



ANNUNCIATION PARISH

THE SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, FEBRUARY 15, 2026

PARISH OFFICE

626 Willard Ave. (All Mail Please)

Newington, CT 06111

Phone: (860) 666-1591

Office Hours

Monday - Friday:

9:00am - 2:00pm

CHURCH OF ST. MARY

626 Willard Avenue

Newington, CT. 06111

CHURCH OF HOLY SPIRIT

183 Church Street (No Mail Please)

Newington, CT. 06111

Confession

Friday: 8:30-8:50 am, HS

Saturday: 3:00-3:50 pm, HS

Sunday: 7:30-7:50 am, SM

Mass Times

Daily Mass: Monday - Friday

9:00 am, HS

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 pm, HS

Sunday Masses:

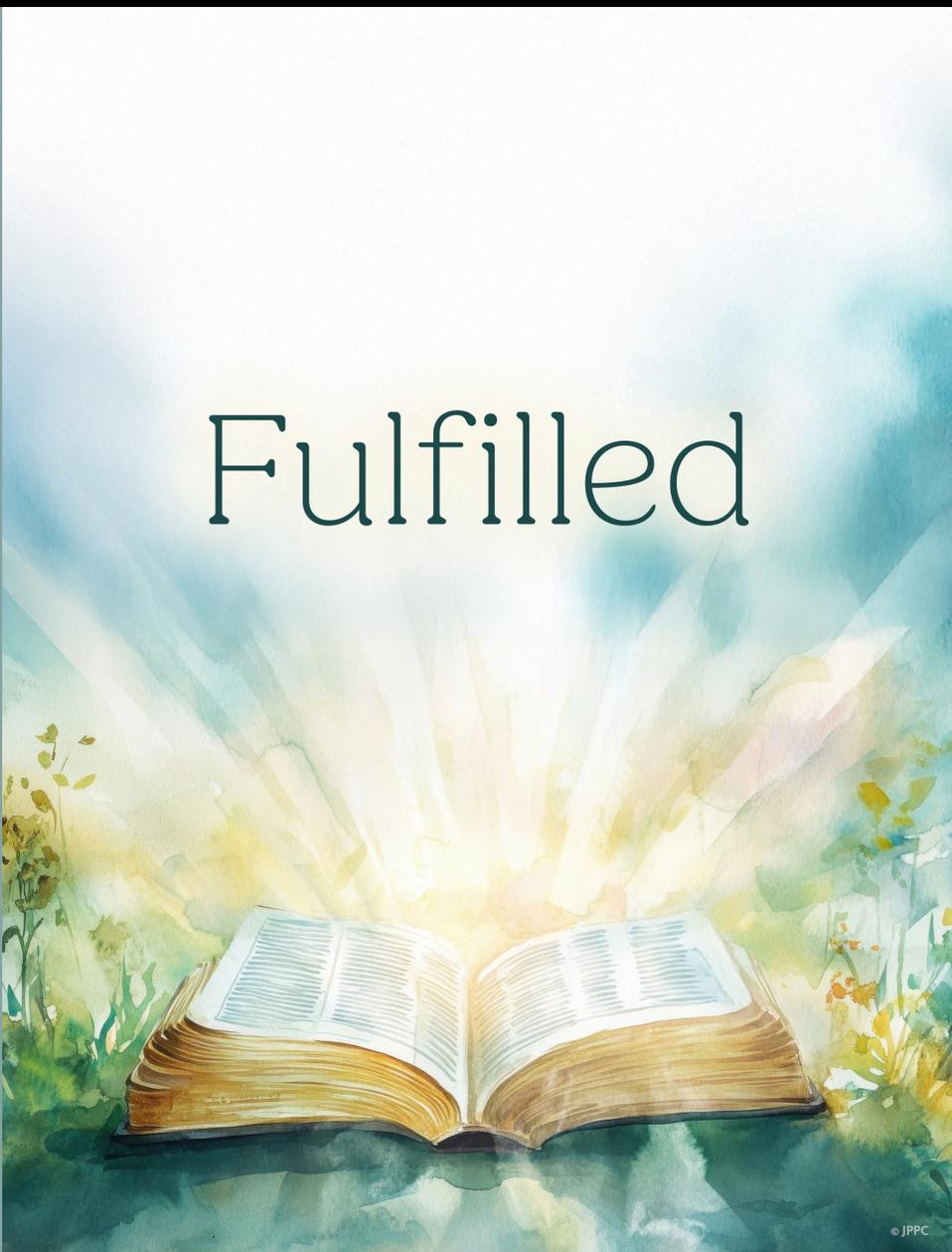
8:00 am, SM

9:15 am, HS

10:30 am, SM

12:00 pm, HS

Visit us on the web @
annunciationnewington.com



Fulfilled

O God, who teach us that you abide in hearts that are just and true, grant that we may be so fashioned by your grace as to become a dwelling pleasing to you. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

THE SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, FEBRUARY 15, 2026

Welcome To Annunciation Parish, The Roman Catholic Community of Newington

Whether you are a long-time parishioner, a returning parishioner, a new parishioner, or a visitor, welcome to our community. We are glad that you are here and hope that you feel at home. If you are not already a member of our parish, please consider joining us. If you are a member of our parish already, please consider joining one of our ministries.

The Catholic Church welcomes new members of all ages. Children are welcomed into our faith through the sacrament of Baptism. Adults can either join our faith, or complete their sacraments of initiation through our RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) or our Adult Confirmation program. If you are interested, please call the rectory at: (860) 666-1591.

Parish Priests

Rev. Janusz Kukulka, Pastor

fr.kukulka@aohct.org

Rev. Joseph Pullikattil, Parochial Vicar

fr.pullikattil@aohct.org

Weekend Associates

Rev. Lawrence Bock

Msgr. James Kinnane

Deacons

James Blanchette

