

THE PARISH COMMUNITY OF *saint maurice*

A TITHING PARISH

32 Hebron Road Bolton, Ct 06043

Rectory Phone 860-748-4560

Parish Office 860-643-4466

Parish Center 860-643-8374

Prayer Line 860-649-5449 or 860-643-2837



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT — FEBRUARY 18, 2018

INTO THE DESERT

Why do we always go to the desert? We see this example in Scripture time and time again. The Israelites wandered in the desert. King David and prophets were driven into the wilderness. And now Jesus is in the same place. Lent after Lent, we too are invited into a barren, desolate place. Why do we always go to the desert?

Throughout Scripture, the desert is a place of testing. It's also a place of hiding and withdrawal. In the Old Testament, David fled into the wilderness to hide from Saul, Elijah from Jezebel, and Jonah from God! In other words, the desert is a place of "retreat." In Christian circles, we use the word to describe a spiritual weekend away. But its meaning comes from warfare, as we well know. To retreat means to draw back, to separate oneself from the fighting. Of course, a military retreat brings its own kind of "battle" -- the internal assessment of why the fighting went so poorly.

As we enter into this Lenten season, we are invited to retreat into the desert with Jesus. Attending a day or weekend of reflection is a wonderful spiritual practice. This "desert spirituality," however, can fill all forty days. We can fulfill our Lenten resolutions with a purpose -- writing daily notes to family and friends can inspire new gratitude, every time we pass up that specific food item can be cause for intercession for deeper sufferings and privations of others. The Gospel tells us that "the Spirit drove him out into the desert." In other words, God wants us to be here. What feels uncomfortable is actually part of our spiritual journey. To be stretched, to be challenged, to confront our own areas of weakness -- these things are essential in our walk with God. This Lent, will you go to the desert?

Prayer Line

Carol 860-643-2837 Mary Ann 860-649-5449

Administrator

Rev. Leon J. Susaimanickam

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 Cisson

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

Telephone: 860-643-4466

e-mail: saintmauricechurchbolton@gmail.com

Eucharistic Minister to Homebound

Patricia Cinea 860-646-0564

Fair and Workshops

Dorli Cloutier 860-649-6255

Beth Harney 860-649-1331

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 3:15 p.m. — 3:45 p.m.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

Please call the rectory (860-748-4560) 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 860-748-4560.

**FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT****FEBRUARY 17 — 18, 2018****USHERS GROUP I****SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17****4:00 P.M.** Mass offered for All Parishioners of St. Maurice Church

CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY after Mass

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18**7:30 A.M.** Mass offered for †Martha Turner request of Lynn Mancino

CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY after Mass

NO FAITH FORMATION CLASSES**10:00 A.M.** Mass offered for †Eva Morra request of Maria and Patti Cinea

CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY after Mass

5:30 P.M. EVENING PRAYER FROM THE LITURGY OF THE HOURS**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19****9:00 A.M.** Mass offered for †Louise Smith request of St. Maurice Christmas Fair Group**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20****9:00 A.M.** Mass offered for †Bud Moore request of Hope Grunske**7:00 P.M.** KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BUSINESS MEETING**7:15 P.M.** CHOIR REHEARSAL
*New members are most welcome***WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21****9:00 A.M.** Mass offered for All Parishioners of St. Maurice Church**9:00 A.M.** CHRISTMAS FAIR WORKSHOP**7:00 P.M.** BIBLE STUDY IN THE PARISH CENTER**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22 — NO MASS****FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23****6:00 P.M.** CUB SCOUTS BLUE AND GOLD BANQUET
*in the Parish Center***7:00 P.M.** STATIONS OF THE CROSS AND MASS
Mass offered for All Parishioners of St. Maurice Church**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24****3:30 P.M.** ROSARY BEFORE 4:00 P.M. MASS**FROM SAINT MAURICE PARISH****SACRIFICIAL MASS OFFERING DURING LENT**

Holy Mass is Divine blessings upon the person or persons for whom the Mass is being offered, plus all mankind, including members of the Church and the souls in purgatory. During Lent, weekend Mass placed requests will be reduced to a \$10 offering.

