



ANNUNCIATION PARISH

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, DECEMBER 7, 2025

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



Repent, for the
kingdom of heaven
is at hand!

MATTHEW 3:2

Almighty and merciful God, may no earthly undertaking hinder those who set out in haste to meet your Son, but may our learning of heaven wisdom gain us admittance to his company. 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.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, DECEMBER 7, 2025

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, *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.

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 – Second Sunday Of Advent

Monday Gen 3:9-15, 20 Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 Eph 1:3-6, 11-12 Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday Is 40:1-11 Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12, 13 Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday Is 40:25-31 Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10 Mt 11:28-30

Thursday Is 41:13-20 Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab Mt 11:11-15

Friday Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab Jdt 13:18bcde, 19 Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Saturday Sir 48:1-4, 9-11 Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19 Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Sunday Is 35:1-6a, 10 Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10. Jas 5:7-10 Mt 11:2-11

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, DECEMBER 7, 2025

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 6th, The Vigil For The Second Sunday Of Advent

H/S 4:00 p.m. Giovanni "John" Treviso and His Deceased Family Members, By His Wife & Children

Sunday, December 7th, The Second Sunday Of Advent

S/M 8:00 a.m. Al & Barbara Grimaldi, By Donna Percoski
H/S 9:15 a.m. Ann Profetti, Birthday Remembrance, By Her Family
S/M 10:30 a.m. Anthony Armentano, By Gail & Ben
H/S 12:00 p.m. Pietro Niro & Peter Niro, Jr., By His Family

Monday, December 8th, The Immaculate Conception Of The Blessed

Virgin Mary

H/S 9:00 a.m. Susan Hewitt, By Her Family
S/M 12:10 p.m. Alice Hall, 8th Anniversary, By Her Husband
H/S 5:30 p.m. Virginia Barber, By Her Family

Tuesday, December 9th, Advent Weekday

H/S 9:00 a.m. Joseph Frank, 5th Anniversary, By His Wife

Wednesday, December 10th, Saint Francis Xavier, Priest

H/S 9:00 a.m. Lindsey Pelletier, 2nd Anniversary, By Her Grandmother, Margaret Pelletier

Thursday, December 11th, Advent Weekday

H/S 9:00 a.m. Vincent Rossiwal, By His Family

Friday, December 12th, Our Lady of Guadalupe

H/S 9:00 a.m. Linda D'Hondt, Joan Trzako & William Ward, By Their Friends at Sage Pond Place

Saturday, December 13th, The Vigil For The Third Sunday Of Advent

H/S 4:00 p.m. Rose McCormack, 11th Anniversary, By Her Family

Sunday, December 14th, The Third Sunday Of Advent

S/M 8:00 a.m. Daniel Patriss, By His Family
H/S 9:15 a.m. Maria Piwowska, By Her Son, Grandchildren & Family
S/M 10:30 a.m. Jaime Gallicchio, By A Family Friend
H/S 12:00 p.m. Manuel Otero, By His Daughter



In Loving Memory

We pray for...

Joan E. Briggs

Maureen Roney

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

Parish Support

November 23, 2025

Weekly \$11,781
Online Giving \$4,990
Total \$16,771

Parish Support

November 30, 2025

Weekly \$11,373
Online Giving \$3,372
Total \$14,745

Eucharistic Adoration

Holy Spirit Church

6:00 - 7:00pm

Tuesday Evenings



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."

PARISH CALENDAR, DECEMBER 7, 2025

The Knights Sandwich Ministry

Our next sandwich collection is Sunday,
December 21st at 4:30 pm in the Saint Mary
School parking lot.

K of C Food Collection

Sunday, December 7th @ 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

**The Women's Guild will not hold any
meetings in January.** They will resume in
February. All meetings are held at 6:30 p.m. in
the Holy Spirit Church Hall.

Thank you for your generous support last week
for the collection for the **Catholic Campaign for
Human Development!** As a parish, we raised
\$4,478 to support those on the margins who
live in poverty in the United States. If you missed
the collection, it's not too late to give!

