

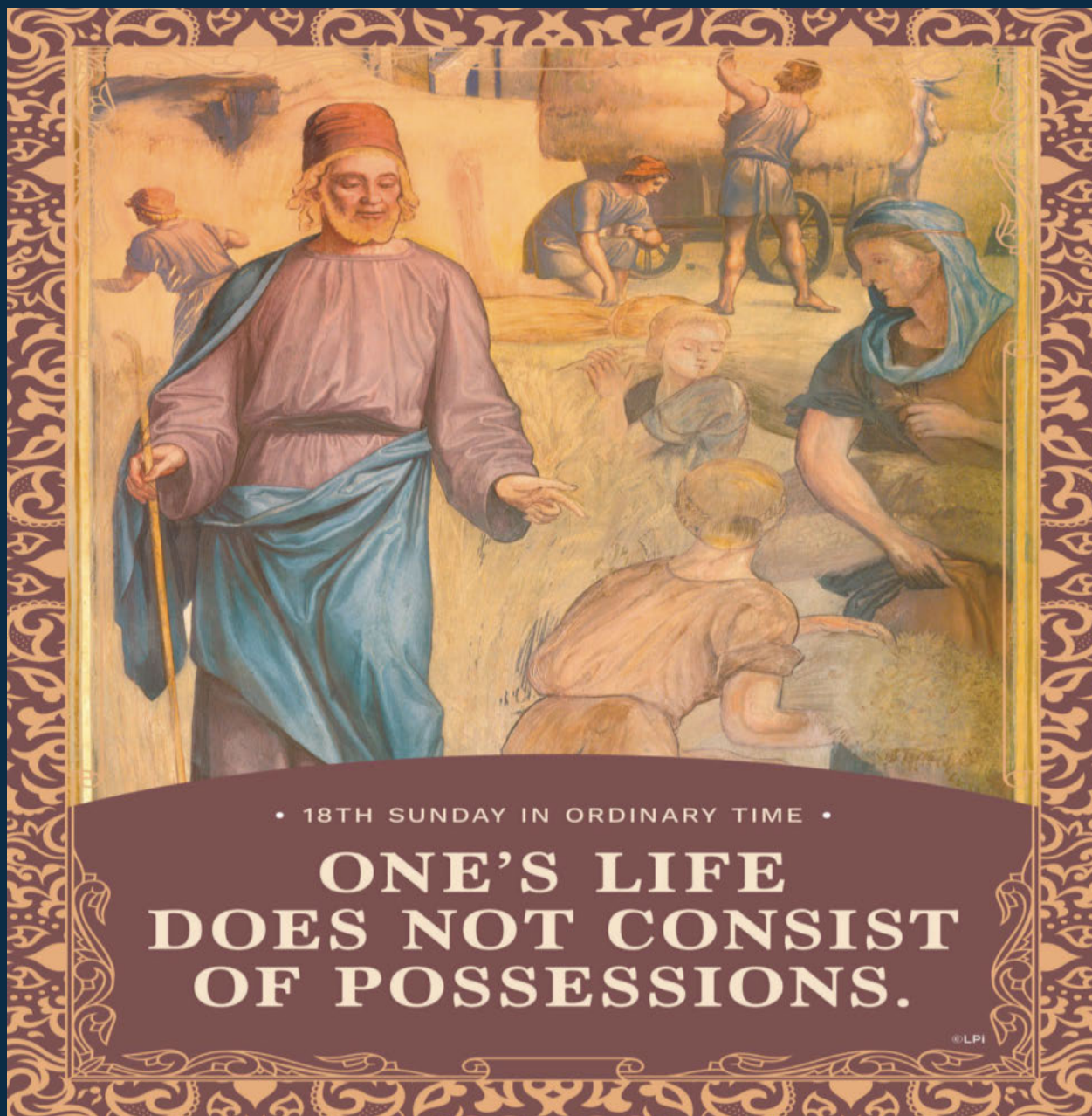


ST. ROSE OF LIMA

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

AUGUST 3, 2025



• 18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME •

ONE'S LIFE DOES NOT CONSIST OF POSSESSIONS.

