

**“It is written:  
One does not live on bread alone,  
but on every word that comes forth  
from the mouth of God.”**  
Matthew 4:4

## Welcome to Holy Name of Jesus Parish First Sunday of Lent

February 21-22, 2026

1950 Barnum Ave. Stratford CT 06614

203.375.5815

Parishoffice@hnojchurch.org www.hnojchurch.org



Rev. James DiVasto, Pastor  
Rev. Churchill Penn, In Residence  
Deacon Joseph Huong  
Parish Trustees: Carol Bogue and Paul Kravitz

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)

Fridays in Lent – in Church  
4:00 pm Stations of the Cross  
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with  
Adoration  
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**  
Fridays 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](http://www.hnojchurch.org)

### BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

Please submit to: [parishoffice@hnojchurch.org](mailto:parishoffice@hnojchurch.org)  
Bulletin deadline is Friday at 4:00pm



## Liturgical Services This Week

Mon 02/23	Tues 02/24	Wed 02/25	Thurs 02/26	Fri 02/27	Sat. 02/28	Sunday 03/01
Parish Office Closed	<b>7:30am Mass</b> +Joseph Walsh  <i>Mass celebrated in Sts. Cyril &amp; Methodius Chapel</i>	Chapel open for private prayer 9:00am—2:00pm	<b>7:30am Mass For Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life</b>  <i>Mass celebrated in Sts. Cyril &amp; Methodius Chapel</i>	<b>4:00pm Stations of the Cross</b> Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with Eucharistic Adoration and Reconciliation <b>5:30pm Mass of the day</b> +Msgr. Joseph Pekar r/b Steve & Sandra Zalik <i>Services held in the Church</i>	Reconciliation 2:30—3:30pm  <b>4:00pm Mass</b> +Jozef and Maria Jass r/b Nicholas Piciw	<b>7:30am Mass</b> +Deceased of the Parish  <b>10:00am Mass</b> +Milan and Gladys Jass r/b children, Mark and Monica

### February Saints ~ Saints Cyril & Methodius

### MASS INTENTIONS



Imagine what life would be like if you were unable to read because the language you spoke was not even in written form. No alphabet, no books, only a spoken language. This is the context into which our saints, Cyril & Methodius were sent to preach the Gospel in the 9th century. When Constantine was about thirty years old and his brother Methodius was in his early forties, the two brother monks were asked to go on a mission to evangelize the Jews and Turks of Khazars, modern-day Russia, Ukraine, and Crimea. They learned both Hebrew and Turkish so as to speak to the people in their native tongues. Within a couple of years, they were sent to Great Moravia, today's Czech Republic. The people didn't have anyone who could explain the faith to them in their native Slavic language. It was this mission that would be the beginning of a new era and a new method of evangelization within the Church. Constantine and Methodius began to translate the Bible and liturgical books into the Slavic language. Since there was no written form of the language or even an alphabet, Cyril created one. He translated the various sounds into symbols, which enabled him and his brother to then write down the sacred texts. Eventually, the new alphabet developed into what is now known as the Cyrillic alphabet and is the basis of many Eastern European and Asian languages used by more than 250 million people today. These great brothers teach us that the Gospel must be personal and understood through the prism of our own language, culture, and human experience. They also teach us that we must work to share the Gospel with others in ways that they understand and to which they can relate. <https://mycatholic.life>

Holy Name of Jesus Parish was blessed to have The Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius religious order serve our parish for almost 60 years, teaching, outreach and enriching our parish life.

