



ANNUNCIATION PARISH

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD, MARCH 29, 2026

PARISH OFFICE

626 Willard Ave. (All Mail Please)
Newington, CT 06111
Phone: (860) 666-1591

Office Hours

Monday - Friday:
9:00am - 2:00pm

CHURCH OF ST. MARY

626 Willard Avenue
Newington, CT. 06111

CHURCH OF HOLY SPIRIT

183 Church Street (No Mail Please)
Newington, CT. 06111

Confession

Friday: 8:30-8:50 am, HS
Saturday: 3:00-3:50 pm, HS
Sunday: 7:30-7:50 am, SM

Mass Times

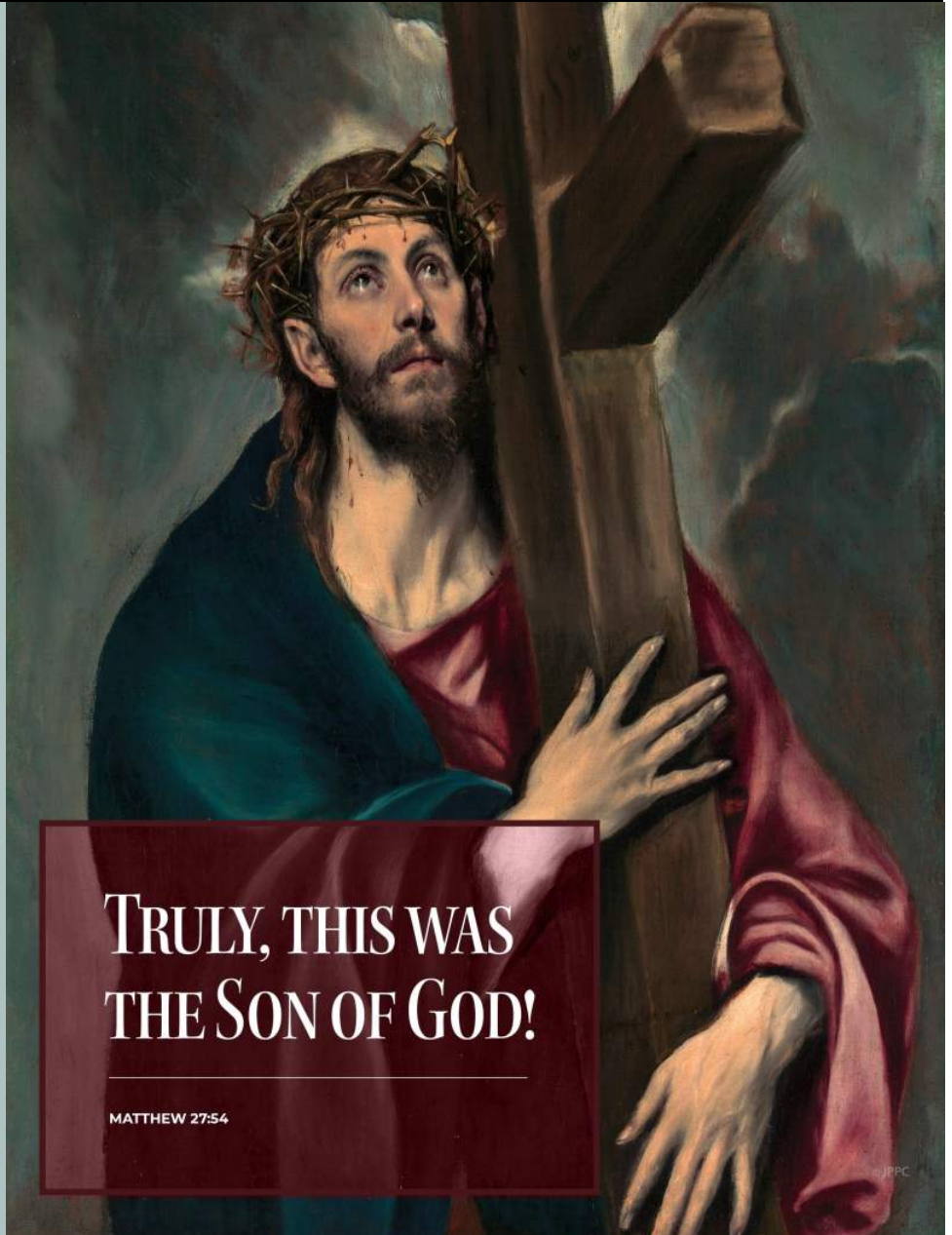
Daily Mass: Monday - Friday
9:00 am, HS

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 pm, HS

Sunday Masses:

8:00 am, SM
9:15 am, HS
10:30 am, SM
12:00 pm, HS

Visit us on the web @
annunciationnewington.com



TRULY, THIS WAS
THE SON OF GOD!

