



Sacred Heart Parish

The United Parish Family of Sacred Heart and Saint Joseph

446 Mountain Road ✱ P.O. Box 626 ✱ Suffield, CT 06078

(860) 668-4246 Fax: (860) 668-1337

Email: SacredHeartSuffield1@gmail.com

Follow us on Facebook at Sacred Heart, Suffield 

Website: SacredHeartCT.com

Office Hours: Mon. thru Thurs, 8:30 AM – 2:00 PM

Office Closed on Friday

Mass Times:

Weekends: Saturdays: 4:00pm **Sundays:** 8:00am, 9:30am and 11:00am.

Summer Hours: June through August: **Saturdays:** 4:00pm **Sundays:** 8:30am and 10:30am

Daily Mass: 8:00AM Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday (NO Thursday Mass)

Holy Day: Please consult the Bulletin.

Sacraments:

Confessions: Saturdays 2:30 - 3:30pm or by appointment.

Baptisms: Sundays after the last Mass. Please call the Rectory to schedule a date.

Holy Matrimony: At least six months of notice should be given to arrange for weddings.

Anointing of the Sick Please call the office.

On going devotions:

Weekly Morning Rosary: Tuesdays at 7:30 AM

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Mondays 3 to 4 PM, Fridays 7:30 to 8 AM

Parish Staff

Pastor: Fr. Joseph Keough Email: frjfk@aol.com

Administrative Assistant: Jackie Dion email: SacredHeartSuffield1@gmail.com

Religious Education:

860-668-7766 Fax: 860-370-5164

Director: Miss Donna M. Swols email: shc_dre@sbcglobal.net

Assistant : Jackie Dion email : reledaa22@proton.me

Directors of Music

Floyd Higgins & Gretchen Collins floydandgretchen@comcast.net

***Please note that neither Fr. J Keough nor any staff member, volunteers, or members of Sacred Heart Parish will ever call or text requesting donations of gift cards online, bitcoin or electronic transfer of funds.**

Please report any suspicious activity to the parish office and/or Suffield Police.

To report an incident of sexual abuse in the Archdiocese, visit our website or the archdioceseofhartford.com

December 15, 2024 The Third Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 14

4:00 PM Nicholas Silvestri
Louis Brechue
Joseph Falkowski

Sunday, December 15

8:00 AM Roy Family
Louis Madore
9:30 AM Ed & Peg Shaughnessy
11:00 AM Alexander Ehongo
Raymond Stearns
Bland & Ducharme Families

Monday, December 16

8:00 AM Intentions of Jackie
3 – 4 PM Holy Hour

Tuesday, December 17

8:00 AM Ellen Stannaro
Eileen Regan

Wednesday, December 18

8:00 AM Antoinette Berardi

Thursday, December 19

8:00 AM **NO MASS**

Friday, December 20

8:00 AM Marcella & Angelo Galetta
Special Intention

Saturday, December 21

4:00 PM Nancy Nowak
Tom O'Connor

Sunday, December 22

8:00 AM Richard & Frank Czajkowski
John & Marianna Bucior
Trevor French
9:30 AM Patricia Hughes
Raye & Jeffrey Mandirola
11:00 AM Arno R. Haberkorn
The Santaniello, Garlick,
Donovan & Mahan Great Grandparents

***Apologies for any misspelled names**

Our Weekly Offertory

On **December 8, 568** members and visitors worshipped with us at Sacred Heart Parish.

December 8, 2024, Parish Support:

\$7,602.65	Offertory
\$578.25	Online Giving
\$8,180.90	Total

Thank you for your support!

FAIR TRADE SALE

Fair Trade items will be available after all Masses THIS weekend, **12/14 & 12/15**. Please stop by and pick up some items and support the farmers. Great Christmas gifts!

CHRISTMAS MASSES 2024
CHRISTMAS EVE: 4:00 PM AND 10:30 PM
(MUSIC BEGINS AT 10:00 PM)
CHRISTMAS DAY: 10:00 AM

Prepare the way of the Lord! The message of John the Baptist should still resonate with us as we draw closer to the celebration of Christmas. Join us for the **Sacrament of Reconciliation on MONDAY, DEC. 16 beginning at 7:00 PM for confession**. Several priests will be on hand to offer the sacrament. There will be one priest who can assist with Polish speakers as well. Additional opportunities are available on Saturday from 2:30-3:30 and Monday morning immediately following the 8:00 Mass with Fr. Joe.

