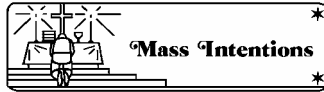


ST. EDWARD THE CONFESSOR, NEW FAIRFIELD



MONDAY, JANUARY 9

7:30 AM Catherine Breslin R/B The Conroy Family
9:00 AM Souls in Purgatory

TUESDAY, JANUARY 10

7:30 AM Alexander Nicol R/B Alex & Cathy Nicol
9:00 AM John & Philomena Pileggi R/B Bob & Connie Pileggi

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11

7:30 AM Adrian Sichel R/B
Nancy & Craig Polinchock & Family
9:00 AM Ed DeMayo R/B Bob & Jackie Coote

THURSDAY, JANUARY 12

7:30 AM Margaret, Betty & Herb Roth R/B The Family
9:00 AM Celia Fisher R/B The Family

FRIDAY, JANUARY 13

7:30 AM Maureen McCorcoran R/B William Corcoran
9:00 AM Kevin Quimby R/B Cathy & Alex Nicol

SATURDAY, JANUARY 14

7:30 AM Eleanor Preneta R/B The Family
4:30 PM Parish Intentions Riendeau
6:00 PM Parish Intentions Ryan

SUNDAY, JANUARY 15

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

THE CHAPEL LAMP will burn this week for the Souls in Purgatory at the request of Bridie.

THE SANCTUARY LAMP will burn this week in memory of Anna Grigalis at the request of Irene & Jerry Castoran.

Parish Support

12-25-05

Budgeted Expenses.....	\$14,800.00
Interest on Mortgage	\$3,040.00
Total Parish Weekly Expenses	\$17,840.00
Offertory	\$13,368.00
Monthly	\$65.00
Total Weekly Income	\$13,433.00
477 donors gave \$10,736.00 in weekly envelopes for an average gift of \$22.51. 49 donors gave \$1,491.00 in make-up envelopes for an average gift of \$31.06. 1 donor made a yearly/quarterly gift of \$1,000.00. In cash an estimated 65 donors gave \$141.00 for an average gift of \$2.17.	
4,350 attended Mass this year, 4,537 attended last year.	

CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

Thank you to all our parishioners for their generosity in the 2005 Christmas Collection. The collection was \$55,185.00

MAKE UP ENVELOPES

The Parish of St. Edward's needs your support. With the snow this past weekend and the New Year's holiday, please remember your make-up envelopes.

From the Pastor's Desk



Dear Friends:

As we make New Year resolutions, please make a resolution to attend mass weekly for 2006. There always seems to be a reason to put Jesus second. I am too busy, my child has a game, I have to work or I just cannot fit any more into my schedule.

There are the reasons given, but we all need Jesus. Come to the Eucharist faithfully in 2006.

Peace,
Msgr. Ryan



LITURGY EVENTS

BLESSING WITH HOLY WATER

A tradition of our faith is to bless oneself with the Holy Water as you enter or exit the Church. The Holy Water is to remind you of your baptism and the personal example you give within the Community.



BAPTISM

The Parish family of St. Edward the Confessor welcomes Theodore Roger Kutzy who was baptized here last weekend.

BUDGET ISSUES

As we stated on December 4th, the Parish is experiencing a 7.5% drop in contributions and an 8% increase in expenses. As a result, we have taken the following actions:

- The temperature in the building has been dropped to 66° occupied and 62° unoccupied, so please bring a sweater!
- Lighting around the Parish grounds has been limited to only essential lighting.
- Parish expenditures for supplies has been reduced by 50%
- We ask all Parish groups to clean up the rooms that have been used and turn off lights when you leave.
- We ask all parishioners to keep the Church clean. Please put hymnals back in the racks and pick up any flyers or booklets left in Church.
- With CL & P raising rates by 17% on January 1st, we ask you to please turn off lights as you leave meetings here in the Church building. The rate raise means an \$800 a month increase for our Parish.

PARISH CENSUS

We are beginning a process of assessing our Parish Census. There are 1,079 families listed in our census that we consider inactive. "Inactive" means a family is listed in the census but the name does not appear on any of our ministry lists, volunteer lists, Faith Formation lists and/or sacramental lists. These families will soon be receiving a letter asking them to update their Parish census.