Vist: www.usccb.org/nationalcollections and
click "**How to Give**" under "**Resources.**"

#iGiveCatholicTogether
also accepts funds for the
collection.



Christmas 2025 Mass Schedule:

12/24, Christmas Vigils:

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

12/25, Christmas Day:

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



We are very grateful for the generosity shown
by so many to our Annual Parish Collection.
If you have not yet had an opportunity to
return your gift card, please do so as soon
as possible. Every gift is welcome and
sincerely appreciated. Thank you!

*Fr. Kukulka and Fr. Pullikattil are urging all
parishioners to take advantage of our regularly
scheduled confessions:

Friday: 8:30-8:50 a.m., HS

Saturday: 3:00-3:50 p.m., HS, &

Sunday: 7:30-7:50 am, SM especially
for the weekends of December 13th-14th and
the 20th-21st as your Christmas confession.



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.



ANNUNCIATION PARISH

Do whatever he tells you. John 2:5

The 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C highlights the importance of recognizing God's work in our lives. The readings emphasize the joy, unity, and gifts we receive from God.

- **God's Promise of Joy:** Isaiah speaks of Jerusalem's new name and joy. This joy is a sign of God's love and faithfulness.
 - **Gifts of the Holy Spirit:** Paul explains that the Holy Spirit gives different gifts to different people. These gifts are for the good of the community.
 - **Unity in Diversity:** Paul teaches that though there are many different gifts, they come from the same Spirit. This shows the importance of unity in the Church.
 - **Transformation through Christ:** The wedding at Cana in John's Gospel shows Jesus turning water into wine. This miracle is a sign of Jesus' power and care for others.
 - **The Role of Mary:** At the wedding in Cana, Mary notices the need for wine and asks Jesus to help. Her role shows her care and faith in Jesus. She also acts as an intercessor for us.
 - **Celebration of Marriage:** The wedding feast in Cana reminds us of the importance of marriage. It highlights marriage as a joyous celebration and a sign of God's presence.
- The 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C helps us see how God is present in our lives. It encourages us to use our gifts and celebrate the joy and unity God brings.

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The Annunciation Women's Guild will hold their Christmas Party on Tuesday December 16th in the Holy Spirit Church hall. Doors open at 5:00 pm, with appetizers (Stuffed mushrooms, Baked Brie, cheese and crackers and 3 others to be determined) provided at 5:30 pm, followed by the meal. All Women's Guild members are invited to attend, and each member may bring one guest if they choose to. The evening will include a served family style meal catered by Michaels Catering, a teacup raffle and musical entertainment. The meal consists of the hot and cold appetizers, Chicken Marsala, Roast Sirloin of Beef, Penne Pasta with meat sauce, Garlic roasted red bliss potatoes, Green beans with julienne carrots, Garden salad with rolls and butter, cheesecake, coffee and tea. The musical entertainment will be provided by Tom "T-bone" Stankus. The Women's Guild will subsidize the cost for members only. The cost for the evenings will be \$45 per member only. The cost for a non member/guest is \$60. Response and payment are due by December 4th. Payment by a check 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 item(s) to be donated to the House of Bread to be distributed to those in need. Items requested include new T-shirts, socks and underwear for Women and Men. You may contact Lynn Lutz at lutz62511@gmail.com or call/text at :860-604-6798 for any questions.



ANNUNCIATION PARISH

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 and Happy Advent!



The Twelve Days of Christmas

We are familiar with the Christmas song, **The Twelve Days of Christmas**. To most it is a delightful nonsense rhyme set to music. But it had a quite serious purpose when it was written.

Catholics in England during the period 1558-1829, when Parliament finally emancipated Catholics in England, were prohibited from any practice of their faith by law—private or public. It was essentially a crime to be a Catholic.

