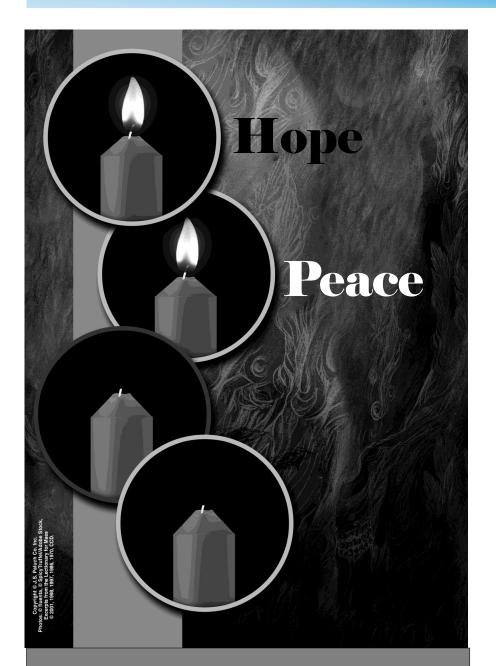
# **Our Lady of Victory Parish** 300 Capt. Thomas Boulevard, West Haven CT 06516

*"Let us then pursue what leads to peace and to build up one another." (Romans 14:19)* 

December 6, 2020 | Second Sunday of Advent



READINGS for Mass appear on pg. 6. MUSIC for Mass appears on pg. 8.

#### **MASS SCHEDULE**

Weekdays at 7:30 AM (except Thursday) Saturday Vigil: 4:30 PM Sunday: 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 AM

Weekend Mass with music can be viewed online each week by visiting our website. To attend in person, **please sign up by Friday** by visiting our Facebook page for more details (addresses below).

#### CONFESSIONS

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available on Saturdays, from 3-4 PM in the church. Masks must be worn; social distancing must be followed.

#### **RECTORY OFFICE:**

Monday—Friday on a limited basis; presently, closed to public Telephone: 203-934-6357 Fax: 203-932-3315 E-Mail: olovrectory@yahoo.com Website: www.olov.org Facebook: @olov.westhavenct Instagram: @olov.westhavenct Twitter: @OLOVwesthavenct

OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION Telephone: 203-933-0044 E-Mail: olovore@sbcglobal.net

#### **PARISH STAFF**

**Priest:** Rev. Kevin Dillon, Pastor *Email: fr.dillon@aohct.org* 

#### **Deacons:**

Deacon Frank Bevvino Deacon Dean Macchio

Music Ministry: Eduardo Perez, Director

#### **Office Staff:**

Ann Talevi, Business Manager Patty Boyne, Office Manager Betty Pergolotti, Afternoon Mgr.

> **Maintenance:** Ernie Conte, Custodian

**Religious Education:** LoriAnn Ruiz, Director of Religious Education

#### THE SANCTUARY LAMP

this week honors

**BOB VETS,** requested by his Family.



# **Eucharistic Adoration**

"Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest." (Mt 11:28)

Adoration takes place on Saturday morning for one hour, immediately following the 7:30 AM Mass. Social distancing and masks are required as we strive to keep people safe.

# **Baptism**

## **Preparation Classes**

Baptism Preparation classes will be held on the second Tuesday of each month via zoom. Please contact the Rectory office to register for the class.

# Weekly Mass Intentions

If you would like to honor a friend or family member with a Mass, please see available dates on pg. 6.

SATURDAY, December 5 — Weekday; Vigil
4:30 PM: Steve Nemergut, *Req. by his wife, Maryann*SUNDAY, December 6 — Second Sunday of Advent

- 8:00 AM: Michael and Jeanette Holyst, Req. by his daughter, Carol
- 9:30 AM: Henry Talevi, Req. by his wife, Ann
- 11:00 AM: **Robert Bertolini**, **Sr.**, *Req. by his daughter and the Family*
- MONDAY, December 7 St. Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
- 7:30 AM: Intentions of our Parishioners
- TUESDAY, December 8 THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
- 7:30 AM: Intentions of our Parishioners
- 12:10 PM: Edwin Butch Bates, Sr., and John Imbesi, Req. by Connie Bates
- 6:30 PM: Intentions of our Parishioners

WEDNESDAY, December 9

7:30 AM: Lynn and Mike Cayer, Req. by Doug Wrenn

THURSDAY, December 10 — St. Francis Xavier Priest 7:30 AM: No Mass

FRIDAY, December 117:30 AM:Carolyn Forlenzo Young, Req. by Vinny

SATURDAY, December 12 — Our Lady of Guadalupe; Vigil 7:30 AM: Ralph Julianelle, Req. by his wife, Fern 4:30 PM: Anna Wideman, Req. by her Family