Readings for Next Week – January 15, 2006

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19/ 1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20/ Jn 1:35-42

PARISH MORTGAGE

April 7 th :	\$3,000,000.00	Mortgage Total
January 7 th :	\$7,970.06	Principal
	\$12,375.94	Interest
January 7 th :	\$2,729,566.92	Mortgage Total
	\$105,874.14	2003 Interest Paid
	\$154,587.73	2004 Interest Paid to Date
	\$148,493.12	2005 Interest Paid to Date
	\$12,375.94	2006 Interest Paid to Date

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. Also once the parking lot is plowed and the snow piles are pushed across, it costs the Parish extra to re-clean the area.



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.

HALLWAY PAINTING

Thanks to our Brother Knights, John Justiniano and Vin Mancuso, for painting the hallway between the Gathering Space and the Parish Hall.

SAFE ENVIRONMENT

Parents Who Don't Quite "Get It"

"One of the most frustrating situations for parents comes up when working with other parents who just don't "get it." They aren't bad or uncaring parents—they just don't seem to know that having the right equipment, being on time for school or for practice, or being picked up on time at the end of practice are very important to children. Parents who are actively involved in the lives and activities of their children find themselves filling in the gaps in care provided by these other parents." Sharon Womack Doty, J.D., M.H.R.,

**Consultant to the VIRTUS Programs
(Required Adult Training Bulletin for January 2006)**

Please read the above article either on Virtus.org or by asking for a copy of it from Jane Arseniadis. It has helpful suggestions for creating effective conversations with parents about what's missing in their participation with their child and for ways to engage the parents from the beginning.

The following dates have been set for "Protecting God's Children" Awareness sessions at St. Edward's: Sunday January 15th at 12:45 PM, Sunday Feb. 5th at 12:45 PM and Wednesday March 8th at 7 PM in the Parish Hall. Please contact Jane Arseniadis at 746-2200, Ext. 11 for further info.

SOCIAL CONCERNS

SICK AND HOMEBOUND MINISTRY



The Connecticut Homecare Program for Elders is a comprehensive home care program designed to enable older persons to receive the support they need to remain in their home. Available services include adult day health, homemaker, companion, home delivered meals, emergency response system, care management, home health and assisted living. In order to become eligible, applicants for services must first be screened by the Department of Social Services (DSS). Individuals meeting the screening criteria (both functional and financial) are referred for an independent assessment. For further information, contact Department of Social Services at 1-800-445-5394.

FISH PROGRAM

Due to circumstances beyond our control, the Parish transportation assistance program was terminated on December 31st. We thank the Program Director, Dot Gallagher, for her dedicated service and leadership along with all the program volunteers who throughout the years have provided an invaluable service to our community. May the Lord bless you abundantly for your commitment to our Parish and community.

CONNECTICUT CATHOLIC ADVOCACY

NETWORK

SIGN UP SUNDAY

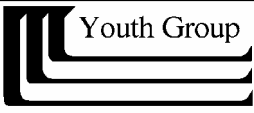
The *Gospel* of Christ calls us to aid those less fortunate in our society and live in a society morally pleasing to God. All Catholics are called to be active and responsible participants in our society. To help Catholics meet this challenge the Bishops of Connecticut have created the Connecticut Catholic Advocacy Network. They are asking all Catholics to sign-up in January to become part of this network. Once signed-up, you will receive e-mails or regular mail on state and federal issues of importance to people of faith. The Network will also allow you to easily contact your elected officials if you so desire. Please sign up the weekend of January 28th-29th.

PREPARING A CATHOLIC FUNERAL

This booklet is designed to help those who must face the often unfamiliar task of preparing a Catholic Funeral. The booklet helps explains how to manage the many practical details that go into planning a Catholic Funeral and to help gather the information that will be of help for the surviving family, the Parish and the funeral home. Anyone wishing to receive a copy of this booklet should call the Social Concerns Office at 746-9595.

PARISH NURSE MINISTRY

Since this is the beginning of a new year, the focus this month will concern RESOLUTIONS. ...He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus (Php 1:6).



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.

Please save the Date! **Saturday March 11th** 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**

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

Next Meeting: Friday, January 20th, Mystery Theatre Night. Come and join us!!

PRAYER FOR CHILDREN

As we begin 2006, we pray for all children who will be born in this year. Our world has not chosen to protect life in the womb. So may we pray: Lord Jesus, come protect the life of our children!



Faith Formation

746-4270

The Office of Faith Formation is currently recruiting volunteers to be part of our Parish Education Committee. The members of this Committee will meet four times a year with Msgr. Ryan and myself.

