

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY IN WESTON

April 13, 2025



"PEACE IN HEAVEN
AND GLORY IN THE HIGHEST."
- LK 19:38

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

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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,

This weekend, we are celebrating Palm Sunday which begins the highest holy week of the liturgical year. Will it also begin in your life a high holy experience of uniting yourself to Jesus and to his awesome love?

There's a key phrase in the reading that we hear at the beginning of Passion Sunday Mass, during the Procession with Palms, which sums up this experience of your union with God: "The Master has need of it."

Why do you think the Gospel writer spent time explaining how Jesus obtained the colt for his ride into Jerusalem? It's meant to teach us something in our current circumstances. We each have a "colt" tied up somewhere in our lives. It's anything that belongs to us and is not yet being shared with Christ: It could be our possessions, money, talents and skills, creativity, time and energy, etc. The Master has need of it! But sometimes we selfishly tie these up with our own agendas and busyness. They would be useful to Jesus if we let him have them. Like the colt that Jesus rode, they could become gifts that glorify our Savior.

Palm Sunday teaches us that he deserves to be glorified for his awesome love, which he made visible on the cross. Who else would die for you – with THAT much suffering? Jesus sacrificed his comfort and his body and blood to take the punishment that we deserve for our sins.

We should rejoice gratefully for every Sunday with hosannas and admiration, for in the Eucharist we reunite ourselves to that tremendous love. In this communion, why aren't we grinning like lovers who have become joined to their beloved? The answer to that is: Our "colts" are still tied to the post.

Jesus has sent his disciples to you to ask you to share your "colt" with Jesus. They are at the altar consecrating the Eucharist for you. They are writing bulletin "help wanted" blurbs. They are interrupting you at work asking for your prayers or counsel or other assistance. They are the strangers who are in need of your charitable donations.

Who have you heard asking you to become more involved in the plans of God's kingdom?

Questions for Personal Reflection:

Make a list of the "colts" in your life. Which ones would you like Jesus to put to good use? Spend time in prayer imagining that you are untying them and handing them over to Jesus. See how pleased he is!

Have a blessed Holy Week,

Fr. Augustine



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

St. Catherine Center for special needs provides state-approved education for students 5-21 with disabilities, fostering academic achievement, interpersonal skills and vocational experiences, affirming the dignity of every person. And bringing hope and a better future to many children.



Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Mass Intentions

5:00 p.m. **Rev. Joseph Sidera (D)** by Mike and Kay Byrnes
Sunday, April 13th-Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

8:00 a.m. **Vinh Nguyen (D)** by the Galasinski Family
 9:30 a.m. **Keith Driscoll (D)** by the Jung Family
 11:00 a.m. **Elizabeth Nicole Crocitto (L) Bday** by her Family
Monday, April 14th-Monday of Holy Week-

7:30 a.m. **Stanislaw Ciborowski (D)** by the Baines Family
Tuesday, April 15th-Tuesday of Holy Week-

7:30 a.m. **Camille DeSantis (D)** by Patrick Guerin
Wednesday, April 16th-Wednesday of Holy Week-

7:30 a.m. **Aleksander and Jadwiga Jankowski (D)** by the Baines Family

12:00 p.m. **Mary Kroutch (D)** by the Rudolph Family
Thursday, April 17th-Mass of the Lord's Supper

8:00 a.m. **Morning Prayer-No Mass**
 7:00 p.m. **Kevin Cardinali (H)** by Michelle DiMaria
Friday, April 18th-Friday of the Passion of the Lord-

8:00 a.m. **Morning Prayer-No Mass**
 3:00 p.m. **Passion of the Lord**
 7:00 p.m. **Stations of the Cross**
Sat., April 19th-Holy Saturday-

8:00 a.m. **Morning Prayer-No Mass**
 12:00 p.m. **Blessing of Easter Food-No Mass**
 8:00 p.m. **Vinh Nguyen (D)** by Mike and Kay Byrnes


Weekly Stewardship

Weekly Collection 4/5-4/6/25	\$7,844.00
Weekly Budget Goal.....	\$10,000.00
Total Difference.....	(2,156.00)

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**.



<div><div>ONE <i>in Christ</i> 2025 Bishop's Appeal DIOCESE OF BRIDGEPORT</div></div>		Results as of 4/4/25
Bishop's Appeal goal:	\$91,200	
Total pledged:	\$49,525 (54%)	
Donors to date:	45 donors	
		
<p>Thank you to everyone who has donated. If you haven't, please consider a contribution to support the many people it helps.</p> <p>To make a gift or for more information, please scan with your phone, call (203) 416-1470, or visit 2025bishopsappeal.org</p>		



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
[reddingglen2@optonline.net](mailto:redingglen2@optonline.net)

Eucharistic Miracle-St. Peter Damain, Church Doctor, Italy - 1050

A woman was asked by a sorceress to bring her a Consecrated Host. The woman managed to hide a Host at Communion in her handkerchief. The priest noticed what she had done and requested to see her handkerchief. The Host was seen by both to have transformed into flesh, while the other half remained as bread.

