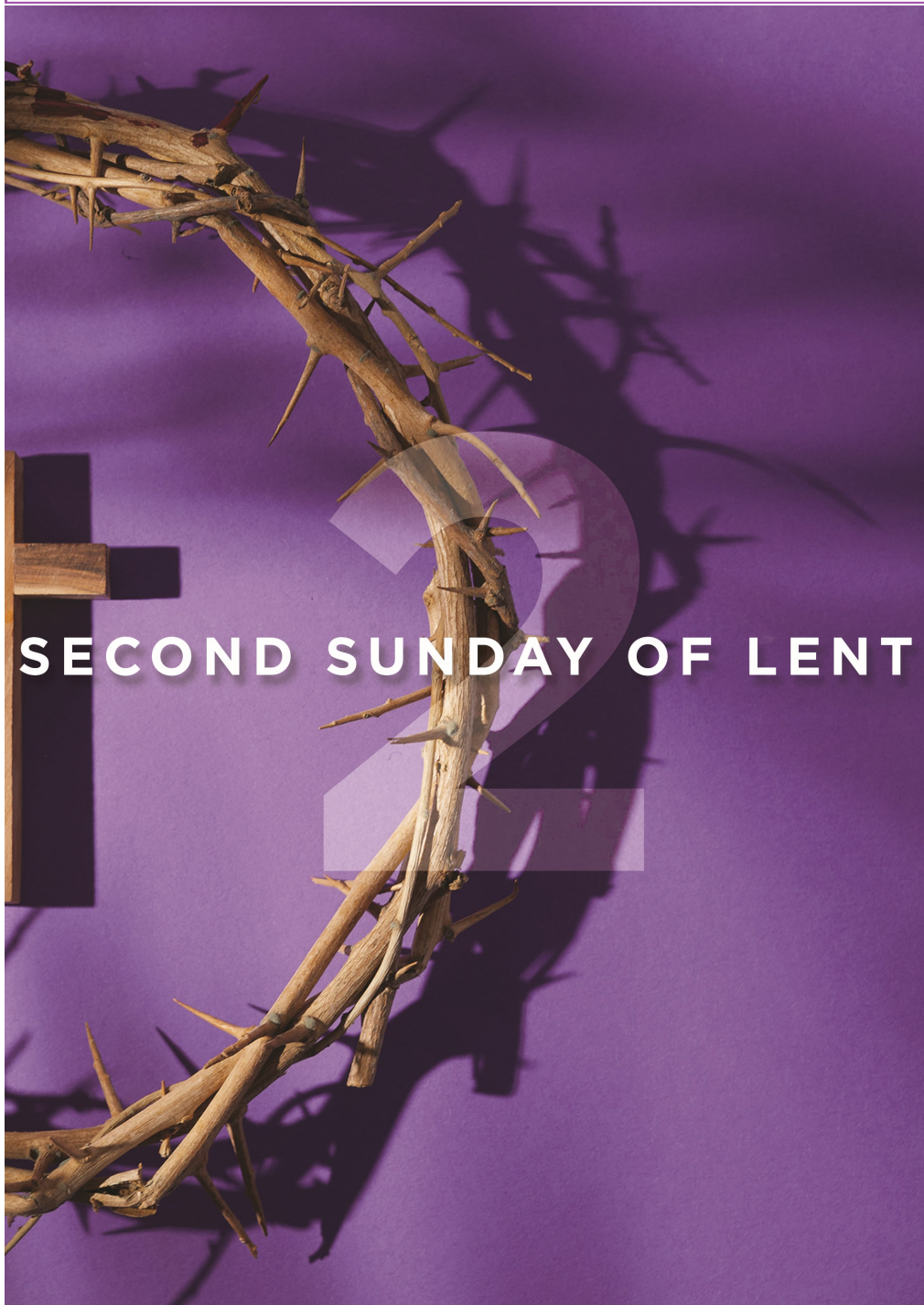


ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY IN WESTON

March 5, 2023



SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

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
office@stfrancisweston.org

Website: www.stfrancisweston.org
Facebook: Saint Francis of Assisi - The Catholic Community in Weston

