



# ANNUNCIATION PARISH

Third Sunday Of Advent, December 17, 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

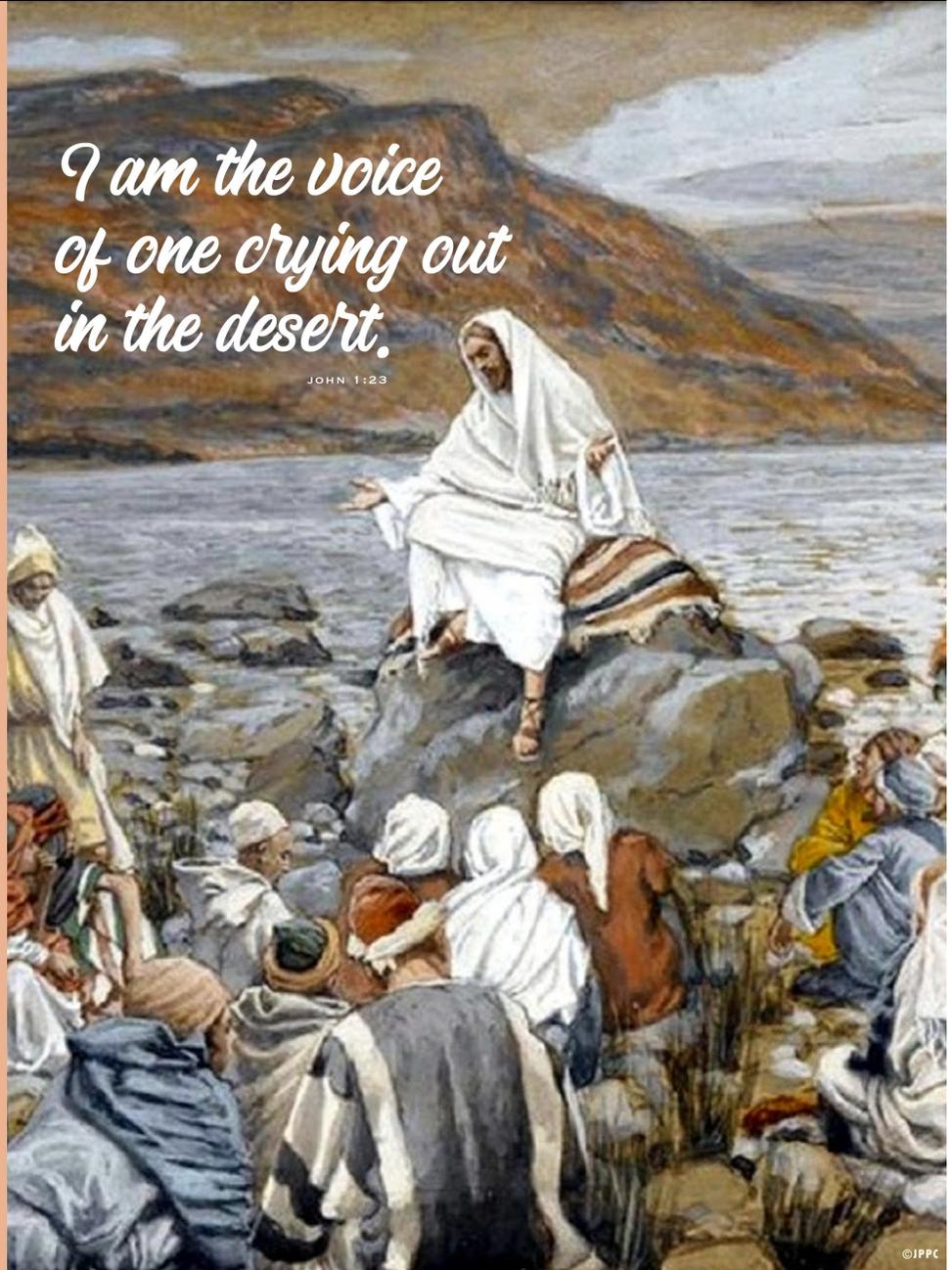
## **Mass Times**

**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)



O God, who see how your people faithfully await the feast of the Lord's Nativity, enable us, we pray, to attain the joys of so great a salvation and to celebrate them always with solemn worship and glad rejoicing. 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)

# THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT, DECEMBER 17, 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 -THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