©LPI

MASS SCHEDULE

SUNDAY 4:00 PM (SAT) 7:30 9:30 AM
11:30 AM 5:00 PM
DAILY (M-F) 6:45 9:00 AM
SAT/HOLIDAY 8:00 AM
HOLY DAY 7:30 PM (VIGIL) 6:45 9:00 AM
5:30 PM

REGISTRATION

ALL PARISHIONERS ARE ASKED TO FORMALLY REGISTER WITH THE PARISH AS REQUIRED TO RECEIVE MAILINGS, SPONSOR CERTIFICATES, AND SACRAMENTS. VISIT THE WEBSITE OR CALL THE OFFICE.

46 CHURCH HILL ROAD, NEWTOWN CT, 06470
203-426-1014 FAX 203-426-6222

STROSECHURCH.COM



Mass Intentions for the Week



Monday, August 4

6:45 Ann Mennino Joan Gilbertie
9:00 Intentions of Kaitlin Field The Taylor Family

Tuesday, August 5

6:45 Intentions of St. Rose Parishioners
9:00 Intentions of Anita Pisani The Cincotta Family
Isabelle Koehler Brian & Mariotte Corson

Wednesday, August 6

6:45 Intentions of St. Rose Parishioners
9:00 Felix Talamo Family
Intentions of Joe & Sandra Pisani . . . The Cincotta Family

Thursday, August 7

6:45 Intentions of St. Rose Parishioners
9:00 Dick Giannettino The Gingras Family
Isabelle Koehler & deceased members of Prayer
Shawl Ministry Prayer Shawl Ministry

Friday, August 8

6:45 Intentions of St. Rose Parishioners
9:00 Noreen Lewis Pat Conway
Richard Allaire Michele Castagna

Saturday, August 9

8:00 Intentions of St. Rose Parishioners
4:00 Florence & Bill Ramsey Nancy & Bill Ramsey
Vito & Giovanna Forchione and Ralph & Dorris
Drew Toni & Tom Drew

Sunday, August 10

7:30 Delores Miller The Kirrane Family
Arthur & Arline Babiak Anna & Jim Boland
9:30 John Lipusz, Jr. The Fiaccone Family
William Lavery Barbara Brimmer
11:30 Jimmy McNamara Friends
Mario Ribeiro Family
5:00 Anna Accomando The Lansing Family
Carol Hubbard Grace Scharr McEnaney
Intentions of Betty Doty Debbie & Tim Reilly

The Sanctuary Candle

will be lit this week in memory of Ann Mennino as requested by Joan Gilbertie.

Bethany Mass

Our parish family will always remember in our hearts and minds those persons who have gone on to the heavenly banquet. On Sunday, August 3rd, at the 9:30 AM Mass, we celebrate in a special way Joan Ancona, Maureen Engel, Isabelle Koehler, Rita Marie Millo, and Ralph Savarese, whom we have served since our last Bethany Mass. Although we miss their presence among us, we rejoice that they are with the Lord. We also want their families and friends to know that we are here to support them. Please continue to pray for all our deceased, their families, and their friends.

RECONCILIATION

Celebrated Saturdays 3:00 - 4:00PM or by special appointment with one of the priests.

BAPTISM

Celebrated on Sundays at 1:00PM. A pre-Baptism class is required. For other important parent and sponsor related prerequisites, please go to strosechurch.com/baptism.

FIRST COMMUNION, FIRST RECONCILIATION, and CONFIRMATION

Religious education classes may begin at age 5. First Grade is prerequisite for First Reconciliation and First Communion. Attendance is required in each grade for reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation in Grade 7. For more information go to strosechurch.com, click on Sacraments.

MARRIAGE

Contact the Rectory to make arrangements at least six months prior to the wedding date. For all other important pre-requisites for the marriage sacrament, go to strosechurch.com/marriage.

ANointing OF THE SICK

Please call the Rectory to receive this sacrament or to have Holy Communion brought to your home.

MORNING PRAYER

Weekdays at 8:40AM.

SAINT ROSE CEMETERY

Located at the corner of Cherry and Black Cherry Streets in Sandy Hook. For more information contact the Rectory.

SAINT ROSE RECTORY

Office hours are 9AM to 4PM Monday-Friday. Summer hours 9AM to 2PM Mon-Thurs and 9AM to 12:30PM Fri.

Your Weekly Offertory

can be made here:

Just scan the code and choose *Sunday Offertory* and any other cause you'd like to support.
Thank you!