deaconjimb@annunciationnewington.com

Bruce Thompson, Senior Deacon

Music Ministry

Mark Neumann, Parish Director of Music

neumn@hotmail.com

David Dyson, Organist

music.dyson@annunciationnewington.com

Business Manager, Deacon Julio Maturana

business@annunciationnewington.com

Phone: (860) 436-4381

Rectory Office

Kimberly Marchetti, Secretary, Annunciation Parish

kim@annunciationnewington.com

Phone: (860) 666-1591

Religious Education Office

Phone: (860) 729-5032

Deacon James Blanchette, Director of Religious Education

deaconjimb@annunciationnewington.com

Eliza Harris, Coordinator of Religious Education

CRE@annunciationnewington.com

Sacramental Ministries

Baptism

To schedule a Baptism, visit our website:

www.annunciationnewington.com, *scroll down to* Quick Links (*center of Home Page*), *Select* - Book a Baptism and then once the form is submitted, Deacon Blanchette will call to arrange a meeting.

Marriage

Please call the rectory at least **six months** in advance. Couples meet with the priest for an initial pastoral conversation before a wedding date can be set. Please do not make other plans until a date has been confirmed.

For the Sick

We are happy to visit with the homebound. If you or a loved one would like a home visit, Holy Communion or the Anointing of the Sick, please contact the rectory office.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK – The Sixth Sunday In Ordinary Time

Monday Jas 1:1-11 Ps 119:67, 68, 71, 72, 75, 76 Mk 8:11-13

Tuesday Jas 1:12-18 Ps 94:12-13a, 14-15, 18-19 Mk 8:14-21

Wednesday Jl 2:12-18 Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and 17 2 Cor 5:20-6:2 Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday Dt 30:15-20 Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 Lk 9:22-25

Friday Is 58:1-9a Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19 Mt 9:14-15

Saturday Is 58:9b-14 Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 Lk 5:27-32

Sunday Gen 2:7-9; 3:1-7 Ps 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17 Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19 Mt 4:1-11

