

ANNUNCIATION PARISH

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, AUGUST 30, 2026

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



Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me.

MATTHEW 16:24

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God of might, giver of every good gift, put into our hearts the love of your name, so that, by deepening our sense of reverence, you may nurture in us what is good and, by your watchful care, keep safe what you have nurtured. 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.

www.catholicculture.org

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.

Clergy

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

Deacon Julio Maturana, Business Manager

business@annunciationnewington.com

Phone: (860) 436-4381

Music Ministry

Mark Neumann, Parish Director of Music

neumn@hotmail.com

David Dyson, Organist

music.dyson@annunciationnewington.com

Rectory Office

9a.m. - 2p.m. Monday - Friday

(860) 666-1591

Kimberly Marchetti, Parish Secretary

kim@annunciationnewington.com

Linda Lutz, Office Assistant

linda@annunciationnewington.com

Office of Religious Education

Monica Lagana, Director of Religious Education

dre@annunciationnewington.com

Phone: (860) 471-3695

Sacramental Ministries

Baptism

To schedule a Baptism, visit our website: www.annunciationnewington.com, - 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 with your parish.

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.

ANNUNCIATION PARISH

“Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. Matthew 16:24.”

The 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A teaches about sacrifice, suffering, and following God’s ways. The readings show that being faithful is not always easy, but it is worth it.

God’s call is strong: Jeremiah feels overwhelmed by God’s message, but he cannot keep it inside. Even when people mock him, he must speak the truth.

True worship requires sacrifice: Paul urges believers to offer themselves to God. This means living in a way that pleases God, not following what the world values.

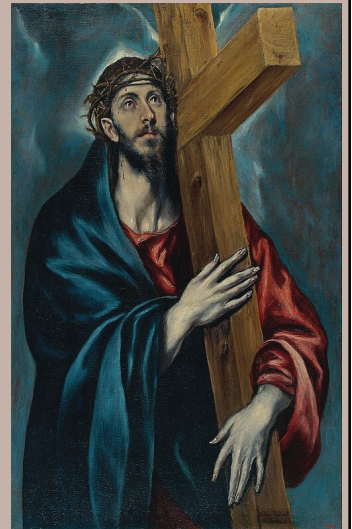
Suffering is part of faith: Jesus tells His disciples that He must suffer and die. This shows that following God’s plan often brings hardship, but it leads to life.

God’s ways are not human ways: Peter wants to protect Jesus from suffering, but Jesus corrects him. Human thinking often focuses on comfort, but God’s plan is bigger.

Carrying the cross: Jesus calls His followers to deny themselves and take up their crosses. Faith is not just about belief; it requires action and sacrifice.

The soul is worth more than the world: Jesus warns that gaining everything means nothing if a person loses their soul. Faith is about seeking what lasts forever, not just what feels good now.

God will judge each person: Jesus says that the Son of Man will come and repay people for their deeds. Faith is not just about words but about how a person lives.



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READINGS FOR THE WEEK – Twenty-Second Sunday In Ordinary Time

Monday 1 Cor 2:1-5 Ps 119:97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102 Lk 4:16-30

Tuesday 1 Cor 2:10b-16 Ps 145:8-9, 10-11, 12-13ab, 13cd-14 Lk 4:31-37

Wednesday 1 Cor 3:1-9 Ps 33:12-13, 14-15, 20-21 Lk 4:38-44

Thursday 1 Cor 3:18-23 Ps 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 Lk 5:1-11

Friday 1 Cor 4:1-5 Ps 37:3-4, 5-6, 27-28, 39-40 Lk 5:33-39

Saturday 1 Cor 4:6b-15 Ps 145:17-18, 19-20, 21 Lk 6:1-5

Sunday Ez 33:7-9 Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 Rom 13:8-10 Mt 18:15-20

