



HOLY NAME OF JESUS

CATHOLIC CHURCH

1950 Barnum Ave., Stratford, CT 06614
203.375.5815 parishoffice@hnojchurch.org
www.hnojchurch.org

September 12-13, 2026 ~ 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Welcome!

MASS SCHEDULE

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday | 4:00pm Vigil

Sunday | 7:30am, 10:00am

Rosary prayed at 9:30am prior to the 10:00am Mass

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday | 7:30am in the parish Chapel of Saints Cyril & Methodius, 2 Mary Ave

Wednesday | 4:00pm Adoration

4:30pm-5:00pm Reconciliation

5:30pm Mass. All services held in Church

Thursday | 7:30am in the parish Chapel of Saints Cyril & Methodius, 2 Mary Ave

Tuesday -Friday Private Prayer 9:00am to 2:00pm
in the parish Chapel of Saints Cyril & Methodius

CONFESSION

Wednesday | 4:30 - 5:00pm

Saturday | 2:30-3:30pm

Other | By Appointment

Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday 9:00am-4:00pm
Closed Mondays

Our Staff

Rev. James DiVasto, Pastor
pastor@hnojchurch.org

Rev. Churchill Penn, In Residence

Deacon Joseph Huong

Parish Trustees: Carol Bogue and Paul Kravitz

Finance Board Chair: Chris Silhavey

Music Director and Organist: Bob Cloutier

Coordinator of Faith Formation: Nancy Milewski
cff@hnojchurch.org

Parish Secretary: Maryjean daSilva



Baptism

Please contact the Parish Office for registration and instructions.

Marriage

We celebrate Christian love and family with the Sacrament of Matrimony. Couples should contact the parish office one year in advance.

Hospitalization

If you or a loved one is hospitalized or homebound, please notify us to receive care.

New Parishoners

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

MASS INTENTIONS

September 12-20, 2026

Saturday, September 12
4:00pm +Eusebio Rivera Jr

Sunday, September 13
7:30am +Holy Souls in Purgatory
10:00am +Edward T. Kascak

Tuesday, September 15
7:30am +Magdelene Goda
r/b Barbara Soltis

Wednesday, September 16
4:00pm Adoration
4:30-5:00pm Reconciliation
5:30pm Mass of the Day
+Blessed Fr. Stanley Rother
and the Martyrs of the Church

Thursday, September 17
7:30am
+Maria da Conceição Soares
r/b Fr. Jim

Saturday, September 19
4:00pm +Luige Cardillo
r/b Susan Cunningham

Sunday, September 20
7:30am
Living & Deceased of the Parish
10:00am
+Alexander Weiler
r/b the McClean family



Please remember in prayer, All who are ill.. All Healthcare Workers.. All Military Personnel and First Responders...All who are near death.. All who suffer from violence and Injustice...

All who have no one to pray for them.. All Names and intentions listed in the prayer book at Our Lady of Perpetual Shrine... And for all who have died.

*The Lord is kind and merciful,
slow to anger, and rich in compassion.
He pardons all your iniquities, heals all your ills.
He redeems your life from destruction,
crowns you with kindness and compassion.
Psalm 103:3-4*



This Sunday's Readings

First Reading:
Sirach 27:30-28:7

Responsorial Psalm:
Psalm 103

Second Reading:
Romans 14:7-9

Gospel:
Matthew 18:21-35

This Week's Candle Intentions



Sanctuary Tabernacle Candle

Blessings for our parish Faith Formation Season

Chapel Tabernacle Candle

For our homebound parishioners

Sacred Heart of Jesus Candle

For Bishop Frank Caggiano and the clergy of our Diocese

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Candle

In Loving Memory of the Prihoda and Skorvira Families

St Joseph Shrine Candle For Pope Leo's September Prayer Intention for a just and sustainable management of water, so that everyone may have equal access to it.

St Michael Candle

For the intentions of the Members of Council 2370 Knights of Columbus



Sunday Morning Rosary at 9:30am

If you would like to help by leading one of the five decades, please call the parish office or email

Fr. Jim at pastor@hnojchurch.org

"May we continue to experience Mary's help, protection, and intercession for us

**O Immaculate Heart of Mary
cause of our joy, Pray for Us"**

Exaltation of the Holy Cross September 14



The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, also known as the Feast of the Triumph of the Cross, commemorates three historical events: the discovery of the True Cross in 326, its initial exaltation for public veneration in 335, and the recovery of the Cross from the Persians in 628. Nowadays, this feast also celebrates the boundless impact of Christ's Cross upon all of creation. Although we commemorate these three historical events today, the core of our celebration is not the physical wood of the Cross or the

holy sites where Jesus died and was buried. Our primary focus is the infinite love shown through the selfless and perfect Sacrifice of the Son of God and the boundless mercy that has poured forth upon the world as a result. The Cross itself is a cruel instrument of torture and death. The fact that it is now the symbol of God's perfect love only further magnifies that love and showcases God's infinite power to use the worst for the best: to use death to bring life and to transform the greatest act of cruelty ever known into the greatest act of mercy ever bestowed upon the world.
mycatholic.life

