

Watch therefore, for you  
do not know on what day  
your Lord comes.  
Matt. 24:42

## Welcome to Holy Name of Jesus Parish

November 29-30, 2025

### *FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT*



1950 Barnum Ave., Stratford CT 06614



203.375.5815 Parishoffice@hnojchurch.org www.hnojchurch.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.

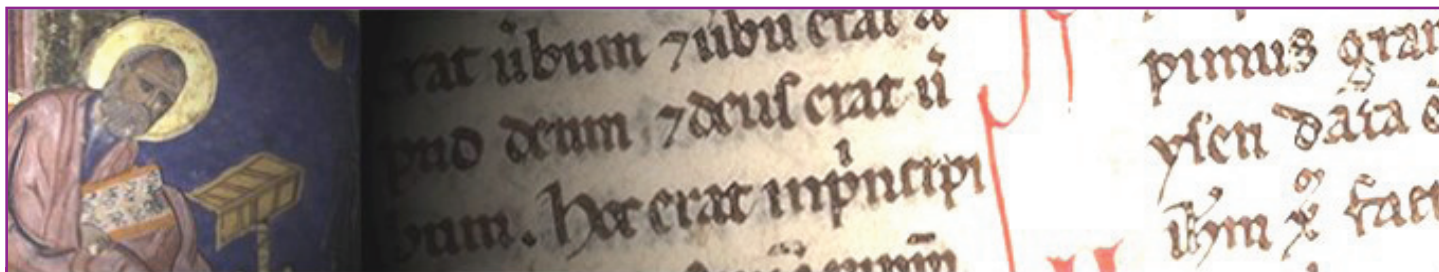
#### NEW PARISHIONERS

Welcome! Please call, visit the office or register  
online at [www.hnojchurch.org](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 12/01	Tues 12/02	Wed 12/03	Thurs 12/04	Fri 12/05	Saturday 12/06	Sunday 12/07
Parish Office closed	<b>7:30am Mass +Barbara Amend</b> <i>r/b Tringhese family</i>  <i>Mass celebrated in Sts. Cyril &amp; Methodius Chapel</i>	<b>4:00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with Eucharistic Adoration and Reconciliation</b>  <b>5:30pm Mass of the day</b> <b>+Dorothy Uhelsky</b> <i>r/b best friends, Jan and Nancy</i>  <i>Wednesday Services held in Church</i>	<b>7:30am Mass +Paul Sterbin Check</b> <i>r/b Fr. Jim</i>  <i>Mass celebrated in Sts. Cyril &amp; Methodius Chapel</i>	Parish Office closed	<b>Reconciliation 2:30—3:30pm</b>  <b>4:00pm + Barbara and Roger Cadrin</b> <i>r/b Jayne Staffey and family</i> <b>And The Deceased of the Parish</b>	<b>7:30am Mass +Betty Pucci</b> <i>r/b daughter &amp; son in law Mary Ellen and Steve Kother</i>  <b>10:00am Mass +Sr Gloria Marie Kascak</b> <i>r/b Mr &amp; Mrs Larry Wells</i>
					Parish	Nurses

## MASS INTENTIONS



**4:00pm +Anna and Frank Ziza**  
**7:30am +Holy Souls in Purgatory**  
**10:00am +Mark A. Kascak**  
**And The Deceased of the Parish**



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.*

### 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 (Friday 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



### Breaking Bread Missalettes for 2026

will be available in the church the first weekend of Advent, Nov 30th. If you would like your own copy the requested donation is \$8



**If you, a loved one or a friend are hospitalized and in need of a visit please call the parish office.** Also

If you or someone you know is homebound and wishes to receive communion, or if you will be having surgery and wish to be anointed please call the office.

## THIS WEEK'S CANDLE INTENTIONS



### Sanctuary Tabernacle Candle

*In Loving Memory of Dorothy Uhelsky*

### Chapel Tabernacle Candle

*Pope Leo's December Prayer Intention—that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope*

### Sacred Heart Candle

*For the homebound and those who care for them*

### Our Lady of Perpetual Help Candle

*For all those who suffer from religious persecution*

### St Joseph Shrine Candle

*In Loving Memory of Mark Kascak*

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

## PSALM 122 ~ 1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

**I rejoiced because they said to me,  
"We will go up to the house of the LORD."  
And now we have set foot within your gates, O Jerusalem.**

Psalm 122 is a song of joy and peace. It is a psalm that speaks of coming together in faith. The people are glad to go to the house of the Lord. It is a song of hope for a city filled with God's presence



**New to the Parish? WELCOME! Change of contact Info?** Call the Parish Office with your changes or fill out a registration form, email it or mail. The Registration form is also available on our website [www.hnojchurch.org](http://www.hnojchurch.org) under the NEWCOMERS tab.