Mass Intentions

Saturday, August 29th, The Vigil For The Twenty-Second Sunday In Ordinary Time

H/S 4:00 p.m. Tim Luddy, 3rd Anniversary, By His Family

Sunday, August 30th, The Twenty-Second Sunday In Ordinary Time

S/M 8:00 a.m. John & Hedwig Eselunas, By Their Family

H/S 9:15 a.m. Yem Hoang, By His Granddaughter

S/M 10:30 a.m. Genevieve Grudzien, By Her Family

H/S 12:00 p.m. John Linnick, By Paul Bouchard & Family

Monday, August 31st, Weekday

H/S 9:00 a.m. Deacon Jim Blanchette's Healing

Tuesday, September 1st, Weekday

H/S 9:00 a.m. Father Josh Wilbur's Recovery

Wednesday, September 2nd, Weekday

H/S 9:00 a.m. Margaret Sofianos,
By The Cercone & Zablocki Families

Thursday, September 3rd, Saint Gregory the Great, Pope, Doctor of the Church

H/S 9:00 a.m. For The Parishioners of Our Parish

Friday, September 4th, Weekday

H/S 9:00 a.m. Remy Martula, By His Parents

Saturday, September 5th, The Vigil For The Twenty-Third Sunday In Ordinary Time

H/S 4:00 p.m. Janet Harrigan, By Her Husband & Children

Sunday, September 6th, The Twenty-Third Sunday In Ordinary Time

S/M 8:00 a.m. Helena Hansen, By Vilma Forastiere

H/S 9:15 a.m. Mary Ellen Ashe, By Her Family

S/M 10:30 a.m. John Manning, By His Family

H/S 12:00 p.m. Jeffrey Batter, By The Marchetti Family



The Women's Guild first meeting of the 2026-2027 year will be held on **Tuesday, September 15th** in the Church of The Holy Spirit Hall beginning at **6:30 pm**. ***All women of the parish are invited to join the Women's Guild. Dues are \$10 for the year.** The evenings entertaining program will be speaker: Dr. Steve Sobel on Celebrate Joy, Happiness and Humor. Dr. Steve Sobel, speaker extraordinaire, is one of the country's most adored motivational speakers, educators, and humorists. Steve is also the author of the best selling book "The Good Times Handbook-Your Guide to Positive Living and Exciting Life", and appears regularly on television and radio throughout the United States and Canada.



In Loving Memory

We pray for...

Beverly Guidotti

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

Parish Support

August 23, 2026

Weekly	\$10,728
Online Giving	\$3,853
Total	\$14,581

Eucharistic Adoration

Holy Spirit Church

6:00 - 7:00pm

Tuesday Evenings

Spend the whole hour or as much time as you can give!



Second Collection for Earthquake Relief in Columbia

A second collection will be taken on **September 5-6** to support families and Catholic communities affected by the recent earthquake in Colombia, especially in the **Diocese of Quibdó**. Please keep the people of Columbiain your prayers and give generously.



THE AVILA HOUSE

183 CHURCH ST
Newington, CT

The Avila House, a discernment house for women in the Archdiocese, has space available for two women. Contact Carlene at 760-774-0043 if interested.

The Knights Sandwich Ministry

Our next sandwich collection is Sunday,
September 20th at 4:30 in the
St. Mary School Parking lot.

K of C Food Collection

Sunday, **September 6th @** 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 to June.

The Men's Club

...meets on the third Wednesday of every month,
at **6:00 p.m.** in St. Mary lower rectory.
Contact: Tom Morris at (860) 666-6331

The Men's Fellowship Group

...meets every Wednesday evening from
6:30 to 8:00 p.m. at Holy Spirit Church Hall.
Contact: Angelo Marchetti (860) 202-1612

The Women's Fellowship Group

...meets every Thursday from **6:30 to 8:00 p.m.**
Holy Spirit Church Hall.
Contact: Kim Marchetti (860) 202-0020

The Women's Guild

The Women's Guild Executive Board

will meet on Monday, **August 31st**, and the
General Membership meeting will be held on
Tuesday, **September 15th.**

All meetings are held at 6:30 p.m. in the Holy
Spirit Church Hall.

The Peruvian Community from Chiquian
will be holding a mass in honor of
St. Rose of Lima on **Sunday, August 30th**
at 2:00 p.m. at **Saint Mary's Church.**
Following the mass, there will be a
procession around the church.
It will be led by Father Carlos Zapata.
All are welcome to attend!



"Save The Date Tag Sale"

To all Parishioners. Your assistance is
requested. The Annunciation Women's Guild
will once again be holding a Tag Sale fundraiser.
It will be held on **Saturday September 12th,**
2026 with free admission, and paid preview
on Friday September 11th.

As you complete your Spring and Summer
household cleaning, we ask you to please
consider putting aside clean, working, and
useable items and donating them to the tag
sale in September.

