



# Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest

*A Society of Apostolic Life of Pontifical Right — Living the Truth in Charity*

## Saint Patrick Oratory

50 Charles Street, Waterbury, CT 06708

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[www.institute-christ-king.org/waterbury-home](http://www.institute-christ-king.org/waterbury-home)



## QUINQUAGESIMA SUNDAY FEBRUARY 11, AD 2024

### Mass Times

<b>Sunday:</b>	8:30am	Low Mass
	10:30am	High Mass
<b>Monday - Thursday:</b>	8:00am	Low Mass
<b>Friday:</b>	6:00pm	Low Mass
<b>Saturday:</b>	8:00am	Low Mass

### Confessions

Thirty minutes before each Holy Mass & during the Friday Holy Hour of Adoration

### Eucharistic Adoration

**Sunday - Friday:** Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament at 5pm, Benediction at 5:45pm

**First Saturday:** After Holy Mass, exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Holy Rosary & Benediction

### Clergy and Staff of Saint Patrick Oratory

Canon Matthew Weaver Pastor & Rector  
email: [stpatrick@icksp.org](mailto:stpatrick@icksp.org)

Abbé Kevin Kerscher Clerical Oblate

David Hughes Organist & Choirmaster

Tom Matusiewicz Business Manager  
email: [tmatus@icksp.org](mailto:tmatus@icksp.org)

### Parish Office Hours

Monday - Friday: 10am - 4pm

### Sunday Offertory Collection

To financially support us, please scan the QR code and make your online donation and Sunday Offering. May God reward you abundantly for your charity!



### Wisdom from St. Francis de Sales

“When the bee has gathered the dew of heaven and the earth's sweetest nectar from the flowers, it turns it into honey then hastens to its hive. In the same way, the priest, having taken from the altar the Son of God (who is as the dew from heaven, and true son of Mary, flower of our humanity), gives him to you as delicious food.”

## LITURGICAL SCHEDULE:

### This week's Sanctuary Lamp:

*To sponsor the Sanctuary Lamp for your special or particular intentions, please contact the rectory office.*

**Sunday, February 11**

**QUINQUAGESIMA SUNDAY**

8:30am Low Mass - *Pro populo*

10:30am High Mass - Their children  
by Marian & Emile Drillon

**Monday, February 12**

**SEVEN HOLY SERVITE FOUNDERS**

*(Votive Mass of the Blessed Sacrament)*

8am Low Mass - Walter Klemish RIP  
(60th death anniversary) by Irene Budzynski

**Tuesday, February 13**

**FERIA** *(Votive Mass of the Blessed Sacrament)*

8am Low Mass - Eric Murphy RIP  
by his sons Jordan & Logan

**Wednesday, February 14**

**ASH WEDNESDAY** *(Day of Fasting & Abstinence)*

8am Low Mass - Living and deceased  
members of the Scacco & Basil families  
by Michael and Diane Basil

6pm Low Mass - Monsignor Gilles Wach

**Thursday, February 15**

**LENTEN FERIA**

8am Low Mass - Valmont Pelletier  
by Richard Pelletier

**Friday, February 16**

**LENTEN FERIA**

5pm Stations of the Cross

5:30pm Holy Rosary

6pm Low Mass - Steele Moran  
by Grace Moran

6:45pm Adoration & Benediction

**Saturday, February 17**

**LENTEN FERIA**

8am Low Mass - Charles & May Beeson RIP  
by Carole Turner

**Sunday, February 18**

**FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**

8:30am Low Mass - *Pro populo*

10:30am High Mass - Maria Omilanowski  
by Peter and Helen Staron

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**Today: Catholic Marriage Day**

After both Masses, all sacramentally married parishioners are invited to receive a marriage blessing. **Please come to the south sacristy.**

**"40 Hours" Eucharistic Adoration:**

**Today, February 11 - Tuesday, February 13**

Exposition immediately following Holy Mass  
Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at 6pm  
**"Can you not spend one hour with me?"**

**Soup after Stations: Friday, February 16**

Join us in the hall at 7pm after Benediction for a Lenten meal and social. Free-will offerings.

**Next Sunday, February 18:**

**First Holy Communion Class**

All those hoping to receive their first Holy Communion in May will have their first class in the hall after the 10:30am Mass.

**Next Sunday, February 18:**

**ICKSP U.S. Provincial Collection**

Help support to mission of the Institute in the United States as our spiritual family grows.

**Save the date: Sunday, March 17**

**St. Patrick's Feast & Fundraiser**

**Details to come. Tickets on sale soon.  
All proceeds benefit St. Patrick Oratory.**

**Save the date: Wednesday, March 20**

**MARCH FOR LIFE: HARTFORD**

**A bus will be organized from St. Patrick's  
*Thanks to the generosity of the Knights of Columbus!*  
Fare is \$15/person. Please contact Emile  
Drillon with any questions: (860) 484-6262**

**St. Patrick Oratory Donations**

Last Week's Collection: \$6,355.76

*Our Sunday Collections constitute  
the operating funds for the parish.*

***Thank you for your generosity!***



Homily of Archbishop Leonard P. Blair  
Sacrament of Confirmation  
Saint Patrick Church, Waterbury, Connecticut  
Sunday, February 4, 2024



Our lifelong journey of Catholic faith begins at Baptism. Since most of us were infants at our Baptism we remember nothing about it. We were baptized thanks to the faith of our parents and Godparents, who wanted us to be reborn spiritually as soon as possible after our physical birth, and who promised to raise us in the practice of the Faith. Thank you, parents and any Godparents who may be here today! Thank you for initiating these *confirmandi* into eternal life!

