

You are the Salt of the Earth  
and the Light of the World  
Matthew 5:13-16



**Welcome to Holy Name of Jesus Parish**  
**5th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**February 7-8, 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)

**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](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 02/09	Tues 02/10	Wed 02/11	Thurs 02/12	Fri 02/13	Sat. 02/14	Sunday 02/15
Parish Office Closed	<b>7:30am Mass</b> +Msgr. Joseph Pekar <i>r/b Fr. Jim</i>  <i>Mass celebrated in Sts. Cyril &amp; Methodius Chapel</i>	<b>4:00pm</b> Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with Eucharistic Adoration and Reconciliation  <b>5:30pm</b> <b>Mass of the day</b> <b>World Day of the Sick</b> <b>For all who suffer in body, soul and spirit</b> <i>Wednesday services held in the Church</i>	<b>7:30am Mass</b> <b>For Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life</b>  <i>Mass celebrated in Sts. Cyril &amp; Methodius Chapel</i>	Chapel open for private prayer 9:00am to 2:00pm	<b>Reconciliation 2:30—3:30pm</b>  <b>4:00pm Mass</b> +Denise Nicholas <i>r/b Theresa Cocchia &amp; family</i>	<b>7:30am Mass</b> +Stephanie Peterson and James Perry <i>r/b Steve &amp; Sandra Zalik</i>  <b>10:00am Mass</b> +Milan and Gladys Jass <i>r/b children, Mark and Monica</i>

### MASS INTENTIONS

**4:00pm** +The Deceased of the Parish  
**7:30am** For all the sick who suffer in body, soul and spirit  
**10:00am** +George Suchyak

### THIS WEEK'S CANDLE INTENTIONS

#### Sanctuary Tabernacle Candle

*Health & Blessings for Judy Politano*

#### Chapel Tabernacle Candle

*In Loving Memory of Msgr. Joseph Pekar*

#### Sacred Heart Candle

*Pope Leo's February Prayer Intention for children with incurable diseases and their families.*

#### Our Lady of Perpetual Help Candle

*In Loving Memory of Fr. John Filip*

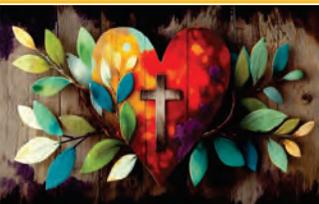
#### St Joseph Shrine Candle

*For the intentions written on our February Prayer Hearts*

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



### CORPORAL & SPIRITUAL WORKS OF MERCY



**What are the Corporal Works of Mercy?** The Corporal Works of Mercy are acts of kindness that help meet people's physical needs. They are rooted in the teachings of Jesus. There are seven works in total. Feed the

hungry -Give drink to the thirsty -Clothe the naked -Shelter the homeless -Visit the sick -Visit those in prison -Bury the dead. These works are important because they show love and care for others. They help us live out our faith by serving those in need. They remind us to treat others with compassion. Anyone can perform these works. They are meant for all people, not just those in religious roles. Anyone can show kindness and help others.

#### **What are the spiritual works of mercy?**

The seven spiritual works of mercy are actions that help care for people's souls. They guide, teach, comfort, and pray for others. They are teaching the ignorant, giving advice, comforting the sorrowful, forgiving offenses, bearing wrongs patiently, praying for the living and the dead, and warning the sinner. They are called works of mercy because they show love and kindness. They follow the example of Jesus, who cared for people's hearts and souls.



**How are spiritual works of mercy different from the corporal works of mercy?** The corporal works of mercy care for people's physical needs, like food and shelter. The spiritual works of mercy care for their inner needs, like faith, hope, and peace.

*We acknowledge and thank Youngcatholics.com for the use of their reflection and art in our bulletin*

**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.*



### HOMEBOUND, HOSPITALIZED?

If you or a loved one are hospitalized or homebound and would like a visit to receive Communion, or if you will be having surgery and wish to be anointed, please call the parish office."



### LITURGICAL MINISTRY AT HNOJ PARISH



Liturgical ministry is an excellent opportunity to fulfill your baptismal call of service to one another. For more information on serving as a Reader or Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion (EMHC) talk to Fr. Jim or visit <https://formationreimagined.org/liturgical-formation/> or call the office. Your participation brings life to our celebrations!



## 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)

### Lenten Revival with Deacon Art Miller



It may seem early to start thinking of Lent, but our Lenten journey will be upon us very soon! 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.

