



Welcome to
Holy Name
of
Parish

*Palm
Sunday*

March 28-29,
2026

1950 Barnum
Ave. Stratford
CT 06614

203.375.5815

Parishoffice
@hnojchurch.org

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

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

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



Liturgical Services This Week

Mon 03/30	Tues 03/31	Wed 04/01	Holy Thursday 04/02	Good Friday 04/03	Holy Saturday 04/04	Easter Sunday 04/05
Parish Office Closed	7:30am Mass Intentions of Joanne Cooper Wingard <i>Mass celebrated in Sts. Cyril & Methodius Chapel</i>	 4:00pm Stations of the Cross, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with Eucharistic Adoration and Reconciliation 5:30pm Mass of the day Peace in the World <i>Mass celebrated in Church</i>	 7:30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper <i>followed by Adoration until 10:00pm</i>	 3:00pm The Passion of Our Lord	12:00pm Blessing of Easter Food Reconciliation 2:30—3:30pm 7:30pm The Great Vigil of Easter	7:30am Mass Living and Deceased of the Parish 10:00am Mass Living and Deceased of the Parish

MASS INTENTIONS

	4:00pm +Robert Grega 7:30am +Nguyen Thi Cham 10:00am +Mary and Edward Jablonski And Deceased of the Parish
	Please remember in prayer, All who are ill.. All Healthcare Workers.. All Military Personnel and First Responders.. All who suffer from violence and injustice...All who are near death.. All who have no one to pray for them.. And for all who have died.
	If you or a loved one are hospitalized or homebound and would like a visit to receive Communion, please call the parish office.

THIS WEEK'S CANDLE INTENTIONS

Sanctuary Tabernacle Candle <i>In Loving Memory of Nguyen Thi Cham</i>	
Chapel Tabernacle Candle <i>For all preparing for the Sacraments of the church</i>	
Sacred Heart Candle <i>In Loving Memory of Mario Petitti</i>	
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Candle <i>In Loving Memory of Faith Smith</i>	
St Joseph Shrine Candle <i>For refugees and all seeking a safe home</i>	
St Michael Candle <i>For the intentions of the Members of Council 2370 Knights of Columbus</i>	

LENT & HOLY WEEK

	Reconciliation Monday March 30th, 3:00 to 9:00pm St. James - Stratford, St Lawrence- Shelton, St. Catherine of Siena -Trumbull, St Mary, St. Margaret, St Augustine—Bridgeport		Good Friday, April 3 3:00pm The Passion of Our Lord
Tuesday of Holy Week, March 31, 7:30am Mass in Sts. Cyril and Methodius Chapel		Holy Saturday, April 4 12:00pm Blessing of Easter Food 7:30pm The Great Vigil of Easter	
	Wednesday of Holy Week, April 1 4:00pm Stations of the Cross 4:30pm Reconciliation and Eucharistic Adoration 5:30pm Mass of the Day		Easter Sunday April 5 Mass at 7:30am and 10:00am
Holy Thursday, April 2 7:30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper Adoration until 10:00pm		Catholic Churches of Stratford Scan for Mass times, Lenten, Holy Week and Easter Schedules for Holy Name of Jesus,	

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



Beginning of Holy Week

This week is the pinnacle of the Church year. We examine the failure and the triumph of Jesus Christ in his passion, death, and resurrection. May we participate in the Paschal Mystery as we seek signs of resurrection in our own lives. May Christ's passion be a reminder not only of his glory, but of our shared glory with Him.



Vacation Bible School: Summer 2026

Parents and guardians have two options for vacation Bible School in the town of Stratford this year: August 10-14 at St. Mark and August 17-21 at Our Lady of Peace. Please reach out to Dana Donia at ddonia@stmarkstfd.org for more information for the week at St. Mark, or Colin Petramale at colin.petramale@setoncollaborative.org for more information for the week at OLP. Both weeks promise to be faith-filled for all involved!



Spiritual Direction

Spiritual direction is for any person who desires to deepen their life of prayer—from learning how to pray or how to become more attuned to God's movements in his or her life. Your spiritual director will accompany, guide, and help you listen to the Lord in the stirrings of your heart and prayer. Spiritual Directors are available through Franciscan University, School of Spiritual Direction and through the Murphy Center at Fairfield University. To learn more about this opportunity, contact Laurie Collins at lauriec22@gmail.com or Betsy Redgate at bredgate.stjamesparish.org, respectively.