**Monday, December 18, 2023** Jer 23:5-8 Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19 Mt 1:18-25

**Tuesday, December 19, 2023** Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17 Lk 1:5-25

**Wednesday, December 20, 2023** Is 7:10-14 Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 Lk 1:26-38

**Thursday, December 21, 2023** Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21 Lk 1:39-45

**Friday, December 22, 2023** 1 Sm 1:24-28 1 Sam 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd Lk 1:46-56

**Saturday, December 23, 2023** Mal 3:1-4, 23-24 Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14 Lk 1:57-66

**Sunday, December 24, 2023** 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16 Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 Rom 16:25-27 Lk 1:26-38

# THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT, DECEMBER 17, 2023

## Mass Intentions

### Saturday, December 16th, The Vigil For The Third Sunday Of Advent

H/S 4:00 p.m. Norma Martin, 14th Anniversary, By Her Husband Robert  
Daniel Patriss, 3rd Anniversary, By His Family

### Sunday, December 17th, The Third Sunday Of Advent

S/M 8:00 a.m. Mary Ellen Shugrue, By Joan Schweitzer  
Anita Fairwood, By Richard & Ronald Fairwood &  
Maureen Kievman

H/S 9:15 a.m. Albert, Anthony & Jennie Rizzo, By Their Family

S/M 10:30 a.m. Domenic Pizzoferrato & Antonio LoNero,  
By Marisa LoNero & Fabio LoNero

H/S 12:00 p.m. Donald Klepacki, 1st Anniversary, By His Family

### Monday, December 18th, Late Advent Weekday

H/S 9:00 a.m. Manolita Tongson, Birthday Remembrance, By The Family

### Tuesday, December 19th, Late Advent Weekday

H/S 9:00 a.m. W. L. Bock, By The Family

### Wednesday, December 20th, Late Advent Weekday

H/S 9:00 a.m. Jack Germano, 11th Anniversary, By His Family

### Thursday, December 21st, Late Advent Weekday

H/S 9:00 a.m. Clement & Eric Gebo, By Their Family

### Friday, December 22nd, Late Advent Weekday

H/S 9:00 a.m. Maria Piwowarska, By Her Son & Family

### Saturday, December 23rd, The Vigil For The Fourth Sunday Of Advent

H/S 4:00 p.m. Josephine Tongson, 22nd Anniversary, By Her Family  
John & Mary Hamm, By Dennis & Marge McDonald

### Sunday, December 24th, The Fourth Sunday Of Advent

S/M 8:00 a.m. Anthony & Pauline & Margaret Sarubbi, By The Family

H/S 9:15 a.m. Marianna Kurzobrocka, By Her Daughter

### Christmas Eve December 24, 2023

S/M 4:00 p.m. The People of the Parish

H/S 4:00 p.m. The People of the Parish

H/S 10:00 p.m. The People of the Parish

### Christmas Morning: December 25, 2023

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

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

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

## In Loving Memory

### we pray for...

**Dolores Giangrave**

**Ermanno Frate**

**Roseann M. Marci**

**Martin D. Santomenna**

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

## Parish Support

### December 10, 2023

Weekly \$10,755

Online Giving \$4,254

Total \$15,009

## Collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious

Our women and men religious offer gratitude. A sister shares, "I thank the Lord for all who give. I don't think we would make it without them." Thank you for giving to the Retirement Fund for Religious last week. Your donation makes a difference in the lives of the elderly women and men religious. To learn how your gift helps, visit [retiredreligious.org](http://retiredreligious.org).

## 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

On December 17th-23rd

For: Clement Gebo

By: His Family

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

## **Christmas Mass Schedule:**

### **Fourth Sunday of Advent**

Saturday, 12/23: 4:00 pm (Holy Spirit & St. Mary's)  
Sunday, 12/24: 8:00 am only @ St Mary's (No 10:30)  
9:15 am only @ Holy Spirit (no noon Mass)

### **December 24: Christmas Vigils:**

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

Special Note For the Vigil Masses: At 3:15 p.m. at St. Mary and 9:15 p.m. at Holy Spirit there will be a vocal and instrumental mini-Christmas concert. If attending one of these Masses be sure to come early and enjoy the music!

### **December 25: Christmas Day:**

8:00 am (St. Mary's), 9:15 am (Holy Spirit)  
10:30 am (Holy Spirit, not St. Mary's)

## **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.

## **Knights of Columbus Christmas Buttons**

The Knights of Columbus Assembly will be giving out Keep Christ in Christmas buttons to benefit Bryan's bags for the homeless. Donations will be accepted. The bags contain toiletries, safety items, etc. The buttons were at St Mary's on Sunday, December 10th, and at Holy Spirit after Masses this weekend. Thank-you!