Parish Financial Support

IN-CHURCH Sept 5-6	
Sunday	\$ 1,925.00
Monthly	976.00
Other	.00
MAIL IN/DROP OFF Aug 31-Sept 6	
Sunday	\$ 1,562.00
Monthly	185.00
Other	.00
ONLINE GIVING - Aug 31- Sept 6	
Sunday	\$ 905.00
Monthly	60.00
Other	.00
TOTAL INCOME:	\$ 5,613.00

Parish Annual Collection 2026—2027
Parish Campus Safety \$9,906

REGULAR SEPTEMBER OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

also include Monthly Outreach, Monthly Repairs & Improvements, Catholic University, Holy Name Society and HNoJ Annual Collection Parish Campus repairs

HNoJ Parish Annual Collection

Our 2026/2027 HNoJ Parish Annual Collection goal is to raise \$17,500 to help repair several areas of the church grounds. Your generosity will help ensure that our parish grounds remain safe, welcoming, and accessible for all. **Current donations total \$9,906**

The Chosen-Season 3 Join us Wednesdays at 6:30pm in Heritage Hall

Sept 23 *in Parish Community Room
Episodes 3 & 4 *Physician, Heal Yourself* and *Clean Part 1*

Sept 30 Episodes 5 & 6
Clean, Part 2 and *Intensity in Tent City*

Oct 7 Episodes 7 & 8
Ears to Hear and *Sustenance*



Bishop Caggiano will celebrate Mass on Tuesday, September 29, at 7:00 PM at Saint Aloysius Church in New Canaan to commemorate the anniversary of September 11th. All Law Enforcement, Fire, Military and Emergency Medical Service Personnel who serve in the Diocese of Bridgeport are invited. *Deacon George F. Kain Chaplain, Ridgefield Police Dept dnkain@diobpt.org 203.994.7807 or Sharon Colihan, Event Coordinator scolihan@diobpt.org 203.416.1454*



Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The Feast of The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, on September 8th has been celebrated for many centuries. It started in the early days of Christianity. Christians wanted to honor Mary because she played such an important role as the mother of Jesus. The first celebrations of Mary's birth likely began in the Eastern part of the Roman Empire, where Christians already had a strong devotion to her. The Immaculate Conception of Mary is a key belief in the Catholic Church. It teaches that Mary was conceived without original sin. Original sin is the sin that all humans are said to inherit from Adam and Eve. But in Mary's case, God gave her a special grace, allowing her to be born without it. This made her different from everyone else. Mary's birth without sin is very important because it prepared her for her role as the mother of Jesus.

young-catholics.com

Upcoming Events - Mark your calendar

Wednesdays

4:00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

4:30-5:00pm Reconciliation

5:30pm Mass



Sept 13 Faith Formation Opening Day

Sept 14, 28 CT FoodShare Mobile Pantry - church parking lot 9:15-10:15am

Sept 18 Quarter Nite

Sept 19 Men's Reflection Group

Sept 19-20 Coffee And...

Sept 20 Faith Formation Session - Parish Hall

Sept 26-27 Monthly Food Collection

Sept 26-27 Parish Tag Sale

Sept 27 Faith Formation Session - Church

Sept 28 Lord's Kitchen



QUARTER NITE! Join us Friday September 18 - Doors open at 5:30pm and bidding begins at 6:15pm
\$5.00 Admission. Sign Up Sheets

are in the back of church or call the parish office.

THEMED BASKET SILENT AUCTION!

Theme Baskets by Ramona are displayed on the back tables. Stop & browse the selections & cast your bids. Winners will be determined the evening of Quarter Nite. Good Luck! Winners do not have to be present

MEN'S REFLECTION GROUP



Upcoming Dates: Saturday September 19, October 13 and 17
Guys are invited to gather at 7:45am
Reflections on the Readings
8:00- 9:00am.

