

ST. ROSE OF LIMA

THIS WEEK AT ST. ROSE – Sunday, December 20, 2009

Sunday, December 20

All Masses	Rel. Articles & Cares Box (1)
12 noon	Bethany Mass (1)
3 p.m.	Usher Meeting (1)
5 p.m.	7 th & 8 th Grade Advent Mass
5 p.m.	Catholic Forum presentation 3
7-10 p.m.	Men's CRHP Meeting (2)
7 p.m.	Bereavement Meeting (2)

Monday, December 21

9-11:30 a.m. Teach Me to Pray...Play (2)

Tuesday, December 22

9:30 a.m. WEBS (2)
 10:00 a.m. Job Network Support Group 2
 7-8 & 8-9:30 p.m. Al-Anon (2)
 7 p.m. Adult Choir (1)

Wednesday, December 23

9-11:30 a.m. Teach Me to Pray...Play (2)
 7:00 p.m. Folk Choir (1)

Thursday, December 24 (Christmas)

3-4 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration (7)
 8 p.m. Prayer Group (2)

Friday, December 25 (Christmas Day)

ALL OFFICES CLOSED

Saturday, December 26

6:30 a.m. AA Meeting (2)

LOCATION:

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Church | 5. Parish Center/Safepace |
| 2. 38 Church Hill Road | 6. St. Rose School |
| 3. Gathering Hall | 7. Chapel |
| 4. Science Room | 8. Msgr. Conroy Room |

RELIGIOUS GIVE THANKS

Our parish contributed \$8,637.00 to the Retirement Fund for Religious in the second collection on December 13, 2009. Of the support offered by this appeal, one religious writes, "We deeply appreciate this assistance. God's loving care touches us through the hearts of thousands of Catholics who give so generously to this collection year after year." Women and men religious throughout the country send their abundant thanks for your donation.

www.retiredreligious.org

CHRISTMAS EVE MASS SCHEDULE

4 p.m. in the church
 4 p.m. in the Gathering Hall
 4 p.m. at Newtown High School Auditorium (children's pageant)
 6 p.m. in the church
 11 p.m. in the church (10:30 p.m. concert)

CHRISTMAS DAY MASS SCHEDULE

7:30 a.m.
 9:00 a.m.
 10:30 a.m.
 12 noon
 All masses are in the church

Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, December 21

6:45 Patrick O'Neil Anna McMahon
 9:00 John Murphy Religious Ed. Staff

Tuesday, December 22

6:45 Joan Murphy & Ellen Rogers Jack & Mary Obre
 9:00 Anne Ryan Family

Wednesday, December 23

6:45 Mary Abell Anna McMahon
 9:00 Susan Kimball Tess Foley

Thursday, December 24

4:00 High School – Thomas S. Weiss Family
 4:00 Church – Bernadette Brennan Daughter & Granddaughters
 4:00 Hall – Gary Loomis The family
 6:00 Church – Michael & Jennifer Farkas Marusa Family
 11:00 Church – St. Rose Parish Family

Friday, December 25 (Christmas Day)

7:30 Louie Franzese Marshall & Martie Williams
 9:00 Marie DeMarco Donna DeMarco
 10:30 Joseph, Sr. & Lucy Jacovino & Peter & Helen Velykis
 12:00 Yolanda Belmont Evelyn and the family

Saturday, December 26

8:00 Nicholas DeLeo Mary & Kevin Maloney
 4:00 Michael Rizzo, Jr. Family
 5:30 Joseph Soriero Family

Sunday, December 27

7:30 Bob Kelly The Gerbo Family
 9:00 Joseph Trombetta Virginia & Jim Kenning
 10:30 Cecilia Colombatto St. Rose Choir
 12:00 Humbert & Rosa Arizaga Marie Giner

IN REMEMBRANCE

The Sanctuary Candle will be lit this week for deceased family members as requested by Jean Otton & family.

The Chapel Candle will be lit this week in memory of Melissa Rodriguez as requested by Mom and Dad.

Thank you for your support!

Collection for December 13, 2009	\$17,675.00
Retired Religious	8,637.00
Children's Collection	22.55
Collection December 14, 2008	\$18,422.00

QUARTERLY REPORTS ARE AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE strosechurch.com FOR YOUR REVIEW.

BETHANY MASS

Our parish family will always remember in our hearts and minds those parishioners who have gone on to the heavenly banquet. This Sunday, December 20th, at the 12:00 noon Mass, we celebrate in a special way, Shaun McClean, Barbara Hanauer, Mary Maguire and Virginia Lathrop who have died since our last Bethany Mass. Although we miss their physical presence among us, we rejoice that they are with the Lord. We also want their families and friends to know that we are here to support them. Please continue to pray for all our deceased parishioners, their families, and their friends.

Deacon Don and Stephania Naiman, Coordinators (203-748-7976)

PROJECT 2009

Thanks to the following parishioners for their support!

