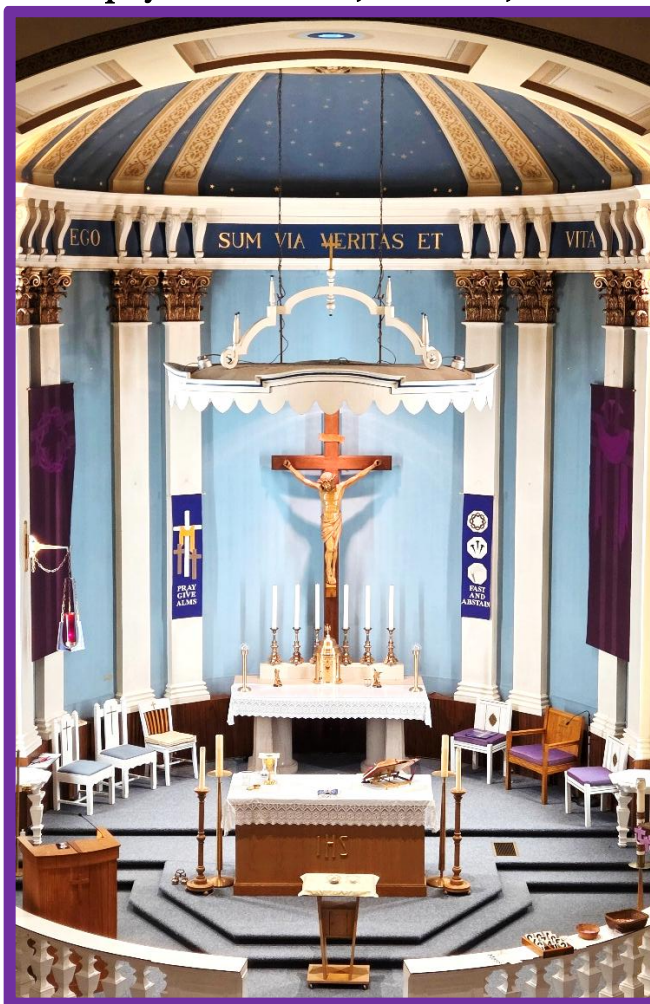


# ST. PHILIP THE APOSTLE CHURCH

64 Pompey Hollow Rd., Ashford, CT 06278



**Father Michael Giannitelli, Pastor**

**OFFICE: 860-429-2860**

## **TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

Main Office	860-429-2860
Parish FAX	860-429-2860
Ann Phillips	Secretary
Patricia LaBonte	Bookkeeper
Paula Vincent	Bulletin Editor

## **OFFICE HOURS**

Monday through Thursday 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM  
Closed Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and also  
Monday Holidays.

## **PARISH EMAIL & Bulletin Announcements**

[stphilipstjude@gmail.com](mailto:stphilipstjude@gmail.com)

## **PARISH WEBSITE**

<https://saintphilipct.com>

## **NEW PARISHIONERS**

We are delighted to welcome you and encourage you to register by filling out a registration form or emailing the office.

## **Stations of the Cross, 6 p.m. Fridays in Lent**

## **WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE**

Saturday 4:30 p.m.

Sunday 9:00 a.m.

Sunday 11:00 a.m.

## **DAILY MASS SCHEDULE**

Tuesday 8:00 a.m.

Wednesday 8:00 a.m.

Thursday 8:00 a.m.

Friday 8:00 a.m.

**ADORATION** Fridays 8:30 a.m. to Noon

**CONFESSION:** Saturdays 3:30-4:00 pm

## **SACRAMENTS**

Please call the office for information on Baptism, Marriage, and Pastoral Visits.

## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Please contact the Parish Office for assistance

***St. Philip's is Handicap Accessible and Air Conditioned***



March 1, 2026

**The Second Sunday of Lent**

† **Mass Schedule and Intentions** †

Mass Readings start on page 839

**Sat** Feb 28, 3:30-4:00 pm Confession

**Sat** Feb 28, 4:30 pm Mass

† **Eileen Molnar** by *Caroline Doughty*

† **Joseph Peters** by *The Vertefeuille Family*

**Sun** Mar 1, 9:00 am Mass

† **John & Catherine Postemski**

† **Eileen Molnar** by *Audrey Shea*

**Sun** Mar 1, 11:00 am Mass

† **Marguerite & Gene Sgro** by *Ralph Yulo*

† **Eileen Molnar** by *Peter & Jean Piecyk*

**Tues** Mar 3, 8:00 am Mass: *St. Katharine Drexel*

† **Liam Patrick Boyce** by *His Family*

† **Rev. Francis Martens, 26<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

*By Caroline Doughty*

**Wed** Mar 4, 8:00 am Mass: *St. Casimir*

**For the Souls in Purgatory**

**Thurs** Mar 5, 8:00 am Mass

**For the Sick of Our Parish**

**Fri** Mar 6, 8:00 am Mass: *World Day of Prayer*

† **Maurice Dionne** by *Yvette Dionne*

**ADORATION** following Mass; **Benediction** 12 Noon

**Fri** Mar 6, 6:00 pm **Stations of the Cross**

**Lenten suppers:** After Stations, please join us for soup & bread, meatless pizza and grilled cheese at the Parish Center.