Holy Thursday ~ Mass of the Lord's Supper ??? PALM SUNDAY ???



Palm Sunday begins Holy Week and leads to the Triduum, the most sacred time in the Church. On Holy Thursday, Catholics remember the Last Supper, when Jesus gave his disciples the Eucharist and showed them how to serve by



washing their feet. This Mass marks the end of Lent and the start of the three-day journey toward Easter. The readings from Palm Sunday Year A remind people that Jesus willingly entered into suffering, and on Holy Thursday, he prepares for what is to come. **The Mass of the Lord's Supper is different from a regular Mass. The altar is stripped, and the Eucharist is placed in a special location for adoration.** This recalls Jesus praying in the Garden of Gethsemane before his arrest. Just as his disciples were called to stay with him, people today are invited to keep watch and reflect on his sacrifice. Holy Thursday sets the stage for the suffering and victory of Easter.



We invite our parish family and friends to celebrate Holy Thursday together this week.

- Why did Jesus ride a donkey into Jerusalem?
- Why did the people cheer for Jesus but later turn against him?
- What does the first reading tell us about suffering?
- What can we learn from Jesus' suffering?
- Why is Jesus' death not the end of the story?

How can we live out the lessons of Palm Sunday?
People can follow Jesus by being humble, serving others, and trusting God in hard times. Palm Sunday encourages us to stay faithful even when life is difficult.

- Jesus rode a donkey to show that he was a different kind of king. He came in peace and humility, not as a ruler seeking power.
- The people expected Jesus to be a powerful leader who would free them from Roman rule. When he did not meet their expectations, some turned away from him.
- The servant in the reading suffers but does not fight back. This shows trust in God and patience in hard times.
- Jesus suffered without anger or revenge. People can learn to face hard times with patience and trust in God.
- Jesus died, but God raised him to life. His story gives hope that suffering and death do not have the last word.

Parish Financial Support

IN-CHURCH Mar 21-22		
Sunday	\$	2,017.52
Monthly Outreach	\$	682.00
Other	\$	329.50
MAIL IN/DROP OFF - Mar 16-22		
Sunday	\$	150.00
Monthly Outreach	\$.00
Other	\$	100.00
ONLINE GIVING - Mar 16-22		
Sunday	\$	441.00
Monthly Outreach	\$.00
Other	\$.00
TOTAL INCOME:	\$	3,720.02

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

Upcoming Events...Mark Your Calendar!

This Week: Wednesday
4:00pm Stations of the Cross
4:30pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Reconciliation available
5:30pm Mass



March 29 Faith Formation sessions
March 28,29 Monthly Food Collection
Holy Week Schedule on the inside cover page

Neo Catechumenal Way



On **Wednesday, April 1st** the Neo Catechumenal Way will celebrate a **Celebration of the Word** (Bible) at 7:30pm in the Church. All are welcome.

Bible Study



Join Fr. Jim as we continue understanding the Prophet Isaiah.
Sunday, April 12, 11:30am-12:30pm **Sunday, April 26**, 11:30am-12:30pm and Saturday, May 16, 10:00am -11:15am

Men's Reflection Group



Upcoming Saturday Reflection dates:
April 11, 26, and May 16
7:45am in the Parish Community Room
Please join us!

Good Friday Holy Land Collection



Pope Leo has asked our parish to support the Pontifical **Good Friday Collection**, which helps Christians in the Holy Land, where they are now less than 2% of the population. Your support is essential to help the Church minister in parishes, provide Catholic schools, and offer religious education. The Pontifical Good Friday Collection also helps to preserve the sacred shrines of Christianity, including in Jerusalem, Nazareth, and Bethlehem. The pandemic had hit Christians in the Holy Land particularly hard. Most of them depend on pilgrimages for work. The war and now the Iranian conflict have made their situation even more dire. When you contribute to the Good Friday Collection, you join with Catholics around the world in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land. Please be generous! For more information visit www.myfranciscan.org



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 \$ 14,570 has been received towards our goal.** Please prayerfully consider your support towards our Parish Annual Appeal.

