

ST. EDWARD THE CONFESSOR, NEW FAIRFIELD



MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27

7:30 AM Ethel Benvenuto R/B The Coleman Family
 9:00 AM Mary Kathleen Wixted R/B The DeJoseph Family

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

7:30 AM Alice C. Lewin R/B Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence O'Neill
 9:00 AM Kathy Krug R/B The Family

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1

7:30 AM Edna O'Gara R/B Molly & Thomas Whelan
 9:00 AM Serafim Carvalho
 5:30 PM Michael White R/B The Lubus Family
 7:30 PM Ed Winne R/B Cathy & Buddy McCarthy

THURSDAY, MARCH 2

7:30 AM Edna Yacyshyn R/B Cal Kaplow & Family
 9:00 AM Julie Warnke R/B The Ladies Guild
 5:30 PM Nancy Dolan R/B The Callahan Family

FRIDAY, MARCH 3

7:30 AM Souls in Purgatory R/B Marion and Debbie
 9:00 AM George A. Finn
 5:30 PM Ida Lombardi R/B Louise & Richard Stein

SATURDAY, MARCH 4

7:30 AM John Roberts & Theresa Savage R/B The Family
 4:30 PM Parish Intentions Riendeau
 6:00 PM Parish Intentions Cervero

SUNDAY, MARCH 5

7:30 AM Parish Intentions Ryan
 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 parents of troubled youths.

THE SANCTUARY LAMP will burn this week in memory for Rose Mazza at the request of Lila Spina.

Dear Friends:

In the Gathering Space you will find envelopes marked "Loaves and Fishes." This program asks each family to make a Lenten sacrifice by prayer and action by fasting for one meal each week during Lent and donating that money to feed the hungry.

Over 700 meals are served each day by the diocesan soup kitchens in Bridgeport and Stamford. The hungry are not far away but right here in Fairfield County. Your Lenten sacrifice will make a difference. Please become part of the "Loaves and Fishes" program.

Peace,
 Msgr. Ryan

LITURGY EVENTS

March 1st: Ash Wednesday
 March 4th: 4:30 PM Anointing of the Sick
 March 11th: 9:00 AM St. Patrick's Day Mass
 March 12th: 9:00 AM Girl Scout Sunday

MARTHA MINISTRY

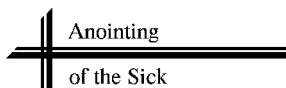
The Liturgy Committee needs several volunteers to help with the occasional laundering of altar cloths. A desire to help... a bit of soap and water and a run or two with an iron is all that's necessary to help in this Church ministry. Please call Fr. Fred if you are interested in donating a few hours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

2006 ANNUAL BISHOP'S APPEAL

This Sunday, February 26th from 3 to 5 PM in the Parish Hall, we will have an afternoon to say thank you for your past giving to the Annual Bishop's Appeal. Come for an afternoon of musical entertainment with Donna Moore accompanied by Dan Kean.

We will also have a short presentation by Mr. Bill Hoey, Vice President of Catholic Charities of Fairfield County. He will address the services provided by your donations.

Please come and join us for a relaxing afternoon.



The Parish will celebrate the communal Anointing of the Sick of our Parish during the 4:30 PM Mass on Saturday, March 4th. The Parish priests will be present to administer the Sacrament. We invite the sick and aging of our Parish for this celebration.

Parish Support

2-13-05

TOTAL WEEKLY EXPENSES.....	\$17,840.00
Budgeted Expenses	\$14,800.00
Interest on Mortgage	\$3,040.00
TOTAL WEEKLY INCOME	\$8,026.50
Offertory	\$7,428.50
Monthly	\$598.00

278 donors gave \$6,074.50 in weekly envelopes for an average gift of \$21.85. 31 donors gave \$1,166.00 in make-up envelopes for an average gift of \$37.61. In cash an estimated 30 donors gave \$188.00 for an average gift of \$6.27.
 736 attended Mass this year, 2,250 attended last year.

WHILE YOU ARE AWAY...

Although you may be away, the Parish of St. Edward still needs your support. Please remember to use your make-up envelopes!