## **Thank You From the Knights**

The Knights of Columbus Organization launched the "Food for Families Program" to help end hunger in communities across America and rewards councils that participate in the Program. This year the Newington Knights of Columbus organized the monthly Food Pantry donations and sandwich collections at Annunciation Parish.

The Newington Knights of Columbus is pleased to announce that we have donated over our reimbursement from the Supreme Council, and donated \$500 to the Newington Food Pantry and \$500 to the South Park Inn in Hartford.

We could not have done this without your very generous support during the year.

Thank you to all your ongoing support of these activities. They allow us to make donations to these very worthy causes.



## **Welcoming Souls to God's Infinite Mercy**

Jesus said to St. Faustina: "By means of this Image I shall be granting many graces to souls; so let every soul have access to it." (Diary 570)

You should have noticed by now the large Images of Divine Mercy that has been installed on the side of Holy Spirit Church and the side of our Annunciation Parish Rectory. The illuminated images were a gift to our parish and to the people of Newington from Fr. Edmund Nadolny and the Father Nadolny Good News Fund with the help of DivineMercy33 Outdoor Images.

The program is to make visible the Image for the public to see and in our Archdiocese more than 20 Churches have had the Image installed.

Since the ministry of this program is for the public to see the image, it was important that the image be placed in a very public area, and that is why the location for each was chosen.

Consider looking into the Father Nadolny Good News Fund or the ministry of DivineMercy33 and if you run into Fr.

Nadolny say thanks for the great work he is doing in retirement bringing people closer to Jesus and the Blessed Mother.



## **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

## **Advent Giving**

During this season of giving, 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**. 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 12:00 pm, 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!**  
**\*ALL GIFT CARDS must be returned by Sunday, December 20th to insure timely distribution to all organizations!**



## ***- Upcoming Concert at the Cathedral -***

Congratulations to senior **Benjamin Gutsfeld**, junior **Hudson Patz** and freshman **Paul Stoppa** on earning High Honors during the first quarter at Xavier High School!

## **The Gifts at Mass**

Starting this weekend the bread and wine used for the celebration of the Mass will be presented during Mass. Those who are interested, especially the person or people who have taken out the Mass intention are encouraged to present the gifts during Mass and follow the procedures listed below.



Since there is no way of knowing who is bringing up the gifts a simple procedure has been established: on the credence table (the table at the back of the Church where the wine and bread are kept) there will be a stone cross. If you desire to bring up the gifts simply pick up the stone cross and take it to your seat. This way all will know that if the cross is missing, someone will get up at the time of the collection and wait for the collectors to present the gifts at Mass; the bread and wine and the offering.

Please return the cross to the table when you go to the credence table and pick up the gifts.



**A Sunday to “Rejoice!”**

The traditional color of Advent is purple or violet as is seen in the priest vestments and the three candles on the Advent wreath. It symbolizes a penitential spirit that has been associated with Advent. This is the reason why celebrating the sacrament of reconciliation or confession is so important before Christmas, so that we can worthily prepare spiritually to receive the Lord in Holy Communion at Christmas.

Though purple or violet is used, Advent is not a “little Lent.” The season of Advent has its own purpose to prepare for the coming of Christ at the end of the world, each day in the graces we receive and especially on Christmas morning.

This weekend, the Church highlights the rose color used in special vestments and in the lighting of the third candle on the Advent wreath, which is rose in color. This color anticipates and is symbolic of the Christmas joy announced in the first word of the entrance antiphon for the Mass today: “Rejoice” in Latin, *Gaudete* taken from the first letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonians. This letter to the Thessalonians is the earliest Christian writing we possess, a letter filled with the joy that Paul drew from his sense of God’s presence.

Gaudete Sunday is a time to refocus our attention in our preparation for Christmas. The readings at Mass change in focus and the rose color is to alert us that we can now begin to exclusively focus on the coming of Christ on Christmas morning, since Christmas is getting so close. It is with this third Sunday of Advent that decorating the home and moving to full Christmas mode is appropriate. By doing this we refocus our attention as the Church asks us to do, now that we are so close to Christmas.

With more than half of Advent over we may feel pressure to prepare adequately for Christ at Christmas.

Prayers, confession and good works are still our hallmark of preparation and with the building excitement we get ever closer to properly welcome the Savior on Christmas morning. May you have a blessed Gaudete Sunday and “Rejoice” for the Lord is near!

