

DECEMBER 15, 2019

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

CHRISTMAS SEASON MASS SCHEDULE 2019
CHRISTMAS EVE, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24TH
VIGIL MASSES, 4:00PM – Fr. John O’Neill
5:15PM – Fr. John O’Neill
10:00PM – Fr. Roy Parayil

CHRISTMAS DAY, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25TH
7:00AM – Fr. Tom Sickler
9:00AM – Fr. John Welch
11:00AM – Fr. Roy Parayil

NEW YEAR’S DAY, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1ST
7:00AM – Fr. John Welch
9:00AM – Fr. John O’Neill
6:00PM – Fr. Roy Parayil

HOLY HOUR...Our next Monthly Holy Hour will be Monday, December 16th. Rosary begins at 6:40PM.
In Eucharistic Adoration, Jesus freely gives us the graces we need in our lives. The graces we need for our families, vocations, jobs, special intentions, for our church and school, decrease in crime, for Catholics to return to the Faith.

-----SOS...SAVE OUR SCHOOL...

St. James School wishes to thank all our Anonymous Donors and Larry Malizia in memory of Raymond Perreault for their generous donations to the St. James School Tuition Assistance Scholarship Fund.
We ask you to consider making a voluntary donation on the occasion of a death of a loved one (in lieu of flowers) or on the occasion of a happy event; e.g. wedding or anniversary (in lieu of flowers). "Save Our School", envelopes are at the entrances to the church.

ATTENTION PARENTS WITH CHILDREN AGES 4-12
Are you interested in a great educational experience for your child?

- IMAGINE** a school where no grade has more than 30 students...
 - IMAGINE** a school where you have the opportunity to know the names of all the children in your child’s class, and their parents...
 - IMAGINE** a school where the values of **RESPECT & COMMUNITY SERVICE** are part of the curriculum...
 - IMAGINE** a school where athletic programs and other extra-curricular activities thrive...
 - IMAGINE** a school with a focus on religious education...
 - IMAGINE** a school with convenient before and after school programs...
 - IMAGINE** this school is only minutes away in Danielson
- EXPERIENCE ST. JAMES SCHOOL - 860-774-3281**

“A BIG THANK YOU to everyone who donated to the annual Knights of Columbus Coats for Kids Coat Drive. We distributed over 550 coats to those in need in our local community. We also gave out 57 pairs of socks to homeless veterans. Our local community can always count on St. James!”

PARISHIONER REGISTRATION/UPDATE...If you are new to the Parish or have not yet registered we welcome you. Please fill out the form below and place it in the collection basket so our records can be updated.

PARISH UPDATE

NAME: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

Check one: I am a new parishioner
 I have an address correction to make
 I would like to receive weekly envelopes

Wednesday Night Bingo...Every Wednesday night in the church hall over \$1,000.00 is given away each week. Plus there are 2 progressive games. Come in and try your luck! Game sales start at 6PM. All profits benefit St. James School. Bingo workers are also needed. Please call Bob Codding @ (860)481-9167.

MASSES

- MONDAY, DECEMBER 16,**
9:00 Richard Mailhot...family
9:00 Jeanne Lucier... Husband
- TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17,**
9:00 Michael Hopkins...Aunt Jeannine
9:00 Bob Mathieu...Jeannine
- WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18,**
9:00 M & C. Guari...Anniversary...family
9:00 Francis Ferron...family
- THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19,**
9:00 Leo Beausoleil... children
9:00 Melvin Davis...Small Christian Community
- FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20,**
9:00 Elizabeth Rondeau... family
9:00 Richard Desilets...Father, Lucien
- SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21,**
4:30 Parishioners
4:30 Robert Langevin...wife
4:30 Milt Radei...Mona & family
- SUNDAY, December 22, Fourth Sunday of Advent**
7:00 Gerry Grenon...family
7:00 George & Doris Adams...by Nephew, Marc. J. Adams
9:00 Raymond L. Bernier...Lorraine & Sonia
9:00 M/M Oliver Fortin...Arthur & Doris
11:00 Ben Hagan...23rd Anniversary...Welshman Family
11:00 Departed Souls of the Adoration Sisters

LASALETTE MASSES

In memory of Frederick & Adelyn Bodenschatz
In memory of David & Sophie Horvat...Son, Joseph
In memory of John Gallow...wife, Rita Gallow
In memory of Yvonne Bissonnette...daughter, Pierrette

PLEASE NOTE...The rectory office is closed on Monday. Office hours are 8:30AM to 3:30PM Tuesday thru Friday. Emergencies anytime. 860.774.3900

MARIAN SHRINE FLOWERS...This week's flower arrangement is donated in memory of Pete Walker by wife, Jackie. Next week's flower arrangement will be donated in honor of Jeannette Auger by her neighbors. Dates that are still open, 1/18; 2/29, 4/5, 4/12, 4/19, 5/3, 8/23 and 9/6. **IF YOU WISH TO RESERVE A DATE, CALL @ 860.774.3900.**

VIGIL LIGHTS...The Vigil Lights are burning brightly in prayer this week for the Infant Jesus of Prague Devotion.