THE SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, FEBRUARY 15, 2026

Mass Intentions

Saturday, February 14th, The Vigil For The Sixth Sunday In Ordinary Time

H/S 4:00 p.m. Alicia Wakefield, By Her Daughter

Sunday, February 15th, The Sixth Sunday In Ordinary Time

S/M 8:00 a.m. Salvatore Mangiafico & Gary Clark,
By The Family

H/S 9:15 a.m. Virginia Barber, By Her Family

S/M 10:30 a.m. Joseph Guerrero, By His Wife & Children

H/S 12:00 p.m. Linus Steck, 15th Anniversary, By His Family

Monday, February 16th, Weekday

H/S 9:00 a.m. Krzysztof Nowicki, By The Chrzanowski Family

Tuesday, February 17th, Weekday

H/S 9:00 a.m. Steve Milinowski, By Anne Marie Bellavance

Wednesday, February 18th, Ash Wednesday

H/S 9:00 a.m. Parishioners of Annunciation Parish

S/M 12:10 p.m. Parishioners of Annunciation Parish

H/S 5:30 p.m. Parishioners of Annunciation Parish

Thursday, February 19th, Thursday after Ash Wednesday

H/S 9:00 a.m. Janet Harrigan, Birthday Remembrance,
By Her Family

Friday, February 20th, Friday after Ash Wednesday

H/S 9:00 a.m. No intention

Saturday, February 21st, The Vigil For The First Sunday Of Lent

H/S 4:00 p.m. Judy Kozikowski, 2nd Anniversary, By The Family

Sunday, February 22nd, The First Sunday Of Lent

S/M 8:00 a.m. No intention

H/S 9:15 a.m. Francis Rooney Jr., By Cherie & Ron Pienycykoski

S/M 10:30 a.m. No intention

H/S 12:00 p.m. Giorgio DiCesare, By Lucia & Family



In Loving Memory

We pray for...

Lucy D'Alfonso

Wayne Uterstaedt

And for the consolation of their family & friends. *Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord; let your light shine upon them*

Parish Support

February 8, 2026

Weekly	\$9,067
<u>Online Giving</u>	<u>\$5,006</u>
Total	\$14,073

Eucharistic Adoration

Holy Spirit Church

6:00 - 7:00pm

Tuesday Evenings

The Sanctuary Lamp is lit at:

Holy Spirit Church
on February 15th-21st
For: **Rose & Robert Colgan**
By: The Family



Knights Of Columbus Book Donation:

Lent is a 40-day journey of prayer, fasting & almsgiving. "The Little Black Book," a Lenten reflection book, will be available to parishioners at the church entrances thanks to the generosity of The Knights of Columbus. We appreciate your donation and thoughtfulness!



PARISH CALENDAR, FEBRUARY 15, 2026

The Knights Sandwich Ministry

Our next sandwich collection is Sunday, **February 15th at 4:30 pm** in the Saint Mary School parking lot.

K of C Food Collection

Sunday, March 1st @ both churches

The Prayer Shawl Group

meets the **third Thursday** of every month at **12:30 p.m.** at The Holy Spirit Church Hall from **September-June**

The Men's Club

...meets on the **third Wednesday** of every month, at **6:00 pm** in St. Mary lower Rectory. Contact: Tom Morris at (860) 666-6331

The Men's Fellowship Group

...meets every **Wednesday** evening from **6:30-8:00 pm @** Holy Spirit Church Hall. Contact: Angelo Marchetti at: (860) 202-1612

The Women's Fellowship Group

...meets every Thursday of every from **6:30-8:00 pm** Holy Spirit Church Hall. Contact: Kim Marchetti at: (860) 202-0020

The Women's Guild

Tuesday, March 3rd there will be an **Executive Board Meeting and a General Membership meeting on March 10th.** All meetings are held at 6:30 p.m. in the Holy Spirit Church Hall.



Please welcome into our parish family, the following children who were recently baptized at Annunciation Parish:

Rocco Anthony Porrini

Mass Cancellation Policy During Inclement Weather

Daily Mass at 9:00 a.m. is cancelled whenever the Newington Public School System delays or closes for inclement weather. Sunday Masses (Saturday Vigil and Sunday Morning Masses) are cancelled whenever the Governor declares a travel ban, prohibiting or restricting the use of vehicles on the road.

This policy will eliminate the need to call the rectory to ask if there is Mass and serves as an easy way to announce our closing. No other announcements will be given except for the policy as stated above. Mass intentions will be satisfied by the priest celebrant at his private Mass in the event that a scheduled public Mass is cancelled. Thank you for your understanding.



The next monthly Women's Guild general membership meeting will be on Tuesday, March 10th, 2026. It will be held in the Holy Spirit church hall at 6:30 pm. The evenings program will be musical entertainment by Irish Guitarist Rodney Brown. New members are welcome to join us at this or any of our meetings.