**Sat** Mar 7, 3:30-4:00 pm Confession

**Sat** Mar 7, 4:30 pm Mass

† **Joseph Peters** by *Dennis & Eleanor Bergeron*

† **George Bogdanovich**

**Sun** Mar 8, 9:00 am Mass

† **Ed Conlan, Birthday Remembrance** by *Nancy Conlan*

† **Eileen Molnar** by *Audrey Shea*

**Sun** Mar 8, 11:00 am Mass

† **Larry Single**

**For the Intentions of Albert & Judith Vertefeuille**

*by The Vertefeuille Family*

*If you have a Mass Intention for a loved one, please bring up the gifts during that Mass.*

If you need the **Eucharist** brought to you at Mass, please raise your hand after Communion, the Eucharistic Minister will bring it to you.



**THE PRAYER BASKET** is for your special intentions to be placed at the altar during Mass.



**Coffee and Donuts in Parish Center after the 9 am & before 11 am Mass on Sunday.**



Church open: Mon-Thurs, 9:30-2:30 & Fri Adoration  
Office opens at 11:00 am on Mon, March 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Blessed Mother Candle is lit for **Emma Wellings, Birthday Wishes**

Requested by *Caroline Doughty*.



If the weather is bad, please stay home and watch the Mass on EWTN. We want you to be safe.

**PRAYER LIST:** For current requests please call 860-429-2860 or email [stphilipstjude@gmail.com](mailto:stphilipstjude@gmail.com).

**PRAYER LIST:** Theresa Agosta, John Bergeron, Sr., Brian Berry, Tammy Breard, Rick Brennan, Robert & Denise Burgess, Robert Butler, Lorraine Carty, Jack Chamberlain, Sr., Elizabeth Clifford, Jessica D., Terry Decker, Yvette Dionne, Robert Drake, Sharon Godere, C.H., L.A.H., Carol and Tim Hall, Maria Jednaki, Andrew Jendrysik, Ian Jentle, Joshua, Tom Joyal, John K., Thomas K., David Kaiko, JoAnn Kepple, Melinda King, Steven King, Linda L., Mary Manning, Roger Marinelli, Nick Mucha, Kerry Murphy, Robert Nazzaro, Brenda Nixon, Lewis Nixon, Barbara O'Reilly, Elijah Ortiz, Diane Peed, Pauline Picard, Peter Piecyk, Ted Piecyk, Mariela Porcello, Gail Ricca, Michael Ricca, James Smith, Pat Stenglein, Al St. Louis, John Studley, Robert Thath, Shirley Thath, Sgt. Ed Thompson, J. W., Jocelyne & Greg Wakefield, Mike Wengloski, Sue Wilcox, Cal Williams.

**PARISH MEETINGS**

**Choir Rehearsals:** Sundays Mar 1 & 8, 9:50 am.

**Women's Gathering:** Sat, Feb 28, 9:30-11 am for fellowship and reflection. All are welcome!

**Boy Scout Leaders:** Mon, Mar 2, 7 pm.

**Women's Bible Study:** Tues, Mar 3, 9:30 am "The Reed of God" by *Caryll Houselander*, "Advent." In case of snow, will be cancelled.

**Knights of Columbus:** Tues, Mar 3, 7 pm.

**Boy Scouts:** Tue, Mar 10, 6:30 pm.

**Cor Meeting:** Wed, Mar 11, 6:30-7:30 pm. Open to all Catholic Men. Faith Formation, Fraternity, Fun and some Food. Come Join Us.

**Blessed Mother's Stitchers:** Tue, Mar 31, 10 am.

**Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner** sponsored by **Knights of Columbus**, Sat, March 21, 2026. **NOTE: Tickets will be sold after all Masses. Tickets are \$10.00 for adults over 16 and free for children under 16.**



**J. N. Webster Scout Reservation Trade-o-ree**

Friday, March 6, 2026, 2 – 8 pm and Saturday, March 7, 2026, 9 – 3 pm in St. Philip Parish Center. Scout collectibles of all kinds, open to all. \$2 admission fee. All profits go to support the camping activities at the Boy Scout Camp.



