

ST. EDWARD THE CONFESSOR, NEW FAIRFIELD



**From the
Pastor's Desk**



MONDAY, MARCH 20

- 7:30 AM Souls in Purgatory
- 9:00 AM Margaret Walsh R/B The Carroll Family
- 5:30 PM Anna Imbistone R/B Frank Netto & Family

TUESDAY, MARCH 21

- 7:30 AM Theresa Thompson R/B Friends
- 9:00 AM Rudolf Machacek R/B Tom & Trish Guiry
- 5:30 PM Nancy Maggio R/B Ralph Falce

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22

- 7:30 AM Richard Flannery R/B Consolidated Friend
- 9:00 AM Armando Albuquerque Sr. R/B The Macinski Family
- 5:30 PM Al Salzo R/B Melissa & Sergio Vallejo

THURSDAY, MARCH 23

- 7:30 AM Sal D'Angelo R/B The Scarlett Family
- 9:00 AM Intentions of Antoinette Conlea R/B The Donovan Family
- 5:30 PM John Botelho Sr. R/B Dick & Marge Buhrman

FRIDAY, MARCH 24

- 7:30 AM Marie Calisto R/B The Kershaw Family
- 9:00 AM Willard & Leslie Stripling R/B Bob & Connie Pileggi
- 5:30 PM Helen & Jim Gallan Family R/B Marie & Hugh

SATURDAY, MARCH 25

- 7:30 AM Francis Del Campo R/B Dennis & Celia Bond
- 4:30 PM Parish Intentions Ryan
- 6:00 PM Parish Intentions Cervero

SUNDAY, MARCH 26

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

THE CHAPEL LAMP will burn this week for the Intentions of the Prayer Group at the request of Marie.

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

Dear Friends:
Third Sunday of Lent

I recently saw the film "Crash." I am not a moviegoer, but I found this movie to be very blunt on the issue of man's inhuman to man. At times the issues were hard to take, everyone had an agenda and thought they were right! They inflicted pain on each other and no one said, "please forgive me."

As we reach the 3rd Sunday of Lent, how deep have you traveled in your Lenten journey? Who do you need to forgive? Where will you seek forgiveness? What have you learned about yourself? Will Easter 2006 really be a day of joy?

Please pray for me that I may not be like the characters in "Crash" and I will pray for you that together we might change through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus.

Peace,
Msgr. Ryan

LITURGY EVENTS

March 26th: 9:00 AM Butterfly Sunday
April 9th: Palm Sunday

MARTHA MINISTRY

Thank you to all who have joined our Martha Ministry. Your time and efforts will benefit all parishioners of St. Edward's.

JOYFUL NOISE

Please help make our prayer space a prayerful and joyous place. Kindly turn off your cell phones and beepers.



BUTTERFLY SUNDAY

Sunday, March 26th, at 9:00 AM is our Butterfly Sunday Celebration. We are expecting a very large number of families to be at this Liturgy. Please keep these children and their families in your prayers.

Parish Support

3-05-06

TOTAL WEEKLY EXPENSES.....	\$17,840.00
Budgeted Expenses	\$14,800.00
Interest on Mortgage	\$3,040.00
TOTAL WEEKLY INCOME	\$18,020.00
Offertory	\$16,165.00
Monthly	\$1,855.00

596 donors gave \$13,166.00 in weekly envelopes for an average gift of \$22.09. 72 donors gave \$1,930.00 in make-up envelopes for an average gift of \$26.81. In cash an estimated 109 donors gave \$1,069.00 for an average gift of \$9.80.

2,200 attended Mass this year, 2,231 attended last year.

USE OF CREDIT CARDS

We have a very mobile parish. Your weekly donation is important to us. We realize some weekends you need to be away! The Parish has developed a system to accommodate your donation by credit card (Master Card and Visa). You may use the card provided in your envelope packets or call Luanne Hogan at the Parish Office (746-2200) to make your donation by credit card.



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.

PRAY THE ROSARY

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

**Readings for Next Week –March 26, 2006
FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23/ Eph 2:4-10/ Jn 3:14-21; Scrutinies
(Cycle A): 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/ Eph 5:8-14/ Jn 9:1-41 or
9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT



JOIN THE PARISH E-MAIL LIST

Many thanks to all who have subscribed to the Parish email list. We hope to use this list to email newsworthy items to our parishioners on an as needed basis. Subscribing is easy. Email us your address at

parishlist@saintedwardchurch.org or you can subscribe directly from the home page of the Parish website.



