

# THE PARISH COMMUNITY OF saint maurice

A TITHING AND M-E-R-C-Y PARISH

32 Hebron Road Bolton, Ct 06043  
Rectory Phone 860-643-9553  
Parish Office 860-643-4466  
Parish Center 860-643-8374  
Prayer Line 860-649-5449 or 860-643-2837



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
DECEMBER 22, 2019



## 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"She will bear a son and  
you are to name him Jesus,  
because he will save his  
people from their sins."  
- Mt 1:21

Each Advent season, we prepare to welcome Jesus into the inns and stables of our hearts. But Jesus' coming wasn't welcomed by everyone with choirs of angels. For St. Joseph, the first coming of Jesus was a bit more complicated. *"When his mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found with child through the Holy Spirit."* For Joseph, opening his heart (and home) to Jesus meant, at best, appearing to all the world like a man who had impregnated his wife out of wedlock. At worst, he appeared a cuckold, raising the child of another man. God doesn't always appear the way we expect.

For some of us, the birth of Christ is a bit relationally complicated. Perhaps over the past few months, a loved one has died. This Christmas, you're taking it upon yourself to keep up the traditions and hold the family together. Welcoming Jesus means welcoming grief. Perhaps it's a difficult relative (or two or three) and it's all you can do to bite your tongue and swallow your pride while they're under your roof. Welcoming Jesus means welcoming strife, discord, and tension.

Yet *"do not be afraid,"* the angel says. Do not be afraid. Why? Because we celebrate the birth of *"Emmanuel, which means 'God is with us.'"* Before Jesus' earthly ministry would begin, Jesus would lose his father, Joseph. God is with us in our grief. Wherever Jesus went, he stirred up controversy and faced down challenging personalities. God is with us in our stress. The trick is, like Joseph, to allow supernatural grace to prevail. Joseph was a good man, filled with natural virtue in that he didn't want to *"expose [Mary] to shame."* Yet he was prepared to *"divorce her quietly"* all the same. Our natural abilities only take us so far. Where is receiving Jesus complicated this Christmas season? Are you relying on your own strength to get you through, or are you truly ready to accept the grace of Emmanuel, God with us?

**Prayer Line**  
Carol 860-643-2837 Mary Ann 860-649-5449

**Pastor**  
Fr. Bill Olesik

**Director of Faith Formation**  
Amie Tillmann

860-646-6314 or [saintmauriceccd@gmail.com](mailto:saintmauriceccd@gmail.com)

**Organist and Choir Director**  
Don Benevides 860-871-0752

**Secretary**

Mrs. Theresa Cisson

Office Hours - Mon., Tues., & Fri. - 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Telephone: 860-643-4466

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**Eucharistic Minister to Homebound**

Patricia Cinea 860-646-0564

**Fair and Workshops**

Dorli Cloutier 860-649-6255

Beth Harney 860-649-1331

Sharon Scorso 860-646-1423

**Website**

[www.saintmauricebolton.org](http://www.saintmauricebolton.org)

### WEEKEND MASSES:

Saturdays at 4:00 p.m.

Sundays at 7:30 and 10:00 a.m.

Holy Days at 9:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

### WELCOME!

If you are new in the Parish, please register and introduce yourself to the Pastor. The Parishioners wish to meet and serve you! Drop by at a Pancake Breakfast after the Sunday Mass, per the Calendar online or as announced inside the bulletin. We hope you will favor our Parish with your prayers, your presence, your talents and your financial assistance according to your means!

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION):

Saturday 3:15 p.m. — 3:45 p.m.

### SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

Please call the rectory (860-748-4560) to arrange for a meeting with the Pastor.

### SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:

Arrangements must start more than 6 months before marriage. Necessary interviews, a pre-cana course and plenty of paperwork is required. We strongly urge you to contact us to begin the Diocesan preparation course as soon as you are engaged to get the most out of it without rush.

### CHURCH MEMBERSHIP:

The Sacramental Guidelines define Church Membership in terms of Sunday Mass attendance and Church support. For membership verification and sponsorship certificate, registration and regular use of the envelope system are the only way we have of verifying this for you. Please notify us if there are changes in your address, marital status, etc., so that we may update your records.