Thank you for your past support of the **Annual Catholic Appeal** which provides funds for many of the

pastoral, educational, and charitable ministries within the Diocese of Norwich. As we embark on our 2026 ACA, *One Faith, One Family*, we thank God for the strength and love we have received from him during this past year, when we, relying on our ONE FAITH, have uplifted our brothers and sisters in our ONE FAMILY. The ACA in-pew collection will take place in our parish on March 14/15, 2026. Please give prayerful consideration when contemplating your sacrificial gift to the appeal. The future of our ministries depends on it.

**ST. PHILIP PALM SUNDAY BAKE SALE**



The bake sale will take place on Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup> from 1 pm to 6 pm. Baked goods can be dropped off at the Parish Center on Friday, March 27<sup>th</sup> from 5-7 pm. Please list all ingredients on all food items, especially peanuts and nuts. Salt-free and gluten-free items have been requested. Any baked goods left over will be on sale after the 9 am and 11 am Masses on Palm Sunday. Thank you for your generosity, Linda Joyal and Rose Bergeron

**WOMEN'S ACTS RETREAT!** Join us for an inspiring, enjoyable retreat May 28-31, 2026, at Immaculate Conception Retreat Center, Putnam, CT sponsored by Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish, Coventry & Storrs. ACTS retreats are a terrific way to meet other women of faith & create lasting friendships! For more information or to register, contact Mary Cross, director, at 860-872-3511 or [mkcgardening@comcast.net](mailto:mkcgardening@comcast.net). Registration information is also available online at <https://actsct.org/> under "Retreats." The registration deadline is Sun., May 17<sup>th</sup>, so register soon to keep your place. We'd love to see you join us on this rewarding spiritual journey & grow closer to Jesus!



**LENTEEN CROSS** Yellow crosses are for children, violet for adults. Each week you are encouraged to remove a cross in a spirit of reparation. Once you read the Lenten practice, place the cross in the basket on the altar railing and carry out the practice. The next week, when you have done the practice, place a paper flower, on the large Lenten cross. By the end of Lent our Cross will have "blossomed" into a beautiful cross of flowers, a visual sign of our Lenten sacrifices, prayers and practices, offered in reparation for our sins and the sins of the world.

Our condolences to Dave Sylvia and his family on the passing of his wife, **Anne Sylvia**, on February 20, 2026.



**Father Greg Jednaki** wants to share that his mother Maria has been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and is in the hospital in Poland and he asks for your prayers. If you'd like to send a card:

**Maria Jednaki**  
**T. Kosciuszki 44/2**  
**28-230 Polaniec, Poland**

Maria has a friend who can translate from English.

**Starting on Friday, February 20<sup>th</sup> until the end of Lent, Stations of the Cross will be at 6 pm, followed by a meal of soup, bread, pizza, and grilled cheese at the Parish Center. Come and join us!**



**Pilgrims of Hope Holy Family Retreat Team, W. Hartford, CT Women's Retreat: Mar 20-22, St. Philip Women will attend Apr 17-19, May 29-31, 2026. Men's Retreat: Mar 6-8, 13-15, 27-29, Apr 10-12, May 1-3, Jun 5-7, 2026.** Please join us at Holy Family to celebrate our 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of retreat ministry. Faith is a journey! Last year, just months before his passing, Pope Francis called for a jubilee year with the theme "Pilgrims of Hope." As "Pilgrims of Hope" we must be willing to take risks, to make the effort to understand God's call and to grow in our faith. The pilgrim doesn't travel aimlessly but allows God to be the North Star, leading us to discover that God is at the heart of our journey. Call 860-760-9705 or visit [holyfamilyretreat.org/](http://holyfamilyretreat.org/). Generous scholarships available - contact Holy Family registrar Ted at 860-760-9705. **St. Philip Church promoters: Burtie 617-939-4234, Marsha 860-429-4926.**

**Holy Family Retreat Center** is offering a \$375 scholarship for a man who has not previously been on retreat. St. Philip men will be on retreat April 10-12, 2026. Please consider this opportunity and speak to Ann in the office, if interested. For info visit: <https://www.holyfamilyretreat.org/themed-retreats>.



**Filled Easter Basket Donations Needed**

St. Vincent de Paul Place, Norwich is preparing for our annual Easter basket distribution, bringing joy to children in our community. We seek approximately 1,000 filled Easter baskets to meet the needs of local families. Distribution begins March 16, 2026, and baskets can be dropped off at St. Vincent de Paul Place, 120 Cliff St, Norwich. For more information, please contact Jill at [jcsvdpp@gmail.com](mailto:jcsvdpp@gmail.com) or 860-889-7374. Thank you for helping make Easter brighter for the children we serve!



