

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY IN WESTON

August 22, 2021



21st Sunday IN ORDINARY TIME

Simon Peter answered him, "Master, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life." - Jn 6:68

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

35 NORFIELD ROAD
WESTON, CONNECTICUT 06883

*We extend a warm welcome to all who
worship at our church! We hope that you
will find our parish community a place
where your faith is nourished.*

Rectory: 203-227-1341

FAX: 203-226-1154

Website: www.stfrancisweston.org

Facebook: Saint Francis of Assisi - The
Catholic Community in Weston

Religious Education/Youth Ministry:
203-227-8353

Preschool: 203-454-8646

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS

Monday Through Thursday
9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday Vigil - 5:00 P.M.

Sundays 8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m. - Family Mass
11:00 a.m.

5:00 p.m. Scheduled Weekly -
Except for Christmas & Easter.

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday - Friday - 7:30 A.M.

Saturday & Holidays - 9:00 A.M.

HOLY DAY MASSES

7:30 A.M. , Noon , 7:00 P.M.

NOVENA

Novena prayers in honor of Our Lady of the
Miraculous Medal every Saturday
following the 9:00 A.M. Mass.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays, 4:00-4:45 P.M.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

The Sacrament of Baptism is offered every
Sunday at 12:00 noon. Please make
arrangements for the Pre-Baptismal
instructions after the birth of the child in
person at the rectory.
Pre-instruction for both parents is required.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Arrangements must be made at the rectory in
person by the couple. Where possible,
arrangements should be made one year in
advance and no later than six months.

SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING

Communal anointings of the sick are
celebrated.

Individual anointings may be celebrated
anytime by request.

HOSPITAL AND HOME VISITATION

Please notify the parish of any family
member who may be ill at home or in the
hospital. We welcome the opportunity of
visiting them and bringing them the
Eucharist.

Our Mission Statement: *In the spirit of Saint Francis, to know Jesus and make Him known.*

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

This weekend's readings challenge us to make a choice for God and His teachings or against God. Christian life is a series of daily choices for God or against God, as we choose to live out or reject the truths He has revealed through His prophets in the Old Testament and especially through His Son Jesus in the New Testament. They remind us that the fundamental choice we make determines how we live our lives.

In the first reading Joshua challenges the Israelites to decide whom they will serve, the gods of the Amorites in whose country they are then dwelling or the God of Israelites Who has done so much for them. The Renewal of Covenant ceremony in Joshua 24 reminds us that the Eucharist is a Covenant meal that calls for a decision of Faith. St. Paul, in the second reading, emphasizes the unity that must exist in the Body of Christ and the intimate relationship between Jesus and His followers. It also challenges the Ephesian Christians to build Christian marriages on mutual respect and love. Paul says that the Christian husband and wife should stand together in love before God, respecting each other's rights and dignity. He also uses the husband-wife relationship as an analogy to explain the close relationship between Christ and the Church. That is why he urges his faithful community in Ephesus, *"Live in love, as Christ has loved us."* He wants them to make the right choice in life. Paul reminds us that Jesus nourishes us, the members of his Church, through the Eucharist, making us his own Flesh and Blood, as husband and wife become one flesh.

Concluding his long Eucharistic discourse in today's Gospel, Jesus challenges his Jewish audience to make their choice of accepting the New Covenant he offers in his Body and Blood or of joining those who have lost their Faith in him and left him, expressing their confusion and doubts about his claims. Today's passage describes the various reactions of the people to Jesus' claims. As Joshua spoke to his followers, Jesus speaks to the twelve apostles and gives them the option of leaving him or staying with him. The disciples cannot reject Jesus after all that he has done for them. Peter, their spokesman, asks Jesus how they can turn to anyone else – Jesus is the only one who has the message of eternal life. The apostles exercise their freedom of choice by choosing to stay with Jesus. In the Eucharistic celebration, we, like Peter, are called to make a decision, profess our Faith in God's Son and renew the Covenant ratified in his life, death and Resurrection.