MATTHEW 27:54

Almighty ever-living God, who as an example of humility for the human race to follow caused our Savior to take flesh and submit to the Cross, graciously grant that we may heed his lesson of patient suffering and so merit a share in his Resurrection. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD, MARCH 29, 2026

Welcome To Annunciation Parish, The Roman Catholic Community of Newington

Whether you are a long-time parishioner, a returning parishioner, a new parishioner, or a visitor, welcome to our community. We are glad that you are here and hope that you feel at home. If you are not already a member of our parish, please consider joining us. If you are a member of our parish already, please consider joining one of our ministries.

The Catholic Church welcomes new members of all ages. Children are welcomed into our faith through the sacrament of Baptism. Adults can either join our faith, or complete their sacraments of initiation through our RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) or our Adult Confirmation program. If you are interested, please call the rectory at: (860) 666-1591.

Parish Priests

Rev. Janusz Kukulka, Pastor

fr.kukulka@aohct.org

Rev. Joseph Pullikattil, Parochial Vicar

fr.pullikattil@aohct.org

Weekend Associates

Rev. Lawrence Bock

Msgr. James Kinnane

Deacons

James Blanchette

deaconjimb@annunciationnewington.com

Bruce Thompson, Senior Deacon

Music Ministry

Mark Neumann, Parish Director of Music

neumn@hotmail.com

David Dyson, Organist

music.dyson@annunciationnewington.com

Business Manager, Deacon Julio Maturana

business@annunciationnewington.com

Phone: (860) 436-4381

Rectory Office

Kimberly Marchetti, Secretary, Annunciation Parish

kim@annunciationnewington.com

Phone: (860) 666-1591

Religious Education Office

Phone: (860) 729-5032

Deacon James Blanchette, Director of Religious Education

deaconjimb@annunciationnewington.com

Eliza Harris, Coordinator of Religious Education

CRE@annunciationnewington.com

Sacramental Ministries

Baptism

To schedule a Baptism, visit our website:

www.annunciationnewington.com, - Book a Baptism and then once the form is submitted, Deacon Blanchette will call to arrange a meeting.

Marriage

Please call the rectory at least **six months** in advance. Couples meet with the priest for an initial pastoral conversation before a wedding date can be set. Please do not make other plans until a date has been confirmed.

For the Sick

We are happy to visit with the homebound. If you or a loved one would like a home visit, Holy Communion or the Anointing of the Sick, please contact the rectory office.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK – Palm Sunday Of The Passion Of The Lord

Monday Is 42:1-7 Ps 27:1, 2, 3, 13-14 Jn 12:1-11

Tuesday Is 49:1-6 Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15 and 17 Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

Wednesday Is 50:4-9a Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31 and 33-34 Mt 26:14-25

Thursday Chrism Is 61:1-3a, 6a, 8b-9 Ps 89:21-22, 25 and 27 Rv 1:5-8 Lk 4:16-21

Thursday Night Ex 12:1-8, 11-14 Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18. 1 Cor 11:23-26 Jn 13:1-15

Friday Is 52:13 — 53:12 Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25 Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9 Jn 18:1-19:42

Saturday Gen 1:1—2:2 or Gen 1:1, 26-31a Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35 or Ps 33:4-5, 6-7, 12-13, 20 and 22 Gen 22:1-18 or Gen 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18 Mt 28:1-10

Sunday Acts 10:34a, 37-43 Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8 Jn 20:1-9 or Mt 28:1-10

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD, MARCH 29, 2026

Mass Intentions

Saturday, March 28th, The Vigil For Palm Sunday Of The Passion Of The Lord

H/S 4:00 p.m. Kate Lynn Normand & Kenneth Hebert
By Their Family

Sunday, March 29th, Palm Sunday Of The Passion Of The Lord

S/M 8:00 a.m. No intention

H/S 9:15 a.m. Val Profetti, 56th Anniversary, By His Daughters

S/M 10:30 a.m. No intention

H/S 12:00 p.m. Sally & James Horan, By The Horan Family

Monday, March 30th, Monday of Holy Week

H/S 9:00 a.m. Maria Furielova, 3rd Anniversary,
By Her Sister & Family

Tuesday, March 31st, Tuesday of Holy Week

H/S 9:00 a.m. Jacob & Anna Pajor,
By Their Daughter Stephanie & Family

Wednesday, April 1st, Wednesday of Holy Week

H/S 9:00 a.m. James Bold, 6th Anniversary, By His Family

Thursday, April 2nd, Thursday of Holy Week (Holy Thursday)

