



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, CT 06608

Tel: (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. Altieri IV
Pastor & Rector

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

Mrs. Laurie Furey
Office Manager
stscyrilandmethodius@institute-christ-king.org

Mass Times

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. Low Mass
10:15 a.m. High Mass

Monday-Saturday: 7:45 a.m. Low Mass

Holy Days: *please consult the bulletin*

Confessions

30 minutes before Mass every day (Sundays before both Masses) & First Fridays from 5:15 to 5:45 p.m. (during Adoration)

Devotions

Every Thursday: Holy Hour at 6 p.m.

First Friday: Additional Mass at 6 p.m., preceded by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament beginning at 5 p.m.

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

Weekly Liturgical Schedule

Sunday, December 4th

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:30 a.m. - ✠ Joseph & Anna Adam
requested by Marian Adam
10:15 a.m. - Pro Populo
6:00 p.m. - Vespers & Benediction

Monday, December 5th

Feria of Advent

7:45 a.m. - ✠ Edward Pivarnik
requested by his godson Gregory

Tuesday, December 6th

Saint Nicholas

7:45 a.m. - Michael McMahon
requested by Paul McMahon

Wednesday, December 7th

Saint Ambrose

7:45 a.m. - ✠ Marie Reyen
requested by Edward Reyen

Thursday, December 8th

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF OUR LADY

{holy day of obligation}

7:45 a.m. - ✠ Ianelly Barrera
requested by Alex Koons
6:00 p.m. - Pro Populo

Friday, December 9th

Mass of the Immaculate Conception

7:45 a.m. - Paul & Nora Wirkus
requested by Gene & Donna Wirkus

Saturday, December 10th

Mass of the Immaculate Conception

7:45 a.m. - Daniel Hamar
requested by his parents

Sunday, December 11th

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

{called, GAUDETE SUNDAY}

8:30 a.m. - Leo Whitmore
requested by George & Nancy Whitmore
10:15 a.m. - Pro Populo
6:00 p.m. - Vespers & Benediction



Upcoming Events

November 29th to December 7th

NOVENA OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
Sermon in honour of Our Lady by a special guest preacher every day at 6:00 p.m., followed by Novena prayers & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

Sunday, December 4th

Novena sermon at both Masses
* Monthly social hour after the Solemn Mass *
“Accountability Sunday” in the diocese of Bridgeport—
annual publication of parish financials

Thursday, December 8th

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION *{holy day of obligation}*
Low Mass at 7:45 a.m. & High Mass at 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 10th

Confirmation Catechism class after the morning Mass—*these classes are mandatory*

Tuesday, December 13th

Adult Theology at 7:00 p.m. in the church hall
Theme of talk: “The Creation and Fall of Man”

Saturday, December 17th

First Holy Communion Catechism class after the morning Mass—*these classes are mandatory*

Sunday, December 18th

Brief “meet and greet” in the church hall after the High Mass for all healthcare professionals in the parish
* Server practice after Mass for Vespers *
Solemn Choral Vespers & Benediction for the Fourth Sunday of Advent (“O Adonai”) at 6:00 p.m., followed by seasonal treats in the church hall

Saturday, December 24th

CHRISTMAS EVE
Office of Prime with Christmas Martyrology at 8:45 a.m. (after morning Mass)

Tuesday, December 27th

FEAST OF SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST
Traditional blessing of wine after morning Mass

Thursday, January 5th

EPIPHANY EVE
First Vespers & Water Blessing at 6:00 p.m.

✻ WHAT IS THE NOVENA OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION? ✻

Advent is one of the richest seasons on the Church's year, and the expectant joy of this period more than makes up for the gloom of winter. One of the most beautiful parts of Advent is the annual Novena of the Immaculate Conception. In the form we now have it, this Novena goes back several centuries.

