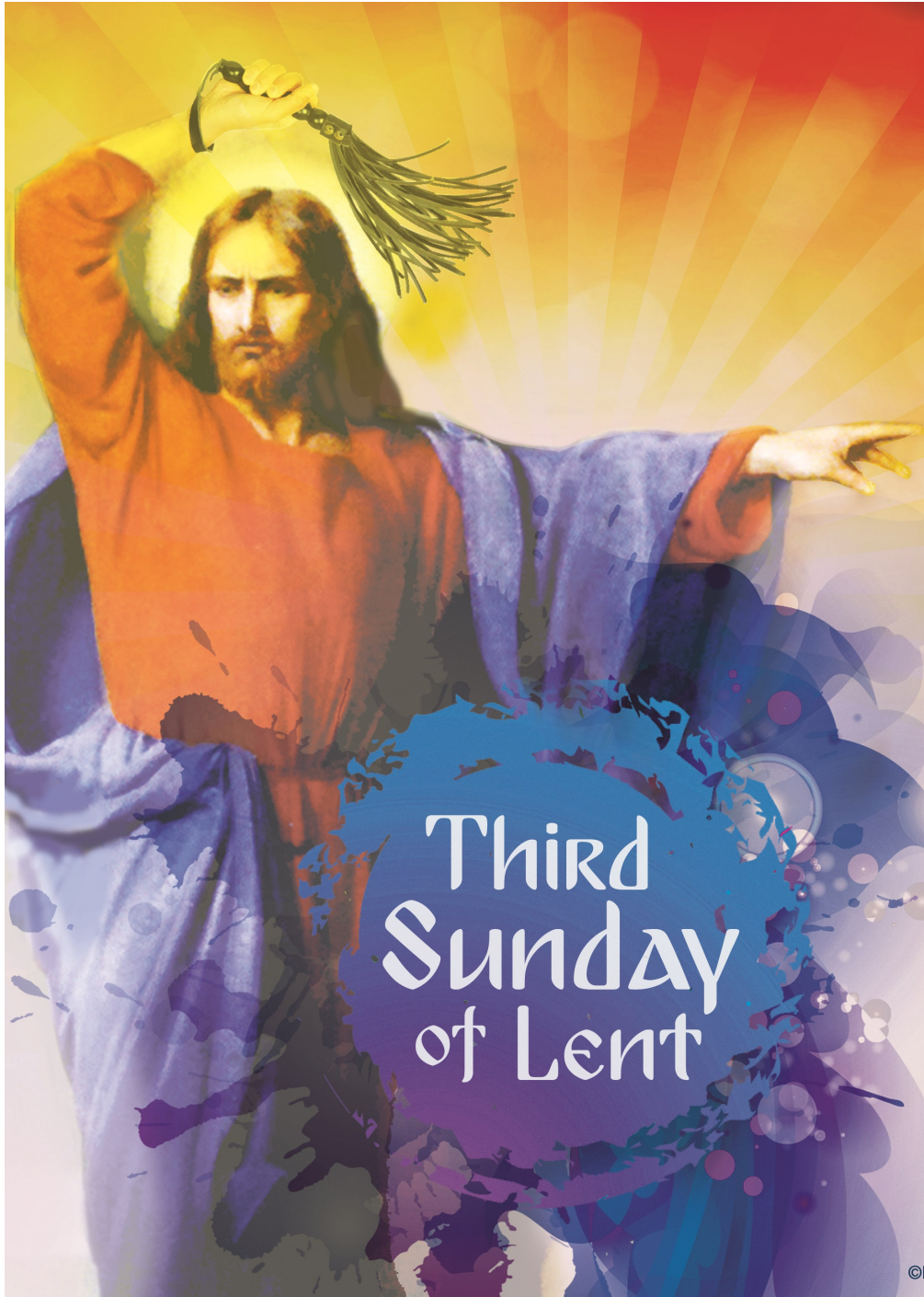


ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY IN WESTON

March 3, 2024



**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.*

Dear Friends in Christ,

The final paragraph of this Sunday's Gospel reading is very revealing: Jesus did not "trust" himself to the converts whose faith in him was based on the signs and wonders that he had done. The reason: He did not want anyone to testify about (i.e., have faith because of) the limitations of human nature.