Alberico Family
Michael & Laurie DiNallo

A MESSAGE FROM MSGR. BOB

My prayers are with each of you for a very blessed and holy Christmas. The birth of Christ heralds for all of us the hope that is ours through our faith. The depth of that faith that I witness in you is a great gift to me and my ministry. Our parish community is a vibrant reflection of the power of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. While these are very stress-filled days for many of our parish families, there is a strong sense of community among us. Day after day there are constant reminders that in the midst of so much darkness there is always the light of our faith that sustains us and helps us support one another. So many have been negatively affected by the economy of our country which can easily create a sense of hopelessness and helplessness. Others have had to deal with serious illness or the death of a loved one. Some have had great stress put on their marriage and family relationships. Whatever has been given to us, we can have the faith we need to help us realize that God never abandons us even in our most troubling times. I pray that this Christmas season is an opportunity for each of us to review our lives and come to a deeper realization of those things that are truly the most important. For us, that begins with giving thanks for our faith in God and the selflessness of His love in Jesus Christ. As you gather with family and friends, do not be afraid to let the light of your faith shine as brightly as the star of Bethlehem!

MERRY CHRISTMAS!
Monsignor Bob Weiss

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS FROM THE STAFF

May we always welcome Jesus in our lives not only on Christmas day.

Merry Christmas.
Fr. Milan

Dear Parishioners and Staff of St. Rose
I want to wish you all the blessings and joy this Christmas season. I have been here a short time, almost 8 months now, but in this short time I have seen the love and joy in which this Parish helps one another as the first Christians. May you continue to Love God and one another this New Year and may our Blessed Mother Mary always protect you and your families. Merry Christmas!
The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.” (Jn 1)
Affectionately yours in Christ, **Rev. Ignacio Ortigas**

As we join together in awe of the wondrous birth of the child, Jesus, we pray that the gift of the living Word fills your hearts and that your lives are blessed with the glorious radiance of His love and peace throughout the coming new year. Merry Christmas,
Mary Maloney and St. Rose School Staff

The readings for Christmas Day are filled with words that express our joy and wonder. We who once walked in darkness have seen a great light. Jesus, the Light of the world, came among us and continues to dwell with us. As I kneel before the manger on Christmas Day, I will pray for you asking the Infant King to grant you many blessings. I wish you a Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Sister Thaddeus Rajca, CSFN

Hark! The Herald Angels sing, Glory to the newborn King! On this Christmas Day I will take each of you with me in my heart when I visit the Christ Child at the Crib. I pray that He blesses you and grants you the graces He knows you need at this time. May He always find a welcome place in your heart. May you find **Peace** and **Joy** in the **Hope** and **Love** that **Jesus** brings!
Love and peace for a blessed Christmas
Sister Mary Ellen Genova, CSFN

Dear Parishioners,

The Spirit of the Christmas Season stays with us because of the presence of Christ that is so evident in all of your goodness all year long. Our parish family is a reflection of the Christ Child because of you. May God continue to bless you and guide you this year and always.

Love,
The Religious Education Staff
Meg, Janice, Kate, Joanne, & Pam

During the recent weeks and months of our H1N1 guidelines, I have missed so many opportunities as deacon to invite you all “to offer one another a sign of peace.” It has been particularly difficult for me since I know that so many of us need to be reminded that others care for us and wish us well. Now is my time – and what better time than the Christmas Season - to not only invite from you, but to offer to you a greeting of peace. At this wonder-full and holy time, I offer each of you my heartfelt prayer for peace in your lives – a joyful Christmas peace, a loving peace in your families, and a hopeful peace for the New Year. The peace of the Christ child be with you.

Deacon Tom

May the peace of God that surpasses all understanding guard our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Deacon Dan

May the peace of Christ fill your hearts and minds and may you be that peace to all.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

Deacon Don

May Emmanuel, God-with-us, fill your spirits with joy this Christmas season, and may Jesus, the Prince of Peace, ease your anxieties that you may live in His true peace this coming year.

Deacon Norm.

The St. Rose Catholic Forum RESCHEDULED

The Mystery of Christmas with Deacon Don Naiman

This Sunday, December 20 – presentation at 5 p.m. in the Gathering Hall (there will not be a mass with this program)

God sent his only Son to become one of us for our redemption. “The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.” Deacon Don will guide us through exploring this mystery through the eyes of our saints and popes. The mystery of Bethlehem was the most radical and profound change humanity has ever known, which is why in our era human time can be calculated from Jesus’ birth. Let Christ be born again in our hearts and minds!

Join us for the free, inspirational Advent event!

