



Christ the King Parish

Nourished at the Table of the Lord, we walk as disciples of Jesus Christ, proclaiming what we believe through our every word and deed.

July 27, 2025
17th Sunday
in Ordinary Time

Clergy

Pastor

Rev. Nicholas P. Melo
frnickmelo@gmail.com

Parochial Vicar

Rev. Zacharias Pushpanathan
fr.zacharias@hotmail.com

Senior Priest

Rev. Frederick M. Aniello

Deacon

Keith Griffin
deaconkeithCTK@gmail.com

Mass Schedule

Daily Mass

Mon., Wed., Fri.

9:00 am (INC)

Tues., Thurs., Sat.

7:30 am (CC)

Weekend Mass

Sat. Vigil

4:30 pm (INC)

Sun.

8:00 am (CC)

9:30 am (INC)

11:00 am (CC)

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday, 2:30 pm (CC)

Holy Hour

Saturday, 8:00 – 9:00 am (CC)

First Friday, 6:00 pm (INC)



17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**"He will get up to give him whatever he needs
because of his persistence." - Lk 11:8**

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPI

Website:

christthekingparishct.org

Facebook:

facebook.com/CTKParishCT

Instagram:

Instagram.com/ctkparishct

Corpus Christi Church

601 Silas Deane Highway
Wethersfield, CT 06109

Church of the Incarnation

544 Prospect Street
Wethersfield, CT 06019

Our Parish's Health Clinic: Centro Medico La Amistad- Health Center at Monte de los Olivos, Honduras

Offices: 544 Prospect St., Wethersfield, CT | M-F 8:00am-4:00pm | 860.529.2545

Parish Directory

Parish Staff

Office Staff

Rose Melvin: rose@christthekingparishct.org

Margie Devitt: office@christthekingparishct.org

Pastoral Minister

Audrey Saharek: audrey@christthekingparishct.org

Business Manager

Niki Bordieri

Music Director

Thad Terzo

Sacristan

Toni Munoz (INC)

Communications

Jen Faenza: bulletin@christthekingparishct.org

Plant Managers

Greg Silva (CC)

Phil Pasternak (INC)



Religious

Education

Director

Sharon Reynolds

reled@christthekingparishct.org

Corpus Christi School

Principal

Ann Sarpu

Secretary

Ann Marie Spina

(860) 529-5487

schoolmail@corpuschristischoolct.org

corpuschristischoolct.org

Mass Intentions



Saturday, July 26th

Vigil, 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:30 pm (INC) Elisa Gulioso

Sunday, July 27th

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am (CC) In Memory of Henry Morissette
on his Birthday

9:30 am (INC) Giuseppe Zappulla

11:00 am (CC) 3rd Anniversary of Regina Olesweski

Monday, July 28th

9:00 am (INC) Kathleen Marie Mannello

Tuesday, July 29th

Saints Martha, Mary, and Lazarus

7:30 am (CC) John Saraceno

Wednesday, July 30th

Saint Peter Chrysologus,

Bishop and Doctor of the Church

9:00 am (INC) William Joseph Greiner

Thursday, July 31st

Saint Ignatius of Loyola, Priest

7:30 am (CC) Mary C. Mills

Friday, August 1st

Saint Alphonsus Liguori,

Bishop and Doctor of the Church

9:00 am (INC) Carmen Zeas

Saturday, August 2nd

Saint Eusebius of Vercelli, Bishop;

Saint Peter Julian Eymard, Priest

7:30 am (CC) Intention Available

Saturday, August 2nd

Vigil, 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:30 pm (INC) Alfina Milluzzo

Sunday, August 3rd

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am (CC) Mario Marena

9:30 am (INC) Michael Fuschi

11:00 am (CC) Harold MacDonald



Candles

Sanctuary Candles

July 28 – August 3

Corpus Christi

Burns this week
in memory of
Regina Olesweski

Church of the Incarnation

Intention Available

Blessed Virgin Mary Candles

July 28 – August 3

Corpus Christi

Burns this week
in memory of
Henry Morissette
in honor of his Birthday/
Anniversary

Church of the Incarnation

Intention Available



Parish Events

Friday, August 1st

Lectio Divina: 9:30 am, following Mass
Incarnation Church

Recitation of the Rosary: 12:00 pm
Wethersfield Green

Inclement Weather: Corpus Christi Church

First Friday Holy Hour: 6:00 pm
Incarnation Church



Church of the Incarnation Hours Temporarily Change

From July 18 through August 12, the Church of the Incarnation will be open daily at 8 am and close at 4:30 pm weekdays. Parishioners seeking earlier access to a church can visit the Corpus Christi campus daily from 7:00 am.

