

SACRED HEART CHURCH

THE ITALIAN NATIONAL PARISH

37 SCHUYLER AVENUE • STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT 06902



Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

JANUARY 26, 2020



Rev. Alfonso Picone, Pastor

Rev. Martin deMayo, Parochial Vicar

Trustees

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Mr. Gregory Freilino / 1-212-666-0316

Director of Religious Education

Michele Sabia

Rectory Office Staff

Mrs. Beatrice Centonze & Mrs. Nancy Bentley

HOLY MASS

Monday - Friday----- 7:00 am

Saturday----- 8:00 am

LITURGY OF THE WORD (Lower Church)

Tuesdays ----- 8:00 pm

Wednesdays----- 8:00 pm

First Friday Adoration ----- 4:00 - 5:00 pm

Miraculous Medal Novena ---- Monday, 7:00 pm (English)

Rosary-----Monday, 8:00 pm (Spanish)

Prayer Group----- Friday, 7:30 - 9:30 pm (Lower Church)

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday-----4:00 pm (English)

Sunday-----8:30 am (English), 10:00 am (Italian)

11:30 am (English) & 1:00 pm (Spanish)

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE (Confession)

Saturday----- 2:45 - 3:45 pm

NEO-CATHECUMENAL MASS

Saturday-----8:00 pm (English, Seminary)

8:00 pm (Spanish, Lower Church)

For the **SACRAMENTS OF MARRIAGE** and

Office Hours

Monday - Friday----- 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Phone ----- 203-324-9544

Fax ----- 203-324-9202

Email -----sacredparish@optonline.net

Website-----stamfordsacredheart.org

DAILY MASS

Saturday January 25, 2020

4:00PM Egidio & Alexandra Coppola by Family

Sunday January 26, 2020

8:30AM Esterina Crocco by Children & Family

10:00AM Pancrazio, Francesca & Giovanna Musilli by Family

11:30AM Michael Curto by Wife & Family

1:00PM Teresa Mortola por sobrinos

**The Host for the week of January 26 – February 1 is in Honor of
Mr. & Mrs. John Capozzi by Lori & George Leglierse**

Monday January 27, 2020

7:00AM In Thanksgiving

Tuesday January 28, 2020

7:00AM Raffaella Tarzia by Pat Pelli, Scalero & Lasalandra Families

Wednesday January 29, 2020

7:00AM For all Souls in Purgatory

Thursday January 30, 2020

7:00AM Brian Foster by Family

Friday January 31, 2020

7:00AM Dominick Sheehan (5 year anniversary) by the Combest Family

Saturday February 1, 2020

8:00AM Mary, Nicholas & Peter Gasparino by Diane Gasparino

4:00PM Ted Ottaviano by Joan Tedeschi

Sunday February 2, 2020

8:30AM Elly Luciano & Barbara Cucino by Dom Luciano & Family

10:00AM Esterina Crocco by Children & Family

11:30AM Armando Perrone by Vincenza Perrone & Children

1:00PM Acción de Gracias por Familia Garcia / Fabia Reyes por Familia

SUNDAY COLLECTION – The Sunday Collection for the weekend of January 18 & 19 totaled \$3,343.00. Thank you and please be as generous as possible.

FOR THE DECEASED - We ask the Lord to grant Eternal Rest to Philomena Migliorelli, Clyde Cataylo, Deacon Frank Chiappetta and the deceased of the parish.

THE ILL OF THE PARISH: Please remember in your prayers: Frank James, Alejandra Trujillo, Emilio Barco, Lynette Lyon, Franco Leone, Jack Pikikero, Michael Macri, John Pellegrino and our parishioners who are ill.

CHOIR: Join to sing with us. If you would like to join the choir please contact the office at 203-324-9544 or stop by the loft and speak to Gregory.

SACHED HEART CHURCH has updated its website: www.stamfordsacredheart.org



Congratulations and welcome into the Catholic Church through the Sacrament of Baptism:
Liana Sophia Calix Barahona, Anthony Matis Bonilla Pelaez, Dereck Garcia, Chase Scocozza Abril, Camila Cristhell Sagastume Quiacain.

ENTHRONE THE BIBLE IN YOUR HOME

Throughout our Catholic tradition, the book of sacred Scripture has been the honored symbol of God's living word present among us.

Processions, bowing, candles and incense express our church's reverence for the inspired word as it is enthroned, opened and proclaimed in Catholic worship. This prayer service brings the ancient practice of Bible enthronement to Catholic homes, so that it may be a continual reminder to seek and live God's word each day.

