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Third Sunday of Lent • March 11, 2012

March 11, 2012
dear Padre
Did Jesus really descend
into hell?

The Apostles' Creed says Jesus descended into hell before he rose again. What does that mean?

Dan

Dear Dan,

Paragraphs 631–658 of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* address the phrase you refer to.

In the Creed, “hell” is understood as the realm of all the dead—the abode of both the just and the unjust who have died. Before the coming of Christ, all people who died were deprived of the vision of God. The righteous and the unrighteous alike were cut off from entrance into heaven by the power of sin and death.

But with his death, Christ entered this realm of the dead and defeated its power. Christ entered hell as all who died before him did, yet hell could not hold him or the ones he came to save. Christ opened the gates of heaven and delivered the just from the general kind of hell, while the unjust remain in the hell of the damned.

As the *Catechism* explains, “By the expression ‘he descended into hell,’ the Apostles’ Creed confesses that Jesus did really die and through his death for us conquered death and the devil.”

Only after his descent into and defeat of the realm of the dead was Christ raised up in his resurrected body.

For a fuller understanding of the Apostles’ Creed, go to uscbb.org. In the left column, click on What We Believe, and then click on *Catechism of the Catholic Church*.

Byron Miller, CSsR
sundaybulletins@liguori.org

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Saint Maurice Church 860-643-4466

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WEEKEND MASSES:

Saturdays at 4:00 p.m.

Sundays at 7:30 and 10:00 a.m.

Holy Days at 9:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

WELCOME!

If you are new in the Parish, please register and introduce yourself to the Pastor. The Parishioners wish to meet and serve you! Drop by at our Coffee Social or Pancake Breakfast after the Sunday Mass, both per the Calendar online or as announced inside the bulletin. We hope you will favor our Parish with your prayers, your presence, your talents and your financial assistance according to your means!

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION):

By appointment.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

Please call the rectory (860-643-4466) to arrange for a meeting with the Pastor.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:

Arrangements must start more than 6 months before marriage. Necessary interviews, a pre-cana course and plenty of paperwork is required. We strongly urge you to contact us to begin the Diocesan preparation course as soon as you are engaged to get the most out of it without rush.

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP:

The Sacramental Guidelines define Church Membership in terms of Sunday Mass attendance and Church support. For membership verification and sponsorship certificate, registration and regular use of the envelope system are the only way we have of verifying this for you. Please notify us if there are changes in your address, marital status, etc., so that we may update your records.

VISITATION TO THE SICK:

We are most anxious to help anyone who is not able to celebrate Mass with us in Church due to illness, handicapped or age. If you wish the Sacraments, please call 860-643-4466.

THIS WEEK
THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT
MARCH 10 – 11, 2012
USHERS GROUP III

Pre-Appeal for Annual Catholic Appeal
Maintenance Collection
Coffee Social

SATURDAY, MAR. 10

4:00 P.M. Mass offered for +Carmen Torres
request of Rich, Gail & Terri Gidius

SUNDAY, MAR. 11

7:30 A.M. Mass Offered for +Sybil McCarthy
request of Pat & Sybil Bartone

CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY after Mass

9:00 To 9:45 A.M. – FAITH FORMATION

10:00 A.M. Mass Offered for +Raymond Lemaire
request of Mary Ann Ferguson

5:30 P.M. LITURGY OF THE HOURS

MONDAY, MAR. 12

9:00 A.M. Mass Offered for +Henry Leonard

5:00 P.M. Parish **BINGO** – Food available from 5
P.M. GAMES begin at 6:30 P.M.

7:00 P.M. – Property Management Meeting

TUESDAY, MAR. 13

9:00 A.M. Mass Offered for +Olga Guglielmino
request of Samuel Guglielmino

7:00 P.M. – Parish Council Meeting

7:15 P.M. Adult Choir Rehearsal

WEDNESDAY, MAR. 14

9:00 A.M. – Mass Offered for +Henry Leonard

9:00 A.M. to Noon – Christmas Fair Workshop

**3:00 P.M. To 7:00 P.M. Adoration of the Blessed
Sacrament**

THURSDAY, MAR. 15 – No Mass

FRIDAY, MAR. 16 – No Morning Mass

4:00 – 6:30 P.M. Fish Dinner Sponsored by St.
Maurice Knights of Columbus

7:00 P.M. Mass and Stations of the Cross
Mass offered for +Henry Leonard

SATURDAY, MAR. 17

ROSARY BEFORE 5:00 P.M. MASS

Last week's Offertory Feb. 25-26 \$4,318

Last year's Offertory Feb. 26-28 \$3,523

*"You shall not carve idols for yourselves in the shape of
anything..." – Exodus 20:4*

Have you created idols for yourself in different shapes? An
idol can be in the shape of money, sports, fashion, travel or
anything else we value more than God and His Word to us.

