

**"They were making a cast
in the lake with their net,
for they were fishermen."**

Matthew 4:18



Welcome to Holy Name of Jesus Parish

*3rd Sunday in
Ordinary Time*

**January
24-25
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**

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

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



Liturgical Services This Week

Mon 01/26	Tues 01/27	Wed 01/28	Thurs 01/29	Fri 01/30	Sat. 01/31	Sunday 02/01
Parish Office Closed	7:30am Mass +Dorothy Evan <i>r/b Jass & McMullan families</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 of the day All the Homebound of our Parish <i>Wednesday services held in the Church</i>	7:30am Mass +James Graham <i>r/b Nicholas Piciw</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 Mass +Alberto Parravano <i>r/b Patty & Fred DiBenedetto</i>	7:30am Mass The Deceased of the Parish 10:00am Mass +Milan and Gladys Jass <i>r/b children, Monica and Mark</i>
					Blessings of Throats & Candles	

WORD OF GOD SUNDAY

MASS INTENTIONS



In 2019, Pope Francis instituted the celebration of **Sunday of the Word of God**, which is held every year on the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time. The theme for 2016 is *"The Word of God dwells among you."* Col 3:16 Pope

Francis had a personal message for the young people "If you could see my Bible, you would not be particularly impressed. What—that's the Pope's Bible? Such an old, worn-out book! You could buy me a new one for \$1,000, but I would not want it. I love my old Bible, which has accompanied me half my life. It has been with me in my times of joy and times of tears. It is my most precious treasure. I live out of it, and I wouldn't give anything in the world for it. So you have something divine in your hands: a book like fire! A book through which God speaks. So notice: The Bible is not meant to be placed on a shelf, but to be in your hands, to read often—every day, both on your own and together with others. You do sports together or go shopping together. Why not read the Bible together as well—two, three, or four of you? In nature, in the woods, on the beach, at night in the glow of a few candles ... you will have a great experience! I want to tell you how I read my old Bible. Often I read a little and then put it away and contemplate the Lord. Not that I see the Lord, but he looks at me. He's there. I let myself look at him. And I feel—this is not sentimentality—I feel deeply the things that the Lord tells me. Sometimes he does not speak. I then feel nothing, only emptiness, emptiness, emptiness.... But I remain patiently, and so I wait, reading and praying. I pray sitting, because it hurts me to kneel. Sometimes I even fall asleep while praying. But it does not matter. I'm like a son with the father, and that is what's important."



4:00pm +Mary Forish
7:30am +Deceased of the Parish
10:00am +Lauren Kopko

THIS WEEK'S CANDLE INTENTIONS

Sanctuary Tabernacle Candle

In Loving Memory of Reverend James Smith

Chapel Tabernacle Candle

In Loving Memory of Deacon Thomas Freibott

Sacred Heart Candle

For those in hospitals and nursing homes

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Candle

In Loving Memory of Linda Gerowe & Hyson Lewis

St Joseph Shrine Candle

Blessings for the families of our parish

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



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 Church celebrates the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord on 2 February, commemorating the presentation of Jesus in the Temple, where an old man Simeon declared that Jesus would be *"A light for revelation to the Gentiles and glory for your people Israel."* Luke 2:32. It is in this recognition of Jesus being the light of the world that candles are blessed on this day, and the feast is also known as Candlemas. **Next weekend Candles will be blessed—you may bring one from home or there will be candles available.**



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



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.



Young Adults: Theology on Tap

Join the young adults for **Theology on Tap at the Whiskey Barrel (location change) on January 25th at 6:00 PM** for an evening of thoughtful conversation and community with Father Reggie Norman. Enjoy a drink while engaging with meaningful topics that connect theology to real life. This is a relaxed space to listen, share, and connect with other young adults. Come as you are and bring a friend!



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

THE PEOPLE HAVE SEEN A GREAT LIGHT Agree..argue..broken..cross..fishermen..Galilee.. good..heaven..James..lake..light..Peter

M	Q	N	E	K	O	R	B	T	E	E	M	G	I	F	M	
T	G	Q	T	R	B	Q	O	Q	L	O	L	T	F	J	X	Y
B	C	X	C	T	K	X	U	O	I	A	S	P	X	M	Y	R
A	F	I	S	H	E	R	M	E	N	R	P	Q	P	R	G	I
B	S	H	G	O	V	G	C	R	O	S	S	F	E	U	A	T
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D	F	N	E	V	A	E	H	S	P	E	L	Y	B	M	A	P

The Holy Name of Jesus Men's Society Stuffed Cabbage Dinner



Thank you to everyone who attended the Stuffed Cabbage Dinner on Saturday night.

