

ST. EDWARD THE CONFESSOR, NEW FAIRFIELD



MONDAY, MARCH 13

- 7:30 AM James McDonough R/B The McCartney Family
- 9:00 AM Rudolf Machacek R/B Ann & Terry Guiry
- 5:30 PM Philip Gambino R/B Philip & Maureen Alesi

TUESDAY, MARCH 14

- 7:30 AM Niall Bracken R/B The Murphy Family
- 9:00 AM Eleanor Preneta R/B The Family
- 5:30 PM Mario Rodriguez R/B Ellen & Mario Venturini

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15

- 7:30 AM Intention of Nora Toomey R/B
The McCartney Family
- 9:00 AM Marie Williams R/B Carla & Philip Murphy
- 5:30 PM Frank Klemczak R/B The Broderick Family

THURSDAY, MARCH 16

- 7:30 AM Bill Purcell R/B The McGuirk Family
- 9:00 AM Nancy Dolan R/B Bob & Marge Jano
- 5:30 PM Frank Clyne R/B Frances & Peter Schenk

FRIDAY, MARCH 17

- 7:30 AM Michael Mangan R/B Bridie & John
- 9:00 AM Vincent P. Blake R/B The Family
- 5:30 PM Souls in Purgatory

SATURDAY, MARCH 18

- 7:30 AM Klemens Susmeyer R/B Kathy Florio
- 4:30 PM Parish Intentions Cervero
- 6:00 PM Parish Intentions Ryan

SUNDAY, MARCH 19

- 7:30 AM Parish Intentions Riendeau
- 9:00 AM Parish Intentions Ryan
- 11:00 AM Parish Intentions Cervero
- 5:15 PM Parish Intentions Riendeau

THE CHAPEL LAMP will burn this week in memory of Joseph Anello at the request of Dorothy Anello.

THE SANCTUARY LAMP will burn this week in memory of Nicholas Bisaccia at the request of Pat & Art Casey.



Second Sunday of Lent

From the Pastor's Desk



Dear Friends:

As we journey through Lent, I hope you will be able to join us for one of our Lenten prayer services on Friday nights at 7:00 PM.

On March 17th, we will have a special Stations of the Cross for families with young children. Praying the Stations of the Cross on a child's level will be the format.

On March 24th, we will use the Taize prayer form with Stations. The chant form provides a deeply spiritual moment.

On March 31st, we will have a portrayal of the Stations in a "power point" presentation created and prepared by one of our middle school students.

On April 7th, we will hold Scriptural Stations. Passages from the Bible will be used to walk in the Steps of Jesus.

Finally on April 14th, Fr. Joe will lead the community in a healing meditation of the Stations.

Please come and join us for these prayerful events.

Peace,
Msgr. Ryan



LITURGY EVENTS

- March 19th: 9:00 AM First Birthday Blessings
- March 26th: 9:00 AM Butterfly Sunday

MARTHA MINISTRY

The Liturgy Committee needs several volunteers to help with the occasional laundering of altar cloths. A desire to help... a bit of soap and water and a run or two with an iron is all that's necessary to help in this Church ministry. Please call Fr. Fred if you are interested in donating a few hours of your time on an infrequent basis to this valuable ministry. Thanks.



BAPTISM

The parish family of St. Edward's welcomes Joseph Michael Arizzi and Dennis John O'Brien who were baptized here last weekend.



LENT

LENTEN MASS SCHEDULE

Please join us for daily Mass Monday through Friday during Lent at 7:30 & 9:00 AM and 5:30 PM. There will also be a Lenten Prayer Service every Friday at 7:00 PM.

LENTEN FAST & ABSTINENCE

Fridays during Lent are days of abstinence. On Fridays, all Catholics age 14 and older are to abstain from eating meat.

Parish Support

2-26-06

TOTAL WEEKLY EXPENSES.....	\$17,840.00
Budgeted Expenses	\$14,800.00
Interest on Mortgage	\$3,040.00
TOTAL WEEKLY INCOME	\$14,711.00
Offertory	\$14,286.00
Monthly	\$425.00

524 donors gave \$11,206.50 in weekly envelopes for an average gift of \$21.39. 111 donors gave \$2,696.25 in make-up envelopes for an average gift of \$24.29. In cash an estimated 159 donors gave \$1,495.25 for an average gift of \$9.40. 1,921 attended Mass this year, 1,928 attended last year.

