

# Saint Nicholas Parish

January 16, 2022  
Seymour, Connecticut



## Parish Staff

Rev. Thomas J Cieslikowski, Administrator  
 Joan Kayser, Office Manager  
 Denny McNamara, Cemetery Director  
 Debi Durette, Coordinator of Religious Education  
 Glenn Durette, Director of Music (Good Shepherd)  
 Frank Parda, Building and Grounds (Good Shepherd)  
 Michael Vignola, Bulletin Editor, Webmaster Parish Website



Church of the Good Shepherd  
135 Mountain Road

Vigil Mass Saturday 4:30 pm  
 Sunday Mass: 11:00 am  
 Weekdays (M,T,W,Th,) 9:00 am  
 Sat. Confession 3:30 - 4:00 pm



St. Augustine Church  
35 Washington Ave

Sunday Mass 9:30 am  
 Handicap Accessible Side Entrance

Parish Website [www.stnicholasct.org](http://www.stnicholasct.org)  
 Email - [stnicholasct@comcast.net](mailto:stnicholasct@comcast.net)  
 Telephone 203-888-9243 - Fax 203-888-6016

### Rectory Office Hours

Good Shepherd	Mon. to Thur.	9:00am - 4:00pm
	Fri.	Closed

### Baptisms

Registration is required.  
 Please call the rectory office.

### Marriages

Please contact rectory office at least six months in advance.

### Office of Vocations

Phone: 860-242-5573



Web site: [www.vocationshartford.org](http://www.vocationshartford.org)

### Sick Calls

We are happy and honored to visit the sick or homebound.

## Weekly Church Calendar

Date	Time	Intention	Requested By:	Events
Sat Jan. 15 Good Shepherd	4:30pm	✠ Barbara Downs (1st Anniversary)	Alese & David	
Sun. Jan. 16 St Augustine	9:30am	✠ Lynn Ortolì (2nd Anniversary)	Joan & Rich	
Sun. Jan. 16 Good Shepherd	11:00am	Mass Available		
Mon. Jan. 17 Good Shepherd	9:00am	✠ Richard J. Lombardi, Jr.	Lombardi Family	
Tue. Jan. 18 Good Shepherd	9:00am	✠ Wm & ✠ Roberta Burke	Diane & Shawn Coleman	Rosary in Church
Wed. Jan. 19 Good Shepherd	9:00am	Mass Available		
Thu. Jan. 20 Good Shepherd	9:00am	Mass Available		
Fri. Jan. 21 Good Shepherd		No Mass		
Sat Jan. 22 Good Shepherd	4:30pm	✠ Karen Torres	Mom & Family	
Sun. Jan. 23 St Augustine	9:30am	Mass Available		
Sun. Jan. 23 Good Shepherd	11:00am	✠ Steven Plotkin	Wife & Children	

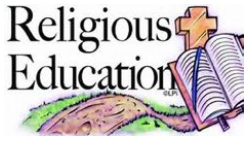
Jan 2022	St Augustine	Good Shepherd
 Altar Wine	In Memory of Kathleen E. Jachimowski Jamaitis and Edward J. Jachimowski	In Memory of Elene Tong
 SANCTUARY LAMP	Not Available	In Memory of Jachimowski & Gioielli Families
 Hosts	In Memory of Anthony Sr & Anna Chepulis	In Memory of Lawrence Argonese

## Parish Giving

January 9, 2022		
Offertory Envelope	2nd Collection	Total Collection
\$3,962		\$3,962
Cathderaticum & CASP	Total Stay in Parish	
\$234	\$3,728	
<b>Thank You for your Generosity</b>		

On Line Giving  
Offertory will be  
provided on a  
Monthly Schedule  
**December \$3,345**

## Religious Education 2021-2022



Religious Education will continue this year, but its format will be the same as last year on account of the ongoing pandemic and all of its uncertainty. We will not be able to hold classes at Seymour High School for Grades 1-8 due to the inability of following the continued required safety protocols for cleaning, small cohorts, and social distancing that is necessary to keep everyone healthy and safe. Because of this, we are once again asking you, the parents/guardians of our students, to help them at home. We can assist you through the use of an assigned textbook and unit quizzes provided when

you register them. These "unit quizzes" can be used as a guide to help your child(ren) focus on the most important information in the unit. We just ask that you return these completed "unit quizzes" to us.

To adhere to the guidelines of social distancing, we will be stationed in the Fr. Keane Hall at Good Shepherd on Saturday mornings, 9:30 AM – 11 AM. This hall is in the back of the church. Please come in, wearing a mask, to register and receive the materials.