**Saints Cyril & Methodius ~ Pray For Us!**

4:00pm +Jack Turner  
7:30am +Daniel Andriso  
And Deceased of the Parish  
10:00am +Roger and Barbara Cadrin



### THIS WEEK'S CANDLE INTENTIONS

**Sanctuary Tabernacle Candle**  
*In Loving Memory of Vincent and Jean Maud*

**Chapel Tabernacle Candle**  
*For all preparing for the Sacraments of the Church*

**Sacred Heart Candle**  
*In Loving Memory of Roger and Barbara Cadrin*

**Our Lady of Perpetual Help Candle**  
*For refugees and all seeking a safe home*

**St Joseph Shrine Candle**  
*For the intentions written on our February Prayer Hearts*

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



**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.. All whose names are written in the Prayer book at Our Lady of Perpetual Shrine ...And for all who have died.**

### Called by Name HONORING FAITHFUL YOUNG MEN



**This weekend is Called By Name Sunday!** This diocesan initiative invites us to prayerfully identify young men who may be open to the priesthood.

Last year, many outstanding candidates were connected with the Vocation Office through this program. In light of the great fruit of this program, Bishop Caggiano is inviting us to participate again this year. His letter about this initiative is available in the bulletin. Please take time this week to prayerfully consider any young men you feel may be called.

## 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](mailto:stratford@setoncollaborative.org)

### A Prayer for Lent

*While fasting with the body,  
brothers and sisters,  
let us also fast in spirit.*

*Let us lose every bond of iniquity;  
let us undo the knots of every contact made by violence;  
let us tear up all unjust agreements;  
let us give bread to the hungry  
and welcome to our house  
the poor who have no roof to cover them,  
that we may receive mercy from Christ our God. --From Byzantine Vespers*



### Lenten Revival with Deacon Art Miller

If you are seeking to grow in your faith this Lent, consider joining Deacon Art Miller for a Lenten Revival at Holy Name of Jesus Parish Hall from March 14-17, 2026, from 6:00pm-7:00pm each night. You may join for as many evenings as you would like. Free will offering to attend. Please also bring your Bibles to the event with you.



### Attention High School Students: Steubenville Conference

St. Mark Youth Group will be attending the Steubenville East on July 24-26, 2026. This is a conference that brings together thousands of teens for a unique and exciting experience of faith and community. For more information, please reach out to Jared Forcier at [jared@stmarkyouthgroup.org](mailto:jared@stmarkyouthgroup.org)



### Faith Formation

Seeds, Good News and Venture children learned about *Jesus Teaching Us God's Law*. Venture kids filled Holy Water bottles for our parishioners and Paul and Lilliana received their *Keep Christ in Christmas Award* Certificates.



## Parish Financial Support

<b>IN-CHURCH Feb 14-15</b>		
Sunday	\$	2,303.00
Monthly	\$	160.00
Other	\$	377.00
<b>MAIL IN/DROP OF Feb 14-15</b>		
Sunday	\$	195.00
Monthly	\$	25.00
Other	\$	35.00
<b>ONLINE GIVING Feb 9-15</b>		
Sunday	\$	468.00
Monthly	\$	20.00
Other	\$	.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME:</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>3,583.00</b>



**MAKE A GIFT TODAY: 2026BISHOPSAPPEAL.ORG**



**Regular February offertory envelopes include:** Monthly Outreach, Monthly Repairs & Improvements, Snow Removal, Ash Wednesday



## Parish Annual Collection Envelope

The Annual Collection helps the Parish to meet extraordinary expenses that arise each year. This Annual Collection will help our parish to meet unbudgeted expenses. **This year our goal is \$45,000. To date \$ 14,470 has been received towards our goal.** Please prayerfully consider your support towards our Parish Annual Appeal.



**Celebrating  
50 Years of  
Marriage**

*Congratulations  
and  
Blessings  
to*

Anne & Bob Wargo  
and  
Georgiann & Ken  
Rotunno  
who renewed their  
Wedding Vows at the  
Saturday Vigil Mass.



