



# ANNUNCIATION PARISH

First Sunday Of Advent, December 3, 2023

## **PARISH OFFICE**

626 Willard Avenue  
Newington, CT 06111  
Phone: (860) 666-1591  
Fax: (860) 666-5720

## **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  
Newington, CT. 06111

## **Confession**

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

## **Mass Times**

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

**Saturday Vigil:** 4:00pm, HS

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

Visit us on the web @  
[annunciationnewington.com](http://annunciationnewington.com)



Grant your faithful, we pray, almighty God, the resolve to run forth to meet your Christ with righteous deeds at his coming, so that, gathered at his right hand, they may be worthy to possess the heavenly Kingdom. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

[www.catholicculture.org](http://www.catholicculture.org)

## FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT, DECEMBER 3, 2023

### 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. Robert Morgewicz, Pastor**

fr.morgewicz@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

**David Dyson, Organist**

music.dyson@annunciationnewington.com

**Mark Neumann, Parish Director of Music**

neumn@hotmail.com

#### Rectory Office

**Kimberly Marchetti, Secretary, Annunciation Parish**

kim@annunciationnewington.com

Phone: (860) 666-1591

#### Religious Education Office

Phone: (860) 666-3562

**Dolores Mihaliak, Director of Religious Education**

DRE@annunciationnewington.com

**Terri Hermann, Coordinator of Religious Education**

creterri@annunciationnewington.com

#### Sacramental Ministries

##### Baptism

To schedule a Baptism, visit our website:

www.annunciationnewington.com, *scroll down to Quick Links (center of Home Page), Select - 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 with your parish.

##### 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 –FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

**Monday, December 4, 2023** Is 2:1-5 Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9 Mt 8:5-11

**Tuesday, December 5, 2023** Is 11:1-10 Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 Lk 10:21-24

**Wednesday, December 6, 2023** Is 25:6-10a Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 Mt 15:29-37

**Thursday, December 7, 2023** Is 26:1-6 Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a Mt 7:21, 24-27

**Friday, December 8, 2023** Gn 3:9-15, 20 Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 Eph 1:3-6, 11-12 Lk 1:26-38

**Saturday, December 9, 2023** Is 30:19-21, 23-26 Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8

**Sunday, December 10, 2023** Is 40:1-5, 9-11 Ps 85:9-10-11-12, 13-14 2 Pt 3:8-14 Mk 1:1-8

**Mass Intentions**

**Saturday, December 2nd, The Vigil For The First Sunday Of Advent**

**H/S** 4:00 p.m. Pietro Niro, Birthday Remembrance, By His Family

**Sunday, December 3rd, The First Sunday Of Advent**

**S/M** 8:00 a.m. Salvatore Mangiafico, By His Family  
Emilia Pizzoferrato, By Her Son Antonio

**H/S** 9:15 a.m. Robert & Roseann Ruel, By Mike & Maria Ruel

**S/M** 10:30 a.m. John Jennings, By The Family

**H/S** 12:00 p.m. Edward Wilczek, By His Family

**Monday, December 4th, Saint John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church**

**H/S** 9:00 a.m. Joseph Frank, 3rd Anniversary, By His Wife & Family

**Tuesday, December 5th, Advent Weekday**

**H/S** 9:00 a.m. Elizabeth Hamilton, By Jerry Griffin

**Wednesday, December 6th, Saint Nicholas, Bishop**

**H/S** 9:00 a.m. Remy Martula, By His Parents

**Thursday, December 7th, Saint Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church**

**H/S** 9:00 a.m. Anna Petroka, By Derek S. Petroka

**Friday, December 8th, The Immaculate Conception Of The Blessed Virgin Mary**

**H/S** 9:00 a.m. Thanksgiving For All Of Our Graces,  
By The Rodulfo Family

**S/M** 12:10 p.m. Susan Hewitt, 15th Anniversary, By Her Family

**H/S** 5:30 p.m. Czeslaw Herman, By His Children

**Saturday, December 9th, The Vigil For The Second Sunday Of Advent**

**H/S** 4:00 p.m. Ann Profetti, Birthday Remembrance, By Her Daughters

**Sunday, December 10th, The Second Sunday Of Advent**

**S/M** 8:00 a.m. Giovanni Carducci, Birthday Remembrance,  
By His Wife Anna & Family

Allen Sale, By Diana DePalma & Sons

**H/S** 9:15 a.m. Richard & Mary Lou Giangreco, By The Giangreco Family

**S/M** 10:30 a.m. Alessandro DeFilippis, 5th Anniversary,  
By His Wife & Children

**H/S** 12:00 p.m. Teresa Magnuszewski, 1st Anniversary, By Her Children

**In Loving Memory**

**we pray for...**

Vincenzo Menta,  
Cecile "Debbie" Tierney,  
Dr. Leeds Carluccio,  
Raymond Rondini,  
Charles Donnelly,  
Charles Kraut, Jr.