WEEKLY OFFERING.....\$5,925.00
St. James School.....\$2,752.00
Second Collections.....12/15 - Renovation Fund; 12/22- Friends of La Salette, 12/25 Christmas Day – Your Christmas Gift to your Parish and 12/29 – Renovation Fund.

PLEASE PRAY FOR ALL OUR SICK AND RECUPERATING. Our Priests visit the hospital regularly. Please have the hospital or a loved one call the rectory 860-774-3900. Names of the sick & recuperating submitted to the rectory will be placed on the altar and remembered during mass.

Mass Intentions...We are now booking Mass Intentions for 2020, if you wish to schedule a Mass
 Please write out all the names of your loved ones and put these names and your **phone number**, with a check in an envelope and place it in the collection basket. We will do our best to accommodate your wishes. Unless you are homebound) we will not accept Mass intentions over the phone (Sorry) Also Mass intentions must all be in writing. Mass Stipends are \$10.00 each. Thank You for your understanding.

2020 Masses Available
7:00AM... 1/12, 1/19, 1/26, 2/2, 2/16, 2/23, 3/1, 3/8, 3/15, 2/22,
9:00AM..... 1/6, 1/8, 1/12, 1/14, 1/15, 1/19, 1/20, 1/21, 1/22, 1/23, 1/24, 1/26, 1/27, 1/29, 1/30, 1/31, 2/2, 2/3, 2/4, 2/5, 2/6,
11:00AM... 1/5, 1/12, 1/19, 2/2, 2/9, 2/16, 2/23, 3/1, 3/8, 3/15, 3/22, and 3/29. **Please place Mass Intention in the collection basket. Please include a phone number. Mass stipends are \$10.00 each. Please include a phone number.**

PARISH EVENTS

Tuesday, December 17,
7:00PM K of C Bible Study
Wednesday, December 18,
7:00PM Bingo in the church hall

DAYDREAMS OF A PASTOR...2019 saw so many of our loved ones go home to heaven. All of them spent their first Christmas in Heaven. The following Daydream is dedicated to all the members of our families who have died.

My First Christmas in Heaven

I see the countless Christmas trees around the world below. With tiny lights like Heaven's stars reflecting on the snow, the sight is so spectacular, please wipe away that tear, for I'm spending Christmas with Jesus Christ this year. I hear many Christmas songs that people hold so dear, but the sound of music cannot compare with the Christmas choir up here. I have no words to tell you the joy their voices bring, for its' beyond description to hear the angels sing.

I know how much you miss me. I see the pain inside your heart. But I am not so far away, we really aren't apart. So be happy for me dear ones. You know I hold you dear, and be glad I'm spending Christmas with Jesus Christ this year.

I send you each a special gift from my heavenly home above, I send you each a memory of my undying love. After all, Love is a gift more precious than pure gold. It was always most important in the stories that Jesus told.

Please love each other as the Father said to do, for I cannot count the blessings or love He has for you, so have a Merry Christmas and wipe away that tear, remember I am spending Christmas with Jesus Christ this year.

Daydream II...Remember My Birthday??? As you well know, we are getting closer to my birthday. Every year there is a celebration in my honor and I think that this year the celebration will be repeated. During this time there are many people shopping for gifts; there are many radio announcements, TV commercials, and in every part of the world everyone is saying that my birthday is getting closer and closer. It is really very nice to know, that at least once a year, some people think of me.

As you know, the celebration of my birthday began many years ago. At first people seemed to understand and be thankful at all that I did for them, but in these times, no one seems to know the reason for the celebration. Family and friends get together and have a lot of fun, but they don't know the meaning of the celebration. I remember that last year there was a great feast in my honor. The dinner table was full of delicious foods, pastries, fruits, assorted nuts and chocolates. The decorations were exquisite and there were many, many beautifully wrapped gifts. But, do you want to know something? I wasn't invited. I was the guest of honor and they didn't remember to send me an invitation. The party was for me, but when that great day came, I was left out side, they closed the door in my face...and I wanted to be with them and share their table. In truth, that didn't surprise me because in the last few years all close their doors to me.