**SUNDAY**, December 13 — **Third Sunday of Advent** 8:00 AM: **Marie Castracane**, *Req. by Caesar* 

- 9:30 AM: Andy Cafiero, Req. by his Family
- 11:00 AM: Richard J. Dion, Req. by the OLOV Staff

## **COVID Pushes Us Away; Jesus Brings Us Closer**

A letter from Fr. Dillon

I am beginning this week with what may be old news by the time you read this, and I hope that it is. I decided to have a COVID-19 test after learning that someone tested positive in the household of a person I visited for more than 15 minutes. The person with whom I was in contact had tested negative. I found this out shortly before the weekend Mass schedule was to begin so out of an abundance of caution, I cancelled all Masses until I was tested and had received the results. My test was last Tuesday morning.

I truly believe that the test will come back negative because I follow all of the guidelines regarding distancing, mask wearing and hand washing, but the safety and health of our parishioners is my first concern. If we are in church: the result was negative -- good news. Thank you for the prayers, concern and words of support.

Christmas will be with us in 18 days, with the celebration of the Christmas Eve Masses. I want to encourage everyone to please sign-up early, either via SignUpGenius or a phone call to the office (see pg. 7). I don't want anyone left out. Because Christmas traditionally brings large numbers of people to church, we can only allow those who have signed up in to maintain proper social distancing. Out of fairness to those who come without registering, we are going to assume that those who have signed up but have not arrived 10 minutes before Mass, are not attending. At that time, we will allow into the church those who haven't registered until we have reached our limit.





So, please come early so as not to miss out.

Last Sunday was the First Sunday of Advent and I was going to mention in my homily that in our COVID world we are continually reminded to stay distant from others. But Advent is all about getting closer -- closer to Jesus. This year, with all of the stress and anxieties with which we live, Advent can be an excellent opportunity to make a serious and concerted effort to become closer to Jesus.

Let's take some of the time that we are spending home to read the Sacred Scriptures, enter into devotional prayer, meditate, listen to sacred music or sit in silence waiting for the Lord to speak to us. What better way is there to help us navigate the challenges we all face? Give it a try, you might find out that this is exactly what is missing and needed in your life.

Keep well and safe.

# Instead of our Usual Giving Tree, Gift Cards Requested

For Christmas 2020, we plan to continue our parish's support for those in need by providing

much-needed assistance. This year we will continue our support of some of the local agencies that spread God's kindness and love to others - including the West Haven Family Resource Center, the West Haven Community House, and Beth El Shelter in Milford.

Our greatest (and most necessary) change is this year we will not display a "Giving Tree" with gift tags. We would greatly appreciate gift cards in any amount to the stores listed at the right. They will be used by those in need and the agencies that support them.

You may drop off cards to the Parish Office or bring them to Mass and deposit them in the collection baskets.

Your kindness and generosity are greatly appreciated!



Giving Tree 2020

#### We pray for those who are sick.



Out of respect for whom we pray, only family members may add names to this list.

Jason Adams, Maureen and Peter Alonso, Charles Asarisi, Augliera Family, Louis Altieri, Amanda, Valeria Asperelli, Priscilla Banning, Danielle Boros, Gerard Canadeo, Donald Cashman, Frank Consorte, Michael Cote, Rosalie, Lucy Anne Criscuolo, Karen Cronan, Howard Curtis, Deanna Cusano, Jeff Davis, Dawn DellaRocco, Albert DeLucia, DeNigris Family, Joe DiGioia, Frank Dini Jr., Patti Dowling, Michael Duffy, Susanne Duffy, Monique Ek, Sandy Eocai, Linda Foley, Tony Fusco, Joseph Galatie, Geraldine, Patty Gigola, Therese Gill, Dee Green, Judy Florio, Maureen Freeman, Patti Fusco, Ray Guarino, Tom Halligan, Karen Hodgdon, Bill Kapinos, Hank Kowalski, Julianna, Rose Jarvie, Florence Johnson, Ann LaBonia, Carmen Limauro, Claudine Lopez, Charles Maddelena, Noah McEachern, Genevieve Mieczkowski, Theresa Montz, Mary Moran, Gabby Murillo, Devin O'Connor, Judy Palmer, Joseph Pekar, Joseph R., Marsha R., John Rakos, Don Robillard, Elizabeth Ross, Rose Santilli, Mark Scecina, Elizabeth Shamaly, Jack and Joan Shea, Richard and Suzanne Smallman, Anthony Spina, Daniel Steinau, Gwen Stiewing, Anthony Terasi Sr., Anthony Terrasi, Jr., Jessie Terrasi, **Doris Worrell** 

#### In loving memory, we pray for these souls.

Our Parish extends sincere sympathy to the family and friends of: Rocco DeFonzo, Dolores DiNuzzo, Katherine Jeannette, James Spagone, The Victims of the Coronavirus

# Please pray for those serving in our military.

Parishioners are invited to add the names of armed forces personnel on active duty to this list by calling the rectory office.

