



December 26, 2021

Saturday, 8:00 a.m. Sunday Vigil 4:00 pm
Sunday, 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 am, 5:00 pm
Monday - Friday, 6:45 and 9:00 am
Holy Days—Vigil Mass 7:30 pm
Holy Day-6:45 & 9:00 a.m., 5:30 pm
Holidays - 8:00 a.m.

REGISTRATION

All parishioners are asked to be formally registered with the parish. Registration is required to receive parish mailings, sponsor certificates, and sacraments. Call the Rectory office for information or go to strosechurch.com/register.

PENANCE

Confessions are celebrated each Saturday from 3:00 until 4:00 p.m. or by special appointment with one of the priests.

BAPTISM

Baptisms are celebrated on Sundays at 1:00 p.m. A pre-Baptism class is required for those wishing to baptize a child. For other important parent and sponsor related pre-requisites, please call the Rectory office or go to strosechurch.com/baptism.

FIRST COMMUNION, FIRST PENANCE and CONFIRMATION

Religious education classes begin at age 4. First Grade is a pre-requisite for First Communion and First Penance. Attendance is required in each grade for reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation in grade 8. For more information and pre-requisites for these sacraments, go to strosechurch.com.

MARRIAGE

The couple is asked to contact one of the parish clergy to make arrangements for a wedding, which must be made at least six months prior to the wedding date. For all other important pre-requisites for the marriage sacrament, go to strosechurch.com/marriage.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please call the Rectory office if you wish to receive this sacrament or if you wish to have Holy Communion brought to your home.

SAINT ROSE CEMETERY

The cemetery is located on the corner of Cherry and Black Cherry Streets in Sandy Hook. For more information, please contact the Office.



THE HOLY FAMILY
OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, December 27

6:45 Intentions of Dave Cicchesi Mary Obre
9:00 Rosemary Curry Friends & Family

Tuesday, December 28

6:45 Rose Tesoriere The Randall Family
9:00 Norma White Mary Obre
Joseph Grasso Mary Obre

Wednesday, December 29

6:45 Christina Gazsi Lisa Keane
9:00 Brian Donovan The DeCanio Family

Thursday, December 30

6:45 Michael Tallman Mary & Norm Roos
9:00 Claire Dillon Pat Armstrong

Friday, December 31 (New Year's Eve)

6:45 St. Rose Parishioners
9:00 Dorothy Jarvis The Oemcke Family
4:00 Vigil—St. Rose Parishioners

Saturday, January 1 (New Year's Day)

7:30 St. Rose Parishioners
9:30 St. Rose Parishioners
11:30 St. Rose Parishioners
4:00 St. Rose Parishioners

Sunday, January 2

7:30 Charlie Aldridge Mark & Valerie Principi
9:30 Robert Berthier, Jr. MD Karen Banks
11:30 Robert Mitchell Nancy DeCanio
Mario Ribeiro Connie Carey
5:00 Maria & Anthony Alagna,
John Pavia & Marilyn Imbimbo . . . Nella Pavia

Sister Mary Ellen Genova and Sister Thaddeus Rajca would like to thank all the parishioners of St. Rose for their prayers, generosity and many kindnesses shown to them and the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth during this Christmas season. May God bless you in the New Year 2022.



WEDDING BANNES:
BANNES I: Caroline Quentin & Joseph Lacourse



Holiday Schedule
Friday December 31, New Year's Eve
4:00 p.m. Vigil Mass
Saturday January 1, New Year's Day
7:30 a.m.
9:30 a.m.
11:30 a.m.
4:00 p.m.



Coming Back to Church

Question:
I have been away from the Church for a few years and really want to get active again, not so much for me, but for my children. Is this a bad reason to come back to Church?

Answer:
If you are on your way to the supermarket, and you are forced to detour from your usual route because of road work, does the food you buy taste different? Is the meal less filling? Are the vegetables less tasty? Of course not. In our faith journey, there are many detours called sin. Some are greater than others, some are even a bit longer. But God's grace comes to us in ways we understand and recognize and need. Your children leading you back to the Church is not as important as the fact that you are back.

This is an opportunity for you to renew, strengthen, and deepen your faith. Regardless of how we get to Church, or what draws us closer to God, the fact is we are there. Do what you need to do to get right with God and the Church. Go to confession, begin good family religious practices, and be involved in the ministries your parish offers. Be more than a lukewarm parishioner. Be the kind of Catholic you want your children to be.

©LPi

The Sanctuary Candle will be lit this week in memory of the deceased members of the Otton Family

The Chapel Candle will be lit this week in memory of Georgette Morey as requested by the Morey family



"GOD IS LOVE. WHOEVER LIVES IN LOVE LIVES IN GOD AND GOD IN HIM."