Since I was not invited, I decided to enter the party without making any noise. I went in and stood in a corner. They were all drinking; there were some who were drunk and telling jokes and laughing at everything. They were having a great time. To top it all this big fat man all dressed in red wearing a long white beard entered the room yelling Ho-Ho-Ho-! He seemed drunk. He sat on the sofa and all the children ran to him, saying; "Santa Claus, Santa Claus"...as if the party were in his honor!

At 12 midnight all the people began to hug each other; I extended my arms waiting for someone to hug me and ...do you know...no one hugged me. Suddenly they all began to share gifts. They opened them one by one with great expectation. When all had been opened, I looked to see if, maybe, there was one for me. What would you feel if on your birthday everybody shared gifts and you did not get one?

I then understood that I was unwanted at that party and quietly left. Every year it gets worse. People only remember to eat and drink, the gift, the parties and nobody remembers me. I would like this Christmas that you allow me to enter into your life. I would like that you recognize the fact that almost two thousand years ago I came to this world to give my life for you, on the cross to save you.

Today, I only want that you believe this with all your heart. I want to share something with you. As many didn't invite me to their party, I will have my own celebration, a grandiose party that no one has ever imagined, a spectacular party.

I'm still making the final arrangements. Today I am sending out many invitations and there is an invitation for you. I want to know if you wish to attend and I will make a reservation for you and write your name with golden letters in a great guest book. Only those on the quest list will be invited to the party. Those who don't answer the invitation, will be left outside. Do you know how you can answer this invitation? It is by extending it to others whom you care for... I'll be waiting for all of you to attend my party this year...See you soon...I love you!
Jesus

DECEMBER 15, 2019

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Lector and Eucharistic Minister Schedule for December 21 and 22, 2019

	4:30PM	7:00AM	9:00AM	11:00AM
Celebrant	Fr. Tom Sickler	Fr. Roy Parayil	Fr. John Welch	Fr. John O'Neill
Lectors	Stephen Houle	Julie Dupont	Jim Weigel	Lorraine LaGarde
Eucharistic Ministers	Ernest & Diane Barrette	Rose Normandie	Paul Boire, Loralai Bessenaire	John & Michelle Brady

CHRISTMAS GIFT

Christmas and Year End Giving is not only a Catholic tradition, but Christmas marks the beginning of the Ultimate Gift, God's gift of His only son, Jesus Christ. Christmas of course, celebrates the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Tradition holds that the three kings or wise men followed the star to bring gifts to the newborn king, beginning a tradition of gift giving to the Christmas season we enjoy each and every year.

But what about the gifts that God has bestowed upon each and every one of us during the year and throughout our lifetimes? We are merely stewards of these gifts. Christmas and years end is a spiritual opportunity to make a return to God of His many blessings at Christmas and years end. A Catholic Gift of Faith.

An Investment In Your Parish

For many years, our Catholic parishes have benefitted from the enormous contributions and dedication of religious men and women (priests, brothers and sisters) who have given their entire lives in the service to parishes, schools, dioceses and many other Church ministries. Now, our Catholic Church and educational ministries are even broader and serve more people than ever before despite the decline in the numbers of religious. Many dedicated lay people now staff these programs and must be compensated with just and living wages. Your Christmas and year end gift is an investment in these quality programs.

Year - End Giving

Thanks for all you do. Every organization has a program called Year End Giving. Most parishes follow this lead. Here at St. James, many people and corporations send us a Christmas Gift. For the past 20 years people have asked us to send them a reminder to remember St. James at Christmas. This year we will be using our bulletin space to say thanks and recommend the following. We will have a second collection at the Christmas Masses. We have the largest attendance of the year and it will help our debt. Some former parishioners continue to remember St. James Parish and St. James School. We could use the extra help at Christmas. We will remember (your loved ones in a Christmas Novena of Masses. (From Christmas to the Epiphany).

Why do we need a year end collection? Each year, St. James School has been short \$75,000.00. This collection will help us break even. For parishioners who contribute every week, this note is just for your information. But there will be a voluntary collection and it will take place on Christmas, a Day of Gifts. It will be the second collection. You may use the Year-End envelopes found at each entrance to the church. Thanks again.

Enclosed is My Year End Donation to St. James

NAME _____ **Amount Enclosed** _____

Address _____

City, State, _____ **Zip Code** _____

INMEMORY OF _____

May the Lord bless you and your families in the months ahead

2020 ST. JAME 1000 CLUB REGISTRATION FORM - SPONSOR A NEW MEMBER TODAY

BUY YOUR TICKET TODAY, ONLY \$50.00 FOR 10 MONTHLY DRAWING. THE NEXT DRAWING FOR THE NEW CLUB WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, AT 8:30AM IN THE CHURCH HALL.

