

# ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY IN WESTON

December 17, 2023

## Third Sunday of ADVENT



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.

over design ©Liturgical Publications Inc. Photographer, Sheryl Kasper, bigstockphoto.com

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

Dear Friends in Christ,

This weekend, we are entering into the Third week of Advent. Which means we only just one week remaining in our Advent journey, as next Sunday, December 24, we celebrate both the 4th Sunday in Advent and Christmas Eve on the same day.

This weekend, we commemorate Gaudete Sunday, when the traditional Advent liturgical color of purple is substituted with the liturgical color of rose. The word “gaudete” is derived from the Latin words “gaudium,” joy, and “gaudeo,” to rejoice or be glad. The Term “gaudete” is taken from the Entrance Antiphon of the Mass this Sunday: “Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near” (Philippians 4:4-5). Advent is a time of joyful expectation and eager preparation for the Solemnity of Christmas that is to come. It is important in our Advent preparations to rejoice in the blessings in our lives, to rejoice in the ways we see and feel God’s presence with us in different ways on our journey. Let us ask God to lead us and guide us on these last days of our Advent journey.

We look forward to celebrating with you and your family next weekend for Christmas. Here is the schedule of Masses next weekend for 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent and Christmas Eve/Christmas Day:

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent:**

Saturday, December 23, 2023 5:00pm (Vigil)

Sunday, December 24, 2023 8am; 9:30am and 11am

**Christmas Eve:**

Sunday, December 24, 2023 4pm; 6pm and 10pm

**Christmas Day:**

Monday, December 25, 2023 8am and 11am

Please note that to fulfill the holy days of obligation for both the 4<sup>th</sup> week of Advent and Christmas, make sure that you and your family attend two separate Masses: 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent (choose Saturday Vigil or Sunday Morning) and for Christmas: (Sunday evening or Monday morning).

Have a blessed Advent,

Fr. Augustine

## The Third Sunday of Advent

### MASS INTENTIONS

5:00 p.m. **Nicole Albert-Lebrun (D)** by Blandine Lewine  
**Sunday, Dec. 17th-Third Sunday of Advent-Gaudete Sunday**  
 8:00 a.m. **Peter Gladitsch (D)** by Fleming, Manion, Marfia  
 and Mattera Families  
 9:30 a.m. **Robert and Frances Manere (D)** by Judith Palmer  
 11:00 a.m. **Peter Postiglione (D)** by Don and Louise Strange  
 5:00 p.m. **Charles Bartholomae (D)** by the Komar Family  
**Monday, Dec. 18th-Late Advent Weekday**  
 7:30 a.m. **Robert and Frances Manere (D)** by Judith Palmer  
**Tuesday, Dec. 19th-Late Advent Weekday-**  
 7:30 a.m. **Robyn Shoffstall (L)**  
**Wednesday, Dec. 20th-Late Advent Weekday-**  
 7:30 a.m. **William D. Doino, Sr. (D)** by Aline Doino Weiler  
**Thursday, Dec. 21st-Late Advent Weekday- St. Peter Canisius,**  
*Priest and Doctor of the Church*  
 7:30 a.m. **Frederick A. Risley (D)** by the Galasinski Family  
**Friday, Dec. 22nd-Late Advent Weekday-**  
 7:30 a.m. **Sarah Marie Pospisil (D)**  
**Sat., Dec. 23rd-Late Advent Weekday-St. John of Kanty, Priest**  
 9:00 a.m. **Francesco Pecoraro (D)** by Drew and Angela Zielinski



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

#### Eucharistic Miracle-LaRochelle, France-1461

This miracle concerns a boy who was paralyzed and mute since he was age 7. When he received Holy Communion on Easter Sunday in 1461, he was completely healed of his paralysis and was once again able to speak.

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

## STEWARDSHIP

**Weekly Offertory: Dec. 10, 2023**

<b>Sunday Offertory</b>	<b>\$3,953.00</b>
<b>Online Giving:</b>	<b>\$2,351.00</b>
	<b>\$6,304.00</b>

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

*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.