Faith Formation/Youth Ministry:
203-227-8353

Preschool: 203-454-8646

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS
Monday Through Thursday
10:00 a.m.- 4:00 pm
Closed 12:30-1 pm

SUNDAY MASSES
Saturday Vigil - 5:00 P.M.
Sundays- 8:00a.m.,
9:30 a.m. Family Mass
11:00 a.m.
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.

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 with Deacon Steve Hodson
dnhodson@diobpt.org
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.*

WHAT IS LENT?

On the first Sunday of Lent last week where we heard that at the beginning of His public life, after Jesus was baptized by his cousin, John the Baptist, and Jesus immediately went away by Himself into the desert. There He fasted and prayed for 40 days, and while there Satan appeared to Him 3 times and tempted Him.

The Church says that Lent is a 40-day period of unity with “the mystery of Jesus in the desert.” By sacrificing small things, fasting, praying and giving to charity, Catholics are invited to experience a period of prayer like Jesus, to prepare to resist Satan’s temptations, and fulfill the mission God has given the Church. During the Fridays of Lent, Catholics are to abstain from meat, in union with the fasting of Jesus, and in memory of Christ’s death on a Friday.

Lent emphasizes 3 spiritual disciplines: **PRAYER** (find some practice of prayer you can add to your day such as pray the rosary, say morning and night prayers, etc.), **FASTING** (decide on what you can fast from, be it food, phone, car radio, etc.), **ALMSGIVING** (some act of charity or work of mercy). These themes are related to the 3 temptations Christ faced in the desert. During Lent, in commemoration of the Lord’s self-sacrifice on the cross, we willingly make sacrifices of ourselves, giving up what we like, giving more to help the poor, and giving more of our time to prayer.

One area which I think is so important to give up or cut back is the cell phone usage. I recently went to a restaurant where I have witnessed four people at a table, all of them at the same time, staring at their cellphones and not paying attention to one another. So I would suggest that we take a careful look at how much time we spend on our cellphones, the websites we go on frequently, the things that we say in text messages or emails, and how we interact with others. Social Media is a good thing, as it can be a means to get information messages out, and keep people connected. It can also be a source of evil, pulling people away from others, isolating them and keeping them from interaction.

During these weeks of Lent, I would suggest that we practice the discipline of detachment from our cellphones, not allowing them to the dinner table, and not to use the cellphone while with others. Whatever is on the cellphone can wait, and if someone really wants to reach us, they will leave a voice message. Use some of the time that you would spend on your cellphone for prayer, or some kind of work of mercy.

A DAY WITH MARY
A FREE Marian Eucharistic Day Retreat with the Franciscan Friars of the Immaculate



SATURDAY, MARCH 11, 2023
9:00 a.m. — 2:00 p.m.
(Coffee service at 8:30 a.m.; bring a snack if attending the full day)
St. Patrick Church Campus, Redding

Featuring:

- Mass
- Confession available
- Exposition and Benediction
- Talks and Meditations
- Eucharistic Adoration
- Marian Procession
- Conferment of the Brown Scapular and the Miraculous Medal

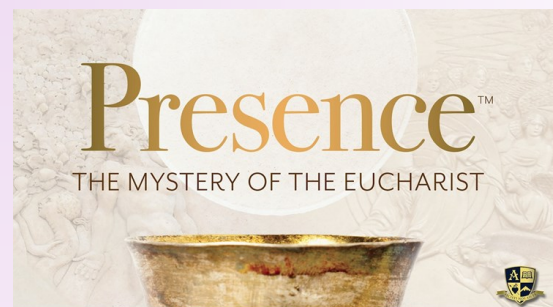


Scan this code to register.