Your choice of number if available (no guarantees)

SPONSORS NAME: _____ **YOU DO NOT HAVE TO HAVE A SPONSOR TO JOIN THE CLUB**

Please Print

NAME: _____ **PHONE:** _____

ADDRESS _____

City / Town _____ **State** _____ **Zip code** _____

E-mail: _____

POURINGS AND PASSAGES BOOKSTORE... A used book store and coffeehouse is now open at 183 Main Street (corner of Academy and Main Streets, second floor of Gerardi Insurance Services). Hours of operation are Wednesdays to Saturdays, 10AM to 5PM. The store is closed Sunday to Tuesday, holidays and snowy days. Please patronize, promote and support our bookstore. It supports the students and staff of St. James School. Thank you for your ongoing support and God bless you all! Store phone number 860-774-1712, (Wednesdays to Saturdays) or leave a message. Thank you for your understanding and continuing patronage of our store. God bless you all! Jim

CAR DONATIONS AND AUCTION....Henry Sorel of Sorel's Garage in Brooklyn is partnering with St. James School's Tuition Assistance Program by accepting unwanted vehicles, repairing them, and then selling them at auction (location to be determined), with the profit going for tuition assistance. For over 28 years, Sorel's has sold unwanted vehicles on behalf of the church, raising \$100,000. It gets better -- Sorel's has committed to financing these vehicles for college students! If you have a car to donate, please call the Rectory office at 860-774-3900, or speak with Henry Sorel directly at 860-774-4514. Be sure to share this announcement with family and friends. Your help could provide a wonderful Catholic education for a child.

Christmas Greetings from Fr. John J. O'Neill,

This is that special time of year when we send Christmas greetings and the hope of a Blessed New Year to family and friends around the world. As 2019 ends, we recall the many blessings we have received throughout the years; we thank God for his presence and goodness, and we ask the big question - Where does the time go?

Looking back to my first 14 years ...

One of five children I was born in Bridgeport CT in 1935 and went to Sacred Heart School in Bridgeport. When I finished grammar school, I asked my parents if it was okay to go to the High School Seminary in Hartford. They gave me their blessing and said, "Go!"

The next 14 years ... I spent thirteen years in LaSalette Seminaries in Hartford CT, Altamont NY, Bloomfield CT, and Ipswich MA and another year of study at Boston College. That was fourteen years of studies before I began ministry. I now was 28 years old.

The next 14 years ... Beginning in 1963, I taught economics in the seminary and did vocation ministry with stops in Altamont NY, Chicago IL, Hartford CT and Cheshire CT.

The next 14 years ... I now was 42. I was elected to Leadership in the LaSalette Community and spent fourteen years in Leadership roles with the LaSalette Province of Seven Dolors.

The next 14 years ... I now was 56 - where to go - there were several parishes open. So, I asked my mother what to do and where to go. She said, "Go to Danielson." I came to St. James, Danielson, in 1991 - thinking if they let me stay for another fourteen years, I could retire at age 70 in 2005, and life would be good. Guess what happened!?! I enjoyed my first fourteen years at St. James.

The next 14 years ... I now was 70. I looked at all the places I had been. Sacred Heart Church in Bridgeport was gone, Highway I-95 caused the closing of the Parish, and the school closed after that. The LaSalette Seminaries in Hartford, Altamont, Bloomfield and Ipswich were all closed. St. Basil's in Chicago and St. Mary's in Meriden were closed. Leadership at the Province of Seven Dolors was closed due to a merger with all the U.S. LaSalette provinces. Every place I had ever been (except for Boston College, the University of Missouri and St. James, Danielson) had closed. It made my decision easy - fourteen more years at good old St. James. Now in December 2019, I am still enjoying life at St. James and pause to wish you all the best at Christmas and in the New Year.

Looking back on almost eight and a half decades, life has been good in Bridgeport, Hartford, Altamont, Ipswich, Boston, Cheshire, Sacred Heart in Wethersfield, St. Basil's in Chicago, St. Mary's in Meriden, and life is really good at St. James in Danielson. This year will be my twenty ninth Christmas at St. James! I hope that 2020 will be a year of blessings for all of us. 2020 will be a special year for me as I will celebrate my 85th birthday!

I will remember you in all my Christmas Masses. My prayer is that the Good Lord will bless you and your family in the New Year. Merry Christmas!

Fr. John

**PLEASE USE OUR SPECIAL COVER (INCLUDING THE CHRISTMAS MASS
SCHEDULE FOR 12/15; AND 12//22/2019.
PLEASE USE AS MANY GRAPHICS AS POSSIBLE.**

THANK YOU,

LUCILLE

