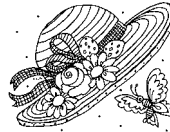


**ST. EDWARD THE CONFESSOR, NEW FAIRFIELD**



**From the Pastor's Desk**



Dear Friends,  
**SPRING** The first weekend in May is always busy in the Parish of St. Edward the Confessor. We will celebrate First Communion for 162 children and the adults and teens of our Parish will be caring for two households in the Americares Homefront Project.

I ask you to pray for the children and their families as they celebrate First Eucharist. There is something precious about looking into a child's eyes as they receive Jesus for the first time.

I also ask your prayers for the volunteers who will be working on our Americares Project. The time, energy and service given by our parishioners is a tribute to the faith in action of our Parish community. May God bless you!

Peace,  
 Msgr. Ryan

**MONDAY, MAY 1**

7:30 AM James MacDonald R/B Mary O'Sullivan  
 9:00 AM Adriana Teto R/B Her Father & Mother

**TUESDAY, MAY 2**

7:30 AM Dr. Pedro Ortiz R/B Marion & Debbie  
 9:00 AM John & Philomena Pileggi R/B  
 Bob & Connie Pileggi

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 3**

7:30 AM Katherine Lavaia R/B Marion & Debbie  
 9:00 AM Souls in Purgatory

**THURSDAY, MAY 4**

7:30 AM John & Elizabeth Foley R/B Thomas & Mary Foley  
 9:00 AM Al Salzo R/B Marie Salzo

**FRIDAY, MAY 5**

7:30 AM Jennifer & Thomas Gallagher R/B The Family  
 9:00 AM Marlene Zamin R/B The Buckle Family

**SATURDAY, MAY 6**

7:30 AM James Conroy R/B The Conroy Family  
 4:30 PM Parish Intentions Riendeau  
 6:00 PM Parish Intentions Cervero

**SUNDAY, MAY 7**

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

**THE CHAPEL LAMP** will burn this week for the volunteers of the Americares Homefront Project.

**THE SANCTUARY LAMP** will burn this week in memory of William B. Carroll at the request of his family.

**LITURGY EVENTS**

May 6th & 7th ..... First Eucharist  
 May 6th ..... 6:00 PM ..... AmeriCares Mass  
 May 13th: ..... 4:30 PM ..... Blessing of Expectant Mothers  
 May 14th ..... Mother's Day

**BAPTISM**

The parish family of St. Edward the Confessor welcomes Madison Erika Follen and Kevin Christopher Tallet who were baptized here last weekend.

**PRE-BAPTISMAL CLASS**

We are asking all couples who are having their babies baptized at St. Edward's to participate in our Parish Pre-Baptismal Class. If godparents are nearby, they are also welcome to attend.

The Parish leadership invites you to use our Pre-Baptismal Class as a moment to build a community among our young families and grow in our faith. weekend.

Wedding Banns

- III Adam Hawk & Renee Northrop
- II Michael Bonafide & Jennifer Thomas

**Parish Support**

4-16-06

<b>TOTAL WEEKLY EXPENSES</b> .....	<b>\$17,840.00</b>
Budgeted Expenses .....	\$14,800.00
Interest on Mortgage .....	\$3,040.00
<b>TOTAL WEEKLY INCOME</b> .....	<b>\$10,457.50</b>
Offertory .....	\$10,250.50
Monthly .....	\$207.00

413 donors gave \$7,772.50 in weekly envelopes for an average gift of \$18.82. 70 donors gave \$1,681.00 in make-up envelopes for an average gift of \$24.00. 1 donor made a quarterly gift of \$600.00.

3839 attended mass this year, 1833 attended mass last year.

**EASTER THANK YOU**

We would like to thank the Parish for its generosity on Easter Sunday. The Easter collection totaled \$32,785.14. May God bless you!

**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 Luanne at the Parish Office, 746-2200.

**READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK – MAY 7, 2006**

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

Acts 4:8-12/ 1 Jn 3:1-2/ Jn 10:11-18



**JOIN THE PARISH E-MAIL LIST—**

**WWW.SAINTEDWARDCHURCH.ORG**

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](mailto:parishlist@saintedwardchurch.org) or you can subscribe directly from the home page of the Parish website.



Thank  
You

**EASTER AND HOLY WEEK**

Thanks to all who participated in the services and masses. Thank you to Dan Kean and Gloria Hudson and all the Liturgical Ministers who made Holy Week and Easter a special spiritual time. A note of thanks to the Liturgical Design Committee for the beautiful worship space. And lastly, thanks to the K of C for directing the traffic on Easter Sunday. May we all praise God for his many blessings!

