

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY IN WESTON

March 17, 2024



5TH SUNDAY OF LENT

Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Amen, amen, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit." - Jn 12:23-24

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
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.*

FIFTH WEEK OF LENT

©LPI

Our lives are a series of building up and letting go.

The Gospel of John up to this Sunday's Gospel has Jesus saying often that his hour has not yet come. In today's passage with the arrival of the Greeks, who symbolize all the nations of the world seeking the one, true God, Jesus announces that his hour has come. It is time for him to "let go" and give his life so that all may have new life in and through him. And in this "hour" of laying down his life he honors his heavenly Father in an act of complete self-giving.

Jesus compares his suffering, death, and resurrection to a grain of wheat falling to the ground that fosters *new* growth and produces *abundant fruit*, all for the greater glory of God.

Paraphrasing Saint Irenaeus of Lyon, we hear that Jesus' sacrifice does not just yield ordinary fruit in abundance, but the food of everlasting life.

A cutting from the vine planted in the ground fructifies in its season. A corn of wheat falling into the earth decomposes, then rises with *manifold increase* by the Spirit of God, who contains all things. Then, through the wisdom of God, this wheat serves to feed and nourish all people, who have received the Word of God. The grain becomes the Eucharist, which is the body and blood of Christ; so, our bodies, being nourished by it, and deposited in the earth, and suffering decomposition there, shall rise at their appointed time, with our Lord, Jesus . . . the Word of God, who gives us a share in his resurrection *to the glory of God...*"

By our letting go of empty pursuits that take up too much space in our hearts, we allow Jesus to fill us beyond our human capabilities. In this laying down of our lives with Jesus, we are promised that we will overflow with the "joy of our salvation" which we are called to share with others. This is why we let go and let God do the building.

Just as the nations of the world came to see Jesus based on his life of holiness, our lives, filled with the Holy Spirit, will attract others to Jesus for the glory of God the Father. In our letting go, we help build the Kingdom of Heaven on earth . . . transforming our world into a place of holy sacrifice, goodness, and love, that catches like wildfire.

Come and be filled!

Have a blessed week,

Deacon Steve Hodson

Saint Francis of Assisi Parish	
2024 Bishop's Appeal as of 3/8/24	
Bishop's Appeal Goal:	\$91,200
Total Pledged:	\$32,950 (36%)
Donors to Date:	37 Donors
	
<p>Our Annual Bishop's Appeal has begun. Thank you to all who have donated to the 2024 Bishop's Appeal. We have received \$32,950 (36%) towards our goal. If you haven't, please consider making a contribution to support the many people it helps through Catholic Charities and many other services. There are still envelopes in the pew, if you would like to do that today, and hand them to one of the ushers as you leave. We hope that 100% of our registered households will respond.</p>	
<p>To make a gift, or for more information, please visit us at 2024 BishopsAppeal.org, call (203) 416-1470 or scan with your phone.</p>	

The Fifth Sunday of Lent

MASS INTENTIONS

5:00 p.m. **Emma Baines (L) Bday** by the Baines Family
Sunday, Mar. 17th-The Fifth Sunday of Lent

8:00 a.m. **Susan Blasch (L)**

9:30 a.m. **Chris Field (L) Bday** by Thom and Anita Field

11:00 a.m. **Richard Irwin (D)** by Don Rickenback

5:00 p.m. **Monty Tucker (D)** by Don and Louise Strange
Monday, Mar. 18th-Lenten Weekday-St. Cyril of Jerusalem,
Bishop and Doctor of the Church

7:30 a.m. **Joe Dudek (L) Bday** by Dave and Gina Fleming
Tuesday, Mar. 19th-Lenten Weekday-St. Joseph, Spouse of the
Blessed Virgin Mary

7:30 a.m. **Ziggy Serafin (D)** by the Fontaine Family
Wednesday, Mar. 20th-Lenten Weekday-

7:30 a.m. **Brad Peak (D)** by Dave and Gina Fleming

12:00 p.m. **Joe and Gil Ottomano (D)** by Sharon Bell
Thursday, Mar. 21st-Lenten Weekday-

