

ST. EDWARD THE CONFESSOR, NEW FAIRFIELD



**From the
Pastor's Desk**



MONDAY, MAY 15

- 7:30 AM Louis Florio R/B The Florio Family
- 9:00 AM Catherine Senior R/B Bill & Luanne Hogan

TUESDAY, MAY 16

- 7:30 AM Margaret & Anthony Scebelo R/B The Family
- 9:00 AM Brian Murphy R/B The Scanlon Family

WEDNESDAY, MAY 17

- 7:30 AM Margaret Breslin R/B The Conroy Family
- 9:00 AM Daniel Santariello R/B The Family

THURSDAY, MAY 18

- 7:30 AM Rita Quinn R/B Bernadette Quinn
- 9:00 AM Souls in Purgatory

FRIDAY, MAY 19

- 7:30 AM John Crehan R/B Thomas & Mary Foley
- 9:00 AM Willard & Leslie Stripling R/B
Connie & Bob Pileggi

SATURDAY, MAY 20

- 7:30 AM Nick Bisaccia R/B Bernadette Quinn
- 4:30 PM Parish Intentions Riendeau
- 6:00 PM Parish Intentions Cervero

SUNDAY, MAY 21

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

THE CHAPEL LAMP will burn this week for all mothers, living and deceased.

THE SANCTUARY LAMP will burn this week in memory of John Horan at the request of the Rakowsky Family.

Dear Friends,

As everyone is getting busier and busier with family events, graduations and summer vacation plans, I ask one consideration for your prayer. "Don't give up Mass this summer!"

You know as well as I that when your schedule gets busy something has to get cut! The Church and Sunday Mass seems to be the choice of many people. A few summers ago, I met one of our children in the grocery store. She inquired why I was shopping? Then she told me her mother told her the Church was closed for the summer.

This past weekend the First Communion children sang a song at their masses. The song was entitled "Give me Jesus." When they sang the song, all I could think was, "Would their parents give them what they asked?"

We have many needs in our lives, but don't forget Jesus this summer!

Peace,
Msgr. Ryan

LITURGY EVENTS

- May 25th Ascension Thursday
- June 4th 4:30 PM Anointing of the Sick



ASCENSION THURSDAY

Thursday, May 25th, is the Ascension of the Lord, a Holyday of Obligation. Our mass schedule is as follows:

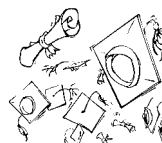
- Wednesday, May 24th: 5:30 PM;
- Thursday, May 25th: 7:30 & 9:00AM,
5:30 & 7:30 PM.

CHILDREN AT MASS

Several parents have made comments to the Liturgy Committee, the Family Life Committee and Msgr. Ryan to address, "What is the best way for our children to learn about the Mass and become participants at weekly Mass?"

In order to provide a forum for discussion regarding young children at mass, the Liturgy Committee will hold an "Open Forum" for discussion after the 9 AM Mass on Sunday, June 4th.

Parents please join us for a discussion of this important topic.



Congratulations to all those who recently graduated from College! Our best wishes to you in the future.

Graduation

Parish Support

4-30-06

TOTAL WEEKLY EXPENSES	\$17,840.00
Budgeted Expenses	\$14,800.00
Interest on Mortgage	\$3,040.00
TOTAL WEEKLY INCOME	\$15,479.00
Offertory	\$15,368.00
Monthly	111.00

591 donors gave \$13,202.50 in weekly envelopes for an average gift of \$22.34. 67 donors gave \$1,638.00 in make-up envelopes for an average gift of \$24.45. 1 donor made a quarterly gift of \$250.00. In cash an estimated 57 donors gave \$277.50 for an average gift of \$4.87.

2,097 attended mass this year, 3,102 attended mass last year.

WHILE YOU ARE AWAY ...