**ANNUAL BISHOP'S APPEAL**

If you recently received a letter and pledge card from Bishop Lori asking you to support this year's Annual Bishop's Appeal with a gift or pledge, please prayerfully consider your response. Our goal is not just to meet our target, but to surpass it. Our goal is \$175,000 and to date \$119,700 has been raised from 449 families. Know that your financial sacrifice will touch the lives of thousands of people served through the Annual Appeal.

**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**

**APRIL IS CHILD ABUSE AWARENESS MONTH**

"April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. The Easter season is the most appropriate time for us to focus our attention on this societal issue. As Catholic Christians, we experience the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus as a reminder of the gift of salvation that came to us through the willingness of one man to live out God's plan. Jesus is the example to us of how to deal with this issue. Child sexual abuse is not someone else's problem—it is ours. We must follow his example and give up our own wishes, our own concerns, and our own fears to succeed in doing God's will and protect those among us who have been entrusted to our care."

(Featured VIRTUS Article April 17, 2006) **By Sharon Womack Doty, J.D., M.H.R., Consultant to this Program**

**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. The next Friendly Visitor training course is scheduled for Saturday May 6, 2006 from 9 AM to 12 PM. For questions or to register to attend this training, call (203) 797-1154.

**COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS**

If you become aware of a neighbor, friend or family member who has recently moved into our area, please let us know! We would like to extend a warm and hearty welcome to all and would invite all Catholics to become active members of St. Edward's. Please help your Parish and fellow Christians by calling 746-2200 or 746-9595.

**MEDICARE WEBSITE**

There is a very helpful website that can answer many questions seniors and their families may have about various topics. [www.Medicare.gov](http://www.Medicare.gov) is a website that contains facts about nursing homes, health plans, Medicare physicians, prescription assistance programs and extensive general health information. Log on to this website to research nursing homes and their ratings regarding certification and standards.

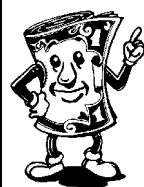
**EASTER OUTREACH**

Thank you to all who contributed their time, talent and treasure in supporting our Easter Food Drive. A special thanks to all the who prepared food baskets for families in need within our town.

**DOLLAR SUNDAY**

**YALE/NEW HAVEN CHILD CARE**

Next Sunday, May 7th, is Dollar Sunday for Yale/New Haven Child Care. The children treated at Yale/New Haven are those with the most serious medical conditions and require longer hospital stays. This program has been designed to provide a comfortable social setting allowing the "kids to be kids." To do this they need toys, games, art supplies, etc. Toys are much more than toys; they are a distraction from pain, help ease anxiety and help fight depression. Some articles purchased for the children are computer and video games, CDs, board games and tape recorders. Please be generous and leave your donation in the wall safes or with a member of the Social Concerns Ministry. Donations: Birthright: \$506; Hanahoe Clinic: \$1,262; and Funeral Hospitality: \$700. Thank you and God bless.



**PARISH NURSE MINISTRY**

Give yourself a gift of a healthier body through a realistic, consistent program of regular exercise.

**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.

**Saturday May 6th: Americares**—Parish event that fixes a home of someone in the community.

**Sunday, May 7th:** Mandatory meeting 6:30 to 8:30 PM. Spring Flower Sale money and orders are due!

**AMERICARES FINAL MEETING**

The final meeting prior to the AMERICARES HOMEFRONT DAY on MAY 6, 2006. is this SUNDAY at 6:15 PM in the Church Hall. Please plan on attending this meeting for directions and final instructions. All high school students must have a waiver form filled out and signed by a parent and any adults helping with this project MUST have attended the SAFE ENVIRONMENT TRAINING PROGRAM. If you cannot make this meeting, please call Doris McDermott at 746-5539.

**FROM THE DESK OF MARJ CUTLER: 746-0755**

**MCUTLER@SAINTEDWARDCHURCH.ORG**

**JR. YOUTH GROUP (6TH, 7TH & 8TH GRADES)**

A special thank you to Megan Heffernan, Alex Zawisza, Steven and Mrs. Stancek, Scott and Mrs. Olyha, Megan and Mrs. Cammaroto, Lizzie and Mrs. LaRegina for sprucing up the Parish grounds during vacation week. Their service to the Parish is appreciated very much.

The end of the school year is drawing near. Let me know your ideas for an end of year celebration.

Future Service Opportunities:

June 27th & 28th, outdoor work around the Parish;

July 24th—29th help is needed for VBS.

**CATHOLIC SCHOOL PARENTS**

Please send your Catholic School Affiliation Forms to the Parish Office as soon as possible. The Parish of St. Edward needs to have a roster of all children from our Parish attending the area Diocesan Catholic elementary schools.