7:30 a.m. **Milton Schreiber, Jr. (D)** by Patrick Guerin

Friday, Mar. 22nd-Lenten Weekday-

7:30 a.m. **Frank Spadaro (H)** by Richard Kramer

Sat., Mar. 23rd-Lenten Weekday-St. Turibius of Mogrovejo,
Bishop

9:00 a.m. **Annie Aloise (D)** by Patrick Guerin

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: 203-938-0874 or reddingglen2@optonline.net

Eucharistic Miracle-Alatri, Italy-1728

A young woman stole a consecrated host to make a love potion as suggested by an ill-advised acquaintance. The woman hid the host in a cloth during Mass. When she returned home, she realized that the host had been transformed into bleeding flesh.

To read the full story, go to :
miracolieucaaristici.org

Weekly Stewardship

Weekend Collection for 3/9-3/10.....\$5,841.00
Weekly Budget Goal.....\$6,500.00
Total Difference.....\$(659.00)

From the Finance Committee

Fr. Augustine and The Finance Committee are so grateful for your generous financial support.

"Remember, God will not be outdone in generosity!"

Consider a financial gift to the parish.

The Parish relies entirely on good-will donations to cover its operating expenses.

A One-Time gift gives the parish a financial boost to meet our current income gap.



ALL WOMEN OF THE PARISH ARE INVITED



March 18 at 7pm
Baskets for Birthright and General Meeting

Birthright supports young mothers during pregnancy, and as long as needed, with counseling, referrals and newborn items

We will be creating layette baskets for new moms

We have diapers! We'd like to add a few more essentials. Please bring any of these to the meeting (or back of church):

Baby wipes, Diaper rash ointment, Wipes, Baby shampoo, Baby lotion, Pacifier, Newborn onesie/socks/hat

IMPORTANT!

Please sign up so we know how many baskets are needed. Sign-up link is in the website or scan the QR code:



Sponsored by the St. Francis of Assisi Women's Guild

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
Preschool for hosting last Sunday, March 10
Corbo family for hosting this Sunday, March 17

There will be no Coffee Social Palm Sunday, March 24

Hosts needed for April 21 and May 5, 12, 19, 26

For information or to volunteer, please contact:

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

Faith Formation News

Learning....

Loving....

Living...

CHRIST!

Faith Formation Office Hours

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



Learning....

Loving....

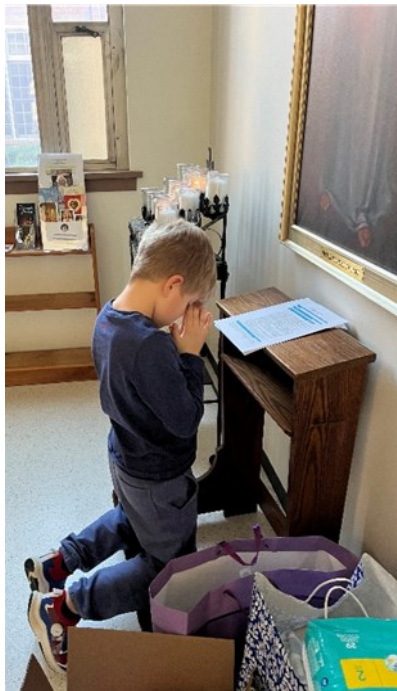
Living...

CHRIST!

Saturday, March 16 – First Communion Student Retreat – MANDATORY – 9:30AM
12:30PM

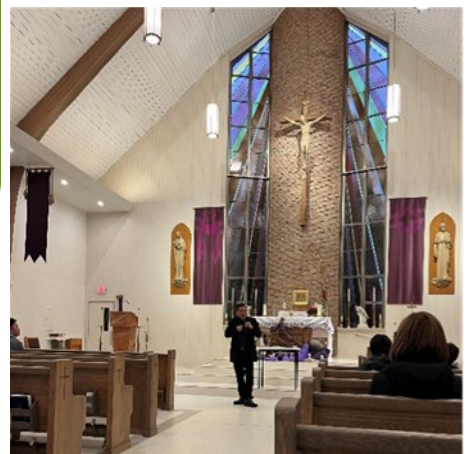
Sunday, March 24 – No classes – Palm Sunday

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*



Preschool /Youth Ministry News

Thank you to our SFA families, teachers and staff for making our Preschool Mass and Coffee Social a success on last Sunday.

