

Welcome
to
Holy
Name of
Jesus
Parish

December
6-7, 2025

Second
Sunday
of
Advent



1950
Barnum
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Stratford
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203.
375.5815

Parishoffice
@ hnoj
church.org



www.hnoj
church.org

Rev. James DiVasto, Pastor
Rev. Msgr. J. James Cuneo, J.C.D.,
Pastoral Associate Emeritus
Rev. Churchill Penn, In Residence
Deacon Joseph Huong
Parish Trustees: Carol Bogue and Paul Kravitz

Faith Formation Facilitator and
Parish Secretary: Maryjean daSilva
Finance Board Chair: Chris Silhavey
Music Director and Organist: Bob Cloutier
Director of Discipleship, Catholic Community of
Stratford: Colin Petramale

MASSES

Saturday Vigil: 4:00pm
Sunday: 7:30 and 10 am
Weekday: Tues, Thurs: 7:30 am Mass in the
Sts. Cyril & Methodius Chapel (former convent)

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
Wednesdays—in Church
4:00 pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with
Adoration and 4:30pm Reconciliation
5:30 pm Mass

SACRAMENTS

BAPTISM
Families are asked to contact the office before the
arrival of your new child for instructions and
registration.

RECONCILIATION
Wednesdays 4:30pm in Church
Saturdays 2:30-3:30pm (Or by appointment)

MARRIAGE

We celebrate Christian love and family with the
Sacrament of Matrimony. Couples should contact
the office one year in advance.

ANointing OF THE SICK

Anyone who is ill and in need of prayers, comfort
and/or strength should call the office to arrange to
receive this beautiful Sacrament.

HOSPITALIZATION

If you or a loved one is hospitalized or homebound,
please notify us to receive care. We are not notified
due to HIPAA law.

NEW PARISHIONERS


Welcome! Please call, visit the office or register
online at www.hnojchurch.org

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

Please submit to: parishoffice@hnojchurch.org
Bulletin deadline is Friday at 4:00pm



Liturgical Services This Week

Mon 12/08	Tues 12/09	Wed 12/10	Thurs 12/11	Fri 12/12	Sat. 12/13	Sunday 12/14
Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary 12:15pm Mass +Maria Mucciccaro <i>r/b Grindrod family</i>  <i>Parish Office Closed</i>	7:30am Mass +John Kmec Jr. <i>r/b Anna Leszczynski</i> <i>Mass celebrated in Sts. Cyril & Methodius Chapel</i>	4:00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with Eucharistic Adoration and Reconciliation 5:30pm Mass +Bocchicchio family <i>r/b Lucille Bocchicchio</i> <i>Wednesday Services held in Church</i>	7:30am Mass +Holy Souls in Purgatory <i>r/b Steven and Sandra Zalik</i> <i>Mass celebrated in Sts. Cyril & Methodius Chapel</i>	Chapel open for private prayer 9:00am to 2:00pm	Reconciliation 2:30—3:30pm 4:00pm +Anne Reynolds <i>r/b family of Anne Reynolds</i>	7:30am Mass +James and Theresa Zietkowski Ontko <i>r/b Dennis and Sallianne Prebensen</i> And The Deceased of the Parish 10:00am Mass +Michael Perkowski <i>r/b Parents</i>
					Coffee	And....

MASS INTENTIONS

4:00pm	+Barbara and Roger Cadrin
7:30am	+Betty Pucci
	And The Deceased of the Parish
10:00am	+Sr. Gloria Marie Kascak SSCM



Please remember in prayer, *All who are ill.. All Healthcare Workers.. All Military Personnel and First Responders.. All who are near death.. All who have no one to pray for them.. And for all who have died.*

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary December 8



In her humility, Mary knows she receives everything from God. Therefore, free from herself, she is completely turned toward God and others. Mary Immaculate does not look on herself. This is true humility: not looking on oneself, but looking toward God and others.

Pope Francis

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is a Holy Day of Obligation. Join us for Mass on Monday at 12:15pm in the Church.

