

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY IN WESTON

March 16, 2025



2nd SUNDAY OF LENT

While he was still speaking, a cloud came and cast a shadow over them, and they became frightened when they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my chosen Son; listen to him."

- Lk 9:34-35

pts 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.
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,

Last weekend, on the 1st Sunday of Lent, we heard of Jesus being in the desert for 40 days, where he prayed and fasted and was tempted by the Devil. We can see our 40 days of Lent as also being 40 days in the desert. This 2nd weekend of Lent, we are always presented with the mystery of Jesus' transfiguration on the mountaintop. All three of the synoptic Evangelists - Matthew, Mark, and Luke - portray the transfiguration in their Gospels. Of those three accounts, Luke is the only one who portrays Jesus praying, with the disciples falling asleep.

It is good to know the context of the transfiguration event. Jesus was setting out to go to Jerusalem and to the cross; he had just told his disciples that in Jerusalem he would be handed over to be put to death, but that on the third day, he would rise again. The disciples were anxious and trying to figure out what all of that meant. His closest disciples had spent three years with him helping him in his ministry, but Jesus knew that these upcoming events in Jerusalem would shake their faith. Jesus took three of his most intimate disciples, Peter, James and John, and went up onto a mountain to pray. We do not know the exact mountain, but, in general, mountains in Scripture are holy places where God had a special presence. Traditionally Mount Tabor is identified as the mountain in this event.

In Luke's Gospel, prayer precedes the important event that takes place in Jesus' life – his baptism, his choosing of the apostles and sending them on a mission, and his passion. In the transfiguration, Luke states: "While (Jesus) was praying His face changed in appearance and his clothing became dazzling white." Also, in Luke, whenever a character is at prayer, amazing things happen. For example, when Simeon and Anna are praying in the Temple, the behold the Christ child with the Holy Family, which we heard on the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord in early February. So prayer is an important prelude to anything significant happening for Luke. This is something we ourselves are called to keep in mind in this season of Lent. We are called in a special way to devote time to prayer during Lent, so that these holy days of preparation will be significant for us and so that our Easter event this year can be truly remarkable.

Have a blessed week,

Fr. Augustine Nguyen



March 9 – April 27

Help the Sisters at the Missionaries of Charity, founded by Mother Teresa, provide food and supplies to needy families in Bridgeport

They have limited space and serve Hispanic families with specific food preferences... please only donate items listed

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| ✓ White rice, no larger than 5 lbs | ✓ Coffee |
| ✓ Beans (especially pinto, kidney, black beans) | ✓ Carnation canned milk |
| ✓ Cooking oil | ✓ Juice (quart or half gallon) |
| ✓ Sugar, no larger than 5 lbs | ✓ Juice boxes for kids |
| ✓ Corn meal, no larger than 5 lbs | ✓ Flavored oatmeal |
| ✓ Flour | ✓ Mac and Cheese boxes |
| ✓ Masa/ Maseca (brand of corn flour available in Target) | ✓ Pasta |
| | ✓ Pasta sauce |
| | ✓ Powdered laundry detergent |

Drop off at the back of church

Thank you for your generosity!



Sponsored by the St. Francis of Assisi Knights of Columbus Council 17166

A COMEDY WRITER FINDS GOD

THOMAS LEOPOLD'S JOURNEY TO FAITH WAS A CIRCUITOUS ONE WITH PLENTY OF PAIN AND LAUGHS ALONG THE WAY.

HE GREW UP A SECULAR JEW BUT HE FELT RUDDERLESS WHEN TRAGEDY STRUCK.

DISCOVER LEOPOLD'S FASCINATING JOURNEY TO FIND HIS FAITH AND GOD.

ST. FRANCIS PARISH HALL
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26, 2025
6:30 PM

LEOPOLD'S CAREER AS A COMEDY WRITER INCLUDES WRITING EPISODES OF SEINFELD, CHEERS, AND WILL AND GRACE, TO WORKING WITH SUCH COMEDIC LEGENDS AS STEVE ALLEN, BOB HOPE, LUCILLE BALL, BILLY CRYSTAL, CHEVY CHASE, AND CHRISTOPHER QUEST

CONTACT CHRIS PURDY - PURDYMC@OPTONLINE.NET

PRESENTED BY
ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI & THE WOMEN'S GUILD



Your gift to the Bishop's Appeal is more than just money. It provides hope.

Our future priests receive education and formation for 7-9 years, ultimately leading to a master's degree in theology before Ordination. They are formed in spiritual life, pastoral care, self-knowledge and the rich history of our Catholic tradition.



