



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. 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

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

Holy Days: *please consult the bulletin*

Confessions

30 minutes before Mass every day (until 7 minutes before the start of Mass)

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

March 24th 2024

Palm Sunday

Masses this Week

Sunday, March 24th

PALM SUNDAY

8:30 a.m. - Estelle Joan Widmer

requested by Annemarie Widmer

10:15 a.m. - Pro Populo

Monday, March 25th

Monday of Holy Week

7:45 a.m. - Michael Prendergast, Jr.

requested by Kate Prendergast

Tuesday, March 26th

Tuesday of Holy Week

7:45 a.m. - Nancy Pline

requested by JoEllen & Larry Pline

Wednesday, March 27th

Spy Wednesday

7:45 a.m. - Michael Opalak

requested by Lenore Opalak

Thursday, March 28th

MAUNDY THURSDAY

12 noon - Priests & Seminarians of the Institute of

Christ the King Sovereign Priest

requested by Canon Altieri

Friday, March 29th

GOOD FRIDAY

12 noon - "Mass of the Presanctified"

{*The holy sacrifice is not offered on this day - no intention* }

Saturday, March 30th

EASTER VIGIL

3:00 p.m. - Monsignor Joseph Pekar

requested by Gregory Mikulka

Sunday, March 31st

EASTER SUNDAY

8:30 a.m. - Pro Populo

10:15 a.m. - ✠ Mrs. Anna Dunne

requested by Mr. Raymond Dunne



Upcoming Events

Sunday, March 24th

PALM SUNDAY

Distribution of palms at the 10:15 a.m. Solemn Mass
Vespers & Benediction at 6:00 p.m.

Monday, March 25th

*Volunteers are needed after the morning Mass to set up
the church hall for the Mandatum ceremony!*

Confessions at 6:00 p.m.

Servers' practice (for Holy Thursday) at 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, March 26th

Confessions at 6:00 p.m.

Servers' practice (for Good Friday) at 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 27th

7:00 p.m. - Tenebræ (Matins & Lauds of Thursday)

Thursday, March 28th

MAUNDY THURSDAY

11:00 to 11:45 a.m. - Confessions

12 noon - Solemn Mass, Procession, Vespers
& Stripping of the Altars (Adoration until 10 p.m.)

6:00 p.m. - Mandatum ceremony (in church hall)

7:00 p.m. - Tenebræ (Matins & Lauds of Friday)

Friday, March 29th

GOOD FRIDAY {*mandatory fast & abstinence*}

11:00 to 11:45 a.m. - Confessions

12 noon - Mass of the Presanctified & Vespers

6:00 p.m. - Stations of the Cross

7:00 p.m. - Tenebræ (Matins & Lauds of Saturday)

Saturday, March 30th

HOLY SATURDAY

8:00 to 8:45 a.m. - Confessions

3:00 p.m. - Easter Vigil, then blessing of baskets &
Compline (*please drop off baskets on the designated table*

BEFORE the Vigil ceremony and collect afterwards)

Sunday, March 31st

EASTER SUNDAY

Children's Easter egg hunt after both Masses

Volunteers are needed to help with setting up!

Solemn Vespers & Benediction at 6:00 p.m.

April 1st to 6th

OCTAVE OF EASTER

Daily Mass at 8:00 a.m., with confessions held
afterwards {church opens at 7:45 a.m. all week}

THE VENERATION OF THE CROSS ON GOOD FRIDAY

One of the most moving moments of Holy Week is the ceremony for the unveiling and veneration of the Cross on Good Friday. It can be thought of as a liturgical fulfillment of the words of the prophet: "they shall look upon me, whom they have pierced: and they shall mourn for him as one mourneth for an only son, and they shall grieve over him, as the manner is to grieve for the death of the firstborn" (Zacharias 12:10). The explanation below is taken from the guide entitled HOLY WEEK, published in 1891 by the Cathedral Library Association (New York).

The celebrant takes off the chasuble, the badge of his priesthood, in order that the reparation which he is the first to offer to the outraged Christ may be made with all possible humility. Standing on the step near the epistle side of the altar with his face turned toward the people, he receives the cross from the deacon, and unveiling the upper part as far as the arms, he raises it and sings the words *Ecce lignum crucis*, "Behold the wood of the Cross!" Then, joined by the deacon and subdeacon, he continues: "on which hung the salvation of the world," the people kneeling down and venerating the cross while the choir sings these words: *Venite adoremus*, "come, let us adore." The first exposition, in a low tone of voice, represents the fear of the Apostles when first preaching the Cross, not daring to speak of the great mystery, except to the few faithful disciples of Jesus. For the same reason the priest only slightly raises the Cross. This



homage is intended as a reparation for the insults and injuries offered to Christ in the house of Caiaphas. A second time the celebrant holds up the holy sign of our redemption higher than the first and sings in a higher note *Ecce lignum crucis*, the deacon and sub-deacon joining in as before; the people again falling upon their knees, and the choir again singing *Venite Adoremus*. This second elevation signifies the Apostles extending their preaching after the descent of the Holy Ghost, and is intended as a reparation for the treatment received by Our Saviour in the Court of Pilate. The priest finally advances to the middle of the Altar, and removes the veil entirely from the Cross, elevating it more than at the two preceding times, and singing triumphantly on a still higher note *Ecce lignum crucis*, the deacon and sub-deacon again uniting their voices with his, and the people falling upon their knees, while the choir sings *Venite adoremus*. This third and unreserved manifestation represents the mystery of the Cross preached to the whole earth, and is intended as a reparation to Our Lord for the outrages of Calvary. The celebrant and the ministers having removed their shoes, advance successively towards the place where the crucifix has been laid, making three genuflections at intervals, and finally kissing the cross.

BLESSING OF EASTER FOOD

The *Roman Ritual* contains special blessings for foodstuffs, for eggs and for lamb which may be used at Easter. Baskets of Easter food (in general) will be blessed after the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday. On Easter Sunday, eggs (real eggs, not chocolate!) will be blessed after both Masses, and the Easter Lamb will be blessed after the Solemn Mass (you can meet him afterwards on the lawn). If you will be bringing Easter food or eggs for blessing, please be sure to put them on the designated table by the statue of the Sacred Heart *before* the relevant ceremony begins!



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 next social. 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 – THE 2024 BISHOP'S APPEAL

For more information, please visit:
2024BishopsAppeal.org.

Special envelopes are now available in church. Please make sure to *return the envelopes to Saints Cyril & Methodius* for processing—do not mail them directly to the diocese. **Your support really helps our parish!**

SUPPORT OUR SACRED MUSIC PROGRAM!

If anyone is interested in sponsoring a young choir member or members to participate in the annual Sacred Music Colloquium of the Church Music Association of America, please contact the church office before Easter. Thank you!

IMPORTANT HOLY WEEK ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ◆ If you were not able to attend the Solemn Mass on Palm Sunday, you may pick up blessed palms in the narthex during the week.
- ◆ We still need several men from the parish to have their foot washed on Holy Thursday, and also for more watchers at the altar of repose. Thanks in advance!
- ◆ We are also looking for volunteers to set up the Easter egg hunt before each Mass on Easter Sunday.
- ◆ Your Good Friday offering or contribution for the Holy Land can be placed in the wooden candle boxes.

March 24th 2024

Palm Sunday