It also closes at 4:30 pm weekdays.

Incarnation will continue to close after weekend Masses.

Corpus Christi closes after Saturday confession and at noon on Sundays.

Religious Education:

Registration is Closing Soon!



Christ the King Parish offers an outstanding religious education program to help parents fulfill their promise at their child's baptism: to educate them and help them grow in the faith.

To register your child(ren) you must be a MEMBER of Christ the King Parish.

We are so grateful to our team of volunteers. We are in need of teachers and volunteers.

No experience is necessary.

We would appreciate any help.

Send us an email.

There is no registration fee if you volunteer.

If you have any questions, please email us:
reled@christthekingparishct.org

Bible Study

Will resume again in September.
Stay tuned for details.



Choir Practice

Choir practice will resume in September. Stay tuned for details.



Get Involved: Usher Ministry



Can you explain what the usher ministry is and its role in parish life?

The ushers are the first people Mass attendees see when entering the church. They help provide a welcoming environment to all those attending Mass.

What is the time commitment?

An usher schedule is organized on a monthly basis. You provide your availability and are scheduled accordingly. There are times where additional help is needed – often on Holy Days.

What are some of the key responsibilities of an usher before/during/after Mass?

Ushers arrive to Mass approximately 20 minutes early.

They prepare the collection baskets and get the bulletins so they are ready to be handed out at the end of Mass.

Ideally, we have enough ushers per Mass to cover all entrances to greet people coming into Mass. During Mass, ushers help pass along the collection basket for the one or two collections each weekend. At the conclusion of Mass, the ushers help pass out the bulletins. In addition, ushers then will put away the bulletins and help tidy up the pews.

Who can I contact to get more information or to get involved?

Please contact Bob Uricchio at
connecticutvalleyenergy@gmail.com

Pastor's Corner – July 27

One of my greatest joys that I have as a priest is working with young couples looking to get married in the church. First of all, not many couples get married today – they seem to just prefer to live together. Connecticut actually has the lowest percentage of cohabitating couples who are married of any state in the US! But among those who do get married, even fewer choose to receive the sacrament of Holy Matrimony.

So when a couple calls looking to be married in the church I congratulate them for that choice and look forward to walking with them toward their wedding day.

Part of the preparation process involves watching a series of videos from Dynamic Catholic in which a series of speakers gives a brief presentation about some aspect of married life. I then use that as a springboard for further discussion.

In one of those videos I shared with a couple last week, the topic was Mass attendance. And this young parent spoke about the difficulties of getting to church every week with young children. But he gave the weekly routine he and his wife use, which gave me pause to think that it is a routine that we all could benefit from.

He said that on their way to Mass, his wife would read aloud the scripture passages that will be read in church that week. Then, after Mass, the family goes for doughnuts – not as a reward for going to Mass, but for a chance to go around the table and each member of the family shares what God said to them. You see, if we are open to God speaking to our heart, God will deliver a message to us every time we come to worship Him. So often I hear people – young people especially – say that they get nothing out of Mass.

But the question then becomes, what did you bring to Mass?

What did you converse with God about during Mass?

And how open were you to hearing His voice during Mass?

If we walk in the doors to the church **expecting** that God has something to say to you, you will be much more receptive to hearing what He **does** want to say to you. And if you have taken a few minutes in the course of the week to look at the scripture passages that will be proclaimed, you'll have a head start on hearing His message to you. What did God say to **you** at Mass today?

-Fr. Nick

Christ the King Parish Financial Information

Weekly 7/20/25: \$10,074.00

Online 7/20/25: \$2,887.01

Consider online giving! Sign up on our website!

(www.christthekingparishct.org)

Thank you!

Sick Calls

If a death in your family is imminent, we ask that you please contact the office (860.529.2545) before it becomes an emergency. Thank you.

Has Something Changed?

Have you moved, or changed your telephone number? Do you now use online giving and would rather not receive envelopes anymore? Be sure to call the office: 860 – 529 – 2545 to let us know about the changes in your life so we can update our records.



Children's Bulletins

Children's bulletins are available at the entrances to both church campuses.



Low Gluten Hosts

Both church campuses offer Low Gluten Hosts for parishioners who need them. Please let the presider know prior to Mass of your request.



Gifts at Mass

If you are offering a Mass Intention and you or your loved ones would like to bring up the gifts, please see the ushers prior to the start of Mass.



Solnit Donations Needed!

The Albert J. Solnit Center is looking for community partners to consider donating the following items

for the youth at their Children's Center, South Campus.

The youth at the center are ages 13–18.

