

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY IN WESTON

January 19, 2025

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



FILL THE
JARS WITH
WATER.

— JOHN 2:7 —

**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,

In lieu of my normal weekly letter, below is the obituary for Fr. Joe. Also in this bulletin are 3 pages of photos and reflections from parishioners as a memorial to him.

REV. JOSEPH A. SIDERA, C.S.C.

February 15, 1942 – January 12, 2025

NORWALK, CONN. – Rev. Joseph Anthony Sidera, C.S.C., 82, died at Norwalk Hospital in Norwalk, Conn. on Sunday, January 12, 2025 after a short illness.

Rev. Joseph A. Sidera, C.S.C. was born in New Haven, Conn. on February 15, 1942 to John and Theresa (DiBonis) Sidera and is one of three children. Fr. Sidera graduated from Notre Dame High School in West Haven, Conn. before entering the Holy Cross Seminary at Stonehill College in 1959. He spent his Novitiate year in Bennington, Vt. before making first vows on August 16, 1961. He made final vows in Holy Cross on August 16, 1964. He completed his undergraduate studies at Stonehill college, before earning a Masters of Theology from Holy Cross College in Washington, D.C. in 1968. On June 1st of that same year, he was ordained a Holy Cross priest at Stonehill College in Easton, Mass.

After ordination in 1968, Fr. Sidera was assigned to teach Theology at King's College in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. until 1973. In 1973, he began his advanced studies at the University of Notre Dame, earning a Masters in Counseling in 1974 and a Masters in Social Psychology in 1975. From 1975-1977, he was assigned as Director of Campus Ministry at King's College before returning to the University of Notre Dame to earn his Doctorate in Psychology in 1983. From 1983-1985, he returned to King's College to teach Psychology. From 1985-1987, he worked as a counselor for Catholic Social Services for the Diocese of Fall River, Mass. before being assigned to the Formation Staff at Moreau Seminary in Notre Dame, Ind. from 1988-1991. In 1991, he returned to King's College as the Director of the Counseling Center until 2003, when he became Program Director of Shalom Center in Splendora, Tex. until 2005. From 2005-2008, he was assigned as Vocation Director of the Eastern Province of the Congregation of Holy Cross. In 2008, he was appointed Parochial Vicar of Our Lady of the Assumption Parish in Fairfield, Conn. and served there until 2013, when he was assigned as Associate Pastor at Holy Infant Parish in Orange, Conn. until 2017. From 2017-2019, he was appointed Associate Pastor at Church of the Assumption in Woodbridge, Conn.

Beginning in 2019, he assisted at St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Weston, Conn. where he ministered until the time of his passing.

Preceding Fr. Sidera in death are his parents, sister Angela Marie Petrucci and foster-sister Corine Alfano.

A Memorial Mass will be held on Thursday, January 16, 2025 at 12:00 p.m. ET at St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Weston, Conn. Fr. Sidera's funeral will be held on Tuesday, January 21, 2025 at 3:30 p.m. ET at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Notre Dame, Ind. You may join this Funeral Mass via livestream at <https://funerals.holycrossusa.org>

Burial will be in the Holy Cross Community Cemetery at Notre Dame, Ind. Harding Funeral Home in Westport, Conn. is in charge of the arrangements.

Memorial contributions in support of the mission and ministries of the Congregation of Holy Cross can be made to: United States Province of Priests and Brothers, Office of Advancement, P.O. Box 765, Notre Dame, IN 46556-0765 or online at <https://donate.holycrossusa.org>

The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Intentions

5:00 p.m. **Theo Van de Klundert (D)** by the Boers Family
Sunday, Jan. 19th-The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00 a.m. **Bonnie Revolt (D)** by the Novie Children
9:30 a.m. **Joseph Antone Rychlak (D)** by the Doino Family
11:00 a.m. **Gloria Doino (D)** by Ralph and Carol Palumbo
Monday, Jan. 20th- Weekday-Saint Fabian, Pope; St. Sebastian
7:30 a.m. **Aleksander Jankowski (D)** by the Wrynn Family
Tuesday, Jan. 21st-Saint Agnes, Virgin and Martyr
7:30 a.m. **Theo Van de Klundert (D)** by the Boers Family
Wednesday, Jan. 22nd-Saint Vincent, Deacon and Martyr
7:30 a.m. **Chris Field (L) & Amanda Field Piper (D)** by Thom and Anita Field
Thursday, Jan. 23rd-St. Vincent, Deacon; St. Marianne Cope
7:30 a.m. **George Petrucci (D)** by Mike and Kay Byrnes
Friday, Jan. 24th-Saint Francis de Sales, Bishop and Doctor
7:30 a.m. **Maria Grazia Pisani (D)** by Dave and Gina Fleming
Sat., Jan. 25th-Conversion of St. Paul, Apostle
9:00 a.m. **Deceased Members of the Fleming Family (D)** by Dave and Gina Fleming

Adoration and Sanctuary Lamps: **Rev. Joseph Sidera (D)**

Weekly Stewardship

*Weekly Collection 1/4-1/5	\$7641.00
Weekly Budget Goal.....	\$10,000.00
Total Difference.....	(\$2,359.00)

From the Finance Committee

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**.