ST. JOHN, APOSTLE

A MESSAGE FROM MONSIGNOR BOB

*Joy to the world! The Lord is come
 Let earth receive her king!
 Let every heart prepare Him room
 And heaven and nature sing!
 He rules the world with truth and grace
 And makes the nations prove
 And glories of His righteousness
 And wonders of His love!*

The spirit of Christmas continues to permeate the air and our lives. What a joyous time in the midst of all that goes on in the world, especially with the pandemic still among us and the uncertainty it causes in our lives. We gather today to celebrate the greatest of gifts we have been given, the gift of our family. Is any family perfect? Of course not. But does every family have the responsibility to be the best they can be in their love and respect for one another? Of course they do. Family life is in great jeopardy today and is constantly being re-created in new styles. No longer is a family simply described as a mother, a father and a child. Whatever our family is, we share the same hopes, dreams and love that draw us together. We look to the model of the Holy Family. They had their struggles; they had their conflicts; they had their challenges. They never allowed them to pull them apart or lose their love and respect for one another. How did they accomplish that? It is simple. The entire reality of their lives was rooted in a deep faith and trust in God and His will for them. We reflect on Mary's acceptance to be the mother of God's Son, her fiat, her yes to the Lord. She had no idea what was ahead of her or her Son, but she knew she could trust God working in and through her. We reflect on Joseph, the carpenter, who had to make a decision to either divorce Mary, this unwed mother, or accept God's words spoken to him in a dream to take Mary as his wife. We just were reminded of the journey they were asked to take in life, not just to a simple stable to give birth to their child but the journey that was ahead of them as a family. Today we need to reflect on our own personal relationships with one another as a family. Do we have the respect each other deserves? Are we willing to lose ourselves for the sake of one another? Are we willing to invest the energy and time it takes to become a family? So many questions, but they are questions that need answers if we are going to truly be a family. Take some time this week to reflect on your call to be a family.

We will love and accept one another.

Romans 15:7, 1 Peter 1:22, 1 John 4:7

We will pray for one another.

1 Timothy 2:1, Hebrews 13:7

We will tell the truth to one another.

Colossians 3:12, 1 Peter 2:1, 3:10

We will be kind to one another.

Colossians 3:12, 1 Thessalonians 5:15

We will bring joy to one another.

Proverbs 17:22, 23:25

We will serve one another.

James 1:27, 1 Peter 4:10

We will comfort one another.

2 Corinthians 1:3-7, Galatians 6:2

We will forgive one another.

Luke 17:3-4, 1 Peter 3:9

We will be generous with one another.

Acts 2:42-47, 1 Timothy 6:17-19

We will honor each other.

Mark 9:35, 1 Peter 2:17

Family life is a life-long commitment. But if we follow the path set for us by God, the same path He put in place for Mary and Joseph, we will find the love, respect, honesty, forgiveness, generosity and honor each member of the family deserves. It is then that we can live in the kindness, service, comfort and joy that family life can offer to each of us.

*Lord, You have blessed our lives, our hearts
 and our home with the gift of each other.
 We accept this responsibility and the opportunity
 for spiritual growth. Much will be shared, and
 much will be learned. We pray for guidance.
 Light our way, and send us grace as we grow
 as a family. Bless us always with the reminder
 that the bond we have formed is as everlasting
 as Your love. Amen.*



Week of December 26—No classes this week

Holiday and Class Schedule:

Religious Education classes will NOT be held Sunday, Dec.,26 through Sunday, Jan. 2. Classes will resume on Monday, Jan. 3, 2022. We will be in the B week rotation when we begin in January.

The Religious Education office will be closed on Friday, December 24, for the Christmas Holiday, and also Friday, December 31. Happy New Year!

Book Collection for Bridgeport Schools:

Thank you to all of our students, parents and friends who donated books for the students in Bridgeport. Each of these books will be well read and enjoyed. We also appreciate all of the bookmarks that were made by our students. It is a wonderful way to share your love for Jesus with others.

Tutors and Aides Needed for Religion Classes:

Some of our catechists have requested an assistant for their classrooms. The aide would attend when classes meet (alternative weeks) and do not need to create a lesson plan. We are in need of high school students and adults who enjoy working with children. We also need tutors to work with students who must catch up on multiple years of faith formation. If you are interested in these positions, please contact Cate Gosselin.

Live Nativity Thank you's:

This past Saturday was our Live Nativity. We were truly blessed that the weather cleared up in time for our event to proceed. All our prayers to our Blessed Mother worked!!

A special Thank You to Mary Beth Sippin for directing our students and adults. The play went off without a hitch! Thank you to Gary Sippin, our narrator, and Deacon Norm Roos for singing with us. We also appreciate Rita Power, Margie Judge and Julie Mauri for their assistance with costumes and direction. Thank you to the many parents and Confirmation students who helped with costumes, candles, song sheets, and getting children into their proper places. We appreciate the Donovan family for participating as the Holy Family and as angels in our play. Of course, the mood was set when we heard the animals making sounds during the event. It added so much to the authenticity of that special Christmas Eve. Thank you to all of our animal handlers who brought the animals, wore the costumes and stayed with the animals during the performance.

Thank you to Aiden Waaler, our Eagle Scout, and his dad, Nick Waaler for building the stable after we lost the original one in a wind storm this summer. This new and very sturdy stable will be here for many years to come.

