

# Saint Nicholas Parish

## March 20, 2022

Seymour, Connecticut



### Parish Staff

Rev. Thomas J Cieslikowski, Administrator  
 Joan Kayser, Office 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](http://www.stnicholasct.org)  
 Email - [stnicholasct@comcast.net](mailto:stnicholasct@comcast.net)  
 Telephone 203-888-9243 - Fax 203-888-6016

#### Rectory Office Hours

Good Shepherd	Mon. to Thur.	9:00am - 4:00pm
	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](http://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
Sat Mar. 19 Good Shepherd	4:30pm	✠ Roz Cuccaro	Cortello Family	
Sun. Mar. 20 St Augustine	9:30am	✠ Pietro Crisanti	Stevens Family	
Sun. Mar. 20 Good Shepherd	11:00am	Deceased Members of the ✠ McCabe Family	Jon & Ann Marie McCabe	
Mon. Mar. 21 Good Shepherd	9:00am	✠ Romero Cormier	Carolyn Garofalo	
Tue. Mar. 22 Good Shepherd	9:00am	✠ John Brennan	Diane Coleman	Rosary in Church
Wed. Mar. 23 Good Shepherd	9:00am	✠ Lawrence Argonese 2nd Anniversary	Family	
Thu. Mar. 24 Good Shepherd	9:00am	Mass Available		
Fri. Mar. 25 Good Shepherd		No Mass		
Sat Mar. 26 Good Shepherd	4:30pm	✠ Dolores Popowski	Downs Family	The Catholic Relief Service Collection
Sun. Mar. 27 St Augustine	9:30am	✠ Joseph Dilisio Sr	Wife Jean Dilisio	
Sun. Mar. 27 Good Shepherd	11:00am	✠ Thomas Cieslikowski	Family	

Mar 2022	St Augustine	Good Shepherd
 Altar Wine	In Memory of Kathleen E. Jachimowski Jamalitis and Edward J. Jachimowski	In Memory of Elene Tong
 SANCTUARY LAMP	Not Available	In Memory of Jachimowski & Gioielli Families
 Hosts	In Memory of Walter Fittig & John Martusis	In Memory of Al Mongillo

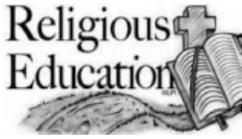
# Parish Giving

March 13, 2022		
Offertory Envelope	2nd Collection	Total Collection
\$3,668		\$3,668
Cathderaticum & CSSP	Total Stay in Parish	
\$249	\$3,419	
<b>Thank You for your Generosity</b>		

On Line Giving  
Offertory will be  
provided on a  
Monthly Schedule  
**February \$3,298**



## Religious Education 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;  
3/19, 3/26, 4/2, 4/9

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.



If you would like to receive a statement for income tax purposes for donations made in 2021, please Contact Business Office, St. Nicholas parish at 203-888-9243. Provide name and Church envelope number.

Statements for OnLine Giving are accessed by logging on to the Parish OnLine Giving website

<https://www.osvhub.com/st-nicholas-ct/funds>

The Tax information is under the My Account tab.

### 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. We also have some in-person experiences for those interested. 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/>.

Is your marriage bearing fruit? Don't wait until it is too late, take time for your marriage by attending the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience

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	MT	Denny M	Suzanne M	Alice E
Peggy O	Steve S	AP	Rose S	Tom G
Irene D				



#### 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 203-888-9243 - 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.



Next week (Mar. 26 & 27) our Parish will take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection. Funds from this collection provide food to the hungry, support displaced refugees, and bring Christ's love and mercy to vulnerable people here and abroad. Please give generously to the collection and **reveal Christ's Love** to those most in need. Learn more about the collection at [www.usccb.org/catholic-relief](http://www.usccb.org/catholic-relief).



### Mercy: How It Helps Evil-doers

How do you feel when someone who's been hurtful, cruel, or morally corrupt gets hit with a hardship that makes them suffer? Our natural tendency is to rejoice because justice has finally been meted out.

Jesus addresses this in this Sunday's Gospel reading. He wants us to understand that we cannot truthfully say that someone is a "greater sinner", even if that person is doing more damage than anyone else, is more unChristian than we are, or is blatantly an evil-doer.

Every person has been created in the image of God, even the worst ones. Those who display an opposite image are nonetheless loved by Jesus Christ, who died for them. It's a tragedy that they do not live as the person God created them to be, because this

harms others. But it will be an even worse tragedy if no one invites them to turn their lives over to Christ by loving them as he loves them.

No person is an evil person. Evil-doers are children of God living in ignorance of their true identity. They are victims of evil and were seduced by it into believing that it's the best way to live. They don't understand that they can be healed by the Sinless One who conquered evil for their redemption. We should feel sorry for them -- this is the gift of mercy. We should mourn with Jesus for the tragedy that continues within their souls -- this is the most precious gift of mercy.

When we don't care enough to grieve over a person's inner destruction, we are sinning. We are disregarding what Jesus did for them on the cross. We are damaging our own souls.

All those who have sinned against you are like the fig tree in Jesus' parable. If you have access to them, he wants you to till their soil. He wants you to fertilize their souls with love and with the truth of the Gospel as taught by your actions and, when they're ready, by your words. He wants you to give them a gentle but obvious invitation to grow in the right direction.

