



# ANNUNCIATION PARISH

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, FEBRUARY 1, 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

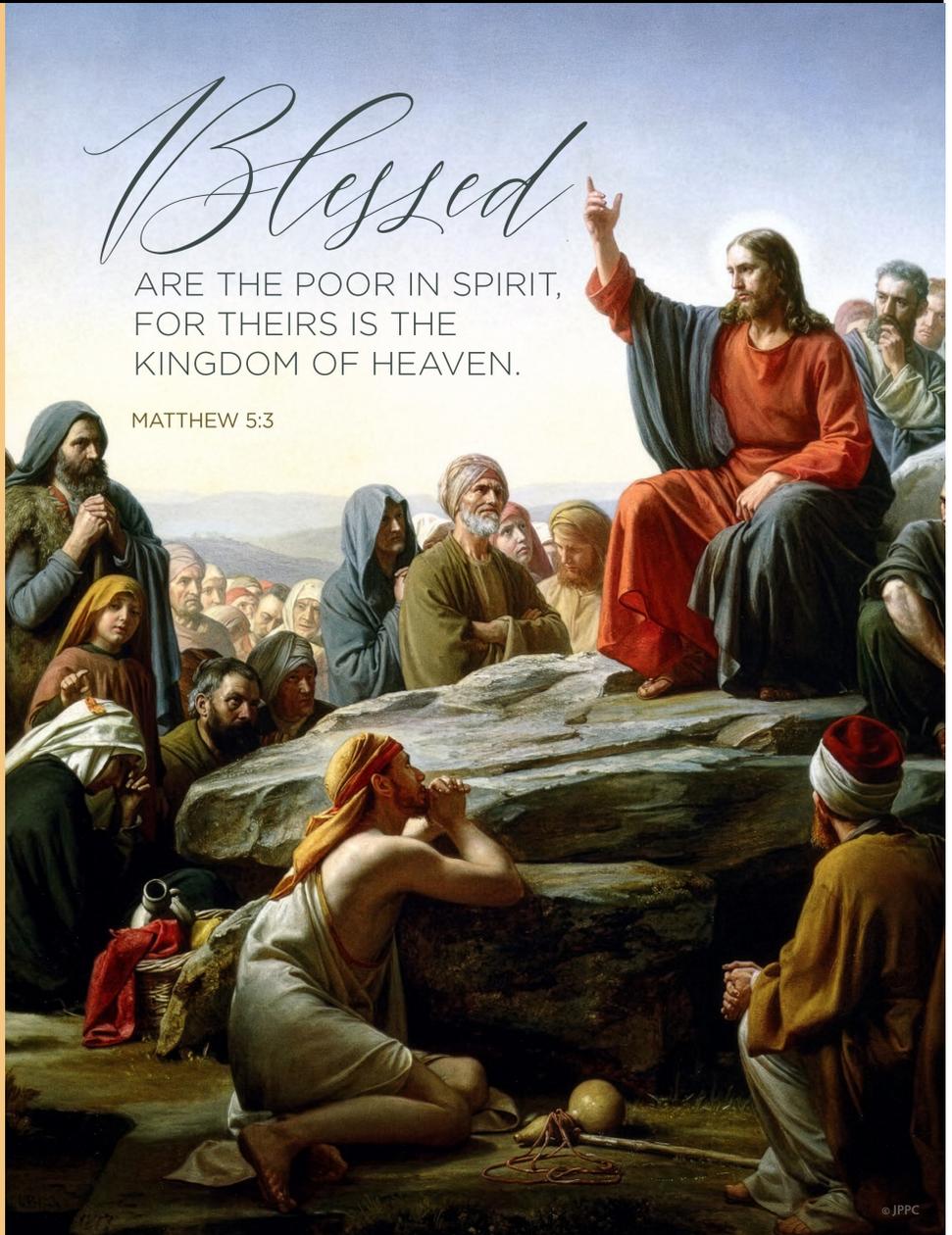
12:00 pm, HS

Visit us on the web @  
[annunciationnewington.com](http://annunciationnewington.com)

# Blessed

ARE THE POOR IN SPIRIT,  
FOR THEIRS IS THE  
KINGDOM OF HEAVEN.

