

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



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 18, 2022



4TH 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

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1979 CCD

An entire town is wiped out by fire, a tornado rips through several neighborhoods, a bomb claims a maternity hospital and a sudden heart attack takes the life of a soul mate. Life is unpredictable and dramatic. Many buy into the sad illusion that the securities and familiarities we see around us today will remain forever: our homes, our friends, our spouses, our churches, and even our health. We are stunned and shaken by a sudden change, finding ourselves bewildered, mortified, and even embittered. We do not like change, especially change driven by sources beyond our control. Are there any guarantees in life? We often live as if our lives come with lifetime warranties. When they break, they can be fixed or replaced. Such is not the case. Many things are irreplaceable and unable to be fixed. During life's inevitable chaos, God says: "Do not be afraid." Seriously? How can one not be afraid when things are falling apart?

Fear is normal and it has a purpose. It is unrealistic, and somewhat unhealthy, to strive to live without any fear. Fear teaches us lessons and can be a catalyst to discovering more profound things. What we do with fear and how we understand it is critical. Fear can either cripple us or move us forward. God does not want fear to cripple us. If we look around at all that can change in our lives and consider what we might have to do, we can easily wallow in the mire of self-misery. Or we can step up to the challenge, as Mary did, and do what needs doing! We can stand tall, as did Joseph, and do the right and just thing! What gives us this courage? Faith. God is with us. This is the focus of our Advent preparations.

We need to be reminded that we are not in this alone. God not only made us and loves us, but God keeps us! In the person of Jesus Christ, God is the sign we need to persevere! Do not be afraid and do not be unbelieving! Hold fast to what God has done in giving us His only begotten Son. We do not have to anxiously attempt to control life's unpredictability. God has blessed us with the birth of His Son. Trust that He is with us and will not abandon us, even in death.

Prayer Line

Temporarily, please call Carol Zabielski at 860-643-2837

Pastor

Fr. Bill Olesik

Director of Faith Formation

Amie Tillmann

860-646-6314 or saintmauriceccd@gmail.com

Organist and Choir Director

Don Benevides 860-871-0752

Secretary

Mrs. Theresa Cison

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

Telephone: 860-643-4466

e-mail: saintmauricechurchbolton@gmail.com

Note: during the pandemic office hours are not regular as stated above, but you can continue to call the telephone number and leave a message.

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

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 3:25 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

Please call the rectory (860-643-9553) 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 860-643-9553.

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 17 — 18, 2022**

Ushers Group I

Christmas Food Delivery

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17

4:00 P.M. Mass offered for the Souls of †Elizabeth Fiano Chieffo, and †Rocco and †Helen Fiano requested by Leah Fiano

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18

7:30 A.M. Mass offered for All Parishioners of St. Maurice Church

9:00 A.M. FAITH FORMATION CLASSES

10:00 A.M. Mass offered for All Souls in Purgatory
Christmas food delivery after Mass

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

6:00 P.M. Rosary

MONDAY, DECEMBER 19 — No Mass

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20 — No Mass

7:15 P.M. Choir rehearsal in church.
New voices are always welcome!

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21

9:00 A.M. Mass offered for All Souls in Purgatory

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22

9:00 A.M. Mass offered for All Souls in Purgatory

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23

9:00 A.M. Mass offered for All Souls in Purgatory

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24 — CHRISTMAS EVE

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

Christmas Pageant at the 4:00 P.M. Mass

10:00 P.M. Mass offered for the Souls of †Marion and †Bill Miller — requested by the Family

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD — CHRISTMAS DAY

No 7:30 A.M. Mass

No FAITH FORMATION CLASSES

10:00 A.M. Mass offered for the Souls of †William and †Anna Cosgrove requested by their daughter Ann



FROM SAINT MAURICE PARISH



ST. MAURICE PRAYER LINE

Please remember all the special intentions on the St. Maurice Prayer Line and Faith Formation Students Prayer Requests.

New requests this week:

Sharon, Julia, Vivian, Sandy, Robert.

Candle Intentions: Special prayers for the Intentions in the Candle Note Book.

Temporarily, please call Carol Zabielski at 860- 643-2837

Thank you, MaryAnn

ST. MAURICE PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY



Members of the Prayer Shawl Ministry are making full size prayer shawls for our long term care patients. Also, mini pocket prayer shawls are available for everyone.

If you can help in any way in this Ministry, please call:

Linda Wiley, Irene Zdrojowy 860-533-1733 or

Mary Ann Murphy at 860-649-5449

Thank you.