Clean, working and usable items needed are:
small appliances, jewelry, handbags, glassware,
china, pottery, small electronics, pots and pans,
toys, lamps, suitcases, small furniture or patio
items, clean pet items, small sports equipment,
small hand tools, knick knacks, and linens and
craft items.

**ITEMS NOT ACCEPTED include: Large
or heavy furniture, books, CD's, DVD's,
videos, records, video equipment, medical
equipment, clothing or shoes, infant seats,
cribs or high chairs, Christmas trees or
lights, televisions, monitors or computer
items, plastic food items, mugs and water
glasses, pictures or picture frames, large
lawn or yard equipment, stuffed toys and
unsafe or hazardous items."**

**The 19th Annual Connecticut Catholic
Men's Conference:**

**Saturday, October 10, 2026, 7:30AM - Vigil
Mass**

Location - Holy Cross Catholic High School,
Waterbury, CT

Adoration, Confession, Speakers, Exhibitors,
Lunch, Mass

Speakers: Fr. Dan Reehil, Fr. Declan Gibson,
Ms. Jeanne Mancini, and Dr. Karlo Broussard

For more information, please visit:

www.ctcatholicmen.org

**or call Bill Mitchell in the evenings:
(860) 436-2669**

**Altar Servers Needed
For Funerals And Masses**

**We are actively looking for volunteers
to help serve as Altar Servers for our funerals
at both Holy Spirit & Saint Mary's Church as
well as weekend masses.**

**If this is a ministry that you would be able to
contribute your time and talents to, please
contact Kim at: 860-666-1591.
Thank you so much!**

ANNUNCIATION PARISH

Open Doors, Open Hearts with Fr. Ray Kelly
A Benefit Concert for ImmaCare

Join Ireland's beloved Singing Priest, Fr. Ray Kelly, for his only Connecticut performance on Wednesday, September 9, 2026, at 6:30 PM at Northwest Catholic High School in West Hartford.

Enjoy an unforgettable evening of inspiring music, laughter, and heartwarming stories while supporting ImmaCare's mission to serve individuals experiencing homelessness. Inspired by Fr. Ray's *Open Road, Open Heart* tour, this special concert celebrates hope, compassion, and new beginnings.

For tickets and to learn more, scan the QR Code or visit: <https://immacare.org/fr-ray-concert-2026/>

Tickets start at \$25. Doors open at 6:00 PM.

Contact Teresa Wierbicki at 860-580-5644 / twierbicki@immacare.org.



100% of proceeds benefit ImmaCare.

ANNUNCIATION PARISH



Faith Formation

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

INVITING STUDENTS FROM K-10

REGISTRATION

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN UNTIL 8/26.
REGISTRATION FEES ARE \$50/ STUDENT OR
\$90 FOR THOSE MAKING THEIR
SACRAMENTS OF FIRST HOLY COMMUNION
OR CONFIRMATION. CLASSES BEGIN
SEPTEMBER 27TH. IN PERSON REGISTRATION
ON AUGUST 23RD 1-4PM AT OUR CHURCH
PICNIC.



PROGRAM TIMES

- SUNDAY 10:30 - 11:30
- OR MONDAY 5:30 - 6:30
- CLASSES HELD TWICE A MONTH.
- EVERY SECOND AND FOURTH WEEK OF EVERY MONTH*

HAVE QUESTIONS?

EMAIL

DRE@ANNUNCIATIONNEWINGTON.COM



ENROLL NOW



* FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION CLASSES MAY BE HELD OUTSIDE OF THIS MODEL.

Annunciation Parish Women's Guild 2026



Holy Spirit Church Hall

183 Church Street, Newington

Preview – Friday, September 11, 2026

\$5.00 Admission 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Saturday, September 12, 2026

Free Admission 8:00 am—2:00 pm

CLEAN AND USABLE ARTICLES NEEDED

SMALL APPLIANCES (WORKING CONDITION)	SMALL HAND TOOLS
JEWELRY, HANDBAGS	LINENS & CRAFT ITEMS
GLASSWARE, CHINA, POTTERY	SMALL SPORTS ITEMS
SMALL ELECTRONICS (WORKING CONDITION)	POTS & PANS
TOYS, LAMPS	KNICK-KNACKS
SMALL FURNITURE OR PATIO	SUITCASES
CLEAN PET ITEMS	SMALL SPORTS EQUIPMENT

