

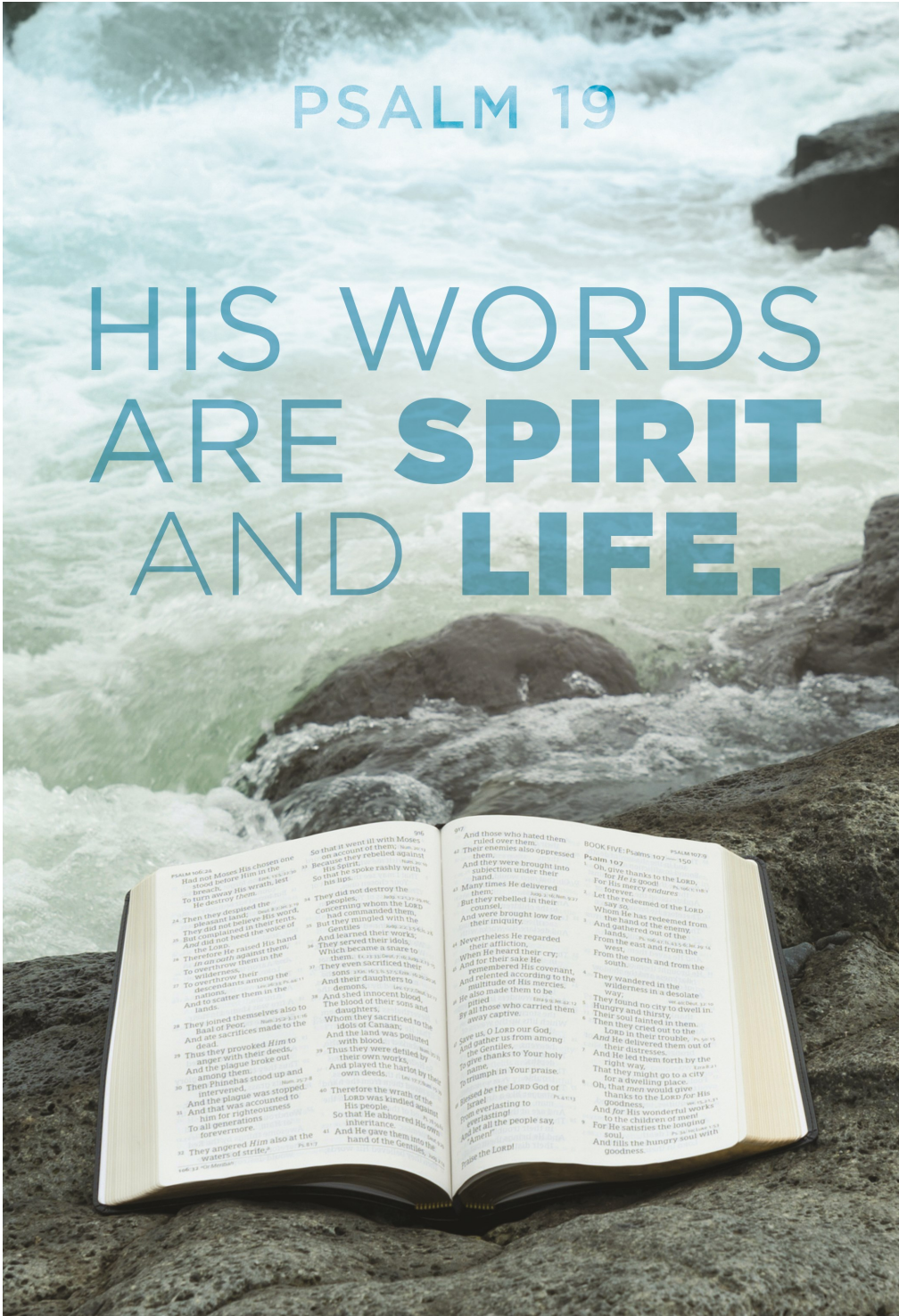
ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY IN WESTON

January 26, 2025

PSALM 19

HIS WORDS ARE SPIRIT AND LIFE.



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.*



God's Ways

In our lives we often rebel against laws or commandments that appear to limit our freedom. The terms themselves tend to connote restrictions rather than a means to true freedom. In today's Gospel, Luke speaks of the certainty of Jesus' commandments or teachings and how the Holy Spirit empower Jesus in his fulfillment of the law, the Torah. This is the same Holy Spirit that can be our strength and guide to complete fulfillment that we find in Jesus who is the way, the truth and our sure means to experiencing the joy of eternal life.