Merry Christmas! Wishing our St. Rose School family and parishioners a joyful celebration of Jesus' birth and a New Year bright with HOPE! Thank you for your part in helping children in Preschool - 8th grade BLOOM in mind, heart and soul. May your break be filled with faith, festivities and family fun. Asking God's blessings on all who will be traveling. School will resume on Monday January 3rd.

Service is a prominent part of daily life at St. Rose School. We have been blessed to participate in a variety of outreaches including the K of C coat drive (collected 517 coats!), the Buddy Turkey Trot through which the school collected more than 3,500 canned goods for Faith Food Pantry, the Caroline Previdi Toy Chest with the Knights of Columbus, a collection of hats, gloves and coats for veterans and visiting our friends at Church Hill Village for tea and a watercolor paint session. It is a joy to bring Christ's love to others and it is truly in giving that we receive.

Have you heard about the \$10,000 Tuition Raffle? **This is an awesome opportunity to win tuition dollars that can be applied to ANY K-12 school, college/university accredited in the United States. Can also be applied to student loans.** Grandparents take note -- the prize can be split among 2 students! Questions? Email raffle@srles.com. You can order tickets over the phone weekdays, 203-426-5102, 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. (excluding Christmas break). Tickets will also be on sale after all masses the weekend of January 15/16 and January 22/23. The drawing will take place January 30, 2022 at 1:30 p.m. St. Rose School. Winner need not be present. Please share the word -- only 350 tickets will be sold so the odds are great!

Mark your memories of St. Rose School in a lasting way by being part of the Blooms Brick Walk! Place your orders now for a spring installation, **Welcome to St. Rose of Lima School Website (polarengraving.com).** *Please note that the first wave of brick orders have arrived but due to the cold ground installation will take place in the Spring. We will alert all brick purchasers to the date once it is determined. THANK YOU for your orders -- it's going to be a beautiful sight to all who visit our school.)* Questions? Email bloomsbricks@srles.com.

Mark your calendars for St. Rose School's Open House, Sunday January 30, 2022, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. This is also the kick off to Catholic Schools Week during which we highlight all that makes life in these halls so special. Stay tuned for more details. Questions? Email admissions@srles.com and/or visit www.stroseschool.com. A warm welcome awaits you!

PARISH OUTREACH MINISTRIES

PARISH OUTREACH MINISTRIES

PASTORAL OUTREACH MINISTRY

PASTORAL VISITS

Are you or a family member Homebound, or in a short-term facility for Rehabilitation, in a Nursing Home, Hospital or on Hospice Care? Would you like a Pastoral/Eucharistic Minister to visit you &/or bring you **Communion**? Because of HIPPA regulations, we have no means of knowing if you are in any of the above situations unless you notify us. Please feel free to call Sister Mary Ellen at 203-426-2572. We are looking forward to your call and to serving you.



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The Prayer Shawl Ministry meets on the first Saturday of the month in the Rectory Conference Room at 10 a.m. **The next Prayer Shawl meeting is Saturday, March 5th, 2022.**



Do you know someone who is sick, grieving or lonely? Consider blessing them with a prayer shawl. Call Sr. Mary Ellen at 203-426-2572 with your requests.

SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE

The purpose of the Social Concerns Committee is to support our parishioners and neighbors in need. New members always welcome.

Religious Articles are sold on the 3rd weekend of every month in the vestibule. **You can also call Lynda Healey at 203-300-3211 for purchase requests.** Our Cares Box is always in the back of the church for donations. Thanks to your generosity, we can continue to support our local organizations.

Parishioner to Parishioner ("Available" items are offered free of charge. Just arrange to pick them up.)

Available: Electric dryer **Needed:** Nothing this week
For Social Concerns information please call: Kathleen Belmont, 2034703107, and leave a message.

FRIENDLY VISITORS

Become a Friendly Visitor and spend time once a month with elderly who are isolated due to illness or infirmity. Please contact Sister Mary Ellen Genova at 203-426-2572 or Mariotte Corson at 203-426-9275.

ROSARY RECITATION IN CHURCH

In front of the Blessed Mother statue M.-F. 9 a.m. Mass.

"Whatever you did to one of these brothers of Mine, even the least of them, you did it to Me". Mt. 25:4



FAITH COMMUNITY NURSE MINISTRY HEALTH TIPS

Nancy Rhodes APRN-BC, Parish Nurse



Time for a family conversation-health tips

It has been over 2 years since we have all gathered together for the holidays to see our families. This is the time to discuss how we all have been doing mentally, physically and maybe, financially.

I find this is a perfect time to discuss with my brothers and sisters, all in their 60's, about how their health has been. We all found out that we have high cholesterol and have discussed medications and diet.

We also know that we have a history of colon polyps, and that those who have not had a colonoscopy yet (like my twin sister because of no medical insurance) is at risk for this medical problem.

There is a card "game" called Vercelli that talks about very deep subjects like relationships, life goals, and reflective questions about your last year. You can buy this product online.

It is also time to consider talking about health care proxies, and life wishes. As a nurse practitioner, I love the cards made called "Your Life Wishes." They are also online. Enjoy time with friends and family and make it count! Take care and stay well!

