

Holy Name of Jesus Church

1950 Barnum Ave., Stratford, CT 06614

To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heavens.

Ecclesiastes 3:1

In 1954, Fr. John J. Filip, Administrator of Holy Name of Jesus Parish negotiated with the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius to staff a proposed parochial school. Two years later, three Sisters of the Order of Saints Cyril & Methodius arrived at Holy Name of Jesus to reside in the convent then located on College St. They conducted religious instructions and formed children's choirs. A first grade class was held in the church basement until the school was completed and dedicated on September 8, 1957. Grades 1 through 4 were taught by the sisters with a grade being added each year, with the first class graduating in June of 1965. Our parish has been blessed with vocations to both the priesthood and the religious, including Sister Gloria Marie Kascak. In the early 1990's due to regionalization of the Stratford Catholic schools, Holy Name School was closed. The Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius' presence has continued over the years with our children's Faith Formation program, renewal committees, parish office assistance and spiritual outreach to many parishioners. But as we know, change is inevitable and over the years enrollment in our Faith Formation program has decreased to where we are no longer able to sustain our current staffing. At the end of the 2018 school year, Sister Joseph Therese and Sister Gloria Marie will be returning to the SSCM motherhouse in Danville, PA. Please take the opportunity this season to thank the sisters as we recognize and pay tribute to their faithful service and ask God to continue to bless their good works. We will be planning a parish appreciation social in the spring of 2018 to give everyone a chance to say thank you - bulletin updates will be forthcoming in the new year.