Faith based on signs and wonders is human nature: It's easier to put faith in what we can humanly see, touch, and hear than to believe in a God who is invisible and who usually sounds very silent. There is nothing supernatural about this kind of faith, but God is very supernatural.

What happens to our faith when we pray and pray and pray for God's intervention and there are no signs indicating that we'll get what we want? This is an indicator of how natural or supernatural our spiritual life really is.

Jesus knew that his physical presence was the greatest sign of all, but it would soon be taken away. Don't we sometimes wish that Jesus would appear in front of us and make himself audible to our human ears? We think it would make our faith stronger.

Typically, we base our faith on many signs: prayers being answered, love being evidenced, peace and happiness filling our hearts, etc. But what happens to our faith when we enter the dark desert night of trials and difficulties? Do we continue to trust God when we can no longer see or feel signs that he cares?

The kind of faith we need when faith matters most comes from a relationship of trust. Real trust. We choose to trust God for who he really is and how much he really cares, rather than on what the evidence seems to say.

To succeed in this, we need supernatural faith. When we're united to the divinity of Christ, we join ourselves to his faith. We then trust him so much that we don't need signs.

Remember this the next time you receive Jesus in the Eucharist. Not only are you consuming his body, you are also uniting yourself to his divinity. And he is uniting himself to you! If you truly believe this, of course there will be miracles, but that is not the greatest gift that he's sharing with you. What he wants to give you most of all is HIS ALL.

Questions for Personal Reflection:

Name some of the signs you rely upon that convince you that God is real and that he truly cares about you. How do you feel when those signs are taken away? Are these feelings based on the reality of God's unending love or on fear?

Wishing you a blessed week,

Rev. Augustine Nguyen



Msgr Grieco spent his last years with dignity

Our own Msgr Grieco retired at Queen of the Clergy Residence. He was a missionary, Director of Religious Ed, Spiritual Director, Director of Communications and founder/editor of Fairfield County Catholic. He served at St Edward in New Fairfield, Sacred Heart and St Maurice in Stamford and SFA for 17 years. Dedicating 62 years to serving others as a priest, he lived his last years still being active and cared for, thanks to the support from the Bishops Appeal.



Your contribution is much appreciated:



The Third Sunday of Lent

MASS INTENTIONS

5:00 p.m. **Elliot Guerin (D)** by Patrick Guerin
Sunday, Mar. 3rd-The Third Sunday of Lent
8:00 a.m. **Angelina Marfia (D)** by Dave and Gina Fleming
9:30 a.m. **Laurie Eidt (H)** by Dave and Gina Fleming
11:00 a.m. **Monica McCafferty (D)** by Dave and Gina Fleming
5:00 p.m. **John Thomas Dinges (D)** by the Baines Family
Monday, Mar. 4th-Lenten Weekday-Saint Casimir
7:30 a.m. **Parishioners (L&D)**
Tuesday, Mar. 5th-Lenten Weekday-
7:30 a.m. **Patrick Joseph Guerin, Sr. (D)** by Patrick Guerin
Wednesday, Mar. 6th-Lenten Weekday-
7:30 a.m. **Parishioners (L&D)**
12:00 p.m. **John and Betty Maglione (D)**
Thursday, Mar. 7th-Lenten Weekday-Saints Perpetua and Felicity
7:30 a.m. **Mary Caufield Guerin (D)** by Patrick Guerin
Friday, Mar. 8th-Lenten Weekday-Saint John of God, Religious
7:30 a.m. **Parishioners (L&D)**
Sat., Mar. 9th-Lenten Weekday-
9:00 a.m. **Louis DeRosa (D)** by the English Family

*The Sanctuary Lamp is in memory of:
Frank Michels, req. by Mike and Kay Byrnes*

*The Adoration Lamp is in honor of:
Dr. Edward (Healing)*

STEWARDSHIP

Weekly Offertory: Feb 25, 2024

Sunday Offertory \$2,622.00

Online Giving: **\$3,878.00**
\$6,500.00

Thank you to all who donate weekly to the parish at Mass, by mail. 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
***Next weekend, Mar. 10th, we will take a second collection for Catholic Relief Services and Aid to Church in Central and Eastern Europe.**

Wednesdays- Adoration Main Church



Beginning Ash Weds., Mass at 12 p.m., followed by 2.5 hours of Adoration. All are welcome.
As part of Adoration during Lent, The Chaplet of the Divine Mercy will be sung each Wednesday for 15 minutes prior to the Benediction.

