

THE PARISH COMMUNITY OF
saint maurice
A TITHING PARISH

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Parish Center 860-643-8374
Prayer Line 860-649-5449 or 860-643-2837



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT — DECEMBER 11, 2016

Good News!

December 11, 2016
Third Sunday of Advent
Is 35:1-6a, 10, Jas 5:7-10, Mt 11:2-11

John came to announce a savior, but in his difficult imprisonment, he and his disciples began to wonder if the one he announced was truly the one. It is easy to doubt when difficulty comes our way and life doesn't treat us as we think we deserve.

In this painting, a young John the Baptist is accompanied by an angel who points up the hill. John is shown kneeling in prayer, referencing the months he spent in the desert preparing himself as well as preaching conversion. Even with this long and fruitful preparation, John's heart is tempted to doubt. Yes, even saints struggle.

John sends his disciples to ask Jesus if he is the Messiah. It does us much good to bring our concerns and doubts to Jesus directly! Jesus responds as he often does. Rather than just answer, "I am he"—which could easily be considered an empty claim—he invites them to look at the evidence. He fulfills the prophecy of Isaiah 35:5: "The eyes of the blind shall see, and the ears of the deaf be opened," the poor shall find a new reason to hope.

Jesus' mission is to change lives and to save us from the blindness of egoism, the deafness of a hardened heart, and the closed mind that cannot accept the other. He is the savior of those who let themselves be saved.

Saint James' exhortation could have been meant for John the Baptist or anyone who finds it hard to persevere in trusting and following Jesus: "You too must be patient. Make your hearts firm, because the coming of the Lord is at hand" (5:8).

For Reflection

What doubts about God arise in my heart? How do I deal with these moments of uncertainty?

Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

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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 our Coffee Social or Pancake Breakfast after the Sunday Mass, both 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 PM — 3:45 PM

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

Please call the rectory (860-643-4466) 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 860-643-4466.

**THIS WEEK****THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT****DECEMBER 10 — 11, 2016****USHERS GROUP III****SATURDAY, DEC 10**

4:00 P.M. Mass offered for †Gary Zdrojowy (1st Anniversary)
request of Irene Zdrojowy

Altar Servers: TBD

Lectors: Bert Flynn

Eucharistic Minister: Annedda Stiller

SUNDAY, DEC 11

7:30 A.M. Mass offered for †Michele Giglio
request of Kathleen Perlitz

Altar Servers: Georgette Pelletier

Lector: Lynn Mancino

Eucharistic Minister: Arlene Giglio



8:00 A.M. — 12:00 noon
SLEIGH BELLS RING MINI FAIR
AND TRIPLE PLAY CAFÉ BREAKFAST
TO WELCOME FATHER LEON
(8:00-10:00 A.M.) in the Parish Center

8:30 A.M. — 8:50 A.M. YOUTH CHOIR REHEARSAL
in the Church

9:00 A.M. FAITH FORMATION CLASSES

10:00 A.M. MASS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH
Mass offered for †Barbara and †Donald Sullivan
request of Patrick and Daniel Sullivan

Altar Servers: Alex Czeroway

Lector: Evelyn O'Connor

Eucharistic Minister: Kathleen Smythe

CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY after Mass

MONDAY, DEC 12

9:00 A.M. Mass offered for †William and †Jessie Rosewell
request of The Snuffer Family

TUESDAY, DEC 13

9:00 A.M. Mass offered for †Lena C. Bloznalis
request of The Dean & Bloznalis Families
Rosary will be prayed after the Mass

7:00 P.M. PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

7:15 P.M. ADULT CHOIR REHEARSAL

WEDNESDAY, DEC 14

9:00 A.M. Mass offered in Thanksgiving for Blessings received
request of the Week-day Mass Group

THURSDAY, DEC 15 — NO MASS**FRIDAY, DEC 16 — NO MASS****SATURDAY, DEC 17**

3:30 P.M. ROSARY BEFORE 4:00 P.M. MASS

Readings for the Week of December 11, 2016

Sunday: Is 35:1-6a, 10/Ps 146/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11
Monday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Jdt 13/
Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47
Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34/Mt 21:28-32
Wednesday: Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21b-25/Ps 85/Lk 7:18b-23
Thursday: Is 54:1-10/Ps 30/Lk 7:24-30
Friday: Is 56:1-3a, 6-8/Ps 67/Jn 5:33-36
Saturday: Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72/Mt 1:1-17
Next Sunday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24

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**NEXT WEEK****THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT****DECEMBER 17 — 18, 2016****USHERS GROUP IV****Christmas Food Delivery****SATURDAY, DEC 17**

4:00 P.M. Mass offered for †Stephen, †Mary
and †Dave Caruso
request of Shirley and Charlie Brown

Altar Servers: Patti Cinea

Lectors: Patti Cinea

Eucharistic Minister: Linda Wiley

SUNDAY, DEC 18

7:30 A.M. Mass offered for †Michele Giglio
request of St. Maurice Christmas Fair Group

Altar Servers: Shirley Holbrook

Lector: Judy Trzcinski

Eucharistic Minister: Arlene Giglio

8:30 A.M. — 8:50 A.M. YOUTH CHOIR REHEARSAL
in the Church

8:30 A.M. BREAKFAST FOR FAITH FORMATION

9:00 A.M. FAITH FORMATION CLASSES

10:00 A.M. Mass offered for Eva Morra
in honor of the 96th Birthday

Altar Servers: LeeAnn & Ben Snuffer

Lector: Jeffrey Monroe

Eucharistic Minister: Betty Aitkin

CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY after Mass

11:00 A.M. FOOD & GIFTS DISTRIBUTION in the Parish Center

11:00 A.M. The Love That Made Mother Teresa
book review and brunch in the lower level of the Church