The following list are dates for registration/pick-up of supplies:

1/8/22, 1/22/22, 1/29/22, 2/5/22, 2/12/22

Additional Saturday dates for 2022 will be posted at a later time. Please note that snow/ice would cancel the affected Saturday. If you have any questions, please call Debi or Glenn Durette at 203-735-3190.

### WISH TREE THANK YOU:

Once again parishioners from St. Nicholas Parish were generous in giving approximately 620 gifts to be distributed to St. Vincent DePaul in Derby, Veterans Hospital, Spooner House, Umbrella Shelter for Battered Women, and Mary & Joseph Place. SPECIAL THANKS to my daughter Mary Ellen who printed the labels with hearts. Also to Jessica Sirowich and her daughters Kolbe & Kenzie and her Mom Antoniette Musante who helped with the written labels. Special thanks to my husband Bob who is always there to support me and helped separate all the gifts along with Jessica and her girls. To my son Daniel who cut all the labels. To Mike and Linda Vignola who took care of the gifts at St. Augustine and brought them to Good Shepherd. MANY MORE thanks to all of you who once again gave so generously to help make another Christmas a little brighter for so many. Their thank you notes will be on the bulletin board as I receive them.



GOD BLESS YOU ALL!!!!

Carmie Potash Co-Ordinator/Chairperson

Please pray for the health and wholeness in body, mind and spirit for:

Jean D	Pat S	Michael V	Arnie R	Denise H
Darrin M	Bob B	Patricia T	Suzanne M	Alice E
Jane W	Doreen O	Maggie D	Barbara O	Tom G
Michael S	Barbara S	Jerry D	Denny M	Irene D
Linda C	MT	Amy G	AP	Rose S



If you would like to receive a statement for income tax purposes for donations made in 2021, please Contact Business Office, St. Nicholas Parish at 203-888-9243. Provide name and Church envelope number.

**Mary and Joseph's Place** would like to thank St Nicholas Parish for their generosity and support of our Pro-life Ministry to save the Babies. Your Parish raised \$3,120.50 in donations to help our clients and their families in need. May God bless you and your families, and a special thanks to Father Tom for his support.



Yours in Jesus and Mary,  
Barbara Mucha Oko, RN

Please Note:

That we are only reporting first name and initial of last name. We ask that if you have a name (1st name and 1st initial of last name) that you would like on the list, you must call the rectory (203-888-2081 - St. Augustine or 203-888-9243 - Good Shepherd) and resubmit the name. The name will stay on for 2 months and then be removed unless their name is resubmitted. Using this method we can keep names current. Thank you for your cooperation.

How to handle conflicts without sinning

The Gospel story this Sunday gives us a good example of how to handle conflicts without sinning.

Mary sees a need and wants Jesus to do something about it. She knows full well that only a miraculous intervention will solve the problem. She wants the divine in him to respond to her request, but the human nature of Jesus responds first: He doesn't want to reveal his divinity with this kind of miracle. He's eager to heal souls, not empty wine jars.

"Woman, how does your concern affect me?" he says. "My hour has not yet come." This is like saying, "I respect your request, holy Daughter of Eve, but think about how a miracle in this situation would affect the ministry I'm about to start! People will come to me for party favors and other earthly pleasures, but I want to give them eternal salvation."

We Catholics like to use this scripture as faith-building evidence of the Blessed Mother's ability to help us. We see her in this story as a mother who can get for us whatever we want from Jesus, because she can make him change his mind. Jesus told her no, but the conflict was resolved her way. Mary won, Jesus lost.

Isn't this how we view conflicts? It's not resolved until someone's a winner and someone else is a loser. Therefore, when we make requests of God and he doesn't give us what we want, we feel like we're the loser, so we pray harder, trying to make God become the loser. And when that doesn't work, we ask the Blessed Mother to side with us and influence her Son against his will.

But God wants us to be the winner from the start! He always wants what's best for us. Mary knew this when she told the wine stewards, "Do whatever my Son tells you."

Conflicts are not inherently bad. Conflicts become sacred opportunities for wonderful solutions when we entrust them to God. Mary trusted that Jesus cared about the people at the party. Jesus trusted that the Father cared about both the people and his ministry. It was a win-win situation.

**Questions for Personal Reflection:**

How do you feel when you lose an argument? How hard do you work at making the other person lose? Will you trust God to take good care of you -- even if you feel like a loser?

**Questions for Family & Community Faith Sharing:**

Describe a conflict (a hypothetical one or a real one from your past or present) and suggest an ideal solution. Is anyone a loser in this scenario? If you were to truly trust God, what might he do to resolve the conflict so that everyone benefits?