***Pope Francis has bestowed pontifical honors upon 39 lay faithful of the Diocese of Bridgeport. One of the Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice Cross Medal is our long time parishioner and former Chairman of the Finance Council, Mr. Andrew J. Knuth. This medal is conferred by the Pope on those faithful who have provided a distinguished level of service for both the universal Church and its head, and for their labors and fidelity and love of the church. Bishop Frank Caggiano formally conferred the papal honors at a Vesper's service last Sunday, Dec. 3rd, at St. Augustine Cathedral.***

***Congratulations, Andy!***





## Faith Formation News

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

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



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

### Important Upcoming dates:

**Thursday, December 14<sup>th</sup>** last class until we resume on **Tuesday, January 2, 2024**

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at [gfleming@stfrancisweston.org](mailto:gfleming@stfrancisweston.org) or 203-227-8353



Our program is rich in Scripture and Liturgy; but for all of this to take root in our hearts, it is vital 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!



*Wishing you all a Blessed  
Advent Season!*

*Peace and Love,*

*Gina Fleming and Teresa Karwowski*



## *Preschool/Youth Ministry News*

Saint Francis of Assisi Preschool In House Registration is now open! We will accept in house registration before we open it to the general public on January 3rd, so if you know you want your child to attend for 2024/25, please send in your Registration form and deposit before that date. To schedule a tour, please contact Marianne Keith at [mkeith@sfapreschool.com](mailto:mkeith@sfapreschool.com)



Joy in Mrs. Weinbrum's Two's Class



Fun story time in Ms. Jen's Three's Class

Our SFA Youth Group joined others from Assumption, Westport and the community to help Malta House with its monthly, much needed food distribution in Norwalk's Ben Franklin School over the weekend. As always, thank you for serving with a smile and be willing to help others. Remember, you're never too young to serve! Contact [youthminister@stfrancisweston.org](mailto:youthminister@stfrancisweston.org) to join in service.



## 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:

Skidd family for hosting last Sunday, December 17

There will be no Coffee Social this Sunday, December 24

There will be no coffee Social next Sunday, December 31

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

Thank you to our 2023 sponsors



AWARDS • GIFTS • PROMOTIONS

## 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



## Fourth Sunday of Advent, Christmas and New Year's Mass Schedule

### Fourth Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 23, 2023:

5pm (Vigil Mass)

Sunday, December 24, 2023

8:00 AM

9:30 AM

11:00 AM

**\*\*No 5 PM Sunday Mass**

### Christmas Eve

Sunday, December 24, 2023

4:00 PM

6:00 PM

10:00 PM

### Christmas Day

Monday, December 25, 2023

8:00 AM

11:00 AM

### New Year's Eve (Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph)

Sunday, December 31, 2023

8:00 AM

9:30 AM

11:00 AM

**\*\* No 5 PM Sunday Mass**

### New Year's Day (SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD)

Monday, January 1, 2024

7:30 AM

10:00 AM



## Parish Calendar

<b>Sunday, Dec. 17</b>	<b>Third 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. 18</b>	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
<b>Tues., Dec. 19</b>	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
<b>Weds. Dec. 20</b>	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
6:00 p.m.	Vespers and Adoration
<b>Thurs., Dec. 21</b>	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
<b>Fri., Dec. 22</b>	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
<b>Sat., Dec. 23</b>	
9:00 a.m.	Daily Mass
4:00 p.m.	Sacrament of Reconciliation
5:00 p.m.	Sunday Vigil Mass
<b>Sunday, Dec. 24</b>	<b>Fourth Sunday of Advent</b>
	<b>Christmas Eve</b>
8:00 a.m.	Sunday Mass
9:30 a.m.	Sunday Family Mass
11:00 a.m.	Sunday Mass
	<b>*NO 5 p.m. Sunday Mass</b>
4:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Mass
6:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Mass
10:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Mass
<b>Mon, Dec. 25</b>	<b>Christmas Day</b>
8:00 a.m.	Christmas Day Mass
11:00 a.m.	Christmas Day Mass
<b>Tues., Dec. 26</b>	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
<b>Weds. Dec. 27</b>	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
<b>Thurs., Dec. 28</b>	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
<b>Fri., Dec. 29</b>	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
<b>Sat. Dec. 30</b>	
9:00 a.m.	Daily Mass
4:00 p.m.	Sacrament of Reconciliation
5:00 p.m.	Sunday Vigil Mass

## **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