MATTHEW 5:3



Grant us, Lord our God, that we may honor you with all our mind, and love everyone in truth of heart. 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 FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, FEBRUARY 1, 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 Fourth Sunday In Ordinary Time

**Monday** Mal 3:1-4 Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10 Heb 2:14-18 Lk 2:22-40 or Lk 2:22-32

**Tuesday** 2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30—19:3 Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 Mk 5:21-43

**Wednesday** 2 Sm 24:2, 9-17 Ps 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7 Mk 6:1-6

**Thursday** 1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12 1 Chr 29:10, 11ab, 11d-12a, 12bcd Mk 6:7-13

**Friday** Sir 47:2-11 Ps 18:31, 47 and 50, 51 Mk 6:14-29

**Saturday** 1 Kgs 3:4-13 Ps 119:9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 Mk 6:30-34

**Sunday** Is 58:7-10 Ps 112:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 1 Cor 2:1-5 Mt 5:13-16

# THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, FEBRUARY 1, 2026

## Mass Intentions

### Saturday, January 31st, The Vigil For The Fourth Sunday In Ordinary Time

H/S 4:00 p.m. Maria & Antonio Pizzoferrato, By Their Family

### Sunday, February 1st, The Fourth Sunday In Ordinary Time

S/M 8:00 a.m. The Menoret Family, By Nathan Menoret

H/S 9:15 a.m. Pietro Sr. & Peter Jr. Niro, By Their Family

S/M 10:30 a.m. Gloria Edgerton, By Marie

H/S 12:00 p.m. Cynthia Violette, By Her Husband, Mark

### Monday, February 2nd, The Presentation Of The Lord

H/S 9:00 a.m. Mathew Navallil, 10th Anniversary,  
By His Sister

### Tuesday, February 3rd, Weekday & Saint Blaise, Bishop, Martyr; Saint Ansgar, Bishop

H/S 9:00 a.m. Clifton Paradis, Birthday Remembrance,  
By His Son

### Wednesday, February 4th, Weekday

H/S 9:00 a.m. Sara De Suarez, By Marco Suarez

### Thursday, February 5th, Saint Agatha, Virgin, Martyr

H/S 9:00 a.m. Lisa Pizzoferrato, By Her Family

### Friday, February 6th, Saint Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs

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

### Saturday, February 7th, The Vigil For The Fifth Sunday In Ordinary Time

H/S 4:00 p.m. Rory Michael Flanagan, By Lynn & Michael Lutz

### Sunday, February 8th, The Fifth Sunday In Ordinary Time

S/M 8:00 a.m. The Kafel Family, By Nathan Menoret

H/S 9:15 a.m. Nicola & Filomena Niro, By Their Family

S/M 10:30 a.m. Caroline Sebastian, By The Zacharias Family

H/S 12:00 p.m. Audrey & Richard Schaller, By Their Family



## In Loving Memory

### We pray for...

**Janet V. Harrigan**

**Joseph Kalasky**

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

## Parish Support

### January 25, 2026

Weekly \$6,832

Online Giving \$3,548

Total \$10,380

## Eucharistic Adoration

### Holy Spirit Church

6:00 - 7:00pm

Tuesday Evenings



### The Sanctuary Lamp is lit at:

Holy Spirit Church  
on February 1st-7th

For: **Rose & Robert Colgan**

By: The Family



**Save the Date: May 2, 2026**

**Annunciation Parish will be  
hosting "Comedy Night" at The  
Holy Spirit Church Hall.**



# PARISH CALENDAR, FEBRUARY 1, 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, February 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**

**The Women's Guild will not hold any meetings in January.** They will resume in February. All meetings are held at 6:30 p.m. in the Holy Spirit Church Hall.

**The next board meeting will be held on Tuesday February 3rd, 2026 at 6:30 pm in the Holy Spirit Church hall.**

**The February general membership meeting will be held on Tuesday February 10th, 2026 at 1:00 pm in the Holy Spirit Church hall. Please note the time change for this meeting only. The February program will be: "Fun and Games" with prizes awarded to the winners. All parish women are welcome to join us at this or any other scheduled meeting.**



## **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.



**During the months of January - March 2026 the West Hartford United Methodist Church is holding a FOOD DRIVE to support our local Food Pantry.**

Please drop off your non-perishable, unexpired/unopened donations, 24/7/365, in the bin by the front door of the church.