Readings for Next Week –March 5, 2006

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Gn 9:8-15/ 1 Pt 3:18-22/ Mk 1:12-15

LITURGY PLANNING DAY FOR COUPLES

Couples planning to be married in 2006 are invited to a Liturgy Planning Session on Sunday, March 5th at 12:15 PM in the Church. The priests of the Parish and music ministers will be present to assist you in planning your wedding ceremony.

Invitations have been sent to all couples being married at St. Edward's in 2006. If you did not receive an invitation or to RSVP please call Jane Arseniadis at 746-2200 Ext. 11.



LENT IS COMING

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 1st. Our Mass Schedule for Ash Wednesday is as follows:

- Masses: 7:30 & 9:00 AM, 5:30 & 7:30 PM;
- Service with Ashes: 12:00 PM;
- Children's Service: 4:00 PM.

Ashes will be distributed during Masses & Prayer Services.

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 7:30 PM.

LENTEN FAST & ABSTINENCE

Ash Wednesday, March 1st, is a day of **fast** and **abstinence**. On Ash Wednesday, **all Catholics age 14 and older are obliged to abstain from eating meat. All Catholics in good health between the ages of 18 and 60 are also obliged to fast.** Fasting means having one full meal and two light meals that day. Eating between meals is not permitted, although drinking liquids is allowed. The **Fridays during Lent are days of abstinence.** On Fridays, **all Catholics age 14 and older are obliged to abstain from eating meat.**



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



BAPTISM

The parish family of St. Edward's welcomes David Hernandez and Luke Joseph Marotta who were baptized here last weekend.

SAFE ENVIRONMENT

The prevention of child sexual abuse

Adults are not helpless to prevent child sexual abuse. In fact, there are five steps that adults can take to help create and maintain safe environments for children. These five steps go a long way toward preventing child sexual abuse:

1. Know the Warning Signs
2. Control Access
3. Monitor All Programs
4. Be Aware
5. Communicate Your Concerns

These steps will be discussed over the course of the next five weeks and are the main focus of the VIRTUS "Protecting God's Children" program in our Diocese.

The following date has been set for the "Protecting God's Children" Awareness session at St. Edward's: Wednesday March 8th at 7 PM in the Parish Hall. Please contact Jane Arseniadis at 746-2200, Ext. 11 for further information.

SOCIAL CONCERNS

SICK AND HOMEBOUND MINISTRY



Americares is now offering a free **Mobile Clinic** to the working poor people who have jobs but either lack medical insurance or are underinsured. The Mobile Clinic offers a full range of medical services. There are several locations to choose from for these services such as Brookfield, Bethel and soon New Milford. The Clinic will be on Mondays at the Stony Hill Firehouse on Route 6 in Bethel from Noon to 3 PM and at the Senior Community Center at 100 Pocono Road in Brookfield from 4:30 to 7:00 PM. Starting in March, they will have the Clinic available in New Milford at the Richmond Center on Thursdays from 4 to 7 PM. For further information please contact the Americares Free Clinic at (203) 748-6188.



DOLLAR SUNDAY

March's Dollar Sunday is to support our outreach for "**Funeral Hospitality.**" Social Concerns members offer themselves to those who have lost a loved one and wish to hold a luncheon in the Hall following the Church services. Together with Christian Caterers, they host a wonderful personalized outreach truly in a time of support. Last year approximately 15 luncheons were held. Thank you for your support. Please leave your donations in the wall safes at the Church doors or with a member from Social Concerns.

MARCH 2006 WORKSHOPS

Please join us on Sunday March 5th as our Parish welcomes Sister Mauryeen O'Brien, O.P., Coordinator for Ministry to the Bereaved, Separated and Divorced for the Archdiocese of Hartford. Sr. Mauryeen is certified in Bereavement and Divorce Counseling and in Facilitator Training for the Support Groups, Seminars and Supportive Services of the Bereaved and Divorced.

3:30 – 5:00 PM "A JOURNEY FROM GRIEF TO HEALING" – Working through the stages of grief because of the death of a loved one. Meeting in the Parish Hall.

