

Cathedral of Saint Joseph

Mother Church of the Archdiocese of Hartford



THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

March 23, 2025



Mass Intentions

Sunday	March 23 Third Sunday of Lent 8:30 AM †Armando Molinaro requested by Wife & Family 11:00 AM †Generosa Marinelli requested by Family
Monday	March 24 7:30 AM †Anita Ennis requested by Family 12:10 PM In Thanksgiving for the Safe Return of Our Astronauts 5:00 PM Monday Confessions
Tuesday	March 25 - The Annunciation of the Lord 7:30 AM For Our Transitional Deacons 12:10 PM For Those Recovering from Recent Tornadoes and Storms
Wednesday	March 26 7:30 AM †Claire Bergin requested by Family 12:10 PM For Peace between Nations
Thursday	March 27 7:30 AM available 12:10 PM †Margery Benoit requested by Lorraine Bernier
Friday	March 28 7:30 AM available 11:30 AM Stations of the Cross 12:10 PM For an End to Gun Violence
Saturday	March 29 9:00 AM †Leonila Remicio, Month's Mind requested by Family
Sunday	March 30 Fourth Sunday of Lent 8:30 AM For the Safety of All School Children 11:00 AM †Paolo, Francesca, Tina & Sebastiano Panebianco requested by Family

Pastor:

The Most Reverend Christopher J. Coyne
Archbishop of Hartford



Rector: The Very Reverend John P. Melnick

Parochial Vicar: Reverend Daniel Valente, M.S.A.

Deacons: James McCormack, Norris Taylor

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Email: faithformation@sjcct.org

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President: James Gentile

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Grand Knight: Luis Pollock

Email: lpollock16@gmail.com

The Office of Seminarians and Vocations

Vocation Director: Reverend Anthony Federico

Telephone: 860-761-7456

Website: hartfordpriest.com

Email: vocations@aohct.org

Please remember those who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith, **especially, those in Ukraine, Middle Eastern Countries and Myanmar.** We continue to pray for those being held hostage, our homebound parishioners, and those dealing with illness or recuperating from surgeries or treatments.



We pray for our country and its leadership.



The Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord, commemorating the angel Gabriel's announcement to Mary that she would bear Jesus, is celebrated on Tuesday, March 25, 2025.

Schedule of Masses

Sunday: 8:30 AM, 11:00 AM

Daily Mass: Monday through Friday: 7:30 AM, 12:10 PM, and Saturday: 9:00 AM

Virtual Masses: Sunday, 11:00 AM Mass livestreamed on the Parish Website, Cathedral Facebook and YouTube Channel

Holy Day Masses: 7:30 AM & 12:10 PM

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday, 9:30 AM

Adoration: Wednesday, 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Rosary: Saturday, 9:30 AM



OFFERTORY

March 16, 2025

Weekly: \$ 3,114
Online Giving: \$ 568
Total: \$ 3,682

Upcoming Collections

Catholic Relief Services: March 30
Easter Flower : April 6
Monthly: April 13
Easter: April 20
Mother's Day: April 27

Your support to the Cathedral of Saint Joseph is very much appreciated. Your time, talent and treasure is valued.



Monday Confessions 5:00pm

Friday Stations of the Cross 11:30am

CRS Rice Bowl Helps End World Hunger

We can't end global hunger without your help. CRS Rice Bowl's 50th anniversary presents an opportunity to renew your commitment to helping families facing hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition. When you pray, fast and give this Lent, you are making a lifesaving difference.

Start your CRS Rice Bowl journey with us by picking up your rice bowl from your local parish or school and by sharing your prayer intention on the map below. *For Lent, For Life.*

GOSPEL MEDITATION

My childhood best friend was Xander Price. He was the fastest runner in school, an excellent baseball player and Jewish. Though his family wasn't intensely religious, I felt totally at home with them despite our religious differences. Everything about their Judaism seemed to undergird and strengthen my own experience of being a Catholic. I knew they didn't believe in Jesus like my family did, but I intuited somehow that Jesus was "hiding" in their religion. Like a cat moving under a blanket, ready to emerge at any moment, the Lord was hidden there in a special way.

In the Gospel for this third Sunday of Lent, Jesus says, "For if you had believed Moses, you would have believed me, for he wrote of me" (John 5:46). Stunning words, those. Moses wrote about Jesus. The way therefore that we come to know and believe in Jesus is to discover him lurking in Moses' writings. The Hebrew Scripture is the wonderful womb in which Jesus gestates within a host of images: Adam, Isaac, David, Melchizedek, the Temple, sacrificed lambs, prophets and so on. Right now, in your parish's OCIA program, soon-to-be baptized people are carefully studying where Jesus is in the writings of Moses, so that they may believe in him. This works for all of us, too, who wish to deepen our knowledge and love of Jesus.

Lenten challenge: Take some time to prayerfully study one of the images of Jesus listed above in the Old Testament. Identify which one you find compelling and consider why this is so. If you don't know where to start, begin with the prophet Jeremiah as an image of Jesus.
— Father John Muir

Dear Parishioners,



With the arrival of our new Director of Music, Dr. Gabriel Löfvall, I wish to thank the many guest choral directors and organists that have carried us through this period of transition. They have been integral in keeping our music program alive all the while working with our dedicated Schola Cantorum. All of our musical guests brought their own unique talents to our music ministry. This weekend we also welcome Jacob Dowgewicz who will serve as cathedral organist. I continue to be inspired with the caliber and prayerful presentation as we give glory to God at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph.

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

Very Rev. John P. Melnick
Rector



The 2025 Archbishop's Annual Appeal is now underway in our parish. Your support of this year's Appeal ensures that essential charitable, educational, and pastoral ministries of the Archdiocese of Hartford will be carried forward.

Since 1997, Archbishop's Annual Appeal Vicariate Outreach Program has been able to provide over \$22 million in funding to community-based local charities throughout Hartford, New Haven and Litchfield Counties to assist them in their important work of serving the needs of God's people. In 2024, we were able to provide over \$1,000,000 to over 160 various organizations, nominated by pastors, across the Archdiocese.

Organizations such as **Malta Food Pantry, ImmaCare, Inc., Interval House, House of Bread, South Park Inn - Homeless Shelter, and The PAL Police Athletic League**, right here in our own city received funding from the Appeal's Vicariate Outreach Program that makes a difference in serving our neighbors.

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

Upcoming Events



03/24 MONDAY 7PM
STRETCH OUT YOUR HAND: AN EVENING OF MUSIC AND REFLECTION FOR LENT
 St. Ann Church, 501 Naugatuck Ave, Milford

We are all in need of healing, whether of body, mind, or spirit. This Lent, can we come to God with radically open hearts, with our hands outstretched, willing to let God heal and renew us? Join Amy Ekeh and the Saint Ann Choir for a Lenten Evening of Music and Reflection on the theme of healing and hope. Be renewed, uplifted, and inspired with music, reflection, and prayer. No registration is required. All are welcome.



03/29 SATURDAY 9AM - 4PM
TENDING TO A GRIEVING HEART, WITH LISA IRISH, M.A., M.ED., B.C.C.
 Holy Family Retreat Center, 303 Tunxis Rd, West Hartford

Share time and sacred space with others who are grieving and learn a little more about the Land of Loss. All types of loss invite us into a place of healing and the kindling of hope. It is our "attending to grief" that allows new life to take root. \$75, includes lunch. 860-760-9705.



04/5 SATURDAY 7PM
A "DIVINE" COMEDY OF BELLY LAUGHS, BLESSINGS, BLARNEY AND BINGO
 St. Thomas the Apostle Church, Parish Center 872, Farmington Ave, West Hartford

Join Father Patrick Aloysius Misgivings for this divine presentation of stories and one-liners about growing up Catholic. From miracles and marriage counseling to bazaars and birth control, nothing escapes the good father's razor-sharp Irish wit. This hilarious interactive comedy includes a collection, a raffle and even an actual Bingo game.

DOORS OPEN: 6:00PM
 SHOW: 7:00PM

Tickets - \$20 each
 BYOB and Snacks

Purchase Tickets at
osvhub.com/stastm/forms/misgivings
 Michael DeConti at 860-229-8292
 Victor Naleski at 860-559-7160



Lent 2025
GROWING MORE DEEPLY INTO A DISCIPLE
 WORKSHOP
 MAR 29TH
 1:30-4:30PM
 SAINT THOMAS SEMINARY
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FR. FRANK DESIANO, CSP
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2025 ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

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



Total Goal: \$10M

18.05% as of 3/11/25
 \$1,805,545.94

www.archdioceseofhartford.org/appeal



The Patient Gardener

I have garden beds on the side of my house that I don't deserve.

When we bought the property, this was one of the features that was highlighted in the listing. "Professional landscaping! Tri-level garden beds that bask in the southern exposure!"

But I'm so terrible at weeding these garden beds — they become overgrown quickly, and I shudder to imagine what the previous owners would think of me if they drove by. I'm afraid they would write me off as lazy or disinterested, when really I'm just exhausted and busy. Every time I try to garden, one of my little assistant gardeners runs near the road and I must abandon the project to save them.

So, my husband, bless his heart, is the savior of these garden beds. He goes out there in the cool of the evening to pluck up the weeds that threaten to overtake this beautiful little garden. Patiently and tenderly, he restores it to a presentable state. Without him, they would be lost.

Perhaps I love these garden beds so much because I identify with them. If I were a garden, I would also be a mess, and people who have no time for messes would write me off as hopeless. We all need a savior to stick up for us, to come and quietly prune the unsightly growths that have taken root in our souls and turn the soil that has sat undisturbed for too long.

What I love most about our Savior is that he didn't — doesn't — give up on us. "Give me more time," he says to the Master. "I can still fix this one."

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Malta House of Care: Monday–Thursday, 9am–3:30pm:

Call 860-725-0171 for information & appointments.

Food Pantry: Thursdays, 9:00am–11:45am: March 27 & April 3, 2025

CT Food Share: 11:30am–12:15pm: Every other Wednesday (next date) April 2

Clothing Pantry: Fridays, 10:00am–1:00pm: March 28 & April 4, 2025

Confirmation: Sunday, March 30, 2:00pm

St. Francis of Assisi, Naugatuck; Maria Reina de la Paz, Hartford; Our Lady of Mercy, Plainville; Holy Infant, Orange; Saint Catherine of Siena, West Simsbury; Saint Joseph, Bristol; Saint Ann, Avon; Saint Maximilian Kolbe, Thomaston.

Our Lady of Sorrows Church Raffle
 Drawing: May 11, 2025

1st prize:
 2025 Chevy Trax (valued at \$25,000.00)

2nd prize:
 \$1,000 Gift Card
3rd prize:
 \$750 Gift Card

4th prize:
 \$500 Gift Card
 Tickets are available for \$50 per ticket.

Please stop by the Cathedral Parish Office to purchase.

NEWS FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF HARTFORD



Branches on the Vine

MARCH 22 - 28, 2025



Nicholas Chapman, left, gives the thumbs up on his first day of classes at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome, as Brendan Finnegan, far right, and the other seminarians enter.

Photo courtesy of Father John Gancarz

SEMINARIANS AND PRIEST STUDYING IN ROME THANK APPEAL DONORS

- Story by Shelley Wolf

Three men from the Archdiocese of Hartford, who are studying in Rome, are thanking the donors of the Archbishop's Annual Appeal for sponsoring their priestly education and for providing them with an international formation experience.

"Thank you for your gifts," says Nicholas Chapman, "which make it possible for me to pursue the path I believe God is calling me on. This time in Rome has particularly stretched me and blessed me."

Brendan Finnegan says, "My prayer is to be able to let these experiences form my heart so that I can be an effective servant of the Gospel to you and your family, for generations to come."

Finnegan and Chapman, two seminarians for the Archdiocese of Hartford, and Father John Gancarz, a priest from the archdiocese, are all thrilled to be studying theology at universities so close to the Vatican. They are also making friends with other Catholics from around the world, and absorbing the fact that they are part of a faith that counts nearly 1.4 billion followers. The coursework is challenging and the three men are far from home, separated from family and friends even over the summers.

Still, they are grateful for the opportunity to study in Rome.

Finnegan and Chapman, both in their second year of theology studies, reside at the North American College and attend the Pontifical Gregorian University, the oldest Jesuit University in the world. It's quite different from their earlier seminary experience.

"Unlike my prior seminary," Chapman says, "where our studies were under the same roof as where we lived, it's kind of neat to 'go off to work' in Rome and come back home again after classes are done for the day."

Coursework for the seminarians ranges from Canon Law to the Letters of St. Paul to Ancient Greek. And all courses are taught in Italian. "The language of instruction and collaboration is most often Italian," Father Gancarz explains.

In addition to studying, the seminarians have volunteered in Rome to serve the poor, worked in parishes, learned Italian and Spanish, and visited sacred sites in nearby countries.

And they have marveled at the Italian people.

"The Italians typically don't get too stressed out about the little things," Chapman observes.

Father Gancarz, who last served at Sacred Heart Parish in New Britain, now lives in Casa Santa Maria, a residence in Rome for American diocesan priests. He attends the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas, a Dominican university, where he is working on a Doctorate in Sacred Theology with a specialization in dogmatic theology.

"In the Gospel of John we hear the words of Jesus, 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me' (John 14:6)," Father Gancarz reminds us. "The aim of all our studies is knowing more deeply this ultimate truth, Jesus Christ, and then sharing him with others."

His graduate work and the other men's undergraduate studies are thanks to the generous donors of the Archbishop's Annual Appeal.

"We are incredibly grateful for the support of the donors," says Father Gancarz. "May this time in the eternal city enrich our faith and priesthoods, to be better ministers and servants to the faithful in the archdiocese and beyond. We pray for you!"



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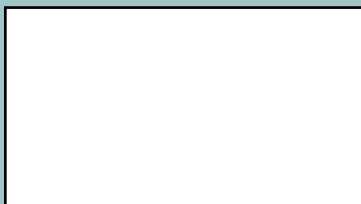
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