Jeffrey Batres, USMC Staff Sgt. Adam Dudek Staff Sgt. Danielle Luby Cpl. Teagan Fransen, USMC SPEC Giovanni Gigola Airman Gabriella Gigola Airman Aaron Butner Airman Sean Hufcut E3 Lexi Ronan, USN E5 Ryan Ronan, USN Pvt. Christopher Miller SPC Alexander Capuras E4 Raymond Mayberry, USMC Senior Airman, Hunter Cole, USAF Airman 1st Class Skylar Hampton ıst Lt. Pilot Michael Dupliesse 2nd Lt. Jared Carlson

# Our Monthly Parish Devotion: Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception

May we strive in holiness and purity, that we may better imitate Our Blessed Mother always!

#### Prayer to Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception

O most Holy Virgin, immaculate in body and spirit, look kindly on me as I implore your powerful intercession.

O most Holy Mother, receive my prayers as I present them to God. (*state* your *intentions here*)

O Mary, Mother of Jesus and our Mother, you intercede for us with your Son. O Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee. Amen.



# **Proclaiming God's Coming**

#### By Deacon Frank Bevvino

In our first reading on this 2nd Sunday of Advent, the prophet Isaiah proclaims the coming of the Lord. Isaiah speaks of God bringing "comfort" to the people. God will relieve the Jewish people of their responsibility of solely adhering to the law. A "new" covenant will be given and Isaiah promises that the Lord will make "straight the paths" of life. The Lord God will shepherd His people like a shepherd cares for his flock. Shout from the hilltops this coming, "the glory of God will be revealed."

Our God comes with power, rules with a strong arm, and leads His people with care. In the Jewish faith, "baptism" was a process of purification. It was a ritual to cleanse people from the impurities of life (their sins) before they were able, under Jewish law, to worship God. Similar to Christian Baptism, water was the dominant symbol in the Jewish rite. However, this ritual was repeated many times in the lifetime of a Jew to cleanse him from continuing impurities.

Isaiah's proclamation of God sending a messenger is fulfilled in the appearance of John the Baptist in our Gospel this weekend. "I will send a messenger before you to prepare your way..." John the Baptist is the successor to all the great prophets of the Old Testament. As the prophet of the New Testament, John proclaims not a Baptism of purification, but a Baptism of repentance and forgiveness of sins. It is a Baptism filled with the Spirit of God given to us by the one, as proclaimed by John, to come and show us the way to the Father.

Amidst the throngs of people seeking this purification from John, he announces that one more powerful than he is to come after him. John's proclamation is a continuation of Isaiah's message announcing the coming of God into the world to bring comfort and joy, to make straight the paths of life. John the Baptist and Isaiah are the prophets who link the Covenant God made with the Jewish people with the New Covenant given to us by the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. As recipients of this Baptism, unlike the Jewish people who needed to be purified many times in their lives to worship God, our Baptism is a life born into repent-



ance and forgiveness by the sacrifice that Jesus made for us. Our continuing responsibility for this great sacrament of Baptism is to continue to proclaim God's mercy and forgiveness by how we conduct our lives.

We are successors to John the Baptist. We, the prophets of God, proclaim Jesus' promise to return a second time to take us to God His Father, to be with Him for all eternity. As we prepare for this celebration of Christ's life, let us renew our Baptismal commitment of living our faith by word and example in God and the promise of Jesus Christ. God's mercy and love is everlasting. Our gratitude and love are returned in our never-ending faith in loving others as His Son loves us.

# **Please Pray for Vocations**

If two of you join your voices on earth to pray for anything whatever, it shall be granted you by my Father in heaven. Where only a few come together in Christ's name on earth, Christ is present with them.

Pray for an increase in vocations to priesthood and religious life.



To discern a vocation, call Fr. Michael Casey, Director of Vocations, Archdiocesan Pastoral Center, Tel. 860-761-7456, E-mail vocations@aohct.org or visit the web at www.hartfordpriest.com.

