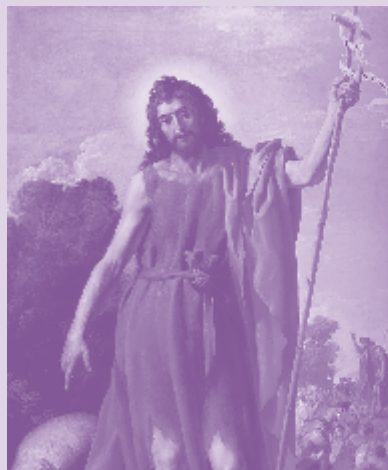


THE PARISH COMMUNITY OF saint maurice

A TITHING AND M-E-R-C-Y PARISH

32 Hebron Road Bolton, Ct 06043
Parish Office 860-643-4466
Parish Center 860-643-8374
Prayer Line 860-649-5449 or 860-643-2837



2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

John wore clothing made of
camel's hair and had a
leather belt around his
waist. His food was locusts
and wild honey. - Mt 3:4



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 8, 2019

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

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 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
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 3:15 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.

What does it mean to be worthy? There are a few different ways to approach this question. Today's Gospel highlights two: the way of the Pharisees and the way of John the Baptist. Our faith values good works and discipleship. Perhaps, then, we "earn" our worth by adhering to the right doctrines and following the right pious practice. The Pharisees thought they were worthy. Due to their religious pedigree and proper procedures, they were self-satisfied. John the Baptist's words to them are strong. *"Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.'"* Of course, Jesus (and John) don't omit the responsibility for moral behavior. John gives the Pharisees quite a strong warning in that regard. *"Produce good fruit as evidence of your repentance ... every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire."*

It's a question of attitude. Of disposition. It's a matter of the heart. If anyone would be worthy in this scenario, it's John the Baptist. Jesus himself will name him the greatest of prophets and a great man. John, however, recognizes his own lowly place in the grand scheme of things. *"The one who is coming after me is mightier than I. I am not worthy to carry his sandals."* The Pharisees take pride in being "better" than others. John embraces humility in Christ being "better" than him. We don't self-generate our own worthiness. We receive it as a gift from God.

In a few short weeks, we'll celebrate the birth of Christ. Bishop Ven. Fulton Sheen wrote about the Nativity in his "Life of Christ": "Because [Jesus] was born in a cave, all who wish to see Him must stoop. To stoop is the mark of humility. The proud refuse to stoop and, therefore, they miss divinity." God invites us to prepare our hearts this Advent. When you consider your own life, where are you looking for your worth? This Christmas, are you prepared to stoop?



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 7 — 8, 2019

USHERS GROUP III**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7**

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

4:00 P.M. Mass offered for the soul of Marguerite Flynn
request of Bert FlynnCHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY *after Mass***SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8**7:30 A.M. Mass offered for the souls of Mary Rice and
Nicole Dondero
request of Leah DeanCHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY *after Mass*8:00 A.M. TRIPLE PLAY CAFÉ BREAKFAST
Parish Center from 8:00AM to 11:30AM*Blood pressure screening available in the library during breakfast*

8:00 A.M.— 12:00 P.M. "SLEIGH BELLS RING" MINI FAIR

8:30 – 8:50 A.M. Youth Choir Rehearsal. *All youth are welcome*

9:00 A.M. FAITH FORMATION CLASSES

10:00 A.M. Mass offered for the souls of Steve, Mary and
Dave, Jr. Caruso
request of Shirley and Charles BrownCHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY *after Mass*

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

MONDAY, DECEMBER 99:00 A.M. Mass offered for The Members of the Divine Will
Prayer Group request of Daryl Bonadies**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10 — NO MASS**7:15 P.M. CHOIR REHEARSAL *New members are most welcome***WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11**

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

7:00 P.M. ST. MAURICE BIBLE STUDY *in the Parish Center***THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12**9:00 A.M. Mass offered for the souls of Col. Werner Moore
and Isabelle Moore
request of Hope Grunske**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13**

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

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14

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

4:00 P.M. Mass offered for the soul of MaryAnn Flynn
request of Bert Flynn**FROM SAINT MAURICE PARISH****THANKSGIVING FOOD**

Our Thanksgiving food delivery for Bolton families in needs went very well. The Families thank all of you who donated food and money for their

Thanksgiving. Thank you to Faith Formation students for sorting and packing the food. Thank you to all drivers who delivered the food.

**FROM THE DIOCESE OF NORWICH**

Our Lady of Guadalupe! All are invited to join Bishop Cote in our annual celebration of the Feast day of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Thursday 12 December 2019

Cathedral of St. Patrick, 213 Broadway, Norwich, CT

6:30pm Rosary & Confessions

7:00pm Eucharistic Celebration (Bilingual)

The Most Rev. Michael R. Cote, Bishop of Norwich, Principal Celebrant.