Popular items are spaghetti, pasta sauce, soups, peanut butter, (16-18 oz jars,) jelly, canned fruit, applesauce, rice, (1-2lb packages,) cereal, shelf stable milk, crackers, juice, and canned veggies.

Additionally, we're collecting NEW SOCKS, especially men's to support a local shelter.

The West Hartford United Methodist Church  
1358 New Britain Ave, corner of Berkshire Rd.  
Exit 40 off I-84

1 Block East of Westfarms Mall and Corbin's Corner.

# ANNUNCIATION PARISH

**When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he had sat down, his disciples came to him. He began to teach them, saying: “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”**

***Matthew 5:1-3***

**The 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A speaks about humility and trust in God. The readings show how God chooses the lowly and blesses those who follow His ways.**

- **Seeking humility and justice:** Zephaniah calls people to be humble and do what is right. God cares for those who trust Him and live simply.
- **God lifts up the lowly:** Paul reminds the Corinthians that God often chooses those who seem weak or unimportant. This shows that human strength and status do not matter to God.
- **Trusting in God’s wisdom:** Paul says that God’s ways are different from human ways. Real wisdom comes from following Christ, not from human success.
- **Blessings for the poor in spirit:** In the Gospel, Jesus says that those who know they need God are blessed. They will receive the kingdom of heaven.
- **Peace and mercy matter:** Jesus blesses those who are peacemakers and show mercy. God’s children act with kindness and work for peace.
- **Suffering for doing right:** Jesus teaches that those who face trouble for following Him will be rewarded. God sees their struggles and will bless them.

**The 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A reminds people to trust God and live simply. God blesses those who seek Him, show mercy, and stand firm in their faith.**

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**We are actively looking for volunteers to serve as Bereavement Ministers for our funerals at both Holy Spirt & Saint Mary’s Church. If this is a ministry that you would be able to contribute your time and talents to, please contact Kim at: 860-666-1591.**

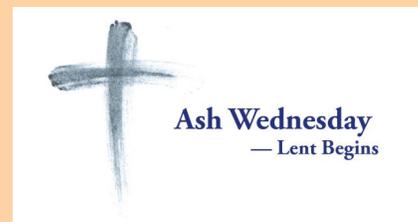
**Thank you so much!**



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

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**



# ANNUNCIATION PARISH

## **World Marriage Day 2026**

**The Archdiocese of Hartford's Wedding Anniversary Mass in 2026** will be on: **Saturday, February 7th at 4 PM at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph.** The mass will take place in conjunction with National Marriage Week, which runs from: February 7–14, 2026.



**National Marriage Week** is an international event that seeks to strengthen marriages in communities and influence the current culture. National Marriage Week is an opportunity for the Catholic Church to focus on and celebrate the vocation to marriage and family life. It is an opportunity for the Catholic faithful to renew and deepen the lived experience of the Sacrament of Marriage – and bear witness to God’s call to love.

The Most Reverend Christopher J. Coyne, Archbishop of Hartford, will bless couples celebrating milestone anniversaries.

Couples celebrating anniversaries of 1, 5, 10, up to 60+ years of marriage in 2025-2026, are invited to attend.

**World Marriage Day** is celebrated every year on the second Sunday in February, sometimes coinciding with St. Valentine’s Day. This year, it takes place on **February 8th.** World Marriage Day officially began in 1983 in the United States of America. Popularized by the Catholic Church, the purpose of World Marriage Day is to emphasize the beauty of marriage and to honor husbands and wives for their faithfulness and sacrifices. World Marriage Day highlights the promise of a marital union and the beauty of being a lawfully wedded couple under the eyes of Christ. It was brought into order by the Worldwide Marriage Encounter, an initiative that aims to improve the married life of struggling couples. World Marriage Day propagates the ethos of marriage and honors the sacrifices and faithfulness of husbands and wives.