7:00 – 8:30 PM "THE PROCESS OF GRIEF DURING SEPARATION AND DIVORCE" – What we go through during a separation or divorce. Meeting in the Adult Ministry Center.

If you or someone you love is grieving or if you or someone you love is going through or has gone through a divorce, PLEASE JOIN US! For further information, please contact either Jane Arseniadis at 746-2200 Ext. 11 or John Anello at 746-9595.

PARISH NURSE MINISTRY

The 4th factor in helping control Cancer risk is to seek health care early and especially if you experience any of the following warning signs. These are changes in bowel or bladder habits, unusual bleeding or discharge, a lump that changes character, an area that does not heal or a nagging cough or hoarseness.

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 5th: Mandatory Meeting 6:30 to 8:00 PM.

Save the Date! Saturday March 11th 7:30 PM St. Edward's Night at The Trashers Game. Tickets will be on sale in February. Help us send our Workcampers on their service trip in July.



FROM THE DESK
OF MARJ CUTLER
746-0755

MCutler@saintedwardchurch.org

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

Next Trip: Friday Night "DJ Skate," March 3rd at the Danbury Ice Arena. \$12 includes skate time, rental and bus. Return permission slip and money to Jr. Youth Group. Meet in the Hall at 7:30 PM. Parent pick-up in Hall at 10:30 PM.

Next Meeting: Friday, March 17th, 7 - 9 PM in the Hall. "You've Got Lent!"

PRAYER FOR CHILDREN

As we enter into the Lenten time we seek reconciliation with our God. So often we need to help our children understand the mercy and forgiveness of our God. May we pray, Lord Jesus Son of God, have mercy for our children.

 Faith Formation
746-4270

Wednesday, March 1st is ASH WEDNESDAY. Due to the scheduled 4:00 PM Children's Prayer Service, classes for grades 3, 4 and 5 were not scheduled at Meeting House Hill School.

ST. CYRIL OF JERUSALEM PROGRAM

The Faith Formation Office of St. Edward the Confessor Parish is currently working towards having all of our catechists certified by the Diocese of Bridgeport.

The next course of study offered through the St. Cyril of Jerusalem Program addresses the key principles of Catholic Moral Teaching. Some of the subjects covered include human dignity, authentic freedom, formation of conscience in the virtues, the Beatitudes and the Commandments.

This is a two-part course that will be presented by Fr. Paul Murphy.

Part One is scheduled for Wednesday, March 8th.

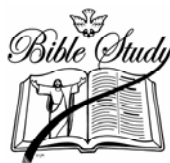
Part Two is scheduled for Wednesday, March 15th.

Each session runs from 9-12:15 PM in St. Edward's Hall. This opportunity is being made available to all interested registered adult parishioners. Please call Ellen Venturini 746-4270 Monday thru Thursday to register. Thank you.

PRO-LIFE CORNER

Abortion and euthanasia have become preeminent threats to human dignity because they directly attack life itself, the most fundamental human good and the condition for all others.

Living the Gospel of Life: A Challenge to American Catholics
(1998), no. 32



LENTEN BIBLE STUDY
DISCUSSION GROUP

Our Lenten Bible Study "Gospel of Mark, Getting to Know Jesus" will be held on Tuesday, February 28th 10:00 to 11:30 AM OR Thursday, March 2nd, 7 to 8:30 PM. All are welcome. If you have any questions and/or would like to sign up, please call Joyce Wawrzynski at 203-746-5630.

WEEK OF GUIDED PRAYER

Ash Wednesday is March 1st. Are you a busy person? Would you like to do something prayerful for Lent? Why not try the busy person's retreat known as "A Week of Guided Prayer?" The prayer week is March 5th - 11th and information can be found in the application form on the table in the Gathering Space as well as in the insert in the bulletin. Do something special for you!!

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Please plan to spend some time with the Eucharist on Friday, March 3rd. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament occurs each first Friday from 9:30 AM to Midnight. Please sign up on the sheet in the Gathering Space.



ST. PATRICK'S DAY MASS

The Annual Saint Patrick's Day Mass will be at 9:00 AM on Saturday, March 11th. The Mass will be celebrated by Msgr. Ryan and it will commemorate the Feast of St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland. After Mass, the pipers will lead a small parade to Town Hall for a flag raising ceremony. Refreshments will be served at the Library.

