

Saint Nicholas Parish



December 26, 2021

Seymour, Connecticut

Parish Staff

Rev. Thomas J Cieslikowski, Administrator
 Ken Ewaskie, Senior Deacon
 Mrs. Alese Kummer, Business Manager
 Denny McNamara, Cemetery Director
 Debi Durette, Coordinator of Religious Education
 Glenn Durette, Director of Music (Good Shepherd)
 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 9:30 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.	8:00am - 4:30pm
	Fri.	8am - 1pm

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.

Weekly Church Calendar

Date	Time	Intention	Requested By:	Events
Fri Dec 24 Good Shepherd	4:30pm	Mass Available		Vigil Mass
Sat Dec. 25 St. Augustine	9:30am	† James Wilkin † James Catlin † Peter Wilkin	Wilkin Family	Christmas
Sat. Dec. 25 Good Shepherd	11:00am	† Lanna & † Gaudio Families	Garrett Gaudio	
Sun. Dec. 26 St Augustine	9:30am	Mass Available		
Sun. Dec. 26 Good Shepherd	11:00am	† Leonard Tomasheski	Wife & Family	
Mon. Dec. 27 Good Shepherd	9:00am	Mass Available		
Tue. Dec. 28 Good Shepherd	9:00am	† William Burke	Diane & Shawn Coleman	Rosary in Church
Wed. Dec. 29 Good Shepherd	9:00am	† Thomas Konecny	Alese & David	
Thu. Dec. 30 Good Shepherd	9:00am	St. Nicholas Parishioners		
Fri. Dec. 31 Good Shepherd		No Mass		
Sat Jan. 1 St. Augustine	4:30pm	Mass Available		
Sun. Jan. 2 St Augustine	9:30am	Mass Available		
Sun. Jan. 2 Good Shepherd	11:00am	† Anne & † George Sember	Family	

Dec 2021	St Augustine	Good Shepherd
 Altar Wine	In Memory of Kathleen E. Jachimowski Jamaitis and Edward J. Jachimowski	In Memory of Lawrence Argonese
 SANCTUARY LAMP	Not Available	In Memory of Jachimowski & Gioielli Families
 Hosts	In Memory of Richard Sobotka	In Memory of Robert & Dominic DiCintio

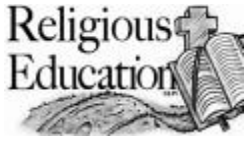


December 12, 2021		
Offertory Envelope	2nd Collection	Total Collection
\$4,166	\$1,106	\$5,272
Cathderaticum & CSSP	Total Stay in Parish	
\$246	\$3,920	
Thank You for your Generosity		



On Line Giving
Offertory will be
provided on a
Monthly Schedule
November \$3,335

Religious Education 2021-2022



Religious Education will continue this year, but its format will be the same as last year on account of the ongoing pandemic and all of its uncertainty. We will not be able to hold classes at Seymour High School for Grades 1-8 due to the inability of following the continued required safety protocols for cleaning, small cohorts, and social distancing that is necessary to keep everyone healthy and safe. Because of this, we are once again asking you, the parents/guardians of our students, to help them at home. We can assist you through the use of an assigned textbook and unit quizzes provided when

you register them. These "unit quizzes" can be used as a guide to help your child(ren) focus on the most important information in the unit. We just ask that you return these completed "unit quizzes" to us.

To adhere to the guidelines of social distancing, we will be stationed in the Fr. Keane Hall at Good Shepherd on Saturday mornings, 9:30 AM – 11 AM. This hall is in the back of the church. Please come in, wearing a mask, to register and receive the materials.

The following list are dates for registration/pick-up of supplies:

1/8/22, 1/22/22, 1/29/22, 2/5/22, 3/12/22

Additional Saturday dates for 2022 will be posted at a later time. Please note that snow/ice would cancel the affected Saturday. If you have any questions, please call Debi or Glenn Durette at 203-735-3190.