For more information visit www.catholicforum.us or contact the Catholic Forum at strosecatholicforum@gmail.com

USHER MEETING

There will be a very important half hour Usher meeting for all Ushers on Sunday, December 20 at 3 p.m. in the church. If you are interested in becoming an usher, please attend the meeting. Contact Rich Fenaroli at 203-209-0000.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

The Promise of Advent

The word "promise" is an exclamatory "yes!" The incarnational "yes" was uttered first by Mary, and this Word of God of life and light grew within her womb. As Mary responded, we also respond. Our first response was in Baptism – a promise – a "yes" to the Divine life that began within us. Many of us made this Baptismal promise shortly after our birth and some of us made this promise much later in life. We affirmed this promise as young adults at our Confirmation. Advent is a time to renew this promise to the Divine life within us – to feed it with increased prayer, silence and reflection. Reflection led Mary to action – to visiting and taking care of her cousin – this life within her radiated beyond her womb to inspire and comfort others. It must have been a risky journey for Mary, and our journey outside ourselves is risky as well. Welcoming the Christ in one another means looking for the good – bringing out the very best in one another – allowing the "promise" of the light in others to shine. Lord, we offer our hearts to be your manger, so that Your Presence fills the world with light.

Reflection Question and Activity: Imagine yourself in the presence of Mary in the last few days of her pregnancy. What advice would she give you about how to spend your time during the final five days of preparation for the birth of her Son?

Enriching My Catholic IQ: Which of the following is not a title given to Emmanuel in the hymn "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"? (a) Wisdom; (b) Rod of Jesse; (c) Morning Star; (d) Key of David.

Christmas Eve Nativity Pageant You are invited to the annual **Christmas Pageant at the 4:00 Mass on Christmas Eve** at Newtown High School.

Celebrating the Liturgical Season of Advent Advent Masses – Dec. 20-23

All families are invited to join the children for their last class before Christmas break as together we celebrate Mass during class time. There is a religious gift for every child as a reminder of the gift of Christ within each of them. Masses for children who attend class on Sunday will be held in the parish hall. Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday Masses will be held in the Church. Parents and children sit together with the class.

7th & 8th Grade Advent Mass

On December 20 from 5:00-6:15, all seventh and eighth grade students and their families will gather to celebrate this season of waiting. There will be no Monday & Tuesday evening classes. This Mass fulfills the Sunday Mass obligation. Please sit with your class.

Live Nativity Thanks

St. Rose Parishioners are so grateful to those who coordinated this inspirational event last weekend: Rita Power, Mary Beth Sippin, and Reggie Cernick; and the narrator of the Incarnation story Deacon Don Naiman. We also thank the holy family (the Kirkman family), singer Gary Sippin, shepherd Jeff DePinto, Angel Marge Griffin and the host of other angels, shepherds, and wise men. Your prayerful gift lifted our Advent spirits to one of hospitality, joy, peace!

Reconciliation Preparation

Students preparing to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time will have a special preparation session during the week of **Jan. 3-6**. This will be held in the gathering hall during class time. St. Rose School students will attend on Wednesday, Jan. 6 from 4:15-5:15. Students and Parents please sit together as a class.

The next Children's Liturgy will take place on Saturday, January 9 at the 5:30 Mass. Please call the Religious Education Office if your child would like to join the choir, read, or bring up offertory gifts.

Sean Forrest Retreat for 8th Grade Confirmation Candidates

The Confirmation Retreat will take place on **Jan. 11 from 4:00-8:30 p.m. in the gathering hall**. Pizza will be served for dinner. If you cannot attend, contact the Religious Education Office so that we may reserve a place for you at another parish for their Confirmation retreat to fulfill this necessary requirement of preparation.

Adult Formation

The St. Rose Catholic Forum presents:
The Mystery of Christmas with Deacon Don Naiman
Sunday, December 20 - presentation at 5 pm in the Gathering Hall

God sent his only Son to become one of us for our redemption. "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us." Deacon Don will guide us through exploring this mystery through the eyes of our saints and popes. The mystery of Bethlehem was the most radical and profound change humanity has ever known, which is why in our era human time can be calculated from Jesus' birth. Let Christ be born again in our hearts and minds! Join us for the free, inspirational Advent event! For more information visit www.catholicforum.us or contact the Catholic Forum at strosecatholicforum@gmail.com

Attention: Parents of Children Who Attend Classes Tuesday or Wednesday Change Your Life Forever

On Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons from 4:15-5:15 during class time, there is a study group based on Matthew Kelly's book: "Living Every Day With Passion and Purpose" at the Religious Education Office. Please call Pam Arsenaault for details at the Religious Education Office to register 426-2333. The book cost is \$10. This series was held this past summer and fall, and it changes the way that we live our lives!

Spiritual Journey

Please join us on January 7 from 10:15-11:15 in the upstairs room at 38 Church Hill Road as speakers, Ken & Toni Adams, speak about the healing power of God. Come and see what God has in store for you – a mind- and spirit-broadening experience as well as a wonderful group of friends. All are welcome and refreshments are served.