H/S 7:00 p.m. The Living & Deceased Who Served Our Parish

Friday, April 3rd, Friday of the Passion of the Lord (Good Friday)

S/M 3:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 4th, The Vigil For Easter Sunday Of The Resurrection Of

The Lord (Holy Saturday)

H/S 12:00 p.m. Blessing of The Food

S/M 12:00 p.m. Blessing of The Food

S/M 8:00 p.m. People of The Parish

Sunday, April 5th, Easter Sunday Of The Resurrection Of The Lord

S/M 8:00 a.m. People of The Parish

H/S 9:15 a.m. People of The Parish

S/M 10:30 a.m. People of The Parish

H/S 12:00 p.m. People of The Parish

Pontifical Good Friday Collection, Friday April 3, 2026

Pope Francis 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 Collection also helps to preserve the sacred shrines of Christianity, including in Jerusalem, Nazareth, and Bethlehem, to name a few. 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. In these times of crisis, the Pontifical Good Friday Collection is necessary to meet the basic needs of the People of God still living in this Land and to maintain a Christian presence where the Church was born. When you contribute to this collection, you join with Catholics around the world in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land. PLEASE BE GENEROUS! For more information about Christians in the Holy Land, visit: www.myfranciscan.org or www.custodia.org

In Loving Memory

We pray for...

Michael A. Batayte

Regina Bernard

Robert Fabrizi

Joseph McKeever

Mary Prete

Suzanne Stackhouse

And for the consolation of their family & friends. *Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord; let your light shine upon them*

Parish Support

March 22, 2026

Weekly \$10,485

Online Giving \$3,933

Total \$14,418

Eucharistic Adoration

Holy Spirit Church

6:00 - 7:00pm

Tuesday Evenings

Spend the whole hour or as much time as you can give!



Please welcome into our parish family, the following child who was recently baptized at Annunciation Parish:

Katarina Rose Tenore

PARISH CALENDAR, MARCH 29, 2026

The Knights Sandwich Ministry

Our next sandwich collection is Sunday, **April 19th at 4:30 pm** in the Saint Mary School parking lot.

K of C Food Collection

Sunday, April 5th @ both churches

The Prayer Shawl Group

meets the **third Thursday** of every month at **12:30 p.m.** at The Holy Spirit Church Hall from **September-June**

The Men's Club

...meets on the **third Wednesday** of every month, at **6:00 pm** in St. Mary lower Rectory. Contact: Tom Morris at (860) 666-6331

The Men's Fellowship Group

...meets every **Wednesday** evening from **6:30-8:00 pm @** Holy Spirit Church Hall. Contact: Angelo Marchetti at: (860) 202-1612

The Women's Fellowship Group

...meets every Thursday of every from **6:30-8:00 pm** Holy Spirit Church Hall. Contact: Kim Marchetti at: (860) 202-0020

The Women's Guild

Tuesday, April 7th there will be an Executive board Meeting and a General Membership meeting on April 14th .

All meetings are held at 6:30 p.m. in the Holy Spirit Church Hall.

The Women's Guild next general membership meeting will be on Tuesday April 14th, 2026. It will begin with a Mass at 5:00 p.m. presided over by Father Janusz Kukulka in the Holy Spirit Church. A short business meeting will follow the Mass in the Holy Spirit church hall. The guild will provide a light supper for members. The evenings program will be: The Sisters of The Eucharist who will provide a Host Preparation demonstration.



Thank you from the Knights

The Newington Knights of Columbus would like to thank the Annunciation Parishioners for supporting our Palm Cross Fundraiser. It was a huge success. A special "Thank You" to Father Janusz for blessing all 180 Palm Crosses before they were distributed. The proceeds will be divided between Annunciation Parish and other local charities. Thank you again for your ongoing support of Knights activities. This will allow us to make donations to these very worthy causes.

Generosity
changes everything

We are actively looking for volunteers to serve as Bereavement Ministers for our funerals at both Holy Spirt & Saint Mary's Church. If this is a ministry that you would be able to contribute your time and talents to, please contact Kim at: 860-666-1591.