“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.

PARKING LOT SAFETY

Please do not allow your children to drive their ATVs in our parking lot. It is not safe for our parishioners or visitors.

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 #3. Monitor All Programs:

We must monitor all the programs and places where children are engaged in activities. Taking action to assure that there is an atmosphere of openness in all programs and services for children will contribute to the goal of safe environments. Remember that while there are some activities in ministry that other people should not be able to observe or overhear, we should do nothing in our children’s ministry that others cannot observe—at least through a window. We also conduct at least five daily walk-thrus of the building at St. Edward’s in order to ensure our children’s safety.

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. You must pre-register for the session. Please call Jane Arseniadis at 746-2200 Ext. 11.

SOCIAL CONCERNS

SICK AND HOMEBOUND MINISTRY



FRIENDLY VISITOR/TELE-CARE PROGRAM

The **Friendly Visitor and Tele-Care Program** is a service program of the Volunteer Center of Danbury. Friendly visitors provide in-home visits to isolated older adults on a regular basis. Tele-Care volunteers make regularly scheduled phone calls to older adults living alone in the community who have limited contact with family and friends. Trained volunteers are matched with older adults who share their interests, availability and location. If you would like to become a Friendly Visitor or Tele-Care volunteer or refer an older adult to the program, contact: The Friendly Visitor/Tele-Care Program Manager at the Volunteer Center of Danbury at (203) 797-1154.

PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

Parish Social Ministry is a vehicle to enhance the Parish’s desire to be Christ to the world. Parish Social Ministry helps the Parish develop and support its own leadership in social ministry, create partnerships with Catholic social agencies and the wider Church and strengthen its linkages to other faith communities and the larger civic community.

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

When we dedicate all our resources to create a family environment of love, acceptance, peace and forgiveness then we are like the merchant in the gospel who sacrificed all he possessed to acquire “the treasure of great value.” The payoff is worth the sacrifice.

THANK YOU

We recently received a letter from Ann H. Hines, MD from the Hanahoe Children’s Clinic thanking the parishioners of St. Edward’s for their donation of \$1,250.00 collected by the Souper Bowl Sunday Fund Raiser. She also wants to thank the members of the Youth Group for their hard work. Dr. Hines sincerely appreciates our faith in their work as well as the generosity of St. Edward’s.

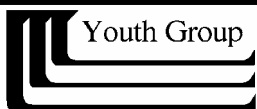
PARISH NURSE MINISTRY

We can work at cleaning up the pollution on this planet by reducing waste, by recycling, by using car pools and by planting trees.

NOTE: BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING AFTER ALL MASSES IN CONFERENCE ROOM B.

2006 ANNUAL BISHOP’S APPEAL

Thank you to the Parish families who have made a gift or pledge commitment to the 2006 Annual Bishop’s Appeal. Please prayerfully consider supporting the many good works of the Diocese. Every gift will be gratefully received and sincerely appreciated.



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 31st: Easter Flower information and money due.

**AMERICARES HOMEFRONT
INFORMATIONAL MEETING**

An informational meeting about this year's home repair project will be held on **Sunday, March 26th at 6:15 PM** in the Church Hall. All parishioners and any high school students are invited to come and find out about the home that we will be repairing. This is a great way to earn community service hours. No experience is needed except an open heart and a willingness to improve a home of someone in our community. You will make a difference. 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 our bulletin board to see some of these letters.

Tuesday, March 21st: **"PARISH RETREAT"** – Sean Forrest of Movin' With the Spirit, Inc. will be sharing his faith and music with the middle school students and their parents, 7-9 PM, in the Church. If you are unable to join us that evening, please feel free to join us for his program on March 23rd. Please call if you have any questions.

Friday, March 31st: **"Soup and Substance"** – Join us for a soup dinner and a power point presentation of the Stations, each one created by the 7th & 8th grade Faith Formation Classes.

CHILDREN'S BULLETINS

Special children's bulletins are available at all the church entrances. We invite families to take one to help their children better understand the readings.



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 9:30 to 11 AM, and is open to the public. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, March 21st. For more information, call Tricia Quinn at 746-0056.

