

**ST. FRANCIS
OF ASSISI
PARISH**

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY IN WESTON

December 1, 2024

**1st 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.
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,

*Light the Advent candle one
Now the waiting has begun
We have started on our way
Time to think of Christmas Day.
Candle, candle burning bright
Shining in the cold winter night
Candle, candle burning bright
Fill our hearts with Christmas light.*

Happy and blessed Advent! For many of us, Advent is one of the most favorite of all the liturgical seasons. It holds hope, promise, love, and all the things that we need to be at peace with ourselves and one another. Although this season is often lost because of all the emphasis on the retail and commercial preparations for Christmas, this Advent season calls us to quiet and provides us an opportunity to reflect on why our God chose to send His Son as our Savior. The lines in the passage from Jeremiah on this First Sunday remind us that “the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and Judah...in those days Judah shall be safe and Jerusalem shall dwell secure; this is what they shall call her: The LORD our justice.””

There is no better time to hear these words than today when nations are at war with one another and persecution and suffering is inflicted on so many innocent people. That is not only about these international and political wars, it is also about the wars in our personal lives! This is from the love we are called to have for one another. The sober reminder in the concluding words of the Gospel remind us of the importance of taking this holy season seriously: “Be vigilant at all times and pray that you have the strength to escape the tribulations that are imminent and to stand before the Son of Man.”

Are you ready to encounter the Lord? Are you ready to stand in judgment for your actions? Do you really understand the life that Jesus calls us to live? Are you ready? Use well these days of Advent to prepare yourself...do not put off until tomorrow what is important to get done today!

This holy season provides us with many opportunities to accomplish that...so stay awake and get busy doing the things that in the end really matter!

We offer many opportunities during the Season of Advent for you to come prepare yourself for the coming of the Savior during Christmas. Please the bulletin and newsletter for the Advent schedule and please make the commitment to take this time for yourself and renew your relationship with the Lord and the Church. Invite someone to join you and take the journey of faith together.

Wishing you a blessed Advent season,

Fr. Augustine

The First Sunday of Advent

Mass Intentions

5:00 p.m. **Vincenza Crocitto (D)** by Mike and Kay Byrnes
Sunday, Dec. 1st-The First Sunday of Advent

8:00 a.m. **Lori White (L)**

9:30 a.m. **Christopher and Neda Morvillo (D)** by the Zullos

11:00 a.m. **Antoinetta Strange (D)** by Don Strange
Monday, Dec. 2nd- Advent Weekday-

7:30 a.m. **Gloria Doino (D)** by the Wrynn Family
Tuesday, Dec. 3rd-St. Francis Xavier, Priest

7:30 a.m. **John Gallagher (D)**
Wednesday, Dec. 4th-Advent Weekday-St. John Damascene,
Priest and Doctor of the Church

7:30 a.m. **Patrick McCarthy (D)** by the Mancinelli Family
Thursday, Dec. 5th-Advent Weekday-

7:30 a.m. **Bonnie Revolt (D)** by the Galasinski/Novi Family
Friday, Dec. 6th-Advent Weekday-St. Nicholas, Bishop

7:30 a.m. **Pam Franco Mancinelli (L) Bday** by Dave and Gina Fleming

Sat., Dec. 7th-Saint Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

9:00 a.m. **Nancy Murgalo (L)** by Dave and Gina Fleming

Eucharistic Adoration

Adoration will be in the Main Church, with the Divine Mercy Chaplet sung at 2:35 p.m. Questions?

Adoration-Martin Tubridy mtubridy@optonline.net
Divine Mercy-Anita Field redingglen2@optonline.net

Eucharistic Miracle-Cimballa, Spain-1370

A pastor in Cimballa had strong doubts about the presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. While presiding at Mass, the Host transformed into flesh and blood began to flow from it on to altar linens. The relic of the corporal soaked in blood can be seen today in the parish of Santa Maria.

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

Weekly Stewardship

*Weekly Collection 11/16-11/17	\$7,200.00
Weekly Budget Goal.....	\$12,000.00
Total Difference.....	(4,800.00)

From the Finance Committee

We are four months into our fiscal year and we are currently running at 75% of our offertory budget, or \$35,000 below plan. Offertory is our main source of revenue. If you are already a regular offertory donor, THANK YOU! If you are not a regular donor, please consider joining your fellow parishioners who are.

Please scan our QR code to access **Online Giving**.

*Weekly numbers for 11/24/24 unavailable at early printing Deadline.



Children's Liturgy once a month



"Let the children come to me"
Mark 19:14

**Next Mass Dec 8
at 9:30**

Future dates announced at Mass,
in the bulletin and newsletter

Children are fully engaged...

Child-friendly homily at the altar and
youth readers, greeters, and the children's choir

Introduction to the Bible (like you've never seen it before!)