Annual Bishop's Appeal

Holy Name of Jesus Parish

2026 Bishop's Appeal as of 3/20/26

Bishop's Appeal Goal:	\$37,500
Total Pledged:	\$13,356 (36%)
Donors to Date:	48 Donors



To make a gift, or for more information, please visit us at 2026BishopsAppeal.org, call (203) 416-1470 or scan with your phone.

Pop Tabs for Ronald McDonald House

The Faith Formation class are collecting the pop tabs (pull tabs) from aluminum cans to help support the Ronald McDonald House. The tabs are collected, recycled, and the proceeds help provide free or low-cost lodging for families with hospitalized children. Thank you!



Easter Crosses

BEAUTIFUL HANDMADE CROSSES
CEMETERY EASTER CROSSES



Donation \$15 And **STANDING OR**

WALL MOUNT WOOD CROSSES In 3 colors \$20 each -Available in the church vestibule or call the parish office to order.

We hope you will join us for Season Two of...**The CHOSEN** Wednesdays at **6:30pm** in Heritage Hall
April 22 Episodes 1 & 2
"Thunder" "I Saw you"



April 29 Episodes 3 & 4

"Matthew 4:24" "The Perfect Opportunity"

May 6 Episodes 5 & 6 "Spirit" "Unlawful"

May 13 Episodes 7 & 8 "Reckoning" "Beyond Mountains"

All are welcome—Bring the family! Snacks will be available or you may bring your dinner!

Study guides will be provided for you to take home. Sign-up sheets in the back of church or call the parish office.

Fr. Jim's Column—Just One More Thing!

From Hosanna to Crucify Him, to He is Risen! Holy Week is here. Lent is ended. I hope that your 40 days of Lent was a time of prayer, fasting, and giving of time, talent, and treasure especially for the poor. But if like me, you did not pray, fast, or give as much as you knew you could have throughout Lent, not just a couple of days here and there, do not judge yourself too harshly. While Jesus is disappointed, he understands.

Though Jesus has hoped that we would have allowed ourselves to trust him so that he could have drawn us closer to himself and wanted us to let him help us grow in love for him, ourselves, and our neighbor, he knows the fears and doubts you and me keep holding on to. In his infinite love and mercy, he invites us again this Holy Week to allow him now to draw us close to himself by walking with him along his passion, death, and resurrection.



Palm Sunday – Can I spend some time in silence during Palm Sunday after Mass and ask myself if my shouts of Hosanna to the Son of David and prayerful participation in the Passion proclaimed just ends at Mass? Or can I pray and think about how Jesus has spoken to me especially in his Passion? Can I allow him to help me walk with him each day of Holy Week?

Holy Monday through Holy Wednesday – Can I spend some time again in silence each day praying and thinking about how Jesus lived those last days before his arrest in the garden of Gethsemane? Am I anticipating the coming soon of my own passion? Or have the days of anticipation ended? If not, is there a loved one, neighbor, friend, or coworker in the throes of anticipating their own passion coming soon? Can I allow Jesus to help me walk with them in this stressful time of anticipation?

Holy Thursday through Easter Sunday – Jesus is in his passion, 'Take, eat, this is my body.', 'Take, drink, this is my blood.' Peter says, 'I do not even know the man.' All cry, 'Crucify him, crucify him!' Jesus says, 'It is finished'. Jesus risen says to Mary Magdalene, 'Do not be afraid. Go, tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me.'

Let us pray. Lord Jesus, you love us even to death on the cross. Thank you!
Help me, Father Jim, and all in our church which bears your Holy Name to let you touch and move our hearts and minds to know your love for each of us. Help us to live and believe in you so that through each of us you may call many others to your promise of eternal life. Amen.



LENT FAITH EVENT ~ SHADOW STATIONS We thank our faith formation children for their reverent and beautiful portrayal of Jesus' Passion, Death and Resurrection



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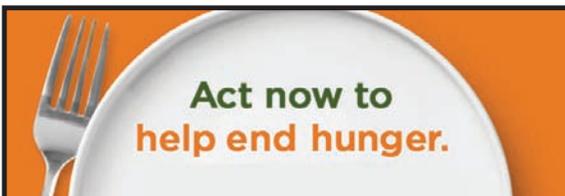
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