Are you interested in attending a Victorian Tea? Please let us know.

The Women's Guild is considering holding a Victorian Tea with entertainment on Sunday May 17th in the Holy Spirit Church hall at a cost of \$25 per person. Adult women of the parish and public are invited to attend. At this time we want to ensure that we would have enough interest to proceed in planning this event. If you are interested in attending or have questions, please contact the chairwoman: **Anna T @ 860-573-1416.**



ANNUNCIATION PARISH

The crowds preceding him and those following kept crying out and saying: “Hosanna to the Son of David; blessed is the he who comes in the name of the Lord; hosanna in the highest.” Matthew 21:19

Palm Sunday Year A remembers Jesus’ entry into Jerusalem and the events leading to his death. The readings show his humility, suffering, and obedience to God.

- **Jesus as King:** The people welcomed Jesus as a king, but he came in humility, riding a donkey. This shows that his kingship is different from earthly rulers.
- **Obedience to God:** Jesus followed God’s will, even when it led to suffering and death. His obedience shows trust in God’s plan.
- **Betrayal and Denial:** Judas betrayed Jesus, and Peter denied knowing him. These show human weakness and the need for mercy.
- **Suffering and Sacrifice:** Jesus endured pain, humiliation, and death on the cross. His suffering was an act of love for others.
- **God’s Victory:** Jesus’ death was not the end. God raised him up, showing that good is stronger than evil.
- **Jesus as Servant:** He did not seek power or glory. He humbled himself and served others, even in suffering.

Palm Sunday Year A calls people to follow Jesus’ example of humility, obedience, and love. It reminds them that suffering is not the end, but God brings hope and new life.

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Holy Week and Easter Schedule:

Holy Thursday: Celebration of the Mass of the Lord’s Last Supper: **Holy Spirit, 7:00 p.m.**

Good Friday: Veneration of the Cross: **St. Mary, 3:00 p.m.**

Blessing of Easter Food & Baskets: Located at **both Churches** at **12:00 p.m.**

Great Easter Vigil: **Saint Mary, 8:00 p.m.**

Easter Sunday Masses: Regular Sunday Schedule



ANNUNCIATION PARISH

Holy Week, Our Last Push to Easter Celebrations!

We are getting so close to Easter but, before we can get there, it is important to understand the importance of Holy Week, the special liturgical days prior to the great celebration of Easter and how we can participate in them.



Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday and the liturgies are the most beautiful and expressive of our faith. Palm Sunday recalls the dramatic occasion when Jesus entered Jerusalem the week before he died. He came humbly riding on a donkey, yet he was acclaimed by the people as “Son of David,” therefore heir to the kingdom.

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of Holy Week are days of physical preparation and where the idea of “spring cleaning” comes from. These days are for shopping and completing all the busy work to prepare for

Easter so that one can enter into the Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday) in a total spirit of prayer. **On Tuesday, March 31st at Holy Spirit, there is still the holy hour at 6:00 p.m. with the opportunity to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation.**

This is the last opportunity in the regular schedule to celebrate the sacrament in preparation for Easter.

Holy Thursday marks the feast day of the priesthood and of the Eucharist. The Mass of the Lord’s Supper is celebrated in the evening, **(7:00 p.m. at Holy Spirit)** and the celebrant washes the feet of people, representing the twelve Apostles whose feet Jesus washed at the Last Supper. At the end of Mass a procession takes the Blessed Sacrament from the main tabernacle to an altar of repose for a period of adoration of the Eucharistic Christ.



On Good Friday, the day Jesus died we gather **(3:00 p.m. at St. Mary)** to venerate the cross as a sign of our salvation and prayerfully enter into a spirit of deep appreciation for what Christ has done for us, suffering and taking upon himself our sinfulness. There are no praying of the Stations because the Veneration of the Cross at 3:00 takes the place of honor and focus. Good Friday is a day of fast and abstinence.

During Holy Saturday the Church is quiet, the altar is bare for the Lord is not there! After sundown, **at 8:00 p.m.** the great vigil Mass of the Resurrection begins **(at St. Mary)** at the doors of the Church where a fire is kindled. The paschal candle is lighted and held high as it is carried into the Church. The light of Christ enters the world, the power of death has been overcome by our Lord and the joy of the Christian faith is in the air and the first “Alleluia” in forty days is sung.