This week we celebrate the fourth week of Advent, the life of St. Peter Canisius (Dec. 21), St. John of Kanty (Dec. 23) Christmas Day, and St. Stephen (Dec. 26).

Answer to Catholic IQ: (c) The titles in the hymn "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" come from the seven "O Antiphons" prayed at Vespers during the Octave before Christmas. "Morning Star" is a title given to our Mother in the Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Merry Christmas! Please note that Religious Education classes resume on Sunday, Jan. 3.

SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE NOTES

From your St. Rose Social Concerns Committee: May everyone of you, and all those for whom you care, feel the warmth and goodness of Christ's, love now and throughout the coming year.

This Weekend, for those last minute stocking gifts: After each Mass, religious articles are available for purchase in the vestibule.

Also this weekend, for those who will not get any stocking gifts: The St. Rose Cares box is in the front of the church, near the St. Rose statue. Your contributions go directly to our neighbors in need. Thank you

Parishioner to Parishioner: (*"Available" items are offered without charge; just make arrangements to pick them up*)

Available: Birch couch and 2 matching rockers.

Available: Leather Sofa and 66" dresser.

Available: Computer monitor, 19" CRT.

Available: 1 full size mattresses with box spring and 1 simple bed frame.

Needed: Twin Size Bed frame.

For information please call: Joan Dwyer, 426-9337, weekdays between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

MEETINGS

The **FRIDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY GROUP** We meet on Fridays at 10:30 a.m. at 38 Church Hill Road. Experience God's Word in Holy Scripture. All are welcome. If you have any questions please call Blanca Sheehan at 426-3253.

The **JOB NETWORKING GROUP** meets every Tuesday at 10 a.m. at 38 Church Hill Road. We offer positive support, counsel, advice, and networking ideas to those looking to get back into the job market or seeking to make a career change. Contact Harry Dieck 426-3386 or Michael Ronan at 733-9186 for information.

WEBS – (Women's Enrichment Book Study) – will meet on Tuesday mornings at 38 Church Hill Road from 9:30-11 a.m. Please call Kristen Renzi at 270-6915 if you are interested in joining.

Bereavement Ministry

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP is a meeting for those who wish to find support through prayer, scripture and sharing of personal experience while grieving a loss. The next meeting will be Sunday, December 20, 2009 from 7-8 p.m. in the conference room on the main floor of 38 Church Hill Rd. The group meets monthly on every 3rd Sunday. For more info, contact Suzanne Vitiello at 203-364-9796.

ST. JOSEPH PROJECT: Do you need help or are you in need of help? Do you know of any affordable rentals? If so, please call 426-2153. God bless you.

Available: Large 2nd floor 1 BR apartment—utilities included

PASTORAL OUTREACH MINISTRY

The Outreach Ministry Office is seeking your help in identifying those parishioners who are home-bound or in Nursing Homes, and those recuperating from surgery or serious illness and cannot come to Church but would like to receive Holy Communion or a visit. Also, many times a parishioner is in the hospital and we at St. Rose are unaware of this. Weekly visits are made to parishioners in Danbury Hospital who list themselves during their admission process as St. Rose parishioners. Parishioners in other hospitals can be visited if a family member calls the parish and requests a visit. If you have a family member in any of the above situations and would like someone to visit, please call Sister Mary Ellen at the Outreach Office 426-2572 ext. 11. If Sister is out visiting parishioners, please leave a voice message and she will get back to you.

PARISH NURSE MINISTRY

KRISTEN VELSMID, COORDINATOR- 426-2573

Have a very Merry Christmas!

Thank you to all the parish nurses for all your dedicated time throughout the year. A special thanks to Theresa Ludanyi, Marge Cassin, Sister Mary Ellen Genova, and Fran Gargano and Monsignor Bob for all your help and support.

Thank you for filling out our assessment! We are getting some great feedback! Our Parish Nurse Assessment is online at www.strosechurch.com. If you have not filled out our assessment, please do so. Your opinion is VERY important to us!

Parish Nurses always welcome new members. Please contact us at 203-426-2573 ext. 13.

HEALTH TIP

Touching your toes used to be a gym-class requirement in elementary school. And it might be worth a try to see if you can still do it. Why? A new study suggests that your ability to touch your toes as you get older could reveal something important about your heart. In particular, about the stiffness of the arteries that serve your heart. **Say Hello to Your Toes:** When it comes to muscles, flexibility is a good thing. And the same goes for your blood vessels. The more limber and elastic those vessels are, the better they maintain healthy blood pressure. Now, research suggests there might be a connection between flexible muscles and stretchy blood vessels. In a study, adults 40 and older who had a harder time touching their toes from a sitting position also tended to have stiffer arteries. Their systolic blood pressure numbers were also a bit higher than their more limber peers. **Not a Stretch:** What's behind this flexibility and heart health connection isn't clear, but we already know that exercising regularly can help delay some of the age-related changes that take place in our blood vessels as we get older—like arterial stiffening. So keep those feet moving and your muscles supple and strong to avoid being sidelined by injury.

