

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY IN WESTON

August 11, 2024

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

WHOEVER
BELIEVES HAS
ETERNAL LIFE.

— JOHN 6:47 —

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 - 8:00 a.m.,
9:30 a.m. Family Mass
11:00 a.m.
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.*

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This weekend's Gospel is the continuation of the Bread of Life Discourse from the sixth chapter of John. In today's Gospel Jesus' listeners could hardly contain themselves when Jesus claimed to be the "Bread of Life" who "came down from Heaven." They thought they knew his father and mother and saw Jesus as just another hometown boy – a carpenter by profession without any formal training in Mosaic Laws and Jewish Scriptures. They could remember when he had moved from Nazareth to Capernaum with a band of unknown disciples, mostly fishermen. Hence, they came to the natural conclusion: "either this man was, and is, the Son of God, or else a madman or something worse." In today's portion of the lengthy Bread of Life discourse, evangelist John re-emphasizes the similarities and contrasts between the old "manna in the wilderness" experience and this new notion of a "Bread of Life" that is directly tied to Jesus. In verse 41, John's noting of the Jewish identity of the "complaining" crowd recalls for us their own unique history. Those listening to Jesus began to "murmur" against Jesus and his gifts of Heavenly Bread even as the ancient Israelites began to "murmur" or "complain" against Moses -- first out of hunger (Exodus 16:2,7,12), then against the monotony of the manna diet (Numbers 11:4-6). Like the Israelites, we, too, complain when God fails to meet our expectations.

How did Jesus respond to the complain of the people? Jesus knew that the Jews were upset about His explanation that the multiplication of bread and fish signified that He himself was the Heavenly Bread that gives eternal life. Jesus challenged the Jews to take a journey of Faith by seeing Him, not as the son of Joseph, but as the one who came down from Heaven. Saying, "No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me..." Jesus told His listeners, and tells us day, that everyone who has become His follower has done so because God the Father has called him or her to Jesus. It is an act of God that has brought us to follow the way of Jesus. Faith is a gift. To follow Jesus is to live by Faith: to believe in and use the means necessary to make those radical changes to one's lifestyle that being a believer demands. This persistent theme serves to remind the listener that only Jesus, the true Bread of Life, can impart the gift of eternal Life to the faithful. Jesus is a source of Life for us, giving himself to us by His own self-sacrificing love. Christ, the Bread of Life, is the love, justice and compassion of God incarnate.

Through this weekend's Gospel, Mother Church invites us to appreciate God's love for us expressed through Eucharist and the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist. The Fathers of the Church explain, "while the ordinary food is assimilated into a person, the very opposite takes place in Holy Communion. Here a person is assimilated into the Bread of Life." Hence, let us learn to receive Jesus, really present in the Eucharist, with due reverence, true repentance, proper preparation and grateful hearts. Let us remember that Holy Communion 1) increases our intimate union with Christ; 2) preserves and renews the Sanctifying Grace received at Baptism; 3) cleanses us from past sin and preserves us from future sins; 4) strengthens the theological virtue of Charity in us, thus enabling us to be separated from our disordered attachments and to be rooted in Christ; and 5) unites us more deeply to the mystery of the Church.

Yours in Christ, Fr. Augustine

Questions for Personal Reflection:

- 1) When have I struggled with uniting my sufferings and triumphs with Jesus? Or what have parishioners shared that offers insights into their hardships and struggles? How does the Eucharist satisfy these internal and external aches?
- 2) When do I choose "temporal bread"—like entertainment or pleasures—instead of Jesus the Bread of Life? Why?
3. St. Clare confided in Jesus in the Eucharist to protect her and her sisters when Assisi was under attack by the Saracens. How does she inspire you to entrust yourself more fully to Jesus in the Eucharist?
4. In what ways am I being invited by Jesus to help people encounter Him in His Paschal Mystery, especially in the Eucharist?

The Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Intentions

5:00 p.m. **Enzo Marcos Vasquez (L) Bday**
Sunday, Aug 11th-The Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00 a.m. **Irene LaDestro (D)**
9:30 a.m. **Claire Dunn (D)** by the Del Corso Family
11:00 a.m. **Cornelia Toffolo (D)** by Marissa Woodworth
Monday, Aug. 12th-Saint Jane Frances de Chantal, Religious
7:30 a.m. **Klara Karwowski (L)** by her Parents
Tuesday, Aug. 13th-Sts. Pontian, Pope and Hippolytus, Priest
7:30 a.m. **Vincenza Crocitto (D)** by the Mancinelli Family
Wednesday, Aug. 14th-St. Maximilian Kolbe, Priest and Martyr
7:30 a.m. **Cathy Tusiani (D)** by Dave and Gina Fleming
Thursday, Aug. 15th-The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
7:30 a.m. **Damian Karwowski (L)** by his Parents
12:00 p.m. **Brian Dolan (D)** by Linda Nash and Noel Lafayette
7:00 p.m. **Jadwiga Jankowska (D)** by the Baines Family
Friday, Aug. 16th-Saint Stephen of Hungary
7:30 a.m. **Joann Martin (D)** by the Mancinelli Family
Sat., Aug. 17th-Weekday-
9:00 a.m. **Sanctity of Life Intentions**

Eucharistic Adoration

Adoration will not be held during the summer months of June, July, and August; Questions? Anita Field
reddingglen2@optonline.net

Eucharistic Miracle-Veroli, Italy-1570

At St. Erasmus Church on Easter Sunday, a chalice containing a pyx (a holder for consecrated hosts) was on view for 40 hours of public adoration. During the adoration, an incredibly bright star was seen at the base of the chalice and the image of the child Jesus appeared in the exposed host. The same chalice is used by the Bishop once a year at Easter time.

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

Weekly Stewardship

Weekly Collection for 7/27-7/28.....\$5,840.00
Weekly Budget Goal..... \$7,475.00
Total Difference..... (\$1,635.00)

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.

Scan our QR code to access our Online Giving.



We welcome to God's Family:
Joseph Matthew Neff, Son of Jack
and Caroline Neff
Baptized on Sunday, July 21, 2024.



SFA Strategic Plan UPDATE

Here's what's being planned...



Children's liturgy will start in the fall at the 9:30 Mass

'Let the little children come to me' Mark 10:13

Children will be invited to sit on the altar steps
Homily will be child-appropriate and interactive
And of course, still relevant to adults

Interested in helping? Please contact:

Caroline Neff at caroline.neff12@gmail.com

Let friends know and invite them to join us
More information to follow

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

Faith Formation

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

Faith Formation Registration is Open!

Forms are available at the Faith Formation Office. *Each child must register every year.* Our formation classes are continuous and build one year upon the next. Grade 1 is required for First Eucharist preparation and Grades 3-7 are required for Grade 8 Confirmation.

Register before June 1st to avoid the \$100.00 late fee!

The Faith Formation Office is closed for the summer and will reopen on August 29th. I will be coming in the office, but I will not have set hours. If you need to register your child for Faith Formation Classes, please download the registration form on the website or pick up forms in either the parish office or in the faith formation front desk from 10am-3pm.

Catechists and Catechists Assistants are needed for 1st, 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th grade. To be a catechist you do not need to be an expert teacher or a theologian. Catechists are ordinary people who generously give their time to share the Catholic faith, values, and traditions with the youngest generation of Christians. Please prayerfully consider joining the Faith Formation team! For more information on this beautiful and important ministry please email me at gfileming@stfrancisweston.org or call 203-227-8353



Our St. Francis Youth Group joined young people from throughout the Diocese to participate in a special day of service in Norwalk at St. Matthew's Church. After starting the day with Mass, the group helped Filling in the Blanks, an organization that feeds hungry children, before heading to Malta House, to hold a carnival for the children while the moms enjoyed some relaxation and a barbeque.