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*God Chose You for Me*

## Marriage RETREAT DAY

Saturday, March 21, 2026  
8:30 a.m. Check-in | Vigil Mass 4:00 p.m.  
\$60 Registration Fee, per couple




**marriage encounter**

The Office of Faith Formation and Parish Life invites married couples to a day retreat, "God Chose You for Me," presented by Worldwide Marriage Encounter. Focused on deepening the spirituality of Matrimony and strengthening couples' spiritual connection through personal prayer.

Click [here](#) to register. (Includes Coffee, lunch and materials.)

Pastoral Center  
Alumni Lounge, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
467 Bloomfield Avenue  
Bloomfield, CT



**ARCHDIOCESE OF HARTFORD**  
Office of Faith Formation and Parish Life

Questions? Contact: Valerie St. Jean  
Associate Director of Adult & Family Life Ministries  
860-541-6431 ext. 2878 | Valerie.StJean@archdiocese.org

**REGISTER:** 



## Introvigne Funeral Home, Inc.

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Directors: Joseph R. Introvigne, Joseph R. Introvigne, Jr., Michael J. Introvigne

[www.introvignefuneralhome.com](http://www.introvignefuneralhome.com)

51 East Main Street • Stafford Springs **860-684-2538**

The Diocese of Worcester will have a **NEW Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Level I Part 1 courses in June**. All catechists are welcome to join us. More info in the online bulletin, page 8. **Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Level I Part 1**

**St. Joseph and St. Stephen Parish, 355 Grafton Street, Worcester, MA 01604**

June 1-6, 2026 (Monday – Saturday from 9-5 PM)

Registration and Tuition is due on May 15, 2026. Please register using this link:

<https://worcestardiocese.org/cgs-l-1-p-1-st-joseph-st-stephen-worcester> [mheelan@worcestardiocese.org](mailto:mheelan@worcestardiocese.org)

For questions, or more info, please contact: Mary Pat Heelan, Associate Director of Religious Education, Diocese of Worcester 49 Elm Street, Worcester, MA 01609 508-929-4302. (Email above.)

*Register Now*

### WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

"DINNER WITH JESUS"

*Finding Sanctuary*

*How the Wild Work of Peace Restored the Heart of a Sandy Hook Mother*

With Jennifer Hubbard  
Executive Director of the Catherine Violet Hubbard Animal Sanctuary, whose book was named Catholic Media Association's #1 memoir.

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25<sup>TH</sup>, 2026**  
5:30PM to 9:00PM  
TPC RIVER HIGHLANDS  
1 GOLF CLUB RD, CROMWELL, CT 06418

*Tickets are \$75.-*

EVANGELIZATION & DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRY  
DIOCESE OF NORWICH

To register please go to: <https://bit.ly/WomensConf> (Use QR Code)  
For more information call or email Alvania Torres  
860-848-2237 Ext 304 [alvian@diocesenorwich.org](mailto:alvian@diocesenorwich.org)



**WED. MARCH 18<sup>TH</sup> – PRO-LIFE MASS & BUS TRIP TO STATE CAPITOL**

## CONNECTICUT MARCH FOR LIFE



This year's Connecticut March for Life will be the biggest pro-life advocacy event in our State's history! Join us in The Support of Life from conception to natural death. Our message of love for unborn children and their mothers will be seen and heard by every member of the legislature and across the State!

8:30 AM – Pro-Life Mass with Bishop Reidy at Cathedral of St. Patrick, 213 Broadway, Norwich, CT  
9:30 AM – Depart on deluxe Dattco motorcoach from Cathedral for March For Life with Bishop  
10:30 AM – Pre-Rally Concert  
11:30 PM – Rally at the State Capitol  
12:30 PM – CT March For Life around Bushnell Park, Downtown  
2:00 PM – Depart Hartford  
3:00 PM – Arrive back at Cathedral

APPLICATION ... CT March For Life

**Cost for the trip is \$20 per person. Please make checks payable to ACA, Memo: Pro-Life**

NAME (PLEASE PRINT): \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_  
CELL: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE MAIL APPLICATION AND PAYMENT TO:  
DIOCESE OF NORWICH PRO-LIFE MINISTRY 201 BROADWAY NORWICH, CT 06360  
PACK YOUR OWN LUNCH / SNACKS / DRINKS



PARKING FOR MASS AND BUS TRIP AVAILABLE AT LOWER OTIS ST. ENTRANCE  
PARK IN FAR BACK OF CATHEDRAL PARKING LOT AS SCHOOL WILL BE IN SESSION

# STEUBENVILLE EAST CATHOLIC YOUTH CONFERENCE 2026

**JULY 24-26  
SPRINGFIELD, MA**

Join the Diocese of Norwich Youth Ministry for a weekend retreat experience filled with prayer, sacraments, and fun!