After Lent, The Chaplet will be sung on the first Wednesday of the month at the same time. Contact Anita Field at :

203-938-0874 or
reddingglen2@optonline.net

Eucharistic Miracle-Morne-Rouge, Martinique - 1902

On May 8, 1902, a volcano suddenly erupted, but the lava bypassed Morne-Rouge. The event was accompanied by an apparition of Jesus and His Sacred Heart in the host at a public Eucharistic Adoration.

To read the full story, go to :
miracolieucaaristici.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

Thanks to the
Knights of Columbus for hosting last Sunday, February 25
Dunnigan, Herman & Palumbo families for hosting this Sunday, March 3
Preschool for hosting next Sunday, March 10

Hosts needed for April 14, 21, 28, May 5, 12, 19, 26

For information or to volunteer, please contact:

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

**ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI
CELEBRATES
SAINT PATRICK'S**

SAINT PATRICK'S

COME JOIN US AND CELEBRATE
ST. PATRICK'S DAY
WITH A DINNER AT THE
ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH HALL
SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 6:30 PM-9:00 PM

\$20
Order by 3/12

CHOICE OF
CORNEBEEF AND CABBAGE
OR SHRIMP SCAMPI PASTA
BEVERAGES WILL BE AVAILABLE
FOR PURCHASE AS WELL.

PLEASE ORDER AHEAD TO ENSURE AVAILABILITY. TAKE
OUT OR DINE IN AVAILABLE.

**ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
& SFA CHARITIES**

ORDER HERE:
[HTTPS://ST-FRANCIS-OF-ASSISI-ST-PATRICKS-DAY-CELEBRATION.SQUARE.SITE/](https://st-francis-of-assisi-st-patricks-day-celebration.square.site/)

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE
BLACK CAT GRILLE FOR THE
DELICIOUS CATERING!



Faith Formation News

Learning....

Loving....

Living...

CHRIST!

Faith Formation Office Hours

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



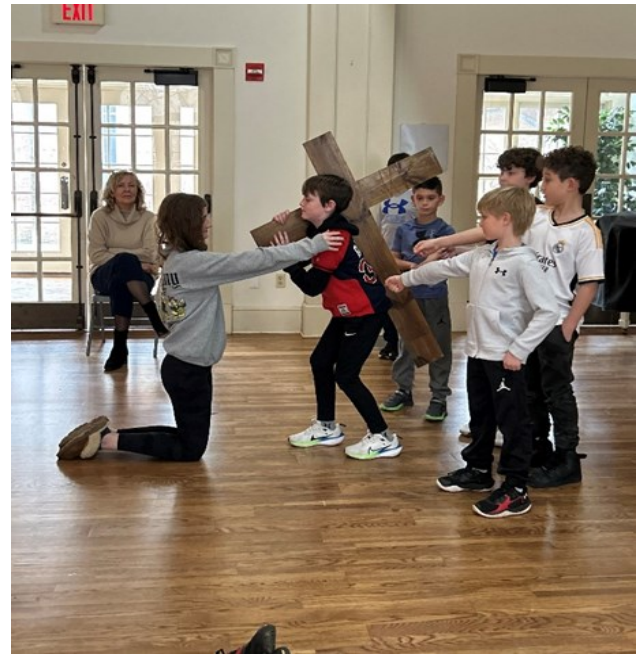
Learning....

Loving....

Living...

CHRIST!

- Saturday, March 16 – First Communion Student Retreat – MANDATORY – 9:30AM-12:30PM
- Sunday, March 24 – No classes – Palm Sunday
- Thursday, March 28 through Sunday, March 31 – NO CLASSES- Holy Week and Easter
- Classes resume Monday, April 1



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

*Love and peace,
Gina Fleming and
Teresa Karwowski*

Students in 3rd and 4th grade are busy practicing the Stations of the Cross play, which they will be performing on Tuesday, March 26 during class

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.