The group also prayed the rosary throughout the day, listened to inspirational talks, and ended the day with evening prayers. As always, they did everything with a smile!

If you would like your 6th through 12th grader to participate in fun, service and faith-building, please contact Youth Minister Michele Harding at :

youthminister@stfrancisweston.org

GROWING

WITH THE *Gospel*

CYCLE B



COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



19th Sunday in Ordinary Time • John 6:41-51



Promote your business while supporting our Parish

- Make neighbors your customers
- Printed bulletins are also available digitally, reaching up to 1100 families
- Full color ads with graphic support to help you design the ad
- \$516 for one year



To place your ad (or get help with the ad), contact
Christopher Guldager at cguldager@4LPI.com
or 800-477-4574 x6829

*We appreciate your support
Together we can continue to grow the vitality of our parish*

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 Tubridy and Mumbach Families for hosting last Sunday, August 4
Hailey Sarno for hosting this Sunday, August 11
The Skidd and Atienzas Families for hosting next Sunday, August 18

Hosts needed for September 29 and October 13, 20, 27

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

We invite you to be part of the future growth and vitality of our parish



A group of parishioners has been working over the last several months to develop a 3-year Strategic Plan

**We are excited by these ideas to deepen our faith
and nourish us with spiritual, service and social
events to make our parish even stronger**

As a small parish, it will take time to make this a reality
We can't do it without your help

Please look over the plan and let us know...

What gets YOU excited?

What do YOU want to be sure gets done?

Where could YOU be involved?

Go to our website for more
information about the
Strategic Plan and how to
respond... or scan the QR code



*I personally thank you in advance,
Fr. Augustine Nguyen*

CARNIVAL SAVE THE DATE

Saturday Oct 5 – Sunday Oct 6
12 noon-6:00 pm each day

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY
Inflatables, games, live music, food & drink
More information to follow



CAN YOU HELP US PLAN?

The fun starts early if you help plan this exciting event
Anyone and everyone has ideas and is invited!
Contact Sandra Jester at Sjest2@aol.com or 203-247-2354

CAN YOU BE A SPONSOR?

\$500 donation and your business is on all publicity
Contact Sandra Jester at Sjest2@aol.com or 203-247-2354

DIocese of BRIDGEPORT

Wedding Jubilee Mass

For all those married couples
celebrating their 25th, 40th, 45th or 50+ year anniversaries
are invited to gather at Saint Augustine Cathedral, Bridgeport

on SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2024

at 1:30 pm for a Mass celebrated by Bishop Caggiano
Space is limited to four guests

To register, contact Patricia Hansen at phansen@diobpt.org or 203.416.1342

Parish Calendar

Sunday, Aug. 11 **Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:00 a.m. Sunday Mass

9:30 a.m. Sunday Family Mass

11:00 a.m. Sunday Mass

Mon, Aug. 12

7:30 a.m. Daily Mass

Tues., Aug. 13

7:30 a.m. Daily Mass

Weds. Aug. 14

7:30 a.m. Daily Mass

Thurs., Aug. 15 **The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

7:30 a.m. Mass

12:00 p.m. Mass

7:00 p.m. Mass

Fri., Aug. 16

7:30 a.m. Daily Mass

Sat. Aug. 17

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. Daily Mass

Sunday, Aug. 18 **Twentieth 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

Mon., Aug. 19

7:30 a.m. Daily Mass

Tues., Aug. 20

7:30 a.m. Daily Mass

Weds., Aug. 21

7:30 a.m. Daily Mass

Thurs., Aug. 22

7:30 a.m. Daily Mass

Fri., Aug. 23

7:30 a.m. Daily Mass

Sat., Aug. 24

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/Newsletter

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, Deacon Steve Hodson, Frank Infurchia,
Blandine Lewine (Chair), Elise Major, Bob O'Brien, Linda Nash
finance@stfrancisweston.org

Knights of Columbus

Dennis Jung- dennisjungesq@gmail.com

Women's Guild

Chris Purdy- purdymc@optonline.net