St. Augustine Cemetery

This winter, as in the past, our cemetery will be closed, date depending on the weather - hopefully we'll make it through December without snow. Just remember when the snow flies the cemetery is closed until after the "mud season" in the Spring.

You will notice a new closure at ALL entrances and exits. The posts of our new closures are very securely cemented deeply into the ground and the strong chain that creates a barrier will be locked in place. These are in place for everyone's protection during the winter months. Thank you for your understanding.



OUR MONTHLY SHELTER DINNER

Will be held at the Spooner House in Shelton on Thursday, January 6th. A sign-up sheet with the menu is in the St. Augustine vestibule. Anyone willing to provide a portion of the meal can sign up.

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



THE CATHOLIC MISSION AID SOCIETY
THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH
MISSIONARY CHILDHOOD ASSOCIATION
OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF HARTFORD
467 BLOOMFIELD AVENUE, BLOOMFIELD, CONNECTICUT 06002

November 17, 2021

Reverend Thomas J. Cieslikowski
Saint Nicholas Parish
35 Washington Avenue
Seymour, Connecticut 06483-3124

Dear Father Cieslikowski,

Thank you for the generous World Mission Sunday contribution of \$1,202 from the parishioners of *Saint Nicholas Parish*.

United with Catholics throughout the world on World Mission Sunday, your parishioners, answered their baptismal call with exuberance and zeal! "We cannot but speak about what we have seen and heard," they responded, as they shared their faith with their brothers and sisters in the Missions. Their assistance helps to bring God's love, hope and peace to all His children - especially the poor who have suffered most throughout this pandemic crisis, as well as those persecuted for the faith, and those yet to know the salvation of the Gospel.

I thank you once again for your generous participation in this year's celebration of World Mission Sunday, especially with all the challenges of recovering from the global pandemic.

May the Blessings of Thanksgiving, and soon Christmas, be yours in abundance.

Sincerely,

Reverend Monsignor James A. Shanley
Vicar for Clergy
Archdiocesan Director, Catholic Mission Aid

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

Jean D	Pat S	Michael V	Arnie R	Denise H
Darrin M	Bob B	Patricia T	Suzanne M	Alice E
Jane W	Doreen O	Maggie D	Barbara O	Tom G
Michael S	Barbara S	Jerry D	Denny M	Irene D
Linda C	MT	Amy G		



Please Note:

That we are only reporting first name 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 (203-888-2081 - St. Augustine or 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.

Trusting the truths we don't understand

"Joy mixed with drama marks the fifth [joyful] mystery," wrote Saint John Paul II in his encyclical on the Rosary, *Rosarium Virginis Mariae* (paragraph #20), as he reflected on today's Gospel story about Mary and Joseph losing the boy Jesus and finding him in the Temple. "Here he appears in his divine wisdom as he listens and raises questions, already in effect one who 'teaches'."

This scripture, he pointed out, reveals that Jesus was already wholly dedicated to his Father's affairs. That's the first part of the mystery: How early did he feel inspired to serve as the Son of God?

The second part of the mystery, John Paul II explained, is "the radical nature of the Gospel, in which even the closest of human relationships are challenged by the absolute demands of the Kingdom." Which relationships? Family relationships! In this scripture, Mary and Joseph faced the challenge that every parent experiences. They were "fearful and anxious," because they did not understand what was happening to their child.

Today, we are like Mary and Joseph in their moment of failing to understand the words of Jesus. His teachings challenge us to accept a more difficult life, a life of doing good to our enemies, taking a stand against injustices, standing up for Christian values, getting persecuted for it, turning the cheek and going the extra mile, a life of courageously adhering to the ways of God.

Our preference, when it's inconvenient or unpleasant to be so holy, is to rationalize and make excuses for any behavior that the world says is good and right but which contradicts the Church's scripture-based teachings. However, if we are sincere about following Christ, we are willing to do what is difficult. And it's usually in the doing that we begin to understand the benefits of becoming more like Christ.