## Upcoming Events...Mark Your Calendar!



**Fridays, in Lent in Church  
4:00pm Stations of the Cross  
4:30pm Adoration of the  
Blessed Sacrament and Reconciliation  
available  
5:30pm Mass**

- Feb 24, 27** Neo Catechumenal gathering 7:30pm
- March 1,8, 22,29** Faith Formation sessions
- Mar 7,8** Parish Nurses
- March 7, 21** Bible Study with Fr. Jim –The Prophet Isaiah
- March 10** Men's Reflection Group with Fr Boccaccio
- March 12** Penance Service in church 6:30pm
- March 14,15,16,17** Deacon Art Miller Lenten Revival
- March 15** Bake Sale Pick Up Day
- March 15** FAITH EVENT in church -all are welcome
- March 21,22** Coffee And...
- March 24** Fr. Boccaccio The Passion of Jesus
- March 25** Annunciation –Mass 12:15pm
- March 26** Pierogi Dinner
- March 28,29** Monthly Food Collection

## Neo Catechumenal Way



You are invited to join Fr Jim and gather on Tuesday and Friday at 7:30pm for catechesis and good conversation. Talks for adults & youth 13+ Free Childcare

## LADIES GUILD EASTER BAKE SALE!



Easter Bake Sale  
Orders are being  
taken. Call by  
March 8th



Dolores 203.378.3426  
or Helen 203.378.5925  
Nut & Poppyseed \$15.00  
Paska Raisin & Plain \$7.00

## CRS RICE BOWL



Our way to participate in helping millions of our vulnerable brothers and sisters facing life-threatening levels of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition across the world. **Together we can make a difference!**

**Place your loose change and bills in our parish donation bowl on the back tables in church or place your offering in an envelope and place in the offertory basket at Mass.**  
Thank you!

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

Dear Parish Family,

I hope your beginning of Lent has started off waiting well. In this Sunday's Gospel, we hear Satan tempting Jesus in the desert over 40 days. Notice how the father of lies begins the first two questions to Jesus, "If you are the Son of God . . ."

Whether it's Jesus, you, or me, Satan always begins to tempt us away from God by sowing a seed of doubt in our minds about who we are, who we belong. Jesus knew he was God the Father's beloved son, the Word made flesh. Jesus knew and went about the mission of salvation for us entrusted to him by his Father. We too need to remember that you and I are beloved sons and daughters of God our Father, of Jesus Christ our Lord and redeemer. That the Father and the Son have a mission for each of us. That we have been given the Holy Spirit who empowers us to go about God's mission for each of us.

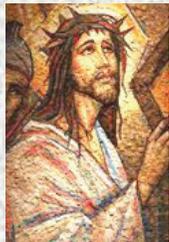
Reverend George Matheson (1842-1906) was a minister of the Scottish Presbyterian church. Though nearly blind at 18, he graduated first in his class at the Academy and University of Glasgow. One of his sisters learned Greek, Latin and Hebrew to help him through his theology studies and continued to help her brother in his pastoral ministry. Reverend George was also a composer of church hymns. On the eve of his other sister's wedding, he composed, *O Love that will not let me go*.

*"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."*

This 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. Because this Lent, the Love that will not let any of us go, Jesus Christ, is waiting for you, for me, to forgive our sins, heal our wounds, and to draw each of us closer to Him. Let us go to Him this Lent for we are his beloved sons and daughters. God Bless + Father Jim



## Lenten Offerings



### FRIDAY STATIONS OF THE CROSS

**4:00pm in Church** Pray the Stations with us using various publications—*The Way of the Cross* with Scripture, *Walk with Me the Way of the Cross*, *Mary's Way of the Cross*,  
**4:30pm** Adoration and Reconciliation available  
**5:30pm** Mass

**Diocese of Bridgeport 2026 LENTEN PILGRIMAGE February 18th -April 1st. 68 Masses in 30 Churches for 38 Days!** Deepen your preparation for Easter and attend as many as you can. Each Stational Church in the Pilgrimage will host a Mass in the morning and at 7pm. Brochures with the schedule are on the back tables.

**Saturday, MAR 7 Bible Study** Join Fr. Jim as we begin to **dive deeply into the Prophet Isaiah**. Every other Saturday in the Parish Community Room from 10:00 to 11:00am.