NO TRUCK LOADS PLEASE

WE WILL NOT ACCEPT THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

MEDICAL EQUIPMENT	PLASTIC FOOD ITEMS
FURNITURE LARGE OR HEAVY	LARGE LAWN OR YARD EQUIPMENT
CLOTHING OR SHOES	MUGS OR WATER GLASSES
INFANT SEATS, CRIBS OR HIGHCHAIRS	PICTURES OR FRAMES
CHRISTMAS TREES OR LIGHTS	BOOKS, CD'S, RECORDS OR CASSETTES
TELEVISIONS, MONITORS OR COMPUTERS	UNSAFE OR HAZARDOUS ITEMS
STUFFED TOYS	BASKETS

DROP-OFF DATES LIMITED TO: 2 DAYS AND 2 EVENINGS ONLY

September 8, 2026	Tuesday 9 am – 2 pm and 5 pm - 7 pm
September 9, 2026	Wednesday 9 am – 2 pm and 5 pm – 7pm

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

Please text Lynn Lutz, Chairperson @ 860-604-6798 or email at lutz62511@gmail.com

Branches on the Vine

NEWS FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF HARTFORD AUGUST 29 - SEPTEMBER 4, 2026

Local Friends of the Cross Group Honors St. Montfort's *Spiritual Legacy*

- Story by Karen A. Avitabile

// A Friend of the Cross is one chosen by God from among ten thousand who have reason and sense for their only guide. He is truly divine, raised above reason and thoroughly opposed to the things of sense, for he lives in the light of true faith." — St. Louis de Montfort

In his book, *The Letter to The Friends of the Cross*, St. Louis de Montfort (1673-1716) points out that holiness comes from walking in the footsteps of Jesus Christ. Still published today, the book serves as a guide for lay associations, including one that meets in Waterbury.

Nearly four years ago, Elaine Cerullo of Wolcott established the Friends of the Cross group in Waterbury's St. Patrick Oratory Parish to bring together faithful worshippers dedicated to living in consecration to Christ through the Blessed Virgin Mary.

"It was the perfect name for our group," Cerullo says. "The Letter was one of my favorite reads."

Once a month, some 30 people from St. Patrick Oratory Parish and the greater Waterbury area gather at a local restaurant to enjoy fellowship over a meal, engage in spiritual discussions and offer gratitude through prayer and reciting the rosary. On occasion, a guest speaker gives a presentation.

Cerullo attributes the group's name to a period when she and her husband Louis owned St. Michael's Bookstore in downtown Waterbury and distributed many copies of *The Letter*.



Elaine Cerullo, who founded *The Friends of the Cross* lay association at St. Patrick Oratory Parish in Waterbury, stands with her husband Louis in front of the sign they created for the monthly gatherings.

After the store closed, several loyal patrons desired to meet socially in a faith-centered environment. Inspired by St. Louis de Montfort's *The Letter*, Cerullo established the Friends of the Cross group to stay in touch with many of her customers and build new friendships.

"We are all church friends," she says, "and have a desire to stay connected."

William O'Brien of Wolcott has been attending the Friends of the Cross gatherings since the beginning. "It's a good time to be with other people," he says. "It's a good social group."

Canon Matthew Weaver, pastor and rector of St. Patrick Oratory Parish, regularly attends the Friends of the Cross gatherings. He praises the group's "dedication, devotion and enthusiasm" and desire to unite as a family in Christ.

"My presence helps to strengthen them," Canon Weaver says. "We are in the presence of the mystical body of Christ. We are all friends of the cross." Father John Mariano, a senior priest of

the Archdiocese of Hartford, has often led the group in praying the rosary. "It's good to get people together and pray," he says, adding, "This is a wholesome experience for me."

To remember Monsignor John Bevins who frequently joined the Friends of the Cross monthly gatherings, the group keeps his spirit alive with his picture, a candle and flowers on a restaurant table. The longtime Waterbury pastor of the Archdiocese of Hartford died on Oct. 13, 2025, at the age of 93.

"He was a devoted spiritual leader of the Friends of the Cross group," Cerullo adds.

Friends of the Cross gatherings are held on the last Thursday of the month at Amalfi's Italian Ristorante in Waterbury. Anyone who would like to participate should make a reservation by sending an email to elainecerullo@yahoo.com. Participants are asked to bring rosary beads.