The following items are requested:

~Acrylic paints (specifically black and white) and acrylic markers

~Legos – small kits

~Art Canvas – 11 x 14 – no staples or wood

~Snow pant sizes: medium, large, and extra-large pants

~Welcome basket item supplies: Body wash, word search, crossword puzzles, small crayon boxes (16 count), fidgets, toothbrush cases and soap holders

~Theraputty – All Colors

~Gift Cards for Pedometer Walking Challenge: \$10 or \$25 Walmart Gift Cards, \$10 Five Below Gift Cards



*Please drop off your donations to the church offices during business hours
(Monday – Friday; 8:00 – 4:00 pm)*

Branches on the Vine

JULY 26 - AUGUST 1, 2025



Father Michael Ruminski highlights the reclaimed copper baptismal font now in use at Bloomfield's Sacred Heart Church, following a recent church remodel.

PHOTO BY AARON JOSEPH



The renovated sanctuary is now smaller, with an elevated altar and tabernacle, plus new fabric tapestries. PHOTO BY AARON JOSEPH

BLOOMFIELD CHURCH REMODEL BLENDS BEAUTY AND PURPOSE

Elevated on plywood, the sanctuary floor was sagging. The vinyl flooring in the nave had cracked. Over time, a church's structure and beauty show evidence of decades of service and wear.

But after undergoing an interior renovation last fall, Sacred Heart Church in Bloomfield has a new look. Dedicated in 1963, the contemporary-style church has been refreshed with new flooring, an elevated altar, a cleaned-up choir loft and the introduction of old and new artwork.

"It looks beautiful, it's theologically ordered, and it sounds great," says Father Ruminski, who commissioned the work on behalf of the parish. "It's beauty and purpose coming together. I think we accomplished a lot in the renovation to communicate all those things."

As the former pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, Father Ruminski is happy to reflect on last fall's remodel of Sacred Heart Church. However, just this month, he was reassigned to St. Thomas and St. Timothy Parish in West Hartford.

In the meantime, Father Stuart Pinette, the new pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, can look forward to celebrating Mass in a refurbished worship space.

According to Father Ruminski, the Sacred Heart renovation, which took several months to complete, tackled vinyl floors with asbestos, tightly spaced pews, a crowded and cluttered sanctuary, and a dimly lit interior.

The solution? "It became clear the floor was the obstacle to everything," Father Ruminski says. After talking to his contractors, the Sullivan Brothers, the solution was to "pull everything out and rethink the floor plan."

The contractors removed the old vinyl tiles, remediated the asbestos and added brighter gray and cream ceramic tiles throughout the church. They also built a smaller sanctuary floor to better fit the space, then elevated the altar and centered the tabernacle.

With a smaller sanctuary, the original pews could then be respaced with an extra seven inches per row to give parishioners room to maneuver. "It feels more open with the same amount of seating," Father Ruminski notes. New seat cushions added comfort and improved the acoustics.

In the choir loft, organ pipes were repositioned on either side of a window, allowing the light in. This change also created more room in the loft, enabling the choir to relocate from the sanctuary to the loft.

On the main floor, a vintage copper baptismal font replaced the old leaky one. Originally used in Bloomfield's Christ the King Church, which closed in 1996,

the copper baptismal font was found dented and patinaed in Sacred Heart's basement. Refurbished, the font is now positioned at the head of the main aisle of Sacred Heart.

To add more beauty, the priest commissioned New Hampshire artist Eileen Cunis to create fabric tapestries for the sanctuary walls. They include four angels and two saints, Blessed Michael J. McGivney, who is on his way to sainthood, and St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, promoter of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, whose relic is embedded in the altar at Sacred Heart Church.

The altar and tabernacle are now the focus. Statues of Mary and Jesus, once hidden in the back of the church, are now visible in side alcoves.

"The overall effect of the renovation is to give the church a much stronger sense of direction," Father Ruminski says, "that we're oriented, that we have somewhere to go. And that is in union with God, and in communion with Christ."

- Story by Shelley Wolf



Upcoming Events



08/1 FRIDAY 6PM
MASS OF HEALING
St. Peter Church, 99 East Main St,
Torrington

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 with anointing of the sick will be celebrated by Rev. Emmanuel Ihemedu, pastor of St. John Paul the Great Parish in Torrington. The evening begins with the Divine Mercy Chaplet followed by the Mass. Let's come together, share our stories, and experience the transformative power of faith. Remember, Jesus is still in the business of healing.



