

# ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY IN WESTON

January 28, 2024



## 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

In their synagogue was a man with an unclean spirit; he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!" Jesus rebuked him and said, "Quiet! Come out of him!" - Mk 1:23-25

cerpts 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](http://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.*

Dear Friends,

This weekend's Gospel reading gives us an illustration on the authority of Jesus. If we truly accept and understand his authority over our lives, we can rejoice in the Lord even when life hands us hardships.

Why? Because we know that Christ's authority is supreme, which means that everything we've placed under his authority will produce good fruits. Even bad situations will be transformed into blessings. Tragedies will be changed into triumphs. Sorrows will be transfigured into joy. Frustrations will lay the groundwork for new growth, new knowledge, and a greater ability to minister to others.

However, if we reject Christ's authority by acting as if we're the ones in charge, deciding for ourselves how to end a problem or how and when to escape from a hardship, our problems will only get worse. This is called "moral relativism." Pope Benedict often speaks up against it: He defines relativism as "allowing oneself to be carried about with every wind of 'doctrine'..." (April 19, 2005).

The path to joy has been forged by the footsteps of Jesus. To benefit from his authority over evil and over human sufferings, we have to follow his example and obey his teachings. This means choosing to trust him, realizing that his ways are the best ways even when they're unpleasant ways. It means that we're willing to reach resurrection glory by going through the cross with Jesus.

There are no successful shortcuts to the triumphant victory that awaits us. There is no easy way to overcome evil. If this were not true, Jesus wouldn't have needed to die on a cross.

The good news – the reason why we can rejoice – is that the most loving, most powerful, most wise One in the universe is using his supreme authority on our behalf. The question is: Will we submit to it?

### **Questions for Personal Reflection:**

In what ways are you still rejecting Christ's authority by trying to do things your own way? Which Church teachings have you been rejecting because you've decided to live by your own rules? Are you willing to ask the Holy Spirit to change your mind on these matters and teach you the value of Christ's ways?

### **Saturday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>: Blessing of Throats**

Saturday, February 3 is the Feast of St. Blaise, Bishop and Martyr. St Blaise was the bishop of Sebaste in Armenia who was martyred in the year 316 AD. The most popular story attributed to St. Blaise occurred while he was in prison, when he cured a young boy who was in danger of choking to death because of a fishbone in his throat. That story, and the fact that St. Blaise was a doctor, made the saint very popular for intercessory prayer for throat ailments.

On the feast day, the blessing of St. Blaise will be given at St. Francis of Assisi Church after the 9am Mass on Saturday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>. The blessing of the throat is carried out using two white taper candles that were blessed on the previous day, February 2, the Presentation of the Lord (Candlemas Day). The white color of the candles symbolizes purity. A red ribbon draped over the base of the candles symbolizes the martyrdom of St. Blaise.

Wishing you a blessed week,

Rev. Augustine Nguyen

## The Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

### **MASS INTENTIONS**

5:00 p.m.      **Stephen Elia (D)** by Drew and Angela Zeilinski  
**Sunday, Jan. 28th-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:00 a.m.      **Peter Gladitsch (D)** by Stephen and Mary Odierna

9:30 a.m.      **Joanne Martin (D)** by Sandra Jester

11:00 a.m.     **Richard L. Canel (D)** by the Canel Family

5:00 p.m.      **Joe and Kathy Vassallo (H)** by the Baines Family  
**Monday, Jan. 29th-Weekday-**

7:30 a.m.      **Giacoma Arvilla (D)** by the Papen Family  
**Tuesday, Jan. 30th-Weekday-**

7:30 a.m.      **Aleksander and Jadwiga Jankowski (H)** by the  
Karwowski Family

**Wednesday, Jan. 31st-St. John Bosco, Priest**

7:30 a.m.      **Barbara Perchak (D)** by the Perchak Family

**Thursday, Feb. 1st-Weekday-**

7:30 a.m.      **Aleksander Jankowski (L)** by his Wife

**First Friday, Feb. 2nd-The Presentation of the Lord-**

7:30 a.m.      **Peter Gladitsch (D)** by Fleming, Manion, Marfia  
and Mattera Families

**Sat., Feb. 3rd-St. Blaise, Bishop and Martyr; St. Ansgar, Bishop**

9:00 a.m.      **Peter Gladitsch (D)** by Fleming, Manion, Marfia  
and Mattera Families

## STEWARDSHIP


**Weekly Offertory: Jan. 21, 2024**

**Sunday Offertory      \$8,251.00**  
**Online Giving:          \$2,268.00**  
**\$10,519.00**

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

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

 **Eucharistic**  
**Adoration**

**Eucharistic Miracle-Brettbrunn, Germany-1125**  
A very pious farmer, in an excess of zeal, stole a sacred host and brought it to his farm. Months later, it accidentally fell to the ground. Neither the farmer, nor the local parish priest were able to pick it up. Only the bishop of Regensburg was able to pick it up after promising to build a chapel on that exact spot.

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

*This weekend, we will take a 2nd collection for  
The Church in Latin America.*



If you would like to purchase a remembrance candle for your loved one, please call the Parish Office at 203 227 2341 and speak to Tricia.

Two candles are available:

The Sanctuary Candle and the Adoration Candle

The cost is \$15 per candle.