A MESSAGE FROM *Father Peter*

DIS versus TRANS-Figured

On August 6th the Church celebrates the Feast of the Transfiguration when Jesus went up to a high mountain and was “transfigured” before his apostles; “his face shone like the sun, and his garments became a white as light”.

This moment of the Transfiguration would eventually remind the Apostles that there is more to Jesus than meets the eye; that, though He appears to be just an ordinary man, as the Transfiguration attests to, He is also and always God. Though it will later appear to them that Jesus has died upon the Cross and with His death any hope for the definitive triumph of good over evil, Jesus still remains God despite that Cross, despite that death and three days later will demonstrate the ultimate power of His Incarnation by rising from and hence destroying death that we might now live forever in eternal peace and joy.

In Scripture, often the Jewish people would offer to God as a means of reparation for their sins what is called a burnt offering or holocaust. Jesus is of course the ultimate holocaust, the ultimate offering to God the Father for the reparation of all the sins of humanity; this is the whole foundation of redemption: to purchase something for a price. Our salvation is purchased at the ultimate price of God's life in the person, suffering, and death of His Son Jesus Christ.

The word Holocaust as we know in these past two centuries has horrific associations tied to it: the horrors of World War II and the too many Concentration Camps built for the systematic extermination of the Jewish People. And then there is the Atomic Holocaust unleashed during that same hellish war.

August 6th is also the day when we remember the Atomic Bomb being dropped over Hiroshima and three days later Nagasaki. In an instant nearly 200,00 people were killed, not including the many who would eventually suffer and die from radiation sicknesses. The world seemed to once more be standing at Calvary wondering what, if any, power Jesus had left. How could one's faith and hope in Christ not be shaken as once more it seemed as though evil had gained and won the upper hand over goodness, beauty, love, peace and mercy?

Emerging from the ashes of this Holocaust there was one voice in particular who had the courage and for many others the audacity to address the significance of these terrible events; when the Nagasaki blast occurred, Dr. Nagai was working in the x-ray department that he had helped found at the Nagasaki Medical University, a half-mile from the epicenter. Though the blast did not completely level the reinforced concrete hospital, 80 percent of the occupants were killed.

Nagai lived with his two young children in a primitive hut and spent these post bombing years devoted to helping the victims of the atomic bomb, partly by writing books on the topic. One of his books, *The Bells of Nagasaki*, evoked an extraordinarily deep response in the hearts of the Japanese people who rediscovered in this book something they had long lost through war—love.

Asked by the bishop to speak at the funeral Mass for the victims held in the courtyard of the bombed cathedral, Nagai prayed for guidance on something meaningful to say.

“At midnight that night, our cathedral suddenly burst into flames and was consumed. At exactly the same time in the Imperial Palace, His Majesty the Emperor made known his sacred decision to end the war. On August 15, the Imperial Rescript, which put an end to the fighting, was formally promulgated, and the whole world saw the light of peace. August 15 is also the great feast of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary. It is significant, I believe, that the Urakami cathedral was dedicated to her. We must ask: was this convergence of events, the end of the war and the celebration of her feast day, merely coincidental, or was it the mysterious Providence of God?”

Is there not a profound relationship between the annihilation of Nagasaki and the end of the war? Was not Nagasaki the chosen victim, the lamb without blemish, slain as a whole burnt offering on the altar of sacrifice, atoning for the sins of all the nations during World War II?”

Nagai used *hansai*, the Japanese word for the Bible's “holocaust,” or whole burnt offering. Some of the congregation stood up and shouted in protest that Nagai should try to dignify with pious words the atrocity perpetrated on their families. He continued with a quiet authority that compelled silence.

“We are inheritors of Adam's sin...of Cain's sin.... Hating one another, killing one another!... but mere repentance was not enough for peace.... We had to offer a stupendous sacrifice...Only this *hansai* in Nagasaki sufficed, and at that moment God inspired our Emperor to issue the sacred proclamation that ended the war... Here was the one pure lamb that had to be sacrificed as *hansai* on His altar. Let us be thankful that through this sacrifice, peace was granted to the world and religious freedom to Japan.”

When Nagai finished and sat down the silence was deep.