Easter has arrived! Easter Sunday Masses, the same celebration as celebrated on Saturday night, **are held on the regular Sunday schedule. *Not a part of the Saturday liturgies is the blessing of Easter foods and baskets at each Church at 12:00 p.m.**

All of these wonderful liturgies can be forgotten if we do not attend some or all of them as a way to properly welcome the glories of Easter.

Please try to schedule some time as a final Lenten push to prepare for Easter.

God’s Blessings for the remaining week of Lent!



Newington
Knights of Columbus
Assembly 133
will host a



PALM SUNDAY BREAKFAST

PANCAKES, HAM,
EGGS, SAUSAGE,
DANISH, HOME FRIES
& BEVERAGES

\$10-Adult
\$5-under 12
Free-under 3



MARCH 29TH | 8am-11am
@ Holy Spirit Church Hall
183 Church St, Newington, CT 0611

We will be selling tickets at:
Saint Mary Church on March 15
Holy Spirit Church on March 21&22

WALK-IN PAYMENTS ARE WELCOME

FOR ANY QUESTIONS:
Contact Faithful Navigator
Ray Dunn
Phone: 860-878-0467

ALL PROCEEDS WILL SUPPORT OUR BROTHER, PURPLE HEART VETERAN
SERGEANT MAJOR SIR KNIGHT ROB ROY, DURING HIS RECOVERY



ANNUNCIATION PARISH



Fundraiser Event

GIVE LAUGH



TICKETS ON SALE NOW

CROWD FUNDING

Annunciation Parish
and Connecticut Comedy For Cash

presents a night of Comedy
on Friday, May 2nd, 2026

at Holy Spirit Church Hall

183 Church St, Newington

Doors at 6PM - Showtime at 7PM

Raffle prizes, Popcorn + BYOB + BYOFood

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NEWS FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF HARTFORD

MARCH 28 - APRIL 3, 2026

Guilford Parish Offers Support for Those Living with *Mental Illness*

- Story by Joe Pisani

Almost 25 years ago, Deacon Adam Michaele was moved by a heart-breaking situation when a young woman had her engagement broken and lost her friends because of mental illness.

"She had nothing and no one to go to, and we knew we had to do something," he recalls. That's when he and his wife Rose began a mental health ministry to offer people suffering from loneliness to depression, stress, autism and anxiety a place to turn for support. Since then, they have assisted dozens of people, most of whom had nowhere to turn.

The Mental Health Ministry Spiritual Support Group is hosted by St. George Parish in Guilford and has members from the shoreline parishes. Meetings are held on the campus of St. George Church.

"People in the group offer support for each other"

"The group offers a safe and confidential environment where people who live with mental illness can meet and share their experiences, their concerns and their faith," says Deacon Michaele. "It is not group therapy, and behavioral health professionals are not involved, but through support, prayer and reflections, members can grow closer in their relationship with our loving God."

Deacon Adam is a certified Catholic mental health minister with a master's degree in spiritual and pastoral care. He was a founding board member of the Association of Catholic Mental Health Ministers, and three years ago received the Archdiocese of Hartford's social justice award for his work.

Rose Michaele provides spiritual accompaniment and previously facilitated a group for caregivers.

"My wife Rose has been there every step of the way and offers a gentle touch and womanly perspective that I cannot provide," Deacon Michaele says.

"People in the group offer support for each other, and a camaraderie has built up," Rose says. "Some of them live alone and don't have family, some can't drive, and older members are lonely and feel their vulnerability. Many suffer from the stigma associated with mental illness and don't want to speak about it because they're afraid of being ostracized."

Meetings begin with a prayer, and Deacon Michaele asks them to share their experiences while members offer suggestions when someone has a problem. Later, they discuss a spiritual reading or the Gospel. The meetings end with a blessing, and Rose gives them treats to take home. The Michaeles also take members to events, such as the St. George Thanksgiving Day dinner and the parish annual carnival.

"We support them and try to get them out so they're not home alone," Rose says. "Sometimes we treat them to lunch and a movie, which they look forward to."

Members are required to adhere to certain rules.

"We have rules about confidentiality," Deacon Michaele says. "If they have a therapist, they can't abruptly stop treatment without having a plan to get another one. They also can't abruptly stop their medication."

During the week, the Michaeles make themselves available to members.



Deacon Adam Michaele and his wife Rose oversee the Mental Health Ministry Spiritual Support Group hosted by St. George Parish, Guilford. They are members of St. John Bosco Parish in Branford.