**Cost Per Person**  
Hotel Quad - \$415  
Hotel Double - \$500  
\*Cost per person is the same for adults and youth.

Parish youth ministers and catechetical leaders can register their parish group via e-mail at: [msweeney@norwichdiocese.net](mailto:msweeney@norwichdiocese.net)

There is still time to register for Steubenville East! Catechetical leaders can follow the link below to hold their spots for the conference  
<https://forms.gle/TuZUFHjJoXhNM2U8A>

DIOCESE OF NORWICH  
**SKI TRIP**  
SATURDAY, MARCH 7TH  
**WACHUSETT MOUNTAIN**  
REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!  
REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!  
A FREE EVENT FOR ALL AGES!  
SKIING WILL BEGIN AT 4PM  
PARTICIPANTS WILL MEET AT THE MOUNTAIN  
NO TRANSPORTATION PROVIDED  
REGISTRATION REQUIRED  
TO REGISTER, EMAIL:  
[MSWEENEY@NORWICHDIOCESE.NET](mailto:MSWEENEY@NORWICHDIOCESE.NET)

## Worldwide Marriage Encounter: Second Sunday of Lent

2 Timothy 1:8b-10 *“Beloved: Bear your share of hardship for the gospel with the strength that comes from God. He saved us and called us to a holy life, not according to our works but according to his own design and the grace bestowed on us in Christ Jesus before time began”*. Sign up to attend a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience and see how your relationship can be holy and loving. You will be glad you did. Some Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experiences are:

March 13-15, 2026 , Windjammer Best Western, South Burlington, VT

April 17-19, 2026, Silver Bay YMCA, Silver Bay, NY

April 24-26, 2026, Corpus Christi Parish, East Sandwich, MA

Worldwide Marriage Encounter sponsors a variety of in-person and virtual marriage experiences, some on weekends and some on seven weekdays. Couples explore their relationship with each other, God, and the Church. Registration is limited; there is a \$100 application fee. For more information or to apply, call Frank & Margie Pearson at 860-337-2447 or [wwme.org](http://wwme.org).

**Pregnant? Need help? CATHOLIC CHARITIES Pregnancy and Adoption Programs** provide concrete help & answers. Call 1-800- BABYDUE, even if you simply want to talk.

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LEARN MORE  
RAMUSA.ORG  
865.579.1530

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**2 DAYS ONLY: MARCH 7-8**  
Windham Senior Center  
1 Jillson Sq., Willimantic, CT 06226  
Parking Lot Opens: Friday @ 11:59 P.M.  
Clinic Opens: Sat. & Sun. @ 6 A.M.

PRESENTED BY:  
**MEDICAL CLINIC CLUB**

**Cathedral Corporation** will supply our Parish Office with blank church envelopes in case someone has misplaced theirs and also for new parishioners. They will no longer send out temporary envelopes. If you need a set, please see Ann in the Parish Office.



**URGENT NEED:** Adorers are needed on Fridays for one hour from 8:30 am to 12:00 noon as a regular adorer or as a substitute. Please sign up in the vestibule if you are able.

**Crossroads 4 Christ** (C4C) is pleased to announce our newest local chapter: C4C Storrs! Young adults aged 18-39 are invited to join us for formation, fellowship, and prayer. Gatherings will be on **Thursday** nights at **6 PM** in the "Upper Room" at **St. Thomas Aquinas** chapel in **Storrs**. Whether you are a longtime C4C attendee, or you have never heard of us before, we invite you to come and join your fellow young adult Catholics in community and faith. Visit [crossroads4christ.org/](http://crossroads4christ.org/) for details.

**WHY DON'T OUR ADULT CHILDREN ATTEND MASS?" REPLAY** – Did you miss the virtual presentation of “Why Don’t our Adult Children attend Mass?” with Deacon Dennis Dolan and Mary-Jo McLaughlin, Catholic Family Services Coordinator?

You can watch it again at your leisure from the comfort of your home by adding the link <https://bit.ly/3SR2slk> into your browser. Join Deacon Dennis and Mary-Jo as they explore the topic of adult children who stopped going to Mass. Listen to parents who are burdened by this knowledge as they reflect on the presentation. The session covers why adult children have chosen not to attend, encouragement for them to come back to church, and time for prayer and reflection.