Without this understanding, however, we have to trust that the words of Jesus are truth. Like Mary and Joseph, we need to ponder in our hearts what we do not understand and at the same time move forward in holy living. Then we discover the joy that comes from a life that's lived wholly in Christ.

On this Feast of the Holy Family, let us pray that Mary and Joseph will help us hear Jesus whenever our troubles or temptations get so distracting that we lose sight of him. Let us learn to recognize that Jesus is always present with us in his Holy Spirit, helping us, guiding us, and mercifully loving us, especially in the challenges we face.

Questions for Personal Reflection:

What teaching of the Church have you rationalized away so that you don't have to obey it? Or what teaching of Christ do you excuse yourself from? Assume that your disobedience is due to not understanding what is really being taught. What will you do to seek and gain a better understanding?

Questions for Faith Sharing:

How meaningful is the Holy Family to you? What is it about the relationships between Jesus, Mary and Joseph that appeals to you? What has this taught you about Christian living?

© 2021 Terry Modica, Catholic Digital Resources, www.catholicdr.com. Printed by permission.



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://www.mectw.org/>.

"He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." Take time for your marriage by participating in the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience.

- **Readings for the week of December 26, 2021**
- **Sunday:** Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:41-52 or
- **1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 [cf. 5a]/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52**
- **Monday:** 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12]/Jn 20:1a, 2-8
- **Tuesday:** 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7]/Mt 2:13-18
- **Wednesday:** 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 [11a]/Lk 2:22-35
- **Thursday:** 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [11a]/Lk 2:36-40
- **Friday:** 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13 [11a]/Jn 1:1-18
- **Saturday:** Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [2a]/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21
- **Next Sunday:** Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12
- **Observances for the week of December 26, 2021**
- **Sunday:** The Holy Family
- **Monday:** St. John, Apostle and Evangelist
- **Tuesday:** The Holy Innocents, Martyrs
- **Wednesday:** St. Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr
- **Thursday:**
- **Friday:** St. Sylvester I, Pope; New Year's Eve
- **Saturday:** New Year's Day; Mary, The Holy Mother of God; World Day of Peace
- **Next Sunday:** The Epiphany of the Lord; Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church

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

It is one of the worst kept secrets in Seymour. Many of you already know that the Office Manager, Alese Kummer is retiring the end of this month. She has worked for over twenty years in the office for Saint Augustine Church and then Saint Nicholas Parish. Her knowledge and experience will never be surpassed, especially in the inner working of the cemetery. She knows so many of you by name and has helped you in times of difficulty. She was indispensable to me when I came to the parish. Whenever I ask her something, I rarely got an answer of “I don’t know”. Her kind smile and keen sense of humor will be greatly missed in the rectory.

A reception honoring Alese will be held on **Sunday, January 16th** after the 11am Mass. Please come and say “Auf Wiedersehen” to her.

I am currently looking for her replacement. Computer skills are a must including QuickBooks. Also, because of the nature of the job, discretion must be employed. If you know someone, please let me know.

See you then.

Fr. Tom





FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION SERVICE

"Pledging To Serve As We Would Be Served"

Burial - Cremation • Pre-Need & Title 19 Trusts
Monuments • Free Bereavement Library

Franklyn E. Hull • Jane M. Hull • John P. Stavola, L.E., L.F.D.

Obituaries & Virtual Tour Online. Go To www.hullfh.com

161 West Church St.

888-2538

Since 1952

CHUCTA COMPANY
Well Water Specialists
Specializing in Well Water Since 1977
203-736-0202
Family Owned & Operated
www.Chucta.com

DAYTON CAMBRA, DDS
Family and Cosmetic Dentistry
Dental Implants and Invisalign

(203) 888-4561
245 West St., Rt. 67 • Seymour, CT

ATTORNEYS AT LAW
Fred Stanek
Teodosio Stanek, LLC
481 OXFORD ROAD, OXFORD
881-3600

Falcioni PAINTING
(203) 888-3000 • www.falcionipainting.net

Cindy Baxter - Realtor®

Parishioner for 36 Years, Five Star Realtor for 7 years!