We know, however, that life is not a journey of one day. Those who become Catholic later in life we often refer to as “converts,” but the reality is that every Catholic has to be a “convert”. Let me repeat that: every Catholic has to become a “convert”. By that I simply mean that we have to make our own the faith commitment spoken by our parents and Godparents when we were infants. We have to freely and personally accept it, embrace it, and strive to live it every day, for as many years as God gives us.

What does it mean to be a “convert”? It means taking Jesus as the Shepherd of my life, and following Him in everything. It means being part of His flock, the Church, because it is in and through the Church that we hear His voice. It means living according to the Gospel in a way that is very different than the unconverted life proposed to us by the world, the flesh and the devil, and the lies, threats and flattery by which they try to seduce us into closing the door of our hearts to the fullness of faith.

If your heart is a place where Christ cannot dwell because you neither hear or follow Him, have no time or room for Him, or because your choices in life drive Him out, then you have closed the door of faith that your parents and Godparents once opened at your Baptism. My dear *confirmandi*, your presence here today tells us that you want to keep the door of your heart open to Christ through faith, and you are ready to open that door even wider. That’s why you’re being presented for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Confirmation of what? First and foremost, confirmation, by the power of the Holy Spirit, of what God has already given you. When you were baptized He freed you from slavery to sin, gave you a new birth as His son or daughter, made you a member of Christ’s body and a citizen of heaven. Now God is confirming all of these tremendous gifts through the Sacrament you receive today, so that you can share with others what you have received and invite them too to open the door of faith to Christ. What Jesus said to the first Disciples he says to us: “you are to be my witnesses to the ends of the earth”.

In order for this to happen, you too need to confirm something today. You need to confirm your desire to let Christ into your life, your desire to make Christ the model of your thinking, acting and living. The goal is nothing less than what St. Paul expressed when he said: “I live now, not I, but Christ lives in me.” That’s a mighty tall order, but it’s not impossible. It’s what our faith is all about.

Another way of expressing it is to say that you need to confirm the gift of yourself to Christ. That gift expresses itself in love of God above all things and your neighbor as yourself. Ask yourself: What can I do with my life to make a fruitful and loving gift of self, thanks to the power of Christ's spirit at work in me through faith! If I have faith, I know that my life is a personal call, a vocation, from God, and not just about money-making or power or pleasure. And it's not just about what pleases me. So, for example, if I make a gift of myself to God in faith, then I will go to Mass faithfully each and every Sunday, and not just when I feel like it or decide that I have nothing better to do. If my life is a gift of self in faith, then I'll understand why the Church upholds the sacredness of marriage and family, rather than reducing human sexuality to sterile self-indulgence or redefining it in ways that contradict its God-given meaning and purpose. If I have opened the door of my heart to faith, then I will know what St. Paul meant when he said: "I live now, not I, but Christ lives in me."

When it comes to living a full and authentic life of faith there are many challenges today. So much of what the Church believes from Christ and the Gospel is under fierce attack and questioning. Everybody has an opinion, and the very idea of truth is put in doubt. Questions and challenges arise, and difficulties beset us about what to believe in the midst of so many competing voices. But remember this: a thousand difficulties need not create a doubt.

The words of the New Testament Letter of the Apostle James come to mind. James writes: "The one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind; the doubter, being double-minded and unstable in every way, must not expect to receive anything from the Lord. ...Poverty and riches. ...Trial and temptation. ...So be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves."

"O Archbishop, that sounds intimidating," you might be tempted to say. "I'm just an ordinary person, and what you are saying sounds hard." Yes, it is hard; take our Lord's word for it, not mine. Even though many people live today as though they've never heard it, this is what Jesus says in the Gospel of Matthew: "The gate is wide and the road broad that leads to destruction, and those who enter through it are many. How narrow the gate and constricted the road that leads to life. And those who find it are few." (MT. 7:13-14)

My brothers and sisters, these words of Jesus are not an invitation to fear, but an invitation to faith and trust. If you open the door of your heart to Him, if you strive every day to keep that door of Catholic faith open, despite every weakness, temptation and sin, then Jesus will accomplish for you what he came into this world to do, that is, to be your Redeemer, to save you from sin and bring you safely into eternal life.

"Come close to God," the Scriptures say, "and He will come close to you!" The way we come close to God is through Jesus and His Church. The two are inseparable because the body is one. Jesus is the Head, and we are the members. Jesus is the Groom, and the Church is his bride. And this unity is the work of the Holy Spirit.

Our prayer for you, our *confirmandi*, is that you will open wide the door of your hearts to Christ, the door of faith. God bless you.

**THANK YOU ARCHBISHOP BLAIR!**

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR CONFIRMATI &**

**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HELPED TO MAKE THIS CELEBRATION  
A MOMENTOUS OCCASION FOR OUR PARISH. GOD BLESS YOU ALL!**