdom of justice and peace. Love must actualize itself in defending and promoting the God-given rights of every human being—the fundamental right to live and the right to participate with dignity in the life of the community. Love, which seems most weak, most impractical, most foolish in the face of evil, is the only force that can change the human heart.

Only if we are able, like John, to be freed of our own expectations, will we be able to welcome the coming of the Lord and his way of love. Then we, also like John, may prepare the way for others to welcome the Lord’s coming. -Campion P. Gavalier, O.S.B.

FAMILY MASS--CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

This Sunday, December 15th at 9:30 AM
Grades 1-8 and their families celebrate **Family Mass**. After Mass and the **Christmas Pageant**, everyone is invited to the School Hall for **Breakfast with Santa**.

New Parishioners

Welcome to our parish family!

Please pick up a Parish Registration form from rack in the back of the Church or call the Parish Office.

**MINISTRY APPRECIATION
CHRISTMAS DINNER
RESCHEDULED TO:
MONDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2019
at 6:30 PM (SCHOOL HALL)**

ANGEL TREE

Sacred Heart Parish Angel Tree Project concludes this Sunday, December 15th. These gifts will benefit the residents of Nathaniel Witherell, Birthright, CT Veterans Association, Pacific House, Inspirica and those within our immediate Sacred Heart community. The Angel Tree is set up in the Baptismal area.



To participate:

- Take an Angel off the tree before or after Mass.
- Purchase the gift as detailed on the angel.
- Return the wrapped gift with the angel attached by Sunday, December 15th.
- Place it under the Angel Tree.

Don't forget to return your wrapped gift to the Baptismal area by Sunday, December 15th. If you would be willing to help with sorting gifts on Sunday, December 15th after 11:30 AM Mass, please contact Kathy Wiegand at kwcasper23@yahoo.com or 203-559-8086.

ALPHA-BITS

Alpha-Bits is aimed at helping parents of Generation Alpha (birth to 7 years) raise faith-filled children. This project, funded in part by a grant from the St. John Paul II Fund for Religious Education and Youth Ministry, contains resources, tips, and practical suggestions for parents and grandparents. It is available at the diocesan site, <https://formationreimagined.org/alphabits>

REQUIREMENTS TO BE A SPONSOR FOR BAPTISM OR CONFIRMATION

The sponsor (or godparent) needs to supply a sponsor certificate from his/her parish to our parish where the Baptism or Confirmation will be celebrated OR a copy of the sponsor/godparent's Confirmation certificate.

Canon Law requires the sponsor/godparent:

- To be a participating member of the Catholic Church
- To be at least 16 years of age
- To have received the three Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Holy Eucharist, and Confirmation
- If married should be married by the laws of the Catholic Church
- Is an active member of the parish

DECEMBER 2019

- Dec. 14, Sat.—Prayer Shawl Meeting at 9:30 AM**
Dec. 14, Sat.—Blessing of Prayer Shawls at 4 PM Mass
Dec. 15, Sun.—Family Mass at 9:30 AM Mass with Christmas Pageant. After Mass Breakfast with Santa in the School Hall
Dec. 15, Sun.—Angel Tree gifts due. Sorting of gifts after 11:30 AM Mass.
Dec. 16, Mon.—Parish Ministry Appreciation Dinner at 6:30 PM in the School Hall.
Dec. 24, 25, 26—Office Closed
Dec. 25 and 31—No Religious Ed Classes.
Classes resume Wednesday, January 8, 2020

PRAYER GROUP : Wednesdays- 6 to 7 PM (Parish Meeting Room)

NOVENA TO O.L OF PERPETUAL HELP: Wednesdays-7:30 PM (Chapel)

ARISE AND SHINE CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Join Bishop Caggiano and the Diocesan Choir 4 Youth for the fifth annual **Arise and Shine Christmas Concert** at the Fairfield University Quick Center for the Arts, 1073 North Benson Road, Fairfield **on Friday, December 20, 2019 at 7:30 PM.** General Admission tickets are \$22. Purchase tickets online at www.quickcenter.fairfield.edu

PRAYER SHAWLS

Prayer Shawls will be blessed at the 4:00 PM Mass this Saturday, December 14th. They will be available after Masses. The beautiful Prayer Shawls are thoughtful gifts for those needing loving support and prayers. The donation offering is usually \$20 to help defray the cost of yarns.

REFLECTION

After confirming who he is, Jesus goes on to confirm who John the Baptist is. He is the one sent to prepare the way for the Messiah. His rhetorical question, “what did you go out to see...” points out that there were those who were expecting a Messiah who would be high class, wealthy and a political leader. Jesus shows us that this is certainly not God's plan for the Redeemer. John the Baptist, in preparing the way for Jesus, does so in the same simple and humble manner as Jesus himself would do. There were those who were surprised, disappointed and unable to accept the thought that the Messiah would be a poor carpenter from an insignificant village who was very comfortable associating with tax collectors and sinners.

As the ministry of Jesus continues and his identity becomes clearer, it is incomprehensibly for many to believe that the Messiah was also the Son of God – The word made Flesh. Why would almighty God humble himself to become a frail man? Very simply, because; “God so loved the world that he sent his only begotten Son.....” Jn 3:16 - Father Killian Loch, O.S.B

SACRED HEART CHURCH
GREENWICH, CT

Dear Parishioners,

Despite our best efforts to plan, Christmas is often full of uncertainty. Mary and Joseph knew that feeling. Even in the final hours before the birth of their son, they were uncertain where they would find a place to deliver him. One thing they knew for sure was God would take care of them. They held tight to their faith and the message of the angel. Although it may not have been the way they planned it, it turned out the way God planned it.

May God's grand design direct and bless your Christmas.

In Christ,
Father Raja

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NEW YEAR'S MASSES

Feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary,

Mother of God

NEW YEAR'S EVE

TUESDAY, December 31st

5:30 p.m.

NEW YEAR'S DAY 2019

WEDNESDAY, January 1st

9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

No evening Mass