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

**Parish Support**

**November 19, 2023**

Weekly \$8,403  
Online Giving \$4,153  
Total \$12,556

**Parish Support**

**November 26, 2023**

Weekly \$9,578  
Online Giving \$3,450  
Total \$13,028

**Eucharistic Adoration**

**Holy Spirit Church**

6:00 - 7:00pm

Tuesday Evenings

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

**The Sanctuary Lamp is lit at:**

Holy Spirit Church

December 3rd-9th

For: Raymond Petow

By: His Wife, Lucille



By assisting devoutly at Mass, we render the sacred humanity of Our Lord the greatest homage. He makes up for many failings and omissions. We should pray like this at the beginning of Mass: **“O Most just God, with contrite heart and steadfast hope, I lay my sins upon this sacred altar, in order that they may be consumed by the flames of Your divine Charity, purged away by the Precious Blood of Jesus, and fully atoned for by His infinite merits. Amen.”**

# ANNUNCIATION PARISH

## The Power of Prayer

Presented by the Annunciation Parish Men's Fellowship Group



Take a Tour of the Mysteries of the Rosary as we take you through each of the 5 Joyful Mysteries. This will be held in the Holy Spirit Hall from 6:30pm - 8pm on the following Thursday Evening: 12/7

There will a 30-minute Video Presentation followed by a short discussion on The Power of Prayer. Refreshments provided.

## Seminarian Christmas Gift Card Program

Once again our parish can participate in the Seminarian Christmas Gift Card Program. Our Seminarians have little or no earning power during their years of formation, but they still have personal expenses. Whether their need is gas to travel to parish assignments, an unexpected car repair, or maybe just enough black socks to get through the week, they can use a helping hand.

Your assistance in helping them to meet their everyday expenses that occur, is a great sign of support for their generous response to God's call, affirming them in their desire to dedicate their lives to Christ and serve the faithful of the Archdiocese of Hartford.

If you would like to participate in this program, you can ask for an envelope from the priest after Mass or just hand in a gift card with a personal note of Christmas Wishes.



## **Christmas 2023 Mass Schedule:**



### **Fourth Sunday of Advent**

Saturday, 12/23: **4:00 pm** (Holy Spirit & St. Mary)

Sunday, 12/24: **8:00 am** only at St Mary (No 10:30)

9:15 am only at Holy Spirit (no noon Mass)

### **Christmas Schedule**

#### **12/24, Christmas Vigils:**

4:00 pm (Holy Spirit and St. Mary), 10:00 pm (Holy Spirit)

#### **12/25, Christmas Day:**

8:00 am (St. Mary's), 9:15 am (Holy Spirit),

10:30 am (Holy Spirit, not St. Mary)

*O Come, O Come,  
Emmanuel*



## **Advent and Sacred Music: A Message from the Parish Director of Music Mark Neumann**

Advent is about preparing our hearts for the birth of Christ. Musically we will begin each weekend with a different verse of "O Come, O Come Emmanuel." Originally in Latin, the song dates back to the 8th century: "Veni, Veni, Emmanuel!" These verses prepare our hearts and minds for Christmas. Happy Advent!



**"The Annunciation Womens Guild"** will hold their **Christmas Party on Wednesday, December 6th, 2023** in the Holy Spirit Church hall. Doors open at 5:00 pm, with appetizers at 5:30 pm followed by the meal, raffle and entertainment. All Womens Guild members are invited to attend, and each member may bring one guest if they choose to.

The evening will include a family style meal catered by Michaels Catering, musical entertainment and a Tea Cup raffle. The meal consists of appetizers, Chicken Francaise, Roast Pork Loin, garden salad, roasted potatoes, vegetable medley, rolls with butter, coffee and dessert. The entertainment will be provided by Jennifer DiSapio with a vocal performance of songs.