STOCK DONATION

You may arrange for a gift to be made to St. Edward's in the form of shares of stock by calling Jerry Nisley at A.G. Edward's, 744-6000, and ask that stock be transferred to St. Edward's Account. Please provide him with your name, the number of shares, the company, and the date of the transfer. If you have any questions, contact Jane or Luanne at the Parish Office, 746-2200.

Readings for Next Week –March 19, 2006

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Ex 20:1-17 or 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17/ 1 Cor 1:22-25/ Jn 2:13-25;
Scrutinies (Cycle A): Ex 17:3-7/ Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/ Jn 4:5-42 or
4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42

PARISH MORTGAGE		
April 7 th :	\$3,000,000.00	Mortgage Total
March 7 th :	\$9,232.96	Payment Principal
	\$11,113.04	Payment Interest
March 7 th :	\$2,712,330.21	Mortgage Total
	\$105,874.14	2003 Interest Paid
	\$154,587.73	2004 Interest Paid to Date
	\$148,493.12	2005 Interest Paid to Date
	\$35,831.23	2006 Interest Paid to Date



“Partners in Faith” is a useful resource to help parents in their family’s Catholic education. This monthly publication, in Adobe reader format, can be printed from our website and used in your home and family setting to teach and promote faith-filled ideas, habits and behaviors. The March issue of “Partners in Faith” is now available as well as the Lent Family Calendar. Enjoy!

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

Msgr. Ryan and the Parish Administration Committee are looking for the aid of parishioners who have skills in strategic planning. The Parish leadership would like assistance in developing a plan to assess the Parish needs and programs and develop a “strategic plan for the future.” If you want to share your skills with our Parish, please contact Msgr. Ryan, 746-2200 or Doug Dorsey, 746-0821.

SAFE ENVIRONMENT

We all play a very important role in protecting our children. There are five steps that adults can take to help create and maintain safe environments for children and prevent child sexual abuse. Over the next few weeks each step will be discussed.

Step #2 – Control access

It is important that dioceses, parishes, and schools implement comprehensive screening procedures that control *who* has access to our children. Screening must include written application forms, interviews, background checks, reference checks, and communication to the applicant regarding the Church’s commitment to creating and maintaining a safe environment. In the Diocese of Bridgeport, ALL volunteers must comply with these standard procedures in order to minister to others. In addition to this requirement, the staff of St. Edward’s performs routine building checks in order to ensure the safety of all who enter our church building.

The next “Protecting God’s Children” Awareness Session will be held at St. Edward’s on Wednesday April 26th at 7 PM in the Parish Hall. Please call Jane Arseniadis at 746-2200 Ext. 11 to register for this session.

SOCIAL CONCERNS

SICK AND HOMEBOUND MINISTRY



Danbury Hospital will hold a Medical Town Meeting called, **“Progress in the Diagnosis and Treatment of Colon Cancer - Learn What's Happening Now”** will be addressed by board certified physicians and surgeons that specialize in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of colon cancer. This meeting will be held in the Danbury Hospital Auditorium from 7:00 to 8:30 PM on Tuesday March 14th. This is free and open to the public. For questions or information, call (203) 797-7247.

CHRISTIAN CATERERS

With heartfelt appreciation from our entire Parish Community, we acknowledge the wonderful service provided by this volunteer Parish Ministry. Group members help prepare meals for parishioners and their families during their time of need (hospitalization, grieving, homebound). Our mission statement emphasizes the important of “service to our neighbor.”

This Ministry is also looking for new members. We urge you to give careful consideration to joining us in building this community within our Parish. For more information, please call John Anello or Donna Hanft at 746-9595.

SUPPORT LIFE ONLINE

GO LINE TODAY!

ENDROE.org is an easy-to-use website where you can send your two U.S. Senators an e-mail message opposing the Roe Litmus Test. ENDROE.org is supported by the U.S. Bishop’s Secretariat for Pro-Life activities and the National Committee for Human Life Amendment.

PARISH NURSE MINISTRY

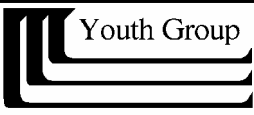
We can share the earth’s limited resources with those less fortunate. We can develop an understanding that natural resources belong to the Lord and care for them appropriately.

NOTE: BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING AFTER ALL MASSES NEXT WEEKEND.

2006 ANNUAL BISHOP’S APPEAL

The 2006 Annual Bishop’s Appeal has begun in our Parish and throughout our Diocese. We have the opportunity to help those being served through our many diocesan programs including Catholic Charities, Catholic Education, Religious Education and Vocations. Our goal is to have as close to 100% participation as we can. If we do this we will surely exceed our Parish financial target of \$175,000.00. We hope you can help. If you’d like to make a gift, simply mail in your pledge card, contact our Parish Office, visit the website at www.bridgeportdiocese.com or call the Appeal Office at 203-416-1470.