"Anyone can come in any time and sit with us if they have a problem," Deacon Michaele says. "We get calls and support them with our prayers and understanding. The door is always open."

The Mental Health Ministry Spiritual Support Group meets the second and fourth Sundays from 2 to 4 p.m. in the Ruiz Center on the campus of St. George Church, 33 Whitfield St., Guilford. For dates and more information, contact St. George Parish, 203.453.2788.



Upcoming Events



MARCH 29 @ 11:30AM
PALM SUNDAY BREAKFAST AND EGG HUNT
 St. Mary Church, Derby

Free Breakfast of egg sandwiches, pastries, coffee after Mass. Bring your own basket!



MARCH 30 @ 7PM
DIVINE MERCY TALK WITH MEG BAILEY
 St. Mary Church, Derby

Come and hear about the extraordinary graces Jesus has promised when we honor His Divine Mercy. In this special PowerPoint presentation we will be introduced to the message of Divine Mercy. Following there will be adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and confession.



MARCH 31 @ 11AM
CHRISM MASS
 Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Hartford

Archbishop will bless holy oils for use in sacraments throughout the year. All are invited to join in celebrating in this special Mass.



APRIL 11 @ 8:30AM \$75
CONTEMPLATIVE ENRICHMENT DAY
 Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center, West Hartford

Inspired by Rilke's "Sonnets to Orpheus," this retreat explores themes of transformation and the courage to "live the questions." Join us to practice "heart-work" and discover how to belong to "the Whole." In-person and online via Zoom. Two Centering Prayer sessions and lunch. Visit www.holyfamilyretreat.org/calendar.



April 11 @ 10AM - 4PM \$75
SPRING WREATH MAKING
 Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center, West Hartford

Make yourself a decorative wreath for Springtime. Using colorful paper, you will create a beautiful wreath to take home and use on front door or inside the house. You will need no experience in wreath making to complete this special wreath and you can hang it year after year! Supplies and Lunch provided. Visit www.holyfamilyretreat.org/calendar.



APRIL 17 @ 6:30PM
YOUNG ADULT 21+ GROUP
 Our Lady of Knock Parish, St. Patrick Church, Farmington

Candlelight Mass will be held at 6:30 PM with Trivia, Tacos, Drinks, and Social following the Candlelight Mass.



APRIL 17 - 19
INTERNATIONAL EXHIBIT OF EUCHARISTIC MIRACLES
 St. George Church, Guilford

Fri, 17 April, 4:30 - 9 pm | Sat, 18 April, 10 am - 8:30 pm | Sun, 19 April, 9:30 am - 3 pm
 Talks on St. Carlo Acutis & St. Manuel Gonzalez Garcia. 1st class relics of both St. Carlo and St. Manuel will be available for veneration. For more information, contact Donna Yatchko at **203-453-2788**.



MAY 1 - 3 @ ALL DAY
RETOUVAILLE MARRIAGE WORKSHOP
 Windsor

If your marriage has become distant, troubled, unloving or uncaring; if you are divorced or separated but want to try again, Retrouvaille can help. Visit www.HelpOurMarriage.org.



APRIL 27 @ 7PM
SPEED NETWORKING AND MENTORING
 Holy Angels Center, Meriden

Join Young Catholic Professionals Central Connecticut and meet inspiring professionals, connect with other young adults, and walk away with practical insight for your career and faith. Food and drink will be provided. We will be having Stations of the Cross and prayer at 7pm, and the speed networking and mentoring will start at 7:45.



MAY 8 @ 6PM
SEEN: A NIGHT OF HOPE & HEALING
 The Basilica of the Immaculate Conception, Waterbury

All are welcome for a night of prayer and support for those experiencing infertility or pregnancy/child loss, whether you are personally carrying this cross or desire to intercede and accompany others. We will have welcoming remarks, Mass, a reflection, Adoration with Praise and Worship, and a reception to follow with light refreshments, veneration of relics, resources, community, and opportunities to meet with Religious Sisters and Prayer Teams.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Amanda at Hello@waterburybasilica.org. Use www.tinyurl.com/3832yxtz to RSVP.



MAY 10 @ 10AM Adults \$50
MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH
 Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center, West Hartford

Children 4-12, \$15 | Children under 4, Free
 Let us help take care of Mom on her special day. Come celebrate Mother's Day with a special Mass for mothers and families, and then enjoy a delicious gourmet brunch prepared by our chef. Visit www.holyfamilyretreat.org/calendar.

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www.archdioceseofhartford.org/appeal

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