### Sacramental Preparation for Youth



Is your child over the age of 7 and seeking to be baptized and receive their sacraments? We have a place for you and your child to learn and grow in faith while preparing your child for the sacraments. Join us **Thursday, February 12<sup>th</sup> from 6:00pm-7:30pm at Holy Name of Jesus (2 Mary Avenue, Stratford CT)**. If interested, please RSVP or reach out for more information [colin.petramale@setoncollaborative.org](mailto:colin.petramale@setoncollaborative.org).

### Attention High School Students: Steubenville Conference



St. Mark youth group will be attending the Steubenville East on July 24-26, 2026. For more information, please reach out to Jared at [jared@stmarkyouthgroup.org](mailto:jared@stmarkyouthgroup.org)

### Salt and Light



The prophet Isaiah reminds us today in no uncertain terms that our work as Christians is to care for and welcome those whom others have deemed unworthy: the widow, the oppressed, the hungry, and the homeless. Inspired by this reading, we must ask ourselves, "where is Jesus inviting us to be salt and light?" May we seek out the forgotten and oppressed this week.

## BLESSING OF THROATS & FAITH FORMATION CHILDREN LEARN ABOUT THE BEATITUDES



## Parish Financial Support

<b>IN-CHURCH Jan 31– Feb 1</b>		
Sunday	\$	2,277.00
Monthly	\$	974.00
Other	\$	223.00
<b>MAIL IN/DROP OF Jan 26-Feb 1</b>		
Sunday	\$	500.00
Monthly	\$	105.00
Other	\$	30.00
<b>ONLINE GIVING Jan 26-Feb 1</b>		
Sunday	\$	333.00
Monthly Outreach	\$	15.00
Other	\$	10.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME:</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>4,467.00</b>

*Thank you! Your generosity has been a blessing to the Church of the Holy Name of Jesus throughout the year.*

**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 \$ 13,840 has been received towards our goal.** Please prayerfully consider your support towards our Parish Annual Appeal.

## 2026 Bishop's Appeal



**ONE in Christ**  
2026 Bishop's Appeal  
DIOCESE OF BRIDGEPORT

**MAKE YOUR GIFT TODAY!**

**YOUNG ADULT SPOTLIGHT**  
Emma Ratnaval

Growing up in a deeply faith-filled family, Emma Ratnaval always longed for lifelong community in Christ. After college, a friend invited her to a Young Adult Ministry event, an unexpected blessing that reunited her with peers who also desired holiness and authentic Catholic friendship.

Through choir, Bible studies, faith discussions, and even joyful events like skating and dancing, she found a place where young adults support one another, pray together, and boldly live out their faith. The ministry has allowed her to use her gifts—music, leadership, hospitality—to glorify God and inspire others to pursue Christ wholeheartedly.

The Bishop's Appeal helps sustain ministries like Young Adult outreach, creating spaces where young Catholics encounter Christ, form lasting communities, and grow as one Church. Her journey is a reminder that when young adults unite in faith, the Lord brings joy, strength, and renewed hope to our parishes. Make your gift to the Bishop's Appeal today! Visit: [2026BishopsAppeal.org](http://2026BishopsAppeal.org) #2026BishopsAppeal #DioceseofBridgeport #OneinChrist #YoungAdultMinistry



## Upcoming Events...Mark Your Calendar!



**Wednesday, Feb 11** in Church  
4:00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Reconciliation available 5:30pm Mass  
**Fridays, in Lent in Church beginning Feb 20th**  
4:00pm Stations of the Cross  
4:30pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Reconciliation available  
5:30pm Mass

Feb 7-8 Parish Nurses

Feb 10, 12, 17, 20, 24, 27 Neo Catechumenal gathering 7:30pm

Feb 12 Sacramental preparation OCIA –Community room

Feb 16 CT Foodshare—parking lot 9:15-10:15am

Feb 16 Palm Burning Service 6:30pm Church

Feb 18 Ash Wednesday—see schedule on following page

Feb 20 Pierogi Dinner

Feb 21 Men's Reflection Group

Feb 21-22 Coffee And...

Feb 25 LifeLine screenings—Heritage Hall

Feb 28-Mar 1 Monthly Food Collection

## Neo Catechumenal Way



You are invited to join Fr Jim and gather on Tuesday and Friday in at



7:30pm for catechesis and good conversation. Talks for adults & youth 13+ Free Childcare "Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest." MT 11:28

## Men's Reflection Group — February 21



Our gatherings build community and spiritual friendships as we learn about each other, pray for each other and encourage one another. Join us! Guys are invited to gather at 7:45am to start our reflections on the

Readings at 8:00, and we'll finish at 9:00am.