The Twelve Days of Christmas was written in England as one of the “catechism songs” to help young Catholics learn the tenants of their faith—a memory aid, when to be caught with anything in writing indicated adherence to the Catholic faith could not only get you imprisoned, it could get you hanged, or shortened by a head or hanged, drawn and quartered.

The song’s gifts are hidden meanings to the teachings of the Faith. The “true love” mentioned in the song doesn’t refer to an earthly suitor, it refers to God himself. The “me” who receives the presents refers to every baptized person. The partridge in a pear tree is Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

In the song, Christ is symbolically presented as a mother partridge, which feigns injury to decoy predators from her helpless nestlings, much in memory of the expression of Christ’s sadness over the fate of Jerusalem. The other symbols mean the following:



Two Turtle Doves.....	The Old and New	Testaments
Three French Hens.....	The Theological Virtues	of faith, hope and love
Four Calling Birds.....	The four Gospels	
Five Golden Rings.....	The Pentateuch, the first	five books of the Bible
Six Geese A-Laying.....	The six days of creation	
Seven Swans A-Swimming...	The seven Gifts of the	Holy Spirit or Sacraments
Eight Maids A-Milking.....	The Beatitudes	
Nine Ladies Dancing.....	The nine Fruits of the	Holy Spirit
Ten Lords A-Leaping.....	The Ten	Commandments
Eleven Pipers Piping.....	The eleven faithful	Apostles

The season of Christmas extends from Evening Prayer I of Christmas (the evening of December 24th) until the Baptism of the Lord, Sunday January 7th. Since the season does not end until January 7th, the Church encourages all to keep decorations displayed until that time when the season ends and ordinary time begins.



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

Oliver Fusco

Chase Hepple

Emma Hepple

Wes Hepple

Zoe Hepple

Charles Oliver Jackson

To be baptized at Annunciation Parish, you must be a registered parishioner, reside in Newington, or have some tangible connection to our Parish.

Annunciation Parish
Invites you to join in

Advent 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 only. The gift cards would benefit teenagers struggling with many of life's challenges. Gift Cards such as Amazon, Walmart, Target and CVS would be helpful for our outreach.

Gift Cards may be returned to the rectory at Saint Mary Church or may be placed in the collection baskets with the envelopes marked CHR Christmas.

Thank you for bringing hope and light to their holiday and for your continued generosity and support!

***ALL GIFT CARDS must be returned by Sunday, December 14, 2025 to ensure Timely distribution to all organizations.**

NEWS FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF HARTFORD



Branches on the Vine

DECEMBER 6 - 12, 2025



This image of Our Lady of Guadalupe will be on display in the sanctuary of Sacred Heart Parish from Dec. 7 to 14. Pictured, from left to right, are Father Joseph Keough, along with Caroline and Mike Alexopoulos, members of the Sacred Heart Parish family who were among those who went on a pilgrimage to Mexico City. SUBMITTED PHOTO



Hundreds of people are dancing to drums in traditional native dress in the plaza in front of the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City. PHOTO BY FATHER JOSEPH KEOUGH

HOW A PILGRIMAGE TO MEXICO SPARKED A PRIEST'S PASSION FOR THE GUADALUPE FEAST

When Father Joseph Keough, pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Suffield, traveled to Mexico City earlier this month, he expected a meaningful pilgrimage. What he didn't expect was how his visit to the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe would impact him and shape his plans for the parish's upcoming feast day celebration.

"It was something I always wanted to do," he says. "My dad always had a strong devotion to the Blessed Mother. It's an image of her I wanted to learn more about, especially the Miracle of the Tilma."

Keough joined a group organized by Verso Ministries, traveling with two parishioners and others from across the United States. The group spent five days exploring the sacred sites connected to the apparitions of Our Lady to St. Juan Diego. To understand the significance of these sites, it helps to recall the story at the heart of the devotion.