The season for First Communions, Weddings and Graduations is upon us. Vacation time will soon be here. While you are away, the Parish of St. Edward's needs your support. Please remember your make-up envelopes when you are away!

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK – MAY 21, 2006

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 10:25 –26; 34-35, 44-48 1 Jn 4:7-10 Jn 15: 9-17

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

PARISH MORTGAGE

April 7, 2003:	\$3,000,000.00	Mortgage Total
May 7, 2006:	\$8,514.92	Payment Principal
	\$11,831.08	Payment Interest
May 7, 2006	\$2,695,731.29	Mortgage Total
	\$105,8734.14	2003 Interest Paid
	\$154,587.73	2004 Interest Paid
	\$148,493.12	2005 Interest Paid
	\$59,924.31	2006 Interest Paid to Date

ANNUAL BISHOP'S APPEAL

Our Parish's 2006 Annual Bishop's Appeal is coming to a close. We are grateful to the 538 families that have made a sacrificial gift to this year's Appeal. Our Parish has raised \$133,706.73 toward the effort. Thanks to all who have supported this year's Appeal. If you have not yet made a gift or pledge, please pray about your decision and make a pledge or one-time gift.

2006 ANNUAL BISHOP'S APPEAL PRAYER

Let us pray. Lord Jesus, at our baptism you gave us a share in the mission of your church. This mission invites us to work together for the good works of Catholic Education, Catholic Charities and all those programs that bring your gospel message of love to people, especially to those less able to help themselves.

Lord, bless all our good works on behalf of the needy. The large number of people who seek our help can sometimes overwhelm us and tempt us to ask "What difference does my gift make among so many?" But help us remember that everyone's effort is important and every gift counts in your sight when, like the gift of the widow's mite in the temple that you commended, such a gift comes from a generous heart.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

SAFE ENVIRONMENT

Priests, Deacons, Seminarians, Religious Personnel, Pastoral Ministers, Spiritual Counselors, Administrators, Lay Employees, Lay Volunteers and Contract Employees in our parishes, schools, programs and organizations must uphold Christian values and conduct. The Diocese of Bridgeport Code of Conduct provides a set of standards for conduct that apply to all Clergy, Lay employees, volunteers and contract employers within the Diocese. All clergy, deacons, personnel and contract employers are asked to read and sign the Code of Conduct. All volunteers are asked to read the code and be in compliance with it. Copies of the Code of Conduct can be found in the Parish Office upon request OR can be found on the St. Edward website @ www.saintedwardchurch.org. If you have any questions or concerns, please call Jane Arseniadis at 746-2200 Ext. 11.

SOCIAL CONCERNS

SICK AND HOMEBOUND MINISTRY



Danbury Hospital will hold a "Skin Cancer Risk Assessment and Screening" on Thursday May 25, 2006. This will take place at the Praxair Cancer Center in the Stroock Building, first floor, Locust Avenue entrance. The program will run from 6:00 to 8:00 PM. Anyone interested should go to the Praxair Center at Danbury Hospital Conference Room. For questions call (203) 797-7898.

FOOD DRIVE THANK YOU

We wish to sincerely thank all those who worked so hard on our recent Food Drive. Various ministries such as Family Life, Social Concerns, Workcamp, Youth Group, Knights of Columbus and many, many volunteers of the Parish made it possible to send over 40 boxes of food to area agencies in need of replenishing their food banks. A special thank you to Nancy Polinchock who headed up this successful project. Many thanks to all!

THANK YOU FROM THE HISPANIC CENTER

We received a letter of thanks from the Hispanic Center of Danbury for our recent contributions of food. They wrote, "On behalf of the Hispanic Center of Greater Danbury, I would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the parishioners who contributed to the recent food drive. With your help, we will be able to distribute food to families with children in need in our community."