08/19 TUESDAY 6:30PM-8:00PM
MY WAY WITH FR. RAY KELLY
A BENEFIT CONCERT FOR IMMACARE
PRESENTED BY DR. BARBARA A. CLARK
Northwest Catholic High School, 29
Wampanoag Dr, West Hartford

Fr. Ray Kelly, the world-renowned YouTube sensation and beloved Singing Priest from Ireland, will perform live on Tuesday, August 19, 2025, at 6:30 PM at Northwest Catholic High School in West Hartford, CT in his only Connecticut appearance!

This special nondenominational concert is part of his sixth North American music ministry tour and coincides with the release of his sixth CD, MY WAY. The album features three original songs—Through the Storm, Drift Away and Tears—written and produced by Cross-Light Records, along with the iconic song My Way, performed in English, German, Spanish and Italian. Vocal and instrumental versions will be included.

Fr. Ray's 2025 tour includes stops in Michigan, Ohio, Florida, Connecticut, Cape Cod and New York, and concludes in New Brunswick, Canada. Despite his busy tour schedule, he continues to serve as an active parish priest in Ireland and a member of Saint Patrick's Society for the Foreign Missions, sharing his music ministry across the globe.

100 percent of the proceeds from the West Hartford performance will benefit ImmaCare supporting our mission to serve individuals experiencing homelessness in the Hartford region.

For Ticket Information, scan the QR code:



08/5-9 TUES - SAT 5:30PM
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(10am-1pm AND 5pm-9pm)
Located in the Church Hall.

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Scan the QR code
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can make a
lasting impact!



SCAN ME

Total Goal: \$10M

88.33% as of 7/15/25
\$8,833,340.47 pledges from
26,378 generous donors

www.archdioceseofhartford.org/appeal



Social Action Committee

Update on our Parish Health Clinic



Medico Centro la Amistad, our parish health clinic in Honduras has moved to its new location, the village of Las Brisas, and our staff started seeing patients there on Monday, July 14th. We had to move the clinic because in the past year, gang violence increased tremendously in the surrounding area of the old clinic, increasing the danger of the patients and staff coming and going. Because of this, the staff and we as American founders and administrators of the clinic agreed that we



need to move it to a safer location. The 3 of us Americans who started the clinic in 2015 were able to watch the opening ceremonies on video via What's App. The community of Las Brisas is thrilled to have the clinic in their village. Many members of the community worked on their community center building, along with the contractors, to transform it into a suitable, safe and secure place for the clinic.



The walls, benches, shelving, medical furniture and equipment were able to be reused from the old clinic. In February 2025, when the clinic first opened, the 3 American founders, our initial Honduran staff and the village community leader, all signed one of the walls. We were so surprised, pleased and very touched to see that our staff cut out this piece of wall and had it framed and it now hangs in the new clinic. Please pray for the success of our clinic in this new location and that more patients will seek care there because they will now be safe and not have to worry about travelling through the fields of palm trees on the outskirts of the old clinic where the gangs had taken over.



Fixes That Fail

Many of us are familiar with the ASTERIX comics. The different characters depicted in these series unanimously hate the Romans Empire. Obelix is a strong man whose occupation is selling useless Menhirs (cone-shaped stone). The Roman Emperor who feared these fearless Asterix Gang, decided to appease them by buying menhirs from him. Seeing that he was earning lots of money, the others in his village also started supplying menhirs to the romans. The result was an entrepreneurial disaster; Hundreds and thousands of good-for-nothing menhirs filled his palace courtyard !! A perfect example of "Fixes that fail."

At the end of the 19th century, during French colonial rule, rats plagued Hanoi. Driven by the desire to modernize the city, the Governor-General instituted a bounty program. Citizens were paid a small amount of money for each rat they killed. However, given the health risks, the colonial government didn't want piles of rat corpses to be handed over to officials.

So instead they paid locals for every rat tail they brought in. The tails soon became an object of value.

The rat hunters soon realized that they didn't have to kill the rodents. A released rat with a cut-off tail could breed again and produce more valuable tails. Needless to say, the bounty failed to achieve the desired results.

The rat plague was now worse than before.

Beware of Menhir Effects and the unintended negative consequences of your intervention.

Good counselling and foresight are the viable solutions to avoid adverse consequences in life.

Be prudent! Avoid disaster!!

-Fr. Zack



Get Involved

First Friday Holy Hour

6:00 – 7:00 pm at Incarnation Chapel



Rosary for Peace

(M, W, F) 8:30 am (INC.)

(Tues, Thurs.) 8:30 am,

Chapel (INC.)

(Tues, Thurs, Sat) 7:05 am (CC)

Parish Registration-Welcome!



Looking to update your parish registration?

Or register with Christ the King Parish?

