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A TITHING PARISH

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Rectory Phone 860-643-4466
Parish Center 860-643-8374
Prayer Line 860-649-5449 or 860-643-2837

dear Padre

March 30, 2014

What is Lectio Divina?

My friend is doing a Bible study, and part of the program is something called *Lectio Divina*. Is that a Catholic practice?

This method of listening to Scripture has the Church's approval: In October 2008, Catholic bishops recommended *Lectio Divina* as an easy way for Catholics to become more familiar with the Bible.

The practice of *Lectio Divina* is quite simple:

- Ask the Holy Spirit to help you listen. Then slowly read a short Scripture passage aloud. Listen for a word or phrase that strikes you.
- 2. Think about why this word is so striking at this moment. Does this word touch your life right now?
- Ask God's help in making an important choice, or ask what the word or phrase that struck you in Step 1 means in your life.
- 4. Close your eyes, let go of all thoughts, and remain silent before God.

These parts have a logical progression, but it's not a hard-and-fast method. People who have been doing *Lectio Divina* for a long time sometimes move back and forth between parts.

If you do *Lectio Divina* regularly, over time your understanding of God's Word will deepen.

FR. RICK POTTS, CSsR | sundaybulletin@liguori.org

For more information on Lectio Divina, visit liguoricatholicbiblestudy.org.

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Fourth Sunday of Lent March 30, 2014

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Sharon Snuffer
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WEEKEND MASSES:

Saturdays at 5:00 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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT MAR. 29 — MAR. 30, 2014 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL COMMITMENT USHERS GROUP II

SATURDAY, MAR. 29 -

5:00 P.M. Mass offered for +Anthony Sobol at the request of Frank and Jackie Cuneo

Coffee Social after 5 P.M. Mass in the Church Basement

SUNDAY, MAR. 30 -

7:30 A.M. <u>Mass offered for +Raymond Poniatoski</u> at the request of Bob and Jane Hunt

CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY after Mass

8:30 A.M. — Breakfast for Faith Formation 9:00 A.M. — Faith Formation Classes

10:00 A.M. – Mass offered for All Parishioners

CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY after Mass

11:00 A.M.— Meeting in Church Basement for parents of students for 1st Reconciliation and 1st Communion

5:30 P.M.— LITURGY OF THE HOURS

6:00 P.M. — Adult Faith Formation Class at the Parish Center

MONDAY, MAR. 31 -

9:00 A.M.— Mass offered for +Sam Guglielmino

5:00 P.M.— Parish **BINGO**—Food available from 5 P.M. Games begin at 6:30 P.M. Jackpot \$600

TUESDAY, APR. 1 -

9:00 A.M.— <u>Mass offered for +James P. Bloznalis</u> at the request of the Dean and Bloznalis families

7:15 P.M.— CHOIR REHEARSAL

WEDNESDAY, APR. 2 -

9:00 A.M.— Mass offered for +Anne Liebler at the request of the Cloutier family

9:00 A.M. TO NOON — Christmas Fair Workshop

THURSDAY, APR. 3 - No mass

FRIDAY, APR. 4 -

7:00 P.M. — Stations of the Cross and Mass Mass offered for All Parishioners

7:00-9:00 P.M.— Youth Group The Desciples in Church basement

SATURDAY, APR. 5 -

4:30 P.M. - ROSARY BEFORE 5 P.M. MASS

Last week's Offertory — March 23 — \$3,892 Last year's Offertory — March 24 — \$2,651

"Not as man sees does God see, because man sees the appearance but the Lord looks into the heart." 1 Samuel 16:7

How often do we invest our time, talent and treasure in creating an appearance that does not matter at all to God? We strive to impress with our clothing, home, career, possessions, car and other marks of distinction. But none of these illusions of greatness will impress God. Instead, He will look into our hearts to see how much we loved Him, how much we loved others and how we showed that love by the way we used our time, talents and treasure here on earth.