"I would like so much for all Christians to be able to comprehend "the surpassing worth of knowing Jesus Christ," through diligent reading of the Word of God, for the sacred text is nourishment of the soul and the pure and perennial source of spiritual life for all of us."
Pope Francis



A PLACE FOR LISTENING AND PRAYER

Now that the Bible is enthroned in your home, this spot is a place to come regularly to read the Bible, individually and as a family. Choose a book of the Bible to read over a period of time, the Sunday Mass readings, or a Bible study book. Then follow the five stages of the ancient practice of Lectio Divina to guide you.

1. READING

Read the verses aloud, slowly and carefully, realizing that God is speaking through the sacred text. Imagine the scene, notice the feelings evoked by the text, and consider the type of writing used by the author. If done in a group, members share with the others what they have discovered in the text.

2. MEDITATION

Considering what particular phrases or images have caught your attention, ask yourself what the text is saying personally to you. What insight, comfort, or challenge is God offering you? If in a group feel free to share your thoughts with the others.

3. PRAYER

Respond to God who has spoken to you in the text. In words of thanks, praise, repentance, or petition, speak to God from the heart. In a group, this could be prayed aloud or in silence.

4. CONTEMPLATION

Simply rest in God's presence. Trust God to work within you and form you in the divine image. Stay in silence and savor the Holy Spirit.

5. ACTION

Determine how you can turn your prayerful reflection into practical experience. Let the power of God's word have an effect in your life, making you a more committed disciple of Jesus.

Reverently place the open Bible on a mantle, table, shelf, or bookstand. You may adorn the space with a candle, crucifix, icon, or flowers. It will serve as a spot for regular Bible reading and prayer.

As you pray this enthronement service together, different family members may volunteer for different reader parts.

READER: We begin in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. We gather together to enthrone the Holy Bible, the sacred book of our church. Since ancient times, the open book Scripture has been enthroned at church councils and in cathedrals and parish churches. Since every Catholic home is a "domestic church," we continue this tradition in the place of our ordinary

lives, asking that this enthroned Bible remind us that God teaches, encourages, and challenges us through its open pages.

READER: Let us pray:

Ever-living God, send your Holy Spirit so that this Bible may be for us a source of strength, comfort, inspiration, and guidance. Give us a deeper love for sacred Scripture, a desire to read and reflect upon it, and a longing to follow more faithfully the way of Jesus.

READER: Let us listen to Jesus as he offers us truth and freedom through his Word. A Reading from the Gospel according to John:

Jesus then said to those who believed in him. "if you remain in my word, you will truly be my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." (John 8:31-32)

Pause for a moment of silent reflection.

READER: Let us all respond: "O God, teach us your word."

ALL: O God, teach us your word.

READER: The psalmist prays to God: "Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light for my path" (Psalm 119:105). Show us how to travel through the dark places of life with the light of your word.

ALL: O God, teach us your word.

READER: The prophet Isaiah proclaims, "The grass withers, the flower wilts, but the word of our God stands forever" (Isaiah 40:8). Show us how to trust your word as our eternal source of life.

ALL: O God, teach us your word.

READER: In his parable of the sower, Jesus explains, "The sower sows the word" and "the ones that hear the word and accept it" are like rich soil that bears fruit (Mark 4:14, 20). Show us how to let the seed of your word take root within us and bear a rich harvest.

ALL: O God, teach us your word.

READER: The letter of James urges us: "Be doers of the word and not hearers only" (James 1:22). Show us how to listen to your word and then put it into action.

All: O God, teach us your word.

READER: Let us approach the Bible, one by one, place our hands on its open pages, and pray a silent prayer of personal commitment.

Pray in your heart for each person as they approach the Bible.

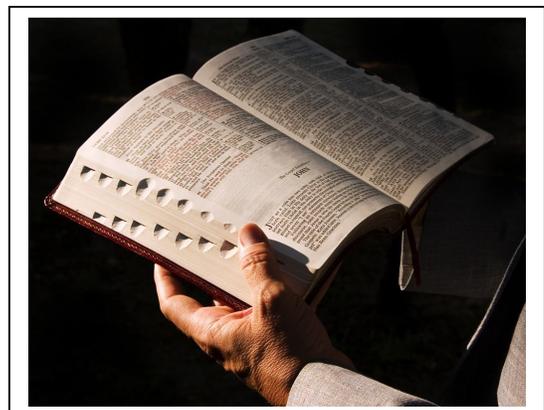
READER: Let us pray:

Come Holy Spirit, open our eyes, our ears, our minds, and our hearts to the living word of Scripture. May it always be the center of our home and our lives. As you have inspired that word with power and truth, now give us confidence to read the Bible in ways that form us into disciples. Fill our hearts and kindle in them the fire of your love, so that you may renew the face of the earth.