See our website for the form
christthekingparishct.org

Livestream Mass

Available live on our YouTube page:
youtube.com/@christthekingparishweth



Tues, Thurs, Sat: 7:30 am (CC)

Sun: 11:00 am (CC)

Newsletter

Subscribe to our monthly newsletter to stay up to date with all parish happenings!

Sign up on our website.

christthekingparishct.org

Sacraments

Baptism

Celebrated during any of the Masses.
Pre-registration required. Call the church office.

Weddings

Call the church office at least 6 months prior.

Anointing of the Sick

We are honored to visit the sick or homebound for Communion or Anointing.
Call the office to schedule.
Please see a priest after Mass before a scheduled surgery for the Anointing as well.

MyParish App

Download the free "myParish" app and favorite Christ the King as your parish of choice.

The App provides our Bulletin, Mass and Confession times, as well as opportunities to read daily Mass readings and set prayer reminders.



*iPhone Users
Scan Here!*



*Android Users
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Interested in Joining a Ministry?

Below is a contact list for our various ministries.

Lector:

Felix Kessel: fkessel424@gmail.com

Religious Education:

Sharon Reynolds: reled@christthekingparishct.org

Altar Servers:

Fred Kuo: fredjkuo@hotmail.com

Ushers:

Bob Uricchio: connecticutvalleyenergy@gmail.com

Choir:

Thad Terzo: thaddeusjay@gmail.com

Prayer Shawl:

Mary Scott: mlvscott33@yahoo.com



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Archbishop's Annual Appeal

It is fundamental that when you give to any charitable organization, you are confident the funds are used wisely. Be assured that your gift to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal supports the Catholic ministries and programs as indicated in the 2025 Appeal literature, which can be found at <https://archdioceseofhartford.org/appeal/>.

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

Community Events



- My Way with Fr. Ray Kelly - A Benefit Concert for ImmaCare

Presented by Dr. Barbara A. Clark

Tuesday, August 19, 2025

6:30- 8:00 pm; Doors open at 6:00 pm

Northwest Catholic High School, West Hartford



Fr. Ray Kelly – the beloved Singing Irish Priest from Britain's Got Talent – will perform live on at Northwest Catholic High School in West Hartford in his only Connecticut appearance!

One hundred percent of the proceeds from this special nondenominational concert Will support ImmaCare and our mission to serve individuals experiencing homelessness.

To purchase tickets and to learn more, visit: <https://immacare.org/fr-ray-concert/>

Or scan the QR Code. Tickets start at \$25.

Contact Teresa Wierbicki with any questions: twierbicki@immacare.org

Don't miss this unforgettable evening of music and purpose! Through nondenominational concerts, the Fr. Ray Kelly Music Ministry promotes friendship, love and courage- while supporting charitable causes.

Our Lady of Sorrows School Alumni: Save the Date!

On Sunday, September 14, 2025, at 10:00 AM, Archbishop Christopher Coyne will celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving in honor of the 100th anniversary of Our Lady of Sorrows Church located at 79 New Park Avenue in Hartford, CT. The annual parish picnic will follow the Mass in both the Church Hall, and weather permitting, outside, too. ALL are welcome, especially ALL alumni and former teachers from OLS School (1907-1992). Email Fr. Dan Valente, fr.Valente@aohct.org or contact the OLS parish office for more info, M-F from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm; (860) 233-4424.



Enrollment is Now Open!

Enroll in the New England Catholic Biblical School to study all 73 books of the Bible!

Unlock the meaning and purpose of your life! In-person and online classes begin September 6, 2025. For more information visit www.NewEnglandCatholicBiblicalSchool.com.

Tentative locations for Fall Classes:

New Class! Online (virtual), Spanish, Monday 6:30 – 8:30 pm

1. St. Thomas Seminary, Bloomfield, Monday 10 – 12 pm
2. Sacred Heart, Bloomfield, Tuesday 6:30–8:30 pm
3. St. Aloysius, Plantsville, Monday 10–12 pm
4. Prince of Peace, (Hybrid) Woodbury, Monday 10–12 pm
5. O.L. of Fatima, Wallingford, Tuesday 10–12 pm
6. Online (virtual), Thursday 6:30–8:30 pm





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Christ the King Parish

Energy Challenge

HCP will donate \$25 to your parish for every energy audit it completes for parish members and friends. Scan this QR code, submit the application, start saving money on electric and heating bills.

(We encourage sharing this QR code with family, neighbors, and friends to maximize your church donation. This promotion ends October 31st, 2025.)



Energy Audits
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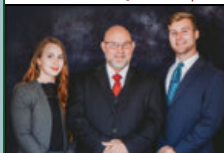
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