### VISITATION TO THE SICK:

We are most anxious to help anyone who is not able to celebrate Mass with us in Church due to illness, handicapped or age. If you wish the Sacraments, please call 860-748-4560.



**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**DECEMBER 21 — 22, 2019**

**USHERS GROUP I**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21**

- 3:30 P.M.** ROSARY BEFORE 4PM MASS
  - 4:00 P.M.** Mass offered for the souls of Eva and John Wachowski - request of Irene Kehl
- CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY *after Mass*

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22**

- 7:30 A.M.** Mass offered for the soul of Rocco Fiano request of His Family
- CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY *after Mass*
- 8:30 – 8:50 A.M.** Youth Choir Rehearsal. *All youth are welcome*
- NO FAITH FORMATION CLASSES
- 10:00 A.M.** Mass offered for the souls of Marion and Bill Miller — request of The Family

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT PRACTICE AFTER MASS  
CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY *after Mass*

- 5:30 P.M.** Evening Prayer from the Liturgy of the Hours

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 23 — NO MASS**

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24**

**THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD — CHRISTMAS EVE**

2<sup>ND</sup> COLLECTION FOR POOR AND NEEDY

- 4:00 P.M.** Mass offered for All Parishioners of St. Maurice Church

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Children will act out the story of the birth of Jesus at the 4 PM Mass.

- 10:00 P.M.** Mass offered for All Parishioners of St. Maurice Church

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25**

**THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD — CHRISTMAS DAY**

2<sup>ND</sup> COLLECTION FOR POOR AND NEEDY

- 10:00 A.M.** Mass offered for All Parishioners of St. Maurice Church

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26 — NO MASS**

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27**

- 9:00 A.M.** Mass offered for the soul of Stephen Olesik

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28**

- 3:30 P.M.** ROSARY BEFORE 4PM MASS
- 4:00 P.M.** Mass offered for the soul of Lois Dunham request of Linda Wiley



**FROM SAINT MAURICE PARISH**



**THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD**

The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord." - Lk 2:10-11



**CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE**

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24 — CHRISTMAS EVE**

- 4:00 P.M.** Mass intention is for All Parishioners of St. Maurice Church

**CHRISTMAS PAGEANT**

Children will act out the story of the birth of Jesus at the 4 PM Mass.

- 10:00 P.M.** Mass intention is for All Parishioners of St. Maurice Church

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25 — CHRISTMAS DAY**

- 10:00 A.M.** Mass intention is for All Parishioners of St. Maurice Church

**There will be a second collection for the Poor and Needy**

**STEWARDSHIP**

**December 8 offertory: — \$3,423**

**Projected Amount needed \$2,980**

*"When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home." MATTHEW 1:24*  
Putting our complete trust in the Lord without expecting anything in return. Striving to put God first in all things and follow Him wherever He may led us. As we prepare for the birth of our Lord, pray for the strength and courage to be a model of discipleship, just as Joseph was.

^ Tear off

**Parish Membership Form**

Drop in collection ^

Please enroll the following as members of the Church of St. Maurice:

Adults \_\_\_\_\_

Children (under 18) \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

City State Zip \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone \_\_\_\_\_

Send offertory envelopes \_\_\_ Send form for EFT (electronic donation) \_\_\_ We will Donate Online \_\_\_

We can help out as: Altar server \_\_\_ Lector \_\_\_ Usher \_\_\_ Eucharistic Minister \_\_\_ Choir \_\_\_ Crafts workshop \_\_\_

**FROM SAINT MAURICE PARISH**



**ST. MAURICE PRAYER LINE**

Please remember all the special intentions on the St. Maurice Prayer Line, especially the new requests for this week:

Sharon and her family, Marie, Carol, Irene, Grace, Bob, Mary-Jane, Grace, David, Francis, Olga, Viola, Annedda, Irene, Kyle, Laurie, Gloria, Mary.

