

THE PARISH COMMUNITY OF
saint maurice
A TITHING PARISH

32 Hebron Road Bolton, Ct 06043

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



NATIVITY OF THE LORD — DECEMBER 25, 2016

Good News!

December 25, 2016
Christmas (A)

Is 52:7-10, Heb 1:1-6, Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

This isn't a typical Christmas image, but stick with me! There is a renewed interest in genealogy as many seek to understand who and where they came from. These days, websites and genetic services make it easier than ever to track down our ancestry and examine our roots.

In tribal African art, one's ancestors have always been revered. In this piece from the Vatican Museums' missionary collection, we find the figure of a tribal leader, sculpted to resemble the trunk of an olive tree. The tree's veins are smaller individuals, each one united to another, representing the generations that have come before him and formed his bloodline. They are his "tree of life" that reaches back into the soil of history.

Judeo-Christian culture also values ancestors and highlights the roots of Jesus' heritage. The Messiah was to come from the line of David, which reaches back to Abraham, our father in faith. Behind each name there is a story, a family, God's action mingled with the person's hopes and failures. Each life flows and unites into one strong tree. And God watches over each and every one, preparing for the person of his Son. Today we celebrate the culmination of this plan. Jesus Christ, our Savior, is born today!

This protracted lineage invites us to look back and up: back on the events that have filled the tapestry of our personal and family history and up to see that God has brought us to know him and to accept his salvation. His providence works in and through it all.

For Reflection

Are you letting God work in you and your family so he can continue these blessings?

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 WEEKNATIVITY OF THE LORDDECEMBER 24 — 25, 2016USHERS GROUP I**2ND COLLECTION FOR POOR AND NEEDY**SATURDAY, DEC 24 — THE NATIVITY OF THE LORDCHRISTMAS EVE

4:00 P.M. Mass offered for †Eva and †John Wachowski
request of Irene Kehl

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Altar Servers: Shirley Holbrook

Lectors: Georgette Pelletier

Eucharistic Minister: Sharon Scorso, Clifford Scorso

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

Altar Servers: Patti Cinea

Lectors: Patti Cinea

Eucharistic Minister: Kathleen Smythe, Lou Cloutier

SUNDAY, DEC 25 — THE NATIVITY OF THE LORDCHRISTMAS DAY

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

Altar Servers: Lynn Mancino

Lector: Judy Trzcinski

Eucharistic Minister:

NO FAITH FORMATION CLASSES

10:00 A.M. Mass offered for †Marion and †Bill Miller
request of The Family

Altar Servers: Alex Czercowy

Lector: Katherine Monroe

Eucharistic Minister: Linda Wiley, Janusz Herasimowicz

CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY after MassMONDAY, DEC 26

9:00 A.M. Mass offered for †Catherine Baronousky Madden
request of Tony and Kathleen Conneely

TUESDAY, DEC 27

9:00 A.M. Mass offered for †Christine Carlone
request of Cathy and Keith Depathy

7:15 P.M. ADULT CHOIR REHEARSAL

WEDNESDAY, DEC 28

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

THURSDAY, DEC 29 — NO MASSFRIDAY, DEC 30 — NO MASSSATURDAY, DEC 31 — MARY, HOLY MOTHER OF GOD (Vigil)NEW YEAR'S EVE

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

STEWARDSHIP

Last week's Offertory: December 18 — \$3,069

Projected Amount needed \$2,980

"And the Word became flesh" JOHN 1:14

Jesus is God's ultimate gift of love to us. The countless other blessings that God showers upon us are nothing compared to the gift of His only Son. The only appropriate way for us to respond to such generous love is with our own generous love. When we dedicate our lives to sharing all the gifts God has placed in our hands, the peace of Christ truly will control our hearts and we will know Christmas joy every day.

NEXT WEEKMARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GODDECEMBER 31 — JANUARY 1, 2017USHERS GROUP IISATURDAY, DEC 31 — NEW YEAR'S EVE

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

Altar Servers: Patti Cinea

Lectors: Georgette Pelletier

Eucharistic Minister: Patti Cinea, Bert Flynn

SUNDAY, JAN 1 — NEW YEAR'S DAY

7:30 A.M. Mass offered for †Michele Giglio
request of George and Judy Knox

Altar Servers: Lynn Mancino

Lector: Lynn Mancino

Eucharistic Minister: Arlene Giglio

NO FAITH FORMATION CLASSES

10:00 A.M. Mass offered for †Barbara and †Donald Sullivan
request of Patrick and Daniel Sullivan