FREE MINISTRY FOR TRAVELING CATHOLICS

If you are traveling and need to find the nearest Catholic church, check the Internet www.Masstimes.org and click on "Church Lookup".

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Pro-Life/Pro-Family Corner

Sponsored by St. Rose Pro-Life/Pro-Family Committee

GIVE FAITH-FILLED GIFTS THIS CHRISTMAS - INSPIRATIONAL CATHOLIC CDs and books are available in the vestibule for a modest donation.

‡LEARN THE FAITH/LIVE THE FAITH‡ DO YOU KNOW THAT CATHOLICS CANNOT SUPPORT EMBRYONIC STEM CELL RESEARCH BECAUSE IT INVOLVES THE INTENTIONAL KILLING OF A PRE-BORN BABY? (e.g. CCC 2274-2275; *Evangelium Vitae* 60). **The following disease advocacy groups respect life and do NOT support embryonic stem cell research:**
‡American Heart Assoc. ‡Cystic Fibrosis Assoc. ‡St. Jude's Children's Hospital. (source: *CT Right to Life Newsletter*).
DO WHAT YOU CAN TO SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS THAT SUPPORT THE TRUTHS OF OUR FAITH!

Support health care reform that respects the life and dignity of all people from conception to natural death. Get the long-standing teachings of the church and the latest updates on healthcare reform. Visit www.usccb.org/healthcare.

WE NEED YOUR BABY BOTTLES! IF YOU HAVE A BABY BOTTLE AT HOME, PLEASE REMEMBER TO DROP IT IN THE BOTTLE DROP UNDER THE PRO-LIFE BULLETIN BOARD IN THE VESTIBULE! THANK YOU!

NEXT MEETING: Monday, January 4 at 7:30 p.m. in the rectory

ROSARY FOR LIFE: Saturday, December 26 after the 8 A.M. mass and on the last Saturday of each month

SIDEWALK PRAYER: every Tuesday and Saturday from 9 to 11 AM at 27 Hospital Ave. in Danbury

INSPIRATIONAL CATHOLIC EDUCATIONAL CDs, books and BROCHURES are available in the vestibule. Suggested donation: \$3. These make great Christmas presents!

In the 1800's, black people were considered "non-persons". During World War II, Jews were considered by the Nazi's to be "inferior beings." Both of these injustices were totally wrong, just as today it is wrong to consider the unborn baby as a non-being. We must stop abortion—our future as a nation depends on it.

REMEMBERING THOSE WHO ARE SERVING US
May God keep special watch over these men and women serving in the United States Military

United States Army

Capt. Andra Allison
Capt. Robert A. Bassett, DO.
SSG. Anthony T. D'Aquila
Capt. Kathryn Devonshire
Sgt. Daniel Dobbs
SSG. Michael Dobbs
2nd Lt. Thomas K. Dyer
Major William Gottmeier
Cpl. Marc Hellig
1st Lt. Rachel (Askue) Hoffman
Capt. Tucker Hughes
Major David A. Johnson
Capt. Matthew A. LaRocco
CWO Joseph Letourneau
Sgt. John Martus
Lt. Col. Mary Sara Moore
Capt. Stefania Naiman, DVM
Lt. Eric O'Donnell
Capt. Sean Pond
Major Benjamin Wallen

United States Air Force

Capt. Christopher J. Calero
SMS Thomas Daniels
Airman Kurt Kling
Airman Travis Mueller
1st Lt. Donald B. Naiman
MSgt. James Rebman
Capt. Gregory Zencey
2nd Lt. Jessica Zencey
2nd Lt. Phillip Zencey

United States Navy

Aman Michael Carter
Seaman Elizabeth Daniels
RPSN Philip DeMayo
CEI Daniel J. Kearns, Sr.
MIDN Allison Kirk
ENS Daniel Kirk
Lt. Cmdr Timothy Krippendorf
Lt. Commander John Porado
PO Christopher Szabo
Army National Guard
CSM Al Almeida
Spc. Carl Bergquist
Pfc. Matthew Bergquist
Major Todd Bookless
United States Marines
Gy. Sgt. James A. Allen
WO Michael Costello
1st Lt. Christopher J. DiNoto
Cpl. Robert W. Hoyt, Jr.
Major David G. Irving
Major Benjamin Krippendorf
Lance Cpl. Rylan McCollum
Pfc. Luke T. Miller
PFC Ian Montgomery
Col. Will F. L. Rodgers
Lance Cpl. John Tamborino



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS www.kofc185.com **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS TOY COLLECTION AND DISTRIBUTION**

The Knights of Columbus will be collecting toys again this year for those children who otherwise may not receive any gifts this Christmas season. Contributions can be made in the large box in the vestibule of the church. Our distribution night will be on Monday Dec. 21st from 6-9 at Edmond Town Hall on RT. 25. for those who may want to attend. For more information, please contact Markus Balas at 203-449-7190 or markus@designsbymarkus.com. All inquires are kept in strict confidence. Have a blessed and Merry Christmas from all the Knights at Council 185.