GRIEF RECOVERY

The death of a spouse, child, family member or friend is devastating. People who are grieving need ongoing comfort and encouragement during their grieving period. Griefshare, a well-known national organization, is now offering "Through the Season of Grief," the first 365-day devotional program designed to support and uplift in the first and most difficult year of bereavement. For further information and additional resources, please visit their website www.griefshare.org.

PARISH NURSE MINISTRY

We are always looking for volunteers. If interested, please call the Parish Social Concerns Office at 74609595.

NOTE: BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING AFTER ALL MASSES NEXT WEEKEND.

Have a Happy Mother's Day!



"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 May issue of "Partners in Faith" is available. Enjoy!

JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP

(6TH, 7TH & 8TH GRADES)

FROM THE DESK OF MARJ CUTLER: 746-0755
MCUTLER@SAINTEDWARDCHURCH.ORG

Thank you to our Middle School students who helped this past week at First Communion rehearsals. Your presence was a tremendous help and also made the children feel at ease.

End of Year Fun—Saturday, May 20th, on the AMC property. We'll have volleyball, wiffleball, etc, and hot dogs, chips and more. Call Marj to RSVP by May 17th so we have enough food.

8th Grade Jr. YG Members: Friday, June 16th 7:00 PM is just for you. Come and tell us what you liked, what you didn't, how we can make Jr. YG better. We want to hear you!

FIRST COMMUNION THANK YOU

Last weekend, 162 children received their First Holy Communion. It was a very busy day. We need to thank those who helped make this day very beautiful for the children and their families.

A special thank you to the Faith Formation Staff for their leadership and direction for the day. Thank you to Dan Kean and Gloria Hudson and the choirs that provided music for the masses. A thank you to the Liturgical Ministers for acting as Ushers for the two days. And lastly, thank you to the Knights of Columbus for directing traffic.

May God bless you!

FIRST COMMUNION FAMILIES

If your child received rosary beads, medals or some religious article which you would like to have blessed, please see one of the priests after Mass.



TODDLER TEA

All infants, toddlers, and preschoolers, along with their parents/caregivers, are invited to come for a morning of songs, crafts, snacks and social time.

Toddler Tea is on the first and third Tuesdays of each month in the Church Hall, from 9:30o 11 AM, and is open to the public. Next meeting is Tuesday, May 16th. For information, call Tricia Quinn, 746-0056.



Vacation Bible School will be held here at St. Edward the week of July 24th—28th. Adult volunteers are needed to ensure the success of the

program. Any one who wishes to help must have completed our Safe Environment Training or attend a training session prior to VBS. Please contact Eileen Burke at 746-4270 for more information. It is always a very fun week!

SENIOR YOUTH GROUP

ST. EDWARD'S WORKCAMP

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

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.

May 19th: Friday, 4 to 7 PM, Pick up Spring Flowers and set up for Masses.

May 20th/21st: Sell Spring Flowers after all Masses.

May 21st: Blessing of New Drivers. We invite all new drivers of all ages to join us at the 5:15 PM Mass for a special blessing.



MOTHER'S DAY MEMORIAL

Each year at this time, we ask you to make a donation of geraniums that will be planted around our Parish outdoor shrine on the front lawn of the Church. By donating one of the above-mentioned flowers, you can remember your Mother at all Masses on "Mother's Day" and the Sundays of May. Please leave your flowers by the front door of the hall between May 1st and May 15th with your Mother's name for our Memorial Book. (The flowers will be planted after May 20th.)

WOMEN OF WONDER –

A WOMEN'S DISCUSSION GROUP

Women of St. Edward the Confessor Parish are invited to participate in Women of Wonder (WOW). WOW is a women's discussion group (for all ages) that will meet on alternating Tuesdays. WOW's mission is to be a community of women that invigorates minds and spirits through discussion, nurtures Christianity in daily living, reaffirms the value of the individual and offers support. Our next meeting is on **Tuesday, May 16th, 12:00 Noon – 1:30 PM at the AMC.** Our topic is "Now That You Are Older, What Would Be Your Best Letter to Yourself as a Young Girl?" Please bring a brown bag lunch. Access for the handicapped will be provided. For more information and to participate in this discussion opportunity, please call Family Life Minister Jane Arseniadis at 746-2200, Ext. 11.