In our first reading, Ezra, the priest, is reading clearly the Torah of Moses to the people who have returned from exile in Babylon. Their temple had been destroyed, their faith fractured, and their former identity as a people of God, lost. The underlying message was that their exile and hardships were a result of the people straying from faith in God's laws ... God's teachings. Have we ever looked back to the times that we turned away from God and then, later, realized the terrible consequences that occurred in the aftermath? The thought can leave us with feelings of personal faithlessness and isolation from those around us.

Ezra helped the people understand more clearly the essence of Moses' teachings that flowed from a loving God. When God's teachings are viewed as truth filled expressions of God's love, and when taken to heart, conversion takes place. The people wept after Ezra explained the essence and truth of God's ways to them. The same is true in our lives: the truth of the law can convict us and bring tears of sadness at times. Yet when we walk with Jesus, the Truth will reconcile us and set us free. Hearing the Word of God can release in us tears of joy and gratitude.

Having faith means trusting in God during times of trial and temptation with the knowledge that God will find a way for us to conquer any evil that may come our way. And should we fall, we can be reconciled time and again by the most magnificent teacher, Jesus, who gave us the sacrament of reconciliation and whose very words we have in scripture to guide us.

Henry Adams, a 19th century American historian and journalist once said, "A teacher affects eternity, he can never tell where his influence stops." Jesus' influence on a contrite heart is beyond measure. Jesus tells us in the Gospel of Matthew, "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and you shall find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

Today Jesus, quoting the prophet, Isaiah, says "the Spirit of God is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor. He has sent me to bring liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free . . ."

Jesus' mission is to set the captives free, and he will do so by teaching us His ways of healing and love by his words and actions- miracles that make us whole and bring tears of joy. We are called to do the same, some as "*apostles, prophets, teachers, workers of mighty deeds, healers, assistants, administrators*" and the like, all members of the one Body of Christ, all working in harmony to bring the life of Jesus to all we meet. So never give up hope for "today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing."

God's grace & peace,

Deacon Steve

The Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Intentions

5:00 p.m. **Aleksander and Jadwiga Jankowski (D)** by the Baines Family

Sunday, Jan. 26th-The Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. **Christine Alvarez (L)**

9:30 a.m. **Mary Lou Tilley (D)** by Dave and Gina Fleming

11:00 a.m. **Domenico Pisani (D)** by Ralph and Carol Palumbo

Monday, Jan. 27th- St. Angela Merici, Virgin and Religious Founder

7:30 a.m. **Julia Lansing (L)**

Tuesday, Jan. 28th-St. Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Doctor

7:30 a.m. **Richard L. Canel (D)** by Kevin Canel

Wednesday, Jan. 29th-Weekday-

7:30 a.m. **Louise Strange (D)** by Don Strange

Thursday, Jan. 30th-Weekday-

7:30 a.m. **George Petrucci (D)** by Dave and Gina Fleming

Friday, Jan. 31st-Saint John Bosco, Priest

7:30 a.m. **Lorenzia Oakes (D)** by the Oakes Family

Sat., Feb. 1st-Weekday-

9:00 a.m. **Peg Bisceglie (H)** by Sharon Bell

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

Weekly Stewardship

*Weekly Collection 1/18-1/1	\$6,062.00
Weekly Budget Goal.....	\$8,000.00
Total Difference.....	(\$1,938.00)

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 this weekend Jan. 26th-The Church in Latin America**



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 redning-glen2@optonline.net

Eucharistic Miracle-Betania, Venezuela-1991

A priest was celebrating Mass and at the consecration, he divided the host into four parts. When he placed it on the paten, on particle was bleeding. It can be viewed still today in Betania.

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

Children's Liturgy once a month



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

**Next Mass Feb 2
at 9:30**

Future dates announced at Mass,
in the bulletin and newsletter

Children are fully engaged...

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



Important Upcoming dates

- Tuesday, January 28th - Saint's Biography is due for the Confirmation Class
- Monday, February 3 – No Classes –We follow Public School's Schedule
- Classes resume on Tuesday, February 4

Last week the students learned of the Baptism of the Lord.

Questions were asked such as:

Why did Jesus need baptism since He was the Son of God?

The Answer to this is:

Jesus was baptized **NOT** because He needed to be absolved from *original sin* nor did He need to turn away from sin, but rather His baptism served as a sign to what John the Baptist was preaching - to **“prepare the way of the Lord” (Isaiah 40:3)** and to confirm Jesus' identity as the Messiah who took on human nature in order to atone for our sins so we might have eternal life.