PRO-LIFE CORNER

Abortion is a big American business. Planned Parenthood, the nation's largest provider of abortion, operates approximately 850 abortion facilities. "Those who keep this business profitable, who put abortion providers on Easy Street, are by and large the poor and the young."

Father James Gilhooley, *National Catholic Register*. 12/11/05

**FRIDAY LENTEN PRAYER
TAIZE PROGRAM**

Join us for a spiritual evening on Friday, March 24th at 7 PM, as St. Edwards celebrates Taize Prayer around the Cross. This peaceful, meditative form of musical prayer originated in France. It consists of simple repetitive chants, based on scripture passages, sung by all. A darkened church and the light of many candles create a prayerful environment. Choir and instruments accompany the singing. The service includes a scripture reading, intercessions, a period of prayerful silence and the veneration of the cross, where participants may come forward to light a candle and place it near the cross.

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES COLLECTION

Next Sunday, March 26th, is the collection for Catholic Relief Services. Contributions will fund several national Catholic organizations that aid victims of natural disasters, provide legal support services for poor immigrants, as well as agricultural assistance, water programs and health care to basically help feed a hungry child, aid a war torn nation build peace and allow a refugee the opportunity to make a new life. Please help and be as generous as your means allow.

SAVE THE DATE- COUPLES NIGHT OUT!

Treat yourself and your spouse to a **COUPLES NIGHT OUT** on Monday March 27th, 7 – 9 PM. **If you've been married for 5, 10, 15, 25 or 50 years – YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS THIS SPECIAL NIGHT!** Please join us for an evening of interesting discussion and enrichment. Jane and Jerry Serfass from "Forever One Marriage and Life Coaching" will facilitate the program. (Wine and cheese and light snacks will be served!) Registration is required. Please call Jane Arseniadis, Family Life Minister at 746-2200 Ext. 11 for more information.

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.

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	4-06-06	7:30 PM
Liturgy Comm	TBA	7:30 PM

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9 10 11

CALENDAR

WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

3/20/06-3/26/06

Monday – 3/20/06

- 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 7/Hall
- 7:00 p.m. – Faith Sharing Support Group/Conf. Rm. C
- 7:30 p.m. – Family Life Committee Meeting/Conf. Rm. B
- 7:30 p.m. – Liturgy Committee/Conf. Rm. A
- 7:30 p.m. – St. Edward's Prayer Group/Cry Room

Tuesday – 3/21/06

- 9:30 a.m. – Toddler Tea/Hall/Kitchen
- 10:00 a.m. – Bible Study/Conf. Rm. A
- 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. – Sean Forrest Parish Retreat/Church/Hall

Wednesday – 3/22/06

- 9:30 a.m. – Ladies' Guild Meeting/Hall
- 9:30 a.m. – Terrific Twos /Meeting Rooms 5-6
- 10:00 a.m. – Joy Club/Cry Room
- 11:15 a.m. – Terrific Twos/Meeting Rooms 5-6
- 1:00 p.m. – Terrific Twos/Meeting Rooms 5-6
- 3:00 p.m. – Faith Formation Babysitting/AMC
- 4:30 p.m. – Faith Formation Dismissal/Entire Hall
- 7:00 p.m. – Sean Forrest Parish Retreat/Church/Hall

Thursday – 3/23/06

- 9:30 a.m. – Ladies' Guild Sewing Group/Hall
- 6:00 p.m. – K of C 4th Degree/AMC
- 7:00 p.m. – Bible Study/Cry Room
- 7:15 p.m. – Life in the Spirit Seminar/Church
- 7:30 p.m. – Contemporary Choir Rehearsal/Conf. Rm. A

Friday – 3/24/06

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

Saturday – 3/25/06

- 8:00 a.m. – Bulletin Assemblers/Conf. Rm. C
- 10:00 a.m. – Lift Your Spirit Yoga/Hall

Sunday – 3/26/06

- 9:00 a.m. – Butterfly Mass /Church
- 11:30 a.m. – "Breaking Open the Word"/Conf. Rm. C
- 2:00 p.m. – Marriage Preparation Mentor Training/Hall
- 4:15 p.m. – Youth Mass Choir Practice/Church
- 6:00 p.m. – Teen Passion Play Rehearsal/Church
- 6:15 p.m. – Americares Meeting/Hall

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