

Saint Nicholas Parish

May 3, 2026

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



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.

Fifth Sunday of Easter, May 3, 2026

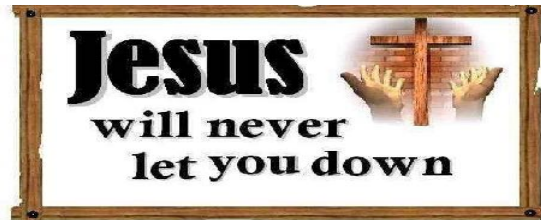
Good Shepherd	Mass Intentions
Sat. 5/2 4:30 pm	† Paul Pitman <i>(The Esposito Family)</i>
Sun. 5/3 11:00 am	† The DiMauro Family <i>(Pettinella Family)</i>
Mon. 5/4 9:00 am	† Viola & † Gerald Coppola <i>(Rose Spiwak & Family)</i>
Tue. 5/5 9:00 am	† Richard Potash <i>(Bob, Carmie & Daniel)</i>
Wed. 5/6 9:00 am	Parishioners of St Nicholas
Thur. 5/7 9:00 am	Mass Available
Fri. 5/8	No Mass
Sat. 5/9 4:30 pm	† Richard Lombardi Jr. <i>(Lombardi Family)</i>
Sun. 5/10 11:00 am	† Dolores Cortello & † Roz Cuccaro <i>(Family)</i>

- Readings for the week of May 3, 2026
- Sunday: Acts 6:1-7/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19/1 Pt 2:4-9/Jn 14:1-12
- Monday: Acts 14:5-18/ Ps 115:1-2, 3-4, 15-16/Jn 14:21-26
- Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28/ Ps 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21/Jn 14:27-31a
- Wednesday: Acts 15:1-6/ Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5/Jn 15:1-8
- Thursday: Acts 15:7-21/ Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10/Jn 15:9-11
- Friday: Acts 15:22-31/ Ps 57:8-9, 10 and 12/Jn 15:12-17
- Saturday: Acts 16:1-10/ Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5/Jn 15:18-21
- Next Sunday: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17/Ps 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16 and 20/1 Pt 3:15-18/Jn 14:15-21

- Observances for the week of May 3, 2026
- Sunday: 5th Sunday of Easter
- Monday:
- Tuesday: Cinco de Mayo
- Wednesday:
- Thursday: National Day of Prayer
- Friday:
- Saturday:
- Next Sunday: 6th Sunday of Easter; Mother's Day

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St. Augustine	Mass Intentions
Sun. 5/3 9:00 am	† Chris DeSole <i>(Sonia Garcia)</i>
Sun. 5/10 9:00 am	† Jon Chontos <i>(Family)</i>



P A R I S H G I V I N G	Thank You for your Generosity	
	April 5	\$6,566
	April 12	\$4,551
	April 19	\$4,102
	April 26	\$4,693
	OnLine Giving March	\$4,163
	Fuel Collection	\$2,823
	Total Collections	\$26,898
	Cathderaticum Fee	\$1,883
	Total Stay in Parish	\$25,015

I want to thank all members of the Men's Club for their hard work on making the Breakfast for Supper event a success. We had approximately 70 people attend (this includes children). We took in \$315 and with expenses of \$140 we realized a profit of \$175. Thank you all again.

Tony Montefusco



Easter Flowers Donation \$2303

We welcome into our Parish Family through the saving waters of Baptism:



Charlotte Elizabeth Collins
 Daughter of
Keenan and Elizabeth Collins

May God's graces and blessings be with her always as she grows in wisdom and understanding, and may her life always reflect God's goodness and love.

The Commandments: The Ten Words

A presentation, "The Love Commandments", will be presented by Deacon Ken Ewaskie on Monday, May 11th from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm at Good Shepherd Rectory Conference Room.

A discourse will be enacted to uncover the authentic intension of God's Plan for humanity to enjoy earthly life and prepare for eternal life.

All who plan to attend will go forth with a renewed confidence in God's Love for His people through living these tenets he has set for us.

Please respond to this invitation by saying "Yes!" And call Deacon Ken at 203-888-1641.



