

Saint Nicholas Parish



December 28, 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
Email - 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

Sick Calls

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

The Holy Family, December 28, 2025

| Good Shepherd | Mass Intentions |
|---------------------|--|
| Sat. 12/27 4:30 pm | ✠ Maureen Leniart (Egan Cousins) |
| Sun. 12/28 11:00 am | ✠ Kelly Kraus (Husband Michael) |
| Mon. 12/29 9:00 am | 🙏❤️ Frances Russo (Tony Giovanetti) |
| Tue. 12/30 9:00 am | 🙏❤️ Frances Russo (Tony Giovanetti) |
| Wed. 12/31 4:30 pm | Parishioners of St. Nicholas Parish |
| Thur. 1/1 9:00am | ✠ Edward Mucha (Barbara Mucha O'ko & Family) |
| Fri. 1/2 | No Mass |
| Sat. 1/3 4:30 pm | ✠ John Marino (Friend) |
| Sun. 1/4 11:00 am | ✠ Harold Hames 4th & Hames Family (Harold Hames 3rd) |

| St. Augustine | Mass Intentions |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Sun 12/28 9:00 am | ✠ Paula Keating (Husband Tom) |
| Thur. 1/1 6pm | Mass Available |
| Sun 1/4 9:00 am | ✠ Audrey Cron (Bill & Pat Wilkin) |

Readings for the week of December 28, 2025
 Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/
 Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5/Mt 2:13-15, 19-23
 Monday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6/Lk
 2:22-35
 Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Lk
 2:36-40
 Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13/
 Jn 1:1-18
 Thursday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6 and 8/Gal
 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21
 Friday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Jn
 1:19-28
 Saturday: 1 Jn 2:29-3:6/Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6/Jn
 1:29-34
 Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11,
 12-13/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

Observances for the week of December 28, 2025
 Sunday: The Holy Family
 Monday:
 Tuesday:
 Wednesday: St. Sylvester I, Pope; New Year's
 Eve
 Thursday: Mary, The Holy Mother of God, New
 Year's Day, World Day of Peace
 Friday: Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory
 Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church
 Saturday: The Most Holy Name of Jesus
 Next Sunday: The Epiphany of the Lord



**MASTER'S TABLE
COMMUNITY MEAL**
Free Grab and Go Meal

**Sunday
Jan. 11th**

**Sunday
Jan. 25th**

Time: 3:30-4:30 pm or until food runs out
 Pickup meal inside or drive up to get meal

All meals located at: Assumption Church Hall 61 N. Cliff St, Ansonia

Cost: Free, open to the public, no rsvp, donations graciously accepted
 Phone: 203-732-7792
 Website: www.masterstablemeals.org

Park your car and stop inside to pickup or eat your meal and browse the giveaway
 table. Masks are optional. If unable to come inside please see a volunteer outside
 and they will get your meal. One meal per person.

| PARISH GIVING | Thank You for your Generosity | |
|---------------|-------------------------------|----------|
| | December 7 | \$4,875 |
| | December 14 | \$3,151 |
| | December 21 | |
| | December 28 | |
| | OnLine Giving November | \$4,365 |
| | Fuel Collection | \$1,668 |
| | Total Collections | \$14,059 |
| | Cathderaticum Fee | \$984 |
| | Total Stay in Parish | \$13,075 |

To Join the Parish
 E-Mail list, send me
 your name and
 email address to
m vignola@me.com
 and you will be
 added to the list



**Immaculate Conception
\$992.00**

**Retirement Fund For
Religious
\$1235.00**



MASS on Christmas Eve

Wednesday, December 24 will be celebrated at 4:30 PM at Good Shepherd Church

MASSES on Christmas Day

Thursday, December 25 will be at 9:00 AM St. Augustine and 11:00 AM at Good Shepherd.

CONFESSIONS are scheduled for Monday, December 22, at 6:00 PM (Good Shepherd).

I will stay until all the confessions are heard

NEW YEARS DAY the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God in the Catholic Church is a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses on Thursday, January 1, 2026 will be at 9 AM at Good Shepherd and 6 PM at St Augustine.

This will be a wonderful opportunity to thank God for all His Graces during the year 2025 and to petition Him for his caring help during the New Year.

Father Tom

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

| | | | | |
|-----------|-----------|---------|--------------------|---------|
| Greyson H | Ryleigh H | Jeff | John Christopher D | AG |
| Jim H | Kristen O | Grace F | Ernestine G | EG |
| Diane C | Ruth S | Linda A | Greyson H | Henry D |
| Richard D | Carrie D | Paul S | Sean R | Kelly K |
| Ernest B | Frank S | Mike M | Gary P | |

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.

The Seymour/Oxford Food Bank will be placing boxes in the back of both churches for food donations during the holiday season to support those in need. Your generous contributions are greatly appreciated.

| December 2025 | St Augustine | Good Shepherd |
|--|---|-------------------------|
|  Wine | The Knights of Columbus | The Knights of Columbus |
|  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 | The Knights of Columbus | The Knights of Columbus |

The Monthly Shelter Dinner will be held at the Spooner House in Shelton on Thursday, **January 1st**. Due to the holiday, pizza will be ordered for delivery to the Spooner House.



If anyone would like to contribute to the cost of the pizzas, please contact Joyce Bulinski at (203) 444-7499 or Linda Vignola at (203) 881-2490. Your generosity is greatly appreciated

Thank You

Religious Education Class Registration 2025-2026

More info on Parish Website

<https://stnicholasct.org/religious-education-2/>

Christmas Wafers will go on sale the Second week of Advent, Dec. 7th
Cost per packet is \$3.00. Packets can be found in the back of both churches.