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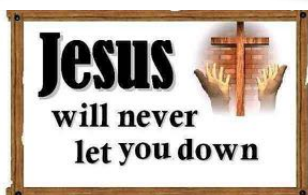


*Welcome!*

We welcome Joan Kayser to the staff of Saint Nicholas Parish. Joan takes over the position of Office Manager recently vacated by Alese Kummer. Joan has worked to advocate for senior citizens for years. It's a good thing because she will be working for me!

The new office hours will be Monday thru Thursday from 9am to 4pm. The office will be closed on Fridays. Please be patient with us as we make this transition. Let's make Joan feel at home in the rectory office.

Fr. Tom



- Readings for the week of January 16, 2022
- Sunday: Is 62:1-5/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 7-8, 9-10 [3]/1 Cor 12:4-11/Jn 2:1-11
- Monday: 1 Sm 15:16-23/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23/Mk 2:18-22
- Tuesday: 1 Sm 16:1-13/Ps 89:20, 21-22, 27-28/Mk 2:23-28
- Wednesday: 1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51/Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10/Mk 3:1-6
- Thursday: 1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7/Ps 56:2-3, 9-10a, 10b-11, 12-13/Mk 3:7-12
- Friday: 1 Sm 24:3-21/Ps 57:2, 3-4, 6 and 11/Mk 3:13-19
- Saturday: 2 Sm 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27/Ps 80:2-3, 5-7/Mk 3:20-21
- Next Sunday: Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15/1 Cor 12:12-30 or 12:12-14, 27/ Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21
- Observances for the week of January 16, 2022
- Sunday: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time
- Monday: Martin Luther King Day; St. Anthony, Abbot
- Tuesday: Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
- Wednesday:
- Thursday: St. Fabian, Pope and Martyr; St. Sebastian, Martyr
- Friday: St. Agnes, Virgin and Martyr
- Saturday: Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children
- Next Sunday: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time; St. Vincent, Deacon and Martyr; St. Marianne Cope, Virgin

### Worldwide Marriage Encounter

To support married couples during this time of social distancing, Worldwide Marriage Encounter is sponsoring virtual marriage experiences. Some are on weekends and are seven sessions on weekdays from 7:00pm to 9:30pm. Couples will explore their individual personality styles, improve listening and communication skills, understand God's plan for their marriage, and learn how to keep their relationship a priority. Registration is limited and a \$100 application fee is required. For more information or to apply, call Frank & Margie Pearson at 860-337-2447 or visit them at <https://www.mectw.org/>.

Allow God to strengthen, renew, rekindle and even transform your marriage sacrament. Take time for your marriage by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience.

### "The ABCs of Annulment"

Sponsored by the Metropolitan Tribunal, Bloomfield

Father Philip Schulze, Pastor of Saint Margaret Parish, 24 Academy Street, Madison,

Connecticut, in collaboration with Father George Mukuka, the Judicial Vicar of the Metropolitan Tribunal in

Bloomfield, Connecticut, will host "The ABCs of Annulment" on Saturday of January 22nd, 2022, from 10 am to 12:00 pm, in the Church Hall at the address above. Updates of the process initiated by Pope Francis as well as those made in the Archdiocese

of Hartford will be presented by Br. Larry Lussier CSC, and Jim Tottenham.

Follow-up Annulment Workshops to help participants write their applications will be held

at the same address on Saturday January 29th, and February 12th and 19th, from 10 am to 12:00 pm.

Br. Larry, Jim Tottenham, and other members of the Annulment Team, will be present for the Workshops.

The "ABCs of Annulment" event is open to all at no cost. Participants will receive a folder

with the required printed materials. No registration is required. For further information call

Br. Larry @ 475-221-8464 or email him at brolarius300@gmail.com.

**I**t is one of the worst kept secrets in Seymour. Many of you already know that the Office Manager, Alese Kummer is retiring the end of this month. She has worked for over twenty years in the office for Saint Augustine Church and then Saint Nicholas Parish. Her knowledge and experience will never be surpassed, especially in the inner working of the cemetery. She knows so many of you by name and has helped you in times of difficulty. She was indispensable to me when I came to the parish.

Whenever I ask her something, I rarely got an answer of "I don't know". Her kind smile and keen sense of humor will be greatly missed in the rectory.

A reception honoring Alese will be held on **Sunday, January 16<sup>th</sup>** after the 11am Mass. Please come and say "Auf Wiedersehen" to her.

See you then.

Fr. Tom





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