STEWARDSHIP

Offertory: December 11 — \$3,073

Projected Amount needed — \$3,470

"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. Joseph was a model of these pillars of our faith. 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 ST. MAURICE PARISH



**SLEIGH BELLS RING
SEASONAL SHARING**

Our town has identified 25 families who need extra help and support this holiday season. As we have done in the past, this year the St. Maurice faith community will support the less fortunate in Bolton too.

Please drop off non-perishable food donations at the Church or Parish Center by **Sunday, December 18th for Christmas food delivery.**

If you prefer to give money, please make your check payable to "Church of St. Maurice" with the memo "Christmas food" and put in the regular collection or mail.

Thank you for your support. It does make a difference!



CHRISTMAS PAGEANT



Saint Maurice will continue the long-standing tradition of having a Christmas Pageant at the 4:00 p.m. mass on Christmas Eve; Saturday, December 24th. All generations enjoy seeing the children act out the story of the birth of Jesus at Mass. There are roles for all ages from sheep in the manger to Mary and Joseph. Amie Tillmann will be coordinating the play, and parent participation is always welcome! We always appreciate your help guiding the children during the play.

If you or your child is interested in participating, please contact Amie Tillmann at saintmauriceccd@gmail.com. Practice will be the Sunday December 18th, after 10:00 a.m. mass

"Pay attention and come to me; listen, that you may have life."
(Is 55:3 NABRE)



Each day we let either the world or God's Word shape our lives.

Who is influencing your life?

Whose voice are you allowing to shape who you are?

The New England Catholic Biblical School offers accredited two year and four year certificates in Biblical Studies for adult learners and is now enrolling *virtual* classes for the 2023-24 academic year. Find out more at www.CatholicEdAOHCT.org, or contact us: catholic.biblical.school@aohct.org

FROM THE DIOCESE OF NORWICH



Catholic Charities needs your help!

Due to the food shortage our pantries are bare. Please help us feed the hungry by dropping off food at your local Catholic Charities. Some items in need are peanut butter, pasta and sauce, soups, mac & cheese, canned fruit and vegetables, etc. If you would like to donate any of these much needed items, please contact one of our locations nearest

you.

Norwich- 860-889-8346

New London-860-443-5328

Willimantic-860-423-7065

"Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me." Mathew 25:40



Virtual Project Rachel Rosary

The third Thursday of each month at 3pm, come and pray the Project Rachel

Rosary online with the Office of Faith Events. The Project Rachel Rosary focuses on putting an end to abortion and healing for those who have been involved in an abortion.

Our next Rosary will be December 20th, please join us:

Meeting link: <https://bit.ly/316zdeG>

Meeting number: 132 917 2663

Password: Rosary

Or Join by phone: 1-415-655-0001

Access code: 132 917 2663

The Eucharistic Revival - The Eucharist, did you know?

How does God's presence continue after the death and resurrection of Jesus? Paul whose letters are the oldest writings in the New Testament, identifies several ways that Christ continues to be present after his resurrection:

- In the community, which is identified as the new earthly body of Christ and so the place where Jesus continues to reveal God's work of salvation.
 - In individual Christians, who through grace (God's life in us) and through the gifts of the Holy Spirit (God's power at work in us) continue Jesus' saving mission.
 - In the Eucharistic meal in which the community experiences the unique presence of Jesus who promised to be with us as the bread and wine when we do this action in his memory.
Used with permission from God's Real Presence, by Steve Mueller. Published by Living with Christ. All rights reserved.
- Each gospel also shares the belief in the risen Christ's continuing presence to the community of disciples. Only Luke has the Ascension of the Risen Christ to heaven (Luke 24:50-53; Acts 1:6-11). The other gospels describe Jesus' continuing presence in the community here on earth:
- Matthew: the risen Christ promises to be with the disciples in their mission (28:16-20)
 - Mark: angels in the tomb tell the disciples that they will meet Christ in Galilee as he promised (16:7)
 - Luke: Christ will be with us hidden in the scriptural word, the Eucharist and in other persons who share our journey (24:13-35)
 - John: Jesus will send the Holy Spirit who will continue the presence and work of the absent Jesus (16:5-11). *Used with permission from God's Real Presence, by Steve Mueller. Published by Living with Christ. All rights reserved.*



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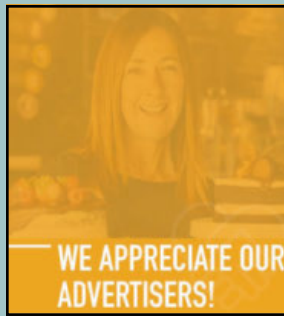
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