POPE LEO XIV PROCLAIMS FRANCISCAN JUBILEE YEAR

In January Pope Leo XIV proclaimed 2026 to be the "Jubilee Year" of St. Francis of Assisi. This year being the 800th anniversary of his death, the Pope's stated purpose is to focus on St. Francis' message of peace in conflicted times. So! What do you know about St. Francis? Is he just a birdbath saint? On Tuesday, May 19th, at 6:30 pm, sponsored by St. Nicholas Men's Club, Bill and Pat Wilkin will present an introduction to St. Francis, his spirituality, and his legacy in the Church today at the Church of the Good Shepherd. Bill and Pat are parishioners of St. Nicholas and members of the Secular Franciscan Order. We invite you to come and learn about a man who changed his times and has inspired countless people through the centuries, even today. Questions, answers and refreshments will follow.

OUR MONTHLY SHELTER DINNER

Will be held at the Spooner House in Shelton on Thursday, May 7th. A sign-up sheet with the menu is in the St. Augustine vestibule for anyone willing to provide a portion of the meal.



Meal Items should be brought to St. Augustine Church by 3:00 pm on that day to permit a timely delivery to the Spooner house.

Thank You!

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

Maryann D	AG	Mary H	Michael G	Danielle B
Lauren N	Susan T.	Brian C	Danielle B	Denny W
Jayvion L	Collin G	Ron T	Henry D	Diane C
Ruth S	K.O.	Paul S	Ernestine G	Lucy M
John T				

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.

Religious Education Class Registration 2026

More info on Parish Website

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

May 2026	St Augustine	Good Shepherd
 Wine	Available	In Memory Of Shingara & Owcarz Families Requested By Valerie A. Shingara
 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	Available	In Memory Of Bennett & Sciarrino Families Requested By Christine Sciarrino

Branches on the Vine

NEWS FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF HARTFORD

MAY 2 - 8, 2026

Diaper Drive Brings Compassion, *One Box at a Time*

- Story by Jim Tierney

The idea did not begin in a church hall, but in a town conversation.

While living in West Hartford, Deacon Keith Griffin learned local agencies were quietly collecting diapers for families that could not afford them. When he was ordained to the Permanent Diaconate in June 2023 and assigned to Christ the King Parish in Wethersfield, the thought stayed with him. Why not here?

Christ the King Parish, comprising Church of the Incarnation, Corpus Christi and Sacred Heart, already had a strong social action committee. Parishioners were supporting a health clinic in Honduras and the work of Father Rick Frechette in Haiti. A diaper drive would be practical, immediate and local, Deacon Griffin notes.

"The main goal for the drive is to lend a helping hand to families."

"Diapers are an expensive necessity," he says. "People shouldn't have to choose between food and diapers. An average monthly supply costs \$80 to more than \$100. Clean diapers are a basic need for every baby and toddler."

For families relying on Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, that money must also cover rent, heat, electricity, food and transportation, Deacon Griffin adds. Diapers alone can consume up to 12% of those benefits.

The first diaper drive was held in January 2024, around Three Kings Day. Parishioners responded with open hands. More than 800 diapers were collected. That generosity has continued, twice each year — once in January and again on Mother's Day weekend. The next Deacon's Diaper Drive will be held May 9 and 10 at all Masses.

"The main goal for the drive is to lend a helping hand to families," Deacon Griffin explains. "We deliver diapers to groups to distribute. We don't know directly how many families we are accommodating. The main goal is to collect as many as possible to help as many as possible."

Before the May 2024 collection, social action committee member Vin Cannamela contacted Corpus Christi School. Principal Ann Sarpu offered a simple incentive: a dress-down day for students who brought diapers, wipes or ointments. The children came through. Nearly 40% of the items collected each year now come from the school.

On collection day, the students form a bucket brigade, passing boxes hand to hand from the school building to adjacent Corpus Christi Church. It is a small parade of charity — sneakers squeaking, cardboard shifting, children grinning as they carry what many take for granted.

The parish does not distribute directly but delivers the diapers to those who manage the need: the Town of Wethersfield Social Services Department, Maria Reina de la Paz Parish in Hartford, Undercover New England, Hartford Deportation Defense, and Birthright. At the request of partner groups, the drive now also includes disposable undergarments for adults.

Deacon Griffin summarizes the broader community message from Matthew 25:45, when Jesus says that whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.

For questions or more information about the diaper drive, email Deacon Griffin at deaconkeithCTK@gmail.com.