BIBLE STUDY with Fr. Jim will resume in the fall

Faith Formation



for children kindergarten through high school has begun. Sessions are on Sundays from 11:00am to 12:15pm in Heritage Hall. For more info call Nancy Milewski, Coordinator of Faith Formation, Tuesday - Friday, at 203.375.5815 or email cff@hnojchurch.org

Welcome to Morning Star



Morning Star Grief Ministry at St. Pius X Parish is a faith based gathering offering a compassionate, prayerful space for those grieving the death or catastrophic illness of a loved one, or another significant loss. Come as you are. Share if you wish, or simply listen.

Together, we make room for each person's unique grief through guided reflection, conversation, prayer and the hope of Christ. **Monthly Gathering: Third Sunday of every month at 12 noon Parish Center, Munro Meeting Room, St. Pius X Parish 8345 Brookside Dr, Fairfield**

For more information:

Genevieve Ritch, Certified Grief Educator & facilitator
genevieve@thesupportspaceco.com

Deacon Don Ross, Certified Spiritual Director & Facilitator
dnross@diobpt.org



Parish Tag Sale

Saturday, Sept 26TH
9am to 2pm
Sunday, Sept 27TH
11am to 1pm

Sign up sheets for volunteers are in the back of Church.

Grocery bags and newspapers are needed and can be brought to the Parish Office during the week or to Church on the weekend.

Tag Sale donations will be accepted on Monday & Tuesday Sept. 21 and 22 from 11am to 2pm at the Parish Hall.

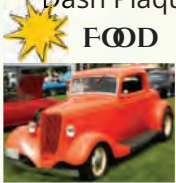
Reminder: NO electronics, TVs, computers, exercise equipment, cribs or encyclopedias can be accepted.



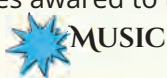
CLASSIC CAR SHOW

The Knights of Columbus Council #2370 presents CLASSIC CAR SHOW
October 31 11:00am - 2:00pm

Car Show is open to All Cars - Car donation \$15
 Dash Plaques awarded to the first 50 cars



FOOD



MUSIC



TROPHIES

FUN FOR ALL!

Proceeds to benefit the Seminarian Scholarship
 (Rain Date Nov 7)

Life Line Screening October 30



Life Line Screening will be at at Holy Name of Jesus in Heritage Hall on Friday, October 30. A discounted

offer of \$129 will identify your risk level for the following diseases: 1. Carotid Artery Disease 2. Peripheral Arterial Disease 3. Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm 4. Atrial Fibrillation www.ilsa.social/habc or call 800-324-9458 to schedule your appointment! Use Code HABC001



40 Days for Life September 23rd - November 1st
www.40daysforlife.com

The local Fall campaign of 40 days of prayer, fasting and peaceful vigil for an end to abortion will take place on the public sidewalk at 4697 Main Street in Bridgeport at the entrance to Commerce Park from 8am-4pm Monday-Saturday and from 1pm-3pm on Sunday starting Wednesday, September 23rd. We welcome you to join us. To learn more and sign up for vigil hours visit www.40daysforlife.com/bridgeport. For questions, contact our local campaign leader at 40daysbridgeport@proton.me.

FORGIVENESS WILL LIBERATE YOU: THE LESSON OF NELSON MANDELA

Mandela is an example that inspires us to improve the world. Central to Mandela's civil struggle was forgiveness, a theme that puts him in particular harmony with the Teachings of Pope Francis. In his non-violent civil battle, in his commitment as a "dreamer who never gives up," as he liked to describe himself, Mandela

demonstrated precisely that no one is superior to another because we all have the same dignity. For the South African leader, who had paid for his ideas of justice and equality

with 27 years in prison, white domination over blacks was not acceptable, but neither was the opposite. That is why, when he finally became a free man again on 11 February 1990 and, a few years later, was elected President of his country, he radically rejected any temptation of revenge on the part of the blacks and instead embarked on a courageous process of reconciliation and healing of the deep wounds that Apartheid had inflicted on the South African people.

This commitment earned him the Nobel Peace Prize and still makes him 13 years after his death, one of the most inspiring figures for new generations.

The South African leader "showed that each and every one of us has the ability - and responsibility - to build a better future for all." For everyone. Not just for one side. Because, as one of his most quoted statements recalls, "It is so easy to break down and destroy. The heroes are those who make peace and build." But what enabled Mandela to endure being deprived freedom for almost 30 years of his life and then to be that peacebuilder that everyone admired and continues to admire? Forgiveness.

Certainly Madiba, as he was called in his home tribe, did not come to forgive his torturers effortlessly, it was not a 'cheap' conquest. He himself confided that in the first moments after leaving prison, anger was his predominant feeling. But it was at that key passage in his life (and in the history of South Africa) that, as he recounted, he heard this admonition from the Lord: "Nelson, while you were in prison you were free, now that you are free, don't become their prisoner." Mandela thus decided not to remain trapped in the past, to let the bitterness go. He was aware, as he later stated, that "Forgiveness liberates the soul. It removes fear. That is why it is such a powerful weapon."