# ANNUNCIATION PARISH



Reverend Janusz Kukulka  
Annunciation Parish  
626 Williard Ave  
Newington, CT 06111

December 31, 2025

Dear Father Kukulka, the Parish Office Staff, and the Parishioners of Annunciation Parish,

On behalf of the Board of Directors and volunteers at Saint Gerard's Center for Life, we would like to thank you for hosting a Baby Bottle Drive at Annunciation Parish. We are extremely grateful for the generous donation of \$3417 from collected and mailed gifts.

Your contribution to our Pregnancy Help Center helps us to provide services for women who find themselves facing an unplanned pregnancy. Saint Gerard's offers women educational seminars that include options coaching, prenatal care, infant and child care, and spirituality. We hope to also offer services to the men who are supporting our clients in the future.

Contributions are also used to support the material needs of our clients with diapers, wipes, and clothing for mother and child. If needed, we will also work to provide a safe car seat and bedding for the new baby.

With the support of you and other like-minded individuals, Saint Gerard's has reopened after being closed for four years to serve all women in Hartford and surrounding towns who so desperately need alternatives that support them in continuing their pregnancy and caring for their newborns.

Thank you for helping to save lives, and may God bless you.

With love for life,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathleen Johnson". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Kathleen Johnson

CEO/Executive Director  
Saint Gerard's Center for Life

No good or services were received for this donation. Saint Gerard's Center for Life is a 501(c)(3) organization.

NEWS FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF HARTFORD



## Branches on the Vine

JANUARY 31 - FEBRUARY 6, 2026



Members at their monthly meeting at St. Agnes Church.  
SUBMITTED PHOTO

Thirty years ago, when Deacon Nick Genovese and his friends approached the now-deceased Father Francis X. Callahan about starting a men's group at St. Agnes Church, he asked half-jokingly, "What do you guys want to do? Play cards?"

Of course, that was never part of the plan, Deacon Genovese recalls, laughing. Today, the St. Joseph Men's Society of Precious Blood Parish, made up of St. Agnes and St. Mary churches in Milford, is known for its service to the church and the community, which includes everything from an annual golf tournament to a Lenten dinner, a parish picnic, a Communion breakfast, 'coffee and' after Mass, and a St. Patrick's dinner.

The list also includes occasional chores and repair work, such as replacing the padding on the kneelers at St. Agnes, all done in the spirit of their patron, St. Joseph the Worker. Deacon Genovese, the group's president, says some 20 members willingly volunteer as the occasion requires.

"We named it for St. Joseph the Worker because the guys do work," he says. "If there's anything that needs to be done or if the men can help with projects in the parish, they are there."

The group meets the first Monday of the month from September to June, 5:30 p.m., in Father Callahan Hall at St. Agnes Church. The men begin with a prayer and then a Scriptural reading, followed by a reflection

### MEN'S GROUP INSPIRED BY ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER

by Deacon Genovese. Then, they have dinner and a business meeting to discuss upcoming activities and the distribution of funds to groups they help. A parish priest, including Father Aidan Donahue, the pastor, usually attends the meetings. The monthly meal is a tradition that goes back almost to the beginning. Deacon Genovese recalls it was Father Callahan's idea to boost membership; and it worked. Thomas Maguire is the resident chef who prepares everything in the kitchen at the church hall.

The biggest event the men's society sponsors is the annual golf tournament, held on the last Monday in July. Proceeds from the tournament, which is organized by Jerry Farina, who succeeded his father as golf chairman, are used to benefit charitable organizations, including the pro-life group for unwed mothers, Ronald McDonald House®, the Boys and Girls Club, veterans organizations, and the homeless.

"We've been very successful over the years, thanks to all the support we got," Deacon Genovese says. "It's a great bunch of guys, and now we have some from St. Mary's since we combined with them to form Precious Blood Parish." Dues are still \$5 a year.