The next meeting of the New Britain Council of Catholic Women will be held February 26, 2026 at 1pm at St. Jerome Hall. We will have our standard business meeting and we will detail the events for the rest of the year.

We are very grateful for the generosity shown by so many to our Annual Parish Collection. If you have not yet had an opportunity to return your gift card, please do so as soon as possible. Every gift is welcome and sincerely appreciated. Thank you!

ANNUNCIATION PARISH

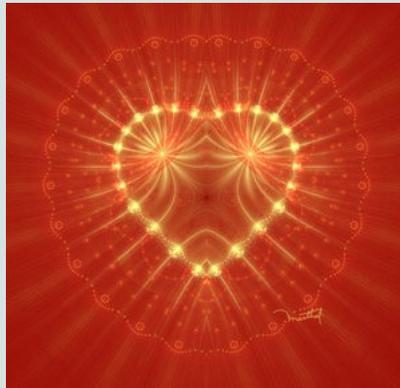
“Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do so will be called least in the kingdom of heaven.”

Matthew 5:19

The 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A focuses on choices, wisdom, Free Will and Choice: God gives people the ability to choose between good and evil. The first reading reminds everyone that their choices lead to life or death.

- **Following God’s Wisdom:** The second reading speaks of God’s wisdom, which is different from human wisdom. People who love God receive his wisdom through the Spirit.
 - **Obeying the Commandments:** Jesus teaches that obeying God’s law is more than just following rules. It means living with honesty, love, and self-control.
 - **Avoiding Anger and Hate:** Jesus says anger can lead to harm, just like murder. He calls his followers to seek peace and forgiveness instead.
 - **Purity in Thoughts and Actions:** Jesus warns against lustful thoughts and actions. He teaches that purity starts in the heart, not just in outward behavior.
 - **Speaking Truthfully:** Jesus tells his followers not to swear oaths but to be honest in everything they say. Truthfulness should be part of daily life.
- **God sees everything and wants people to choose good over evil. The readings on the 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A remind everyone that faith is not just about laws but about living with love, wisdom, and truth.**

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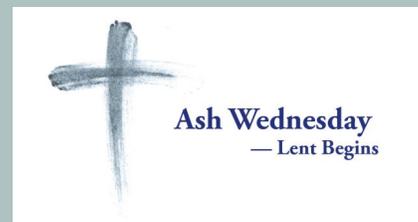
Save the Date: May 2, 2026
Annunciation Parish will be hosting “Comedy Night” at
The Holy Spirit Church Hall.



ANNUNCIATION PARISH

Ash Wednesday Schedule-February 18th:

H/S 9:00 a.m. Mass and Distribution of Ashes
S/M 12:10 p.m. Mass and Distribution of Ashes
H/S 5:30 p.m. Mass and Distribution of Ashes



Preparation for the Season of Preparation! During the season of Lent, beginning on Ash Wednesday, the Church asks us to spend more time in intentional prayer, to fast and abstain from meat on designated days, and to practice charitable giving for the sake of others. Recalling Jesus' forty day fast in the wilderness, we believe that our constant participation in these practices is a form of purification that deepens our spiritual center by stripping away all that is unnecessary and by reminding us of our sole reliance on God. Participating in a spiritual program during Lent allows us to celebrate the Easter Mystery more worthily and allows that celebration to build in excitement and anticipation. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of both fast and abstinence and all Fridays during Lent are days of abstinence. Abstinence means eating no meat. Fasting means eating only one normal sized meal and two smaller meals not exceeding the size of the one meal and not eating in-between meals (no snacks). Those 14 and older are required to abstain from meat; those 18-59 are required to fast, except in cases of special medical conditions that prevent fasting. The essential spiritual act for the season of Lent is to celebrate God's forgiveness and mercy in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. This soul saving sacrament is provided many times a week during Lent. The sacrament is celebrated every Saturday before Mass at Holy Spirit 3:00-3:50 p.m. and Friday morning before Mass at 8:30-8:50 a.m., every Tuesday during Holy Hour from 6:00-7:00 p.m. at Holy Spirit and during the Stations of the Cross on Fridays during Lent at St. Mary at 12:10 and Holy Spirit at 7:00 p.m. Please see the information below for a special gathering on Fridays before Stations of The Cross for Soup and Bread during Lent. The important thing is that everyone think about and begin a spiritual plan for this season of preparation. This special time of the year that is set apart, in order to be spiritually ready to enter into the great celebration at Easter.

