

## Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest

Veritatem Facientes in Caritate

www.institute-christ-king.org



# Church of Saints Cyril & Methodius

79 Church Street - Bridgeport, Connecticut 06608 Telephone: (203) 333-7003

stscyrilandmethodius@institute-christ-king.org www.institute-christ-king.org/bridgeport-home www.facebook.com/StsCyrilandMethodiusOratory

## Clergy & Staff

## **Institute Superiors**

Msgr. R. Michael Schmitz, S.T.D., J.C.D.

Vicar General of the Institute

Reverend Canon Matthew Talarico

Provincial Superior

### **Church Staff**

Reverend Canon Francis X. Altiere IV
Pastor & Rector

Dr. Samuel Schmitt

Director of Sacred Music & Organist samuel.schmitt@carlschmitt.org

Mrs. Laurie Furey

Office Manager

stscyriland methodius@institute-christ-king.org

Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.

Monday to Friday (except Wednesday)

## **Mass Times**

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. Low Mass

10:15 a.m. High Mass

Monday-Friday: 7:45 a.m. Low Mass Saturday: 8:30 a.m. Low Mass Holy Days: please consult the bulletin

## **Confessions**

30 minutes before Mass every day

## **Regular Devotions**

Every Thursday: Holy Hour at 6:00 p.m. First Friday: Additional Mass at 6:00

p.m., followed by Devotions & Benediction

of the Blessed Sacrament

First Saturday: After Mass, Adoration with Holy Rosary, 15-minute meditation & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

## Masses this Week

Sunday, May 5th

#### FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

8:30 a.m. - The Cleary Family requested by Richard & Rita Cleary 10:15 a.m. - Pro Populo

Monday, May 6th

#### **Rogation Mass**

Note: 6:00 p.m. - ♥ Barbara Oravez & Jane Clancy requested by George & Nancy Whitmore

Tuesday, May 7th

#### Saint Stanislaus

7:45 a.m. - ♥ Dieter Reichenberger requested by Peter Reichenberger

Wednesday, May 8th

#### **Vigil of the Ascension**

7:45 a.m. - ♥ William Gliha requested by Mary L. Nelson

Thursday, May 9th

#### ASCENSION OF THE LORD

7:45 a.m. - Pro Populo 6:00 p.m. - Peace in the Middle East requested by Louis Alanz & Sara Kinani

Friday, May 10th

#### **Saint Antoninus**

7:45 a.m. - Craig Melillo requested by George Melillo

Saturday, May 11th

#### Mass of the Ascension

8:30 a.m. - Rebecca Johnson requested by J. Kim

Sunday, May 12th

#### SUNDAY AFTER THE ASCENSION

8:30 a.m. - Pro Populo 10:15 a.m. - Alessandro Zamora requested by Jean Zamora



## **Upcoming Events**

#### Sunday, May 5th

May Crowning & Procession after the High Mass \*\* Coffee hour after the procession \*\* Vespers & Benediction at 6:00 p.m.

#### Monday, May 6th

ROGATION MONDAY Procession & Solemn Mass at 6:00 p.m. No morning Mass or confessions

#### Thursday, May 9th

ASCENSION OF THE LORD {holy day of obligation} Low Mass at 7:45 a.m. & High Mass at 6:00 p.m.

#### Sunday, May 12th

Brief server practice after High Mass for the Pentecost Vigil ceremony

#### Tuesday, May 14th

Adult Theology class at 7:00 p.m. Theme: "The Second & Third Commandments"

#### Saturday, May 18th

VIGIL OF PENTECOST

Confessions at 9:45 a.m. {church opens at 9:15} Vigil ceremonies & Mass at 10:15 a.m. No early Low Mass or confessions

#### Sunday, May 19th

FEAST OF PENTECOST

Solemn Choral Vespers at 2:30 p.m. as part of the diocesan Eucharistic pilgrimage

#### Sunday, May 26th

After the High Mass, practice for all servers for Corpus Christi

#### Week of May 27th

Volunteers are needed to help remove weeds from the processional path for Corpus Christi

#### Thursday, May 30th

FEAST OF CORPUS CHRISTI Solemn Mass & Procession at 6:00 p.m.

#### Sunday, June 2nd

SUNDAY AFTER CORPUS CHRISTI First Holy Communions at the High Mass

## Liturgy Corner: THE ROGATION DAYS

In addition to the seasonal Ember days, which fall at the four quarters of the year, another distinctive seasonal feature of our Roman liturgy is the observance of the Greater and Lesser Litanies, commonly called the Rogation Days, which come in the spring. The Greater Litanies are held on April 25th, which is also the feast of Saint Mark, although there is no intrinsic link between the two observances. The Lesser Litanies, which usually go by the designation of "Rogation Days," are observed the three days before the feast of the Ascension. In both cases, the liturgical observance is exactly the same: a procession with the chanting of the Litany of the Saints, followed by the celebration of the Rogation Mass. Violet vestments are used, and the paschal candle is not lit. The Greater and Lesser Litanies are days of solemn supplication for the mercy of God and for His blessings. The Greater Litanies are so called because they were instituted at Rome, the mother of all Churches, at the time of Pope Saint Gregory the Great (+ 604), the primary compiler of our Roman liturgy, to beg deliverance from a serious plague, which had claimed the life of his predecessor and of many people. It may be that this date was chosen to replace the last memory of a pre-existing, raucous pagan celebration. The Lesser Litanies, held before the Ascension, had originated in Gaul (around the year 470), where they were instituted by Saint Mamertus, the holy bishop of Vienne, when his city was beset by many afflictions. These Lesser Rogations were adopted by Rome around the time of Charlemagne, a period important for the formation of what would later be codified as the "Tridentine" liturgy, since the ancient Roman rite and the Gallican rite (from north of the Alps) melded in some ways during this time, as liturgical manuscripts began to circulate. Because Rogationtide falls within the Easter season, the Church of Rome rejected the Gallican custom of fasting during these quasi-penitential days, although even in Rome for several centuries it was still customary to abstain from meat on these three days, as a complement to the prayers of supplication.

