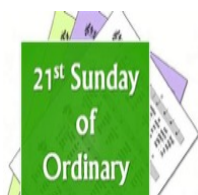


# Saint Nicholas Parish

August 24, 2025

Seymour, Connecticut



## Parish Staff

Rev. Thomas J Cieslikowski, Pastor  
Natalie Aspinwall, Office Manager  
Michael Bylo, Bookkeeper  
Denny McNamara, Cemetery Director  
Debi Durette, Coordinator of Religious Education  
Glenn Durette, Director of Music (Good Shepherd)  
Allan Dabkowski Organist (St. Augustine)  
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 9:00 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 - 3:00pm
	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.

## 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time, August 24, 2025

Good Shepherd	Mass Intentions
Sat. 8/23 4:30 pm	† Margaret Naughton (Bob & Peg Moffitt)
Sun. 8/24 11:00 am	† Nicki Gramolini - Memorial (Gramolini Family)
Mon. 8/25 9:00am	† Princess L. Peters (Giovanetti & Cook Families)
Tue. 8/26 9:00am	🙏❤ Ernestine Gaudio (Family)
Wed. 8/27 9:00am	† Frank Marcucio, Jr. (Wife)
Thur. 8/28 9:00am	Parishioners of St. Nicholas Parish
Fri. 8/29	No Mass
Sat. 8/30 4:30 pm	† Alfred M. Tucci, Sr. (Mr. & Mrs. Alfred Tucci, Jr.)
Sun. 8/31 11:00 am	† Henry J. Wardowski, Sr. (Lombardi Family)
St. Augustine	Mass Intentions
Sun 8/24 9:00	† Rev. Brian Jeffries (Alese & David Kummer)
Sun 8/31 9:00	† Dolores Cortello 10 Yr Anniversary (Family)

- Readings for the week of August 24, 2025
- Sunday: Is 66:18-21/Ps 117:1, 2 (Mk 16:15)/Heb 12:5-7, 11-13/Lk 13:22-30
- Monday: 1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b/Mt 23:13-22
- Tuesday: 1 Thes 2:1-8/Ps 139:1-3, 4-6/Mt 23:23-26
- Wednesday: 1 Thes 2:9-13/Ps 139:7-8, 9-10, 11-12ab/Mt 23:27-32
- Thursday: 1 Thes 3:7-13/Ps 128:1-2, 4-5/Mt 24:42-51
- Friday: 1 Thes 4:1-8 (429)/Ps 97:1 and 2b, 5-6, 10, 11-12/Mk 6:17-29
- Saturday: 1 Thes 4:9-11/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9/Mt 25:14-30
- Next Sunday: Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29/Ps 15:2-3, 3-4, 4-5 (1a)/Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a/Lk 14:1, 7-14
- Observances for the week of August 24, 2025
- Sunday: 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
- Monday: St. Louis; St. Joseph Calasanz, Priest
- Tuesday:
- Wednesday: St. Monica
- Thursday: St. Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
- Friday: The Passion of St. John the Baptist
- Saturday:
- Next Sunday: 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
- LPI



To Join the Parish E-Mail list, send me your name and email address to [mvignola@me.com](mailto:mvignola@me.com) and you will be added to the list

P A R I S H  G I V I N G	Thank You for your Generosity	
	August 3	\$5,366
	August 10	\$5,605
	August 17	\$5,481
	August 24	
	August 31	
	OnLine Giving July	\$4,038
	Fuel Collection	\$1,648
	Total Collections	\$22,138
	Cathderaticum Fee	\$1,550
	Total Stay in Parish	\$20,588

**Masters Table  
August 24th**  
Time: 3:30-4:30pm  
Pickup meal inside  
All meals located  
at: Assumption  
Church Hall 61 N.  
Cliff St, Ansonia  
Cost: Free, open to  
the public, no rsvp,  
Phone:  
203-732-7792  
Website:  
[www.masterstable  
meals.org](http://www.masterstablemeals.org)

**Mission Collection \$1,984**

August 2025	St Augustine	Good Shepherd
 Wine	In Memory of Bernardino Urbano Requested By Zumba Family	In Memory of Elaine Norris Requested By Crofut Family
 Sanctuary Lamp Good Shepherd	In Memory Of Jachimowski & Gioielli Families Jean E. Jachimowski Kathleen E. Jachimowski Jamaitis Edward J. Jachimowski Requested by Jachimowski Family	
 Hosts	In Memory of Molly & Steve Grick Requested by Dan & Judy Halchak	In Memory of Charles Tarby Requested by DiCintio & Tarby Family

Best Shrines of **FRANCE** Pilgrimage

**APRIL 20-MAY 1, 2026**

Join New England Catholic Biblical School on a pilgrimage with Fr. Christopher Ford and Jason Rinaldi