As Christians, especially, our lives must be holocausts in the sense of offering each moment, good and bad, to God the Father in Jesus Christ for the salvation of souls and to help repair the damage caused by sin and suffering.

In other words, not only attend Mass but actually live it. When the Priest elevates the Host and Chalice together before the great Amen...let us imagine that we are being elevated with those we love as an offering of love and mercy with Jesus to the Father: Through Him, with Him and in Him in the unity of the Holy Spirit all glory and honor is yours Almighty Father forever and ever. Amen.





Regular Meetings

Adoration.

Worship the Lord Tuesdays at 7:00PM (Confession available), Thursdays/Fridays at 3:00PM, and first Fridays from 10:00AM-4:00PM in church.

Cancer Support Group.

Meets second Wednesday of month at 7:00PM via Zoom.

Columbiettes.

Meets the fourth Thursday of the month at 7:00PM in Knights Hall.

Communion and Liberation (C&L).

Meets every Wednesday evening at 7:00PM via Zoom.

Children's Rosary.

Meets every third Thursday of the month during school season in the church at 4:30PM.

Divine Mercy Cenacle.

Meets on the third Wednesday of the month at 3:00PM in the Chapel.

Family Life Ministry.

Meets the first Monday of each month at 7:00PM in the Rectory conference room. Off for the summer. Rosary for Life after 8:00AM Mass every First Saturday.

Health Ministry.

Meets quarterly, meeting place and time to be determined.

Job Networking.

Meets the second Tuesday of the month via Zoom. Guest speakers featured.

Kennedy Rosary Project

Meets the first Monday of each month at 7:00PM at 38 Church Hill Road.

Knights of Columbus.

Meets the first Thursday of every month at 7:00PM in Knights Hall.

Lay Missionaries of Charity.

Meets on the first Tuesday of each month after 9:00AM Mass and 5:30PM in the Bride's Room. Holy Hour in the church every 3rd Monday of the month at 7:00PM.

Men's Faith Network.

Meets every Saturday at 7:30AM via Zoom.

Rosary Prayer Group.

Pray the Rosary in front of the Blessed Mother after 9:00AM Mass weekdays, 8AM Mass Saturdays.

Spiritual Journey.

Meets every Thursday at 10:15 in Holy Innocents bldg.

Squires.

Meets the first Wednesday of the month at 7:30PM in Knights Hall.

United Youth Ministry.

Meets most Sundays at 6:30PM on Parish grounds.

Women's Club.

Meets every second Tuesday to pray the Rosary following 9:00AM Mass in the Bride's Room, breakfast afterward. Book Group meets third Thursday at 10:00AM in Holy Innocents bldg, Sept-May. Bring Your Own Lunch gathering, Sept-May, first Thursday at 11:30AM in Holy Innocents bldg.

Women's Enrichment Book Study.

Meets Tuesdays at 9:45AM in Holy Innocents bldg.

Walking with Purpose.

Women's guided Bible Study meets Tuesdays at 7:00PM or Wednesdays at 10:00AM.

Find the details! for all ministries
including contact info at strosechurch.com

Project Rachel

Are you or someone you know experiencing pain and sorrow from losing a child to abortion? You are not alone! For information and resources or to find out about our upcoming local Days of Prayer and Healing, contact Maureen at 203.416.1619 or projectrachel@diobpt.org. God's mercy, healing, and forgiveness are waiting for you!

Sheila and Cosmo Civala repair donated broken rosaries to be redistributed. May be dropped off at the Rel. Ed office or left inside the front storm door of 139 Louis Hill Rd, Sandy Hook.

The Columbiettes collect christening/baptism gowns and outfits for girls and boys, any size, which may be dropped off at the rectory. Contact Janis at 203-470-5651.

Widow's Watch prayer group will pray for your petitions submitted through the box in the vestibule.





Watch...Listen...live and archive.

Go to Strosechurch.com/live-stream. Watch daily and weekend Mass plus Catholic community content on audio-only stream from the Vatican and other sources. Special celebrations at St. Rose can be live-streamed for a fee. We are always looking for operators. Call the office for all the info.

Stay Connected with St. Rose Parish.

We share current updates, happenings, and important announcements on social media, our website, and email. Write to Content@strosechurch.com to get on our Parish email list and go to strosechurch.com to connect via Facebook, Instagram, X, and YouTube.