NEWS FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF HARTFORD

Branches on the Vine

DECEMBER 27 - JANUARY 2, 2026



From left to right, Luc A. Ouellette, Kasimier (Kaz) Marchut, and Sister Mary Lucille Banach gather in the foyer of St. Lucian's Residence, New Britain, with Sister Mary Janice Zdunczyk, director and member of the Daughters of Mary of the Immaculate Conception.

PHOTO BY SHELLEY WOLF

ST. LUCIAN'S RESIDENCE COUNTS 100 YEARS OF SENIOR **LIVING WITH** **SPIRITUAL PERKS**

Monsignor Lucian Bojnowski, who served as a pastor to the Polish community in New Britain beginning in 1895, was an enterprising priest who dreamed of many ministries to uplift the locals. As pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, he founded a congregation of religious women, two grade schools, an academy, an orphanage and a home for the elderly.

One of his creations that continues to care for God's people to this day is St. Lucian's Residence, a residential senior living facility, which celebrated its 100th anniversary this year (1925 to 2025).

"He had an incredible vision," Robert Skarba, administrator of St. Lucian's Residence, says of Monsignor Bojnowski. Today, that vision is summarized in St. Lucian's Residence logo with the tagline "comfort, care and compassion."

"The ministry of St. Lucian's is a priority of the Daughters of Mary of the Immaculate Conception," says Sister Mary Janice Zdunczyk, a member of the congregation and director of St. Lucian's, who is in charge of providing that compassionate care. "It's our mission to support St. Lucian's financially, spiritually and socially."

Today, six sisters make their home at St. Lucian's Residence, a nonprofit residential senior living facility that welcomes people

age 65 and above. The sisters live on one floor of St. Lucian's Residence, while 15 lay people live on the floors below.

"I think our founder's purpose was to found a community with a faith dimension," Sister Mary Janice explains. "With that added spiritual dimension, the sisters are willing to share their community life with the lay people and vice versa."

"It's amazing how many residents join the sisters in prayer, holy hours and at various prayer services," Sister Mary Janice notes.

There is also a chapel, which draws the residents for daily Mass. Masses are celebrated by Father Lawrence Symolon, chaplain for the Daughters of Mary of the Immaculate Conception. While this spiritual legacy is being carried on, some things have changed.

Located on Burritt Street, St. Lucian's Residence was built in 1925 and gained a new wing in 1986, followed by many upgrades. Residents enjoy private rooms but can mingle in sitting rooms on every floor, in the dining hall and in a large social activity room.

Activities include exercise classes, bingo, movies and holiday parties. Meals, assistance with medication, laundry and other services are also available, if needed.

Resident Kasimier (Kaz) Marchut, a former long-distance runner, takes advantage of the weekly exercise classes. He also loves to read. "I've read every book in the library," he says, of the small library with English and Polish titles. But he says the best thing about living at St. Lucian's is "having good friends."

Luc A. Ouellette spent his working life as a Catholic school teacher at St. Ann Jr. High School and Sacred Heart School in New Britain, teaching reading, French and religion. He says he arrived at St. Lucian's because "I needed some things done for me – laundry and food prep."

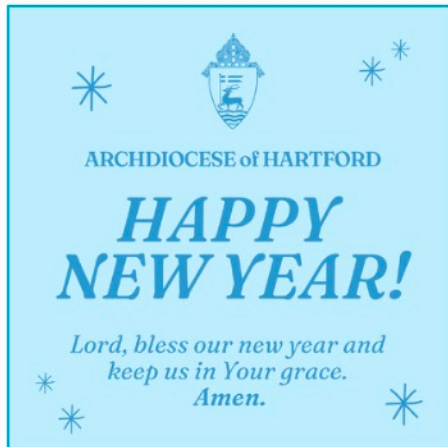
Ouellette loves everything about St. Lucian's: "The schedule for meals, the quiet time in the building, the activities planned for us, the daily Mass and the rosary on Wednesday after Mass and on Sunday afternoons."

Three years ago, Sister Mary Lucille Banach, one of the Daughters of Mary and a retired nurse, moved from Boston to become a resident. "The best is the socialization. There are people around to talk to – or not talk to," she says with a laugh.

- Story by Shelley Wolf



Upcoming Events



01/7 & 14 WEDNESDAYS

4:30PM - 6PM

THE JOURNEY OF INTEGRATION |

2 WEEK SERIES

Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center,
303 Tunxis Rd, West Hartford

There comes a time in each of our lives when the question comes "Is this all there is?" And so with that question comes the yearning to move deeper. You are invited to step into this journey. This means leaving the familiar, what we know, and searching out the least developed sides of ourselves. This search calls us to greater truth and reveals our buried treasures. This program will be two-fold: 1) invite you to explore where you are in your journey; and 2) begin to name some of the steps and tasks that will move you through this time in your life. There will be two 1.5-hour sessions.

Offering: \$75 | Register at www.holyfamilyretreat.org

Word of God Sunday | January 25, 2026

On the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, the Church celebrates the the Word of God Sunday, established by Pope Francis to deepen our love for Sacred Scripture.

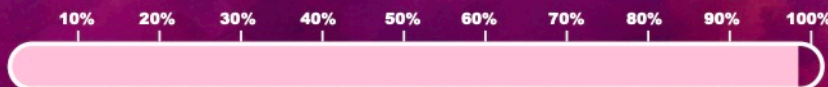
Grow in understanding of God's
Word through the **New England**
Catholic Biblical School.

Scan the QR code to explore
courses, resources, and
opportunities for formation.



2025 ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

Only a few days left to get your gift in for the 2025 Appeal!



Total Goal: \$10M 98.27% as of 12/16/25

\$9,826,716.75 pledges from 29,370 generous donors



Help us reach our goal!

www.archdioceseofhartford.org/appeal