## 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)

### 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 on 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 [donnammar@aol.com](mailto:donnammar@aol.com) by November 28th to sign up.

### 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](mailto: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 17<sup>th</sup> from 6:00pm-7:30pm. Free will offering. Please RSVP to Colin at [colin.petramale@setoncollaborative.org](mailto:colin.petramale@setoncollaborative.org).

## OUR NOVEMBER FAITH EVENT ~ CELEBRATING EVERYDAY SAINTS ~ THAT'S YOU!

Our Family Faith Event began with *The Saints Come Marching In*, led by our Cantor, Ben and followed by exploring what a Saint is and how our ordinary lives can lead to Sainthood with our acts of love, kindness and sacrifice. Fr. Jim discussed with the parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles how what they do in their busy filled days is the way to Sainthood while the children discovered Saints in the Scavenger hunt. Both parents and kids had art & crafts project and we finished with *All God's Creatures have a Place in the Choir* with hand motions and a do-si-do! Thank you to catechists, Carol Bogue (Queen Saint Esther) and Nancy Milewski (Saint Zita) for leading this fun and engaging event!





## Parish Financial Support

**Due to an early Thanksgiving publishing deadline, the Parish Financial Support will be updated next weekend.**



The first Sunday of December each year is observed as "Accountability Sunday" in the Diocese of Bridgeport. On Sunday December 7th, our parish financial reports for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2025 will be available on our website [www.hnojchurch.org](http://www.hnojchurch.org)  
Hard copies will also be available in Church

Thank you for your continued generosity to Holy Name of Jesus Church

## December Offertory Envelopes



### December offertory envelopes include:

Regular Sunday Offertory, Monthly Outreach, Monthly Repairs & Improvements, Christmas Flowers, Immaculate Conception, Retired Religious Fund, Christmas and Poor and Needy



## 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 \$8,935 has been received towards our goal.**

Please prayerfully consider your support towards our Parish Annual Appeal.



## 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 - order soon - limited availability!



## 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](mailto:FrDivasto@diobpt.org)

## Upcoming Events...Mark Your Calendar!

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



Nov 29-30 Monthly Food Collection

Nov 30 No Faith Formation gathering Thanksgiving weekend

Dec 6-7 Parish Nurses

Dec 6 and 20 Men's Reflection Group

Dec 7 and 14 Faith Formation gathering for children

Dec 7 Accountability Sunday

Dec 7 Christmas Bake Sale Pick Up day

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

Dec 27-28 Monthly Food Collection

**LAST DAY TO ORDER—DECEMBER 3!!**

Don't forget to pick up your Christmas Bake Sale orders on Sunday, Dec. 14 from 8:30am-12:00pm in Heritage Hall



## Men's Reflection Group



The Men's Reflection Group will meet next on Dec 6 and 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 at 9:00am. **Join us!**

## 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, Dec 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. Please place the reservation form and payment of \$15 in the Offertory Basket at Mass or call or email the parish office [parishoffice@hnojchurch.org](mailto:parishoffice@hnojchurch.org) 203.375.5815 RSVP by Dec 14.



### Advent Reflection & Dinner 2025

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Number of people attending \_\_\_\_\_





