

# ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY IN WESTON

December 3, 2023

## FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

“THE DAYS ARE COMING, SAYS THE LORD,  
WHEN I WILL FULFILL THE PROMISE  
I MADE TO THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL AND JUDAH.”

—JEREMIAH 33:14

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  
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

**SUNDAY MASSES**  
Saturday Vigil - 5:00 P.M.  
Sundays- 8:00a.m.,  
9:30 a.m. Family Mass  
11:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m. (Oct-May)  
Except for Christmas & Easter.

**WEEKDAY MASSES**  
\*\*Monday - Friday-7:30 A.M.  
Saturday - 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.*

*O come, O come, Emmanuel  
And ransom captive Israel  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appears.  
Rejoice, rejoice Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

One of the most beautiful and hopeful seasons of the Church year begins this weekend, the season of Advent. In recent times, Advent seems to be in the shadows as we prepare the secular Christmas with our gift buying, decorating and pre-holiday gatherings. Yet this season holds all that is right, good and holy as we prepare to celebrate the birth of our Lord. It is amazing to me that in the midst of all the world is becoming and how many are turning deaf ears to the message He gave us, Christ chooses to be born again. He chooses once again to bring us hope and to open for us the path to our salvation. We hear the prophet Isaiah tell us of the power and the glory of God as He sends His Son to be our Redeemer:

*They shall beat their swords into plowshares  
and their spears into pruning forks;  
one nation shall not raise the sword against another,  
nor shall they train for war again.  
O house of Jacob, Come let us walk in the light of the Lord!*

What more could we ask or pray for than for this prophecy to be fulfilled as we witness the war in Ukraine, Israel and the constant threats of war from other nations? Why do we choose to destroy rather than to build up and restore? Why do we choose to live in darkness when we could live in light? Why allow ourselves to be persuaded by the values of materialism rather than the ways of holiness? Take a look at the path you are walking this Advent, and ask yourself if you are walking the pathway to holiness.

The Gospel this weekend, Jesus calls us to “Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come.” These words are not intended to frighten or intimidate us but rather encourage us to set things right in our lives. This holy season provides us with many opportunities to accomplish that...so stay awake and get busy doing the things that in the end really matter! One opportunity to help us celebrate this holy season begins this Thursday, December 7 with our Advent Healing Service with a talk, Adoration and Confessions from 6pm-9pm. Make the commitment to take this time for yourself and renew your relationship with the Lord and the Church. Invite someone to join you and take the journey of faith together. So, please take some time for yourself and really prepare you and your family for Christmas!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Rev. Augustine Nguyen



## The First Sunday of Advent

### MASS INTENTIONS

5:00 p.m. **John Robert Kaddis (D)** by the Kaddis Family

**Sunday, Dec. 3rd-First Sunday of Advent**

8:00 a.m. **Peter Gladitsch (D)** by Fleming, Manion, Marfia, Mattera Families

9:30 a.m. **Rita Mae Fay (D)** by the Novie Family

11:00 a.m. **Antonetta Strange (D)** by Don and Louise Strange

5:00 p.m. **Marion Frank Suita, Jr. (D)** by the Baines Family

**Monday, Dec. 4th-Advent Weekday-St. John Damascene, Priest**

7:30 a.m. **Edmund Gabriel (D)** by Patrick Guerin

**Tuesday, Dec. 5th-Advent Weekday-**

7:30 a.m. **Joseph Guerin (D)** by Patrick Guerin

**Wednesday, Dec. 6th-Advent Weekday-St. Nicholas, Bishop**

7:30 a.m. **Frank Latorre (D)** by Patrick Guerin

**Thursday, Dec. 7th-St. Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church**

7:30 a.m. **Charles Bartholomae (D)** by the Galasinski Family

**Friday, Dec. 8th-The Immaculate Conception of The Blessed Virgin Mary**

7:30 a.m. **Emmanuel Tamiolakis (D)** by his Wife and Son

12:00 p.m. **Immacolata Pisani (D)** by Gina Fleming

7:00 p.m. **Patricia Auger (L)**

**Sat., Dec. 9th-Advent Weekday-Saint Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin**

9:00 a.m. **Salvatore Billante (D)** by Patrick Guerin

**Wednesdays from 12 Noon-3p.m  
Main Church**

**Eucharistic Miracle-Dijon, France-1430**



A woman purchased a monstrance which by mistake contained a sacred host. When the host was removed, it started to drip living blood that dried immediately, leaving the image of Our Lord.