Soup & Bread during Lent is Back!!!! Please come and join us for Soup & Bread every Friday during Lent starting at 6pm (Holy Spirit Hall). A different ministry from our Parish will be providing a meatless soup or soups and plenty of bread. Beverages will include coffee, tea and water. This is a great opportunity to grab something to eat before Stations of the Cross. Here is this year's schedule:

Friday February 20th - Annunciation Men's Club

Friday February 27th - Annunciation Men & Women's Fellowship Group

Friday March 6th - Knights of Columbus

Friday March 13th - Annunciation Women's Guild

Friday March 20th - Eucharistic Ministry

Friday March 27th - CCD 9th and 10th Graders

Please contact Jay Dumais at (860)836-8243 if you have any questions.



Palm Cross 2026 Order Form

Annunciation Parish

Newington Knights of Columbus Council #3884



- Beautiful 24" x 12" Palm Crosses
- Decorated with 60 pieces of Palm
- Purple Ribbon
- 2 Artificial Lilies
- Individually Bagged
- **\$14 Each**

Please place the order form and payment in a plain envelope labeled "Palm Crosses" and return in the collection basket by **March 15th**

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Number of Crosses: _____ x \$14.00 Each

Paid by: CASH _____ CHECK _____ Total: _____

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO KOFC COUNCIL 3884

Crosses will be available for pick up at Holy Spirit Church Hall on Saturday, March 21st from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm

For more information contact:
Bill Mitchell 860-436-2669; wmitchell1927@gmail.com

NEWS FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF HARTFORD



Branches on the Vine

FEBRUARY 14 - 20, 2026



Parishioners from Sacred Heart Parish in Suffield participate in the mask-making activities during last year's Mardi Gras celebration to kick off the Lenten season. SUBMITTED PHOTO

As winter lingers and Lent approaches, Sacred Heart Parish in Suffield is once again inviting parishioners to gather for a joyful celebration that brings the community together before the reflective season begins. On Feb. 15, following the 10:30 a.m. Mass, parishioners are encouraged to head to the church hall for the second annual Mardi Gras celebration—a lively afternoon of food, music and fellowship.

Mardi Gras celebrations, especially those rooted in New Orleans tradition, are an institution in themselves, culminating with Fat Tuesday, the day before Ash Wednesday on Feb. 18. At Sacred Heart, the spirit of Mardi Gras is embraced not simply as a party, but as a meaningful pause before the Church enters Lent—a season centered on prayer, fasting and almsgiving in preparation for Easter.

Last year's inaugural event drew between 80 and 100 people, ranging from senior citizens to young families with children, and organizers say the response was overwhelmingly positive.

"I work with a gal who goes to a church in Hartford and one Lent the priest had a Mass on Mardi Gras night and asked people to bring what they were giving up for Lent," Jeanne Forschino, who heads the Sacred Heart Social Committee, explains. "I thought that was a great idea and just think of how this would impact children at the Mass, to visibly see their parents presenting

something and themselves bringing something as well."

Forschino adds attendance is strongest when activities are held immediately after weekend Mass and paired with food, which led the committee to plan a lunch following the final Sunday Mass. After limited participation in a written Lenten intentions book last year, the group will instead invite parishioners to place name tags with Lenten promises into a basket for the altar. This year's celebration will feature a catered meal (tickets are \$15 per adult and \$5 per child) to help cover costs. Tables will include information about Lenten devotions, offering attendees a transition from celebration to reflection.

Forschino notes barbecue food will be served, including pulled pork, smoked chicken, macaroni and cheese (a gluten free option will be available), green beans with almonds, rice and beans, and chicken tenders.

Music will fill the hall thanks to Paul Kulas, a beloved parishioner in his mid-90s who plays saxophone and clarinet, adding warmth and nostalgia to the afternoon. Children will also enjoy activities such as

making Mardi Gras masks and coloring beads to take home.

The event follows a tradition Sacred Heart has been building in recent years: creating opportunities for parishioners to gather beyond Sunday Mass. From barn dances hosted by

parish families to themed dinners for Valentine's Day and St. Patrick's Day, these events have helped strengthen parish life. Mardi Gras, however, has captured something special.