Second Sunday of Lent

Mass Intentions

5:00 p.m. **Emma Baines (L) Bday** by the Baines Family
Sunday, Mar. 16th-Second Sunday of Lent

8:00 a.m. **Biagio Scrivo (D)** by Dave and Gina Fleming

9:30 a.m. **Gerard Francis Bisceglie (D)** by the Bisceglie Family

11:00 a.m. **Monty Tucker (D)** by Don Strange
Monday, Mar. 17th-Lenten Weekday-Saint Patrick, Bishop

7:30 a.m. **Jadwiga Jankowska (D)** by the Karwowski Family
Tuesday, Mar. 18th-Lenten Weekday-St. Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

7:30 a.m. **Aleksander and Jadwiga Jankowski (D)** by the Baines Family
Wednesday, Mar. 19th-St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

7:30 a.m. **Vinh Nguyen (D)** by the Fleming Family

12:00 p.m. **Rev. Joseph Sidera (D)** by Jane LaCorte
Thursday, Mar. 20th-Lenten Weekday-

7:30 a.m. **William Major (D)** by the Major Family
Friday, Mar. 21st-Lenten Weekday-

7:30 a.m. **Dr. William Gallagher (D)** by Aline Weiller
Sat., Mar. 22nd-Lenten Weekday-

9:00 a.m. **Garrett Vasquez (L)**
Adoration and Sanctuary Lamps: **Rev. Joseph Sidera (D)**

Weekly Stewardship

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------|
| Weekly Collection 3/8-3/9/25 | \$7,095.82 |
| Weekly Budget Goal..... | \$8,000.00 |
| Total Difference..... | (\$ 904.18) |

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**.



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
redingglen2@optonline.net

Eucharistic Miracle-Canosio, Italy-1630

The townspeople moved away from their faith and were intrigued by Calvinism instead, which was a newer religion. A flood erupted and was about to overtake this small village. A parish priest took the Blessed Sacrament to the waters and the flood ceased immediately. The townspeople were amazed and the miracle is celebrated each year since during the octave of Corpus Christi.

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

FISH FRY FRIDAY

Adult: \$20
Child: \$15
Under 5: Free

BYOB

Menu

FRIED FISH
..... FRIED SHRIMP
CHICKEN FINGERS ...

[includes 12oz drink, coleslaw, french fries, coffee & tea]

Adult & Child Portions

Friday, MARCH 28

Open: 5 pm
Kitchen Close: 8 pm
Event Ends: 9 pm
Reserve by March 27
Walk-ins if space available

OUR PRIMARY SPONSOR
O'Neill's Pub & Restaurant
93 NORTH MAIN ST. NORWALK, CT 06854
(203) 838-0222

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT 203-227-1341 OR OFFICE@STFRANCISWESTON.ORG



Important Upcoming dates

April 13th through April 17th No Faith Formation Classes – Spring Break
Classes resume on Monday April 21

The fourth graders worked on *the Structure of the Mass* which is made up of a chart which separates the prayers of the Mass into 4 groups:

Green is for the Liturgy of the Word

Yellow is for the Preparation of the Gifts

Orange is for the "heart" of the Mass: The Eucharistic Prayer and

Grey is for Communion

The children are given small tiles that are colored to match the specific number of prayers in each section. The number of prayers is unchanging each week, but some of the tiles are white on the back which tells us that the prayer or reading for that day is "proper" for that Mass.

The focus of this presentation is to place the tiles and to notice the few picture tiles that represent the gestures of the Priest. These gestures are familiar to the children that have been in the atrium.

The first gesture is in the **Preparation of the Gifts**, while the last two gestures are found in **the Eucharistic Prayer**:

The Preparation of the Chalice: the priest adds a few drops of water to the wine (the wine represents Jesus, and the water represents us)

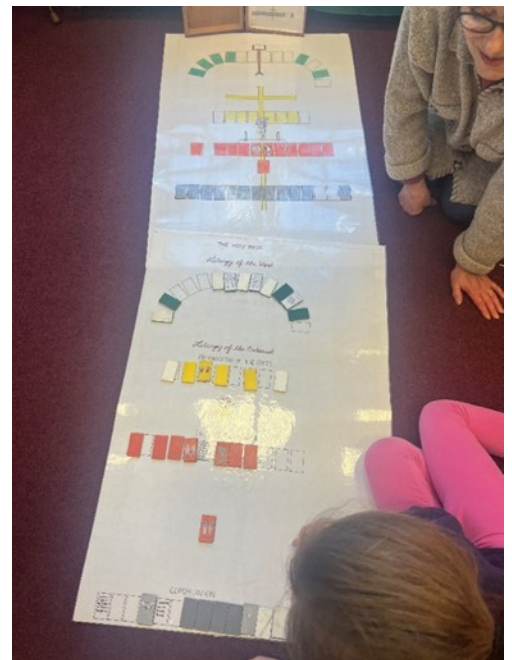
The Epiclesis: God the Father is asked to send his Spirit on the gifts of bread and wine (hands coming down onto the gifts)

The Offering: where we offer ourselves together with Christ back to the Father (hands raising up the gifts)

As you can see, this work provides the child with a greater understanding of how we are fed on the Word of God and in the Eucharist. It also encourages greater participation in Liturgy.

Ask your child what he or she learned today?

Parents are always welcome to come and observe a class.