Altar Servers: Emilia & Marta Hersimowicz

Lector: Jeffrey Monroe

Eucharistic Minister: Janusz Herasimowicz, Lou Cloutier

CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY after MassMONDAY, JAN 2

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

TUESDAY, JAN 3

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

7:15 P.M. ADULT CHOIR REHEARSAL

WEDNESDAY, JAN 4

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

THURSDAY, JAN 5 — NO MASSFRIDAY, JAN 6 — NO MASSSATURDAY, JAN 7

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

Readings for the Week of December 25, 2016

Sunday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Ps 89/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/
Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25

Night: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14

Day: Is 52:7-10/Ps 98/Heb 1:1-6/
Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

Monday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31/Mt 10:17-22

Tuesday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97/Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Wednesday: 1 Jn 1:5-2:2/Ps 124/Mt 2:13-18

Thursday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96/Lk 2:22-35

Friday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Col 3:12-21
or 3:12-17/Ps 128/Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

Saturday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96/Jn 1:1-18

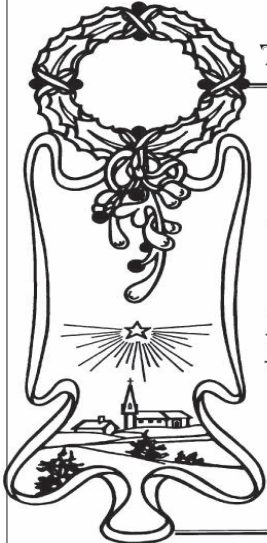
FROM SAINT MAURICE PARISH

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.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS
TO ALL PARISHIONERS**



We Wish You All

A glad and peaceful
Christmastide
With all its memories sweet;
May hope and love and
joy be yours
With kindly friends to greet;
The echo of the angel's song,
The star's clear guiding light,
The Christ child in your
heart and home,
To make this
Christmas bright.

THREE KINGS DAY TOY DRIVE



St. Maurice is continuing its tradition of assisting the Hispanic parishes of St. Augustine and St. Anne Immaculate Conception in Hartford by gathering toys for their Three Kings Day celebration. Please bring a new, unwrapped toy for a

child of any age to any of the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day masses or New Year's Day masses. (If your toy requires batteries, kindly provide these too, as even batteries can be a difficult expense for these families.) Toys can be placed under the tree before or after mass, or during the Christmas offertory. All gifts will be delivered in time for Three Kings Day, a Hispanic celebration which remembers the day the three kings brought their gifts to the infant Jesus.

Thank you for our parish's continued generosity! Contact Sharon VanDine for more information 860-803-4478.



YOUTH POP

We need to bring our young people back to church! They are looking to have fun and enjoy their faith. To help evangelize our young people, we have created a dynamic new way to bring them back – Youth Pop. Youth Pop trains high school youth and adults in your area to minister and create events for youth in your parish and surrounding churches. The trained youth leaders will provide the fun and faith filled events. The team is made up of youth and adults that come from your parish and other local parishes.

Any High School Youth and Adults who would be interested in training for our Leadership Team should contact Amie Tillmann at: tillmann.amie@gmail.com

FROM THE DIOCESE OF NORWICH



Office of Faith Events

Diocese of Norwich

Enriching the Faith of Youth, Young Adults,
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Please LIKE us on facebook

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**Get up to date info on fun, faith-filled
events and help us reach our goal of
1000 likes by 2017!**

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. Ray Introvigne 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.

Natural Family Planning is scientific, safe, and is 99-percent effective for conceiving or responsibly postponing a baby. A three-session class for married and engaged couples begins on Saturday, January 28 at 7 P.M. in Gales Ferry. For more information, call Craig and Liz Schantz at 860-464-1184 or to register for a class go to www.ccli.org.

Is your marriage tearing you apart? Is there little or no meaningful communication? Are you considering separation or divorce? **For serious marriage building and repair: Retrouvaille is a lifeline.** At a Retrouvaille weekend, couples are given tools to re-establish communication, work on their issues, gain new insights and heal. The weekend is presented by three married couples and a priest. A series of 6 post sessions follow the weekend phase. For more information or to sign up for the January 20-22, 2017 weekend in the Hartford area, call 413-525-1634, or 203-710-6207, or visit the Website at www.retrouvaille.org.

Defending Our Religious Liberty

The Catholic Church is not asking for special treatment when it comes to the federal health-care mandate, she is simply asking that every American's right to religious freedom be protected. This right is not only about our ability to go to Mass on Sunday, or to pray the rosary at home. It is about adhering to the tenets of our faith, so that we can contribute to the common good of all Americans.

If you haven't done so already, please voice your opposition to the federal health care mandate by calling U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Sylvia

Mathews Burwell at 202-205-5445, and your elected representatives. Let them know that the mandate is in violation of our First Amendment right to religious freedom.

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