Please join us for the whole day, or for a portion of the events and activities to inspire love of Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament and consecration to Jesus through the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

There is no fee to attend! Registration recommended.

Hosted by Sacred Heart-St. Patrick Parish, 169 Black Rock Turnpike, Redding, Connecticut
Questions? 203-544-8345, 203-938-2253



Discover the powerful way that God is present to us in the Eucharist, inviting us into an intimate union with himself

Wednesdays: 3/1, 3/8, 3/15, 3/22

7-8P in the Parish Hall

Fr. Joe will kick off our sessions with a talk on The Real Presence & “The Breaking of the Bread”, and on the three subsequent Wednesdays, we’ll view a 30-40 minute video from Ascension Press, followed by discussion.

Childcare will be provided by the St. Francis Youth Group.

For more information, contact Pam Franco at pamffrg@gmail.com or 203-227-5823.

The Second Sunday of Lent

MASS INTENTIONS

5:00 p.m. **Peggy Shaeffer (D)** by the Byrnes Family
Sunday, Mar. 5th-The Second Sunday of Lent
8:00 a.m. **Peggy Shaeffer (D)** by the Komar Family
9:30 a.m. **Peggy Shaeffer (D)** by the Jung Family
11:00 a.m. **Peggy Shaeffer (D)** by Ralph & Carol Palumbo
Monday, Mar. 6th-Lenten Weekday-
7:30 a.m. **Vincent Callanan (D)**
Tuesday, Mar. 7th-Lenten Weekday-Sts. Perpetua and Felicity
7:30 a.m. **John M. Murphy (D)** by John and Eileen Faul
Wednesday, Mar. 8th-Lenten Weekday-St. John of God, Religious
7:30 a.m. **Donald S. Carter (L) Bday**
12:00 p.m. **Sarah Bisceglie (D)** by her Family
Thursday, Mar. 9th-Lenten Weekday-St. Frances of Rome, Religious
7:30 a.m. **Helen Plaia (D) & Peggy Shaeffer (D)** by Fr. Joe, CSC
Friday, Mar. 10th-Lenten Weekday-
7:30 a.m. **Monty Tucker (D)** by Don and Louise Strange
Saturday, Mar. 4th-Lenten Weekday-
9:00 a.m. **Karja Ferreira (L) Bday** by the Karwowski Family

Birthright needs our help

Birthright supports young mothers during pregnancy, and for as long as needed, through counseling, referrals to agencies and physical needs such as blankets, clothes, diapers, baby wash and more

Can you donate some items for layette baskets?

- Newborn diapers
- Baby wipes
- Diaper rash ointment
- Baby wash (full size)
- Baby lotion (full size)

Please drop off at the back of church Starting Feb 27 until March 19

If you have questions, contact Missy latesta at missyj300@gmail.com

Effective March 1st, Eucharistic Adoration will resume in the main Church on all Wednesdays from 12 noon to 3pm. All parishioners are welcome to spend whatever time they might have to participate for the Adoration.

If you would like to sign up for a specific time, please contact Martin Tubridy at mtubridy@optonline.net or by phone, 203.454.9023

"Remain here and keep watch with Me."

STEWARDSHIP

Weekly Offertory: Feb. 26, 2023

Sunday Offertory: \$4,007.00

Online Giving: \$4,436.00

\$8,443.00

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

The **Sanctuary Candle** is in memory of :

Eric Foertsch

The **Adoration Candle** is in memory of :

Peggy Shaeffer



Your Gifts at Work

The Institute for Catholic Formation supports parish and school sacramental and catechetical programs that provide religious formation for children ages 5 – 13 and their families. This is accomplished through days of formation, parish visits, program assessments and ongoing consultation of catechetical programs from development to implementation. Your gift to the Bishop's Appeal supports the Institute's efforts to reach children and adolescents in their journey to know Christ.

Thank you for your gift.

To make a gift, or for more information, please visit us at

2023BishopsAppeal.org

call (203) 416-1470
or scan with your phone.