## Faith Formation News

*Learning....*

*Loving....*

*Living...*

**CHRIST!**

**Faith Formation Office Hours**

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



*Learning....*

*Loving....*

*Living...*

**CHRIST!**

**Sunday, January 28 – Saint Biography**

**Wednesday, February 7 – Catechists meeting @ 7:00pm**

**Sunday, February 4 – Reflection with Fr. Dunn – Confirmandi and Parents**

**Sunday, February 11 – NO Sunday EVENING classes – Superbowl**

**Morning Classes in Session**

The Seventh graders learned about the ways of Jesus and how we are all called to imitate Him. To love God above all and love our neighbor the way we love ourselves.

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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.



*Love and peace,*

*Gina Fleming*

*Teresa Karwowski*

## Preschool /Youth Ministry News

***St. Francis of Assisi Preschool registration has opened to the general public.***

In-house registration began in November. If you are a returning family and you have made your decision for your child's enrollment, please contact the office with your Registration and deposit to ensure your child has the spot you wish to have for 2024/25 school year. Due to the change in the Kindergarten eligibility age, we have had to leave room for returning students, so classes are filling quickly. Call the office at **203 454 8646** or email **mkeith@sfapreschool.com** for more information.



Some of our St. Francis Youth Group traveled to Assumption Westport for the ever popular ***“Grilled Cheeses and Jesus”*** Event. We attended Mass together, before enjoying grilled cheese, homemade soup, dessert and fellowship! If you want your 6th-12th grader to join for service, friendship and faith-building, please contact Youth Minister Michele Harding at [youthminister@stfrancisweston.org](mailto:youthminister@stfrancisweston.org).



## 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  
Gina Fleming for hosting last Sunday, January 21  
The Pioli family for hosting this Sunday, January 28  
The Staehely family for hosting next Sunday, February 4

Hosts needed for February 11, 18, 25 and March 3, 10, & 17

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

Thank you to our 2023 sponsors



EVERYONE IS INVITED



## Pasta Dinner

Saturday February 3  
6:00pm – 9:00pm, Parish Hall

Proceeds fund the Women's Guild Scholarship  
given to a deserving high school senior in our parish

Dinner includes regular or gluten free pasta, choice of sauces,  
green salad, garlic bread, desserts, water, BYOB

Adults \$15, Children 10 and under \$10  
Families (2 adults + 3 or more children) \$50

RSVP by January 31 to:

Kathleen O'Sullivan, [kaosullivan721@gmail.com](mailto:kaosullivan721@gmail.com) or 203-984-8838

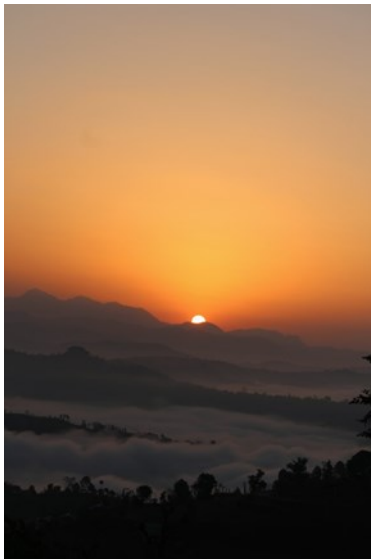
Tickets sold after Masses or by check payable to:  
St Francis of Assisi, in the memo write WG Pasta Dinner  
Drop check in collection basket or bring or mail to Parish Office  
\$10 raffle tickets for high value gift basket also sold after Masses

Sponsored by the St Francis of Assisi Women's Guild

## NEW DAY BEREAVEMENT PROGRAM

### CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION, WESTPORT

Wednesday afternoons 2:00 – 3:30pm  
March 6 – May 1



**We will also have  
afternoon  
programs in:**

**Brookfield**

**Darien**

**Greenwich**

**Stamford**

Your loss may be recent or long ago.

We are here to help you on your journey to healing where you are invited to  
share your story, and to find comfort in a supportive, confidential environment.

God will support you in your sorrow, and He will walk with you as you begin  
your journey through loss to healing.

Meetings take place in a small-group confidential setting and are led by trained  
bereavement facilitators. There is no charge.

Church of the Assumption is partnering with the Bereavement Initiative of the  
Fairfield County Catholic Cemeteries to offer this program.

Please contact Carolyn Killian at 203-404-0023 to register.

## Parish Calendar

### **Sunday, Jan. 28      Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

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

### **Mon., Jan. 29**

7:30 a.m.      Daily Mass

### **Tues., Jan. 30**

7:30 a.m.      Daily Mass

### **Weds. Jan. 31**

7:30 a.m.      Daily Mass  
 12:00 p.m.      Eucharistic Adoration

### **Thurs., Feb. 1**

7:30 a.m.      Daily Mass

### **First Fri., Feb. 2**

7:30 a.m.      Daily Mass

### **Sat. Feb 3**

9:00 a.m.      Daily Mass  
                     The Blessing of the Throats  
                     Sacrament of Reconciliation  
 4:00 p.m.      Sunday Vigil Mass  
 5:00 p.m.      Sunday Vigil Mass  
 6:00 p.m.      Pasta Dinner-Parish Hall

### **Sunday, Feb. 4      Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

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

### **Mon., Feb. 5**

7:30 a.m.      Daily Mass

### **Tues., Feb. 6**

7:30 a.m.      Daily Mass

### **Weds. Feb. 7**

7:30 a.m.      Daily Mass  
 12:00 p.m.      Eucharistic Adoration

### **Thurs., Feb. 8**

7:30 a.m.      Daily Mass

### **Fri., Feb. 9**

7:30 a.m.      Daily Mass

### **Sat. Feb. 10**

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