Through videos, discussion and instruction, the Bible will come to new life and understanding

Led by Fr. Joe

**Wednesday: Dec 4, 11, 18, at 10-11:30am
in the classroom area**



Learn more about becoming Catholic

If you or someone you know is interested in becoming Catholic, completing the sacraments or learning more about what the church teaches, join us for the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA)

No commitment required... all are welcome to learn more

Contact Pam Franco at pamffrg@gmail.com, 203-227-5823



Faith Formation



On Saturday, November 16th the Confirmation Candidates had their Retreat. We started with the celebration of the Holy Mass followed by a presentation on Saints. They worked on a Saints Sticker Book, which contains 16 pages of over 60 of the most important and influential Saints on Earth. The Activity was fun, inspiring, and instructional. The consent was that they enjoyed it very much!

Thank you also for sending in warm socks for those less privileged than us and we look forward to our next service project – the Rock-a-thon.

Below are some pictures from the Retreat.



May the Light of Christ surround you and grant you an Advent Season filled with Hope, Joy, Peace and Love forever.

Love and Peace

Gina Fleming

Important Upcoming dates:

Thursday, Dec. 12 will be our last day of classes

Classes resume on Thursday, Jan. 2

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at (203)227-8353 or gffleming@stfrancisweston.org

Preschool News/Youth Ministry News

If you would like a tour and to learn more about our programs, please contact our Director, Marianne Keith, at mkeith@sfapreschool.com or 203 454 8646



We were fortunate to receive a visit from Wildlife in Crisis so our Lunch Bunchers could witness the release of a rehabilitated female Red Tail Hawk, who had previously been injured hitting a car windshield in Weston center. They wanted her back in her own neighborhood and the release was magical!

Youth Ministry

Our St. Francis Youth Group had a busy weekend! First, they took time out to help with the CT FoodShare distribution in Norwalk, bringing smiles and conversations as they helped feed 160 families. The next day, the group joined with our pals from Assumption, Westport for fun at the Fall Phantom Fest at Lake Compounce!

If you would like your 6th-12th grader to join for fun, service and faith-building, please contact Youth Minister Michele Harding at youthminister@stfrancisweston.org.





ADVENT

December 2024



4, 11
18

Introduction to the Bible

Three Wednesdays: Dec 4, 11, 18 at 10-11:30am, Classroom area
Led by Fr Joe

6

Cantiamo Choir

Friday Dec 6 at 7pm in the hall, Led by Marlane Tubridy

14

Women's Guild Pot Luck Brunch & Gift/Cookie Exchange

Saturday Dec 14 after the 9am Mass
Bring small 'bunchy' dish for 6, 1 wrapped gift and 2 dozen home made cookies

14

Healing Service and Reconciliation

Saturday Dec 14 after the 5pm Mass
Fr Sean leads the healing service with priests available for reconciliation

15

Teaching Mass

Sunday Dec 15, 9:30 and 11:00 Masses
Step-by-step walk through the Mass... why do we do what we do?

Until
15

Toy Drive

11/25-12/15 drop off new, unwrapped toys (infant to teen)
or new/gently used and clean stuffed animals
Or donate online, by check or cash and Missy will shop for you... see separate announcement or newsletter for details

21

Amazed & Afraid: The Revelation of God become Man

Saturday Dec 21 after the 9am Mass
Bishop Barron video addresses some of the most controversial questions about the life and identity of Jesus and travels through Israel and Rome



CantiamoCHOIR

Christmas concert and reflection

Marlane Tubridy, Director

Start Advent with the joy of coming
together to hear carols as we prepare
for the birth of Jesus.

Friday, Dec 6 at 7pm, Parish Hall

TEACHING MASS

Sunday Dec 15
at the 9:30 and 11:00 Masses

Why do we do what do?

In one hour, while you attend Mass,
we will walk through a step-by-step
explanation of each part of the Mass

Parish Calendar

Sunday, Dec. 1	First Sunday of Advent
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., Dec. 2	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
Tues., Dec. 3	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
Weds. Dec. 4	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
12:00 p.m.	Eucharistic Adoration
Thurs., Dec. 5	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
Fri., Dec. 6	
7:30 a.m.	First Friday Mass
Sat. Dec. 7	
9:00 a.m.	Daily Mass
Sunday, Dec. 8	Second Sunday of Advent
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

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
Sarno family for hosting last Sunday, November 24
Sanchez family for hosting this Sunday, December 1

Hosts needed for December 8, 15, 22 and 29

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




CHRISTMAS TOY DRIVE Nov 25 – Dec 15

Drop off toys

New, unwrapped toys, infant to teen and
New/gently used stuffed animals
in the back of Church

OR

Donate and Missy will shop for you

Cash: Write Toy Drive on envelope
Check: Payable to SFA, Toy Drive in memo
Place In: collection basket or parish office
Online: Click here: 

Christmas gifts are a
luxury for many.
Let's make a child
smile this Christmas.



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

Stephen Hodson, Deacon
dnhodson@diobpt.org

Kimberley Del Corso, Business Manager/Bulletin Editor/
Preschool Program Coordinator
kdelcorso@stfrancisweston.org; kdelcorso@sfapreschool.com

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Gina Fleming, Director of Faith Formation
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faithformation@stfrancisweston.org

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mkeith@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 (475-257-7766)

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