Mont St. Michel Lourdes St. Bernadette  
Paray le Monial Lisieux St. Therese  
Rocamadour Nevers St. Vincent de Paul  
Toulouse Paris St. Catherine Laboure  
St. Margaret Mary Alcoque

**\$500 Deposit per person due today!**  
balance due January 2026

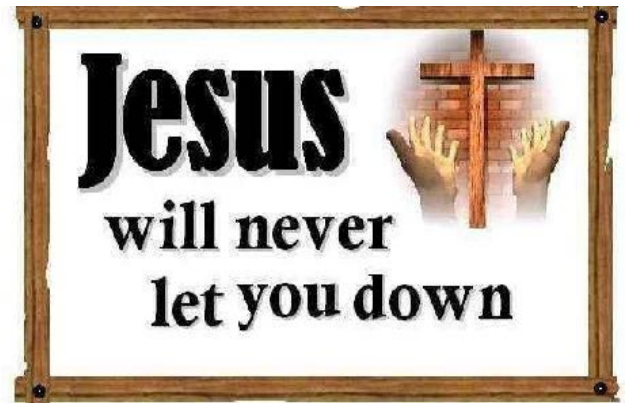
**\$6499 per person, dbl occ.**  
Package Includes:  
Round Trip Airfare  
Hotel Accommodations  
Professional Tour Guide  
Breakfast and Dinner Daily  
Private Ground Transportation  
Entrance/Admission Fees  
Daily Mass

**Password: NECBS**

**CATHOLIC JOURNEYS™** 800-715-6670  
www.CatholicJourneys.com







### Religious Education Class Registration 2025-2026

The updated dates and times to register for the Fall Religious Education classes are listed below. All registration will take place in the Fr. Keane Hall at the Church of the Good Shepherd, 135 Mountain Road, Seymour.

Saturday, August 23rd - 9:30 AM to 11 AM

Wednesday, August 27th - 6 PM to 7PM

Saturday, August 30th - 9:30 AM to 11 AM

Wednesday, September 3rd - 6 PM to 7PM

Saturday, September 6th - 9:30 AM to 11 AM

This registration is for children who are in Grades 1-8. A copy of the Baptismal Certificate is needed for all Grade 1 students and any students who are new to our program -- only if those students were not baptized at the Saint Nicholas Parish, Church of the Good Shepherd, or Saint Augustine. Educating our children in the Catholic faith is a great group of volunteers. Many more will be needed for the Fall 2025 classes. Volunteers as teachers and substitute teachers are desperately needed. Please join us! We need your help!! Religious Education classes of Saint Nicholas Parish cannot exist without your help and the help of other volunteers!!

The following is the fee schedule for the 2025-2026 Religious Education school year:

\$77 for one child

\$149 for 2 or more children

We are unable to accept cash!

Please write checks payable to Saint Nicholas Parish.

If you have any questions, please call Glenn or Debi Durette at 203-735-3190. Thank you!

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

Al A	Jim H	Denny W	Aidan C	Samatha B
Lizz F	Henry D	Quinn	Laura B	Lucille M
Jim H	David C	Diane C	Ruth S	Joe S
Linda A	Rich D	Nick S	Kenzie S	Kristen O
Michael H	Cindy S	Michael	Ernestine G	Alese K
George	Daniel	Jayne	Joseph K	Tim
Grace F.	Ryleigh H	Greyson H	John Christopher D	Jeff

Please Note:

That we are only reporting first 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 203-888-9243 - 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.



NEWS FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF HARTFORD

# Branches on the Vine

AUGUST 23 - 29, 2025



Blessed Michael J. McGivney set out to improve the plight of people he ministered to during the 19th century and bring people closer to the faith. Painting by Antonella Cappuccio/Photo COURTESY OF KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



People can invoke the intercession of Blessed McGivney at his tomb in St. Mary Church in New Haven, part of Blessed Michael McGivney Parish. His remains are placed in a sealed, double bronze coffin within a polished granite sarcophagus at the rear of the church. PHOTO BY AARON JOSEPH

*Auxiliary Bishop Juan Miguel Betancourt recounts the life of Waterbury native son and priest Blessed Michael J. McGivney, whose patronal feast in the Archdiocese of Hartford was marked on Aug. 13. Blessed McGivney, who founded the Knights of Columbus, demonstrated how to live a life of service and faith. Pray for his intercession and for a second miracle that will lead to his canonization as a saint. Read more about Blessed McGivney in the upcoming issue of the Catholic Transcript.*

These days, I am re-reading the biography of Blessed Michael McGivney. I am sure you agree that he shines as a champion of the Gospel's works of mercy. In Matthew 25:31-46, Jesus presents a powerful image of the final judgment, separating the righteous from the unrighteous based on acts of mercy: feeding the hungry, giving drink to the thirsty, welcoming the stranger, clothing the naked, caring for the sick, and visiting the imprisoned. "Whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me," he says. This Gospel passage is not merely a list of good deeds, but a roadmap to holiness, a path that Blessed Michael McGivney, as an example to all, walked among us with quiet courage and deep conviction.