The mission of this Education Committee is to assess the future needs of our Faith Formation Programs and assist the pastor in making the necessary recommendations which will help benefit all of our parishioners here at St. Edward's Parish.

If you are interested in being part of this fact-finding team, please send a letter of intent to me at the below address or by email. Thank you.

Mrs. Ellen Venturini
P. O. Box 8866
New Fairfield, CT 06812
eventurini@saintedwardchurch.org



"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. You can access the January issue from the Education/Resources tab on St. Edward's website homepage.

PRO-LIFE CORNER

It is impossible to further the common good without acknowledging and defending the right to life, upon which all the other inalienable rights of individuals are founded and from which they develop. A society lacks solid foundations when, on the one hand, it asserts values such as the dignity of the person, justice and peace, but then, on the other hand, readily acts to the contrary by allowing or tolerating a variety of ways in which human life is devalued and violated, especially where it is weak or marginalized. Only respect for life can be the foundation and guarantee of the most precious and essential goods of society, such as democracy and peace.

Pope John Paul II, *Christifideles Laici* (1988), no. 38

**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 meets in the Adult Ministry Center from Noon to 1:30 PM 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, January 10th**. Please bring a brown bag lunch. Access for the handicapped will be provided. For more info and to participate in this discussion opportunity, please call Family Life Minister Jane Arseniadis at 746-2200, Ext. 11.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Parish Finance Committee is looking for a few good workers to assist Msgr. Ryan in preparing and monitoring the Parish budget, assisting Parish staff in managing their budgets and marketing people to spread the good news about our Parish. If you have a background in finance, accounting or marketing, please send a resume or letter of interest to serve to Msgr. Ryan, P. O. Box 8866, New Fairfield, CT 06812.



Christmas is a very busy time in a parish church. It could not be celebrated without the help of many volunteers and staff. On behalf of the Parish family, we thank Dan Kean and Gloria Hudson, all the Music Ministries, the Lectors, the Eucharistic Ministers, and the Ushers for their service to the Parish in making our liturgies prayerful and festive. A special thank you to the Liturgical Design Committee. Our Church and Hall were prayerful and beautiful. A special note of thanks to the Knights of Columbus who helped make our parking lot safe on Christmas Eve. May the peace of the newborn Christ be with all of you.

Next Admin Comm	1-09-06	6:00 PM
Next Blue Ribbon	2-04-06	8:30 AM
Next Staff Meeting	1-09-06	Noon
Next Finance Comm	1-26-06	7:00 PM
Liturgy Comm	1-23-06	7:30 PM

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CALENDAR

WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

1/9/06-1/15/06

Monday – 1/9/06

- 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
- 6:00 p.m. – Administration Committee Mtg./Conf. Rm. C
- 7:00 p.m. – Faith Sharing Support Group/Conf. Rm. A
- 7:30 p.m. – St. Edward's Prayer Group/Cry Room

Tuesday – 1/10/06

- 9:30 a.m. – Mom's Morning Out/Hall
- 12:00 p.m. – Women of Wonder Discussion Group/AMC
- 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 – 1/11/06

- 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
- 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 – 1/12/06

- 9:30 a.m. – Ladies' Guild Sewing Group/Hall
- 12:00 p.m. – PRT/AMC
- 7:30 p.m. – Contemporary Choir/Conf. Rm. A

Friday – 1/13/06

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

Saturday – 1/14/06

- 8:00 a.m. – Bulletin Assemblers/Conf. Rm. C
- 8:15 a.m. – Parish Nurse Meeting/Conf. Rm. B
- 10:00 a.m. – Yoga/Hall

After All Weekend Masses/B P Screenings/Conf. Rm. B

Sunday – 1/15/06

- 11:30 a.m. – "Breaking Open the Word"/Conf. Rm. C
- 4:15 p.m. – Youth Mass Choir Practice/Church

Coffee and Donuts in Hall after the 9AM & 11AM Masses

Calendar subject to change with additions & cancellations.

CRECHE

The outdoor Christmas Creche was completed on Christmas Eve morning when Jesus, Mary and Joseph were replaced. Thank you to Fr. Fred and the Iowa craftsmen who worked to complete the forms, which were sent Fed Ex. A thank you to the Knights who came and reset the scene.

The original Mary and Jesus were returned on the evening of December 26th.

The cost to replace the Creche figures for Christmas was \$498.00. This is not covered by our insurance which has a \$500.00 deductible. If you wish to help defray the cost, you may make a donation to the "Creche Fund." Many thanks for your care and concern.