CATHOLIC COMMUNICATIONS CAMPAIGN

Next weekend, May 20th & 21st, will be the collection for the Catholic Communications Campaign. A letter from Bishop Lori's regarding the campaign is enclosed in this weekend's bulletin. Please be as generous as your means allow.

PRO-LIFE CORNER

There was a time when motherhood was seen as a vocation, a fulfilling work that shaped the world. Now motherhood is a "choice," an often fatal choice for the child involved, an innocent child who has no say in the matter. On this Mother's Day, let us honor all mothers who said yes to life, especially those who "went beyond the call" and chose to be adoptive or foster mothers.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

CALENDAR

WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

5/15//06-5/21/06

Monday –5/15/06

- 9:30 a.m. – Terrific Twos/Meeting Rooms 5-6
- 11:15 a.m. – Terrific Twos/Meeting Rooms 5-6
- 7:00 p.m. – Faith Sharing Discussion Group/Conf. Rm. B
- 7:30 p.m. – Liturgy Committee Meeting/Conf. Rm. A
- 7:30 p.m. – St. Edward’s Prayer Group/Cry Room

Tuesday – 5/16/06

- 9:30 a.m. – Toddler Tea/Hall
- 12:00 p.m. – Women of Wonder Discussion Group/AMC
- 3:00 p.m. – Children’s and Youth Choir/Church
- 7:00 p.m. – AA Meeting/Hall
- 7:30 p.m. – K of C Officer’s Meeting/Conf. Rm. A
- 7:30 p.m. – Praise and Worship Gathering/Prayer Chapel

Wednesday – 5/17/06

- 9:30 a.m. – Terrific Twos/Meeting Rooms 5-6
- 10:00 a.m. – Joy Club/Meeting Rooms 3-4
- 11:15 a.m. – Terrific Twos/Meeting Rooms 5-6
- 1:00 p.m. – Terrific Twos/Meeting Rooms 5-6
- 7:30 p.m. – Adult Choir Rehearsal/Church

Thursday – 5/18/06

- 9:30 a.m. – Ladies’ Guild Sewing Group/Hall
- 7:30 p.m. – K of C Business Meeting/Hall
- 7:30 p.m. – Contemporary Choir Rehearsal/Conf. Rm. A

Friday – 5/19/06

- 3:00 p.m. – Divine Mercy Prayer Group/Prayer Chapel
- 8:30 p.m. – AA Women’s Group/AMC

Saturday – 5/20/06

- 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
- 4:00 p.m. – Junior Youth Group Outdoor Fun & Cookout/AMC

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

Sunday – 5/21/06

- 9:00 a.m. – Choir Ribbon Ceremony Mass/Church
 - 3:00 p.m. – Music at St. Edward’s Concert/Church
 - 4:15 p.m. – Youth Mass Choir Practice/Church
 - 5:15 p.m. – Blessing of New Drivers Mass/Church
 - 6:30 p.m. – Separated and Divorced Support/AMC
- Coffee and Donuts in the Hall after the 9 and 11AM Masses**
Calendar subject to change with additions & cancellations.

**COMPENDIUM/CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC
CHURCH**

During the Open Forum on April 29th & 30th, I recommended to you the above titled book in which you will find a question and answer format on the essential beliefs of the faith.
Publisher: USCCB Publishing Cost \$14.95.

- Next Admin Comm..... 6-05-06.....6:00 PM
- Next Blue Ribbon 6-03-06.....8:30 AM
- Next Staff Meeting..... TBANoon
- Next Finance Comm..... 5-16-06.....7:30 PM
- Liturgy Comm. 5-22-06.....7:30 PM