We Christians have accepted the challenge of following the way of Christ and making choices for Christ, fortified by the Bread he gives and relying on the power of the Holy Spirit. The very option or possibility of choosing for or against Jesus is repeated over and over again in the modern age. We should resolve to take a stand for Jesus and accept the consequences. We recognize, in our going to Communion, the accepting of that challenge to be totally one with Jesus. When the priest gives us Holy Communion saying, *"The Body of Christ,"* we respond, *"Amen."* That *"Amen,"* that *"Yes,"* is not just an act of Faith in the Real Presence; it is a total commitment of ourselves to Jesus in the community of which we are members. Christ's thoughts and attitudes, his values, his life-view must become totally ours, and must govern and shape our thinking and our lives. Above all, we are to identify with Jesus in the offering of his Flesh and the pouring out of his Blood on the cross, the symbol of God's unutterable love for us.

Faith is not simply a set of ideas to be held on to. It is a living relationship with a Person and His vision of life. It is a relationship that needs to grow and be deepened with the years, just as in the case of marriage the love between the husband and wife must grow and be strengthened over the years. It is a relationship that has constantly to be re-appraised in a constantly changing world. Today Jesus is asking each one of us, do you also wish to go away from me? The choice is ours either to go away from him or to resound Peter's words: *"To whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life."*

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Rev. Augustine Nguyen
Pastor



The Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time



5:00 p.m. **Timothy William Plaia (D)**
Sunday, August 22nd-Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time
 8:00 a.m. **Karen Winger Redloff (D)**
 9:30 a.m. **Richard Prackup (D)** by Ralph and Carol Palumbo
 11:00 a.m. **John Brocato (D)** by Adam and Joanne Daversa
 5:00 p.m. **Marlene Droloner (D)** by the McCarthy Family
Monday, August 23rd-Weekday-St. Rose of Lima
 7:30 a.m. **Stephen Rollo (L) Bday**
Tuesday, August 24th-St. Bartholomew
 7:30 a.m. **Antonella Rollo (L)**
Wednesday, August 25th-Weekday-St. Louis; St. Joseph
 Calazan, Priest
 7:30 a.m. **Gabriella Rollo (L) Bday**
Thursday, August 26th-Weekday-
 7:30 a.m. **Christopher Rollo (L)**
Friday, August 27th-St. Monica
 7:30 a.m. **Patrick Egan (L)**
Saturday, August 28th-St. Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of the
 Church
 9:00 a.m. **Margaret Petrino (D)**

Eucharistic Adoration is now every **Wednesday from 12pm to 3pm** in the main church. **The Divine Mercy Chaplet** will be sung at the Holy Hour of 3 p.m. on the **first** Weds. of each month. In the event either of these is canceled due to inclement weather or Holy Days of Obligation, we will send an email as soon as possible.

We invite all parishioners to please come and worship Christ's presence in the Eucharist. Please sign up for a slot of either an hour or 30 minutes. You can sign up in the back of the church or by calling Martin Tubridy at 203-454-9023 (Home); 203-675-8278 (Cell) or by email at MTubridy@optonline.net.

Virtus Training Update

If you volunteer here at SFA in **any** capacity, you are required by the Office of Safe Environments to complete Virtus training and a background check. Please log into your account at www.virtus.org and follow the prompts to the training. It should take less than 30 minutes. If you have any difficulty logging in or have not ever done Virtus training, please email our Safe Environments Coordinator at kdelcorso@stfrancisweston.org for assistance.

Online Giving during the summer months is a great way to manage your weekly offerings! The nice weather and vacations brings a dip in our Mass attendance, but with Online Giving, you can manage your giving all summer long and help us meet our operating expenses. As always, thank you for your generosity and your spirit of sacrificial giving.