The last day of Rogationtide, Wednesday, is also the Vigil of the Ascension. Like the Vigil of the Epiphany, this is a joyful vigil, celebrated in white vestments. It can potentially happen (and often does), that this day can also coincide with a saint's day (since saint's days occupy set dates on the calendar, whereas the Ascension and Rogationtide depend on the shifting date of Easter). In that case, at least in monasteries, multiple Masses would be offered: Mass of the feast after Terce, Mass of the Vigil after Sext, and the Rogation procession and Mass after None (Terce, Sext, and None are the "Little Hours" of the Divine Office, recited at different points of the day, usually in mid-morning, around noon, and in mid-afternoon respectively). If the Rogation Mass is not celebrated, it is commemorated by the inclusion of its Orations (Collect, Secret, Postcommunion). On days when the procession is not held, the clergy still are enjoined to recite the Litany and its accompanying prayers on behalf of their people.

A procession and solemn Mass will be held here for Rogation Monday at 6:00 p.m. We hope you will all plan to attend this important time of prayer. Please note that there will consequently not be a morning Low Mass this Monday.

#### ORDINATIONS 2024

Please pray for the following seminarians of the Institute of Christ the King who will be ordained to the sacred priesthood on July 4<sup>th</sup>:

> Rev'd Mr. Paul McKown Rev'd Mr. Mirko Perucchini Rev'd Mr. Pol Lecerf Rev'd Mr. Alban Colomb Rev'd Mr. Thibault Pérez

## **MAY DEVOTIONS**

Throughout the month of May, a shrine will be set up at the statue of Our Lady of Grace in the transept. Vases will be available all month so that your can bring flowers as an offering to Our Lady.

## We welcome you to Saints Cyril and Methodius!

If this is your first time here, we look forward to meeting you. We hope you will be able to join us for our social hour today. If you are interested in registering as a parishioner, forms are available at both entrances.

Holy Mass and all the sacraments at Saints Cyril & Methodius Oratory are celebrated in the traditional Latin Rite. This form of worship, which developed many centuries ago, is a priceless treasure of our Catholic faith. On Sundays and feasts, there are handouts containing English translations of the Propers (the prayers and readings proper to the day). If you are unfamiliar with the traditional Latin Mass, please do not hesitate to approach the clergy of the Oratory with any questions you may have. The pastoral care of the Oratory has been entrusted by the Bishop of Bridgeport to the clergy of the Institute of Christ the King, a Catholic priestly society founded in 1990 and currently ministering in dioceses across the United States, Europe and Africa.

Holy communion may be received by practicing Catholics in the state of grace. In the traditional Roman Rite, holy communion is received kneeling at the communion rail (unless you are impaired from doing so) and directly on the tongue. The mouth should be open with the tongue slightly extended. You do not reply when the priest places the host in your mouth. The sacrament of confession is available every day 30 minutes before the start of Mass (ending approximately 7 minutes before Mass begins).

The church narthex (vestibule) functions as a cry room during Mass. As a courtesy to others, please feel free to make use of it when you have a crying child by exiting quietly down one of the side aisles. Everyone is kindly reminded that all conversations should be held outside.

Out of respect for God's house, please bear in mind the importance of modest and decent attire. Ladies who wish to do so may borrow a veil to wear at Mass (available in baskets by the entrances).

If you are not a Catholic, you are warmly invited to learn more about our faith. The Catholic Church was founded 2000 years ago by Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ to carry on His work for the salvation of souls. If you are interested in becoming Catholic or simply want to learn more about the Catholic faith, please do not hesitate to contact us. The Oratory offers individual instruction. We look forward to hearing from you.

## "ONE IN CHRIST" - 2024 Bishop's Appeal

The Bishop's Appeal for 2024 is well underway. Envelopes are still available in church. Please make sure to turn in the envelope in the collection basket or in one of the candle donation boxes or drop it off at the rectory (do not mail to diocese). We have currently reached about 80% of our parish goal. Any funds we raise above the designated goal before the end of June will be returned to our parish! Supporting the Bishop's Appeal is a concrete way for us to participate in the life of the diocese and to show our gratitude to the bishop for establishing the Oratory.

## PREPARING FOR UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

In the next few weeks we have a number of important liturgical events coming up, starting with today's May Procession. We are still looking for some volunteers to help with weeding along the processional paths of the upcoming Eucharistic processions.

We also need servers for the following special liturgies, so for planning purposes please let Canon know as soon as possible if you can make it: **Rogation Procession** and Mass (Monday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.), **Ascension** of the Lord (Thursday, May 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.), **Vigil of** Pentecost (Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 10:15 a.m.), **Solemn** Pentecost Vespers (Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 p.m.), and Corpus Christi (Thursday, May 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.).