

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



SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD
JANUARY 1, 2023



MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

When they saw this, they made known the message that had been told them about this child. All who heard it were amazed by what had been told them by the shepherds. And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart.
- Lk 2:17-19

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

We hide ourselves and our secrets from God because we are afraid. Even Mary can seem too perfect to approach. The shepherds find the strength to speak to Mary and Joseph *at the moment they see the child in the manger*. They open their hearts and share what they've experienced. Saint Luke writes of the shepherds, **"When they saw this, they made known the message that had been told them about this child."**

When I was a college student, I visited Rome. Beggars often approached and said, "*Mangia? Mangia?*" I didn't speak Italian and thought, "Why are they speaking about the Christmas nativity scene?" My friend said, "*Mangia* means eat. They're hungry." That's when I realized more deeply than ever before that Mary puts her baby in a place designed for hungry animals to eat.

See that baby in the manger in your heart. Imagine Mary kneeling nearby looking at you with love. She doesn't cling to God for herself. In that cave, from the beginning, she quietly offers her son to hungry souls. The manger means vulnerable self-offering love. That's the sign. This week that same manger opens our hearts to tell Mary about our lives, too.

OPEN YOUR
Heart
TO MARY

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.

**SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD
THE OCTAVE OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD
DECEMBER 31, 2022 — JANUARY 1, 2023**

Ushers Group III

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31 — NEW YEAR'S EVE

4:00 P.M. Mass offered for All Souls in Purgatory

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1 — NEW YEAR'S DAY

7:30 A.M. Mass offered for All Souls in Purgatory

NO FAITH FORMATION CLASSES

10:00 A.M. Mass offered for the Soul of †Jerome Stiller requested by the Lay Carmelite Community of Little Theresa and the Chenard Family

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

6:00 P.M. Rosary

MONDAY, JANUARY 2 — No MASS

TUESDAY, JANUARY 3 — No MASS

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

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4

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

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5

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

FRIDAY, JANUARY 6

7:00 P.M. First Friday Mass and Adoration offered for All Souls in Purgatory
Rosary after Mass



SATURDAY, JANUARY 7

4:00 P.M. Mass offered for All Souls in Purgatory

NOTICE

Because of the high cost of oil per gallon (last year at lower prices we paid over \$18,000 dollars) we are putting in 12 new thermostats in the Parish Center and will lower the temperature and close use of the building from Christmas thru February. Some CCD will be done in church. Look for Amie's notices and emails.



**Saint Maurice Church
First Friday
Eucharistic Adoration
JANUARY 6th
7:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
"O Most Holy Trinity, I adore You; my God, my God, I love You in the Most Blessed Sacrament."
Our Lady of Fatima**

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: Vivian, Angie, Joe, Philip, Ralph, Janice, Darlene, Natasha.

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.

Letter from Lou and Dorli Cloutier

Dear Father Bill and St. Maurice Friends,

We are watching our first snowflakes drift down as we are enjoying our new home in front of the fire.

The party you shared with us was a very special event for us. We enjoyed seeing all of you and remembering so many events at St. Maurice over 50 years. With the "gift" you gave us we will find something special to remember all of you.

With love and thanks,
Dorli and Lou

STEWARDSHIP

Offertory: December 25 — TBD

Projected Amount needed — \$3,470

*"And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart."
- LUKE 2:19*

After Jesus, we look to Mary as an ideal steward. Her entire life was lived in obedience to God's call. She heard God's message, and immediately said "yes." Mary teaches us to live with joy and gratitude for the many blessings God has given us. Just as the moon reflects the light of the sun, Mary reflects the light of Christ. Like Mary, we are called to reflect Christ's light to the world. We do this through lives of gratitude and generosity.

