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Parish Center 860-643-8374
Prayer Line 860-649-5449 or 860-643-2837



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT — FEBRUARY 22, 2015

dear Padre

February 22, 2015

Who decided that fish isn't meat?

Who decided that fish doesn't constitute meat for Catholics? I really hate fish, and it bugs me when my friends eat lobster for dinner on Fridays in the name of "sacrifice."

Latin is the official language of the Catholic Church. Canon law as written in Latin says we must abstain from *carne* ("meat"), a word that refers to warm-blooded animals that walk on the ground. By that definition, fish is allowed.

You make an excellent point about the lobster dinners and the nature of sacrifice. In its document "Questions and Answers about Lent and Lenten Practices," the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops says, "While fish, lobster and other shellfish are not considered meat and can be consumed on days of abstinence, indulging in the lavish buffet at your favorite seafood place sort of misses the point. Abstaining from meat and other indulgences during Lent is a penitential practice. On the Fridays of Lent, we remember the sacrifice of Christ on Good Friday and unite ourselves with that sacrifice through abstinence and prayer."

As we enter Lent, we must remember that our acts of penance should be more than thinking about just giving something up—like meat. Our fasting needs to lead us to a closer relationship with God instead of merely being a time of sacrifice.

FR. PATRICK KEYES, CSsR
sundaybulletin@liguori.org

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WEEKEND MASSES:

Saturdays at 4:00 p.m.
Sundays at 7:30 and 10:00 a.m.
Holy Days at 9:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

WELCOME!

If you are new in the Parish, please register and introduce yourself to the Pastor. The Parishioners wish to meet and serve you! Drop by at our Coffee Social or Pancake Breakfast after the Sunday Mass, both per the Calendar online or as announced inside the bulletin. We hope you will favor our Parish with your prayers, your presence, your talents and your financial assistance according to your means!

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION):

By appointment.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

Please call the rectory (860-643-4466) to arrange for a meeting with the Pastor.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:

Arrangements must start more than 6 months before marriage. Necessary interviews, a pre-cana course and plenty of paperwork is required. We strongly urge you to contact us to begin the Diocesan preparation course as soon as you are engaged to get the most out of it without rush.

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP:

The Sacramental Guidelines define Church Membership in terms of Sunday Mass attendance and Church support. For membership verification and sponsorship certificate, registration and regular use of the envelope system are the only way we have of verifying this for you. Please notify us if there are changes in your address, marital status, etc., so that we may update your records.

VISITATION TO THE SICK:

We are most anxious to help anyone who is not able to celebrate Mass with us in Church due to illness, handicapped or age. If you wish the Sacraments, please call 860-643-4466.



THIS WEEK

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT
FEBRUARY 21 – 22, 2015
 2nd COLLECTION
ST. MAURICE FUEL FUND
USHERS GROUP I

SATURDAY, FEB. 21

4:00 P.M. Mass offered for +Eleanor Preuss
 request of Mary Simmons

COFFEE SOCIAL after Mass in the Church Basement

SUNDAY, FEB. 22

7:30 A.M. Mass offered for All Parishioners
of St. Maurice Church

CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY after Mass

8:30 A.M. **BREAKFAST FOR FAITH FORMATION**

9:00 A.M. **FAITH FORMATION CLASSES**

10:00 A.M. Mass offered for All Parishioners
of St. Maurice Church

CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY after Mass

COFFEE SOCIAL after Mass in the Church Basement

MONDAY, FEB. 23

9:00 A.M. Mass offered for +Henry Leonard

TUESDAY, FEB. 24

9:00 A.M. Mass offered for +Eleanor Preuss
 request of Lou & Dorli Cloutier

7:30 P.M. **CHOIR REHEARSAL**

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 25 — NO MASS

THURSDAY, FEB. 26 — NO MASS

FRIDAY, FEB. 27

7:00 P.M. **MASS and STATIONS OF THE CROSS**
Mass offered for All Parishioners
of St. Maurice Church

SATURDAY, FEB. 28

3:30 P.M. **ROSARY BEFORE 4:00 P.M. MASS**

STEWARDSHIP

Last week's Offertory: Feb. 15 — \$1,474

Projected Amount needed \$3,370

"After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God...." - MARK 1:14

Do you ever think about how difficult it must have been for Jesus to come into Galilee, knowing that John had just been arrested for teaching the same message that Jesus was proclaiming. It must have taken great love and trust for Jesus to do what the Father had sent Him here on earth to do. In the same way, following a life of stewardship takes great love and trust from us. We must be willing to surrender completely to God, trusting that God will always give us all that we need to fulfill His plan for us.