Following the Liturgical celebration, please join us for a fiesta of delightful music, delicious food & warm fellowship, as together we honor Our Lady and ask her intercession for peace in our hearts, in our homes, in our land, and in our world.



Please look for the Office of Faith Events' new column: "Faith Sparks" in the 4 County Catholic newspaper. This past month's column is about Advent. Diocesan youth minister Liza Roach says, "Advent is a time of patient waiting, and the Lord does not want us to be stressed out!". To read this entire article and find 5 great tips for a meaningful and memorable Advent and Christmas, visit: NorwichDiocese.org/FaithSparks

STEWARDSHIP**Projected Amount needed \$2,980**

"Therefore, every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire." MATTHEW 3:10

Do you bear good fruit for Christ? Or, do you spend your time, talent and treasure constantly acquiring more toys, clutter and junk. Our time, our talent and our treasure are gifts that God has given us. What we do with them is our gift back to God. What gifts are you planning to give to the Lord during this upcoming Christmas season?

^ 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: David, Kyle, Monique, Francis, Olga, Viola, Annedda, Irene, Laurie, Gloria, Mary, Irene, Nicholas, Bob, Grace, Mary-

Jane, Grace, Jose.

Candle Intentions: Nichola

Thank you. Carol & Mary Ann

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Saint Maurice will continue the long standing tradition of having a Christmas Pageant at the 4:00 p.m. mass on Christmas Eve; Sunday, December 24th. All generations enjoy seeing the children act out the story of the birth of Jesus at Mass. There are roles for all ages from sheep in the manger to Mary and Joseph. Sharon VanDine and Amie Tillmann will be coordinating the play, and parent participation is always welcome! We always appreciate your help guiding the children during the play.



If you or your child is interested in participating, please contact Amie Tillmann at saintmauricecd@gmail.com.

Practice will be the Sunday December 22nd, after 10:00 a.m. mass.



"We are inviting all youth of our church to form a choir to sing at the Christmas Vigil Mass. Rehearsals are Sunday mornings 8:30 to 8:50 at the church. All youth are welcome."

Amazon Services Associates Program

Use the  link on our website. When you use the link  to Amazon on our website (www.saintmauricebolton.org/). 4% of the purchase goes to St. Maurice.

FROM THE FELLOWSHIP CIRCLE**The Fellowship Circle fund raiser.**

The Fellowship Circle has been working not only to establish a more social community within the Church but also to promote the awareness that the Parish Community of St. Maurice is in financial need. The "Circle" recently raised some funds through donations for pens. It was successful, thank you! We need to do more. The leaders of the Fellowship Circle arranged for a CD of familiar Christian songs to be produced. The CD features our own Don Benevides on the keyboard with vocals by Elaine Byram who has been singing at the Saturday Vigil Masses for the past two summers.

In order to raise much needed funds for our Parish we are asking for your generosity again. For a minimum donation of twenty dollars (\$20) and as a thank you for your generosity we will happily give you the gift of a CD for your enjoyment. We will accept donations after all weekend Masses.

Pens are being offered for a minimum donation of \$1.50 each. Donations will go to the church account to lower our deficit. These attractive pens with an inscription of our church are available in the back of church after Masses from members of the Fellowship Circle.

FROM SLEIGH BELLS RING CHRISTMAS FAIR GROUP

Our sincere thanks to ALL the Fair workers. Especially those who jumped in to help in our "hour of need" by cancelling plans and changing their plans to be front and center to make this Fair go on. It did and we are pleased with the outcome.....

THANK YOU!!!

**"SLEIGH BELLS RING" MINI FAIR**

in the Parish Center this Sunday, December 8th, 8 A.M. to 12 noon. There are still gift items available along with mixes for your Holiday giving. Come take a look for those last minute gifts.

CHRISTMAS FOOD & GIFT DISTRIBUTION

We have 29 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 December 15th.** 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 contact Tom Manning (860) 990-4698 cell or tmanning818@sbcglobal.net

CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

Please return unwrapped gifts by Sunday, December 8th for Sunday, December 15th delivery. To donate, make your check payable to "Church of St. Maurice" with the memo "Share Christmas" and put in the regular collection or mail.



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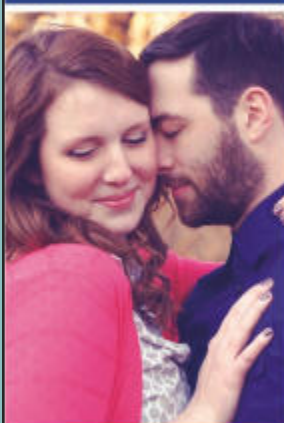


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