^ 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



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



Worldwide Marriage Encounter is sponsoring a variety of in-person and virtual marriage experiences, some on weekends and some on seven weekdays. Couples will explore their relationship with each other, God, and the Church. Registration is limited and a \$100 application fee is required. For more information or to apply, call Frank & Margie Pearson at 860-337-2447 or visit them at <https://www.mectw.org/>.

What better gift can you give your spouse for Christmas than to tell them you want to attend a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience together:

Feb 3-5, 2023 in Huntington, NY
 Mar 10-12, 2023 in Upton, MA
 Jun 23-25, 2023 in Huntington, NY



She Kept All of These Things in Her Heart

“What was my first word? Who was there when I was born? When did I start to walk? Which toys did I play with? What made me cry when I was a baby?”

My oldest has reached the age where she has started to ask questions like this. As she grows up, she is realizing that, in order to understand the world around her, she must first understand herself. This makes her insatiably curious about her own identity, her history — her “origin story,” as they say in the movies.

I’ve got most of it documented either in writing or in photos, but even if it’s a detail that wasn’t scribbled in a baby book or saved to my digital cloud, it’s a memory that I can quickly summon and make real for her as we snuggle and talk about who she was, who she is, and who she may become.

I’m the mom. I have kept all of these things in my heart. The Blessed Mother knew more about God before opening a book than most of us could discover after a lifetime of study and prayer. There is no one whose knowledge of Christ was so intimate, so deep, so simultaneously ordinary and extraordinary, as the human woman who bore him, birthed him, nursed him, raised him and eventually gave him up.

In the way that I can tell my daughter everything there is to know about the part of her life she cannot recall, Mary can tell us everything we need to know about Christ. All we have to do is ask.

Mary kept all of these things in her heart. — Luke 2:19

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 7 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 Rachel Rosary will be prayed at the Cathedral. A brunch in the Cathedral Hall will follow the Rosary this month.



Couples’ Happy Hour – Start the New Year off by making your Couple Relationship a priority and join other couples for a virtual ‘**Happy Hour**’ **Friday, January 13, 2023**, from 7-8 P.M. The evening will include a presentation on a topic relevant to today’s couples that will inspire you and offer different perspectives about romance and relationships. Time will be included for couples to share privately on questions pertinent to the night’s topic. To register, call Mary-Jo McLaughlin at 860-848-2237, Ext. 312, or email her at mmclaughlin@norwichdiocese.net. If you have registered for past Happy Hours, you will automatically receive a link for the January hour.



Every year at the **Norwich Diocesan Women’s Conference**, Bishop Michael Cote announces the **Our Lady, Queen of Hope Award** to honor a woman in the diocese for her vision and leadership in the Catholic Church. The award is named after Mary our mother, who is our role model and in whom we place our trust. The winner will be presented with a plaque and a check for \$200 made out to the charity or ministry of her choice. The recipient will also have her name on a plaque hanging in the Diocesan offices. Nominees should: display strong faith, be committed to living out Catholic/Christian values, display spiritual leadership at the local or diocesan level(s), display a spirit of love and service to the Catholic Church, been part of successful initiatives that benefit the Church, and has moved the parish community forward through her vision.

The award winner will be determined by the Women’s Conference Committee. The nomination form must be completed in full and submitted by January 30, 2023.

Contact the Office of Faith Events with any questions or concerns 860-848-2237, ext 304 or


manicholas@norwichdiocese.net



VIRTUAL BINGO FOR ALL AGES

The Office of Faith Events invites people of all ages to participate in Virtual Bingo! **Bingo will take place on Sunday, January 15th from 3:30 – 5pm.** You will receive your cards online, mark them and even remark them for the next game or you can print them and play. Through video conferencing, we will call the numbers and play different BINGO games from regular bingo, double bingo, picture frame, and finally black out! It will be great fun with lots of gift certificates for prizes! The cost is \$6 per card for the whole Bingo event! To purchase your Bingo cards, go to: <https://bit.ly/2Laol7Y> or call Marianne at 860-848-2237 ex. 304.

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