**REMINDER:** If you do not use our church envelopes and would like an end-of-the-year include your check or cash in an envelope with your name and address on it. Thank you.

**Natural Family Planning** is scientific, safe, and is 99 % effective for conceiving or responsibly postponing a baby. For information, call Craig and Liz Schantz at 860-464-1184. [www.ccli.org](http://www.ccli.org).

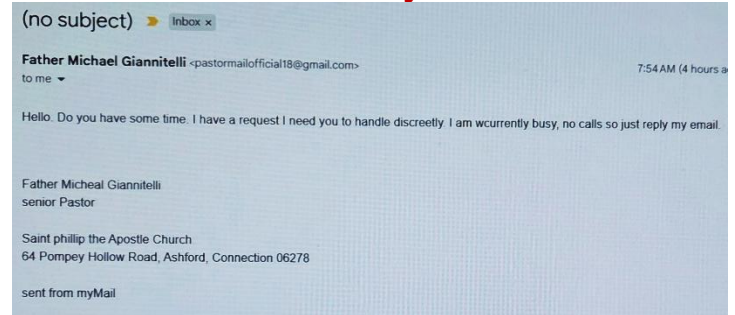
**2nd Sunday of Lent**

*“Go forth from the land of your kinsfolk and from your father’s house to a land that I will show you.”*  
**GENESIS 12:1**  
 God calls all of us to leave behind our old ways and to follow Him, placing our complete trust in Him. Some of the old ways that we struggle to leave behind might be materialism, selfishness and greed. Yet, God promises to show us a new land and a better way to live. Remember what St. Teresa of Calcutta said, “God does not call us to be successful, God calls us to be faithful.”

**LIGHTHOUSE CATHOLIC CDs: We have lots of CDs** you can trust to provide correct Catholic teaching. Thank you for all your donations that help to keep the program going. Contact Donna Vertefeuille: 860-429-4508 or email [donna@vertefeuille.org](mailto:donna@vertefeuille.org).



**If you receive an email from Father Michael, please be aware that Father will never contact you by email and fraudulent emails have been received claiming to come from him. The following spam has been received recently:**



**ENCOUNTER**

A PLACE TO ASK THE BIG QUESTIONS A.I. CAN'T ANSWER.

A DEEPER KIND OF FRIENDSHIP

PERFECT LOVE, WAITING FOR YOU

**CROSSROADS 4 CHRIST**

ARE YOU A YOUNG ADULT LOOKING FOR MORE? CROSSROADS 4 CHRIST WANTS TO CONNECT YOU WITH FAITH, FELLOWSHIP, AND JESUS CHRIST.

**JOIN THE ENCOUNTER. FIND YOUR LOCAL C4C CHAPTER:**

**STORRS:**  
 St. Thomas Aquinas  
 46 North Eagleville Rd  
 Storrs, CT

**MEETINGS:**  
 Every Thursday Night  
 Fellowship: 6-7 pm  
 Adoration: 7-8 pm

**INFO:**  
 c4cstorrs@gmail.com  
 crossroads4christ.org  
 Open to ages 18-39

**NOTE ABOUT PARISH REGISTRATION**

If you regularly worship with us, please register with St. Philip parish to provide accurate census data to the diocese. Return registration forms (orange) from the vestibule to the office.



**Natural Family Planning** is scientific, safe, and is 99 % effective for conceiving or responsibly postponing a baby. For information, call Craig and Liz Schantz at 860-464-1184. [www.ccli.org](http://www.ccli.org).



**Poland with the Saints**  
**YOUNG ADULT PILGRIMAGE**  
**MAY 22-31, 2026**

Travel through the lives of three modern saints  
**Open to young adults ages 21-40**

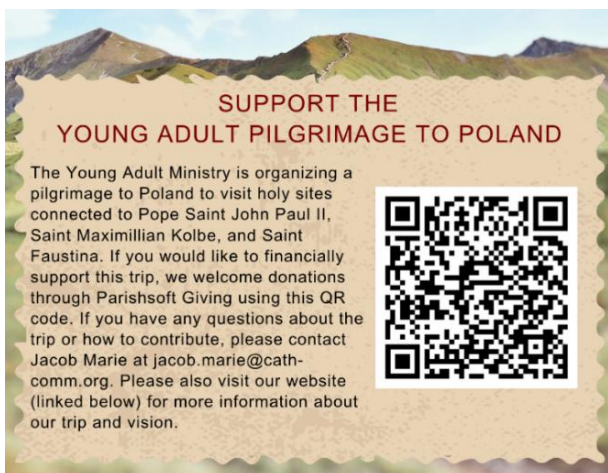
Stops in Krakow, the Tatra Mountains, Auschwitz, Czestochowa, and Warsaw with time to hike along the paths visited by St. John Paul II, to ponder at the cell of St. Maximilian Kolbe, and to meditate on the life of St. Faustina.