Masses can be offered for the intention of the grace of conversion of a loved one living or deceased, or for a specific appropriate intention.

Please contact Theresa at 860-643-4466 during office hours or saintmauricechurchbolton@gmail.com

COME JOIN OUR

**LENT 2018**

45 minute sessions led by Fr. Leon

A comparative review of all four Gospels with emphasis on the Passion Narrative of Jesus.

In the Parish Center every other Wednesday

Next Session February 21st at 7:00 PM**Audience: older teens and adults.****STEWARDSHIP****Last week's Offertory: February 11 — \$2,170****Projected Amount needed \$2,980**

"Brothers and sisters, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God."

- 1 Corinthians 10:31

Do a quick check of your priorities. Where does God rank in that list? If He's not first, you have some work to do. Putting God first in everything helps us from putting other "gods" (like our pride and ego, money and possessions to name a few) before God. Before making a decision, ask yourself I'm I going this for the glory of God or for the glory of me?

^ Tear off

Memorial Mass Form

Drop in collection ^

Father Leon, please offer a weekend ____ (or) weekday ____ Mass for the soul ____ (or) intentions ____ (as applicable) of:

Name _____

Person requesting _____

Street Address _____ E-mail Address _____

City State Zip _____ E-mail Address _____

Home phone _____ Cell phone _____

Check enclosed ____ Envelope No. ____ We will Donate Online ____ (Customary donation \$10 weekday, \$20 weekend)

I will bring up the gifts at the Mass celebrated. Yes ____ No ____

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:

Sue, Viola, Mary, Marge, Margaret, Kyle, Francis,

David, Jerry, Grace, Bob, Maria, Joe, John.

Candle Intentions - Cody, Nickolas, Alejandra, Maria, Bob, Grace, Tadeusz, Andrzej.

Special prayers for Carmel Pelletier who has died and prayers for his family.

For all who are searching for the keys to new life, that God will help those who feel bound by addiction or destructive habits to recognize the key that will liberate them to wholeness of life.

For Pope Francis, successor to St. Peter, that he will faithfully proclaim the Good News, be guided by the Spirit in promoting unity in the Church and leading us to greater love and service.

Prayer shawls are available upon request

Thank you. Carol & Mary Ann

FROM THE DIOCESE OF NORWICH



**OPERATION RICE BOWL:
OUR LENTEN PROGRAM:
ENCOUNTER LENT**

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.



Stations of the Cross

Fridays during Lent, 7:00pm



FROM SLEIGH BELLS RING CHRISTMAS FAIR GROUP



It is time for us to get back to work...

The Fair Group started their meetings on Wednesday morning on February 14th. We are meeting on Wednesday mornings 9 —

12. There are variety of tasks going on from ironing to quilting. We find a job for everyone. Please think about joining us and seeing what we plan for the 2018 Fair.

All are welcome and you do not need craft ability to sort buttons and place things in bags or cut strips of material... Join us. The coffee is always on.

See you there

Dorli, Beth and Sharon

Father Leon is available at all times for any Spiritual needs, to call or meet with him personally, you're always welcomed. Reach him direct at (860) 748-4560.

Defending Our Religious Liberty

The original health care federal mandate tried to force faith-based employers — including religious charities, schools and pro-life advocacy organizations such as the March for Life — to facilitate the coverage of drugs and contraception devices that go against our religious beliefs. When changing the mandate, let us pray that the administration safeguards religious freedom.



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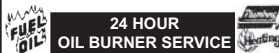


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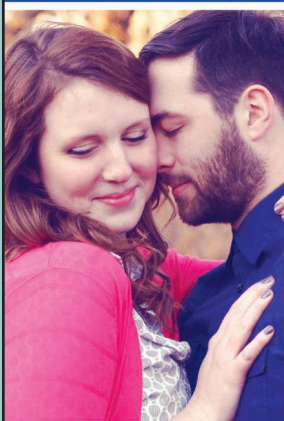
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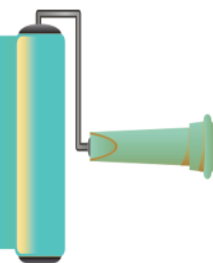
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