***Our next second collection will be the weekend of Jan. 26th-The Church in Latin America**

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, January 12
Herman, O'Kelly, Palumbo and Roig families for hosting next Sunday,
January 19

Hosts needed for January 26 and February 16 and 23

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



Eucharistic Adoration

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

Adoration-Martin Tubridy mtubridy@optonline.net
Divine Mercy-Anita Field redding-glen2@optonline.net

Eucharistic Miracle-Silla, Spain,-1907

Stolen hosts were recovered in perfect condition under a stone in a small garden not far from the city. Even today, these hosts are preserved in the Church of Our Lady of the Angels in Silla, on the outskirts of Valencia, Spain.

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

PASTA DINNER

The last day to buy tickets for the Pasta Dinner is
Sunday, Jan 19

We have a few tickets left
If interested, please contact Anne Federici at
AnneFederici@optonline.net or 203.644.4071



PHOTOS AND REFLECTIONS IN MEMORY OF FR JOE

More photos and reflections will be at the Mass luncheon

In a very short period of time, I have experienced the loss of two important father figures: my biological father and Father Joe. Father Joe was not just a roommate, but a mentor and spiritual guide. His passing has been particularly difficult for me as I am far away and was unable to visit him in the hospital. This loss is deeply felt within our parish community. His intelligence, humor, humility and presence will greatly be missed. We must continue to live out the legacy which he left behind and the things he taught us since Father Joe came to SFA.

My most cherished memory of Father Joe is when he would begin the mass by saying "Let us always remember we are in the presence of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit."



Fr. Joe presided at my father's funeral Mass. He didn't know my dad and I wondered what he would say. His homily referenced a poem by Henry Van Dyke, "Gone From My Sight". It filled me with such comfort and hope that I would one day see my father again. I will be forever grateful to Fr. Joe for this. I'm sure there are many happy souls now saying of Fr. Joe "here he comes".



I remember how Father Joe always personalized Holy Communion by saying your first name as he gave you the eucharist. It seemed to put emphasis on a one-on-one relationship with Jesus.



Father Joe was an avid outdoorsman who loved fishing. He truly was a fisher of people (men, women and children). My 12-year-old grandson attended some of Father's scripture studies for men on Saturday mornings. Now, it is our task to continue Father Joe's work — hook, line and sinker. Keep him in your prayers.



What an angel he will make



I loved hearing all of Father Joe's stories about Squaw island Maine and other fishing adventures. He was filled with the Holy Spirit and helped me learn so much about my Faith. I'm going to miss you, Father Joe!



Every time I talked to Fr Joe or just listened to him, I came away inspired and committed to being a better Catholic. In his very gentle way, he moved me to know more, study more, pray more. His affect on my life has been profound. I am a better person because of him.

January 19, 2024



It was a few years ago and my in-laws were visiting at the time we were having the annual Lobster/Clam bake at the parish. Fr. Joe sat with my in-laws after we all ate and entertained them, telling stories and discussing life effortlessly for a couple of hours while we visited with various members of the parish and then helped clean up. When we got home, they just couldn't stop raving about what a wonderful time they'd had and how Fr. Joe was one of the nicest men they'd ever met. They, now we, will ever forget him!



Father Joe was such a kind, intelligent man with a gentle soul. I loved the perspective and insight he brought to his homilies. We will miss him dearly



I will be forever grateful to have met Fr. Joe and will forever remember his wonderful lessons of theology, his love of life, and his fatherly friendship. I will also remember how when he spoke to you, he made you feel as though you were the only person in the room. Thank you for all the beautiful memories, Fr. Joe. I need to weep his loss, but now he dwells in that safe place in my heart!



Father Joe delighted in serving at the altar of our Lord, Jesus. He had the heart of a shepherd always seeking to bring the Gospel to light with his wisdom and love. He will be missed dearly. May he rest in the perfect peace of our God who he served so faithfully.

Parish Calendar

Sunday, Jan. 19	Second 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., Jan 20	MLK, Jr. Day-Offices Closed
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
Tues., Jan. 21	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
Weds. Jan. 22	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
12:00 p.m.	Eucharistic Adoration
7:00 p.m.	Christian Meditation
Thurs., Jan. 23	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
Fri., Jan. 24	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
Sat. Jan. 25	
9:00 a.m.	Daily Mass
4:00 p.m.	Sacrament of Reconciliation
5:00 p.m.	Sunday Vigil Mass
6:00 p.m.	Pasta Dinner
Sunday, Jan. 26	Third 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, Jan. 27	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
Tues. Jan. 28	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
Weds. Jan. 29	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
12:00 p.m.	Eucharistic Adoration
7:00 p.m.	Christian Meditation
Thurs., Jan. 30	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
Fri., Jan. 31	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
Sat. Feb. 1	
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

Stephen Hodson, Deacon
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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