Next Admin Comm	4-03-06	6:00 PM
Next Blue Ribbon	4-01-06	8:30 AM
Next Staff Meeting	TBA	Noon
Next Finance Comm	TBA	7:30 PM
Liturgy Comm	3-20-06	7:30 PM



Youth Group

**FROM THE DESK
OF FR. JOE:
746-2200 EXT. 17**

**ST. EDWARD'S WORKCAMP/
SR. YOUTH GROUP**

All meetings are **MANDATORY** for workcampers. Meetings will start with a youth group activity and planning for youth group events...the last part of the meeting will deal with Workcamp info...please join us after the 5:15 Mass.

March 22nd 7:00 PM Mandatory –

Parents and workcampers/SEAN FORREST

Save the Date!! Americares Homefront Day is May 6th. This is our Church community's home repair project. Watch the bulletin for information regarding our upcoming meeting. If you have any questions, call Doris McDermott, 746-5539.



**FROM THE DESK
OF MARJ CUTLER**

746-0755

MCutler@saintedwardchurch.org

**JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP
(Grades 6th, 7th & 8th)**

We received several letters of thanks for Valentine's cards that some of the 6th grade Faith Formation classes and the Jr. Youth Group sent to our veterans and sick and shut-ins of our Parish. Check out our bulletin board to see some of these letters.

Next Meeting: Friday, March 17th, in the Hall, 7 – 9 PM. "You've Got Lent!" We'll be baking Irish soda bread and making sandwiches for Dorothy Day Soup Kitchen. Please bring an item to be donated to the NF Food Pantry such as baby products (including diapers, formula), canned fish and meat, cleaning products (laundry soap, dish liquid, sponges), toilet paper, peanut butter and whole grain/healthy cereals.

FRIDAY LENTEN PRAYER

On Friday March 17th at 7 PM, we will have Children's Stations of the Cross. Please bring your children for this beautiful "Way of the Cross" which will provide children with the historical view of Christ's passion and death and combine it with a meditation which children can relate to their own life. Booklets will be provided which will enable the children to follow along.

**SCOUTING RELIGIOUS SERVICE AWARD
WORKSHOP REMINDER**

The annual Girl Scout, Cub Scout and Boy Scout Religious Service Award Workshop with the Parish priests is scheduled for Saturday, March 18th, at 10:00 AM in the Parish Hall. Please bring your completed workbooks and projects as required by your individual program. A signature in the workbooks by one of the Parish priests is required to obtain the awards. These awards will be presented by Bishop Lori at the Diocesan Award Program in May. For questions, please contact Arlene Callahan at 746-6759.

PRAY THE ROSARY

The Rosary is said after the 9:00 AM Mass daily in the Chapel. All are welcome.

PRO-LIFE CORNER

Euthanasia, presented as a "humane solution" for a suffering person, is nothing more or less than an action taken to deliberately end a human life. Included in this definition is the withdrawal of food and water which is a natural means of preserving life and therefore morally obligatory. "Faiths differ on end-of-life treatments," *San Diego Union-Tribune* 4/7/05



On Sunday, March 19th, at the 9:00 AM Mass, we will celebrate the first birthdays of all our children born in the months of January, February and March 2005.

Following mass, there will be a reception in the Church Hall for the families. Please call

Kathie Murtha, 746-1523, Heather Ann Flagello, 746-5687 or Janet Hansen, 746-1919 to RSVP or with any questions.



**LENTEN BIBLE STUDY
DISCUSSION GROUP**

Our Lenten Bible Study "Gospel of Mark, Getting to Know Jesus" is on Tuesdays 10:00 to 11:30 AM **OR** Thursdays, 7:00 to 8:30 PM. All are welcome. If you have any questions and/or would like to sign up, please call Joyce Wawrzynski at 746-5630.

HEALING LIFE'S HURTS THROUGH PRAYER

Msgr. Ryan will share with the Parish an hour of praying the Bible and guided prayer for "Healing Life's Hurts." The session will be held on Tuesday, March 14th, at 10:00 AM and 7:00 PM.

Is your heart heavy? Do you live within a broken relationship? Are you looking for healing and reconciliation? Where can I find the words? Come read the scriptures and find a place for prayer in your life.