The next health council meeting will be Tuesday, January 4, 2022 from 7-8:30 p.m. in the rectory conference room.



ST. JOSEPH PROJECT

If the economy, job loss, illness or an unexpected emergency has caused your family to have difficulty regarding housing issues for St. Rose parishioners, please contact Sr. Mary Ellen at 203-426-2572. Everything is strictly confidential. St. Joseph, pray for us! Praise the Lord! He takes care of His children!

LIFT-A-SPIRIT MEAL MINISTRY



There is nothing nicer than a home-cooked meal! For many members of our St. Rose parish family who are dealing with chronic illnesses or who are facing medical emergencies, a hot meal, made with love and prayers, is nourishing to the body and soul. Please consider joining our group. Contact Kathy: 203-456-6303.

CANCER SUPPORT GROUP MEETING - Dec. 15

Do you have cancer? Are you a cancer survivor? Are you a family member of someone who has cancer? Have you lost a loved one to cancer? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, you are encouraged to attend a support group being held the **second Wednesday evening of the month at 7:00 p.m. virtually.** For more information please contact Frank Sequenzia at 203-948-1369, email: flsequenzia@gmail.com and he will send you the zoom details.

MEETINGS

SPIRITUAL JOURNEY Spiritual Journey resumed on Thurs. Sept. 30th. All who want to join us in learning more about our Faith are welcome. Deacon Norm has generously offered to lead the group again this year. We will meet weekly at 10:15 in the Holy Innocents Building. We will follow the Didache Series, Faith and Revelation, Knowing God Through Sacred Scripture. All materials will be provided. There is no charge.

ST. ROSE JOB NETWORKING: The next Northern Fairfield Professionals (NFP) Zoom meeting is 6:00 – 7:30 pm on Tuesday, January 11.

ST. ROSE PRAISE & WORSHIP PRAYER MEETING
Are you interested in being involved with men seeking the Lord asking for His guidance to fulfill the calling on your Life? Then this men's group is what you are looking for. Hope to see you soon! For additional info, contact Tony Evertz at tevertz@yahoo.com or (203) 917-1158. Meetings are Wednesdays at 10am at 38 Church Hill Rd.

PRO-LIFE & FAMILY MEETING
The Pro-Life/Pro-Family Committee will meet on January 3rd for a social gathering. For more information, please contact Father Tom Przybyl, 203-426-1014

LAY MISSIONARIES OF CHARITY
Mornings: 1st Tuesday of each month after 9 a.m. Mass
Evenings: 1st Tuesday of each month 5 to 6:30 p.m.
both in the Bride's Room. The aim is to quench the infinite thirst of Jesus on the Cross for the love of souls. The Special Mission is to work for the salvation and the sanctification of the members of their own Families and of the poorest of the poor of the whole world. Come see.

WEBS - WOMEN'S ENRICHMENT BOOK STUDY
Please join us for fellowship, book study, and discussion that will deepen your faith and your connection to our St. Rose community. We are currently reading Wisdom From the Psalms by Peter Kreeft. Each week, November through January, we will meet and focus on a psalm that Kreeft highlights in his book. Meetings are held on Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Holy Innocents building. Please contact Elizabeth Lynch at 203-994-5106 or by email lynchejd@gmail.com for more information.

C&L (Communion and Liberation) is an ecclesial movement in the Catholic Church based on the premise that Faith lived out in communion, is the foundation of the true liberation of man. CL website: <https://english.clonline.org/>. **We meet every Wednesday 7:00 to 9:00pm. at 38 Church Hill Road.** For more information, please call at 203-426-9275 or email at mariottecorson@gmail.com.

DIVINE MERCY CENACLE: Meetings are on the 3rd Wednesday of the month from 3-4:30pm in the Chapel. All welcome.

MEETINGS

ST. ROSE MEN'S FAITH NETWORK
The Men's Faith Network is designed to help parish men of all ages explore what it means to be a Catholic man in today's world. Our primary mission is to help men grow in faith, accountability, and fellowship; emphasizing real-life application. We meet each Saturday at 7:30 a.m. in the Holy Innocents building. All parish men are welcome! Contact Mike Ryan at mryan9497@gmail.com

YOUNG WIDOWS/WIDOWERS GROUP
Due to the coronavirus, the meetings are postponed until further notice.
The group meets at Holy Innocents Faith Formation Center on the fourth Tuesday of the month to present and discuss a topic relevant to widowhood. Find help dealing with the significant changes a spouse's death brings. Meet people in similar circumstances for support, friendship and understanding. For more info www.meetup.com/widows-ct or call 203-426-0481.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
AA meets every Saturday night at 6:30 p.m. in the upper room at 38 Church Hill Road. AA is a fellowship of men and women who help each other from Alcoholism. The only requirement for membership is an honest desire to stop drinking. Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help others achieve sobriety. Come join us.