NEXT WEEK
FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT
MARCH 17 – 18, 2012
USHERS GROUP IV

Annual Catholic Appeal Commitment Weekend

SATURDAY, MAR. 17

5:00 P.M. Mass offered for +Doris Gidius request of
Rich, Gail & Terri Gidius

Altar Servers: Amanda Baum, Stephanie Leiner

Lector: Kyle Toce

Eucharistic Minister: Jean Gately

SUNDAY, MAR. 18

7:30 A.M. Mass Offered for +Judy Daly request of
Jennifer & Phil Daly

Altar Servers: Lynn Mancino

Lector: Stephen Paul

Eucharistic Minister: Arelene Giglio

9:00 To 9:45 A.M. – FAITH FORMATION

9:00 A.M. – ADULT FAITH EDUCATION

CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY after Mass

10:00 A.M. Mass Offered for +Rose Brissette request of
St. Maurice Christmas Fair Group

Altar Servers: Angelica & Alex Czercowy

Lector: Jennifer Carvalho

Eucharistic Minister: Jennifer Carvalho

**YOUTH BAND MEETING AFTER 10 A.M. MASS IN
THE CHURCH BASEMENT**

5:30 P.M. LITURGY OF THE HOURS

6:30 P.M. – ADULT FAITH EDUCATION

MONDAY, MAR. 19

9:00 A.M. Mass Offered for +Henry Leonard

5:00 P.M. Parish **BINGO** – Food available from 5
P.M. GAMES begin at 6:30 P.M.

TUESDAY, MAR. 20

9:00 A.M. Mass Offered for +Henry Leonard

7:15 P.M. – Adult Choir Rehearsal

WEDNESDAY, MAR. 21

**9:00 A.M. – Mass Offered for +Francesca Quagliano request
of Josephine & Silvio Maratta**

9:00 A.M. to Noon – Christmas Fair Workshop

**3:00 P.M. To 7:00 P.M. Adoration of the Blessed
Sacrament**

THURSDAY, MAR. 22 – No Mass

FRIDAY, MAR. 23 – No Morning Mass

4:00 – 6:30 P.M. Fish Dinner Sponsored by St.
Maurice Knights of Columbus

7:00 P.M. Mass and Stations of the Cross

Mass offered for +Henry Leonard

Altar Servers: Ryan & Nicholas VanDine

Lector: Joel Cohan

Eucharistic Minister: Clifford Scorso

SATURDAY, MAR. 24

ROSARY BEFORE 5:00 P.M. MASS

Readings for the Week of March 11, 2012

Sunday: Ex 20:1-17 or 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17/1 Cor 1:22-25/Jn 2:13-25

Monday: 2 Kgs 5:1-15b/Lk 4:24-30

Tuesday: Dn 3:25, 34-43/Mt 18:21-35

Wednesday: Dt 4:1, 5-9/Mt 5:17-19

Thursday: Jer 7:23-28/Lk 11:14-23

Friday: Hos 14:2-10/Mk 12:28-34

Saturday: Hos 6:1-6/Lk 18:9-14

Next Sunday: 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23/Eph 2:4-10/Jn 3:14-21

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Attention Catholic Singles

Interested in joining an excellent Catholic singles organization? The Catholic Alumni Club International is looking to expand into the Norwich diocese. We provide a group dedicated to social, cultural, civic and spiritual relationships in a Catholic setting. For more information, please check out the following site or contact Steve at valksr@yahoo.com: www.caci.org