As part of our Charitable Child Initiative, our Pre-K classes took a field trip to the Weston Food Pantry to restock their shelves! After our families donated various items, our children sorted each category themselves with a partner and saw empty shelves become full. More pictures to come!



Our St. Francis Youth Group joined other young people from Assumption Church to take time out to feed 150 families through the Malta House/CT Foodshare distribution at Norwalk's Ben Franklin School. Despite the freezing temperatures, they served with a smile! Well done!

If you want your 6th-12th grader involved for faith building, fellowship and service, please contact Youth Minister, Michele Harding at youthminister@stfrancisweston.org.



OUR LENTEN JOURNEY AS A PARISH COMMUNITY

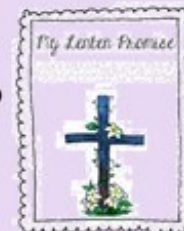
Every week during Lent

Make a Lenten Commitment: Corporal Works of Mercy

simple ideas on doing good for others ... see flyer or website for list of what you can do

Mass every Wednesday at 12 noon (in addition to 7:30 Mass every day),
followed by **Adoration** (12:30-3) and **Divine Mercy Chaplet** (2:45-3)

Stations of the Cross, every Friday 7pm (except March 22, at 6:30pm)



Journey around the world and deep into Catholicism with Bishop Barron

Sat Mar 9: Word Made Flesh, True Bread of Heaven: Mystery of the Liturgy & Eucharist
Following the Saturday 9am Mass, Parish Hall, breakfast is included

Bishop Barron describes all parts of the Mass, and the Eucharist as the source and summit of our faith, and how that is embodied around the world

Filmed in 50 locations of sacred lands, discovering the truth and richness of our faith



Birthright Drive Feb 18-Mar 18

Diapers and supplies for new moms
See email or website for more info



St Patrick's dinner Sat Mar 16, 6:30pm

See email or website for more info
Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus



Lenten Parish Mission: Last Words of Jesus

Includes Adoration and Reconciliation

Wed Mar 20-Thu Mar 21, 6:30pm

Presented by Fr. Nielsen, in the Church



CantiamoCHOIR concert

Fri Mar 22, 7pm, Parish Hall
with Lenten reflections



Easter Egg Hunt

Sun Mar 24
after 9:30 Mass, outside



Diocesan Reconciliation, Mon Mar 25, 3pm-9pm, at Our Lady of Fatima



Mary's Way of the Cross
Good Fri, Mar 29, 7pm, Church



Blessing of Easter Food
Sat Mar 30, 12 noon, Church

Parish Calendar

Sunday, Mar. 3	Third Sunday of Lent
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
Mon., Mar. 4	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
Tues., Mar. 5	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
7:00 p.m.	Spiritual Autobiography
Weds. Mar. 6	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
12:00 p.m.	Mass
Thurs., Mar. 7	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
Fri., Mar. 8	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
7:00 p.m.	Stations of the Cross
Sat. Mar. 9	
9:00 a.m.	Daily Mass
4:00 p.m.	Sacrament of Reconciliation
Sunday, March 10	Fourth Sunday of Lent
8:00 a.m.	Sunday Mass
9:30 a.m.	Preschool Family Mass
10:15 a.m.	Coffee Social
11:00 a.m.	Sunday Mass
5:00 p.m.	Youth Mass
Mon., Mar. 11	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
Tues., Mar. 12	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
7:00 p.m.	Spiritual Biography
Weds., Mar. 13	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
12:00 p.m.	Mass
Thurs., Mar. 14	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
Fri., Mar. 15	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
7:00 p.m.	Stations of the Cross
Sat., Mar. 16	
8:30 a.m.	Sanctity of Life Rosary
9:00 a.m.	Sanctity of Life Mass/Adoration
4:00 p.m.	Sacrament of Reconciliation
5:00 p.m.	Sunday Vigil Mass
6:30 p.m.	St. Patrick's Day Dinner

ALL WOMEN ARE INVITED

Church Architecture

And General Meeting

Hear about the symbolism and meaning of Church architecture
Guest speaker: Claire Foertsch

Monday March 18 at 7pm

in the St. Francis of Assisi Parish Hall, 35 Norfield Rd, Weston

No charge

Sponsored by the St Francis of Assisi Women's Guild

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