WALKING WITH PURPOSE
If you want to connect with other women looking to know Christ, love Him more and see how His words relate to our life, join WWP...Registration is Open! Cost is \$35 plus the cost of the Study Guidebook. Registration Link: <https://www.osvhub.com/stroseoflimachurch/forms/www-registration>. We meet Wednesday mornings at 10-11:45am and Wednesday evenings from 7-8:45pm and will be held at Holy Innocents Hall. There will be a virtual option offered at the same time, however space is limited. Childcare is offered for the morning session at an additional cost. Go to our link for more details. Questions? Contact Joanne Ihlefeld at ihlejpi@gmail.com for Morning Session or Liz Brestovansky at lizbrestovansky@gmail.com for Evening Session.

ST. ROSE WOMEN'S CLUB –All are welcome
We are an organization of women united in faith and fellowship. We welcome any women of St. Rose Parish who have an interest in becoming members. On the second Tuesday of each month, members meet in the chapel to pray the ROSARY together for the intentions of our membership. On the third Thursday of each month, interested members meet for our BOOK GROUP. Call the rectory with any questions.

CHILDREN'S ROSARY
We will be meeting on January 20th at 4:15 p.m. in the church. Thereafter, we will meet on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 4:15 p.m.



The March for Life will be here sooner than you know! Please join us and come witness to life in Washington D.C. on January 21. A collaboration of the parishes in the area would like to gauge interest in hopes of organizing a bus to take marchers down from this area. We are looking for as many people as possible; come show the country that there are still many of us that hold life sacred! If you are interested in attending, please email Liz Ludanyi at etludanyi@gmail.com so we can find out if we have enough people to reserve a bus!

The next pro-life committee meeting will be a social gathering on Jan. 3.

If you are suffering from an abortion, experience the healing love of Jesus Christ on a Rachel's Vineyard Retreat weekend. The weekend healing process includes discussions, Living Scriptures with meditations, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, a Memorial Service and Mass of Entrustment. Participation is totally confidential and offers a beautiful opportunity to experience God's love, forgiveness and compassion. Both women and men have participated in past retreats and have ranged in age from teens to mid-eighties. For more information, visit www.rachelsvineyard.org

For more information on the Church's guidance on moral questions in regards to vaccines and aborted fetal tissue, please visit <https://www.usccb.org/prolife/biomedical-research>

"In the United States, abortion takes the lives of over 600,000 babies every year. *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health* could change that. We pray that the Court will do the right thing and allow states to once again limit or prohibit abortion, and in doing so protect millions of unborn children and their mothers from this painful, life-destroying act. We invite all people of good will to uphold the dignity of human life by joining us in prayer and fasting for this important case."

-statement by Archbishop William E. Lori of Baltimore, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' (USCCB) Committee on Pro-Life Activities, <https://www.usccb.org/news/2021/us-bishops-pro-life-chairman-supreme-courts-dobbs-case>

Please visit <https://www.prayfordobbs.com/> for resources to join in prayer for the end to *Roe vs Wade* and abortion!

REMEMBERING THOSE WHO ARE SERVING US
May God keep special watch over these men and women
serving in the United States Military

United States Army
 LTC Andra Allison
 MAJ Robert A. Bassett, DO
 PFC Ryan J. Bepko
 PVT Jack Carello
 2LT Patrick Carello
 SGT Daniel Cartisano
 PVT Ronald Corris
 SSG Anthony T. D'Aquila

1LT Stephen Gardner
 MAJ Rachel (Askue) Hoffman
 CPT Michael Hubbard
 CPT Tucker Hughes
 MAJ Paul M. Kearney
 LTC Matthew A. LaRocca
 WO Rylan McCullom
 SGT Thomas J. Merrifield
 LTC Sean Pond
 SPC Matthew Rahtelli
 1LT Liam Thies
 LTC Benjamin Wallen
 General Peter J. Whalen
 CPT Daniel Wilcox

United States Air Force
 SSgt. Daniel Carlson
 Capt. Keegan Frobey Matchett
 A1C Alexandria Matjievic
 SSgt. Travis Mueller
 Lt Co John Murphy
 SrA Emily Pieretti
 MSgt James Rebman
 Major Drew Taylor
 Capt Katie Taylor
 TSgt Daniel West
 Major Kimberly Solheim West
 Major Philip Zencey

U.S. Coast Guard
 SN Charles Agius
 LT Logan C. Mars
 LT Scott B. Nichols
 LT Meridith A. Palo
 CDR Paul D. Tessitore

United States Navy
 ENS Julia Davis
 SN Philip DeMayo
 SN Danielle Godejohn
 LT Andrew Golankiewicz
 LT Alex Islin
 LT Allison Kirk Islin
 CPO Daniel J. Kearns, Sr.
 LT Daniel Kirk
 ENS Michael Kirk
 CDR Timothy Krippendorf
 BUMC Robert James Mandulak
 MIDN Nathan Mars
 LT Brian Murphy
 GM Ethan Parsons
 CAPT John Porado
 SN Eric Ralston, Jr.
 CPO Matthew Sidor
 CDR Joseph P. Smith
 PO1 Christopher Szabo