**More Information**




www.blessedsacramentct.org/  
 Evangelization/YoungAdults/  
 Poland-Pilgrimage-2026  
 Contact: Jacob Marie  
 jacob.marie@cath-comm.org

**The Young Adult Ministry of Blessed Sacrament Parish** is planning a pilgrimage to Poland from May 22- May 31, 2026. Pilgrims will experience sites associated with Pope St. John Paul II, St. Maximilian Kolbe, and Saint Faustina. Additionally, they will enjoy the natural beauty of the Tatras Mountains and the gorgeous cityscapes of Poland's old towns and cities. We invite young adults to prayerfully consider joining the pilgrimage. More information can be found by visiting <https://www.blessedsacramentct.org/Evangelization/Young-Adults/Poland-Pilgrimage-2026> or emailing [jacob.marie@cath-comm.org](mailto:jacob.marie@cath-comm.org)



**SUPPORT THE**  
**YOUNG ADULT PILGRIMAGE TO POLAND**

The Young Adult Ministry is organizing a pilgrimage to Poland to visit holy sites connected to Pope Saint John Paul II, Saint Maximilian Kolbe, and Saint Faustina. If you would like to financially support this trip, we welcome donations through Parishsoft Giving using this QR code. If you have any questions about the trip or how to contribute, please contact Jacob Marie at [jacob.marie@cath-comm.org](mailto:jacob.marie@cath-comm.org). Please also visit our website (linked below) for more information about our trip and vision.



**ADVERTISE IN OUR BULLETIN**

\$200 for six months for a small ad.  
 \$300 for a double-sized ad. Discount for an entire year is \$550 for a double ad. Funeral Homes will receive a triple-sized ad. Ads may be submitted to the Parish email: [stphilipstjude@gmail.com](mailto:stphilipstjude@gmail.com). If you or someone you know would like to advertise and support the Church bulletin, please contact us.

**A STUDY COMMISSIONED by the Knights of Columbus** revealed that 75% of Catholic young people who had seriously considered priesthood or religious life felt that they were never encouraged to pursue that vocation by anyone. Do you know someone who would make a good religious or priest? Why not tell them? Your encouragement might be all that they need.

**ALTAR SERVERS:** Fr. Michael would like parents to consider having their daughter or son volunteer for the privilege of serving at the altar during Mass. If interested, please contact Ann in the office 860-429-2860.



**THE PARISH FLAGPOLE** is available through the kindness of some of our parishioners. Any parishioner is invited to fly our flag in honor and memory of a deceased military family member or friend, for one month. To participate, please call Ann: 860-429-2860, during office hours. Thank you to all our veterans who have served, living and deceased.



**Religious Instruction at ST. PHILIP CHURCH**

Because of the very small number of children in our parish, we can accommodate any family with materials that are grade-appropriate, or preparation for the sacraments of initiation. We can guide and assist you, and we also offer tutoring. Our present program is individual-based and very flexible. We would also encourage any family that would like to establish a formal class, that would include their child, to please call Father Michael. Traditional parish-held CCD classes were discontinued due to lack of participation. We will continue with individualized family programs, until our Parish needs change. Please register your child for 2025/2026. **THERE IS NO FEE FOR THIS YEAR.** Registration forms are in the back of the church. If you would like to return last year's books, please contact Ann in the Parish Office (860) 429-2860 and we can lend you grade-appropriate ones.

**If you would like to add a name to the memorial altar in the cemetery, please contact the Parish Office.**





Diocese of Worcester  
**OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS  
EDUCATION**



**The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Level I  
Formation Course for Adults Part 1 Course**

June 1-6, 2026 (Monday – Saturday from 9-5 PM)

St. Joseph and St. Stephen Parish, 355 Grafton Street, Worcester, MA 01604

**Level I Catechesis of the Good Shepherd**

Originated in 1954 by Sofia Cavalletti, a biblical scholar, and Gianna Gobbi, an educator of children and teachers, Level I Catechesis of the Good Shepherd helps the young child ages 3-6 (and their catechists) enter into a personal, intimate relationship with Jesus. It seeks to create a sacred space for children called the Atrium, in which both the children and their catechists can hear, ponder and celebrate the most essential mysteries of our Catholic faith as revealed in Scriptures and the Liturgy. This leads little children, and quite often their entire families to come to a deep appreciation for the sacraments and above all, the Eucharist.