Peace and Blessings,

Gina Fleming and Teresa Karwowski

PRESCHOOL NEWS/YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

Warmer days mean we get to use our Outdoor Classroom more and soak up the sun and fun!



Founded in 1999, SFA Preschool continues its mission as part of the church and Weston community by providing that “first step out of the home” in a warm and nurturing environment. If you would like a tour or more information, please call **203 454 8646** or email mkeith@sfapreschool.com.

Our St. Francis Youth Group had a busy weekend! First, they helped at the craft and face painting table at the International Pot Luck Dinner. The next day, we joined our friends at Assumption, Westport for a special service project called, “You’re Never Too Young To Serve”. The group led the 6th and 7th grader in decorating and filling snack bags for Filling in The Blanks in Norwalk. They will be distributed to children in need. As always, they served with a smile!



If you are interested in having your child participate in fun, service and faith-building, please contact me at youthminister@stfrancisweston.org-Michele Harding, Coordinator of Youth Ministry

OUR LENTEN JOURNEY AS A PARISH COMMUNITY

Every week during Lent

Mass at 7:30am, Monday-Friday

Mass at 12 noon, every Wednesday, Adoration 12:30-3pm, Divine Mercy Chaplet at 2:35

Stations of the Cross, every Friday 7pm (except April 11, at 6:30pm)



Beatitudes Bible Study for women, sponsored by the Women's Guild

4 Thursdays: March 6, 13, 20, 27 at 9:30am-11am, RSVP by Feb 27, held offsite

Contact Cheryl Allen at cheryllallen360@gmail.com or see the newsletter

Food Drive on March 9- April 27, sponsored by Knights of Columbus

Sisters at the Missionaries of Charity, founded by Mother Teresa, provide food and supplies to needy families in Bridgeport. See newsletter or poster for specific food items.



Tentative: Holy Doors and Plenary Indulgences (more information to follow)

Opportunity for plenary indulgence by meeting these spiritual practices: passing through the "Holy Doors" + communion, confession, prayers for intentions of the Pope and free from sin

Lenten speaker: 'Comedy Writer Finds God' on Wednesday March 26 at 6:30pm

Tom Leopold, comedy writer for Cheers, Seinfeld and more, shares his insightful and humorous conversion from Judaism to Catholicism



Fish Fry on Friday March 28 at 5pm-8pm, in the parish hall

Fried fish, shrimp, chicken, Adults \$20, Kids \$15, Under 5 free, BYOB, sponsored by O'Neill's

Reserve by March 27, see newsletter or poster for QR code to reserve, walk-ins if space available

Reconciliation Service on Thursday April 3 at 7pm



**Children's Mass on Sunday April 6 at 9:30 and
Consecration to the Holy Family at the end of Mass**



Religious Ed Reconciliation on April 7, 8, 10



CantiamoCHOIR concert on Friday April 11 at 7pm, in the Parish Hall

Day Trip on Saturday April 12

Abbey of Regina Laudis in Bethlehem CT, Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes in Litchfield CT
Mass, Breakfast and Stations of the Cross (outdoors)... more info to follow



Palm Sunday April 13

Vigil on Saturday April 12 at 5:30, Sunday April 13 at 8am, 9:30am, 11am



**Easter Egg Hunt after
Palm Sunday 9:30 Mass (outside)**



Parish Calendar

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Sunday, Mar. 16 | Second Sunday of Lent |
| 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., Mar. 17 | |
| 7:30 a.m. | Daily Mass |
| Tues., Mar. 18 | |
| 7:30 a.m. | Daily Mass |
| Weds. Mar. 19 | |
| 7:30 a.m. | Daily Mass |
| 12:00 p.m. | Mass |
| 12:30 p.m. | Adoration/Divine Mercy Chaplet |
| Thurs., Mar. 20 | |
| 7:30 a.m. | Daily Mass |
| 9:30 a.m. | Study of the Beatitudes |
| Fri., Mar. 21 | |
| 7:30 a.m. | Daily Mass |
| Sat. Mar. 22 | |
| 9:00 a.m. | Daily Mass |
| 4:00 p.m. | Sacrament of Reconciliation |
| 5:00 p.m. | Sunday Vigil Mass |

JOIN US FOR THE SUNDAY COFFEE SOCIAL



In the Parish Hall
After 9:30 Mass/ before 11:00 Mass

Thank you to:

Sanchez and Jung families for hosting last Sunday, March 9
Donohue family for hosting this Sunday, March 16
Moskal family for hosting next Sunday, March 23

Hosts are needed for May 11 and 25

For information or to volunteer, please contact:

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

**SAVE THE
DATE**



**APRIL 26
7-11PM**

**For one night, SFA will be transformed into a
lively casino with Blackjack, Roulette, games,
raffles and drawings for great prizes
More information to follow!**

YOU CAN BE A SPONSOR!

\$500 sponsorship includes:

**Your name or business featured in all publicity
2 free tickets (\$160 value)
3 free raffle tickets**

**Interested? Contact Elise Major at 203-981-6206 or
elisemajor5@gmail.com**

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,
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:

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