Army National Guard
 WO2 Matthew Bergquist
 LTC Todd Bookless
 PFC John Henry Brehmer
 PFC Louis Enriquez
 SGT Thomas Monckton
 CPT Matthew D. Seibert

United States Marines
 WO1 Michael Costello
 Cpl Sean C. Decker
 2ndLT Jackie Fisher
 Cpl Robert W. Hoyt, Jr.
 Pvt Christopher Manfredi
 PFC Luke T. Miller
 LCpl Ian Montgomery
 Col David L. Morgan II
 LCpl Lucas T. Vendel
 PFC Patrick Zingaro

• UNITED YOUTH MINISTRY •

A COLLABORATIVE YOUTH PROGRAM FOR THE PARISHES OF
 ST. ROSE NEWTOWN, ST. JOSEPH BROOKFIELD AND ST. MARY BETHEL

Follow us on
Facebook
 & **Instagram**
 for more
 information and
 updates!



FACEBOOK.COM/CTUNITEDYOUTH
@CTUNITEDYOUTH
WWW.CTUNITEDYOUTH.COM

*United meets on Sunday evenings on the campus
 of St. Rose unless otherwise noted.*



ALL VOLUNTEERS in the Diocese of Bridgeport are required to comply with the Diocesan Safe Environment Policy. Part of this policy is attending the program, Protecting God's Children. If you wish to help in any way within the parish or Diocese, please register at www.virtus.org. If you attended the class more than 5 years ago, you need to be recertified. If you have any questions or need help with recertification, please contact Doreen or Kelly in the Rectory office 203-426-1014.



Our Online Giving website has been upgraded to a newer, easier--to-use platform! You should have received an email with instructions on how to log into the new system. Your existing payment and donation information will be migrated over so you will not have to set up your gifts again! Check it out!

If you've never used OLG, go to strosechurch.com and click on "GIVING". It is a safe and secure way to give, with flexible payment options and convenient way to donate. Any questions, please call Doreen in the rectory at 203-426-5250.

FAITH FOOD PANTRY

Is located on St. Rose Campus
46 Church Hill Rd. (Next to Knights of Columbus Hall.)

Hours: Tues. 9:30-11:30 a.m.
Thurs. 4-6 p.m.
BY APPOINTMENT

If questions, call 203-426-5604 Or 203-837-0816

Food can be dropped off at Village Perk, The Newtown Bee, Caraluzzi's Market, Fizio Therapy, Popowich Chiropractor, Barre Boutique. Volunteers must be 21 and over and Virtus trained.



DIACONATE DISCOVERY EVENINGS

Watch for future dates and meanwhile speak to any of the clergy if you are having a sense of a call to the diaconate.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL #185



Do you know a neighbor in need? The Knights are here to help. Contact Community Service Committee Member, Michael Wiley at 516-243-4272 or denisehmcs@gmail.com. Ever thought of becoming a Knight? For more information contact Earl Spinelli 203-525-1017 or earl.spinelli@gmail.com

COLUMBIAN SQUIRES CIRCLE #1307:



The male youth division of the Knights of Columbus, serving St. Rose and the community, is the largest circle in North America. Want to join the group? Contact Joe Jackson 203-241-3618, or email him at joseph.jackson1@gmail.com

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CAREER OPPORTUNITY

The Knights of Columbus is seeking a Field Agent for a career opportunity representing our insurance program. We offer a complete benefits package with this full-time position. In order to qualify, one must be eligible for membership in the Knights of Columbus. For more information please contact Jon Starr, General Agent at 203-803-6433 or JonStarr@kofc.org

The Blessed Michael McGivney Pilgrimage Center (formerly the Knights of Columbus Museum) has opened its Christmas 2021 exhibit, "The Nativity Story: Art of the Crèche." Admission and parking are free and the Center will be open Wednesdays through Sundays, from 10 am to 4 pm.



Please go to michaelmcgivneycenter.org or call 203-865-0400 in advance to obtain with timed-entry tickets.

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://wwmectw.org/>.

Give yourselves the best Christmas present ever – take time for your marriage. Strengthen your relationship, rekindle your romance and renew your sacrament by attending the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

THE FACE OF PRAYER

The Face of Prayer recently launched phase two of its campaign to create an interactive video catechism based on the questions and concerns of young people. Visit www.thefaceofprayer.com to view over one hundred and forty questions answered by Bishop Frank J. Caggiano and other bishops, priests, religious, and lay leaders across the country. Be sure to also join the movement by texting **PRAY** to **55778** to receive daily prayer alerts on your phone.

For those attending a parking lot Mass, turn your radio dial to 89.9 FM to listen to the Mass. An extraordinary minister will bring Communion out to the parking lot for those wishing to receive Communion.

Lauralton Hall Shadow Visits

8th grade girls are invited to spend a day at Lauralton in our Shadow Program. You'll experience a "day in the life" at Lauralton including attending classes, having lunch in our dining hall, studying in our library, and navigating our hallways with one of our current students. To schedule your visit, please visit: www.lauraltonhall.org/admissions/visit-lauralton

PROJECT BELOVED is now accepting applications for several key positions in our soon-to-open medical practice. We are seeking candidates for the following paid positions: Family Practice Physician (FT or PT), Nurse Practitioner (FT or PT), Medical Assistant (FT), and Receptionist (FT). Project Beloved Inc. is a non-profit organization whose primary objective is to establish a life-affirming medical center in Stamford, CT. Please visit www.projectbeloved.co to learn more. Interested candidates are invited to submit a resume to Project Beloved: info@projectbeloved.com.