For Father Joseph Keough, pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, the event will be a "fun-raiser" and he credits Forschino's dedication and perseverance.

"Jeanne is a very determined person and she's done a fantastic job with it," he adds. As Lent begins just three days later, Sacred Heart's Mardi Gras celebration serves as a notable commencement to the 40 days that recall Jesus' time in the wilderness. For more information or to attend, parishioners may contact Forschino at 860.254.5421.

- Story by Jim Tierney

MASKS, MUSIC AND MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT SACRED HEART'S MARDI GRAS CELEBRATION

*Fellowship and Faith at Sacred Heart's
Mardi Gras Celebration*



Upcoming Events

02/25 WEDNESDAY 6:30PM - 8PM

ALPHA | READY TO EXPLORE LIFE'S BIG QUESTIONS?

Our Lady of Sorrows Church,
79 New Park Ave, Hartford

Alpha is a series of conversations that explore life, faith, and meaning. Each session includes a free community meal, a short video, and an open discussion where no question is off limits. It's a safe and welcoming space. No pressure, no judgment, and no cost. Everyone is welcome regardless of background or belief.

Starting Wednesdays, February 25,
6:30PM - 8:00PM

Register now!
Questions? Call (860) 233-4424
or email Rosa at
rmarcano@olsparish.comcastbiz.net

02/22 SUNDAY 3PM - 8:15PM

LENTEN RETREAT FOR YOUNG ADULTS

Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center,
303 Tunxis Rd, West Hartford

Join other young adults for an afternoon and evening of prayer, community, and reflection to deepen your Lenten journey. In this retreat, we will ask: how can my Lenten practices become more contemplative? And how, in turn, can my way of living become more contemplative, overall? We will explore the rich tradition of Christian contemplation—from the Desert Fathers and Mothers to the mystics through the ages—to gain insights into the contemplative dimensions of Lent and entirety of the Christian life. The retreat program will include time for personal reflection, small group sharing, community building, a delicious dinner, and Sunday Mass with our regular 7:00 p.m. worshiping community.

Offering: \$50, includes dinner (\$75 more if you can, \$25 less if you can't)

To learn more or register visit:
www.holyfamilyretreat.org/calendar/lenten-young-adults

SACRED SOUNDS CONCERT SERIES
presents
At the Foot of the Cross
a Lenten Choral Meditation
conducted by Dr. Gabriel Löfvall
featuring Soli Deo Gloria Chamber Ensemble

First Friday of Lent
February 20, 2026
7 o'clock in the evening
Cathedral of St. Joseph
140 Farmington Avenue
Hartford, CT 06105
Free admission

The Cathedral of Saint Joseph Sacred Sounds Concert Series and the Cathedral Schola Cantorum present: *At the Foot of the Cross*, the first in a series of annual Lenten choral meditations. Through sacred music of the Renaissance, Baroque, and Romantic eras, featuring Allegri's *Miserere*, Rheinberger's *Stabat Mater* and *Abschied*, and music by Purcell, Palestrina, Byrd, and Durufle, these contemplative choral selections trace the Lenten journey from penitence to quiet hope. The program is conducted by Dr. Gabriel Löfvall, with the Soli Deo Gloria Chamber Ensemble, Cathedral Organist Jacob Dowgawicz, and soloists from the Schola Cantorum. We invite listeners not simply to hear a concert, but to enter into a shared moment of reflection as the somber Lenten season begins.

For information, go to: hartfordcathedral.org/concert

THE SHAMROCK
RUN & WALK
BRISTOL, CT

23rd Annual 3-21-26

- 5 Mile Race
- 2 Mile Race
- 2 Mile Fitness Walk
- Kids Fun Run

Registration and Info:
www.ctshamrockrun.com



Birtright

NEEDS VOLUNTEERS!

860-290-8800

www.birtrightofhartford.org

Birtright is an emergency pregnancy service offering caring and practical support to pregnant women in crisis. Our guiding principle: It is the RIGHT of every pregnant woman to give BIRTH and the RIGHT of every child to be BORN.

HELP A MOTHER GIVE BIRTH TO HER BABY!
Opportunities include friendship counseling and clerical and clothing work. Training is provided.