MONDAY, DEC 19

9:00 A.M. Mass offered for †James Coughlin
request of Lou and Dorli Cloutier

TUESDAY, DEC 20

9:00 A.M. Mass offered for All Parishioners
of St. Maurice Church

7:00 P.M. KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BUSINESS MEETING

7:15 P.M. ADULT CHOIR REHEARSAL

WEDNESDAY, DEC 21

9:00 A.M. Mass offered for †Lena C. Bloznalis
request of The Dean & Bloznalis Families

THURSDAY, DEC 22 — NO MASS**FRIDAY, DEC 23 — NO MASS****SATURDAY, DEC 24 — Christmas Eve**

3:30 P.M. ROSARY BEFORE 4:00 P.M. MASS

STEWARDSHIP

Last week's Offertory: December 4 — \$3,059

Projected Amount needed \$2,980

"You too must be patient. Make your hearts firm, because the coming of the Lord is at hand." JAMES 5:8

Patience is another one of those things many of us struggle with.

We want things to go according to our plan and our schedule.

Any change brings anxiety and fear. Through daily prayer we

better align ourselves with God's will and His plan, which is far

better than anything we can come up with on our own.



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. Thank you. Carol and MaryAnn.

CHRISTMAS FOOD & GIFT DISTRIBUTION

We have 24 Bolton families to feed this Christmas. We try to provide a holiday meal plus a couple of weeks of groceries to each family. Nonperishable items may be left in either vestibule any time the Church is open. **Bring perishable items on the morning of 12/18.** Don't have time to shop or don't know what to buy? Donate online or make your check payable to "Church of St. Maurice" with the memo "Christmas Food" and put in the regular collection. The Faith Formation students will be sorting and packing, but we can use some help with delivery. **If you can drive, come to the Parish Center right after the 10:00 Mass on 12/18.** (tmanning818@sbcglobal.net)

FROM SLEIGH BELLS RING CHRISTMAS FAIR GROUP**"SLEIGH BELLS RING" MINI FAIR**

AND TRIPLE PLAY CAFÉ

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

TO WELCOME FATHER LEON

December 11th 8 A.M. till noon

There are still gift items available along with mixes for your Holiday giving. Come, take a look for those last minute gifts.

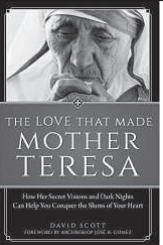
CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

is in the rear of the church and still has some bells for Bolton Families in need. We hope you will consider being a part of this worthwhile program of helping people of Bolton in need. If you have any questions please call Dorli Cloutier at 860-649-6255.



The fair Group is looking for an artificial tree in good condition that you may be retiring.

Please call me at 860-649-6255 - Dorli



The book review for

The Love That Made Mother Teresa, will be on Sunday, December 18th at 11 am. It will be held in the lower level of the Church. A brunch will be served, with coffee/tea. It will be about one hour in length as Christmas is near.

Father Leon is available at all time for any Spiritual needs, to call or meet with him personally, your always welcomed.

FROM THE DIOCESE OF NORWICH

Our Lady of Guadalupe! All are invited to join Bishop Cote and the Latino people of the Diocese in our annual bilingual celebration of the Feast day of Our Lady of Guadalupe at St. Patrick's Cathedral, Monday, December 12, 2016. The celebration begins with the Rosary and opportunity for confessions at 6:30 pm, followed by Holy Mass at 7:00 pm. Fiesta following. We look forward to honoring Our Lady with you.



On **Thursday, December 15, 2016**, come join in praying with Bishop Cote a **Eucharistic Holy Hour for Vocations.** This month the holy hour will be at St. Jude Church, Willington, CT from 6:00-7:00 p.m. Come pray for those who are called to priestly or consecrated religious life. Pray for our seminarians and those in process of applying to the Diocese. Join our Diocesan Prayer Team for Vocations by emailing the vocation office for more information at vocations@norwichdiocese.net and check out our website at god-calls.com!



THE POWER OF ONE

The March for Life Bus Trip

The Annual March for Life will take place this year on Friday, January 27, 2017, in Washington, D.C., as a way for people to express their opposition to abortion. This year's event coincides with the 44th anniversary of the Supreme Court's decision to legalize abortion. Buses sponsored by the Southeast Chapter of Connecticut Right to Life will travel to the March leaving from the Norwich Municipal Parking Lot (Exit 11, I-395) on Thursday, January 26, 2017, at 9 P.M.

Bus fare is \$67 per person. For information, to reserve a seat, or, if you cannot go, to sponsor a seat, please call Margaret Becotte at 860-822-1362.



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www.donationangel.org/ccfsn / 1-866-434-1131

Christmas Pageant

Saint Maurice has a long standing tradition of having a Christmas Pageant at the 4:00 pm mass on Christmas Eve. All generations enjoy seeing the children act out the story of the birth of Jesus at mass. Sharon

Van Dine coordinates the play and helps with costuming.

Please contact Amie Tillman or Sherry Snuffer ASAP if your children would be interested and available to participate! b21ssnuf@hotmail.com or llmann.amie@gmail.com



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