Stay Connected with our Parish through Email, Social Media—Stay informed about important announcements and happenings at our Parish! We share COVID-19 related news and other important events via email and social media.

Write to content@strosechurch.com if you'd like to join our Parish-wide email list, or **go to our website at strosechurch.com** to get connected to our social media!

GETTING MARRIED?

The Diocese of Bridgeport offers formation for couples who wish to be married in the Catholic Church. Formation is available online in English and in person in Spanish. For more information, please visit <https://formationreimagined.org/marriage-prep-reimagined/>.

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Tune in to 24-hour Catholic radio!



Veritas Catholic Network is on the radio at 1350AM and on mobile app for your phone. Learn more about the faith, strengthen your family, deepen your spirituality, and discuss the news and current events through a Catholic lens.

DOROTHY DAY HOUSE OF HOSPITALITY

Spring St., Danbury, CT. We are seeking new volunteers the **third Wednesday** of every month from 1-5 p.m. to set up, serve and clean up. Must be 16 years of age. **Must be dependable.** Contact Marcia Izzo at 203-733-9655.

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

December 26, 2021

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

Families can be very difficult things to negotiate. This is true not only of our families of origin, the current family of which we are a part, the family of our Church, our society, and our global family as well. Everything human can be found in family stories. Those stories speak of wonderful life-giving successes as well as painful spirit-robbing abuses. Our greatest joys and our greatest wounds are usually connected with the experience of family. Our needs, experiences, and unresolved baggage often color what we bring to our familiar relationships. They contribute to our level of defensiveness, how guarded and protected we become, and what prejudices we believe.

In order to break the cycle of dysfunction we have to remember that it is not only by human effort that we negotiate the difficult and challenging events of our lives. There is a Divine Effort at work as well. For sure, the human effort can create quite a mess and easily destroy lives. This is true of any family with which we are associated. Today's Feast of the Holy Family serves to help us understand that there is a Divine Story being told as well. It is a story of perseverance in the face of hardship, determination in the face of despair, healing when we see nothing but wounds, and light where there is darkness.

Do we believe that God is always working, guiding, restoring, and leading? Unless we do, we will never be free from the imperfections and wounds that bind us and never be able to understand what it really means to forgive. Pope Francis tells us that the "light which comes from the Holy Family encourages us to offer human warmth to other families." While this is most certainly true, we can only really begin to do this when we realize that we are still works in progress, not anchored to the wounds and sins of our past, and still a leading star in God's continually unfolding story of love. The Holy Family persevered and radiated warmth because they knew they were not alone. We can too.

©LPi

The Voice of St. Rose is an online streaming Internet Service operated by St. Rose Parish. This provides a wonderful opportunity to listen in and watch the Saturday, 4 p.m., Sunday 9:30 a.m. Mass and 9 a.m. weekday Masses live. Previous broadcasts are available through our parish website strosechurch.com or the St. Rose Parish YouTube website. All scheduled Masses are streamed via the Audiocasts over the Voice of St. Rose service affectionately known as “All Things Catholic”. There is additional programming carried over this audio stream from the Vatican and many sources between Mass times from around the diocese including our own Monsignor Bob’s “Weiss Wednesday”. For access see the St. Rose Parish website Voice of St Rose link.

Livestreaming for special services such as Weddings, Funerals, and Baptisms is also available. Contact the parish office for details. Fee Applies. The live stream team is looking for new operators. Volunteers should be comfortable with technology. Tasks include camera operation, sound board control, and Powerpoint for graphics. Training will be provided. We will accept high school age and up. Contact the parish office or the scheduling coordinator, Gerry Belanger, 203-426-8113 or gerry@strosechoir.com.

Have a Minute?

It only takes that long to watch a weekly spiritual and inspirational message from Monsignor Bob.

Weiss Wednesdays: Monsignor Weiss offers thoughts and reflections on what it means to live a faith-filled life as a Roman Catholic and navigate through the challenging world around us.

Stay connected with us! Watch these videos and more on Strosechurch.com, Facebook@[Stroseoflima](https://www.facebook.com/Stroseoflima) newtown, YouTube.com/[stroseoflimachurch](https://www.youtube.com/stroseoflimachurch), Twitter@[strosenewtown](https://twitter.com/strosenewtown), Instagram@[stroseoflimact](https://www.instagram.com/stroseoflimact)

BIRTHRIGHT NEEDS VOLUNTEERS!

Birthright is an emergency pregnancy service offering free pregnancy tests, friendship counseling, and practical support. Our guiding principle: It is the RIGHT of every pregnant woman to give BIRTH and the RIGHT of every child to be BORN. Birthright volunteers have served in Connecticut since 1972. Thousands of expectant mothers have received the help they need to bring their babies into the world! There are 7 Birthright centers in our state. Please call 1-800-550-4900 for the Birthright nearest you. Training is provided. Spanish speaking volunteers are especially needed. Thank you.

