

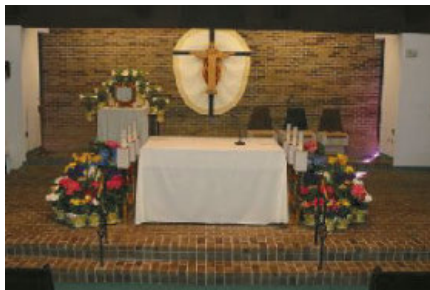
Saint Nicholas Parish



April 24, 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
Email - 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




Sick Calls

We are happy and honored to visit the sick or homebound.

2nd Sunday of Easter: Divine Mercy Sunday April 24, 2022

Weekly Church Calendar

Date	Time	Intention	Requested By:	Events
Sat Apr. 23 Good Shepherd	4:30pm	† Fr. Jaksina	Robert & Eva Zegarek & Sons	
Sun. Apr. 24 St Augustine	9:30am	† James Chontos Anniversary	Family	
Sun. Apr. 24 Good Shepherd	11:00am	† The Holy Souls in Purgatory	Joyce Vallone	
Mon. Apr. 25 Good Shepherd	9:00am	† Leonard Tomasheski Sr 7th Anniversary	Family	
Tue. Apr. 26 Good Shepherd	9:00am	† William & † Roberta Burke	Shawn & Diane Coleman	Rosary in Church
Wed. Apr. 27 Good Shepherd	9:00am	Mass Available		
Thu. Apr. 28 Good Shepherd	9:00am	† Richard J, Lombardi Jr.	Lombardi Family	
Fri. April 29		No Mass		
Sat Apr. 30 Good Shepherd	4:30pm	† Fr. Jaksina	Annette & Frank Marcucio	
Sun. May 1 St Augustine	9:30am	† Louis Zaccaro	Wife & Family	
Sun. May 1 Good Shepherd	11:00am	† Frank Tonucci	Family	

April 2022	St Augustine	Good Shepherd
 Altar Wine	In Memory of Kathleen E. Jachimowski Jamaitis & Edward J. Jachimowski	In Memory of Elene Tong
 SANCTUARY LAMP	Not Available	In Memory of Jachimowski & Gioielli Families
 Hosts	In Memory of William & Hattie Belconis	In Memory of Al Mongillo

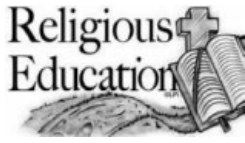
Parish Giving

April 17, 2022		
Offertory Envelope	2nd Collection	Total Collection
\$7,800		\$7,800
Cathderaticum & CSSP	Total Stay in Parish	
\$530	\$7,270	
Thank You for your Generosity		

On Line Giving Offertory will be provided on a Monthly Schedule
March \$3,628

2nd Sunday of Easter: Divine Mercy Sunday April 24, 2022

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;

4/2, 4/9, 4/30, 5/7, 5/14, 5/21

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.

Religious Education Mandate:

Even though the religious education for our students is completed by their parents at home, the Archdiocese of Hartford has continued to mandate participation in the *Child Lures Prevention Program: Think First, Stay Safe*. If you would like to present this to your child, we do have a parent guide that you can use. It will be available to you for pick-up on the scheduled Saturday mornings listed in the bulletin.



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
Diane O.	Joseph G	Bob B	Karen T	John E

- Readings for the week of April 24, 2022
- Sunday: Acts 5:12-16/Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24 [1]/ Rv 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19/Jn 20:19-31
- Monday: 1 Pt 5:5b-14/Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17/Mk 16:15-20
- Tuesday: Acts 4:32-37/Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5/Jn 3:7b-15
- Wednesday: Acts 5:17-26/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Jn 3:16-21
- Thursday: Acts 5:27-33/Ps 34:2 and 9, 17-18, 19-20/Jn 3:31-36
- Friday: Acts 5:34-42/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Jn 6:1-15
- Saturday: Acts 6:1-7/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19/Jn 6:16-21
- Next Sunday: Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41/Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13 [2a]/Rv 5:11-14/Jn 21:1-19 or 21:1-14

- Observances for the week of April 24, 2022
- Sunday: 2nd Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy); St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Priest and Martyr
- Monday: St. Mark, Evangelist
- Tuesday:
- Wednesday: Administrative Professionals' Day
- Thursday: St. Peter Chanel, Priest and Martyr; St. Louis Grignion de Montfort, Priest
- Friday: St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church; Arbor Day
- Saturday: St. Pius V, Pope
- Next Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Easter; St. Joseph the Worker

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.