Candle Intentions: Joey, John, Kim, Pat, Nancy, Helen, Steven, Jeanne, O.J., Nicholas

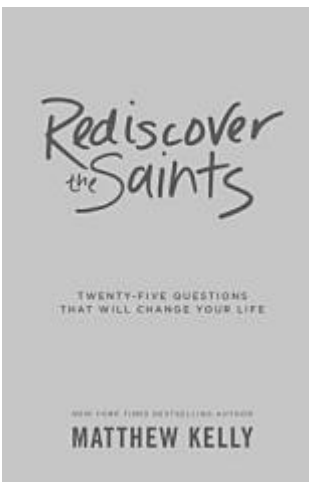
Thank you. Carol & Mary Ann

**ATTENTION PRAYER LINE VOLUNTEERS**

Please pick up your 2020 Prayer Line desk calendars on the chairs by the confessional.

**SNOW DAYS**

Weekday morning Mass will be cancelled if Bolton schools are closed or postponed 2 hours because of bad weather.



The book “Rediscover the Saints” will be distributed at all Christmas Masses. Please feel free to take an extra to share with family or friends. From the publisher: **This is not just another book about the saints. Both personal and practical, this book proves the saints are not long gone, but alive and well--and ready to join you on your journey! Discover how inviting the saints into your everyday life will open your eyes to the amazing possibilities God has in store for you!**

A book discussion will be held, date and time to be announced, allowing enough time for a reading pace of about three Saints per week. Everyone is invited to participate. Simply read the book and come prepared to share your thoughts and impressions.

**SAINT MAURICE BIBLE STUDY**



Saint Maurice Bible Study group finished the Book of Sirach. As per many requests to prepare for the holidays, Bible Group will resume meetings in January.

There first will be a showing of the limited theatre released movie “Paul, Apostle of Christ.”

Afterwards, we will begin reading the Acts of the Apostles with a study guide.

Please look for more details in the bulletins in January.

**Amazon Services Associates Program**

Use the  link on our website. When you use the link  to Amazon on our website ([www.saintmauricebolton.org](http://www.saintmauricebolton.org)). 4% of the purchase goes to St. Maurice.



**FROM THE DIOCESE OF NORWICH**



The monthly **Diocesan Pro-Life Mass** will take place at **The Cathedral of St. Patrick** in Norwich on **Saturday, January 4 at 8:30 A.M.** Please join our celebrant Rev. Walter Nagle at Mass as we pray to end abortion and for the healing for those who have had an abortion. Following the Mass, the Rosary will be prayed both at the Cathedral and Planned Parenthood. A brunch in the Cathedral Hall will follow the Rosary this month.

**FROM SAINT MAURICE PARISH**

**FROM SLEIGH BELLS RING CHRISTMAS FAIR GROUP**

**CHRISTMAS FOOD AND GIFTS SHARING**



St. Maurice Christmas Food and Gifts Sharing program went very well this year. Food for Christmas holidays was delivered to 30 Bolton families on Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>. The packing went well with the help of our youth.

We were able to provide couple weeks of groceries as well as a special holi-

day meal and gifts for all in the families. We would like to thank ShopRite for the turkeys. Many thanks to Knights of Columbus for donating winter coats for families in need of warm, winter clothing. A huge thank you to all parishioners who donated food, Christmas gifts for the Giving Tree and money to help us create a special Christmas for Bolton families in need

**Thank you all for being so generous with the gifts. Thank you to our Faith Formation students, our delivery drivers and to everyone who helped to make this year's Christmas Food and Gift Sharing program a great success.**



**FROM THE FELLOWSHIP CIRCLE**

**The Fellowship Circle fund raiser.**



The Fellowship Circle has been working not only to establish a more social community within the Church but also to promote the awareness that the Parish Community of St. Maurice is in financial need. The “Circle” recently raised some funds through donations for pens. It was successful, thank you! We need to do more. The leaders of the Fellowship Circle arranged for a CD of familiar Christian songs to be produced. The CD features our own Don Benevides on the keyboard with vocals by Elaine Byram who has been singing at the Saturday Vigil Masses for the past two summers.

In order to raise much needed funds for our Parish we are asking for your generosity again. For a minimum donation of twenty dollars (\$20) and as a thank you for your generosity we will happily give you the gift of a CD for your enjoyment. We will accept donations after all weekend Masses.

Pens are being offered for a minimum donation of \$1.50 each. Donations will go to the church account to lower our deficit. These attractive pens with an inscription of our church are available in the back of church after Masses from members of the Fellowship Circle.

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