Faith Formation News

*Learning...
Loving....
Living...
CHRIST!*

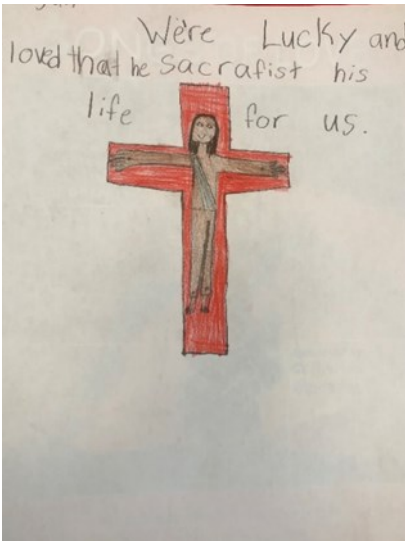
Faith Formation Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 11:00 am -6:00 pm



*Learning...
Loving....
Living...
CHRIST!*

- Wednesday, March 8 – Catechists meeting @ 7:00pm
- Saturday, March 11 – First Communion Retreat for students 9:30am-12:30pm
- Thursday, March 16 – Confirmation Lenten Evening with Fr. Clark 6-7:15pm – Parish Hall



Our program is rich in Scripture and Tradition, but for all of this to take root in the student's hearts it is vital for them to attend weekly Mass.

Please come observe a class and see for yourself what the children of our parish are learning on a weekly basis!



Pictured here are various presentations and works that the children do on a typical day in their faith

A heartfelt thank you to the Confirmation Class for donating to Birthright!



Wishing you all a Blessed Lenten Season! Gina Fleming

Preschool News

Since March 20th is the Feast of St. Joseph, SFA Preschool hosted our Dads for a fun day in the classrooms, Coffee, and a blessing in our newly renovated church. These smiles say it all!



SFA Preschool is serving a community of Toddlers through Pre K 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. Please call **203-454-8646** to schedule a tour or email mkeith@sfapreschool.com

Sunday Coffee Social is Back!

We are very pleased to announce that the Coffee Social is back!

Please join us this **Sunday, March 5** in the Parish Hall after the 9:30 am and before the 11:00 am 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..

For information or to volunteer please contact

Carol Palumbo at 203-227-3271 or
candrpalumbo@gmail.com.

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI
Join us this Lent

FISH FRY FRIDAY



BYOB

Friday, MARCH 10

Open: 5 pm
Kitchen Close: 8 pm
Event Ends: 9 pm

Menu
FRIED FISH
..... FRIED SHRIMP
CHICKEN FINGERS ...
(includes 12oz drink, coleslaw, french fries, coffee & tea)
Adult & Child Portions

OUR PRIMARY SPONSOR
O'NEILL'S PUB & RESTAURANT
93 NORTH MAIN ST. NORWALK, CT 06854
(203) 838-0222

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT 203-227-1341 OR OFFICE@STFRANCISWESTON.ORG

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

SPRING GALA

.....

SATURDAY MAY 20, 2023
7:00 PM - 11:00 PM
Aspetuck Valley Country Club

SAVE THE DATE

SFA Youth Group is active and going strong! If you want your 6th-12th graders involved to build faith, friendship and service please contact:

Michele Harding at youthminister@stfrancisweston.org



ALL WOMEN ARE INVITED

General Meeting and Baskets for Birthright
March 6 at 7pm

Help create layette baskets for new moms

If you can, please bring any of these to the meeting or ship to: Missy latesta at 164 Davis Hill Rd, Weston 06883
Newborn diapers, baby wipes, diaper rash ointment, baby wash (full size), baby lotion (full size)

IMPORTANT!
Please sign up by scanning the QR code so we know how many baskets are needed

Join us in our Lenten service project

Breakfast Social
Tuesday March 14 at 10:00 am
in the Parish Hall, no charge
Visit old friends
Make new friends