Alive in the Spirit of Mercy

This Sunday's Gospel reading sets the stage for Pentecost. Prior to giving us the full gift of his Spirit, Jesus provides the gift of peace, the gift of his heart. A supernatural gift, it penetrates deep into our own hearts. It is the calming presence of Christ when we face challenges and difficulties.

Jesus bestowed it upon his first apostles twice in the same meeting shortly after his resurrection. Then he gave them the life-breath of God, the Holy Spirit, and commissioned them with the priesthood of forgiving the sins of others -- another gift that brings peace.

This gift of peace has been distributed by Jesus ever since, through the ordained priesthood in what we now call the Sacrament of Reconciliation. And to hold us steady in our efforts to remain holy, Jesus still gives us the breath of God. This breath, this life-sustaining presence of God's Spirit, which created the world and which keeps us spiritually alive, is the Holy Spirit -- God's holiness activating us and dwelling within us.

Whatever is not holy -- not of the Spirit -- is sinful and destructive. Jesus, who is the embodiment of Divine Mercy, died on the cross and gave us his Spirit so that we could live in the forgiveness of God.

Whenever you pray the "Our Father", do it slowly and intentionally, and pay attention to these words: "Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us." Think of the people who have irritated you the most or who have continued to behave hurtfully without remorse. Consciously forgive them during this prayer.

Otherwise, your unforgiveness could affect their eternal souls as well as your own, because you're denying them an opportunity to understand God's forgiveness through your example, and you're denying God the opportunity to forgive you for your sin of unforgiveness.

Forgiveness doesn't mean approving of the sin nor forgetting what was done. It means letting go of the desire to retaliate. It means choosing to love whether it's deserved or not. It means entering anew into Christ's gift of peace.

Questions for Personal Reflection:

Who in your life is hardest to forgive? Perhaps it's yourself! What sins are you retaining by refusing to accept that God has already made his forgiveness available through the cross and resurrection? What are you going to do this week to let go of the unforgiveness?

Questions for Family & Community Faith Sharing:

Name a situation that illustrates the resurrection power of forgiveness. How did the Holy Spirit help make forgiveness easier to do? What changed when forgiveness was given? How did this bring the kingdom of God to earth?

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The World Is Watching

If you're a parent, you know this to be true: the world is watching. All it takes is one slip-up — one bad word, one selfish action, one uncharitable commentary, and that's the thing your child seems to notice.

When he or she calls you on it, the only thing you can do is come clean. "Yep, I did that," you have to say. "I'm a work in progress, but luckily, God never stops working."

I think it's fair to say that we don't think enough about the wounds of Christ. It's a little understandable, of course. Our human bodies flinch at the sight of such pain and mortification. It's a lot to handle, the physical trauma of a crucifixion. It carries an R rating in a PG world.

But the wounds of Christ are the only thing that could make Thomas believe. Literally nothing else was so powerful, not even the testimony of his most trusted friends. Only by looking at and feeling the torn flesh — by beholding that messy reality — did this Apostle, this actual companion of Christ, come to believe in the Resurrection.

"Christ has no body now but yours," goes the famous quote attributed to St. Teresa of Avila. What she's saying is that we have become the means through which God chooses to accomplish His will in the world. Us, the broken. Us, the weary. Us, the imperfect. Yes, miraculous events and apparitions still occur from time to time, but by and large, if a person is going to come to believe in Jesus Christ in this day and age, it will be because of something we Christians do or say.

Christ has no wounds now but ours. Our brokenness, our weariness, our imperfection — our reality. It all belongs to him, and the world is watching.—

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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 His Right To My Mercy!

Paying it forward

A family from the parish recently came forward and wanted to share their good fortune. They recently had a small miracle happen to one of their family members and were very grateful to God and many of our parishioners for their prayers and support. With grateful hearts they decided to "pay it forward" and chose to give a very generous financial contribution to the parish. Sometimes God's work in this world is very evident; sometimes he moves in mysterious ways.



Fr. Tom

Let's all be grateful for compassion shown by God to this family and to all who supported them here at St. Nicholas Parish. May God bless us all this Easter season.

The Archbishop's Annual Appeal changes lives through service. In addition to assisting the underserved of our communities, your gift helps those discerning a vocation to the priesthood. Your gift to the Appeal is an investment in the future of our Church and our faith.

Thank you to the parish families who have made a gift or pledge to the 2022 Archbishop's Annual Appeal.

If you have not yet participated, please prayerfully consider a gift today. Please know that every dollar of your gift will have a positive impact in someone's life.

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://archdioceseofhartford.org/appeal/>.

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



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