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

EVERYONE IS INVITED

Baccalaureate and Youth Volunteer Mass, followed by Reception
Sunday May 4, 11:00 Mass

HONORING
OUR GRADUATES
AND VOLUNTEERS

Women's Guild Scholarship will be awarded
 Youth Spirit of St. Francis awards announced

RSVP by April 27 to Pam Franco, pamffrg@gmail.com

We thank all who supported our events, making the scholarship possible!
 Sponsored by the St Francis of Assisi Women's Guild



Important Upcoming dates

April 13th through April 17th No Faith Formation Classes – Spring Break

Classes resume on Monday April 21

April 28th First Communion Rehearsal

ALL students must attend 3:30-5:00 pm

May 2nd White Garment Ceremony – 6:00pm – students arrive at 4:00pm

May 5th ADDITIONAL REHEARSAL for **ALL** First Communicants
3:30- 5:00pm

May 10th – First Communion Celebration @ 11:00am – Drop off 10:15am



The students learned of Jesus' triumphant entrance into Jerusalem, where people, young and old alike, welcomed Him with palm branches shouting "Hosanna!" which means ***Save us, Oh God.***

Jesus was welcomed as a king and one week later crucified like a criminal.

Our Program is rich in Scripture and Tradition, but for all of this to take root in the students' hearts, it is vital for them to attend weekly Mass.

Wishing everyone a Blessed Palm Sunday

Gina Fleming and

Teresa Karwowski

PRESCHOOL NEWS/YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS



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.

Work continues on the SFA Youth Room and it's nearing completion! HUGE thanks to Carmine Socci, Monica Staley, Maddie Jung and Theo Rudolph who took a lot of time out of their busy schedules to repair walls, paint and lay flooring. Our teens are preparing for the **SFA Youth sponsored Easter Egg Hunt, to be held after the 9:30 a.m. Mass on Palm Sunday!** The Easter Bunny will be making an appearance!

If you are interested in having your 6th-12th grader join in for fun, service and faith-building, please contact our Youth Minister, Michele Harding at: youthminister@stfrancisweston.org

SCHOLARSHIP FOR HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS APPLY BY APRIL 14



Every year the Women's Guild awards a scholarship to a deserving SFA high school senior


What is awarded
Historically \$1000

Who can apply
Registered, active, graduating high school seniors who exemplify the virtues of St. Francis and our Catholic faith

How to get the application form

- Click the QR code or go to the SFA website or Parish Office
- Send application to Anne Federici: annefederici@optonline.net
- Deadline Is April 14



 Sponsored by the SFA Women's Guild



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)



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.



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

Abbey
Shrine
Stations

Palm Sunday through Easter

Palm Sunday April 13

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

Easter Egg Hunt April 13

after Palm Sunday 9:30 Mass (outside)

**Holy
Thursday**

April 17
8 am: Morning prayer
7 pm: Mass of the Lord's Supper



**Good
Friday**

April 18
8 am: Morning prayer
3 pm: The Lord's Passion
7 pm: Mary's Way of the Cross



**Holy
Saturday**

April 19
8 am: Morning prayer
12 noon: Blessing of the Easter food
8 pm: Easter Vigil Mass



**Easter
Sunday**

April 20
Masses at 8 am, 9:30 am, 11 am



**DON'T
MISS IT!**



**APRIL 26
7-11pm**

For one night, the Parish Hall will be transformed into a lively casino with Blackjack, Roulette, games, raffles and drawings for great prizes

Tickets \$80 per person

Includes hearty appetizers, 2 drinks and \$200 in chips for games

RSVP/ Pay by April 22

Tickets sold after all Masses

Or mail check payable to St Francis, write Casino in the 'memo'

Donations are appreciated to help make this a success!

What: Wine valued at \$20 or more for our 'wine pull' game

What: Restaurant gift cards of any amount \$25 and up

Where: Drop off at the Parish Office (Mon-Thu 10-4) or in the back of church on Saturday/Sunday

Last day to donate: April 20

JOIN US FOR THE SUNDAY COFFEE SOCIAL



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

Thank you to the:

Men's Group for hosting last Sunday, April 6

No Coffee Social April 13, Palm Sunday

No Coffee Social April 20, Happy Easter

Hosts are needed for May 11 and 25

For information or to volunteer, please contact:

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

W O M E N ' S G U I L D



Saint Francis of Assisi-Parish Hall

Women's Coffee Social

**Tuesday, April 22
10:00 am- 11:30 am**

**Bring a friend,
Meet up with friends
Make new friends!**

RSVP is helpful but not mandatory
jlgarvey4@gmail.com



S A I N T F R A N C I S O F A S S I S I

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