In 1531, Juan Diego reported apparitions of the Virgin Mary on Tepeyac Hill in Mexico City, who asked for a shrine and proved her message by imprinting her image on his tilma when he presented miraculous winter roses to the bishop. The image -- unchanged

for centuries despite its fragile material -- carries indigenous symbols, accurate constellations from the day of the apparition, microscopic human reflections in the eyes, and scriptural parallels, leading many to see it as a miraculous, divinely created sign.

"What moved me most was seeing how the apparition brought unity," Keough says. "Our Blessed Mother spoke to both the native people and the Spanish explorers, and her message -- 'I am your mother, and you are my son' -- led to conversion and healing. It really was an important trip. Americans need to see this, experience it, and learn about it."

He was also struck by the symbolic depth of the image.

"Everything on the tilma has meaning -- the stars on her mantle reflect the night sky of Dec. 12, 1531," Keough explains. "There's a heavenly message embedded in every detail."

The experience inspired him to create a more intentional and joyful celebration of the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe at Sacred Heart this year on Dec. 12. Before leaving for Mexico, he asked parishioners if they had prayer intentions he could bring to the Basilica.

"More than 200 people responded," Keough says. "When I came back, so many thanked me. There's a real excitement about it in the parish."

Sacred Heart Parish's Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe at Sacred Heart Church on Dec. 12 will begin with Eucharistic Adoration from 7:30 to 8 a.m., followed by Mass at 8 a.m., which will be livestreamed on the parish Facebook page. Father Keough will preach a special Guadalupe-themed homily, reflecting on his pilgrimage and the message of trust and closeness to Christ through the Blessed Mother.

An image of Our Lady of Guadalupe, provided by a parish family, will be displayed prominently.

In the afternoon, the parish hopes to host a brief devotional program highlighting key moments from the pilgrimage and the history of the apparition.

The simple, but profound message behind the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe resonates in the lives of parishioners today. "That message of trust and drawing closer to our Lord through his mother," Keough adds. "I am your mother, you are my son."

- Story by Jim Tierney



Upcoming Events



Acropolis, Athens

September 22 to October 4, 2026
\$4,590 per person from New York

Inspirational Tours, Inc.

Spiritual Director: Fr. Emmanuel Ihemedu

EARLY REGISTRATION IS HIGHLY ENCOURAGED.
FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED BASIS

Full description, terms and REGISTRATION FORM at www.johnpaulgreatparish.com

13 Day Greece & Turkey Pilgrimage

Athens ♦ Greek Isle Cruise ♦ Istanbul



12/10 & 11 WEDS / THURS 10AM-4PM
ADVENT BAKING RETREAT: CARDAMOM BUNS AND CINNAMON ROLLS, WITH PAM HARDIMAN
Holy Family Retreat Center, 303 Tunxis Rd, West Hartford

On December 10th or 11th, come join us at Holy Family Retreat Center, to take a break from the holiday rush and bake fresh, warm cardamom buns and cinnamon rolls to enjoy on Christmas morning. We will make ornaments for our trees while the dough is rising. \$75, includes lunch. **860-760-9705**.



12/9 TUESDAY 7:30PM
AMARCORD CONCERT
St Peter Claver Church
47 Pleasant St, West Hartford

Saint Peter Claver proudly presents the world famous German a cappella vocal ensemble, AMARCORD, in a very special Christmas program on Tuesday, December 9 at 7:30 PM. General admission tickets available at \$40. Please join us at one of their rare American appearances for an unforgettable musical event. Tickets are sold on-line only at spcknightsfundraiser.ludus.com



A Retreat for College Students

Navigating the New Year

Mercy by the Sea Retreat Center, Madison, CT

January 10-12, 2026
Saturday 4:00 PM - Monday 10:00 AM

FOR MORE INFO OR TO REGISTER VISIT:
MERCYBYTHESEA.ORG
a retreat to ground yourself for the year ahead

2025 ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

Scan the QR code to learn how you can make a lasting impact!



Total Goal: \$10M 96.59% as of 11/25/25

\$9,658,529.00 pledges from 28,923 generous donors



www.archdioceseofhartford.org/appeal