PARISH RETREAT - MARCH 21st & 22nd

Sean Forrest of Movin' With the Spirit, Inc. will be giving a FAITH NIGHT for St. Edward's on Tuesday March 21st and Wednesday March 22nd 7 to 9 PM. Students in Grades 6-8 and their parents will be invited to come to the retreat on Tuesday night and teens, parents, and other Parish members will be invited to come to the Wednesday FAITH NIGHT. Sean looks forward to sharing faith and music with our Parish, he works with passion in the hope of "awakening the love of Jesus alive in the hearts" of all our parishioners. Please look for more information in the bulletin and if you have any questions, please contact Jane Arseniadis, 746-2200 Ext. 11 or Ellen Venturini, 746-4270.

PARISH SIGN

We hope that you have noticed our new Parish sign. The green background is a sign of hope and welcome to our community from our Parish. We would like to thank the friends of St. Edward's for their anonymous donations. May God bless you.

100 mm hr
2 3 4
9 10 11

CALENDAR

WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

3/13/06-3/19-06

Monday –3/13/06

- 9:30 a.m. – Terrific Twos /Meeting Rooms 5-6
- 11:15 a.m. – Terrific Twos/Meeting Rooms 5-6
- 3:00 p.m. – Faith Formation Classes Grade 8/Hall
- 7:30 p.m. – St. Edward's Prayer Group/Cry Room

Tuesday – 3/14/06

- 9:30 a.m. – Mom's Morning Out/Hall/Kitchen
- 10:00 a.m. – Bible Study/Conf. Rm. A
- 10:00 a.m. – Healing Life's Hurts/Church
- 3:00 p.m. – Children's and Youth Choir/Church
- 3:00 p.m. – Faith Formation Babysitting/AMC
- 4:30 p.m. – Faith Formation Dismissal/Entire Hall
- 4:45 p.m. – Cherub Choir/Church/Cry Room
- 7:00 p.m. – Healing Life's Hurts/Church
- 7:00 p.m. – AA Meeting/Entire Hall/Kitchen
- 7:30 p.m. – K of C Officers' Meeting/Conf. Rm. A
- 7:30 p.m. – Praise and Worship Gathering/Prayer Chapel

Wednesday – 3/15/06

- 9:00 a.m. – St. Cyril of Jerusalem Catechist Seminar/Hall
- 10:00 a.m. – Joy Club/Cry Room
- 3:00 p.m. – Faith Formation Babysitting/AMC
- 4:30 p.m. – Faith Formation Dismissal/Entire Hall
- 7:30 p.m. – Adult Choir Rehearsal/Church

Thursday – 3/16/06

- 9:30 a.m. – Ladies' Guild Sewing Group/Hall
- 10:00 a.m. – Faith Formation Teacher Meeting/Hall
- 3:00 p.m. – Faith Formation Classes Grade 6/Hall
- 7:00 p.m. – Grief Support Workshop/AMC
- 7:00 p.m. – Bible Study/Cry Room
- 7:15 p.m. – Life in the Spirit Seminar/Church
- 7:30 p.m. – K of C Business Meeting/Meeting Room 9
- 7:30 p.m. – Contemporary Choir Rehearsal/Church

Friday – 3/17/06

- 9:30 a.m. – Women's Contemplative Prayer Group/AMC
- 3:00 p.m. – Divine Mercy Prayer Group/Prayer Chapel
- 7:00 p.m. – Junior Youth Group Meeting/Hall
- 7:00 p.m. – Lenten Prayer Service/Church
- 8:30 p.m. – AA Women's Group/AMC

Saturday – 3/18/06

- 8:00 a.m. – Bulletin Assemblers/Conf. Rm. C
- 8:00 a.m. – Men's Prayer Breakfast/Conf. Rm. A/Kitchen
- 8:15 a.m. – Parish Nurse Meeting/Conf. Rm. B
- 10:00 a.m. – Lift Your Spirit Yoga/Hall
- 10:00 a.m. – Scout Religion Awards Ceremony/Hall

After all Weekend Masses/B P Screening/Conf. Rm. B

Sunday – 3/19/06

- 9:00 a.m. – First Birthday Blessings Mass /Church
- 11:30 a.m. – "Breaking Open the Word"/Conf. Rm. C
- 12:00 p.m. – RCIA for Children/Cry Room
- 2:00 p.m. – Marriage Preparation Mentor Training/Hall
- 4:15 p.m. – Youth Mass Choir Practice/Church

Coffee and Donuts in the Hall after the 9 & 11 AM Masses
Calendar subject to change with additions & cancellations.