From the Diocese of Norwich Catholic Charities/Office of Family Life

Natural Family Planning Classes ~ (NFP) the Sympto-Thermal Method is scientific, helps with fertility problems, easily learned and 99% effective for conceiving or responsibly postponing a baby. **NFP** is your loving and safe alternative to dangerous chemicals, devices, synthetic hormones and side-effects of contraception and birth control. With **NFP** marriage insurance is covered by GOD. **NFP** classes for married and engaged couples are 3- part monthly. A class begins on March 19th 7pm in Old Saybrook, call the Collisons at 860-399-8265. A class begins March 24th 2pm in Gales Ferry call the Schantz at 860-464-1184. A class begins on April 4th at 6pm in Westerly, RI, call the Bliers at 401-596-9582. **To register for a NFP class or Home Study go to www.ccli.org**. Anyone is welcome to attend a presentation on **NFP** on March 30th, 8:15pm at St. Francis, Middletown. For info call Susan Williams -Family Life Office at 860-889-8346 ext. 283.

Youth Explosion 2012

Save the date, March 25th: Third Annual Diocese of Norwich Youth Explosion 2012 (YX12) will take place on Sunday March 25th from 12:30 PM – 8:00 PM at St. Bernard School, Uncasville. The theme for YX12 is “Living a Life of Worship”. Throughout the day teens will have the opportunity to worship God with other teens from all over the Diocese of Norwich as they gather together to celebrate the Sacrifice of the Mass, attend presentations by Brian Kissinger on issues affecting them as teens, have the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation, participate in the Eucharistic Adoration, and hear ourstanding music provided by Jon Nivan and the LIFT Band from Boston. Cost is \$25 and includes a pizza dinner. Contact your youth minister to learn more or go to www.youthexplosionct.com or call the Office of Faith Events 860-848-2237

2nd Annual Catholic Women’s Conference of the Diocese of Norwich

Be My Witness! The second annual Catholic Women’s Conference of the Diocese of Norwich for Women of all ages! **Saturday, April 14, 2012, 8:30 – 3:30. Saint Bernard School, Uncasville, CT.** Back by popular demand, our keynote speaker: ValLimar Jansen. The message this year comes from women in the Hebrew and Christian scriptures, along with women from contemporary society. For more information & registration form visit www.norwichdiocese.org under ministries, click on Office of Faith Events or call Office of Faith Events, Marge Vanner 860-848-2237 or email: faithevents@norwichdiocese.net. Don’t miss it! Registration by March 28th fee is \$25 pp. (includes lunch), the late fee thereafter is \$30 pp.

Pre-Appeal Weekend of March 10/11

2012 Annual Catholic Appeal – “To Love and Serve the Lord” The Annual Catholic Appeal, which supports the work of the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Norwich, will be conducted in every Parish over the next two weekends. The theme of this year’s campaign is: **“To Love and Serve the Lord.”** A significant gift to the Annual Catholic Appeal will touch the lives of many others in a very positive way. The Annual Catholic Appeal is a unified effort in which all Catholics of The Diocese of Norwich can join together to serve and sacrifice in furthering the mission and ministry of the Catholic Church in Eastern Connecticut. There is an abundance of human need surrounding us and its God’s desire to form us, fill us, and commission us as his ambassadors to respond to those in need and to show Christ’s love and service by putting our faith in action as a Diocesan family. The agencies and ministries supported by the Appeal help with both spiritual and physical needs and go beyond what an individual parish can accomplish alone. Likewise, the church is at work raising up men and women to serve the needs of the poor, the sick, the elderly, troubled families and those in crises. “If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.” John 12:26 Please prayerfully consider what you are able to give in support of our Diocesan Church. We will conduct our in-pew pledge process at all Masses next weekend and the following weekend. Thank you for your prayerful consideration and generous response.

Defending Our Religious Liberty

The Obama Administration has left many questions unanswered regarding the federal health care insurance mandate. In a so-called “accommodation,” President Obama said that insurance companies will pay for sterilization, abortion-inducing drugs and contraceptives that go against our Catholic moral teachings. But, he has neglected to address the many religious organizations that are self-insured! These include the Archdiocese of Hartford, the Diocese of Bridgeport, and the Diocese of Norwich. Under the current mandate, these institutions would still be expected to pay for these controversial procedures. The administration needs to address this crucial question, and many more, before the elections. Please contact the offices of your State Representatives and State Senators to express your opposition to the mandate. For addresses and phones numbers, please visit: www.ctcatholic.org or www.archdioceseofhartford.org.



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