What an honor and precious gift it is to be loved by God unconditionally!



Students also worked on their Saint's project and really enjoyed the experience.

All parents are always welcome to come and observe a class. If interested, please let me know and I will be happy to arrange it.

Ask your child what he or she learned today.

Peace and Blessings,

Gina Fleming and Teresa Karwowski

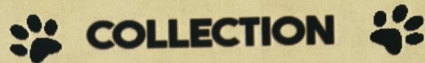
PRESCHOOL NEWS/YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS



SFA Preschool In House Registration has ended and spots are extremely limited going forward. If you would like a tour, please contact our Director, Marianne Keith, at mkeith@sfapreschool.com to arrange a day and time.

203-454-8646

Towels/Sheets/Blankets



COLLECTION



During the month of January, our youth group is organizing a collection drive to gather used blankets, towels, and sheets for our local animal shelters!

Drop off at St Francis in the Youth Room.



This is a wonderful opportunity to give back to our furry friends in need.

- Look around your home for any old blankets, towels, or sheets that you no longer use. These items can provide comfort and warmth to animals awaiting adoption.

Made with PosterMyWall.com



SFA Youth Group

If you would like your 6th-12th grader to join us for service, fun, and faith-building, please email our Youth Minister, Michele Harding, at youthminister@stfrancisweston.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
Herman, O'Kelly, Palumbo and Roig families for hosting last Sunday,
January 19
Capellan family for hosting February 2
Donohue family for hosting February 9
No Coffee Social this Sunday, January 26
Hosts needed for February 16 and 23 and March 2, 9, 16 and 23
For information or to volunteer, please contact:
Carol Palumbo, 203-227-3271 or candrapalumbo@gmail.com

ALL WOMEN OF THE PARISH ARE INVITED



Game Night

Monday Jan 27
6:00 pm
Parish Hall

Play scrabble, rummikub, sequence or mahjong
Enjoy a night of snacks, refreshments and fun!

No charge

If you have questions, please contact
Jane LaCorte, janestravel@hotmail.com



Sponsored by the St Francis of Assisi Women's Guild

ALL WOMEN ARE INVITED

JESUS BE MY VALENTINE

with Rosary and Chocolates
Monday Feb 10 at 6pm, Parish Hall

We will pray and learn more about the Rosary
Please bring chocolates to share
No charge

Questions? Contact Chris Purdy at
purdymc@optonline.net



Sponsored by the St Francis of Assisi Women's Guild

St. Francis of Assisi Church

Office Hours: Monday through Thursday

10 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Closed Fridays

203-227-1341

Tricia, ext. 10

Fr. Augustine, ext. 11

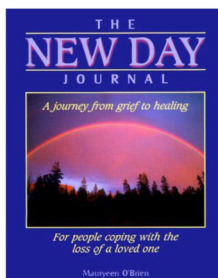
Kimberley, ext. 13

office@stfrancisweston.org

NEW DAY BEREAVEMENT PROGRAM CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION, WESTPORT

Wednesday afternoons 2:00 – 3:30pm

March 5 – April 30



Your loss may be recent or long ago.

We are here to help you on your journey to healing where you are invited to share your story, and to find comfort in a supportive, confidential environment.

God will support you in your sorrow, and He will walk with you as you begin your journey through loss to healing.

Meetings take place in a small-group confidential setting at:
Church of the Assumption
98 Riverside Avenue
Westport, CT 06880

Meetings are led by trained bereavement facilitators. There is no charge.

Church of the Assumption is partnering with the Bereavement Initiative of the Fairfield County Catholic Cemeteries to offer this program. Please go to the following website to submit a Program Inquiry Form or you can contact Carolyn Killian at 203-404-0023.

Ctcemeteries.org/newday

Once the form is submitted, you will hear from one of our bereavement ministers regarding the next steps.

Parish Calendar

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
7:00 p.m.	Game Night
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
Sunday, Feb. 2	The Presentation of the Lord
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., Feb. 3	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
Tues. Feb. 4	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
Weds. Feb. 5	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
12:00 p.m.	Eucharistic Adoration
7:00 p.m.	Christian Meditation
Thurs., Feb. 6	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
Fri., Feb. 7	
7:30 a.m.	Daily Mass
Sat. Feb. 8	
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
dnhodson@diobpt.org

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

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

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