# Extension of Dispensation from Sunday Mass Obligation

#### Now through Feb. 16, 2021

Each and every Catholic in the Archdiocese of Hartford has been dispensed from the obligation of attending Sunday Mass by Archbishop Leonard P. Blair due to the potential danger of the coronavirus pandemic. In light of continued uncertainty regarding the extent and duration of the pandemic in the state of Connecticut, Archbishop Blair has now extended this dispensation from the Sunday obligation through Saturday, February 16, 2021.



# 2021 Mass Book Now Open

2020 Mass Memorials Still Available

You may book Mass intentions for the remainder of the year through June 2021 by calling the Rectory Office at (203) 934-6357. Donations for daily Mass intentions are \$15; weekend Masses, \$25.

#### Weekends:

Vigil, 4:30 pm – 2021 only 8:00 am – 2021 only 9:30 am – 2021 only 11:00 am – 2021 only

Weekdays at 7:30 am:

Dec.: 7, 14, 16, 18, 19, 22, 23, 28, 29,30

Sanctuary Candle:

Now reserving for 2021

December 8, Holy Day: Feast of the Immaculate Conception: 7:30 am

> December 24, Christmas Eve: 6:00 pm, 10:00 pm

> **December 25, Christmas Day:** All have been reserved.

#### Social Justice Committee is Looking for Help!

## **Drivers Needed**

The Social Justice Committee would like to acknowledge the work of so many during this pandemic, specifically those who have been feeding the hungry in so many ways under the awesome direction of Deacon Dean.

#### Now, here's where you can help: DRIVERS ARE NEEDED FOR TWO ON-GOING EVENTS:

1. **Taking food to seniors** who cannot get out, every other Saturday morning at 10:00. You

would sign up for the Saturday that you can do it. The more drivers, the less often you work.



2. Picking up salvaged food from

**Cumberland Farms on Monday mornings**, or possibly other mornings. Again, the more drivers we have, the less often you are scheduled.

Call Deacon Dean: (203) 521-0199

# Sunday's Readings: Dec. 6

"...This Word of God proclaimed in the liturgy possesses a special sacramental power to bring about in us what it proclaims. ... How, then, do we respond to this wonderful gift of God's Word? We respond in word and song, in posture and gesture, in silent meditation and, most important of all, by **listening attentively** to that Word as it is proclaimed." -- General Instruction of the Roman Missal, United States Catholic Conference of Bishops.

**First Reading** — The rugged land shall be made a plain; the rough country, a broad valley (Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11).

Second Reading — Conduct yourselves in holiness, hastening the coming of the day of God (2 Peter 3:8-14).

**Gospel** — I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit (Mark 1:1-8).



Please pray for our Third Grade Religious Education Class

#### FIRST RECONCILIATION

**6:30** p.m., Friday, December 11, 2020 Our Lady of Victory Church 6:25 arrival for all 3<sup>rd</sup> graders and a parent; catechists will be taking attendance.

No siblings, please. One or both parents <u>only</u>. Neat, casual dress; No photos; **MASKS ARE REQUIRED.** 



Call Mrs. Ruiz, (203) 933-0044, with any questions.

# **Vocation Reflection**

John the Baptizer appeared in the desert as the precursor proclaiming the way Lord. He embodies the characteristics of a true disciple. Who will proclaim him in this generation? If you feel the call to proclaim the word of the Lord as a priest, call Fr. Michael Casey, Director of Vocations, Pastoral Center, Tel. 860-761-7456, e-mail vocations@aohct.org or visit the web at www.hartfordpriest.com.

New	to Our	Parish	?

#### Thinking of Becoming a Parishioner?

Welcome to Our Lady of Victory. If
you'd like more information about registering
with us, complete this form and return it the
Rectory Office. Or, send an email message
to OLOVRectory@yahoo.com. We'll be happy
to connect with you:.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

# Sign Up to Attend Mass

Masses are reaching capacity and walkins may not be allowed to enter. The link to sign up can be found here:

#### Website: Go to www.olov.org

- At top of page, click on "December Sign-ups"
- At the far left, click on SignUpGenius.com
- Click on the Mass you want to attend
- Then, at the bottom, click on "Submit."
- Put in your name and email and click "Sign Up Now" then you're all set!



Facebook: @olov.westhavenct Or, call the rectory by Noon on Friday: (203) 934-6357

# Rooted in Faith, Opening Wide Our Hearts

#### Wednesday Dec. 9 | 7:00 PM

The Office for Catholic Social Justice Ministry will continue its conference series with the webinar: "The Influence of Racism in our Healthcare System." The speakers are: Vernette Townsend RN,MSN, Marlene Harris, RN, MSN and Samantha Lew from Health Equity Solutions.