He credits the other founding members -- the late Bill McMullen, Lou Elmo and Richard Carnaval -- for their vision in starting the society. "Jack Jansen has been our treasurer for 30 years, since the organization started, and he recently turned 90 and still plays golf," Deacon Genovese said. "We had a party for him and honored him with a plaque. Fundamental to the group's success all these years is their patron, St. Joseph the Worker. "Think about it. St. Joseph was the protector of Our Lord Jesus Christ. He was a model father and a model worker. We all look up to him and respect him as a saint," Deacon Genovese says.

He also tells a story about the annual golf tournament and St. Joseph: "When you play golf, you want good weather, and in the 25 years of the tournament, it has never been rained out," which is a blessing he attributes to their patron.

For more information about the St. Joseph Men's Society of Precious Blood Parish, contact Deacon Nick Genovese at [nicholasgenovese@sbcglobal.net](mailto:nicholasgenovese@sbcglobal.net).

- Story by Joe Pisani



# Upcoming Events



**02/9 MONDAY 7PM**  
**HOLY HOUR TO END HUMAN TRAFFICKING**  
 St. Bridget of Sweden Church, 175 Main St,  
 Cheshire

Around the world, an estimated 27.6 million people (women, children and men) are exploited for labor, services and commercial sex. What is our response to this crime against humanity? Let us go to Christ, present in the Eucharist, who is the source of our hope and strength, and pray together. The Human Trafficking Task Force of the Archdiocese of Hartford invites you to join us on Monday, February 9, 2026, at 7:00 pm at St. Bridget of Sweden Parish in Cheshire (175 Main Street) for a Eucharistic Holy Hour to pray for an end to human trafficking. After the service, meet members of the Task Force to learn how you can get involved in this important work.



**02/6 FRIDAY 6PM**  
**MASS OF HEALING**  
 St. Peter Church, 99 East Main St,  
 Torrington

Experience the Power of Healing — In these challenging times, many of us carry burdens – be it physical ailments like cancer and kidney disease, emotional struggles like depression, anxiety, PTSD and grief, or spiritual battles. YOU'RE NOT ALONE. Reconnect, find solace, and embrace the healing powers of our divine physician, Jesus Christ. A special Healing Mass with anointing of the sick will be celebrated by Rev. Emmanuel Ihemedu, pastor of St. John Paul the Great Parish in Torrington. The evening begins with the Divine Mercy Chaplet followed by the Mass. Let's come together, share our stories, and experience the transformative power of faith. Remember, Jesus is still in the business of healing.



**02/21 SATURDAY 9AM**  
**MAKING PREMIE HATS | KNITTING**  
**RETREAT DAY**  
 Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center,  
 303 Tunxis Rd, West Hartford

Welcome to our annual Knitting or Crocheting Day! This year we are giving our work to the Hospital of Central Connecticut in New Britain. When you register, pick a pattern of your choice to knit or crochet, and bring at least one premie hat to the retreat (more if you can!). While at the retreat we will make more...the joy of handmade items is in giving them to folks who appreciate them.  
 Offering: \$75, includes lunch

To register and learn more, visit:  
[www.holyfamilyretreat.org/calendar/knitting-retreat](http://www.holyfamilyretreat.org/calendar/knitting-retreat)

SATURDAY  
**FEB**  
 7

**YOUTH ADORATION**  
 AND  
*Winter Dance*

*Adoración juvenil y baile de invierno*  
*Młodzieżowa Adoracja i Zimowy Bal*

**GRADES 7-12**

**St. Mary Church, 5 Hillhouse Ave**  
**5:30PM Adoration | 6:30-9PM Winter Dance**

RSVP by February 1 by scanning the QR Code or visit  
[tinyurl.com/mcgivney-youth-adoration-Feb7](http://tinyurl.com/mcgivney-youth-adoration-Feb7)  
 Tickets are \$5 per child or \$10 max per family

HOLY BIBLE

**BIBLE STUDY**

Hosted by the Young Adult Ministry

Fridays, 6:30-7:30pm  
 Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church Hall Library  
 2819 Whitney Ave. Hamden  
 Bring your Bible, notebook and pen!

THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

Led by Father Tiano

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

Please RSVP by emailing [m.ricci@hamdencatholic.org](mailto:m.ricci@hamdencatholic.org)  
 or calling the parish office 203 248 0141.