Use Online Giving.

It's easy to give to the many causes at St. Rose Parish. Our online giving page is easy to use - make one-time donation or set-up recurring payments. Go to strosechurch.com and click on Giving to start!

Get VIRTUS trained to be a volunteer.

In compliance with Diocesan Safe Environment Policy. If you wish to help in any way within the Parish please register at virtus.org. If you attended the class more than 5 years ago, you need to be recertified. Call the office with questions or help.

Have a Minute?

It only takes that long to watch a weekly spiritual and inspirational message from Fr. Peter. In our **Fr. Cip Clips** series Fr. Peter offers thoughts and reflections on what it means to live a faith-filled life as a Roman Catholic and navigate through the challenging world around us. See it on strosechurch.com and all our social media channels.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

What does God want for your relationship with your spouse? Learn His plan on the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience. Dates to sign up are:
August 15-17, 2025 at Holy Family Retreat Center in West Hartford, CT

September 19-21 in Huntington, NY

Worldwide Marriage Encounter sponsors a variety of weekend or weeklong in-person and virtual marriage experiences. 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 wwmectw.org

Bereavement Counseling and Funeral Planning.

Please call the office to schedule a meeting with Sister Mary Ellen Genova.

Health Ministry.

- ♦ The Health Council supports health-related special events and services.
- ♦ Seminars on informative health topics are scheduled periodically. See the website for details.

Friendly Visitors.

Spend time once a month with elderly who are isolated at home.

Lift-A-Spirit Meal Ministry.

Make a home cooked meal for parishioners facing chronic illness or medical emergencies.

Pastoral Visits.

We bring Communion to parishioners who are homebound, hospitalized, or not able to attend Mass for any reason.

Prayer Shawl Ministry.

Volunteers meet on the second Tuesday, September to November and February to May, in Holy Innocents Building at 10:00AM. Requests for a prayer shawl for someone who is ill, grieving, or lonely are welcome any time.

Social Concerns Committee.

Help support parishioners and neighbors in need.

- ♦ Volunteers meet first Tuesday of every month (except July/August) at 11:30AM in Holy Innocents Building.
- ♦ Religious Articles are sold in the vestibule every third weekend of the month.
- ♦ Cares Box is always in the back of the Church for donations.
- ♦ **Parishioner to Parishioner:** Know someone who needs household furniture? Please email Robinlynann@aol.com or call the rectory. Families that are moving or downsizing have furnishings to offer!

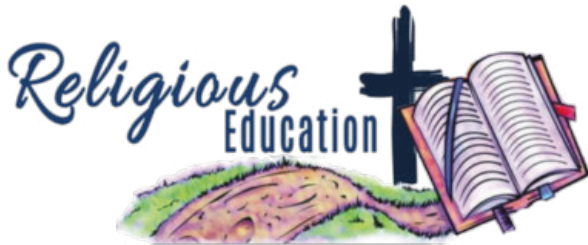
St. Joseph Project.

Supports parishioners who have housing issues due to job loss, illness, or unexpected emergency. Donations accepted on the fourth Sunday of the month in the house shaped collection box in the vestibule.

Contact Us! for a directory of all

Outreach Ministries: Go to strosechurch.com/parish-outreach for contact names, numbers, and email.



**Mark your calendars:**

Mandatory Meeting of All Catechists - Sun, Sept 14, 1:00 pm (in HI)
 New Catechist Meeting/Training - Tues, Sept 16, 7:00 pm (in HI)
 Homeschool Parents Meeting (Student workbooks will be distributed) - Wed, Sept 24, 7:00 pm (in HI)
 First week of Religious Ed classes - Sept 28, 9:15 am; Sept 29 and 30, 4:30 pm (all buildings)

Please see our full calendar on the Religious Education webpage for more dates and details.

VBS Thanks and Gratitude As we now close out the month of July, our hearts are full of gratitude for the many blessings God has graced on our Vacation Bible School.

First, thank you to all of the parents who registered and brought their children each day. The campers were exceptionally kind, joyful and faith-filled. From our five year olds (who knew their prayers and said them with confidence), to our fifth graders (who showed us the joy of working together and making new friends), we knew that the Holy Spirit filled our Gathering Hall.