Having been destroyed during the first half of the fifteenth century by an earthquake, the ancient fourth-century Basilica of the Holy Apostles in Rome was rebuilt and entrusted to the care of the Conventual Franciscans in 1474. In 1476, when the Feast of the Conception of Mary was extended to the universal Church calendar by Pope Sixtus IV (himself a Franciscan), the Franciscans resolved to prepare for the celebration of the feast by a solemn novena at the Basilica. Since the high Middle Ages, when theologians debated the precise nature of Mary's freedom from sin (as a result of which the doctrinal groundwork was laid for the precise definition of the dogma of the Immaculate Conception which was finally made by Pope Pius IX in 1854), the Franciscans had been glorious defenders of the privilege of the Immaculate. From the early eighteenth century, the custom has been for a cardinal or another Roman prelate to come each night of the novena to preach and celebrate Solemn Benediction. The other feature of this novena, drawn from the Church's ancient treasures, is a fourth-century hymn as old as that Roman Basilica of the Apostles – the hymn *Tota pulchra es*. This text, celebrating the glories of Mary's beautiful soul, free from all stain of sin, is made up of texts from the Canticle of Canticles. It has been set to music by many great composers. The version we sing during the Novena is the chant arrangement by the Benedictine musicologist Dom Joseph Pothier (1835-1923).

For the first time, this year we have invited a series of guest preachers who will give a meditation each day on one of the titles from Our Lady's Litany. With the exception of today (when the sermon will be given during both Masses in the morning), the remaining Novena sermons will be given each evening at 6:00 p.m. Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament and the Novena prayer will follow the sermon. Everyone should **plan to attend** as many of these week-day evening Novena events as possible. We are grateful to our visiting priests and do not want them speaking to an empty church! The founding superiors of the Institute came to know this Novena during their time in Rome, and the Novena is celebrated annually with great solemnity at our motherhouse in Italy. All our apostolates throughout the world do their best to imitate this practice as much as resources allow. In order to help you find time for your **Advent confession**, there will be extra confession times throughout the Novena (at 5:30 p.m., 30 minutes before each Novena service).

Making Responses at Mass

At Low Masses, the **server or servers make the responses** on behalf of the people. It is not our custom at the Oratory to hold the so-called "Dialogue Mass," in which the congregation responds aloud with the servers. All are welcome to join in the Leonine Prayers recited after Low Mass, however.

At High Masses, the people are encouraged to sing the responses along with the choir, if they know them. Please note that **during Advent**, however, we use a special tone for the *Asperges*, which differs from the one used throughout the year. Therefore, if you are not familiar with this special tone, please let the choir sing the *Asperges* alone during Advent.

Institute Christmas Cards

\$20 per pack • Available in church

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered by the U.S. Provincial Superior on Christmas Day for all those who receive one of these beautiful Christmas cards.



Christmas Oplatki

Oplatki (traditional Christmas wafers) will be available in the church narthex on the Sundays in Advent while supplies last.

Cost is \$3

We welcome you today the Oratory Parish of 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 monthly social hour today after the Solemn Mass, in the church hall downstairs. If you are interested in registering as a parishioner, forms are available at both entrances.

Holy Mass and all the sacraments at the 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, 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 5 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.

Out of respect for God's house, please bear in mind the importance of modest and decent attire, and hold all conversations outside. Ladies who wish to do so may borrow a veil to wear at Mass.

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.

Flower Arranging

If there is anyone who would like to help arrange flowers during the day on Tuesday or Wednesday for the feast of the Immaculate Conception, please contact Canon. Thank you!

Advent Food Drive

This Advent, the Oratory will be collecting items for the food bank run by the Daughters of Charity of the Precious Blood here in Bridgeport. The items being collected are: non-expired canned goods, dry foods and grooming items (no perishable items or items requiring freezing or refrigeration). Please drop off your items (in a disposable carrier bag if possible) in the back entrance to church. Thank you for your charity to those in need this Advent!

NOVENA OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION Remaining Sermon Topics

Sunday, December 4th • 8:30 & 10:15 a.m.

Rev. Richard Cipolla • "Tower of Ivory"

Monday, December 5th • 6:00 p.m.

Rev. Norbert Siwinski, O.F.M.Conv. • "Star of the Sea"

Tuesday, December 6th • 6:00 p.m.

Rev. Colin Blatchford • "Mystical Rose - Cause of Our Joy"

Wednesday, December 7th • 6:00 p.m.

Rev. Joseph Gill • "Gate of Heaven - Tower of David"

Each Novena ceremony includes a sermon on the glories of Mary, the Litany of Loreto, the Novena Prayer composed by Pope Saint Pius X and the traditional Novena hymn, *Tota pulchra es*.

* Confession available 30 minutes before each Novena service *



December 4th 2022

Second Sunday of Advent