Notice that Jesus doesn't want us to keep a diseased, disintegrating tree in the garden forever. After (and only after) we have done everything possible, if the evil-doer does not want to change, the best care we can give to the garden is to cut down the tree. This means walking away or calling in the authorities for intervention and letting the sinner reap what he sows. This, too, is very loving. When fertilizer won't produce good fruits, a fallen tree becomes mulch and enriches the ground for a new beginning.

#### Questions for Personal Reflection:

Who has been so hurtful to you that you wish God would punish them? Can you feel sorry for them? Can you pray for God to do good for them? If not, take this to the Sacrament of Reconciliation and ask for God's help in feeling more concerned about them. In this, you'll find freedom from the anger and pain that has been holding you captive.

#### Questions for Family & Community Faith Sharing:

What steps can be taken to fertilize the lives of the problematic people of your parish or family or workplace? How do you know when it's time to continue trying and when it's time to quit and chop a tree down?

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- **Readings for the week of March 20, 2022**
- **Sunday:** Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8, 11 [8a]/1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12/Lk 13:1-9
- **Monday:** 2 Kgs 5:1-15ab/Ps 42:2, 3; 43:3, 4/Lk 4:24-30
- **Tuesday:** Dn 3:25, 34-43/Ps 25: 4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9/Mt 18:21-35
- **Wednesday:** Dt 4:1, 5-9/Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20/Mt 5:17-19
- **Thursday:** Jer 7:23-28/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9/Lk 11:14-23
- **Friday:** Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11/Heb 10:4-10/Lk 1:26-38
- **Saturday:** Hos 6:1-6/Ps 51:3-4, 18-19, 20-21ab/Lk 18:9-14
- **Next Sunday:** Jos 5:9a, 10-12/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [9a]/2 Cor 5:17-21/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
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- **Observances for the week of March 20, 2022**
- **Sunday:** 3rd Sunday of Lent
- **Monday:**
- **Tuesday:**
- **Wednesday:** St. Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop
- **Thursday:**
- **Friday:** The Annunciation of the Lord
- **Saturday:**
- **Next Sunday:** 4th Sunday of Lent
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The Archbishop's Annual Appeal helps provide the critical funding needed to feed the hungry, shelter the homeless, counsel those in despair, offer much-needed assistance to the unemployed, and make medical care available to those without health insurance. Your gift to the 2022 Appeal will help to continue these and other vital ministries, services, and programs that reach out to so many in need.

All funds contributed to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal are used exclusively for the purposes outlined in the Appeal literature, which can be found at <https://archdioceseohartford.org/appeal/>.

**No Appeal funds  
are ever used for legal fees or settlements.**

**FREE COMMUNITY MEALS**

Presented by:

Master's Table Community Meals

Dinner Date: Sunday March 20, 2022

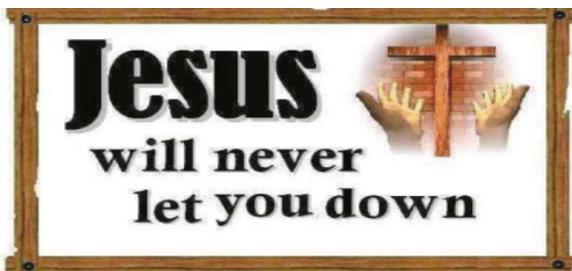
Time: 3:30-5:00pm or until food runs out

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face mask & stay 6 feet apart in line. Please enter  
parking between church and school. Do not exit  
vehicle. Cancellations of dinner are announced  
Thursday prior to dinner on [wfsb.com](http://wfsb.com) and  
[wtnh.com](http://wtnh.com) or Facebook or our voicemail at the  
above number. Stay Safe!

Free Community Dinner

**Divine Mercy Sunday**

will be celebrated on Apr.24 the Sunday after Easter, as instructed to St. Faustina by Jesus.

This Devotion offers complete forgiveness for the temporal punishment (Purgatory time) we have accumulated due to our sins even though confessed and forgiven. A "clean slate"!



To obtain this forgiveness we must go to Confession during Lent and receive Holy Communion on Divine Mercy Sunday (Saturday vigil is acceptable.) Even with COVID restrictions and if we are not able to get to Church we are still able to receive forgiveness and the graces of Divine Mercy Sunday if we on Divine Mercy Sunday:

1. Truly desire to receive them with all our hearts.
2. Trust that we are able to receive them.
3. Make an Act of Perfect Contrition (one that expresses our sorrow for our sins because of our deep love of Jesus). Go to Confession as soon as we reasonably can.
4. Make a Spiritual Communion asking Jesus to come into our hearts.

An excellent explanation of what Divine Mercy Sunday offers (including a Plenary Indulgence) can be found on YOU TUBE, "Divine Mercy Sunday Reflections 2020" .

**The greater the sinner, the greater the right to the mercy!**

**TEAM, INC. Programs 203.736.5420****VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance)**

TEAM offers free tax preparation and filing between Feb. 1st to April 15th through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program. IRS-trained volunteers help taxpayers prepare basic tax return forms, where the primary source of income is from wages and salaries. The tax returns are filed electronically at no cost.

**VITA aims to:**

- Increase the number of working families that qualify for the [Earned Income Tax Credit](#) (EITC) and the [Child Care Tax Credit](#) (CTC)
- Reduce the amount of EITC and CTC tax dollars lost to tax preparation fees
- Increase the number of free tax preparation sites
- Promote the use of EITC and CTC dollars as a gateway to asset building through financial literacy training

**Eligibility Requirements**

VITA offers free tax help to low- to moderate-income people (annual household income of \$54,000 and below, or 200% of [Federal Poverty Guidelines](#)).



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