The host remained intact for 364 years until destroyed by French Revolutionaries in 1794.

To read the full story, go to : [www.carloacutis.org](http://www.carloacutis.org)



## STEWARDSHIP

**Weekly Offertory: Nov. 26 , 2023**

**Sunday Offertory \$3,043.00**

**Online Giving: \$4,618.00**

**\$7,661.00**

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](http://www.stfrancisweston.org) and click on the Online Giving icon.

Thank you and may God bless you-Fr. Augustine

**Clear out those garages! The Knights of Columbus are collecting used bicycles for underprivileged youth in Bridgeport. Drop off Dec 14-17<sup>th</sup> at SFA. Thanks!**



*Searching For the Joy of a Personal Relationship with Christ?*



If this describes you or you want to learn more about the Catholic faith, St. Francis has sessions starting in November . To inquire, email Pam Franco [pamffrg@gmail.com](mailto:pamffrg@gmail.com) or call 203-227-5823.

**Friday, December 8, 2023**  
**Holy Day of Obligation-Mass Times**

7:30 a.m.

12:00 p.m.

7:00 p.m.

## Faith Formation News

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

**Faith Formation Office Hours**  
Monday-Thursday 11:00 am -6:00 pm



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

Pictured below are the 8<sup>th</sup> graders rocking for a good cause. They rocked for two hours and raised money for Heavenly Love Orphanage in Vietnam.

Also pictured are the contributions made by our 7<sup>th</sup> grades to create a bountiful food and monetary gifts for Cornerstone Ministry and Weston Social Services.

Join me in thanking both the students and parents for their time, gift, generosity, and love of neighbor.



Many thanks to our Confirmation Class, our 7<sup>th</sup> graders, and their parents, for their love and support!

Wishing everyone a Blessed Advent Season!

*Peace and Love,  
Gina Fleming*

## *Preschool News/Youth Ministry News*

### Father Augustine giving the Threes and Fours a tour of the Sacristy



In-House Registration for current students is now OPEN! If you are planning on enrolling your child for next year, please send in your registration and deposit before Dec. 31st to secure your child's spot. We open registration to the public on Jan. 3rd. Please call 203-454-8646 for info. or email [mkeith@sfapreschool.com](mailto:mkeith@sfapreschool.com)

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### Youth Group Backpack Initiative

Teens from the St Francis Youth Group helped collect items and joined Assumption Youth Group for our backpack assembly event. The packs, filled with food, toiletries and winter weather gear, will be given to those less fortunate in nearby communities.



If you would like your 6th-12th grader to gather for fun, service and faith-building, email Youth Minister, Michele Harding at [youthminister@stfrancisweston.org](mailto:youthminister@stfrancisweston.org)



ALL WOMEN OF THE PARISH ARE INVITED

Women's Guild

**Potluck Christmas Dinner and  
White Elephant gift exchange**



**Monday, December 11, at 6:30pm, in the Parish Hall**  
Please bring enough food to share with about 6 people  
And bring a gift to exchange

**RSVP and sign up here  
by December 9**



If you have questions, email: [womensguildsfa@gmail.com](mailto:womensguildsfa@gmail.com)  
Sponsored by the St. Francis of Assisi Women's Guild

## CHRISTMAS TOY DRIVE Nov 25 - Dec 17

We are collecting toys for Cornerstone  
Ministry which serves over 600 families  
living below the poverty level

**Drop off** new, unwrapped toys or gently used stuffed  
animals in the back of Church  
Teen gifts also needed (nail polish, sports gear, books)

OR

**Donate** and Missy will shop for you  
Drop off **cash** (in envelope marked Toy Drive) or a  
**check** payable to SFA (write Toy Drive in the memo)  
in the collection basket or at the parish office

Or use the donation  
link for **online** giving:



"Small things done with great love will  
change the world", Mother Teresa

## JOIN US FOR THE SUNDAY COFFEE SOCIAL



**In the Parish Hall**  
**After 9:30 Mass/ before 11:00 Mass**

**This is a great family event**  
**Enjoy visiting with fellow parishioners**

Thank you to the:

Tedesco family for hosting last Sunday, November 26  
Mariska family for hosting this Sunday, December 3  
Tubridy and Mumbach families for hosting next Sunday, December 10

Hosts needed for January 14, 21, 28 and February 4, 11, 18, 25

For information or to volunteer, please contact:  
Carol Palumbo, 203-227-3271 or [candrpalumbo@gmail.com](mailto:candrpalumbo@gmail.com)

Thank you to our 2023 sponsors



## PREPARE FOR ADVENT



### Advent Christmas Concert

**Friday Dec 1**

**7:00 pm Parish Hall**

Cantiamo Choir,  
led by Marlene Tubridy

### 'Before the Wrath' movie

**Saturday Dec 2**

**After 9:00 Mass + breakfast**

With new biblical insight to reignite  
hope for believers and be prepared  
for the Second Coming  
Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus



### Healing Service, Adoration and Reconciliation

**Thursday Dec 7, 6:00-9:00 pm**

with the Encounter Prayer group  
from the Diocese, and laying  
of hands for special intentions

Come at any time... stay as long as you want

### Blessed Michael McGivney Pilgrimage Center in New Haven

**Saturday Dec 9**

**Meet at 10:30 am in SFA parking lot**

Knights of Columbus museum with creches from around  
the world

For questions or to register, email Pam Franco at

[Pamffrg@gmail.com](mailto:Pamffrg@gmail.com)



### Acoustic Cafe

**Saturday, Dec 16**

**After 5 pm Mass, Parish Hall**

Live performances by our talented  
parishioners

### Vespers with Adoration

**Wednesday Dec 20, 7-8 pm**

An evening prayer with Adoration to  
pray for peace and members of our  
parish Reconciliation available



## Parish Calendar

<b>Sunday, Dec. 3</b>	<b>First Sunday of Advent</b>
8:00 a.m.	Sunday Mass
9:30 a.m.	Sunday Family Mass
10:15 a.m.	Coffee Social
11:00 a.m.	Sunday Mass
5:00 p.m.	Youth Mass
<b>Mon., Dec. 4</b>	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
<b>Tues. Dec. 5</b>	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
<b>Weds. Dec. 6</b>	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
12:00 p.m.	Eucharistic Adoration
<b>Thurs., Dec. 7</b>	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
6:00 p.m.	Healing Service, Adoration, Reconciliation
<b>Fri., Dec. 8</b>	<b>Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b>
7:30 a.m.	Mass
12:00 p.m.	Mass
7:00 p.m.	Mass
<b>Sat. Dec. 9</b>	
9:00 a.m.	Daily Mass
10:30 a.m.	K of C Pilgrimage-New Haven
4:00 p.m.	Sacrament of Reconciliation
5:00 p.m.	Sunday Vigil Mass
<b>Sunday, Dec. 10</b>	<b>Second Sunday of Advent</b>
8:00 a.m.	Sunday Mass
9:30 a.m.	Sunday Family Mass
10:15 a.m.	Coffee Social
11:00 a.m.	Sunday Mass
5:00 p.m.	Youth Mass
<b>Mon., Dec. 11</b>	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
6:30 p.m.	Women's Guild Potluck/Gift Exchange
<b>Tues., Dec. 12</b>	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
<b>Weds. Dec. 13</b>	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
12:00 p.m.	Eucharistic Adoration
<b>Thurs., Dec. 14</b>	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
10:45 a.m.	Preschool Christmas Pageant
<b>Fri., Dec. 15</b>	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
<b>Sat. Dec. 16</b>	
9:00 a.m.	Daily Mass
4:00 p.m.	Sacrament of Reconciliation
5:00 p.m.	Sunday Vigil Mass
6:00 p.m.	Acoustic Cafe

## **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/Bulletin Editor**  
kdelcorso@stfrancisweston.org

**Patricia Wrynn, Parish Administrator**  
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

Readers: 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**

Dennis Jung- dennisjungesq@gmail.com

### **Women's Guild**

Jennifer Garvey-womensguildsfa@gmail.com