THIS WEEK'S CANDLE INTENTIONS

Sanctuary Tabernacle Candle

In Loving Memory of Vincent & Jean Maud

Chapel Tabernacle Candle

In Loving Memory of John Kmec Jr.

Sacred Heart Candle

In Loving Memory of Mark Kascak

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Candle

In Loving Memory of Betty Pucci

St Joseph Shrine Candle

Blessings for our Parish Families

St Michael Candle *For the intentions of the Members of Council 2370 Knights of Columbus*



2026 MASS BOOK



Intentions for the 2026 Mass Book

may be requested by calling or emailing the parish office or placed in the offertory basket. Intentions may be for your deceased loved ones and also intentions for the living.

Mass Stipends Weekend Mass \$15 Weekday Mass \$10
Candles 1 Week (Saturday to Friday) \$10

Church Sanctuary Lamp, Chapel Sanctuary Lamp
Sacred Heart of Jesus Shrine, Saint Michael Candle
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Shrine, Saint Joseph Shrine

Hope Peace Joy Love

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF STRATFORD'S NEWSLETTER

The Catholic Community of Stratford, rich in tradition and united in its mission to foster meaningful encounters with Jesus Christ, invites, welcomes, accompanies, prays with, and educates disciples to minister and serve.

Together, we are vibrant.

Together, we grow in our faith in new and exciting ways.

Together, as the Catholic Community of Stratford (CCS), we serve the needs of our community more effectively.



Contact:
stratford@setoncollaborative.org



Faith Sharing & Bible Study

How does the Bible speak to my heart, my joy and my challenges? Please consider joining us for an adult faith sharing and Bible study series at **Our Lady of Peace Parish Hall on December 9 from 6:30pm-8:00pm**. We will discuss how the Scriptures relate to our everyday lives.



Young Adult Ministry

Young Adults of Stratford cordially invite you to an Advent Potluck **tonight** December 7th, 6-8pm in the St. Mark Upper Room. We welcome anyone between 18 and 35 years old. Bring a dish to share. Email Donna Marino at donnammr@aol.com.



Sacramental Preparation

If your child is above 7 years old and has not been baptized, the Catholic Community Stratford is offering a special formation process for your child(ren). Our next meal and formation session will be on **Thursday, December 11, 2025, at 6:00pm at Holy Name of Jesus Parish Offices (2 Mary Avenue, Stratford CT)**. If interested, please reach out to Colin Petramale at colin.petramale@setoncollaborative.org.



Grief and Hope in the Advent Season

We experience many feelings during the Advent season; grief over our deceased loved ones, hope that we will one day be reunited, and hope that we will soon welcome our Savior. Consider joining us for an Advent adult faith sharing series at Our Lady of Grace Parish Hall on December 10, 1:00pm-2:30pm and December 17th from 6:00pm-7:30pm. Free will offering. Please RSVP to Colin at colin.petramale@setoncollaborative.org.

Knights of Columbus Council 2370

Our Knights of Columbus Council 2370 have been busy! *Coats for Kids* were distributed in November - Fr. Skip at Blessed Sacrament was awarded a check for \$400 from the State Supreme Council to support food assistance and a Tootsie drive to benefit the Special Olympics at Stop and Stop was a big success. Thank you, Knights for your ministry. *In service to One, In service to All.* Interested in learning more about the Knights? Call Steve Mieczkowski 203.218.8526



Giving Thanks

Special thanks go to the **Slovak Catholic Sokols Wreath 39** for their donation of Turkeys and all the fixings to make Thanksgiving special for five families of our parish. *Sokols pictured; Larry Wells, Anne Marie Neudeck & Bob Sheehy*



TURKEY SHOOT

Thank you to all who participated in the Turkey Shoot. Winners of a \$25 Gift Card were Marion Hulton, Mary Ellen Kother and Richard Zboray