NEXT WEEK

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT
FEBRUARY 28 – MARCH 1, 2015
 2nd COLLECTION
ST. MAURICE FUEL FUND
USHERS GROUP II

SATURDAY, FEB. 28

4:00 P.M. Mass offered for +Francesca Quagliano
 request of Josephine Maratta

Altar Servers: Maria Cinea

Lectors: Patti Cinea

Eucharistic Minister: Patti Cinea

COFFEE SOCIAL after Mass in the Church Basement

SUNDAY, MAR. 1

7:30 A.M. Mass offered for All Parishioners
of St. Maurice Church

Altar Servers: Shirley Warbeck

Lector: Judy Knox

Eucharistic Minister: Arlene Giglio

CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY after Mass

8:00 A.M. **TRIPLE PLAY CAFÉ BREAKFAST**
Parish Center from 8:00AM to 10:00AM

9:00 A.M. **FAITH FORMATION CLASSES**

10:00 A.M. **Youth Mass**

Mass offered for +Henry Leonard

Altar Servers: Alex Czercowy, Nicholas VanDine

Lector: Jessica Merry

Eucharistic Minister: Lou Cloutier

CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY after Mass

COFFEE SOCIAL after Mass in the Church Basement

2:00 P.M.–3:30 P.M. ADULT FAITH FORMATION *in the Parish Center*

MONDAY, MAR. 2

9:00 A.M. Mass offered for +Samuel Gugliemino

TUESDAY, MAR. 3

9:00 A.M. Mass offered for +John Ciscon
 request of Theresa Ciscon

7:30 P.M. **CHOIR REHEARSAL**

WEDNESDAY, MAR. 4 — NO MASS

THURSDAY, MAR. 5 — NO MASS

FRIDAY, MAR. 6

7:00 P.M. **MASS and STATIONS OF THE CROSS**
Mass offered for All Parishioners
of St. Maurice Church

Altar Servers: LeeAnn & Ben Snuffer

Lector: Jeffrey Monroe

Eucharistic Minister: Betty Aitkin

SATURDAY, MAR. 7

3:30 P.M. **ROSARY BEFORE 4:00 P.M. MASS**

Readings for the Week of February 22, 2015

Sunday: Gn 9:8-15/1 Pt 3:18-22/Mk 1:12-15

Monday: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/Mt 25:31-46

Tuesday: Is 55:10-11/Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10/Lk 11:29-32

Thursday: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/Mt 7:7-12

Friday: Ez 18:21-28/Mt 5:20-26

Saturday: Dt 26:16-19/Mt 5:43-48

Next Sunday: Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Rom 8:31b-34/Mk 9:2-10

SAINT MAURICE PARISH

ST. MAURICE PRAYER LINE



Please remember all the special intentions on the St. Maurice Prayer Line, especially the new requests for this week.

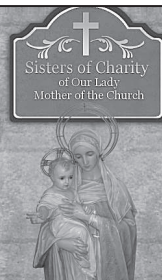
Thank you. Carol and MaryAnn.



ADULT FAITH FORMATION

For those readers participating in our second book, *A Father Who Keeps His Promises*, there will be an opportunity for reflection on the material covered on **Sunday, March 1st from 2:00-3:30 pm** in the Parish Hall. It is hoped that you will be able to both take part and share your thoughts on this book, as well on interest for future book readings.

For more information, contact Patti Cinea.