Good food and company was enjoyed by all. The dinner raised a total of \$426. And a big thank you



to the Men's Society for preparing and serving the meal. If any of our parish men are interested in joining the Men's Society call the parish office and Bob Sheehy, the president, will be happy to talk with you. 203.375.5815



FEBRUARY HEARTS

In
Thanksgiving

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.



Parish Financial Support

IN-CHURCH JN 17-18		
Sunday	\$	984.00
Monthly Outreach	\$	372.00
Other	\$	300.00
MAIL IN/DROP OFF—Jan 12-18		
Sunday	\$	345.00
Monthly Outreach	\$.00
Other	\$	45.00
ONLINE GIVING - Jan 12-18		
Sunday	\$	366.00
Monthly Outreach	\$	10.00
Other	\$	56.00
TOTAL INCOME:	\$	2,478.00
<i>Thank you! Your generosity has been a blessing to the Church of the Holy Name of Jesus throughout the year.</i>		

Regular January offertory envelopes include:

Monthly Outreach, Monthly Repairs Improvements, Initial Offering, Snow Removal, Latin America

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 \$ 12,825 has been received towards our goal.** Please prayerfully consider your support towards our Parish Annual Appeal.

2025 Tax Contribution Statements

Contribution Statements will be mailed to all parishioners who contributed during 2025. Statements will be mailed by January 31, 2026. If you do not receive a statement after the end of January, please contact the parish office.



2026 Bishop's Appeal
DIocese of BRIDGEPORT

Please consider a gift to the Bishop's Appeal.

The Bishop's Appeal allows us to unite as One in Christ to bring to life all the diocesan ministries, programs, and agencies that deliver the pastoral care and human services that no single parish can provide on its own.

Ways to Give

- 1 SCAN TO GIVE: 
- 2 GIVE ONLINE: 2026BishopsAppeal.org
- 3 GIVE BY MAIL: Diocese of Bridgeport P.O. Box 589 Shelton, CT 06484

Makes checks payable to Bishop's Appeal. Please do not send cash.

2026 Bishop's Appeal

The 2026 Bishop's Appeal provides the funds for the pastoral, educational and charitable ministries of the Diocese of Bridgeport. This year's theme, **One In Christ**, seeks to unite the diocese in service, compassion and faith as we work together to bring our sisters and brothers together to



encounter and embrace the power of the Lord Jesus in our lives. This week you will receive a letter from Bishop Caggiano on this year's Appeal, please take time to read the information thoroughly, give prayerful consideration on how you can help and make your sacrificial gift to the campaign. Thank you.



Upcoming Events...Mark Your Calendar!



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

Month of January

Baby Item collection for Malta House & area agencies

Jan 24 The Chosen

Jan 25 Faith Formation session

Jan 27, 30 Neo Catechumenal gathering Heritage Hall 7:30pm



Neo Catechumenal Way



You are invited to join Fr Jim and gather on Tuesday and Friday January 27 & 30th in Heritage Hall at 7:30pm for catechesis and good conversation. "Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give your rest." MT 11:28



GOD LOVES YOU AS YOU ARE! COME AND LISTEN TO A GOOD NEWS FOR YOUR LIFE

Starting January 13, 2026

at 7:00 PM

TUESDAYS & FRIDAYS

Holy Name of Jesus Church

Free Childcare Provided

Talks for adults & youth 13+

Free Childcare provided

Men's Reflection Group



Upcoming Men's Reflection Group dates: February 7 and 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. Print outs of the Reflection are on the back tables in church on the weekends when the men meet—take a copy!

Life Line Screening February 25



Life Line Screening will be at our parish on Wednesday, Feb. 25 for Stroke and Cardiovascular Disease Risk Screenings. Special Pricing for \$129—Carotid Artery Disease, Atrial

Fibrillation, Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm, Peripheral Artery Disease. Call 800.324.9458 with promo code HABC001 or Visit LLSA.SOCIAL/HABC or text the word "circle" to 216.279.1607

Pennsylvania Dutch Country Trip ~Joshua

St. James Parish invites you join them for their annual parish trip to Pennsylvania Dutch Country—June 24-25. The trip includes a performance of "Joshua" at the award-winning Sight and Sound theatre, meals, hotels, transportation and more. Reservations and deposits are now being accepted. Contact Karen Smith 203 209-4223 or Karen.Smith@stjct.org. Fliers are available in church.

Fr. Jim's Column—Just One More Thing!