The finest compliment I can receive is a referral, Thank you!

Cell: (203) 214-9487

cindy.baxter@yahoo.com

Home Office - Seymour

Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated

kw KELLERWILLIAMS REALTY



Carl J. Miller III
Director

Pre-Planned Funeral Arrangements
- Parishioners -

Miller-Ward Funeral Home
& Cremation Services

Family Owned
Route 67, Seymour Title 19
203-888-2021 Funeral Planning



Kurt Miller
Director

CONCEPTIONAL LANDSCAPE SERVICES

203-734-2825

290 Roosevelt Dr.,
Seymour



800-637-2239

- Heating Oil, Air Conditioning Sales & Service
- Propane
- Household Plumbing
- Energy Audits
- Chimney Services
- Natural Gas Service

www.hoffmanfuel.com

HOD # .366 or .99

DENTIST

Nagesh D. Shrestha, DDS

Accepting New Patients

300 Bank St.,
(Rt. 67) Seymour, CT

(203) 888-0700

Evening & Saturday appointments available
Participate with Many Insurances



Nickie O'Toole Realty LLC

Life-long Local Resident
Serving Fairfield and New Haven Counties

Home Office: 203-888-3921
realestate@nickietoole.com

I Don't Just List Property, I Sell it!

Nickie DiDio O'Toole | Owner/Broker

ADT-Monitored Home Security
Got 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary
- Fire Safety
- Flood Detection
- Carbon Monoxide

ADT Authorized Provider | SafeStreets | **1-855-225-4251**

DAVIS OIL COMPANY INC.

"The Heating Service That Pleases"



Family Owned & Operated
Oil Company

PO Box 8116, NEW HAVEN, CT 06513

203-734-6142

HOD.1160

RALPH NOEL BUILDING & REMODELING

All Size Jobs, Kitchens,
Baths, Laminate Flooring,
Additions & More

Licensed & Insured

203-605-8972

Anthony V. Chepulis Funeral Home

Funeral & Cremation Services

Licensed Directors: Anne R Chepulis • Paul N. Warren, Ph.D.

Funeral Assistant: Joseph J. Rogalis

47 Washington Ave., Seymour, CT 06483



203-888-3812 | chepulisfuneralhome.com

Dedicated to testing for & mitigating
radon gas levels in your home.

**NOW OFFERING FULL SPECTRUM
HOME INSPECTIONS FOR
HOME BUYERS & SELLERS IN CT.**

203-985-9441

ABSOLUTERADONCT@GMAIL.COM

Owned & operated by a lifelong Seymour resident.



Ask us about the
Catholic Funeral Plan



700 MIDDLETOWN AVENUE, NORTH HAVEN
203-239-2557 • CCACEM.ORG

Explorers Learning Center

203-881-5437

30C PROGRESS DRIVE, SEYMOUR

INFANTS - TODDLERS - PRESCHOOL & MORE
elc.explorerslearningcenter@gmail.com

www.explorerslearning.com

ABSOLUTE ESTATE CLEANOUT SERVICES

No job too big or too small- We Do It All!

All types of cleanouts- foreclosures,
estate removals, junk hauling, donations,
dump runs, odds & end jobs- just ask!
Home & Business Asphalt & Concrete Repairs

We get the job done- leave no mess behind!
Fully Licensed & Insured | Seymour resident

Call Mark for a Free Estimate - 203-868-5163
www.absoluteestatecleanoutservices.com

**FREE
AD DESIGN**

WITH PURCHASE
OF THIS SPACE

**CALL
800.477.4574**

**AVAILABLE FOR
A LIMITED TIME!
ADVERTISE HERE NOW!**

Contact **Robin Ungaro**
to place an ad today!
rungaro@4LPi.com
or **(800) 477-4574 x6447**



Ad info. 1-800-477-4574 • Publication Support 1-800-888-4574 • www.4lpi.com

Church of St. Augustine, Seymour, CT 03-1092