ST. PATRICK'S DINNER DANCE
SAVE THE DATE!

The St. Patrick's Dinner Dance, sponsored by Family Life, will be on SATURDAY, MARCH 11TH at 7 PM in the Parish Hall. Music is by Sharon O'Meara and Tommy Goodwin and dinner will be catered by Bernie's Deli. Please save the date. Tickets are \$35/PERSON and can be purchased after masses and in the Parish Office through FEBRUARY 28TH. Only a total of 150 tickets will be sold, so hurry and buy your tickets today! For more info, please call Jane Arseniadis, 746-2200 X 11 or Bill O'Keeffe, 746-5520.

Next Admin Comm	3-07-06	6:00 PM
Next Blue Ribbon	3-04-06	8:30 AM
Next Staff Meeting	TBA	Noon
Next Finance Comm	3-02-06	7:30 PM
Liturgy Comm	3-20-06	7:30 PM

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CALENDAR

WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

2/27/06-3/05/06

Monday – 2/27/06

- 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
- 7:00 p.m. – Social Concerns Leaders' Meeting/Conf. Rm. A
- 7:00 p.m. – First Eucharist Parent Workshop II/Hall
- 7:30 p.m. – St. Edward's Prayer Group/Cry Room

Tuesday – 2/28/06

- 9:30 a.m. – Mom's Morning Out/Hall/Kitchen
- 9:30 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. – AA Meeting/Entire Hall/Kitchen
- 7:30 p.m. – Praise and Worship Gathering/Prayer Chapel

Wednesday – 3/1/06 Ash Wednesday

- 9:30 a.m. – Terrific Twos /Meeting Rooms 5-6
- 10:00 a.m. – Joy Club/Hall
- 11:15 a.m. – Terrific Twos/Meeting Rooms 5-6
- 1:00 p.m. – Terrific Twos/Meeting Rooms 5-6
- 7:15 p.m. – Liturgical Design Committee Mtg./Conf. Rm. A

Thursday – 3/2/06

- 9:30 a.m. – Ladies' Guild Sewing Group/Hall
- 1:00 p.m. – Bereavement-Reg. Hosp. Mtg./Conf. Rm. A
- 3:00 p.m. – Faith Formation Classes Grade 6/Hall
- 7:00 p.m. – Bible Study/Cry Room

Friday – 3/3/06

- 9:30 a.m. – Women's Contemplative Prayer Group/AMC
- 10:00 a.m. – First Friday Adoration/Prayer Chapel
- 3:00 p.m. – Divine Mercy Prayer Group/Prayer Chapel
- 7:00 p.m. – Junior Youth Group Meeting/Hall
- 7:30 p.m. – Pre Baptism Class/Hall
- 7:30 p.m. – Lenten Prayer Service/Church
- 8:30 p.m. – AA Women's Group/AMC

Saturday – 3/4/06

- 8:00 a.m. – Bulletin Assemblers/Conf. Rm. C
- 8:00 a.m. – First Saturday Rosary/Prayer Chapel
- 8:00 a.m. – Men's Prayer Breakfast/Conf. Rm. A/Kitchen
- 8:30 a.m. – Blue Ribbon Committee/Conf. Rm. B
- 10:00 a.m. – Lift Your Spirit Yoga/Hall

After all Weekend Masses/Gathering Space

Workcamp Trasher Ticket Sales and Dollar Sunday

Sunday – 3/5/06

- 12:00 p.m. – RCIA for Kids/Conf. RM. B
- 12:15 p.m. – Pre-Cana Liturgy Meeting/Church
- 2:00 p.m. – Week of Guided Prayer Opening Mtg/AMC
- 2:30 p.m. – Bereavement Workshop - Facilitators/Conf. Rm. C
- 3:30 p.m. – Bereavement Workshop/Hall
- 4:15 p.m. – Youth Mass Choir Practice/Church
- 6:30 p.m. – Workcamp Meeting/Hall
- 7:00 p.m. – Separated/Divorced Workshop/AMC

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