Deacon Keith Griffin of Christ the King Parish in Wethersfield organizes biannual diaper drives to support local and area social services. He stands with donations collected from the drive in January. PHOTO BY SHARON REYNOLDS



Upcoming Events



MAY 8 @ 6PM
SEEN: A NIGHT OF HOPE & HEALING
 The Basilica of the Immaculate Conception, Waterbury

All are welcome for a night of prayer and support for those experiencing infertility or pregnancy/child loss. We will have welcoming remarks, Mass, a reflection, Adoration with Praise and Worship, and a reception to follow with light refreshments, veneration of relics, resources, community, and opportunities to meet with Religious Sisters and Prayer Teams. Registration required. Please reach out to helo@waterburybasilica.org to RSVP.



MAY 8 @ 6PM
WOMEN'S HOLY HOUR & DINNER
 St. Bridget of Sweden Parish, Cheshire

Are you seeking peace and direction? Join us for an evening dedicated to women's vocational discernment. We'll begin with a Holy Hour featuring beautiful music, prayerful silence, and a reflection. Please stay for a free dinner and community fellowship. Registration required. Email cdemiany@ascj.us to RSVP.



MAY 9 @ 9AM - 2PM
DAY WITH MARY | RETREAT
 Precious Blood Parish, St. Agnes Church, Milford

Join us for a Marian Eucharistic Day Retreat with the Franciscan Friars of the Immaculate. Day will include: Holy Mass, Confession, Conferment of the Miraculous Medal, Fatima Video, Benediction, Marian Procession, Conferment of the Brown Scapular, Recitation of the Rosary and talks by Franciscans. Inclement weather, check status www.daywithmarywest.org Retreat is FREE, bring a snack!



MAY 10 @ 10AM Adults \$50
MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH
 Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center, West Hartford

Children 4-12, \$15 | Children under 4, Free
 Come celebrate Mother's Day with a special Mass for mothers and families, and then enjoy a delicious gourmet brunch prepared by our chef. Visit www.holyfamilyretreat.org/calendar.



MAY 13 @ 7:30PM
CANDLELIGHT ROSARY PROCESSION
 Our Lady Queen of the Apostles Parish, St. Mary Church, Derby

Join us in celebrating the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima! We will gather in front of the church to start the procession. The rosary will take place indoors if it rains. Coffee and cupcakes social to follow!



MAY 13 @ 5:30PM - 9PM \$50
COUPLES' EVENING RETREAT
 Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center, West Hartford

Please join us as we explore the beautiful concept of marriage as a spiritual friendship. How is marriage a Trinitarian-like expression of love, with Christ at the center? How can deep, intentional listening with "the ear of the heart" cultivate a marriage rooted in spiritual friendship? Offered both in-person and online via Zoom. Includes dinner with wine and cheese. Visit www.holyfamilyretreat.org/calendar.



MAY 15 - 17 @ 6PM \$300
MEN'S RECOVERY RETREAT
 Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center, West Hartford

We invite men in recovery into a peaceful atmosphere where you can rest, renew your spiritual life, and deepen your sobriety. Hear an inspiring lecture, catch up on some rest, and care for yourself as we care for you in mind, body, and spirit. The retreat begins on Friday with a buffet dinner from 6-7:30PM and concludes on Sunday around 11AM. Scholarships are available. Call Marty V. at **860-250-6246** for information.



MAY 21 @ 9:30AM - 3PM \$12
NEW DAY SEMINAR FOR THE BEREAVED
 Sacred Heart on the Lake Retreat Center, Higganum

This seminar helps those who have lost a loved one with the tasks of grieving. The cost of the book is \$12.00. Reservations required. Call Sr. Patricia Cigrand **203-606-4830** or email cigrandpatricia@gmail.com. A free will offering will be welcomed.

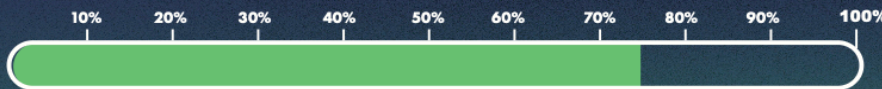


JUNE 12 - 13 @ 8PM
ALL NIGHT VIGIL
 St. Joseph Church, Winsted

Vigil begins at 8PM with opportunity for Confession until 8:45PM. Mass in honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus at 9PM. Each hour throughout the night will have some structured prayer time as well as time for quiet reflection. Vigil concludes with 8AM Mass in honor of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Coffee and water will be available throughout the night. Homemade Bread will be shared after the 8AM Mass in honor of St. Anthony's Feast Day, June 13.

2026 ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

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



Total Goal: \$10M 74.14% as of 4/20/26

\$7,414,029.49 in pledges from 20,522 generous donors



www.archdioceseofhartford.org/appeal