The cost for the evening is \$25.00 for Women's Guild members and \$45.00 for a guest of a member. **Response and payment are due by November 29th.** Checks should be made out to Annunciation Women's Guild. Please place your payment in a blank envelope, label with Annunciation Women's Guild Christmas Party, include your name and a guest name if appropriate, and put in a collection basket at any Mass at either church by November 29th. Attendees are requested to bring an item(s) of t-shirts, underwear and or socks to be donated to the House of Bread to be dispensed to men and women in need. Please contact Lee Ann Bouchard at: 860-666-3014 for any questions. "



# PARISH CALENDAR, DECEMBER 3, 2023

## The Knights Sandwich Ministry

Our next sandwich collection is Sunday, **December 17th at 4:30 pm** in the Saint Mary School parking lot. Thank you for living your faith by helping others!

## The Prayer Shawl Group

meets the third Thursday of every month at 12:30 p.m. @ The Holy Spirit Church Hall.

## The Men's Club

...meets on the **third Wednesday** of every month, @ **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 Knights Sandwich Ministry - Thank You!

Thank you everyone for your generosity! In November we collected approximately 500 sandwiches and many bags of pretzels, snacks and chips for shelters in Hartford.

The shelters are very grateful for our donations and they use these sandwiches for lunches, late-meals, walk-in's and outreach programs.

Our collections are on the third Sunday of the month. Our next sandwich collection is Sunday, December 17th @ 4:30 in the Saint Mary School parking lot.

Please note, if there happens to be inclement weather on the collection date, the collection will be cancelled, safety comes first.

God Bless and Thank You for Your Generosity! Thank you for living your faith by helping others!

## Annunciation Parish Pet Food Drive

We are remembering an often over looked charity during this Christmas Season.

The Newington Humane Society has reached out for help!

Please consider participating in this drive by bringing a non-perishable pet food item to Mass on the following the weekend of **December 9-10, 2023**

Simply leave your donation just inside the entrance of the Church

Your Donations are very much appreciated!

## Rosary Beads and Catholic Bible Collection

Do you have any Rosary Beads and/or Catholic Bibles (new or gently used) that you would like to consider donating?

We are looking to collect these items for those struggling with Addiction, Mental Health, and Homelessness in the Hartford area.

We are looking to assist those who are in need of Spiritual Growth...Spiritual Strength...Spiritual Hope.

If you are able to assist us in this Ministry...please drop off your donations to the sacristy of either parish church.

Please feel free to contact Skip Callahan with any questions @ 860-416-9257. Thank you!

## Advent Giving

The Advent season beginning on December 3, 2023 will be here very quickly. During this season, as we prepare to celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ, let us turn our hearts and thoughts to those less fortunate and in need. In the spirit of this time of giving, we are asking for: **Gift Cards only**. Below is a list of Gift Cards that would be the most helpful for our outreach:

<b>Price Chopper</b>	<b>Stop &amp; Shop</b>	<b>Walmart</b>
<b>Walgreens</b>	<b>Subway</b>	<b>Big Y</b>
<b>Target</b>	<b>Dunkin</b>	<b>Donuts</b>
<b>CVS</b>		

Gift Cards may be returned to the rectory at Saint Mary Church or to the Religious Education Office located at the back of Holy Spirit Church between 9:00 and 12:00pm, Monday through Thursday. There will also be **baskets clearly marked** during each Mass at both Churches on the back of the pews to collect the gift cards. **Thank you for your continued generosity and support!** Peace, Religious Education Office  
**\*ALL GIFT CARDS must be returned by Sunday, December 20th to insure timely distribution to all organizations!**



## **The Season of Advent Begins the New Year!**

The season of Advent begins today, and along with it the new liturgical year. Advent, a word meaning “to wait for,” is a season that makes Christmas all the more meaningful. As Christians, we are encouraged to give due honor to the season of Advent as we wait for and prepare for the birth of Jesus. It is spiritually critical that the weeks of Advent do not get lost in the light of the more defined season of Christmas.

Advent, the season that struggles for attention, presents a very valuable question: “What am I going to do for Advent?” Will it be making a commitment to withhold Christmas decorations until the proper time (after December 17) or making an Advent wreath for the home. The four candles of the wreath allow one to move ever closer to Christmas with joyful anticipation. Another wonderful way to mark the days as we get closer to Christmas is to use an Advent Calendar. Maybe it is a family heirloom or one of the calendars that reveal a little bit of candy behind each door. Either way, an Advent Calendar moves us steadily towards Christmas.