Next, thank you to our numerous student leaders who worked at Recreation, Music, Bible Lesson, Crafts, and Snack or as Crew Leaders to engage students in conversation, assist students in the classrooms, led students to the next sessions/locations, and/or offered their help with many tasks, we are grateful for the faith and kindness that lives in each of you.

We were blessed with staff and security team members that were present every day, including Father Peter, Father CJ, Father Vu, John Imbimbo, Mary Craig, Christine Arsentales, Tiffany and Rob Hawley, Rick Wood, and Rich Colonel. Thank you all!

Finally, our gratitude to the leaders and adult volunteers that ran VBS that were the backbone of our week: Erin Harrington, Kelly Cintron, Tara Walsh, Karen Johnson, Carole Egan, Maria Palmisani, Mikayla James, Gwen Melton, Katie Wardowski, Edi Poidomani, and Nancy Ramsey. Your time and talents are greatly appreciated. Thank you for helping us find the True North. God bless.

Religious Education is still looking for catechists. Current openings are as follows:

Sunday:

Grade 6 - 1 catechist

Monday:

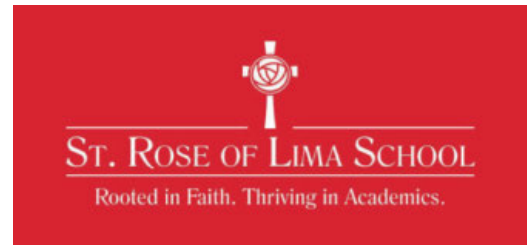
Grade 1 - 1 catechist
 Grade 2 - 1 catechist
 Grade 5 - 1 catechist aide
 Grade 7 - 1 catechist

Tuesday:

Grade 5 - 1 catechist;
 Journey of Faith (8-11)

*Journey of Faith applies to ages 8-11 that need to be caught up to the appropriate level of catechesis, and may or may not need sacraments.

Please contact the Religious Ed office at (203)426-2333 for more information.

**St. Rose of Lima School – Where Students Bloom in Mind, Heart & Soul!**

Looking for a school that nurtures your child's faith, intellect, and character? **St. Rose of Lima School** is now enrolling students from **Preschool through 8th Grade** for the **2025–2026 school year!**

At St. Rose, we combine strong academic foundations with daily instruction in the Catholic faith, fostering a loving environment where students grow spiritually and academically.

What makes us unique?

- **Faith at the center** of each day
- **Challenging academics** led by caring, experienced teachers
- A close-knit **community that values service, leadership, and kindness**
- A **growing athletics program**—cheer, volleyball, basketball, and more
- **Creative and engaging extracurriculars** in the arts, STEM, and beyond

We invite you to discover the St. Rose difference—a place where students don't just learn, they bloom.

Schedule a tour of the school, and experience the St. Rose difference. Learn more at www.stroseschool.com or contact us at 203-426-5102 or email admissions@srles.com

At St. Rose School, your child will Bloom in Heart, Mind and Soul.

Summer Office Hours:

Monday–Thursday, 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Please note: The school will be closed August 4th–8th for cleaning.

Backpack Blessing Weekend of August 16th and 17th!

For those soon to be returning to school, how better to do so than with a protective blessing that covers the entirety of the school year? Attending Mass, please bring your backpack to receive the blessing, or if you are not able to bring the actual backpack, you may still receive a blessing to attach to it later.





Annual School Supply Collection

for St. Rose
Religious
Education
Classes and
Bridgeport's
Inner-City
Schools.



Supplies
will be
collected
Aug 1 - 31.

*Donation bins will be located in
the church - at all entrances,
and at the Religious Education
office entrance (back door).*

THANK YOU

St. Catherine Academy in Fairfield

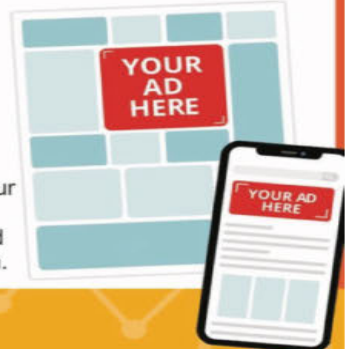
has limited openings for Fall 2025 for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities, including autism. With a 3:1 student to staff ratio, on-site therapies and a supportive community, each learner receives a personalized path to growth. An Adult Day Program after age 22 is available for those who qualify. Scan the QR code or call Lisa Lanni, Director of Education, at 203-540-5381 for more information.