SHARE-A-DAY

The Sisters of Charity of Our Lady Mother of the Church invite **Fourth and Fifth grade girls** to Share-A-Day with the Sisters on **Saturday, March 7th from 9:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.** The day consists of prayer, recreation, talks and skits. The Gift Shop will be open. For registration forms write, call or Email: Sisters of Charity of

Our Lady Mother of the Church, Holy Family Motherhouse, PO Box 691 54 West Main St, Baltic, CT 06330

Call: Sister Jacinta or Sr Mary De Paul at 860-822-8241 or E-mail motherhouse@sistersofcharity.com

We hope to see you there!



**Healing Liturgy
St Bernard Church
Vernon-Rockville
March 15th at 3:00pm**

St Bernard parish invites all to attend a special healing liturgy on March 15th at 3pm. Join us as we ask God's healing grace for all in need of spiritual and physical strength during serious illness.

Anointing of the Sick will be available for those who choose to receive this sacrament.

Defending Our Religious Liberty

As we move forward on our Lenten journey with prayer, fasting and almsgiving in preparation for the coming of Christ, let us pray for our religious freedom that it will remain our most cherished and inalienable right.

If you haven't done so already, please voice your opposition to the mandate by calling President Obama at the White House at 202-456-1111 or U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Sylvia Mathews Burwell at 202-205-5445. Let them know that the mandate is in violation of our First Amendment right to religious freedom.

FROM THE DIOCESE OF NORWICH

Marriage Encounter Weekend — "We thought we had a great marriage, but now our love is so much deeper than anything we could have imagined!" Rediscover each other with a heart-to-heart **Marriage Encounter**. To register for the **February 27 – March 1, 2015** weekend in Manchester or for information call 860-376-0440. www.wvme.org.

Upcoming Marriage Preparation Classes

"God's Plan for a Joy-filled Marriage"
March 13, 20, 27, 2015 6:30 pm-9:00 pm
At Our Lady of Lourdes, Gales Ferry
April 10, 17, 24, 2015 6:30 pm-9:00 pm
At St. Francis of Assisi, Middletown
To register for a 3 session class call:

The Office of Family Life at 860-889-8346 ext. 283

Are you being called to adoption?

Catholic Charities Adoption Program will be holding informational meetings for couples who would like to learn about adoption. Call Susan Sedensky, Adoption Director at (860) 889-8346 ext. 282 for details.

Natural Family Planning ~ For Married and Engaged Couples. NFP is scientific, safe, loving, helps with fertility problems and 99% effective for conceiving or responsibly postponing a baby, with none of the dangerous chemical or synthetic hormonal side effects of contraception or birth control. Classes are ongoing in the Diocese. For information call the Collisons at 860-399-8265 or go to www.ccli.org. Virtual Online and Home Study Course in English and Spanish also available.

RACHEL'S VINEYARD RETREAT WEEKENDS

"I did not think the sorrow and wounds from my abortion, could be healed". Healing and forgiveness can begin with a **Rachel's Vineyard Retreat**. A Retreat March 6-8 in Stockbridge, MA call 413-452-0661. rachelvineyard.org

"PROJECT RACHEL" is our Diocesan ministry for anyone seeking healing and forgiveness. Priests in **Project Rachel** ministry are there for you with God's Grace and Mercy. Call 860-889-8346 ext.283. All inquiries are confidential.



**Operation Rice Bowl:
Our Lenten Program:**

What you give up for Lent changes lives.

Lent is a time of opportunity for us to strengthen our faith through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. These practices bring us closer to God and demonstrate our solidarity with those in need at home and around the world. This Lent make your sacrifices become opportunities to feed the hungry poor. Please participate in CRS Operation Rice Bowl and let the sacrifices you make for the hungry poor nourish them and may these sacrifices witness to the love that disciples of Christ have for all people, especially for the least of the Lord's sisters and brothers.

Diocesan Pro-Life Mass at the Cathedral of St. Patrick in Norwich on Saturday, March 7th ~ 8:30 a.m. Please join us and our celebrant **Rev. Ray Introvigne** at Mass as we pray to **end abortion and for the healing for those who have had an abortion**. Following the Mass, the Rosary will be prayed both at the Cathedral and Planned Parenthood. A brunch in the Cathedral Hall will follow the Rosary this month.



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