

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



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT  
FEBRUARY 26, 2023



The Spirit leads Jesus into the desert to be tempted by the devil, and we hear this: **“He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was hungry.”** Seems like a questionable battle preparation plan. When I fast, I usually feel grouchy at best, and at worst, like I might pass out from longing for a hamburger. Isn't it better to be well-fed and fully hydrated, especially to face spiritual struggles? Why fast?

This might help. The origin of the word “fast” means to “hold firmly.” We still use it that way when we say, “I held *fast* to my original decision.” We human beings are a bundle of desires which vie for our attention: food, drink, comfort, safety, sex, laughter, beauty, and so on. If we can't manage to have firm grip on them, in short order they'll have a firm grip on us. By fasting from our lower desires, we learn to firmly grip on to what is greater. Fasting leads to us to a firmer hold on our body and mind.

Jesus fasts for us. He's showing us that his grace can help us regain this firm hold of our lives, which makes it more difficult for the devil to tempt us. But take it one more step. Fasting also teaches us to finally hold fast to Jesus, the Word of God in flesh. **“Man does not live by bread alone,”** he says, **“But by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.”** Jesus' fasting reveals his fast hold to the Father in everything. May our fasting help us to grasp ourselves more firmly, and then to hold fast to Jesus alone. — *Father John Muir*



**Pastor**  
Fr. Bill Olesik

**Prayer Line**

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

**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 Cison

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

Telephone: 860-643-4466

e-mail: [saintmauricechurchbolton@gmail.com](mailto: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**

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 3:25 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.



**FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT  
FEBRUARY 25 — 26, 2023**

Ushers Group III

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25**

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

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26**

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

9:00 A.M. **FAITH FORMATION CLASSES**

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

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

6:00 P.M. **Rosary**

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27 — No MASS**

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28 — No MASS**

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

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1**

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

**THURSDAY, MARCH 2**

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

**FRIDAY, MARCH 3**

4:00 P.M. — 6:30 P.M.



**Lenten Fish Dinner**

Dine in our take out  
In the Parish Center

Sponsored by **St. Maurice Knights of Columbus**  
Council 6199



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



**SATURDAY, MARCH 4**

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

**TOLLAND COUNTY CONFESSIONS**

will be again as usual, at **St. Bernard Church, Rockville**,  
all day, March 17, from 7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M.



**Saint Maurice Church  
First Friday**

**Eucharistic Adoration  
MARCH 3<sup>rd</sup>**

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: Christian, Abby, William, John, Ginny, Justin, Matt, Joanne, Tom, Dominic.  
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.

**FROM SLEIGH BELLS RING CHRISTMAS FAIR GROUP**



**SLEIGH BELLS RING  
CHRISTMAS FAIR 2023 IS ON!**

All parishioners who would like to be part of the fair preparations for the coming year, and have thoughts about how we should organize ourselves without the Cloutiers are welcome to attend a planning meeting on **Wednesday March 22nd at 6PM in the Parish Center.**

Please RSVP as refreshments will be served.

Come with your ideas and your talents!

Beth Harney - 860-649-1331

Sharon Scorso 860-729-4399

**STEWARDSHIP**

**Offertory: February 19 — \$3,224**

**Projected Amount needed — \$3,670**

*“It is written: ‘The Lord, your God, shall you worship and him alone shall you serve.’”*

- MATTHEW 4:10

Tempted between the riches and power of this world and service to God, Jesus chose service to His Father. If we wish to truly follow Jesus, we, too, must decide to turn away from worldly power and riches and put God at the center of our lives. Lent is our time to prune ourselves of earthly things, and develop and nurture heavenly things. Lent is time to repent and let go of the other “gods” we have put before God.

^ 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**



**Knights of Columbus Council 6199  
Lenten Fish Dinner**

All the Fridays of Lent  
except Good Friday.

Available 4:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in  
Ryba Hall, Parish Center.