Parish Financial Support

IN-CHURCH Nov 22-23

Sunday	\$	1,785.00
Monthly	\$	50.00
Other	\$	149.00

MAIL IN/DROP OFF - Nov 17-23

Sunday	\$	527.00
Monthly	\$	85.00
Other	\$	45.00

ONLINE GIVING - Nov 17-23

Sunday	\$	441.00
Monthly	\$	46.00
Other	\$	5.00

Total Income \$3,133.00

IN-CHURCH Nov 29-30

Sunday	\$	2,057.00
Monthly	\$	65.00
Christmas Flowers	\$	680.00
Other	\$	235.00

MAIL IN/DROP OFF - Nov 24-30

Sunday	\$	820.00
Monthly	\$	120.00
Other	\$	377.00

ONLINE GIVING - Nov 24-30

Sunday	\$	574.00
Monthly	\$.00
Other	\$.00

Total Income \$4,928.00

Accountability Sunday, December 7th. Parish financial reports for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2025 are available on our website www.hnojchurch.org

Upcoming Events...Mark Your Calendar!

Wednesdays, in Church 4:00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Reconciliation available 5:30pm Mass



Dec 6-7 Parish Nurses 7:30am & 10:00am Mass

Dec 7 and 14 Faith Formation gathering for Children in Heritage Hall

Dec 7 Accountability Sunday

Dec 9 Faith Sharing and Bible Study Our Lady of Peace Parish Hall 6:30-8:00pm

Dec 10 Nachos & Nativity Our Lady of Grace Parish 6:30-8:00pm

Dec 10 Grief & Hope in the Advent Season Faith Sharing Series Our Lady of Grace Parish Hall 1:00-2:30pm

Dec 13-14 Coffee And...

Dec 14 Christmas Bake Sale Pick Up day

Dec 14 Monthly Teen Mass & Activities 11:30—2:00PM AT OUR LADY OF GRACE CHURCH

Dec 17 Grief & Hope in the Advent Season Faith Sharing Series Our Lady of Grace Parish Hall 6-7:30pm

Dec 19 Advent Reflection and Dinner hosted by the Ladies Guild

Dec 20 Men's Reflection Group

Dec 21 Christmas Pageant with the Faith Formation children in Church following the 10am Mass

Dec 27-28 Monthly Food Collection

Parish Annual Collection Envelope



The Annual Collection helps the Parish to meet extraordinary expenses that arise each year. This year our major building upgrade was to replace the Church boiler which has been completed. With four buildings to maintain there is always another maintenance issue that arises. This Annual Collection will help our parish to meet these unbudgeted expenses. **This year our goal is \$45,000. To date \$11,230.00 has been received towards our goal.** Please prayerfully consider your support towards our Parish Annual Appeal.

Christmas Bake Sale

Don't forget to pick up your Christmas Bake sale orders **Sunday, December 14** 8:30am-12noon in Heritage Hall



Men's Reflection Group



The Men's Reflection Group will meet next on December 20th in the Parish Community Room. Guys are invited to gather at 7:45am to start our reflections on the Readings at 8:00, and we'll finish

CHRISTMAS CEMETERY BASKETS

Christmas Cemetery Baskets are available for order. Small round arrangements are \$15 each and Large oval arrangements are \$20. Call the parish office.

Oplatky (Christmas wafers) is available before and after Mass and at the Parish Office \$3.00 donation per package.

Parish Bookkeeper Position

This position is Part-Time, 24 hours/week, Tuesday through Friday, 9am to 3pm. The qualified candidate must have knowledge of accounting principles, proficiency in QuickBooks, PayCor, and MicroSoft Office Software as well as proficiency in handling Accounts Payable, Payroll, Bank Reconciliations, Preparing and Maintaining Annual Budgets. For more information, please call or email Father Jim at 203-375-5815, FrDivasto@diobpt.org

LADIES GUILD ADVENT REFLECTION & DINNER

The Guild of the Mother of Jesus warmly welcomes all Guild members and all women of the parish to an **ADVENT REFLECTION & DINNER, Friday, December 19 at 5:00pm** in the Parish Community Room. Join us for a time of reflection

and fellowship, a Candle Ceremony and delicious hot meal. Reservations required - \$15 per person. Call or email the parish office parishoffice@hnojchurch.org 203.375.5815



Fr. Jim's Column—Just One More Thing”!