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EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

All in the Family

At first glance, we can often find the image of the Blessed Mother, St. Joseph and the Christ Child intimidating — who are we to aspire to that level of discipleship? How could we ever hope to conform ourselves to that mold? Sometimes, it can even be painful — perhaps we hail from a broken family or struggle with a broken relationship within our family, or perhaps we long to be a mother or a father ourselves and that state in life has eluded us.

But the image of the Holy Family is, in reality, a beautiful invitation to us all, no matter our vocation or our state in life, and the example of Mary, Joseph and Jesus is rich with the symbolism of stewardship.

You need not be a biological mother who has carried a child in her womb to be a mother in spirit. Who in your world needs you to love them with the heart of a mother?

The same goes for fatherhood. The Church and the world are crying out for the courageous witness of Christian men like St. Joseph. Who can you love with the steadfast, selfless protection of a father?

Who in your life needs you to love them with the faithful, unconditional love of a son? Who needs your gentle and constant love as a daughter?

We are the Body of Christ, friends. Those of us rejoicing in heaven, those of us suffering in purgatory, and those of us struggling here on earth. We are the great family. Let us love each other well.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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Bring Jesus Christ into the life of others! Share the good news about Jesus Christ now, in this Christmas season and beyond, by letting others know about the great programming that EWTN has for you!

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Deacon Michael Ronan
Deacon Richard Scinto
Sr. Mary Ellen Genova, CSFN, Outreach Minister

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Mrs. Trish McKenzie, Administrative Assistant
Mrs. Jean Otton, Parish Census Coordinator
Mrs. Kelly Gerbo, Receptionist
Mrs. Doreen Morrissey, Bookkeeper

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Mr. James Gerbo

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Mrs. Karen Coppola, Admissions Director x102
Mrs. Lisa Sweeting, Administrative Assistant
Sr. Thaddeus Rajca, CSFN, Religion Coordinator
Mrs. Mary Jo Bokuniewicz, Dean of Students
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Mrs. Sandra Jarvis, Coord. Grades K-3,
1st Reconciliation & 1st Communion
Mrs. Mary Craig, Coord. Grades 4 - 8 & Confirmation
Mrs. Silvia Harper, Registration/Database Mgmt
Mrs. Donna Locke, R.C.I.A. Coordinator
Deacon Norman Roos, Adult Formation Coordinator

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Mr. Guy Mascolo, Grand Knight, Knights of
Columbus, 203-837-0466
Mrs. Donna Rahtelli, President, Columbiettes 203-512-2297
Mr. Len Moritz, Assembly 3230 Faithful Navigator,
203 733-7272
Mr. Joseph Jackson, Chief Counselor, K of C
Squires 203-241-3618

Youth Ministry

Mr. Renzo Ortega, United High School Youth Minister

Liturgical Ministries

Mr. Joseph Jacovino, Music Director
Mrs. Marge Griffin, Special Minister Coordinator
Mr. Michael Talluto, Reader Coordinator

Boy Scouts - Robert Bazuro, Cub Scout/Boy Scout
Charter Organization Rep.

Outreach Ministries:

Sr. Mary Ellen Genova, CSFN, Coordinator

Bereavement Ministry

Sister Mary Ellen Genova, CSFN

Lift-A-Spirit Meal Ministry

Mrs. Kathy Phillips

Parish Nurse Ministry - parishnurse@strosechurch.com

Ann (Nancy) Rhodes APRN-BC 845-641-7277

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Sister Mary Ellen Genova, CSFN

Social Concerns Committee

Mrs. Lynda Healey & Contact Persons

Mrs. Charlene Rigoli—

St. Joseph Project

Mrs. Terry Cavaliere, Contact Person

St. Rose Cancer Support Group

Mr. Frank Sequenzia, Contact Person

Men's Faith Network

Mr. Michael Ryan

Parish Prayer Groups

Mrs. Gloria Markey, Rosary Prayer Group

Mrs. Queta Donovan & Mrs. Mariotte Corson, Divine
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Parish Committees

Mr. William Ramsey, Pastoral Council Chairman

Rev. Tomasz Przybyl-Pro-Life/Family Committee

Mr. Harry Waterbury, Finance Council, 203 426-3577

Natural Family Planning

Al and Adrienne Keogler, Instructors

Marriage Preparation Program

Mrs. Gina Long, Coordinator

Eucharistic Adoration--Anonymous Apostles of Divine Mercy

Mrs. Queta Donovan, Contact Person

Lay Missionaries of Charity

Queta & Kevin Donovan, Coordinators

Altar Angels

Altar Linens, Mrs. Terry Tortora

Website

www.strosechurch.com

Telephone Numbers

Rectory/Parish Office 203 426-1014

Parish Fax 203 426-6222

Outreach Ministry Office 203 426-2572

St. Rose School Office 203 426-5102

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