Dear Parish Family, as we continue along in the beginning of the season of Ordinary Time, our scripture readings from Isaiah, Paul, and Matthew turn our attention to how God's plan of salvation has been - and continues to be - announced not just to God's chosen people Israel, but to all mankind! Recognizing how true this is, Pope Francis declared to the whole church on September 30, 2019 that from now on, every year, this Third Sunday in Ordinary Time is to be devoted to the celebration, study, and spreading of the Word of God.



And we who have been called and accepted God's mercy in Jesus through the waters of baptism, the gift of the Holy Spirit in confirmation, and his living bread in the Eucharist have been entrusted with this work of continuing Jesus' teaching and preaching that the Kingdom of God is at hand by the way in which we live our lives. And this is only possible when we allow ourselves to accept a deep, loving relationship with Jesus. Otherwise, we will not be able to bring others to Jesus. Nor can we alone live out this mission of spreading the Word of God that Jesus has given each of us. Living in communion with others is necessary for us to learn and mature in knowing God's love and to be able to share Jesus' good news. That is why we offer opportunities for coming together in our parish like the Guild of the Mother of Jesus, the Men's Society, the Men's Reflection Group, Bible Study, the Knights of Columbus Council 2370, and more. But this work needs not only our willing gift of our time and talents, but also our treasure.

Please read, and prayerfully consider, the enclosed update on our Offertory Increase Campaign and Parish Annual Collection. We need to increase the regular Sunday offertory (first pass of the baskets) to \$5,102 each week. **I am very, very grateful and proud of all your generosity throughout December towards making this goal a reality.** In fact, by the end of December we were only short of our total needed monthly Sunday offertory by \$3,738.

Again, thank you all. Please continue generously to love and serve the Lord. Father Jim

LENTEN REVIVAL



Join us on March 14-17 from 6:00pm to 7:00pm each night for a Lenten Revival in the church with Deacon Arthur Miller. Deacon Art is a prominent Catholic leader, activist, and author based in Connecticut, has made significant contributions to the church and society. Originally from

Chicago, he shared a childhood friendship with Emmett Till, whose tragic lynching profoundly impacted his lifelong commitment to justice. As the former director of the Office for Black Catholic Ministries in Hartford, Miller has dedicated himself to serving the church and the broader community through his dynamic preaching, social justice advocacy, and educational efforts. A Vietnam era veteran and retired businessman, Miller frequently engages in nationwide discussions on faith, love, and racial equality. He emphasizes the Christian call to transformative compassion and active engagement against injustice— join us for as many nights as you wish - bring your Bibles!



The CHOSEN

We hope you will join us for Season Two of.....

The CHOSEN
Saturdays at 5:00 in
Heritage Hall
January 24
Episodes 1 & 2
"Thunder" "I Saw you"

February 7 Episodes 3 & 4

"Matthew 4:24" "The Perfect Opportunity"

February 21 Episodes 5 & 6 "Spirit" "Unlawful"

March 7 Episodes 7 & 8 "Reckoning" "Beyond Mountains"

All are welcome! Bring the family!

A light meal will be served.

Study guides will be provided for you to take home.

***Please let us know how many will be attending so we have a headcount for the meal.**

Sign-up sheets in back of the church or call the parish office.

BLESSING OF THROATS

Next weekend at all the Masses we will offer the Blessing of Throats.

St. Blaise is a bishop and martyr who lived in the fourth century in Turkey and Armenia. For a time, Blaise lived in a cave to escape persecution. On his feast the church recalls a miracle cure associated with him and celebrates the blessing of the throats. Blaise apparently saved the life of a boy who was choking on a fish bone. He is listed among the Fourteen Holy Helpers, saints revered as healers. He is the patron saint of throat illnesses, animals, wool combers, and wool trading. Crossed candles are an important part of Saint Blaise Day, they commemorate the mother of the boy who choked on the fishbone. She presented Saint Blaise with crossed candles to light his way to jail when the ruler of Sebastea ordered his arrest.

<https://dioceseofprovidence.org/news>



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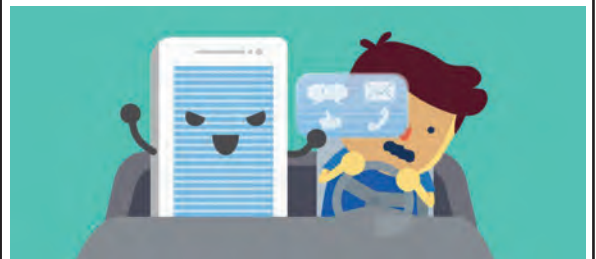
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