Alessandro Gisotti vaticannews.va

This year will mark the inauguration of an annual diocesan novena in honor of St. Pio of Pietrelcina, known as Padre Pio, Wednesday, September 23 to October 1, 2026.

Mass will be celebrated each evening at 7:00PM followed by the Litany of St. Pio, and then the veneration of his relics. 9/23/26 The Basilica of St. John the Evangelist, 279 Atlantic Street, Stamford 9/24/26 Church of the Holy Spirit, 403 Scofieldtown Road, Stamford 9/25/26 St. Thomas Aquinas Parish, 1719 Post Rd Ffld 9/26/26 St. Augustine Cathedral, 399 Washington Ave, Bpt 9/27/26 St. Catherine of Siena Parish, 220 Shelton Rd Trumbull 9/28/26 St. Jude Parish, 707 Monroe Turnpike, Monroe 9/29/26 St. Patrick Parish, 169 Black Rock Turnpike, Redding 9/30/26 St. Philip Church, 1 Father Conlon Place, Norwalk 10/1/26 Church of St. Cecilia, 1184 Newfield Avenue, Stamford

FR. JIM'S COLUMN—"JUST ONE MORE THING"!

Last Sunday, Labor Day weekend, we heard in the second reading from Saint Paul, "Owe nothing to anyone, except to love one another" because "Love does no evil to the neighbor; hence, love is the fulfillment of the law." This Sunday, Jesus teaches us a very important lesson about how through one way we are called to love, to truly forgive one another as Jesus forgives.



In case like me you could use a few tips about how to really forgive others as Jesus does, here's a few from *Mother Angelica's Guide to the Spiritual Life*, published by Sophia Press, Manchester, New Hampshire.

First, "We need to focus on the beautiful qualities that the Father and the Son have planted [in all] souls."

Second, we need to practice compassion. "Compassion heals. Compassion makes things grow. . . To be compassionate is to forget yourself. [It] is to think more of your neighbor. It is to say to your neighbor, 'Look, I know you have weaknesses; I know you have faults. . . But I too am a sinner.'"

Third, "Compassion transforms you into the image of the Father. . . How divine it is to forgive. How divine not to judge. How divine to rejoice, like the Father at the prodigal son. How divine to say, 'Oh, I'm so glad you're back. I'm so glad you're repentant.'"

And last, but not least, you and I need to, "Look [at others] through the eyes of the Father. Look with the heart of Jesus. Look with the power of the Spirit. The Spirit in you can purify you. The Spirit in you can make you love your brother, though you hate his sin."

You and I need especially to remember this last point Mother Angelica makes. Let's think of it this way. While all our sins, faults, and failings past and present that you and I have done are sadly part of who we have chosen to be and choose now, still our sins, faults, and failings are never the sum of who we are.



There has been, and is now, so much more about who we are. The Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit know this. They know that you and I have been and are now grateful, generous, kind, cheerful, and loving. That you and I are beloved sons and daughters of Our Father. You and I must never forget this!

Here's one last tip from me; go to confession. I went last Saturday. What a relief to unload all my sins since my last confession. How grateful I am not only for Jesus' forgiveness, but also for his words of correction, counseling, encouragement, and penance through his priest servant. And I am grateful too for my brother priest's assurance that he is praying for me to continue to allow Jesus to help me amend my life so that day by day I become more and more like Jesus. Don't be afraid. Even if it has been years since your last confession. The priest will be glad to help you through the steps of confession and rejoice with you that you are again reconciled to God and all in his Church. God Bless+



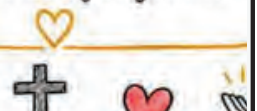
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Forgive not seven times but seventy-seven times

begged...followers..
 free...heart..
 hundred...king...
 money...official...
 owed...pity...
 seventy...sold...

Reflection Questions

Why is forgiveness difficult?
 How has God shown me mercy?
 Who needs my forgiveness?



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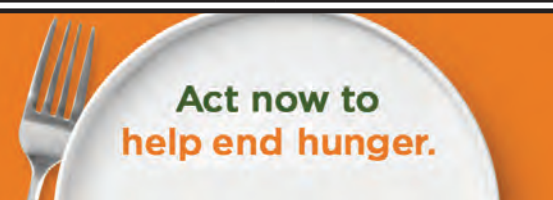
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