Ever thought of becoming a Knight? For more information, contact Kirk Babyak by phone at 270-6265 or by email at kirk.babyak@charter.net



www.stroseyouthgroup.com

5/6 & 7/8 Youth Group: Check calendar for the next event.

Senior Youth Group – December 20-Christmas Party
From 6-8:30 p.m. in the Safeplace



AROUND THE DIOCESE

PASTORAL PLAN

In today's readings we have the perfect model of Mary to follow. In preparing for the Lord's coming, we cannot leave Mary out of the picture. It was her obedience that made the Incarnation of God's son possible. Mary's faith and obedience should also inspire us to greatness as Christians. In the Gospel, we are reminded that Elizabeth, Mary's cousin, calls her "blessed" because of her faith and obedience with which she bore her child. By her faith and obedience to God's design, Mary was the great woman behind Jesus. The second reading reminds us of the reason for the Incarnation, which is closely related to our Lord's sacrifice at Calvary—they cannot be separated.

RACHEL'S VINEYARD

If there is an abortion in your past that you need to make peace with, The Respect Life Office of the Diocese of Bridgeport offers Rachel's Vineyard Retreats. The next retreat weekend is January 22-24, 2010 in Fairfield County. For more information call the retreat director at 203-218-0291 or e-mail Jeremiah31v17@aol.com

PRO-LIFE MASS – SUNDAY, JANUARY 10, 2010, 12 NOON,

ST. PIUS X PARISH, 834 BROOKSIDE DR., FAIRFIELD.

Please join Bishop William E. Lori, S.T.D., the Sisters of Life, Parishioners from throughout the Diocese, the Knights of Columbus, Youth from our Catholic Schools and Religious Education Programs, and Pro-life Advocates from various institutes and organizations who will be participating in this event. In accord with the God-given sacredness and dignity of every human life which begins at the moment of conception, it is our obligation and privilege to participate in activities that proclaim, support, and enhance the basic right to life. Let us come together to pray and to witness in promoting the overall respect for every unborn child. The basic right to life of every unborn child must be ensured. For more information, please contact the Respect Life Ministry at the Catholic Center (Mimi Giannino, 203-416-1444).

MARCH FOR LIFE, WASHINGTON, D.C., FRIDAY, JANUARY 22, 2010:

It is most imperative that we continue our Pro-life activities on behalf of the unborn children. The "March for Life" at our Nation's Capital will serve as witness and as advocacy seeking the protection and overall respect for every unborn child in the progression to birth. Scientifically and religiously, we know the truth that it is a human life, a person, who is conceived within a woman. Clearly, then, we must at all times continue to stand up and speak out for the overall respect for the unborn children. We must always pursue the protection and total well-being of the unborn person with the same commitment and compassion that we pursue these rights for the born person. We ask you, our parishioners, to join others from the Diocese and participate in this "March." Our diocesan groups will travel to Washington, D.C. via buses. Buses will depart from various locations in Fairfield County to Washington, D.C. at 12:15 A.M., and they will depart from Washington, D.C. for Connecticut at 4:00 P.M. The cost per person: \$45.00. For more information and to place a reservation: please call Mimi Giannino, 203-416-1444, or email mgiannino@diobpt.org. The deadline for both a reservation and a nonrefundable payment is Monday, **January 12, 2010**.

AROUND THE COMMUNITY

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

GIVE YOUR SPOUSE A SPECIAL GIFT THIS CHRISTMAS.

Sign up now for the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend and receive the gift of a great marriage. Making a weekend will help you put a little Christmas in your marriage every day! Upcoming weekends are **January 29-31, and April 23-25, 2010**. For more information about Worldwide Marriage Encounter or to register for an upcoming weekend please contact Joe and Jane Staszowski at (860) 644-7260 or meweekend@gmail.com.

NUN RUN

What is a Nun Run?

A Nun Run is a twenty-four hour experience for women who may be considering a vocation to the religious life. The January Nun Run will acquaint you with life in 4 religious communities in Connecticut. Sisters from other religious communities will be joining us for prayer and faith sharing. We offer you transportation, overnight hospitality, meals, prayer and an enjoyable experience!

How can I be involved?

Your choice! You can meet us at the first convent between 11:30 and 12:00 noon on January 16, 2010. Or we can pick you up at a central location and drive you to the first stop. Transportation will be provided as we visit the other convents. Our Nun Run will be completed by 12:00 noon on January 17, 2010.