NEXT WEEK

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT
APR. 5 — APR. 6, 2014
ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL FOLLOW-UP
COFFEE SOCIAL AFTER SUNDAY MASSES

USHERS GROUP III

SATURDAY, APR. 5 -

5:00 P.M. Mass offered for +Arthur Kehl at the request of Irene Kehl

Altar Servers: Maria Cinea

Lector: Bert Flynn

Eucharistic Minister: Jean Gately

Coffee Social after 5 P.M. Mass in the Church Basement

SUNDAY, APR. 6 -

7:30 A.M. Mass offered for +Marion Miller at the request of Family

Altar Servers: Shirley Warbeck

Lector: Judy Knox

Eucharistic Minister: Arlene Giglio

CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY after Mass

8:30 A.M. — Breakfast for Faith Formation

9:00 A.M. — Faith Formation Classes

10:00 A.M. – Mass offered for +Del and +Henrietta Bernais and

+Jeffrey Braman at the request of Bernadette Devlin

Altar Servers: Nicholas VanDine and Alex Czercowy

Lector: Rita Sheetz

Eucharistic Minister: Rita Sheetz

CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY after Mass

5:30 P.M.— LITURGY OF THE HOURS

6:00 P.M. — Adult Faith Formation Class at the Parish Center

MONDAY, APR. 7 -

9:00 A.M.— Mass offered for +Sam Guglielmino

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

TUESDAY, APR. 8 -

9:00 A.M.— <u>Mass offered for +Suzanne Dower</u> at the request of Lynn Mancino

7:00 P.M.— PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

7:15 P.M.— CHOIR REHEARSAL

WEDNESDAY, APR. 9 -

9:00 A.M.— <u>Mass offered for +James Bloznalis</u> at the request of the Dean and Bloznalis families

9:00 A.M. TO NOON — Christmas Fair Workshop

THURSDAY, APR. 10 - No mass

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BUSINESS MEETING

FRIDAY, APR. 11 - 7:00 P.M. — Stations of the Cross and Mass

Mass offered for All Parishioners

Altar Servers: Alex Czercowy and Nicholas VanDine

Lector: Evelyn O'Connor

Eucharistic Minister: Kathleen Smythe

SATURDAY, APR. 12 -

4:30 P.M. - ROSARY BEFORE 5 P.M. MASS

Readings for the Week of March 30, 2014

Sunday: 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 Is 65:17-21/Jn 4:43-54

Monday: Is 65:17-21/Jn 4:43-54 Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12/Jn 5:1-16 Wednesday: Is 49:8-15/Jn 5:17-30 Thursday: Ex 32:7-14/Jn 5:31-47

Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday: Jer 11:18-20/Jn 7:40-53

Next Sunday: Ez 37:12-14/Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27,

33b-45

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ADULT FAITH FORMATION

"I have come to light a fire on the earth..." Luke 12:49

Sunday, March 30th, Seven Deadly Sins/Seven Lively Virtues. How can we draw even closer to God, especially during this penitential season of Lent? What patterns of dysfunction do I fall into that lead to a feeling of unhappiness? How can I more fully examine my conscious? What are the spiritual antidotes for the sins of pride, envy, anger, sloth, avarice, gluttony and lust? Fr. Barron explains how sin keeps us dead to God, but how the gifts of the Holy Spirit help us find Christ present in our lives. Join us at the Parish Center from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

HEALING PRAYER SERVICE AT ST. ANDREW CHURCH IN COLCHESTER

Does someone you know need healing or prayer? The St. Andrew Healing Prayer Ministry offers a prayer service on the first Thursday of every month. All members of the community are invited to join us. If you need prayer, or know someone who needs prayer, come to St. Andrew Church, 128 Norwich Ave., Colchester, CT for this powerful evening on Thursday, April 3rd at 6:30 p.m. The service will give participants an opportunity to join others in prayer, listen to scripture readings, confidentially offer personal prayer requests, praise God with uplifting music and, if desired, meet with a prayer team for personal prayer.

100 DAYS OF NONVIOLENCE



On April 11th John Dear will be speaking at St Bridget school auditorium (80 Main St Manchester CT) about "The Nonviolent Life", the name of Dear's newly released book.

Dear is an internationally recognized voice for peace and nonviolence who has been nominated several times for the Nobel Peace Prize, been arrested some

75 times for peace, led Nobel Prize winners to Iraq, and given thousands of lectures on peace around the U.S.