MONTHLY HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS:
MONDAY AFTERNOON 3-4 PM

PARISH REGISTRATION/UPDATE

NAME/s: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE #: _____

EMAIL: _____

☐ New Registration ☐ Request Envelopes

☐ Change Address, E-Mail, Phone Number

☐ Moving out of parish.

STATUS: Single, Married, Divorced, Widowed (circle one)

Would you like to receive ENVELOPES: YES NO

You may leave it in the marked basket in the church lobby or drop it in the mailbox outside the rectory office.

Third Sunday of Advent



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Office hours: Tuesday 10am-12noon and by appointment only

Closed holidays and school vacations

Donna Swols, DRE: shc_dre@sbcglobal.net

Jackie Dion, Adm. Asst.: reledaa22@proton.me

Please use voicemail, email, or our handy outdoor mailbox as necessary to conduct Religious Ed business.



TODAY! - "AWAY IN A MANGER" 1st, 2nd and 3rd GRADE CHRISTMAS

PRESENTATION: Sunday, December 15th at 9:45am and 11:15am in Fr. Ted Hall, everyone is invited to our Christmas Program – "Away in a Manger" presented by our 1st, 2nd and 3rd graders. Come witness our "little children" as they welcome Baby Jesus this Christmas.

TODAY! - BAKE SALE - SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15th: to benefit CT Children's Foundation and CT Humane Society. Visit us from 8:45am-12:00pm in Fr. Ted Hall! Bake Sale sponsored by Mrs. Lombardo and Mr. Upton's grade 6 classes. Pick up some goodies for Christmas!



SAVE THESE SUNDAY DATES! 1) Christmas Eve 4PM Children's Mass
2) January 12, 2025, Youth Masses at 8am and 9:30am. 3) Our thirteenth annual "Winter Carnival" from 12noon-2:00pm in Fr. Ted Hall on Sunday, January 26, 2025!

Retired Religious Collection

Women and men religious offer gratitude. "Sincere thanks to the donors of the Retirement Fund for Religious. I hope we meet, if not in this world, then in the next," says Sister Teresa Korycka, 81, of the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate. Your gift impacts over 24,000 senior women and men religious, providing them a dignified retirement. To learn how your donation helps, visit retiredreligious.org.

A note of concern: Several members of the parish asked me about a person soliciting donations outside the church following the 9:30 Mass last weekend. Some were uncomfortable with the situation; others offered some help but felt concerned. If this occurs, just invite the person to come and talk to me and I will see how we can assist. Let us always be prayerful in our response. Fr. Joe Keough

Bible Study Tuesdays at 6:30pm, Fr. Ted Hall

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Meets 1st Monday of each month 4-5 PM in the Children's Chapel, Sacred Heart Church.

RACHEL'S VINEYARD WEEKENDS FOR HEALING AFTER ABORTION

If you are suffering from an abortion, experience the healing love of Jesus Christ on a Rachel's Vineyard Retreat weekend **February 7-9, 2025, in Litchfield, CT.** The weekend healing process includes discussions, Living Scriptures with meditations, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, a Memorial Service and Mass of Entrustment. Participation is totally confidential and offers a beautiful opportunity to experience God's love, forgiveness, and compassion. Both women and men have participated in past retreats and have ranged in age from teens to mid-eighties. The fee for the weekend is \$175.00 for meals, private room, and all retreat materials. Scholarships are available for financial assistance. For more information contact Marie at 203-631-9030, e-mail her at mlaffin@prolifeministry.org, or visit our website at www.rachelsvineyard.org.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter: Third Sunday of Advent-Gaudette Sunday:

Isaiah 61:1-2a: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; He has sent me to bring good news to the afflicted, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, release to the prisoners; to announce a year if favor from the Lord." God can heal you and mend your heart. You can receive Good News and go out and share it with other couples. How? Check out a Worldwide Marriage Encounter (WWME.org). Some of the dates to sign up are:

January 7-February 18, 2025, Virtual 3RE, NY

January 24-26, 2025, in North Easton, MA

Worldwide Marriage Encounter sponsors a variety of in-person and virtual marriage experiences, some on weekends and seven weekdays. Couples explore their relationship with each other, God, and the Church. Registration is limited; there is a \$100 application fee. For more information or to apply, call Frank & Margie Pearson at 860-337-2447 or <https://www.wmectw.org/>.

ADVENT RESOURCES: Prayer/Mediation resources are available in the vestibule as well as online at FORMED.org.

Come Home for Christmas! Our annual Advent program to pray our loved ones back to the faith has begun. Simply write the initials or first name of someone who for whatever reason is not practicing the faith, on a star which will be hung on our Christmas trees in the church. We will be praying for them all through the Advent and Christmas seasons in the hopes that they join us for Christmas and remain with us.