**SEPARATED AND DIVORCED SUPPORT GROUP**

The Family Life Ministry of St. Edward's sponsors a Support Group dedicated to the Separated and Divorced Families of our community. We welcome all who are in need of support, friendship and guidance during times of stress, uncertainty, pain, loss and loneliness. We welcome all who are in some way affected by separation and divorce including family members. We offer confidentiality, care and compassion to our fellow sisters and brothers. Meetings are held twice a month on Sunday evenings, 6:30 – 8:00 PM in the Adult Ministry Center. The next meeting of the Separated and Divorced Support Group is Sunday, April 30<sup>th</sup> (6:30 PM at the AMC). Please call Jane at 746-2200 Ext. 11 for more information or email @ jarseniadis@saintedwardchurch.org

**PRO-LIFE CORNER**

“We are not some casual or meaningless product of evolution. Each of us is the result of a thought of God. Each of us is willed, each of us is loved, each of us is necessary.”

Pope Benedict XVI, 4/24/05



**Special Collection**

**CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS APPEAL**

This weekend we will be collecting for the Catholic Home Missions—*Strengthening the Church at Home*. This Appeal strengthens the presence of the Church in Alabama, Georgia and Mississippi where Catholics account for less than 5 percent of the population. Please be generous.



**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, May 2nd. For more information, call Tricia Quinn at 746-0056.

**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 2<sup>nd</sup>, 12:00 Noon – 1:30 PM at the AMC. Our topic is “Who or what has been a major influence in who you are today?”. 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.

**PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS**

Each month on First Friday between the hours of 7-8 PM we ask you to remember in prayer the intention for more vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

**FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION**

Will you spend an hour with me? This was Jesus' question to his disciples. There is a need for prayer before the Blessed Sacrament for your own needs as well as the needs of the community.

We invite you to sign up for an hour of prayer on Friday, May 5th from 9:30 AM to midnight in the Chapel. The sign-up board is in the Gathering Space this weekend.

**CALENDAR**

**WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

**5/01/06-5/07/06**

**Monday – 5/1/06**

- 9:30 a.m. – Terrific Twos/Meeting Rooms 5-6
- 11:15 a.m. – Terrific Twos/Meeting Rooms 5-6
- 3:00 p.m. – First Eucharist Rehearsal/Church/Hall
- 6:00 p.m. – Administration Committee Meeting/Conf. Rm. C
- 7:30 p.m. – St. Edward’s Prayer Group/Cry Room

**Tuesday – 5/2/06**

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

**Wednesday – 5/3/06**

- 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
- 3:00 p.m. – First Eucharist Rehearsal/Church/Hall
- 7:30 p.m. – Adult Choir Rehearsal/Church

**Thursday – 5/4/06**

- 9:30 a.m. – Ladies’ Guild Sewing Group/Hall
- 3:00 p.m. – First Eucharist Rehearsal/Church/Hall
- 7:15 p.m. – Liturgical Design Committee Mtg./Conf. Rm. B
- 7:30 p.m. – Devotional Ministries Meeting/Conf. Rm. C
- 7:30 p.m. – Contemporary Choir Rehearsal/Conf. Rm. A

**Friday – 5/5/06**

- 10:00 a.m. – First Friday Adoration/Prayer Chapel
- 3:00 p.m. – Divine Mercy Prayer Group/Prayer Chapel
- 7:30 p.m. – Pre Baptism Class/Hall
- 8:30 p.m. – AA Women’s Group/AMC

**Saturday – 5/6/06 –**

**First Eucharist Celebrations at 10 AM and 1 PM**

- 8:00 a.m. – Bulletin Assemblers/Conf. Rm. C
- 8:00 a.m. – Men’s Prayer Breakfast/Conf. Rm. A/Kitchen
- 8:00 a.m. – First Saturday Rosary/Prayer Chapel
- 6:00 p.m. – Americares Mass/Church

**After all Weekend Masses/Dollar Sunday/Gathering Space**

**Sunday – 5/7/06**

**First Eucharist Celebrations at 1:00 and 3:30PM**

- 4:15 p.m. – Youth Mass Choir Practice/Church
  - 6:15 p.m. – Workcamp Meeting/Hall
- Calendar subject to change with additions & cancellations.

**Calendar subject to change with additions & cancellations.**

- Next Admin Comm..... 5-01-06.....6:00 PM
- Next Blue Ribbon ..... 5-13-06.....8:30 AM
- Next Staff Meeting..... TBA .....Noon
- Next Finance Comm..... 5-16-06..... 7:30 PM
- Liturgy Comm. .... 5-22-06..... 7:30 PM