Weekly Offertory: Aug. 15, 2021

Sunday Offertory: \$ 2998.00

Online Giving: \$ 2139.67

\$ 5,137.67

Thank you to all who donate weekly to the parish at Mass, by mail or through Online Giving. It is only through the generosity of our parishioners that we are able to do what we do through our ministries. If you are not yet set up in Online Giving, please visit our website, www.stfrancisweston.org and click on the Online Giving icon. Thank you and may God bless you-
Fr. Augustine

ACA Weekly Update: Through the Appeal, the Diocese was able to serve thousands of Fairfield County individuals. Catholic Charities alone served over 1.2 million meals during the pandemic. Your sacrificial gift is needed more now than ever. Saint Francis of Assisi raised **98 gifts** totaling **\$90,337** from 81 donors bringing the parish to 99.05% of its \$91,200 goal. As always, thank you for your great generosity. We are incredibly grateful for you!



WE STAND WITH CHRIST

A special thank you all of our parishioners who have made a pledge to the We Stand With Christ Campaign.

Your generosity will enable the following projects to be completed at Saint Francis of Assisi:

- 1) Expansion of Youth Outreach - Completed
- 2) Parish Debt Relief - Completed
- 3) Church Interior Renovation
- 4) Parish Hall Restoration

Saint Francis of Assisi Parish, Weston	
We Stand With Christ Campaign Redemption	
Total Pledged:	\$1,003,241
Total Collected (As of 5/6/21):	\$495,128 (49%)
<p><u>Please note:</u> Saint Francis of Assisi Parish will receive less than 50% of the total gifts pledged (around \$450K) after paying the diocese and other expenses. The pledges are payable over five years. If you are behind your payment or would like to make a payment, please visit: GiveCentral.org/WSWC or by calling (203) 648-9050.</p>	



Faith Formation



The Faith Formation Office is closed for the summer and will reopen on Monday, August 30th. I will be coming in the office but will not have set hours. If you need to register your child for Faith Formation classes and I am not in the office, please download the registration form on the website or you can pick up the forms in the Parish Office from 9-3 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

Each child must register every year.

Our formation classes are continuous and build one year upon the next.

Grade 1 is required for First Eucharist preparation and

Grades 3-7 are required for Grade 8 Confirmation.

Catechists and Catechists' Assistants are needed. To be a catechist, you do not need to be an expert teacher or a theologian. Catechists are ordinary people who generously give their time to share the Catholic Faith, values, and traditions with the youngest generation of Christians. Please prayerfully consider joining the Faith Formation Team

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at (203)227-8353 or gfleming@stfrancisweston.org

MY SOUL FINDS
rest IN GOD ALONE
PSALM 62:1

We wish you all a healthy and restful summer until we meet again in the fall!

Peace and Love,

Gina Fleming

"Let the children come to me and do not prevent them, for the Kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these"
Matthew 19:14

Preschool News

School's Out for Summer!

Enrollment is ongoing for Fall 2021

SFA Preschool is serving a community of Toddlers through Four year olds in an environment that strives to support and build the entire child inside and out through a hands on, multi-sensory environment.

SFA believes in building the whole child through emphasizing character, strength, and resilience. Our programs are designed to prepare and establish the necessary skill set of your child's upcoming academic demands, while promoting the character within.

We support our families through a series of workshops and support groups which are all designed to help educate and prepare you as a parent in your child's individual growth emotionally, socially, and cognitively.