**Knights of
Columbus®**

Suffield Council # 6281

Ed McAnaney, Grand Knight

Important Upcoming Dates & Knights News:

- Plan a visit to the Blessed Michael McGivney Pilgrimage Center, 1 State Street, New Haven, open Wednesday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. With **free admission and free parking**, don't miss out on the current special exhibits: **Christmas in Africa, Christmas Tree Festival, and Away in a Manger**, all for your enjoyment from **now until February 2, 2024**.
- Another 4th degree exemplification ceremony has been scheduled for **Saturday, January 11th** at St. Sebastian Roman Catholic Church, 155 Washington Street, Middletown. Any Suffield Council # 6281 member interested in participating in this event, will need a completed **Form 4 and \$60 payment** (payable to: our Assembly). Please contact our local Grand Knight, Ed McAnaney (at commodore25@sbcglobal.net) for additional information and/or to get the required signature/verification of your 3rd Degree status.

The deadline for your application and reservations is January 6, 2025.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Jesus is coming soon! Look busy! The message of the gospel this weekend is not only about preparing to welcome Christ in our lives but to also show the world we are members of His Body by the way in which we live each day, every year. Ten days before Christmas and someone is saying get busy?

If we are already doing what Christ is calling us to do and be then we are all set. If not, let's try a bit more. As a parish family we are praying in thanksgiving and praise as well as for the needs of so many others. The stars on the trees and on the altar remind us of our prayers for loved ones who we hope will come home for Christmas and beyond. Over a hundred and forty people have signed up to pray for an increase in the response to the Lord's call to the priesthood and religious life, (almost as good as Rocky Hill) The response to our special collections for food and gifts to share with our neighbors has once again exceeded expectations. For the first time in many years, we are close to our goal for the Archbishop's Annual Appeal. Throughout the year, the Sacred Heart Parish Family has donated to the missions in Africa, helped sustain farmers in developing nations through Fair Trade (available this weekend), and more locally a generous collection for the Little Sisters of the Poor in Enfield.

I don't think any of us were overwhelmed by these experiences even though the results were overwhelming! This is what happens when we work together as sisters and brothers in and with Christ. As parish family and hopefully in our own homes we are using all the gifts, talents, and time that God has given us to carry on our mission of helping others know the love of God present to all. But we don't sit back, we keep building on the good foundation in Christ and keep growing in our lived faith experience.

I can't wait for next year!

God bless!

Fr. Joe Keough frjfk@aol.com

Advent Household Prayers:

Week 3: Blessing for a Nativity Scene: We make the sign of the cross as we begin to pray: **Leader: Our help is from the Lord All: Who made heaven and earth! Leader: We come now toward the season of Christmas. All through the season we will look on these images of sheep and cattle, of shepherds, of Mary and of Joseph and Jesus.**

Optional gospel reading from Luke 2:1-7

Pray now for God's blessing as we look upon these figures. (moment of silent prayer)

God of Mary and Joseph, of shepherds and animals, bless us whenever we gaze on this manger scene. Through all the days of Christmas may these figures tell the story of how humans, angels, and animals found the Christ in this poor place. Fill our house with hospitality, joy, gentleness, and thanksgiving and guide our steps in the way of peace. Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen!

***From the Catholic Household Book of Blessings and Prayers, USCCB**

The Christmas Season is all too often a season of scams either on the phone through calls, texts, or email. NO member of the parish staff or ANY volunteers will ever call or solicit gift cards or money. Hang up or delete the message. Please report it to the rectory and/or Suffield Police.

Formation of Parish Building and Maintenance Committee

We are excited to be forming a Parish Building and Maintenance Committee dedicated to the maintenance and renovations of the parish property. This initiative aims to ensure that our Parish property remains a welcoming and functional space for all our community activities and events.

The Committee will assist with:

- Assessing the current condition of the Parish Hall, Rectory, Church, and Premises.*
- Identifying necessary maintenance and renovation projects.*
- Planning and overseeing the execution of these projects.*
- Ensuring that all work is completed in a timely and cost-effective manner in accordance with Archdiocesan guidelines and policies.*

All interested parish members are encouraged to join the committee and contribute their skills and expertise. Whether you have experience in construction, project management, or simply a passion for our parish community, your involvement will be greatly appreciated.

Please contact pastoral council member David Sylvestre at davidctlaw@gmail.com or Fr. Joe to express your interest in joining the Building and Maintenance Committee. All are welcome !