Saint Francis of Assisi Parish - 2023 LENTEN ACTIVITIES



DATE	EVENT	TIME
Ash Wednesday, February 22	Ashes distributed only at Mass	7:30am, 12pm, 7:00pm
Friday - Feb. 24 th Friday - March 3 rd Friday - March 10 th Friday - March 17 th Friday - March 31 st	Fridays: Stations of the Cross	7pm
Wednesday - March 1 (Talk by Fr. Joe) Wednesday - March 8 Wednesday - March 15 Wednesday - March 22	Presence: The Mystery of the Eucharist (Talk/Video and Discussion)	7pm
Monday - February 27	Birthright Service Project (Women's Guild: All women are invited)	7pm
Friday, March 10	Friday Night Fish Fry	5pm - 8pm
Monday - March 20	Pysanky Egg Decorating (Women's Guild: All women are invited)	7pm
Friday, March 24	We Believe (Lenten musical reflection with the Cantiamo Choir)	7pm-9pm
Wednesday, March 29	Lenten Reconciliation Service	7pm-8:30pm
Monday, April 3	Diocesan Reconciliation Monday	3pm-9pm
Thursday, April 6	Holy Thursday Liturgy	7pm
Good Friday, April 7	Morning Prayer The Passion of the Lord Marian Stations of the Cross	8am 3pm 7pm
Holy Saturday, April 8	Morning Prayer Blessing of Easter Food Easter Vigil	8am 12pm 8pm
Easter Sunday, April 9	Easter	Masses: 8am, 9:30am and 11am

Respect Life Ministry



Join the CT March for Life in Hartford, March 22
See Registration links below

<https://marchforlife.org/connecticut-march-for-life/>
<https://rally.co/ct-march-for-life/from/st-pius-fairfield-ct>

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
Rev. Christopher Perrella, Priest in Residence

Stephen Hodson, Deacon
dnhodson@diobpt.org

Kimberley Del Corso, Business Manager
kdelcorso@stfrancisweston.org

Dianna McHugh, Parish Receptionist
office@stfrancisweston.org

Gina Fleming, Director of Faith Formation
gfleming@stfrancisweston.org

Teresa Karwowski, Faith Formation Admin. Asst.
faithformation@stfrancisweston.org

Marianne Keith, Preschool Director
mkeith@sfapreschool.com

Kimberley Del Corso, Preschool Program Coordinator
kdelcorso@sfapreschool.com

Michele Harding, Youth Minister
youthminister@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,
Frank Infurchia, Jeanine Lombardi, Elise Major,
Leigh Meccay, Lisa Moskal, Nancy Murgalo, Danielle Porcello

Parish Trustees

Mike Byrnes and Elise Major

Worship Ministries

Coordinator: Nancy Murgalo (203-464-8634)

quiddity@optonline.net

Eucharistic Ministers: Nancy Murgalo

Lectors: Chris Eidt (762-7987)

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

Spiritual Formation

Coordinator: Pam Franco (227-5821)

Religious Education: Gina Fleming (227-8353)

R.C.I.A.: Pam Franco

Community Outreach

Coordinators: Melissa & Robert Iatesta (227-4668)

Soup Kitchen: Linda Nash (226-7680)

Network of Care: Carina Silvestri (226-0884)

Pastoral Care Ministry

Coordinator: Rev. Augustine Nguyen, Pastor

frnguyen@stfrancisweston.org

Anita Field

reddingglen2@optonline.net

Communications Ministry

Coordinator: Leigh Meccay

communications@stfrancisweston.org

Finance Council

Members: Mike Byrnes, Frank Infurchia-(Chair), Blandine

Lewine, Elise Major, John Silvestri

finance@stfrancisweston.org

Knights of Columbus

Mike Purdy - mikepurdy62@gmail.com

Women's Guild

Jennifer Garvey-jlgarvey4@gmail.com