ANNUNCIATION PARISH

Upcoming Events



SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER DATES
THE POWER OF A PRAYING PARENT
St. Catherine of Siena, West Simsbury

Do you worry about your children or grandchildren? Join us for a four-session retreat to discover the power of a praying parent who creates a sacred space for God in their home. "Come" (Matt. 14:29). Email kostelni@cua.edu or scan the QR code to register. Morning session offers a light lunch; evening session offers hors d'oeuvres and small plate meal.

Sept. 23, 30, Oct. 7, 14 @ 10AM – 12:30PM OR
Sept. 26, Oct. 3, 10, 17 @ 6:15PM – 8:30PM



SEPTEMBER 9 @ 6PM **\$25**
OPEN DOORS, OPEN HEARTS WITH FR. RAY KELLY | A BENEFIT CONCERT FOR IMMACARE
Northwest Catholic High School, West Hartford

Join Ireland's beloved Singing Priest, Fr. Ray Kelly, for his only CT performance! Enjoy an unforgettable evening of inspiring music, laughter, and heartwarming stories while supporting ImmaCare's mission to serve individuals experiencing homelessness. Inspired by Fr. Ray's Open Road, Open Heart tour, this special concert celebrates hope, compassion, and new beginnings. 100% of proceeds benefit ImmaCare.

Tickets start at \$25. Doors open at 6:00 PM.
For tickets or information contact Teresa Wierbicki at **860-580-5644** | twierbicki@immacare.org or scan the QR Code.



SEPTEMBER 22 @ 10AM - 11:30AM
FROM DARKNESS TO LIGHT, THE HEART OF JOHN'S GOSPEL
Archdiocese of Hartford Pastoral Center, Bloomfield

Join us for a mini course on the Gospel of John - Tuesday mornings at the Pastoral Center in Bloomfield beginning September 22. Email Dayanee.Olivieri@aoht.org to register. The spirituality of this Gospel unfolds gradually as each character encounters Jesus, whose mission is sustained by the abiding presence of the Spirit - a presence that strengthens us in our own daily struggles with the world.



SEPTEMBER 8 @ 7AM - 9AM
CATHOLIC CHARITIES HELP AND HOPE BREAKFAST
Cathedral of St. Joseph, Hartford

Join Catholic Charities for the 2026 Help & Hope Breakfast featuring UConn Coach Dan Hurley. This inspiring morning celebrates hope, resilience, and the power of community while supporting Catholic Charities' mission of providing help and creating hope. Visit www.ccaoh.org/hope for info and sponsorships availability.



SEPTEMBER 12 @ 9AM - 3PM
LOURDES IN A DAY PILGRIMAGE
Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Hartford

Experience the grace and healing power of Lourdes right here in CT! Join Archbishop Coyne, Bishop Reidy, Bishop Rosazza, and Fr. MacNeill for a day of prayer and renewal. The event is fully handicap accessible, and a complimentary lunch will be served. Please RSVP by September 2. Register with Mark Sullivan at lourdesinaday@gmail.com or scan the QR Code.



SEPTEMBER 15 @ 7PM
HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS AND PREVENTION PRESENTATION
St. Paul Parish Hall, Kensington

All are invited to a human trafficking awareness and prevention presentation sponsored by the Culture of Life and Social Action Ministries at St. Paul Parish. A member of the Human Trafficking Task Force of the Archdiocese of Hartford will provide an overview of human trafficking and introduce a prevention framework for engaging parishioners in this important work. Participants will learn about key elements of prevention and practical steps that parishes, ministries, and individuals can take to reduce vulnerability and strengthen their communities.



SEPTEMBER 20 @ 7:15PM
FOR HUMANITY'S SAKE: POPE LEO XIV AND THE AI REVOLUTION
St. Thomas More Golden Center, New Haven

A public discussion of Magnifica Humanitas, the pope's long anticipated response to the breakneck advance of artificial intelligence and the implications for human flourishing. Join us for this multi-sided conversation with a panel of distinguished experts about the document's premises, arguments, and response thus far, as well as its potential influence on the most consequential technological development of our time. Visit stm.yale.edu to reserve a spot.

2026 ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

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



Total Goal: \$10M 98.84% as of 8/17/26

\$9,884,197.93 in pledges from 27,405 generous donors

WE ARE
ONE

*This figure does not include bequests given to
the Archbishop's Annual Appeal

www.archdioceseofhartford.org/appeal