**Course Objectives**

- To present the methodology and guiding principles of CGS for the 3-6 year old child
- To explore the religious nature and the most vital religious needs of the young child
- To meditate on the biblical and liturgical themes presented to children
- To offer guidelines and assistance for setting up an atrium, preparing an album and making materials
- To broaden the catechist's ability to observe and learn from children, to listen with children to Scripture and to deepen the catechist's enjoyment of God's presence

**Certification:** The National Certificate of Completion will be issued upon the completion of Level I, Parts 1 and 2. The Level I certificate honors your full attendance and participation in the entire Level I course. (Level I Part 2 will be offered from May 31–June 5, 2027.)

**Formation Leader:** Mary Pat Heelan has recently been named a Formation Leader for the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. She studied Elementary Education at Boston College, worked for many years as a kindergarten teacher and has a Masters Degree in Pastoral Ministry from Anna Maria College. She is an Associate Director of Religious Ed for the Diocese of Worcester.

**Tuition:** The tuition for Level I Part 1 Formation for participants working in the Diocese of Worcester, MA will be \$250 which includes a \$35 fee for the National Association of Good Shepherd Certification. Tuition for those outside of the Diocese of Worcester, MA is \$450. *Catechists are also encouraged to become a member of CGS-USA prior to the beginning of the course. Please visit: <https://www.cgsusa.org/connect/become-a-member/>*

**Texts:** We will use three texts for this course. Please let Mary Pat know if you need a book and she will order it for you. *The Religious Potential of the Child 3<sup>rd</sup> edition*, by Sofia Cavalletti, *The Good Shepherd and the Child*, *The Joyful Journey* by Cavalletti and others, and *Nurturing the Whole Child* by Gianna Gobbi.

**Lunch, Snacks, Drinks:** Please bring your own lunch, snacks and drinks with you each day.

**Due Dates:** Registration and Tuition is due on May 15, 2026. Please register using this link:

<https://worcesterdiocese.org/cgs-l-1-n-1-st-joseph-st-stephen-worcester>

**For more information contact:** Mary Pat Heelan [mheelan@worcesterdiocese.org](mailto:mheelan@worcesterdiocese.org) or call 508-929-4302.

# Summer Teen Retreat @ Holy Family!



Dear friends,

If we've not met, my name is Caelie; I am on the Youth & Young Adult Ministry Team at Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center (West Hartford, CT). On behalf of Holy Family, I would love to invite your students (rising freshmen to graduating seniors) to our upcoming **Teen Leadership Retreat, scheduled for June 26-28, 2026.**

This retreat is a unique opportunity for teens to create a memorable faith experience with their peers in a sacred atmosphere, where we will explore Jesus' model of servant leadership. Community-building activities, prayer experiences, and time for personal reflection are key components of the weekend. We also have lots of fun: ice cream sundaes, board games, talent show, crafting, etc!

Our retreat offering is \$175 per person, which covers the cost of programs and presentations, as well as meals and comfortable lodging. **Oftentimes a parish will sponsor one or two students; we encourage you to consider!** There is, however, no limit; we are happy to accept as many students as would be interested in attending. If the \$175 fee is a hardship for the community/for families, please contact me. We never want money to be a deterrent

**We invite you to share this opportunity with your community.** I've attached a few resources below:

- UPDATED marketing materials are linked [here](#). Feel free to adapt and use however you wish!
- More info and registration can be found at [holyfamilyretreat.org/calendar/teen](https://holyfamilyretreat.org/calendar/teen)

As always, please don't hesitate to reach out if you have questions. In the meantime, we wish you and your students a blessed Lent!

Peace in Christ,

Caelie Flanagan  
Youth Ministry & Social Media Marketing  
860.760.9755

Please donate to our [75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Fundraising Campaign](#)

## The Quiet Corner Chapter of the Disabled American Vets



Are you a Veteran who has combat or service related disability and need assistance with filing for Veterans Administration Benefits? Are you interested in learning more? We are looking for you.

Contact:

**Rocky Daigle 860 – 918-0532**

**Barry Bernier 860 – 830-5443**

The Disabled American Veterans are dedicated to a single purpose: empowering Veterans to lead high quality lives with respect and dignity. We accomplish this by making sure Veterans and their families can access the full range of benefits available to them; fighting for the interest of America's injured heroes on Capitol Hill and educating the public about the great sacrifices and needs of Veterans returning to civilian life.



## Office of Faith Events

Diocese of Norwich

Enriching the Faith of Youth, Young Adults, Adults, and Families.

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**Get up to date info on fun,  
faith-filled events!**