A Jesse Tree shows many of the figures and events in the history of salvation. A Jesse Tree is a favorite for families with children as one emblem is added to the tree each day allowing the family to pray and learn about each item. Maybe it is service to others that mark an Advent custom. Service to a neighbor or organization is a very appropriate way to move closer to the celebration of the Nativity of our Lord.

Whatever your tradition is for Advent or as you start a tradition this year, doing something is important in this season of joyful waiting. When we mark the days of Advent we become united in the seasons purpose and honor the season. When this is done, the season of Christmas becomes all the more cherished and valuable to our spiritual lives.

Happy Waiting, Happy Advent!



### **Advent Traditions: The Advent Wreath**

Probably the most popular tradition today in Advent is lighting the candles on the Advent Wreath in both churches and homes. This custom originated among the Lutherans in Germany in the 16<sup>th</sup> Century and quickly became popular in other areas. The tradition of the Advent Wreath came to America with German immigrants. It was popularized among Catholics with the liturgical movement in the mid-1900s.

The Advent Wreath, which may be of any size, is made of evergreens and has four candles, one for each week of Advent. There are either four purple candles with some designation for the third week of Advent or there are three purple candles and one pink or rose candle. Purple is the traditional color of the season, because of its penitential focus, and rose or pink is used to catch our attention, for on the third week of

Advent we refocus our attention to the pending arrival of the Christ child.

The true symbolism of the wreath is light, light increases, pushing out darkness week after week until we get to the celebration of the light of the world coming into the world at Christmas.

Wreaths have always been symbolic of victory and glory. The basic symbolism of the Advent Wreath goes beyond this. It lies in the tension between darkness and light. It represents the long time when people lived in spiritual darkness, waiting for the coming of the Messiah, the light of the world.

Each year in Advent people wait once again in darkness for the coming of the Lord, his historical coming in the mystery of Bethlehem, his final coming at the end of time, and his special coming in every moment of grace.

As we celebrate this season of prayer, repentance and preparation for the Lord, may we be blessed with His grace each day so that we can look at these weeks and see how blessed we are to appropriately prepare for the birth of our Savior. Happy Advent!

### **Prayer for the Lighting of the Family Advent Wreath**

Lord our God, we praise you for your Son, Jesus Christ: he is Emmanuel, the hope of the peoples, he is the wisdom that teaches and guides us, He is the Savior of every nation.

Lord God, let your blessing come upon us as we light the candles of this wreath. May the wreath and its light be a sign of Christ's promise to bring us salvation. May he come quickly and not delay. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

### **Anointed and Commissioned**

By now you're familiar with the difficult reality that **7 in 10 Catholics** do not know the truth about the Eucharist. The very source of our strength has become chronically overlooked and misunderstood. No wonder the world is hurting! How the Church responds at this moment in history is pivotal.

Scandal, division, disease, doubt. The Church has withstood each of these throughout our very human history. But today we confront all of them, all at once. Our response at this moment is pivotal. In the midst of these roaring waves, Jesus is present, reminding us that he is more powerful than the storm. He desires to heal, renew, and unify the Church and the world.

We will do this by uniting once again around the source and summit of our faith in the celebration of the Eucharist. The National Eucharistic Revival is the joyful, expectant, grassroots response of the entire Catholic Church in the U.S. to this divine invitation.

The Revival is a movement to restore understanding and devotion to this great mystery here in the United States. But we aren't called to keep this Good News to ourselves! This Revival seeks to unleash new missionaries to bring the healing presence of Jesus in the Eucharist to the margins. Before every great mission in the Bible, there was a commissioning, anointing, or outpouring of the Holy Spirit. At the National Eucharistic Congress in July, God will anoint our Church for a new season of Eucharistic mission.

**Jesus is calling us back to our first love for a new Pentecost.** Whether you can come for only one day or all five, you are invited to experience profound personal renewal and be set ablaze to share Christ's love with your community. Then, we will be sent back home to our communities, on fire for Christ and ready for the Year of Mission ahead. Will you come to be anointed and commissioned? **From July 17–21, 2024**, the Church in the United States will gather in a new “Upper Room,” boldly anticipating a new Pentecost. Come and be part of the revival and register today for the National Eucharistic Congress to be held in Indianapolis at <https://www.eucharisticrevival.org>.