Dine in or take out baked fish and

chips, cole slaw, roll w/ butter, and coffee, tea, or lemonade.

Cost is \$10.00 (\$5.00 cheese pizza alternative).

**Profits support a variety of charitable activities.**

Contact Bill Hebert, Grand Knight  
at (860) 649-6906 or [whebert75@gmail.com](mailto:whebert75@gmail.com).



**FROM THE DIOCESE OF NORWICH**



**Operation Rice Bowl:  
Our Lenten Program:  
For Lent For Life**

Lent is a time of opportunity for us to strengthen our faith through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. These practices bring us closer to God and demonstrate our solidarity with those in need at home and around the world. This Lent make your sacrifices become opportunities to feed the hungry poor. Please participate in CRS Operation Rice Bowl and let the sacrifices you make for the hungry poor nourish them and may these sacrifices witness to the love that disciples of Christ have for all people, especially for the least of the Lord's sisters and brothers



**THE 14 STATIONS OF THE CROSS FOR  
YOUR PRIVATE PRAYER**

**First Station** - Jesus is condemned to death.

**Second Station** - Jesus carries his Cross.

**Third Station** - Jesus falls the first time.

**Fourth Station** - Jesus meets his afflicted mother.

**Fifth Station** - Simon of Cyrene helps Jesus to carry his Cross.

**Sixth Station** - Veronica wipes the face of Jesus.

**Seventh Station** - Jesus falls the second time.

**Eighth Station** - Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem.

**Ninth Station** - Jesus falls a third time.

**Tenth Station** - Jesus is stripped of his clothes.

**Eleventh Station** - Jesus is nailed to the Cross.

**Twelfth Station** - Jesus dies on the Cross.

**Thirteenth Station** - The body of Jesus is taken down from the Cross.

**Fourteenth Station** - Jesus is laid in the tomb

**FIRST WEEK OF LENT**

**Observances for the week of February 26, 2023**

Sunday: 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent

Monday: St. Gregory of Narek,  
Abbot and Doctor of the Church

Friday: St. Katharine Drexel, Virgin

Saturday: St. Casimir



**Virtual Lenten Mission**

The Virtual Lenten Mission is an opportunity for us to deepen our faith, take time for reflection, and pray. We invite you to join us to enhance your Lenten Journey. The mission will begin on Thursday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 -

7:45pm and continue weekly with the last session on Thursday, March 30<sup>th</sup>.

To register, contact Marianne at (860)848-2237 ex. 304 or email her at [manicholas@norwichdiocese.net](mailto:manicholas@norwichdiocese.net)



The monthly **Diocesan Pro-Life Mass** will take place at the **Cathedral of St. Patrick in Norwich on Saturday, March 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 Rachel Rosary will be prayed at the Cathedral. A brunch in the Cathedral Hall will follow the Rosary this month.



**Couples' Happy Hour**

The next virtual Couples' Happy Hour will be **Friday, March 10 from 7-8 P.M.** Make your couple relationship a priority by joining

other couples for an evening that will include a presentation on a topic relevant to today's couples. Couples will have time 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](mailto:mmclaughlin@norwichdiocese.net). If you have registered for past Happy Hours, you will automatically receive a link for the March hour.

**The Way of the Cross:** The Office of Faith Events invites you to join us virtually Friday nights in Lent as we pray together the Stations of the Cross through a different focus each week.

- ♦ March 3: Through the eyes of the bereaved
- ♦ March 17: Through the eyes of seniors
- ♦ March 24: Through the eyes of the family
- ♦ March 31: Through the eyes of social justice


The stations will begin at 7 P.M. The stations take place online and requires participants to have an internet connection. Registration is required. You can register for just one evening or all six. To register Call Mary-Jo McLaughlin, at 860-848-2237, Ext 312 or email her at

[mmclaughlin@norwichdiocese.net](mailto:mmclaughlin@norwichdiocese.net). **Note, we will not be holding the stations on Friday, March 10.**

Access code: 132 917 2663



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