READER: Let us pray together as Jesus taught us.

ALL: Our Father, who art in heaven...

READER: Let us offer one another a sign of Christ's peace.



LETTER FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Parishioners,

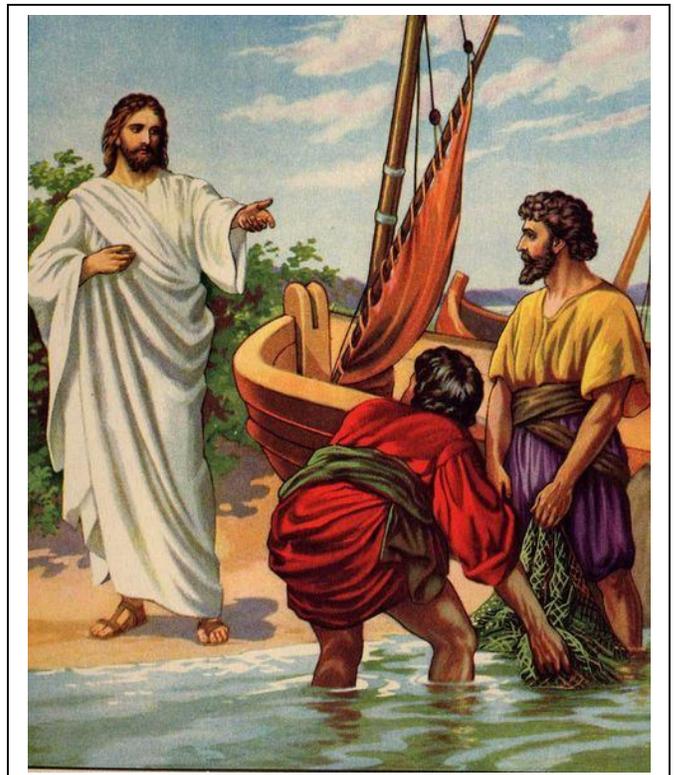
Today's readings show that the early Christians understood how Jesus had fulfilled the expectations of ancient Israel. Describing the humble beginning of the public ministry of Jesus, today's Scripture readings teach us that Christ has brought us from the darkness of sin into the Light of God by calling us to repentance and the acceptance of God's rule over us.

The first reading contains the prophetic reference to Christ as the Light that dispels darkness. Matthew wanted his readers to recognize that the Light of which Isaiah spoke had finally appeared with the coming of Jesus. The refrain for today's Responsorial Psalm (Ps 27) reminds us, *The Lord is my Light and my Salvation*. The second reading advises the Corinthians to live as children of the light, avoiding divisions and rivalries, because several factions had arisen among the Corinthian Christians, each claiming allegiance to its first Christian teacher or to a particular Apostle. In today's gospel passage (Mt. 4:12-23), Matthew explains that what Isaiah prophesied has been fulfilled through the preaching and healing ministry of Jesus. By his ministry of inviting people to the Kingdom of God through repentance, Jesus has brought light to people living in darkness, thus fulfilling God's original promise. In addition, the Gospel describes the call of the first disciples (4:18-22), and Jesus' own preaching, teaching, and healing ministry which has led people to repent of their sins and accept the Good News of God's rule (the Kingdom of God). He has also chosen ordinary fishermen with no formal training in Mosaic Law to preach the Good News, and they have been very effective instruments in the hands of the Holy Spirit continuing Jesus' mission to the world.

We need to appreciate our call to be Christ's disciples: Every one of us is called by God, both individually and as Church members, to be His disciple. The call is both a privilege and responsibility. The mission of preaching, teaching and healing which Jesus began in Galilee is now the responsibility of the Church and of each individual Christian. Our response to the call begins with our reception of Baptism and the other Sacraments of Initiation. That response is meant to be strengthened through the years by the Eucharist and Reconciliation and to manifest in Matrimony or Holy Orders. We are healed and consoled in the anointing which also prepares us for death. As we respond to Christ's call, we gain spiritual strength through our personal and family prayers, our Sacramental life and our faithful study of the Bible and the Church's teachings. We need to proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom: When we receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, we are sent forth to proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom and to defend the Catholic Faith. Each Christian has received a unique call to preach the Good News of God's love, mercy, forgiveness and salvation through his or her daily life. This call challenges us to rebuild our lives, homes and communities in the justice and peace that Jesus proclaims. As we celebrate the Holy Mass, let us ask the Lord Jesus to give us the strength and perseverance to answer His calling, so that we may faithfully serve the Lord, doing His Divine will as best as we can by cooperating with His grace.

God bless you!

Rev. Alfonso Picone, Pastor





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