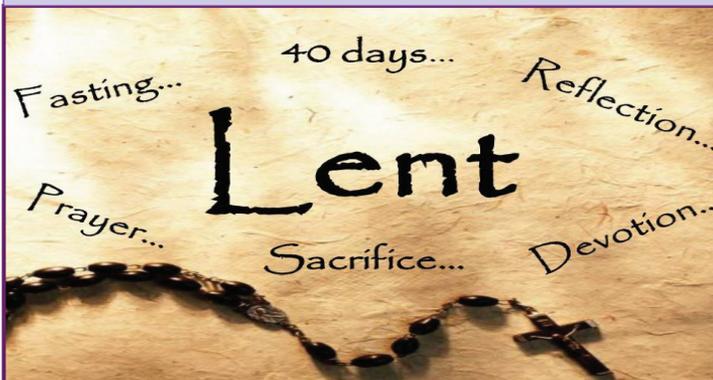
**Tuesday, March 10 the Men's Reflection Group will welcome Fr. Michael Boccaccio, who will present the Gospel Jesus Heals the Blind Man** John 9:1-41. All men of the parish are invited to attend the presentation in the parish Community Room at 7:00pm. Gather at 6:30pm for Soup & Salad

**Thursday, March 12 Penance Service 6:30-7:30pm in Church**

**Saturday –Tuesday, March 14-17 Lenten Revival in the church with Deacon Arthur Miller.** Deacon Art is a prominent Catholic leader, activist, and author frequently engaging in nationwide discussions on faith, love, and racial equality. Join us for as many nights as you wish - bring your Bibles! **from 6:00pm to 7:00pm each night**

**Tuesday, March 24 Fr. Michael Boccaccio will present a reflection on The Passion of Jesus**, John 18 and 19. All are welcome – bring a friend! We start with Soup & Salad at 6:30pm and the presentation at 7:00pm in Heritage Hall.

**Magnificat Lenten Companion booklets** are available on the back tables of church. This little booklet provides a series of original reflections guiding you through every day of Lent into the heart of the mystery—that all daily struggles and answers to life's troubles are found in Jesus.



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Christopher V. Pannese  
Director

378-6097

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Parishioner

dawnssecretgarden.com  
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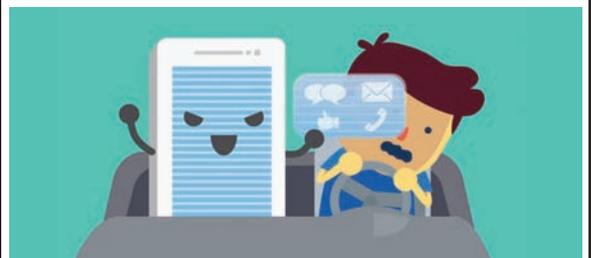
MATTHEW R. ADZIMA

PETER A. ADZIMA

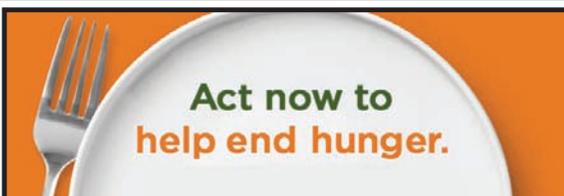


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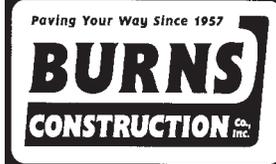


Stop The Texts. Stop The Wrecks.



In the United States, one in  
nine people face hunger.

[feedingamerica.org](http://feedingamerica.org)



Jay Callahan

p: 203-375-1383 c: 203-556-4818

f: 203-386-1886

[jcallahan@burnsconstruction.com](mailto:jcallahan@burnsconstruction.com)

300 SPERRY AVENUE - STRATFORD, CT 06615

Don't forget to call  
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John Schlick  
845-490-0096 cell



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