What does it cost?

A free will offering is acceptable.

What do I need to bring?

- Toothbrush, soap, etc.
- A curious spirit & an open heart!

How do I sign up?

Email your name, address, telephone number and age to:

miannuccillo@amssnd.org
or mail your contact info to:
Sr. Maria Iannuccillo, SSND
345 Belden Hill Road
Wilton, CT 06897
(203) 762-4152

The four religious communities we will visit are:

- Sisters of St. Joseph
- Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur
- Little Sisters of the Poor
- Felician Sisters

January 16-17, 2010 for Single Catholic Women ages 18-45
Discover neighborhoods where Sisters live. Experience the community life of vowed women religious. Compare and contrast communities of Sisters. Participate in the life of prayer lived by Sisters. Hosted by the Connecticut Vocation Council.

Please register by Monday, January 11, 2010

IMMACULATE HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

Immaculate High School cordially invites you to its annual Christmas Concert, to be held on Monday, December 21st at 7 PM at the school. Join us for an evening of beautiful Christmas music from the band, chorus, concert choir and faculty members to make your holiday complete. Admission is free and all are welcome! Please call 203-744-1510 extension 157 for more information.

Members of the St. Augustine School (Bridgeport, CT) class of 1974 are planning a reunion for the summer of 2010. We are trying to locate our classmates and lay teachers. Any information is welcome. Please contact Edmund Leahy at edmundk82@yahoo.com.

ATTENTION ALL VOLUNTEERS

The Diocese of Bridgeport requires that all volunteers attend a Protecting God's Children Seminar, read and acknowledge both the Diocesan Policy Against Abuse and Code of Conduct, and authorize background check.

Upcoming Seminars are:

Christ the King parish (Trumbull) 1/8/2010 at 6 p.m.

Register online at www.virtus.org – click on the registration tab, select Bridgeport, CT and follow the prompts. For the question regarding your title, please enter “volunteer” followed by what you volunteer for (carnival, lector, school, etc.). If you don't have Internet access or have any questions, contact Doreen Morrissey at 203-426-2572 ext. 27. Please bring all your paperwork and a copy of your card to St. Rose if you take the class elsewhere.

DAY AND EVENING RETREAT

A Contemplative in Action: the Extraordinary Gift of St. Teresa of Avila

Wednesday, January 27 Day 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. or Evening 6:00-9:00 p.m. Presenter: Sr. Sally Hodgdon, CSJ
Saint Teresa of Avila, a 16th century mystic and foundress of the Discalced Carmelites, once described her personal prayer as a conversation with Jesus, similar to conversations one might have with a friend. Come and explore how her form of contemplative or mystical prayer continues to be viable for us today. The day will include the presentation, lunch and Liturgy. The evening will include dinner, presentation, and Liturgy.

Program offering: \$30

Register online at www.holyfamilyretreat.org or send name, address and offering to:

Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center
303 Tunxis Road
West Hartford, CT 06107
(860) 521-0440

NAZARETH SPIRITUAL LIFE CENTER PROGRAMS 2010

**1428 Monroe Turnpike
Monroe, CT 06468**

Tuesday Mornings

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Lenten Reflection Days

Presenter: Sister Jude Carroll

February 23, 2010

March 2, 2010

March 9, 2010

March 16, 2010

Call for reservations

1-203-993-9316

Email: nslc3@aol.com or sunflowersb54@aol.com

\$20.00 per person

Parking: For one day event, park in front of the building outside the yellow emergency area.

Saint Rose Emergency Evacuation Plan

The Newtown Fire Marshal is concerned about the health and safety of our parishioners while we are worshipping together in church. Though unlikely, the Marshal makes the point that a violent storm could create an emergency situation during a mass and he would like us all to be aware and prepared. Notice the location of all church exits. Should an emergency occur please calmly proceed to the nearest exit. Over-reaction many times causes more injuries in a crowded situation than the event itself. So please exit in an orderly manner. At all masses please find a seat toward the middle of the pews so that people are not compelled to stand in the aisles or out in the front vestibule.

Parking: Emergency vehicles must have access to the church building. Please do not park next to the rectory or on the road along the side of the church between the rectory and the rear parking lot. Remember there is additional parking at 52 Church Hill.

The Fire Marshal is interested in our safety. Please try to respectfully practice these simple procedures.

BIRTHRIGHT INVITES YOU TO VOLUNTEER

Friendship counseling and clerical volunteers needed. Training provided. Birthright is an emergency pregnancy service offering free pregnancy tests, friendship counseling, and practical support to women in crisis pregnancies. Our guiding principle: “It is the RIGHT of every pregnant woman to give BIRTH and the RIGHT of every child to be BORN. Please join us and be blessed with the opportunity to help a mother and her child. Our office is located in Danbury. Call 203-744-3737.

ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL JUNIOR & SENIOR BOYS

Consider adding St. John Fisher Seminary to your list of college visits. It seems to be such a mystery what life is like in a house of discernment. We are offering the opportunity to live the schedule and life of the house for 24 hours. For more information and to schedule your visit, please contact Father Robert Kinnally at 203-416-1513 or e-mail vocations@HearTheCall.org.



Saint Rose of Lima Roman Catholic Parish
46 Church Hill Road, Newtown, CT 06470
Website: WWW.STROSECHURCH.COM

Ministerial Staff

Rev. Msgr. Robert Weiss, Pastor
Rev. Milan Dimic, Parochial Vicar
Rev. Ignacio Ortigas, Parochial Vicar
Rev. Mr. Thomas Curran, Deacon
Rev. Mr. Donald Naiman, Deacon
Rev. Mr. Norm Roos, Deacon
Rev. Mr. Daniel O'Connor, Deacon
Rev. Mr. Kenneth Stroud, Deacon Emeritus
Sr. Mary Ellen Genova, CSFN, Outreach Min.

St. Rose Rectory Staff

Ms. Frances Gargano, Parish Secretary
Mrs. Roberta Shea – Baptism Coordinator
Mrs. Jean Otton, Parish Census Coordinator
Mrs. Doreen Morrissey, Bookkeeper

Lay Members of the Corporation

Mr. William Calderara
Mr. James Gerbo

St. Rose School

Mrs. Mary Maloney, Principal
Sr. Thaddeus Rajca, CSFN, Pre-K Coordinator
Kim Braun, Administrative Assistant
Kathy Phillips, School Secretary
Mr. Patrick Simms, HSA President
Mr. Dan McCarthy, Board Chairman

St. Rose Religious Education

Mrs. Pam Arsenault, DRE
Mrs. Meg Arena, Coordinator (Grades PreK-6)
Mrs. Janice Lindsay, Sacrament Coordinator
Mrs. Joanne Marcinek, Secretary
Ms. Kate Kunze, Database Administrator
Rev. Mr. Tom Curran, R.C.I.A. Coordinator
Rev. Mr. Norm Roos, Adult Formation
Coordinator
Mrs. Dea Herring, Spiritual Direction-Individual

Parish Nurse Ministry

Mrs. Kristen Velsmid, BSN, RN
Mrs. Katherine Sugarman, RN, OCN

Lift-A-Spirit Meal Ministry

Michele Dutsar, 270-3508

Parish Organizations

Mr. Bill Oravec, Men of St. Rose
Mrs. Cathy Hickey-Williams, Women's Club
Grand Knight Jim Tevnan, Knights of
Columbus, 270-8787

Liturgical Ministries

Mr. Joseph Jacovino, Music Director
Mrs. Kim Braun, Special Minister Coordinator
Mrs. Peggy Baiad, Lector Coordinator
Rev. Ignacio Ortigas, Altar Server Coordinator

Youth Ministry

Mr. Rodd Blessey, Youth Minister
Mr. Joseph DeMaida, Youth Minister

Parish Prayer Groups

Mrs. Martie Williams, Rosary Prayer Group
Mr. Ken Adams, Worship Prayer Group
Mrs. Anne Marie Hayes, Special Moms
Mrs. Queta Donovan & Mariotte Corson, Divine
Mercy Cenacle

Parish Committees

Mrs. Joan Dwyer, Social Concerns Committee
Helga & Bernhard Roegele, Pro-Life/Family
Committee
Mr. Harry Waterbury, Finance Council,
426-3577

Bereavement Ministry

Deacon Don & Stephania Naiman
Suzanne Vitiello

Natural Family Planning

Al and Adrienne Keogler, Instructors

St. Joseph Project

Mrs. Queta Donovan, Contact Person

Marriage Encounter

John and Bev Maley, Parish representatives

Marriage Preparation Program

Mr. Tim Reilly, Coordinator

Eucharistic Adoration--Anonymous Apostles of Divine Mercy

Mrs. Queta Donovan, Contact Person

Lay Missionaries of Charity

Queta & Kevin Donovan, Coordinators

Altar Angels

Mrs. Kelly Gerbo (Church Cleaning)
Mrs. Laurie Murphy (Altar Linens)

Garden Angels

Mrs. Eileen Gallo, Coordinator

Job Network Support Group,

Harry Dieck, Michael Ronan, Contact Persons

Telephone Numbers

Rectory/Parish Office 203/426-1014
Parish Fax 203/426-6222
Parish Center Offices 203/426-2572
St. Rose School Office 203/426-5102
St. Rose Pre-School Office 203/426-3405
St. Rose Religious Education Office 203/426-2333
St. Rose Religious Education Fax 203/426-8074

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CHURCH CITY: **Newtown**

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FAX NUMBER: **203-426-6222**

EDITOR/ CONTACT: **Fran Gargano**

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Comments:
