

August 31, 2025

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

GO AND TAKE THE LOWEST PLACE.

LUKE 14:10

VE Y SIÉNTATE
EN EL ÚLTIMO
LUGAR.

LUCAS 14,10

VIGÉSIMO SEGUNDO DOMINGO DEL TIEMPO ORDINARIO

ARE YOU NEW TO THE PARISH?

WELCOME! BIENVENIDO!

Registration is easy at
[www.johnpaulgreatparish.com/
parish-registration](http://www.johnpaulgreatparish.com/parish-registration)

'THIS WEEK AT OUR PARISH'

Up-to-Date Schedule - Page 2
All schedules are subject to change.

OUR WORSHIP SITES

**ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI
CHURCH**, 160 Main St.

Masses:

Sundays 7:00 am, 10:00 am
Weekdays (M, W, F) 8:00 am

ST. PETER CHURCH
99 East Main St.

Masses:

Sundays 4:30 pm (Sat. Vigil)
8:30 am, 11:30 am (*Español*)
Weekdays (Tu, Th) 8:00 am
& (Tu) 6:30 pm (*Español*)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

SATURDAYS (Eng/Esp)
St. Francis • 2:00-3:00 pm

TUESDAYS (Esp/Eng)
St. Peter • 5:30-6:00 pm

Confession is available face-to-face
as well as behind the privacy screen.

OUR DOORS ARE OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

MON.	St. Francis	8:00 am - 4:00 pm
TUE.	St. Peter	8:00 am - 4:00 pm
WED.	St. Francis	8:00 am - 4:00 pm
THU.	St. Peter	8:00 am - 4:00 pm
FRI.	St. Francis	8:00 am - 4:00 pm
SAT.	St. Peter	10:00 am - 5:30 pm



ST JOHN PAUL THE GREAT
ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH

PASTOR: REV. EMMANUEL I. IHEMEDU

PAROCHIAL VICAR: REV. CARLOS ZAPATA

DEACONS: ANGEL LUIS GARCIA JR.; ROY DUNGAN (SENIOR STATUS),

OFFICE — St. John Paul the Great Pastoral Center

160 Main Street, Torrington, CT 06790

The Pastoral Center is open Monday thru Friday, 9 am - 4 pm.

You can also reach us by phone, email and fax:

PH: 860-482-4433 | office@sjptgp.com | FAX: 860-489-4070

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

*Saint John Paul the Great
Parish is a Catholic
community united by faith
in God, nourished by Jesus
through the Word and the
Eucharist and empowered
by the Holy Spirit to meet
the spiritual and physical
needs of our parish family
and community through
prayer, faith formation,
stewardship, fellowship
and outreach.*

***“Brothers and sisters:
You have not
approached that which
could be touched
and a blazing fire and
gloomy darkness.”***

Second Reading: Heb 12:18

THIS WEEK AT OUR PARISH

Saturday, August 30

10:00 am-5:30 pm, St. Peter open for private prayer
2:00-3:00 pm, Confession hours @ St. Francis
4:30 pm, Mass (Vigil) @ St. Peter Church

Sunday, August 31

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Masses, page 4
8:30 am, Faith Formation classes @ Academy gymnasium, pg. 6

Monday, September 1

Pastoral Center is closed in observance of the holiday
8:00 am, Mass @ St. Francis, church closed following the Mass

Tuesday, September 2

8:00 am, Mass @ St. Peter, open for private prayer until 4:00 pm
4:15 pm, Legion of Mary @ Pastoral Center
5:30 pm, Exposition; 6:15 pm Benediction @ St. Peter (español)
5:30-6:00 pm, Confession @ St. Peter (español/English)
6:00 pm, Holy Rosary Society meeting @ St. Peter Hall. page 6
6:30 pm, Santa Misa @ St. Peter (español)
7:00 pm, Reunión de Juan XXIII en el Salón de San Pedro

Wednesday, September 3

8:00 am, Mass @ St. Francis, eucharistic adoration until 4 pm
5:00-6:30 pm, Father Carlos office hours (español)

Thursday, September 4

7:50 am, St. Anthony devotion prayer before the 8:00 am Mass
8:00 am, Mass @ St. Peter, open for private prayer until 4:00 pm
8:30 am, Veneration of St. Anthony relic follows 8:00 am Mass

Friday, September 5

8:00 am, Mass @ St. Francis, eucharistic adoration until 4 pm
6:00 pm, 1st Friday Mass of Healing @ St. Peter Church

Saturday, September 6

Monthly food collection at the churches, page 6
10:00 am-5:30 pm, St. Peter open for private prayer
2:00-3:00 pm, Confession hours @ St. Francis
4:30 pm, Mass (Vigil) @ St. Peter Church

Sunday, September 7

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Masses, page 4
Monthly food collection at the churches, page 6

Bulletin Submission Deadline

8:00 am, Monday, Sept. 8 for September 14 bulletin
(Deadline for September 7 has passed)

Submissions are welcome anytime, but **no later than**
the deadlines above. Email your announcement text and
attachments, or questions, to Leslie at:

bulletin@siptgp.com

2 | August 31, 2025
22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Weekly Collection

ONLINE GIVING

AUGUST 11-17, 2025: \$2,353.05

OFFERTORY

AUGUST 17, 2025: \$11,048.50

FAITH FORMATION STUDENTS

AUGUST 17, 2025: \$28.00

TOTAL WEEKLY OFFERING

AUGUST 11-17, 2025: \$13,429.55

PLEASE MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO
ST. JOHN PAUL THE GREAT PARISH

Thank you for your continued generosity

Second Collections

August 31 Repairs & Maintenance
September 6-7 Gaza Emergency Relief
September 14 School Support SJPG Academy

ONLINE GIVING is available anytime at
osvhub.com/johnpaulgreatparish/giving/funds

Select corresponding fund box. Questions? Contact Anita
at 860-482-4433 or business@siptgp.com.

Emergency Second Collection

Archbishop Christopher Coyne is requesting, out of great
pastoral concern, that all parishes take up a special
second collection to provide humanitarian relief and
pastoral support for our brothers and sisters in Gaza and
surrounding areas in the Middle East.

**THIS COLLECTION WILL BE HELD NEXT
WEEKEND, SEPTEMBER 6-7, 2025.**

Funds will be distributed between the Catholic Near East
Welfare Association (CNEWA) and Catholic Relief
Services (CRS) to provide emergency relief, medical care,
food, shelter, and other support. Thank you for your
generosity.

**For online giving anytime, please select “Gaza Relief”
at osvhub.com/johnpaulgreatparish/giving/funds**

Brighter Days, Bigger Mission.

*Back-to-school days are here and fall holiday
planning begins! Online Giving is a convenient
way to continue faithful support of your parish.*



**SIGN
UP
TODAY.**

automatic, fully secure,
convenient and easy
to set up and manage





Father Emmanuel's Weekly Prayer

My prayer for you this week is: *Luke 14:11*

IT SAYS: *"For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted."*

CLINICAL REFLECTION:

In a world that rewards performance and platform, Jesus reminds us that greatness begins in humility. Humility is not self-rejection—it's groundedness. It's knowing who you are without needing to prove it. In therapy, we help clients release the need to impress and instead live from their core values. Jesus teaches that the low path is often the path to inner wholeness.

AFFIRMATION:

I choose humility—not as weakness, but as strength rooted in truth.

This week, may you find joy in the quiet, confidence in your calling, and peace in knowing that God sees what the world often overlooks, Amen.

— Father Emmanuel

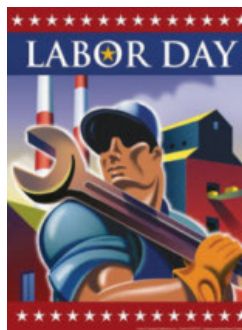
IN NEED OF PRAYERS?

Please call Cheryl at our Prayer Line 860-960-4805 ... completely confidential.

IN OBSERVANCE OF LABOR DAY,

the Pastoral Center
WILL BE CLOSED
MONDAY,
SEPTEMBER 1.

St. Francis Church will
be closed after 8:00 am
Mass concludes.



"For work was made for humankind and not humankind for work. Give all who labor listening hearts that we may pause from our work to receive your gift of rest. Amen."

Excerpt from: <https://www.usccb.org/committees/domestic-justice-and-human-development/labor-day-resources#tab--dignity-of-work-and-the-rights-of-workers>

GOSPEL MEDITATION — Luke 14:1, 7-14
A Deeper Understanding of Scripture by Father John Muir ©LPi

Once I was invited to a group meeting with Pope Francis.

Entering the room, I paused, eyeing the seats next to the Pope's fancy chair. Someone saw my paralysis and invited me to sit in the seat farthest from what I wanted. Hiding my disappointment, I sat. We waited. To our surprise, an aid pointed out that those seats were still empty and invited me and another to have them. We calmly but gleefully strode across the room and sat. Pope Francis entered, and we enjoyed two hours of amazingly uplifting conversation.

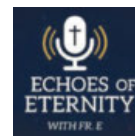
Jesus says this week to us: "When you are invited, go and take the lowest place so that when the host comes to you he may say, 'My friend, move up to a higher position.' Then you will enjoy the esteem of your companions at the table" (Luke 14:10). This is not about how to score free seat upgrades. Rather, it is a wise pattern for the whole of life. It is how to live free from the anxiety of constantly grasping for status and recognition.

Jesus perfectly embodies his seat-taking advice. He eschews his glorious throne for the lowest: death on a cross, that lonely chair we all deserve. In his resurrection, he calls us up higher to his marvelous banquet seats. This week, perhaps we should look for opportunities to choose the lowest seat. We'll be pleasantly surprised when we do.



'Echoes of Eternity' with Fr. E.

Jesus warns us: 'Strive to enter through the narrow gate...' for many will try and not succeed.' What does that mean for us today? In a recent Echoes of Eternity, I explored why the gate is narrow—not to keep us out, but to free us from what weighs us down. If you've ever felt burdened by pride, fear, or regret, this message is for you. Watch, reflect, and share with someone who needs encouragement on the journey. — Fr. Emmanuel



FIND AND VIEW ALL EPISODES EASILY:

<https://www.youtube.com/@echoeswithfre>
[instagram.com/echoeswithfre](https://www.instagram.com/echoeswithfre)
[facebook.com/ikechi.innocent.3](https://www.facebook.com/ikechi.innocent.3)
<https://www.tiktok.com/@echoeswithfre>



Mass Intentions

Saturday, August 30

4:30 pm St. Peter
† Frances & Stanley Kelmelis *by the Kelmelis family*

Sunday, August 31

7:00 am St. Francis
† Comfort Awuah *by a friend*

8:30 am St. Peter
† Pasquale Guerrero *by Jeanne Gracey*

10:00 am St. Francis, live-streamed
† Ronald Martin *by the family*

11:30 am St. Peter, live-streamed
In honor of Divino Niño Jesus *by the Priostes*

Weekday Masses

Monday	9/1	8:00 am	St. Francis
<i>For the intentions of all parishioners</i>			
Tuesday	9/2	8:00 am	St. Peter
† Carlo Maniccia <i>by Norma Maniccia</i>			
Mass in Spanish		6:30 pm	St. Peter
<i>For the intentions of all parishioners</i>			
Wednesday	9/3	8:00 am	St. Francis
† Arthur & friends <i>by Carole Cyr</i>			
THURSDAY	9/4	8:00 am	ST. PETER
† Bazyli & Franciszka Lichacz <i>by daughter & family</i>			
1ST FRIDAY	9/5	8:00 am	ST. FRANCIS
† Henry Cantu <i>by the family</i>			

Saturday, September 6

4:30 pm St. Peter
For blessings received on David & Marlene Carrozzo Frigo's 69th wedding anniversary

Sunday, September 7

7:00 am St. Francis
For the intentions of all parishioners

8:30 am St. Peter
† Holy Souls in Purgatory *by Jim Boccio*

10:00 am St. Francis, live-streamed
† Charles Constable, 10th anniversary, *by wife & family*

11:30 am St. Peter, live-streamed
N. Señora del Cisne

Mass Readings Aug. 31-Sept. 6

Sunday: Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29/Ps 15:2-3, 3-4, 4-5 (1a)/Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a/Lk 14:1, 7-14

Monday: 1 Thes 4:13-18/Ps 96:1 and 3, 4-5, 11-12, 13/Lk 4:16-30

Tuesday: 1 Thes 5:1-6, 9-11/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Lk 4:31-37

Wednesday: Col 1:1-8/Ps 52:10, 11/Lk 4:38-44

Thursday: Col 1:9-14/Ps 98:2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6/Lk 5:1-11

Friday: Col 1:15-20/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Lk 5:33-39

Saturday: Col 1:21-23/Ps 54:3-4, 6 and 8/Lk 6:1-5

ALL MASS READINGS ON THE U.S. BISHOPS WEBSITE:
<http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings>

4 | August 31, 2025
22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time



Sanctuary Candles

are burning this week

at St. Francis for

KIM ANSTETT

and at St. Peter for

JOSEPH & JOSEPHINE ARGENTA

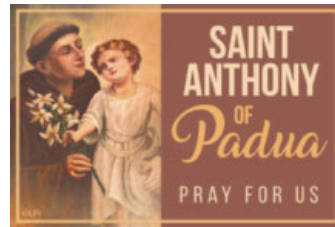
If you wish to have the Sanctuary Lamp in either church burning in memory of a loved one, to honor a special occasion, or a special intention, please call the parish office at 860-482-4433. The offering for the candle is \$10. It will burn for one week and the memorial will be published in the bulletin.

PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. ~ Amen

ALBERT COLANGELO
ANDREW S. LACH JR.

Devotion to Saint Anthony of Padua



**Thursdays,
St. Peter Church**

7:50 am Prayer before the
8:00 am Mass.

*Veneration of a St. Anthony
relic follows the Mass on
First Thursday, Sept. 4.*

Mass Intentions



**A Catholic Mass
is the most powerful
form of prayer.**

Offering a Mass for a special intention is a long-standing tradition in the Catholic Church.

This tradition is seen in St. Augustine's Confessions (c.397), where Monica, his mother, asks Augustine, "One thing only I ask you, that you remember me at the altar of the Lord."

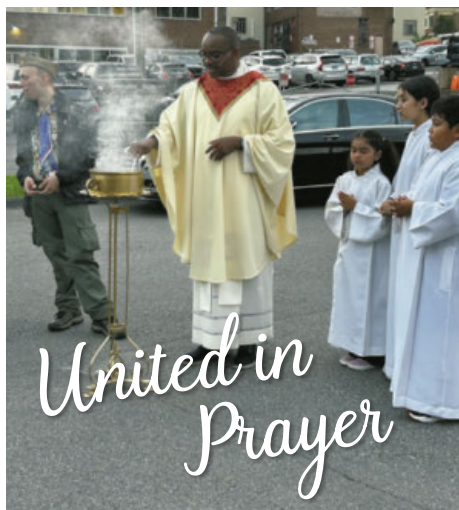
Intentions are offered for many reasons – in remembrance of someone who is **deceased**, for the souls in purgatory, or for the **living** - for someone who is ill, or for someone celebrating a special occasion.

Our books are open and Mass times are available in both churches up to December 31, 2025.

Parishioners are limited to selecting three (3) weekend Masses. There are no limits for daily Masses. The offering for Sundays, Vigils and holy days is \$25, and \$15 for a daily Mass. **Masses will be offered for your loved ones even if you cannot be present for that Mass.**

PHONE CALLS ONLY from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm, M-F.

Call us this week.



The First Friday Mass of healing is a time to come together to pray for our needs and the needs of others.

To aid that, **prayer boards for your prayer intentions** are located in both St. Francis and St. Peter. Everyone is encouraged to place their prayer intentions on either of these boards during the week. All intentions are collected and prayed for during the weekly Friday evening adoration and community prayer at St. Peter.

Monthly, all the collected intentions are burned in conjunction with the First Friday Mass of healing at St. Peter. Intentions can also be submitted just prior to the Mass on that evening. Weather permitting, burning of the intentions occurs outside St. Peter Church at the conclusion of Mass.



Experience the Power of Healing

In these challenging times, many of us carry burdens – be it physical ailments like cancer and kidney disease, emotional struggles like depression, anxiety, PTSD and grief, or spiritual battles. **YOU'RE NOT ALONE.**

Reconnect, find solace, and embrace the healing powers of our divine physician, Jesus Christ.

A special Healing Mass and anointing of the sick will be celebrated:

Fr. Emmanuel Ihemedu
will be the celebrant
and homilist.

Friday, September 5 • 6:00 pm

St. Peter Church, 99 East Main St.

The evening begins with the Divine Mercy Chaplet followed immediately by the Healing Mass. **Let's come together**, share our stories, and experience the transformative power of faith. Remember, Jesus is still in the business of healing.





Holy Rosary Society

of
St. John Paul the Great Parish

Our next meeting
will be

TUES., SEPTEMBER 2nd @ 6:00 pm
in St. Peter Hall.

**MEMBERS ARE REMINDED TO BRING
IN THEIR COOKIES!**

We invite all women of the parish to consider joining the **Holy Rosary Society**. Meetings are held the first Tuesday of every month in St. Peter Hall at 6:00 pm. Read more about the Society at <https://johnpaulgreatparish.com/rosary-society>. If you are interested in joining, please contact Claudia Guisti at 860-307-9696, or Bette Cantu at 860-485-9560 or any current member.



Faith Formation Classes

2025-26 classes start Sun., August 31.

Parents and students are asked to meet at
8:30 am in the Academy gymnasium.

QUESTIONS? Call/text 203-308-7141
or 860-485-3126.



The Sacrament of Confirmation

will be administered at

2:30 pm, Sunday, September 28
at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph,
140 Farmington Ave., Hartford.



The Prayer Shawl Ministry

will meet at 1:00 pm, Tuesday, September 16th
at the home of Marlene Constable.

Shawls knitted or crocheted with love by our volunteers are given to those in a convalescent home, or are recuperating from illness, or who are dear to you.

Anyone who is interested in obtaining a Prayer Shawl at no charge is asked to call Marlene Constable at 860-201-5906 or Carmy Tromba at 860-459-5616. **God Bless!**

Devotion to Saint Anthony of Padua

Thursdays, St. Peter Church

7:50 am Prayer before the 8:00 am
Mass, **and every first Thursday**
of the month, veneration of a
St. Anthony relic follows the Mass.



September Collection for the FOOD BANKS



In the words of St John Paul the Great, "The ultimate test of your greatness is the way you treat every human being."

The less fortunate in our community, the homeless, the hungry, deserve to be treated with dignity and compassion.

One simple way to do this is by helping area food banks feed the hungry in our community. Please consider donating a non-perishable food item to our monthly food collections.



Items such as PASTA, PASTA SAUCE, RICE, TUNA, MAC & CHEESE, CANNED FRUITS AND VEGETABLES,

INSTANT POTATOES, SIDE DISHES, BEANS, JUICES, HOT COCOA, PEANUT BUTTER, JELLY and CEREAL may be left at St. Peter or St. Francis churches ...

the weekend of September 6-7.

All donated food will be distributed to local agencies through Stock the Shelves. Monetary donations are also greatly appreciated. *Please make checks payable to "Stock the Shelves."* **Please remember** that the food banks cannot accept expired food. *Thank you!*

18th CT Catholic Men's Conference

DON'T MISS THIS DAY that will nourish, strengthen and deepen your faith. **SAT., SEPTEMBER 27.**

Venue is **Holy Cross High School in Waterbury.** Doors open at **7:30 am.** Event begins at **8:30 am** and concludes with **4:00 pm Vigil Mass.** **Read more about the event** and our speakers, and purchase tickets at www.ctcatholicmen.org or use the QR code. **Cost include lunch:** Standard \$45; Teen, ages 13-19, \$30; Clergy, seminarians: no cost.



*Buy your
tickets today!*

6 | August 31, 2025
22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

INDOOR TAG SALE

The Holy Rosary Society will be having a
Tag Sale Fundraiser
on **Saturday,**
September 13, 2025
in St. Peter Hall from
9:00 am to 2:00 pm



To all parishioners who would like to donate items to the Tag Sale, **the DROP-OFF date and time is Thursday, September 11th** from **12:00 pm to 5:00 pm** at St. Peter Hall.



ALL PROCEEDS FROM THIS TAG SALE WILL GO TO HELP PAY FOR THE RENOVATION OF ST. PETER CHURCH

PLEASE NO ELECTRONIC ITEMS OR FURNITURE

Thank you for your continued support!



2025 Dinner Club Update

Happy Labor Day weekend to all!

Our latest monthly drawing was held this past Friday. Congratulations to our August winners. Their names will be announced in a future bulletin, so stay tuned.

GREAT NEWS! Guest tickets for the dinner only are now available for just \$50. That's less than last year! These tickets are for the fabulous meal and entertainment at the Fairview Farm in Harwinton, plus raffle prizes and 50/50. It does not include the year-end drawings worth \$1500. You must be a member for that. Dinner tickets will be on sale through the month of September after Masses and at the Pastoral Center, or contact us and we will arrange to get the tickets to you. Tickets will *not* be available at the dinner.

Our final monthly drawing will be Friday, September 26, so join now to take part in that as well as the year-end drawing at the dinner.

MEMBERSHIP FORMS with all the information are available at both churches, the Pastoral Center, and at <https://johnpaulgreatparish.com/dinner-club>. **Questions or comments?** Email SJPGDinnerClub@gmail.com or call/text James at 860-626-8985.

Actualización del Dinner Club 2025

¡Feliz fin de semana del Día del Trabajo a todos!

Nuestro último sorteo mensual se llevó a cabo el pasado viernes. Felicitaciones a nuestros ganadores de agosto. Sus nombres se anunciarán en un boletín futuro, así que permanezcan atentos.

¡BUENA NOTICIA! Los boletos de invitado sólo para la cena ya están disponibles por solo \$50. ¡Eso es menos que el año pasado! Estos boletos son para la fabulosa comida y entretenimiento en Fairview Farm en Harwinton, además de premios de rifa y 50/50. No incluye los sorteos de fin de año por un valor de \$1500. Necesita ser miembro para esto. Los boletos para la cena estarán a la venta durante el mes de septiembre después de las Misas y en el Centro Pastoral, o contáctenos y organizaremos la entrega de boletos. No estarán disponibles en la cena.

Nuestro último sorteo mensual será el viernes 26 de septiembre, así que únete ahora para participar de él, así como en el sorteo de fin de año en la cena.

LOS FORMULARIOS DE MEMBRESÍA con toda la información están disponibles en ambas iglesias, en el Centro Pastoral y en <https://johnpaulgreatparish.com/dinner-club>. **¿Preguntas o comentarios?** Envíe un correo electrónico a SJPGDinnerClub@gmail.com o llame o llame/ envíe un mensaje de texto a James al 860-626-8985.



ST. JOHN PAUL THE GREAT ACADEMY

360 Prospect Street, Torrington • 860-489-4177

stjohnpaulthegreatacademy.org

2025-26 school year begins Sept. 2!



Optimal teacher to student ratio. High expectations. STREAM mindset. Maker space, robotics & coding programs. Check out the virtual tour on the academy website. **St. John Paul the Great Academy is a dynamic STREAM school rooted in faith, service and academic excellence** where Pre-K to Middle School students

are challenged and inspired to become collaborators, critical thinkers, future leaders and global citizens.

We believe a high-quality, Catholic education should be available to all, regardless of income. We invite students of all faiths to be a part of our Academy. Our "Just" Tuition Model makes it more accessible.



New students are always welcome!

FIND OUT MORE AT:

stjohnpaulthegreatacademy.org/admissions

Young Catholic Professionals - Central CT Executive Speaker Series - Aaron Joseph



Come enjoy refreshments and networking along with a talk by Aaron Joseph, photographer and media consultant for the Archdiocese of Hartford; and

Consecrated Disciple of Jesus, the Son of God and Son of Joseph and Mary. Aaron will share about his journey and how he has worked as a witness for Christ.

Where: 872 Farmington Avenue, West Hartford, CT 06119 (St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church)

When: Thurs., Sept. 11, 7:00 - 9:00 pm)

Who: All professionals from 18-39.

RSVP via QR code or <https://tinyurl.com/YCPcentralAJ>

E-mail info@ycpcentralconnecticut.org to learn more.



Aaron Joseph



Catholic Charities Torrington Counseling Center

We offer help so you can improve your skills to deal with daily challenges. We offer services for children, teens and adults. **Visit our office:** 132 Grove Street in Torrington or **call us at** 860-482-5558 or **visit** www.ccaoh.org.





ARCHDIOCESE OF HARTFORD Evenings of Reflection

will be held at St. Anthony of Padua
49 South St., Litchfield

FOR EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

Tuesday, **September 9**, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

AND FOR LECTORS

Tuesday, **October 7**, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

All **Lectors** and **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EMHCs)** who currently serve in the Archdiocese, as well as those who might be considering becoming an EMHC or Lector at their parish, are invited to an evening of reflection and formation for ministry.

These two-hour sessions, free of charge, are offered by the **Archdiocesan Office of Worship** as a way to gather with other ministers from local churches to reflect on their ministry, pray together, and perhaps learn something new. For your convenience, other sessions will be offered throughout the Archdiocese in September. These sessions will be offered in English; Spanish and Vietnamese sessions will be scheduled later this fall.

To register, or to find sessions on other dates and locations, see <https://archdioceseofhartford.org/evenings-of-reflection/>. For more information, please contact Josh Perry in the Office of Worship at josh.perry@aohct.org or 860-578-1427.



A.L.M.S.

Apostolate For Lay Ministry Support

A program of formation
offered by the Office of
Missionary Discipleship.

What you'll gain: The
essential elements of lay
apostolate and lay vocation,
the call to
holiness
along with an
overview of
Catholic
social
teaching, spiritual theology
and other topics.

**Check our website for
details:** [https://](https://www.catholicedaohct.org/the-apostolate-for-lay-ministry)
[www.catholicedaohct.org/](https://www.catholicedaohct.org/the-apostolate-for-lay-ministry)
[the-apostolate-for-lay-](https://www.catholicedaohct.org/the-apostolate-for-lay-ministry)
[ministry](https://www.catholicedaohct.org/the-apostolate-for-lay-ministry) or use the QR code.



SACRAMENTS / SACRAMENTOS

ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (OCIA):

For adults who wish to become Catholic or for Catholic Adults who have not yet received the Sacraments of First Eucharist and Confirmation. Please contact the Pastoral Center at 860-482-4433.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: For ALL baptism prep classes, contact Deacon Angel Garcia by **TEXT ONLY** (no calls) at 203-577-7130. Baptism prep class in English is held the first Tuesday of the month, 7:00 pm at St. Peter Church.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE: Arrangements for Marriage are made by calling the Parish Office (860-482-4433) to schedule an appointment with one of the priests at least six months in advance of desired wedding date.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK: Anyone who is seriously ill, advanced in age or preparing for surgery may receive. Please call the Parish Office to arrange.

PARA EL BAUTISMO: Para preguntas sobre el bautismo o clase pre-bautismal, favor de enviar un Texto (no llames) al Diácono Ángel García al 203-577-7130.