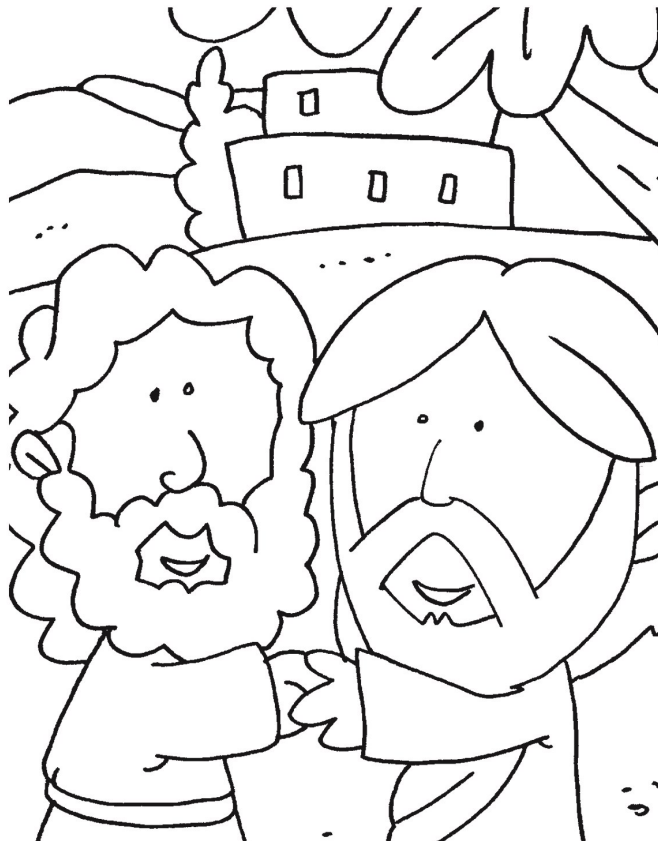
We are currently enrolling for our upcoming year and spaces are limited! Please call **203 454-8646** to schedule a tour or email mkeith@sfapreschool.com.

Marianne Keith, Director



COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



21st Sunday in Ordinary Time • John 6:60-69

THIS WEEK AT
YOUTH GROUP

SUNDAY 8/22

SENIOR YOUTH GROUP 6-8PM
POTLUCK PICNIC

TUESDAY 8/24

JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP 6-8PM
MOVIE NIGHT

LOOKING AHEAD

SUNDAY 9/12

PARISH PICNIC
NO SYG

SUNDAY 9/19

SENIOR YOUTH GROUP 6-8PM

For more information please contact
Youth Minister, Priscilla Mahar at
pmahar@stfrancisweston.org

LOOKING BACK



Participants during the Youth Group Service Week



Cooking a meal to feed 200 at the Norwalk Soup Kitchen

CARNIVAL

Saturday Oct 2 – Sunday Oct 3

12 noon-6:00 pm each day

Blessing of the Animals Oct 2 at 11:00 am



SAVE THE DATE for family fun with
inflatables, games, entertainment, food and drinks

Can you help with a donation?

Bottles of liquor (vodka, gin, etc)
\$10/ \$15/ \$20/ \$25 gift cards to any store
Candy, in grocery (not Costco) size, with 6-8 bars/ package
Monetary donation to help defray cost of prizes

Can you help by being a sponsor?

\$500 donation and your business is added to all advertising

Are you interested in being a craft vendor?

\$100 for one day and \$175 for both days

For more information, or to help, please contact
Sandra Jester at SJest2@aol.com or 203-247-2354

Coffee Social



**Please Join Us at the Sunday
Coffee Social-Next coffee not yet
scheduled, but stay tuned!**

Please join us in the Parish Hall after
the 9:30 a.m. and before the 11:00 a.m. Masses. This is
a great opportunity to enjoy visiting with fellow
parishioners-those you know and those you haven't met
yet. It's a great family event.