## Men's Society Parish Pierogi & Pancake Dinner



**Holy Name Men's Society Presents "Pierogi & Pancake Dinner" Friday February 20th**

5:00PM – 7:00PM in Heritage Hall

Join us for an evening of fellowship and delicious food. This family event will feature Pierogis, Potato Pancakes, Apple Sauce, Coffee, Tea, Soda and Water. It's a wonderful chance to gather with friends and meet new people.

**Dine In or Take Out \$15.00 12 Frozen Pierogi \$8.00**

Deadline for reservations February 16, 2026

Call Larry Wells 203-395-7073 [Lawman1156@gmail.com](mailto:Lawman1156@gmail.com)

**LIFE LINE SCREENING** will be at our parish on Wednesday, Feb. 25 for Stroke and Cardiovascular Disease Risk Screenings. Special Pricing for \$129—Call 800.324.9458 with promo code HABC001 or Visit [LLSA.SOCIAL/HABC](http://LLSA.SOCIAL/HABC) or text the word "circle" to 216.279.1607



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



Dear Parish Family, as we continue along in Ordinary Time, our scripture readings from Isaiah, Paul, and Matthew teach us about the necessity to live our lives with generosity towards all. Not just refusing to turn away from anyone in need but ministering to them in their need. This is how we are salt and light in the world bringing Jesus and his Good News to others.

In just 10 days we will enter into the season of Lent. We know that being Jesus' disciple requires us to be salt and light for others who don't know Jesus. It also requires us to be salt and light for one another, we who know Jesus. There is a most important way that we do this. It's by taking up our cross daily and following wherever Jesus leads. Our own cross may be truly heavy to bear. For others, their cross may be lighter. No matter, Jesus has entrusted a cross to each of us. Our personal cross is what Jesus especially offers each one of us through which to learn from him, to gain trust in him, to surrender to him, to become like him, and to enter into eternal life.

Please see the Lenten Offerings here in the bulletin. These are opportunities to experience Jesus' love for you, to listen to him, to daily throughout this Lent let Jesus help you and me to understand and embrace death. Death is not just the last experience we will all have when we leave this world and be in the very presence of Jesus in eternity. Death is also a daily experience where you and I dare to let Jesus especially into those areas of our lives that rub against us the wrong way, that we know we need to tend, but we're afraid, embarrassed, or even ashamed to take care of. If so, let me suggest another opportunity this Lent.

Father Columba Jorday, C.F.R., has teamed up with the Ascension Press to offer ***Crux: Daily Surrender Reflections***. It's available on the Ascension Press App which you can download or visit the Ascension website [www.ascensionpress.com](http://www.ascensionpress.com). Each day of Lent, Father Jordan will share a reflection on the day's Gospel and offer ways to let our weaknesses help us reach out for God's help and surrender to his incredible love.

I hope this Lent will be very blessed for every one of you. God Bless + Father Jim

## Lenten Offerings

### PALM BURNING SERVICE

**Monday February 16, 6:30pm in Church** We begin with an Evening Prayer Service with the Burning of Palms. The ashes we burn will be used on Ash Wednesday.



### ASH WEDNESDAY –FEBRUARY 18

**7:30am - 9:00am** Prayer Service and distribution of Ashes

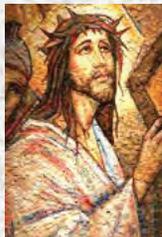
**11am - 1pm** - Adoration and distribution of Ashes

**6:30pm** Mass and distribution of Ashes **till 8pm**



### FRIDAY STATIONS OF THE CROSS

**Beginning February 20 -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*, *CRS Stations*, *The Women of the World*



**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**

**Saturday, March 21** 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 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.

## FEBRUARY PRAYER HEARTS



During the month of February, we invite you to memorialize and honor your loved ones with our *In Loving Memory* and *In Thanksgiving For...* paper hearts, available at all Masses.



These hearts will be displayed in the church throughout the month. Please stop by the table in the vestibule before or after Mass to select your heart.

Lent is a journey of returning to the essential, during which the Lord asks us to follow three steps: almsgiving, prayer and fasting.



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me after mass  
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John Schlick  
845-490-0096 cell



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