Dear Parish Family,

I hope your beginning of this Advent has started off waiting well. This is a time to allow Jesus to prepare you and me for celebrating not only his birth, but his presence always among us, and his final coming in glory! I know many of you took one or all three prayer aids available last Sunday in the back of the church: Advent Star, *Waiting Well* with Fr Mike Schmitz journal, and the Magnificat Advent Companion. I hope these aids help each of you let Jesus come, be with, and in you, to allow him to do in you what he knows you and I need.

I hope too that you will open your heart to our Lord Jesus when he knocks that he may come in and dine with you. As you converse with the Lord in prayer and worship, do not let yourself be bothered by anything. Father Luke Dysinger, OSB, reminds us, *“Do not be afraid of distractions. Memories or thoughts are simply parts of yourself that, when they rise up during Lectio Divina [prayer], are asking to be given to God along with the rest of your inner self.”*

Reverend George Matheson (1842-1906) was a minister of the Scottish Presbyterian church. A brilliant student, though nearly blind at 18, he graduated first in his class in classics, logic and philosophy at the Academy and University of Glasgow. One of his sisters learned Greek, Latin and Hebrew to help him through his theology studies and continued to help her brother with his pastoral responsibilities.

He was also a composer of church hymns. On the eve of his other sister's wedding, he composed the hymn *O Love that will not let me go*. Happy for his sister, but devastated that his fiancée broke off their engagement because he was now completely blind at just 20, Reverend Matheson gave it all to God and received a great gift in return. *“Something happened to me, which was known only to myself, and which caused me the most severe mental suffering. The hymn was the fruit of that suffering. It was the quickest bit of work I ever did in my life. I had the impression rather of having it dictated to me by some inward voice than of working it out myself.”*

*“O Love, O Love
O Love, that will not let me go
O Love, I rest my weary soul in thee
I give thee back the life I owe
That in thy ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be.”*

Reverend George Matheson's hymn has three more verses: light, joy and the cross. I encourage you to look up the lyrics and listen to a choral arrangement of it on YouTube. This too will help us wait well. Because this Advent, the Love that will not let any of us go, Jesus Christ, is waiting for you, for me.

Father Jim



Celebrate the Coming of Our Lord!

Join us as we prepare our hearts for Christmas! Our Faith Formation children will present **The Story of the Nativity Pageant** through Scripture, Reflection, and Song on **Sunday, Dec 21** following the **10:00 AM Mass**. After the presentation, enjoy a light pasta lunch in Heritage Hall. Email or call the parish office to let us know you'll be there.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT REHEARSALS are held in the Church on: Dec. 7, Dec. 14 following Sunday Faith Formation 12:15-1:00pm and Thursday, Dec. 18—Full dress rehearsal & music —6:00-7:00PM



Faith Formation dates: Sunday, Dec 7, Dec 14 in Heritage Hall 11:00am-12:15pm
Dec. 21 Family FAITH Event—Christmas Pageant in the Church, following the 10:00am Mass
Dec 28 —Christmas break

Waiting Well with Fr Mike Schmitz this Advent



Dear parish family, I invite you to join me this Advent in prayer, wonder, and gratitude to God for the gift of Jesus by letting Father Mike Schmitz help us. Father Mike has produced a daily video program *Waiting Well* available on the Ascension App starting November 30th. Please go to either www.ascensionpress.com or scan the QR code here to download the Ascension App and sign up for *Waiting Well*. There is an accompanying Prayer Journal. Please call the parish office if you would like one. I hope many of you will join me to journey through Advent with Father Mike.

Peace, Father Jim



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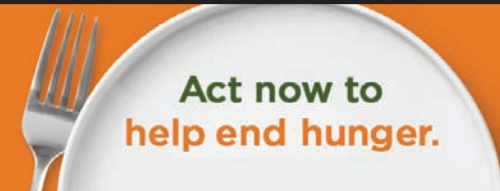
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