If you would like a tour of
SFA Preschool, please contact our
Director, Marianne Keith at
mkeith@sfapreschool.com
or call 203 454 8646



Our SFA teens recently joined teens from Assumption at St. Aloysius for a special teen Adoration. 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

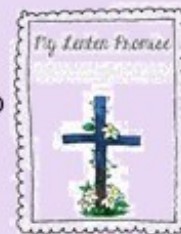
Every week during Lent

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)



Birthright Drive Feb 18-Mar 18

Diapers, wipes, baby wash, lotion, diaper rash ointment for new moms
See email or website for more info



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,
in the Parish Hall
with Lenten reflections



Easter Egg Hunt, Sun Mar 24 after 9:30 Mass

Behind the Church in the preschool area
with an appearance by the Easter Bunny
Refreshments will be served



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



Mary's Way of the Cross

Good Fri, Mar 29, 7pm, Church
See Jesus' walk to Calvary through
Mary's eyes



Blessing of Easter Food

Sat Mar 30, 12 noon,
In the Church

Triduum through Easter

Morning Prayer, Thu/Fri/Sat Mar 28-30, at 8am in the Church

Mass of the Lord's Supper, Holy Thursday Mar 28, 7pm

Lord's Passion, Good Friday, Mar 29, 3pm

Easter Vigil Mass, Saturday Mar 30, 8pm

Easter Sunday Masses, Mar 31, 8am, 9:30am, 11am

Parish Calendar

Sunday, Mar. 17

8:00 a.m.
9:30 a.m.
10:15 a.m.
11:00 a.m.
5:00 p.m.

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Sunday Mass
Sunday Family Mass
Coffee Social
Sunday Mass
Youth Mass

Mon., Mar. 18

7:30 a.m.
7:00 p.m.

Daily Mass
Women's Guild Meeting

Tues., Mar. 19

7:30 a.m.
7:00 p.m.

Daily Mass
Spiritual Autobiography w/Fr. Joe

Wed., Mar. 20

7:30 a.m.
12:00 p.m.
6:30 p.m.

Daily Mass
Lenten Mass
Last words of Jesus w/Fr. Nielsen

Thurs., Mar. 21

7:30 a.m.
6:30 p.m.

Daily Mass
Last words of Jesus w/Fr. Nielsen

Fri., Mar. 22

7:30 a.m.
7:00 p.m.

Daily Mass
Cantiamo Choir-Parish Hall

Sat. Mar. 23

9:00 a.m.
4:00 p.m.
5:00 p.m.

Daily Mass
Sacrament of Reconciliation
Sunday Vigil Mass

Sunday, Mar. 24

8:00 a.m.
9:30 a.m.
10:15 a.m.
11:00 a.m.
5:00 p.m.

Palm Sunday

Sunday Mass
Sunday Family Mass
Easter Egg Hunt-Parish Grounds
Sunday Mass
Youth Mass

Mon., Mar. 25

7:30 a.m.
3:00 p.m.

Daily Mass
Diocesan Reconciliation-OLF Wilton

Tues. Mar. 26

7:30 a.m.
7:00 p.m.

Daily Mass
Spiritual Autobiography w/Fr. Joe

Weds. Mar. 27

7:30 a.m.

Daily Mass

Thurs., Mar 28

8:00 a.m.
7:00 p.m.

Holy Thursday-Office Closed
Morning Prayer
Mass of the Lord's Supper

Fri., Mar. 29

8:00 a.m.
3:00 p.m.
7:00 p.m.

Good Friday-Offices Closed
Morning Prayer
Passion Service
Marian Stations of the Cross

Sat., Mar. 30

8:00 a.m.
8:00 p.m.

Holy Saturday
Morning Prayer
Easter Vigil

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