

Elementary Faith Formation Program: The Diocese has asked that we change the name of our parish religious education programs to Faith Formation. This is to foster, guide and support the endeavor of life-long formation in the teachings of Christ and all aspects of the Catholic Faith on both the parish and diocesan levels. It includes Family Formation, Elementary Formation, Youth Formation, Young Adult Formation, Marriage Preparation and Respect Life.

Registration for 2017-2018: All parish children are expected to attend religion classes every year from Grades 1 through 8. Kindergarteners are welcome. Registration forms were given or sent to all families who have children currently in our program. New students are always welcome and information and forms may be obtained by calling (203-378-7407) or emailing Sister Joseph Therese at DREHolyName@gmail.com If you know of anyone who may have children entering kindergarten or first grade please pass on this information and ask them to call or email Sister Joseph Therese. She will then send them the forms.



The Holy Name of Jesus Church Annual Appeal continues. As of July 31, we have received 1 gift of \$2000, 3 gifts of \$1000, 1 gift of \$750, 3 gifts of \$500, 35 gifts of \$100-\$500, and 86 gifts of \$1 - \$75 for a total of \$15,009.

This vital **PARISH appeal** enables us to care for the interior and exterior upkeep and repairs of the church, rectory, school, hall and convent buildings. There are many costly projects we would like to see accomplished and only with your generous, sacrificial gift can we accomplish immediate and necessary work and look to future Parish projects. Please use the green HNJ parish annual appeal envelope found in your recent mailing or if you do not have church envelopes, use a plain envelope and place your gift in the offertory basket. Thank you for your continued support of our beautiful HNJ parish buildings and grounds.

Mercy Learning Center, located at 637 Park Ave. in Bridgeport is seeking volunteers to teach English Language Learners, as well as adult basic reading and math in its one-on-one or small group tutoring program. Tutors meet with their students at the Center twice weekly, for two hours each session. The Center is open Mon.-Fri. between 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM. Over 950 students benefited from the MLC tutoring program last year. A one-day training session is required for all new tutors; teaching experience is not necessary. **Upcoming training sessions will take place on Mon., Aug. 28, Fri., Sept 8 and Fri., Sept. 29 from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM.** Lunch will be provided. For more info or to register for a training session please contact: Lynn Gabriel or Erica Hoffman 203-334-6699 lynn.gabriel@mercylearningcenter.org erica.hoffman@mercylearningcenter.org

Man: What is a million years like to you?

God: Like one second.

Man: What is a million dollars like to you?

God: Like one penny.

Man: Can I have a penny?

God: Just a second.



<http://epicpew.com>

The **Stratford Health Department** has partnered with **Connecticut Food Bank** to host a site for the food bank's mobile food pantry program on **Tuesday, August 8 at Holy Name of Jesus Church from 3:30 PM to 4:30 PM** to distribute a variety of free fresh and nutritious food to both individuals and families. The mobile pantry will include items such as dairy, vegetables, fruit, whole grains, and other perishable items. The Connecticut Food Bank Mobile Pantry program addresses the need to decrease food insecurity by minimizing major barriers, such as transportation and cost associated with purchasing fresh food. **There are NO requirements (paperwork or ID's) necessary to receive help.**



Understanding Islam – Imam Sami Abdul Aziz, Wesleyan University's Muslim chaplain and leader at Bloomfield Muslim Community Center, and his wife, Vjosa Qerimi, will speak on the similarities between Christian and Muslim values and beliefs, misconceptions and fears on **Wednesday, August 9, at 1:00 PM at the Baldwin Center** Please register by calling the Baldwin Center 203-385-4050.

Slovak Alliance Picnic ~ Slovensky Piknik ~ Sunday, August 27 from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM at the Germania Schwaben Club Beer Garden at 416 Horace St, Bridgeport. **Free Admission! Polka Band! Food and refreshments available for purchase. Fun for Everyone!**



Directions: East Main St to York St - left onto Horace St.

Pope Francis has called for increased efforts to end human trafficking. The Holy Father's appeal came in remarks follow the Angelus prayer with pilgrims and tourists



gathered in St. Peter's Square, on the 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time and the World Day against Trafficking in Persons, sponsored by the United Nations. "Each year," said Pope Francis, "thousands of men, women and children are innocent victims of sexual and organ trafficking, and it seems that we are so accustomed to seeing it as a normal thing." The Holy Father went on to say, "This is ugly, it is cruel, it is criminal." He called human trafficking, "an aberrant plague," and, "a modern form of slavery," renewing his appeal for universal commitment to ending the practice. Pope Francis concluded his appeal with "Let us pray the Hail Mary to the Virgin Mary asking for support of the victims of trafficking and to convert the hearts of traffickers. (*Vatican Radio*)

"The greatest love story of all times is contained in a tiny white Host."
Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen

Evangelization Corner: As we gaze in the dark faith of prayer upon the glory of God revealed in Jesus Christ, we are transformed into His likeness. As we leave the work of prayer for the work of charity in our world, we live in His likeness