Is being Black bad for your health? Is racism a public health issue? Join us to learn more of this timely and important topic. The Webinar is **free**; advanced registration is required at:

www.catholicsocialjstice.org/ open-wide-our-hearts.html



# of Masses

Holy Day, Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Dec. 8: 7:30 a.m., 12:10 p.m., 6:30 p.m.

**Christmas Eve**, Thursday, Dec. 24: 4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m., 10:00 p.m.

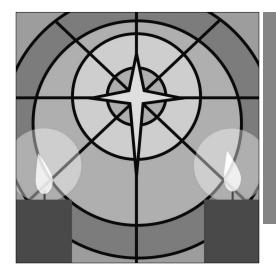
**Christmas Day**, Friday, Dec. 25: 8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m.

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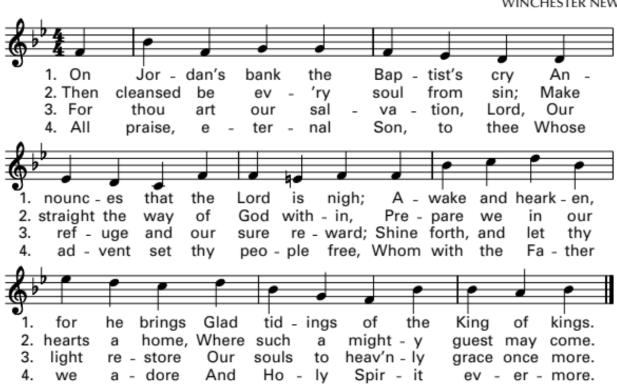
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Because of health guidelines to prevent the spread of COVID-19, we are unable to sing from the pews. The next few pages will serve as your hymn book so you can follow along in silent, musical prayer.

#### **OPENING SONG:**



**ON JORDAN'S BANK** 

WINCHESTER NEW

Text: LM; Charles Coffin, 1676-1749; tr. by John Chandler, 1806-1876, alt. Music: Musicalishes Handbuch, Hamburg, 1690; adapt. by William H. Havergal, 1793-1870.

#### **PSALM:**



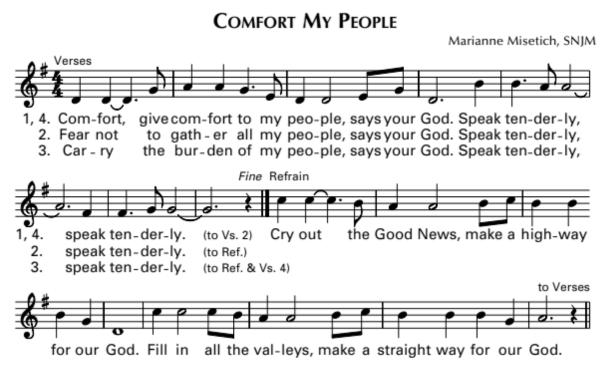
Text © 1969, 1981, 1997, ICEL. All rights reserved. Used with permission. Music: Owen Alstott, © 1977, 1990, OCP. All rights reserved.

# ALLELUIA



Music: Owen Alstott, © 1977, 1990, OCP. All rights reserved.

## **OFFERTORY:**



Text based on Isaiah 40. Text and music © 1973, Marianne Misetich, SNJM. Published by OCP Publications. All rights reserved.

## **COMMUNION:**



Text: Based on Isaiah 40:3, 4a. Text and music © 2004, Curtis Stephan. Published by spiritandsong.com®. All rights reserved.

#### **CLOSING SONG:**

LET THE KING OF GLORY COME Michael Joncas up, you gates, lift Lift vour arch let the up 00 ₽ , ħ . King of glo - ry come! Lift your hearts and up Last time to Coda d . . King of sing, you peo ple: let the glo-ry come! 10 10 .. ... Our Who is the King God, 1. of glo ry? Come, Come, 0. \_\_ come, Em \_\_ come, bright man-u Wis -\_ el: come and 2 3. dom: come and 4 Come, Key of Da-vid, come o - pen our you ho - ly and Who of 1. strong! is the Lord 2. 3. 4. dwell\_ with us! Come, 0. come, you make\_ wise! Come, us come, you heav - en - ly home Come, De sire of to Re 1. - ty? Our God, might-y and ma - jes strong! 2. Lord of might: 3. Day - spring: 4. na-tions, come: ban - ish death \_\_ and fear! love. un - close\_ our eyes! bring us in - to your peace! ⊕ Coda -0 1 King Let the of glo гy come!

Text based on Psalm 24 and the "O" Antiphons. Text and music © 1979, 2008, OCP. All rights reserved.