AVAILABLE NOW! PRINT & DIGITAL AD SPACES

Build your business and help us grow a vibrant faith community!

Mary Hoffman from LPi, our bulletin printer, will be securing new ads for our church in the coming weeks. As a valuable member of the business community, we invite you to expand your reach and grow your business with a print ad in our parish bulletin and/or a digital ad featured on ParishesOnline.com.



Mary Hoffman
(860) 836-8486
MHoffman@4lpi.com



Saint Rose of Lima Parish

2025 Bishop's Appeal as of 7/25/25

Bishop's Appeal Goal:	\$204,500
Total Pledged:	\$240,252 (117%)
Donors to Date:	402 Donors

To make a gift, or for more information, please visit us at 2025BishopsAppeal.org, call (203) 416-1470 or scan with your phone.





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September 20th

9:00am – 2:00pm

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Summer Office Hours

M-TH: 9am - 2pm

F: 9am - 12:30pm

starting

JUNE 2nd





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 Rev. Cajetan Oleaghara (Fr. CJ), Parochial Vicar
 Rev. Msgr. Robert Weiss, D.Min, LCHS, Pastor Emeritus
 Deacon Norman Roos
 Deacon Michael Ronan
 Sr. Mary Ellen Genova, CSFN, Outreach Ministry

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 Kelly Gerbo, Receptionist
 Larry Rice, Bookkeeper
 Elizabeth Ludanyi, Bulletin Editor
 David Cicchesi, Maintenance

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William McCarthy ~ James Gerbo

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 Marge Griffin, Extraordinary Minister Coordinator
 Michael Talluto, Reader Coordinator
 Terry Tortora, Altar Angels

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 Mary Jo Bokuniewicz, Dean of Students
 Sr. Thaddeus Rajca, CSFN, Religion Coordinator
 Crystal Mok, Admissions Director
 Lisa Jackson, Mission Advancement
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 Carrie Sirois & Michelle McRuiz, HSA Co-Presidents

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 Laura DeFelice, Gr K - 3, First Communion
 Mary Craig, Gr 4 - 8, Confirmation
 Silvia Harper, Registration/Database Mgmt.
 Donna Locke, R.C.I.A. Coordinator
 Deacon Norman Roos, Adult Formation Coord.

Youth Ministry

Renzo Ortega, United High School Youth Minister

Finance Council

Don Studley, 203 426-3651

Security

Christopher Locke, Security Team Leader

Contact

Rectory Office	203 426-1014
Outreach Ministry Office	203 426-2572
St. Rose School Office	203 426-5102
St. Rose Religious Ed. Office	203 426-2333
All Ministries/ leaders	www.strosechurch.com

Latest billboard sponsored by the Family Life Ministry, located southbound on Rt-25 in Newtown, just past Sandhill Plaza:



Northern Fairfield Professionals Meeting

5:30 - 8 pm, August 12, Knights of Columbus building
 Topic: Tools and Techniques to Unleash AI for the Jobseeker

As jobseekers go through the whole cycle from writing a resume to landing a job, leveraging AI and free tools can get you a leg up as a candidate. In this session we will review AI tools and techniques that can help you at each step of the job seeking process: creating an ATS ready resume that matches the JD, upskilling to be AI ready, interviewing tips (including research on the company and interviewers), presenting yourself to the hiring team, and negotiating the job offer when you get it.

Guest speaker: Santhosh Kumar Velu, widely known as Sam, an AI Consultant & Evangelist dedicated to harnessing the transformative power of artificial intelligence. With a passion for innovation and technology, he specializes in strategizing and advising businesses on how to improve their operational efficiency by leveraging AI. His focus is on "Unleashing the Power of AI Automation", a pursuit that combines cutting-edge technology with practical business applications to drive growth, enhance productivity, and foster sustainable competitive advantages. He has been in the staffing industry for more than 25 years doing agency recruiting for IT.

To receive an NFP Evite email and other information on upcoming NFP meetings, please email johnbarryitech@gmail.com

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- Periodontal Gum Therapy
- Orthodontics
- Full Mouth Rehabilitation

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