John holds that nonviolence is the common ground of all world religions ... that we achieve nonviolence by entering into relationship with the God of peace and infinite mercy and viewing every person on the planet as a child of God. No matter where we are on our own path of discipleship, we will find inspiration, courage, and challenge in John's understanding of the Gospels and the testimony of his actions.

SAINT BRIDGET SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE: THURSDAY, APRIL

3RD (Pre-K to Grade 8) 74 Main Street, Manchester, is hosting an Open House, from 6 PM to 8 PM. We offer Catholic academic excellence in a community grounded in faith. Balanced curriculum that includes art, music, physical education and Spanish instruction (Gr. 3 to 8). Emphasis on moral development, service to others and leadership skills. Safe and disciplined environment. Come see firsthand the latest learning technologies available! Interactive white boards and computers in K to 8 rooms and one of the only Apple iPad mobile learning labs in the area. St. Bridget School is a Pre-K, through elementary/middle school with an average student to teacher ratio of 16:1. Saint Bridget School is open to all religious faiths, and draws a diverse student population from 18 area towns. Come meet the faculty, staff, students, parents and recent Alumni. Questions? Call us at: 860.649.7731 x18 or visit our website at: www.saintbridget-school.com

NOTICE

We have a need for someone to edit our parish bulletin which can be done at home or at the parish office. Instructions and material provided.

Please consider volunteering for this important need to have a bulletin for parishioners.

Call the church office at 860-643-4466 or speak to Father Wojciech after any Mass.

Thank you in advance.

FROM THE DIOCESE OF NORWICH

<u>Discover Natural Family Planning ~ For Married and Engaged. What is NFP?</u> Not only is it the safe alternative to the dangerous, chemical, synthetic hormonal side-effects of contraception and birth control, but it is a loving gift to your spouse. **NFP** is scientific, helps with fertility problems and 99% effective for conceiving or responsibly postponing a baby. Ongoing classes in our diocese and you also have the opportunity if taking the CCLI Home Study course to call our instructors with any questions or attend a class for free. For more information call the Collison's 860-399-8265 or the Schantz's at 860-464-1184. www.ccli.org

REACHING FOR A LIFELINE FOR YOUR TROUBLED MARRIAGE? Serious marriage building and repair: Retrouvaille is that lifeline. At a Retrouvaille weekend couples are given tools to re-establish communication, work on their issues, gain new insights and heal. A series of 6 post sessions follows the weekend phase. For information or to sign up for the next weekend on April 25-27 in Hartford area call 413-525-1634. Website www.retrouvaille.org.

<u>Diocesan Pro-Life Mass at the Cathedral of St. Patrick in Norwich on Saturday, April 5th ~ 8:30 a.m. Please join us and our Celebrant, Rev. Walter Nagle, at Mass as we pray to end abortion and for the healing for those who have had an abortion. Following the Mass, the Rosary will be prayed both at the Cathedral and Planned Parenthood. There will *not* be a brunch following the Rosary.</u>

Marriage Preparation Classes for Engaged Couples

"God's Plan for a Joy-filled Marriage". To register for the 3 session class call the Family Life Office at: 860-889-8346 ext. 283.

Fri. April 4, 11, 25, 6:30pm-9:00pm at Our Lady of Lourdes, Gales Ferry.

THE ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL allows us to demonstrate of Christian stewardship, and support the work of The Catholic Church, both in our region and beyond. The ACA provides critical funding to over 25 ministries and programs, which respond to people facing emergency situations, food insecurity, behavioral health challenges, financial crisis, and despair. The ACA supports faith events, safe environments, spiritual renewal, and Catholic education. Please join with the faithful in our region and "Shine the Light of HOPE" on others through your gift to the Annual Catholic Appeal. www.norwichdiocesedevelopment.org. "The just man is a light in darkness to the upright." Psalm 112:4

Defending Our Religious Liberty

The Becket Fund for Religious Liberty, a law firm representing organizations filing suits against the federal health care mandate, including the Little Sisters of the Poor, has stated, "The government has lots of ways to deliver contraceptives to people. It doesn't need to force nuns to participate."

If you haven't done so already, please voice your opposition to the mandate by calling President Obama at the White House at 202-456-1111 or Secretary of Health and Human Services Kathleen Sebelius at 202-205-5445. Let them know that the mandate is in violation of our First Amendment right to religious freedom.



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