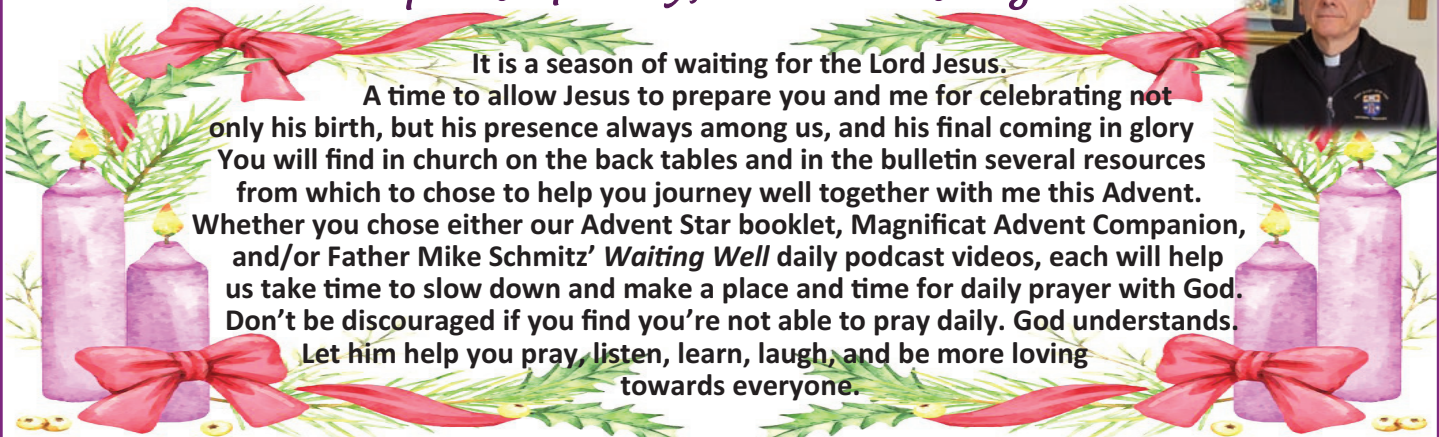
## Fr. Jim's Column—Just One More Thing!

### Dear parish family, Advent has begun

It is a season of waiting for the Lord Jesus.

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. You will find in church on the back tables and in the bulletin several resources from which to choose to help you journey well together with me this Advent. Whether you choose either our Advent Star booklet, Magnificat Advent Companion, and/or Father Mike Schmitz' *Waiting Well* daily podcast videos, each will help us take time to slow down and make a place and time for daily prayer with God. Don't be discouraged if you find you're not able to pray daily. God understands. Let him help you pray, listen, learn, laugh, and be more loving towards everyone.

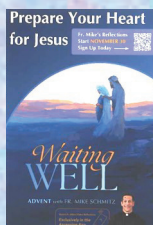
Maranatha, Come Lord Jesus! Peace, Father Jim



### Fr Jim's Retreat

From Sunday afternoon, November 30th through Saturday evening, December 6th, I will be away on retreat in Gloucester, Massachusetts. Every bishop, priest, deacon, and religious sister and brother must make a retreat each year. To take time to just be with the Lord Jesus in prayer, rest and relaxation. A very necessary time to allow Jesus to recharge my spiritual batteries. The weekday Masses during this week along with the 4pm Saturday Vigil Mass on December 6th will be celebrated by my brother priests Father Paul Sankar, Father Peter Adamski, and Father Michael Boccacio. Please know that I will remember to pray for all of you. Please pray for me. Peace, Fr Jim

### 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](http://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. I have 35 paperback copies available, and I can get more if needed. 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



### ADVENT GIVING TREE

#### Annual Parish ADVENT GIVING TREE

Your generosity over the years has helped make Christmas brighter for so many during this season of giving. Please take a tag or two from the trees on the tables in back of church, purchase the gift(s) and return them **unwrapped** to the tables. **REMINDER: ALL GIFTS—**

**UNWRAPPED -NEED TO BE RETURNED TO THE CHURCH OR PARISH OFFICE by NEXT WEEKEND**

**DEC. 6-7** Thank you and may God continue to bless you for your kindness and compassion to those in need.



### BEGIN A NEW CHRISTMAS EVE TRADITION IN YOUR HOME!

**Oplatky is available before and after Mass and at the Parish Office**  
**\$3.00 donation per package. Each package has 6 wafers.**

'Oplatki' means "Angel Bread". Traditionally, on Christmas Eve, the wafer is broken and shared with the family members at the table - passing it to another family member with a blessing.

### Novena of the Immaculate Conception 2025

Saints Cyril & Methodius Church, 79 Church St., Bpt., invites you to join the Novena of the Immaculate Conception ceremony. **Dec 1st, 6:00pm** ✕ **Dec 2nd, 6:00pm** ✕ **Dec 3rd, 6:00pm** ✕ **Dec 4th, 6:00pm** ✕ **Dec 5th, 6:00pm** ✕ **Dec 6th, 8:30am** ✕ **Dec. 7th, 10:15am**  
Full schedule listed on the fliers in back of church.



### 25 Ways to use Advent to prepare for Christmas

Acts of kindness Service Family Traditions  
Spiritual Preparation Faith at Home

English & Spanish Posters are available in the back of church to take home to help you and your family prepare for Christmas, compliments of the *Institute for Catholic*

*Formation Diocese of Bridgeport* <https://formationreimagined.org/advent-resources-2025/>

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HOPE  
JOY  
LOVE  
ADVENT



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