CEREMONIA DEL BAUTISMO EN ESPAÑOL- CUARTO FIN DE SEMANA DEL MES: Sábado a la 1:00 pm y domingo dentro de la misa de las 11:30 am, en la iglesia de San Pedro.

SACRAMENTO DE MATRIMONIO: Los arreglos para el matrimonio se hacen llamando al Oficina Parroquial (860-482-4433) para programar una cita con uno de los sacerdotes al menos **seis meses antes** de la fecha deseada de la boda. Después de reservar la fecha con el sacerdote, por favor comuníquese inmediatamente con Yuneris Owens 860-307-2291, Coordinadora de Preparación Matrimonial para comenzar el proceso de la preparación y las charlas prematrimoniales.

CELEBRACIÓN DE QUINCEAÑERAS: Requisito: La preparación debe comenzar al menos **tres meses** antes de la fecha de la celebración y la familia debe ser miembro activo de la parroquia con participación en la Misa Dominical. Además, la Quinceañera debe estar registrada en el Programa de Confirmación. Para más información o preguntas, póngase en contacto con Yuneris Owens, llamando al 860-307-2291.

† EUCHARISTÍA DOMINICAL

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de San Pedro

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5:30-6:15 pm:

Exposición del Santísimo

5:30-6:00 pm:

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Deacon Angel Garcia, TEXT ONLY (no calls):
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BUSINESS MANAGER

Anita Ressel: 860-482-4433,
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BULLETIN EDITOR

Leslie DiVenere, bulletin@sjptgp.com

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Robbie Raffa, 860-489-4772
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James Gentile is a lector at the Cathedral of St. Joseph, Hartford.
PHOTO BY AARON JOSEPH

As part of a continuing formation program, the Office of Worship for the Archdiocese of Hartford is offering upcoming evenings of reflection and formation for lectors and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion.

"These two-hour sessions are offered around the Archdiocese as a way to gather to reflect on their ministry, pray together and perhaps learn something new about their ministry," says Josh Perry, director of the Office of Worship, who will be conducting them.

Seven sessions for extraordinary ministers will be offered in September. Lectors will also be able to participate in seven evenings geared toward them that will occur in October. Anyone interested in learning more about becoming a lector or extraordinary minister is encouraged to attend.

The evenings for extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion will include an opening prayer, reflections, formation best practices and guidelines.

Sessions for lectors will offer techniques to prepare for delivering

the readings beforehand, Perry says, adding, "How do you get to know the reading? Pray with the readings and practice them at home.

Perry was recently appointed in his role. "As the new director, I've had the privilege and honor of joining a number of the parishes around the Archdiocese for weekend Masses," he says. "I'm grateful to you for your willingness to share your gifts with the communities you serve, and it is my prayer that you continue to find your ministry as lectors and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion life-giving and spiritually enriching."

The evenings of reflection and formation for lectors were started last year by Father Michael Ruminski, former director of the Office of Divine Worship and former pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Bloomfield. He was recently assigned as pastor of St. Thomas & St. Timothy Parish in West Hartford.

For lectors, Father Ruminski says, it is important to "gain a greater appreciation of the spiritual and theological dimensions of what they do when they stand at the ambo and read the Word of God."

"When the Scripture is proclaimed at Mass, God is speaking to us, and so the better we proclaim it and the better we understand how to proclaim it, the more easily we'll be able to respond to that communication from God," Father Ruminski adds. "This is especially true in the Gospel, which is why there's veneration and incense and standing because we're greeting the Gospels as if Christ is at the ambo."

Later this year, Perry plans of offering the sessions for both lectors and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion in English, Spanish and Vietnamese. To see the schedule for the upcoming workshops and to sign up, visit archdioceseofhartford.org/evening-of-reflection.

For questions, call Perry at 860.578.1427 or email him at josh.perry@aohct.org.

Parishioners interested in learning more about becoming a lector or extraordinary minister of Holy Communion may also speak with their pastor.

- Story by Joe Pisani



Upcoming Events



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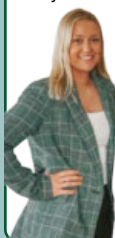
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