**Our Parish Hall is again available for rental for your
family events!**

Please call Dianna in the office at 203 227 1341, ext.
127 for more information and pricing.

office@stfrancisweston.org

Parish Calendar

Sunday, Aug. 22	21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00 a.m.	Sunday Mass
9:30 a.m.	Sunday Family Mass
11:00 a.m.	Sunday Mass
5:00 p.m.	Youth Mass
Mon., Aug. 23	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
Tues., Aug. 24	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
Weds. Aug. 25	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
Thurs., Aug. 26	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
Fri., Aug. 27	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
Sat., Aug. 28	
9:00 a.m.	Daily Mass
	Immaculate Conception Novena
4:00 p.m.	Sacrament of Reconciliation
5:00 p.m.	Sunday Vigil Mass
Sunday, Aug. 29	22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00 a.m.	Sunday Mass
9:30 a.m.	Sunday Family Mass
11:00 a.m.	Sunday Mass
5:00 p.m.	Youth Mass
Mon., Aug. 30	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
Tues., Aug. 31	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
Weds. Sept. 1	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
3:00 p.m.	Divine Mercy Chaplet
Thurs., Sept. 2	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
Fri., Sept. 3	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
Sat., Sept. 4	
9:00 a.m.	Daily Mass
	Immaculate Conception Novena
4:00 p.m.	Sacrament of Reconciliation
5:00 p.m.	Sunday Vigil Mass



Monday through Thursday

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

St. Francis of Assisi Parish

The Catholic Community in Weston

35 Norfield Road • Weston, Connecticut 06883

Parish Office: (203) 227-1341

Rev. Augustine Nguyen, Pastor
frnguyen@stfrancisweston.org

Rev. Joseph Sidera, CSC-Resident

Thomas J. McManus, Deacon

dcn.tommcmamus@yahoo.com

Kimberley Del Corso, Business Manager

kdelcorso@stfrancisweston.org

Dianna McHugh, Parish Receptionist

office@stfrancisweston.org

Gina Fleming, Director of Religious Education

gfleming@stfrancisweston.org

Beth Foertsch, Rel. Ed. Admin. Asst.

bfoertsch@stfrancisweston.org

Marianne Keith, Preschool Director

mkeith@sfapreschool.com

Kimberley Del Corso, Preschool Program Coordinator

kdelcorso@sfapreschool.com

Priscilla Mahar, Directory of Youth Ministry

pmahar@stfrancisweston.org

Don Rickenback, Music Coordinator

drickenback@stfrancisweston.org

William Smith, Maintenance Supervisor

Parish Pastoral Council

Mike Byrnes, Chris Eidt (Chair), Pam Franco, Missy Iatesta, Keri

Kelleher, Jeanine Lombardi, Elise Major, Leigh Meccay,

Lisa Moskal, Nancy Murgalo

Parish Trustees

Mike Byrnes and Elise Major

Worship Ministries

Coordinator:

worship@stfrancisweston.org

Altar Servers: Priscilla Mahar

pmahar@stfrancisweston.org

Arts & Environment: Joan Curran,

environment@stfrancisweston.org

Eucharistic Ministers: Peggy Shaeffer

ministers@stfrancisweston.org

Lectors: Chris Eidt (762-7987)

lectors@stfrancisweston.org

Ushers: Laurie Eidt and Mike Purdy (eidtl@optonline.net)

Spiritual Formation

Coordinator: Pam Franco (227-5821)

Religious Education: Gina Fleming (227-8353)

adulter@stfrancisweston.org

R.C.I.A.: Pam Franco

rcia@stfrancisweston.org

Community Outreach

Coordinators: Melissa & Robert Iatesta (227-4668)

outreach@stfrancisweston.org

Soup Kitchen: Linda Nash (226-7680)

Network of Care: Carina Silvestri (226-0884)

Pastoral Care Ministry: Anita Field (938-0874)

reddingglen2@optonline.net

Communications Ministry

Coordinator: Leigh Meccay

communications@stfrancisweston.org

Social Events Ministry

socials@stfrancisweston.org

Finance Council

Members: Mike Byrnes, Joe Jordan-(Chair)

Blandine Lewine, Elise Major, Mike McGlone, Frank Infurchia,

Peggy Shaeffer, John Silvestri

finance@stfrancisweston.org

Knights of Columbus

Mike Purdy - mikepurdy62@gmail.com

Women's Guild

Kathy Failla -faillakathy@gmail.com