As many of us know, Father McGivney, born in 1852 in Waterbury to Irish immigrant parents, was a highly skilled yet humble parish priest

## BLESSED MCGIVNEY: AN OUTSTANDING WITNESS

whose ministry reflected the corporal works of mercy through everyday acts. During a time when many Catholic families especially widows and orphans—faced social prejudice, economic hardship, and spiritual marginalization, he shared their pain, recognizing in them the suffering face of Christ. A bright man, rather than furthering his priestly career due to his many talents, Father McGivney dedicated his priesthood to being present, compassionate, and proactive in caring for his flock.

Founding the Knights of Columbus in 1882 serves as a concrete expression of this mercy that he had already demonstrated in his pastoral assignments in New Haven and Thomaston. He recognized the vulnerable position of Catholic men, many of whom died young due to harsh labor conditions, leaving their families destitute. The Knights began as a mutual aid society, providing financial and spiritual support to widows and orphans. In this initiative, Father McGivney reflected the very heart of Matthew 25: loving Christ in the "least" among us.

Moreover, his mercy extended beyond material assistance.

As a parish priest, he acted as a shepherd, offering counsel, encouragement, and sacramental grace to those who suffered.

He made himself available to his parishioners, as well as to the poor, the unemployed, and the young men tempted by crime or despair. His compassion was not sentimental; it was active, personal, and rooted in the Eucharistic love of Christ.

Today, the witness of Blessed Michael McGivney speaks urgently to our times. In a society marred by division, indifference, and isolation, he calls us to rediscover mercy as the defining characteristic of Christian life. His legacy is not confined to statues, museums, or badges; it lives on in every act of compassion inspired by faith.

To honor this local saint means to take seriously the words of Christ in Matthew 25, not only as a future judgment, but also as a daily calling. Blessed Michael McGivney shows us that holiness is possible in ordinary life and that mercy is the most reliable path to Christ.





## Upcoming Events



09/5-7 WEEKEND

### RETROUVAILLE MARRIED COUPLES WEEKEND

Hotel in CT (address given at registration confirmation)

Does your marriage get the attention it deserves in the busy world we live in? Could you use tools and support to make it a priority? Would you like that "loving feeling" back? Sign up for our upcoming weekend in September 5-7, 2025. [www.tinyurl.com/mrypks8k](http://www.tinyurl.com/mrypks8k) or email us [Connecticut-WMass@helpourmarriage.org](mailto:Connecticut-WMass@helpourmarriage.org) We are happy to answer questions and provide further details.

Retrouvaille is a marriage help program that gives couples the opportunity to get away and examine their lives together. It provides couples with tools to improve their communication skills and rekindle their love. It also provides monthly opportunities for couples enrichment.

It's never too late to build a fulfilling marriage.

**18<sup>th</sup> CONNECTICUT CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE**

2025 JUBILEE YEAR

**PILGRIMS OF HOPE**

**SEPTEMBER 27<sup>TH</sup>**

Michael O'Neill, Fr. Jason Brooks, Fr. Anthony Federico, Dr. Ray Guarendi

**New Location:** Holy Cross High School, Waterbury, CT

**Vigil Mass** with Archbishop Christopher Coyne

**Spes Non Confundit** "Hope Does Not Disappoint"

**Homily** by Bishop Richard F. Reidy

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 27  
DOORS OPEN AT 7:30AM  
EVENT STARTS AT 8:30AM

REGISTER TODAY  
[CTCATHOLICMEN.ORG](http://CTCATHOLICMEN.ORG)

**THE HOUSING & HOMELESS CRISIS**

**BREAKING THE CYCLE**

Join us for an informative and inspiring evening on the current housing and homelessness crisis, and learn how the Church and lay ministry can help restore dignity and break the cycle in our communities. The evening will conclude with a panel of experts answering your questions.

Tuesday, September 17  
6:30 - 8:30 PM

St. Bridget of Sweden Parish  
175 Main St.  
Cheshire, CT

**FEATURED SPEAKER: JERED BRUZAS**  
Chief Impact Officer, United Way of Greater Waterbury

With over a decade of leadership in housing, homelessness, and community impact, Jered has worked on the front lines, helping individuals and families stabilize housing, gain financial independence, and access vital services. His work has shaped programs and policies that make a lasting difference.

Reserve Your Seat Today! Email: [Ana.plaza@aohct.org](mailto:Ana.plaza@aohct.org)

### 2025 ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

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



SCAN ME



Total Goal: \$10M

91.17% as of 8/12/25  
\$9,117,486.38 pledges from  
27,425 generous donors

[www.archdioceseofhartford.org/appeal](http://www.archdioceseofhartford.org/appeal)



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Archdiocese of Hartford  
467 Bloomfield Ave, Bloomfield, CT 06002  
860-541-6491

