

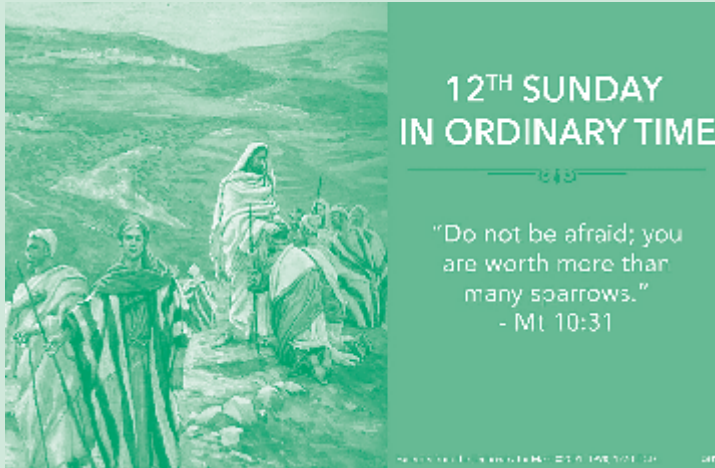
THE PARISH COMMUNITY OF saint maurice

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



TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
JUNE 21, 2020



12TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Do not be afraid; you
are worth more than
many sparrows.”
- Mt 10:31

There are many things of which we can be afraid: being rebuked, rejection, anger, being challenged, having to defend ourselves, standing alone, insecurity, failure, and even death. For some, identifying and overcoming their fears is a daunting task. Regardless of how much they may want to break the cycle of fear, they find that they remain close friends with old and dysfunctional behavioral habits and norms. Maybe what they really fear is change. There are many who gravitate to the familiar and comfortable, and find safety and security in doing so, even if they remain mired in mediocrity. Human beings have to learn that there is life beyond the “what has always been” and that happiness and depth are possible when old structures and systems have to be left behind.

Can you leave the near and dear, the comfortable and familiar, the safe and secure, and discover new opportunities? The sheer thought of doing so can bring on feelings of apprehension, intense anger, resentment, defensiveness, reluctance, resistance, and even apathy. If we have to be responsible for making the change, cowardice can creep in. If someone else is to blame for making the change, any number of possible negative reactions are possible. In the end, only one thing is required and that is God. If I can rely on and deepen my relationship with God, especially in the Eucharist along with a community of believers, then little else is of great concern. We have to figure out what is really important. It is not always what we think.

The Gospel calls us to stretch ourselves and try new things, not to remain stuck and stagnant in familiar ways. We are asked to live life more deliberately, radically, and intentionally. We are asked to leave the familiar behind and learn to live with changing, and often limiting, human structures. We cannot get too caught up in the physical, ideological, or structural systems we are used to. The Holy Spirit always leads and guides us. If we trust this, we will find ourselves doing things we never thought we could do. Always seek the path to joy and love. They keep us from falling victim to our fears and from seeking the nostalgic crutches we think we need to achieve a sense of well-being and happiness.

Prayer Line

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

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

Dorli Cloutier 860-649-6255

Beth Harney 860-649-1331

Sharon Scorsio 860-646-1423

Website

www.saintmauricebolton.org

WEEKEND MASSES: (temporarily suspended)

Saturdays at 5:00 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):

by appointment only

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 860-643-9553.



**TWELFTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME**

JUNE 21, 2020

**Our normal Mass Schedule is temporarily suspended. Livestream Masses:
From the Cathedral of Saint Patrick in Norwich**

<https://www.norwichdiocese.org/Masses>
Sunday 9AM

Daily Mass from Blessed Sacrament Parish

<https://www.blessedsacramentct.org/>:

Monday 8AM / Tuesday 9AM / Wednesday 8AM / Thursday 9AM / Friday 8AM and Sunday 10AM

Reopening Church Information

The Diocese of Norwich has recently released guidelines for implementing a gradual return to the public celebration of mass. In keeping with diocesan recommendations and guidelines for a gradual return to the public celebration of mass, **St. Maurice Parish will have Mass beginning on Wednesday, July 8, 2020 at 9 a.m.**

The celebration of mass will continue **each Wednesday and Thursday at 9 a.m.** throughout July and August.

JULY		AUGUST	
Wednesday	Thursday	Wednesday	Thursday
1	2		
8	9	5	6
15	16	12	13
22	23	19	20
29	30	26	27

The following steps are taken to keep our pastor and parishioners as safe as possible:

- Attendees will be required to wear masks and are also asked to provide their own hand sanitizer.
- Appropriate seating for social distancing will be marked.
- For those wishing to receive communion, distribution will take place immediately after mass has ended. Those wearing gloves must remove them before receiving. The Eucharist must not be placed in a gloved hand.
- During this period there will be no choir.
- Those in vulnerable populations, e.g. the elderly, those with underlying health conditions or those with any symptoms of illness are asked to remain at home. They are encouraged to watch Mass on TV or via the Internet.

Thank you all for your patience and understanding as we take the recommended steps to resume the celebration of mass. We will provide updates as they become available.

It appears that some parishioners may not be receiving envelopes. If this is the case for you, please contact Teresa Cison at (860) 643-4466 for help or Donate Online at www.saintmauricebolton.org.

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: The President and leaders of our nation.

Keeping you all in our prayers during this difficult time. Thank you, Mary Ann

FROM THE DIOCESE OF NORWICH



Combined Collection for World Charities

2020 WORLD COMBINED COLLECTION PROGRAM

The Combined Collection for World Charities is this weekend. The four causes supported by this collection are:

The Catholic Relief Services Collection – helps six Catholic agencies provide food to the hungry, support to displaced refugees, and work towards peace and reconciliation among our marginalized brothers and sisters here and around the world.

The Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) –In the United States one in six people lives in poverty. This collection helps to address the causes of poverty and provide a sustainable future for those who are struggling across the country. 25% of the funds for this collection stay in our diocese.

The Church in Central and Eastern Europe – helps restore the Church and build the future in 20 countries, many of which still struggle to recover in the aftermath of Soviet rule, by providing help with reconstruction, education, formation and poverty outreach.

Holy Land Collection – assists the Franciscan Fathers in their ministry to pilgrims, in the maintenance of the Holy Places, and in their pastoral ministry to native Christians in the Holy Land.

This combined collection offers an excellent opportunity to support hands-on efforts towards helping people in need.



STEWARDSHIP

“Everyone who acknowledges me before others I will acknowledge before my heavenly Father.”

MATTHEW 10:32



Would others know that you are Catholic by the way you act and speak? Do you share your Catholic faith with others? Do you defend your Catholic faith when the situation arises or do you remain silent? Do you pray in public before meals? Pray for the strength and courage to be a joyful witness of our Catholic faith when the opportunity presents itself. Let us become the radiant light and bold witness that we are called to be!

REFLECTIONS



Scripture lessons summarized: The first reading tells us how the prophet Jeremiah trusted in the power of God while he faced opposition for his prophetic ministry. He was intimidated by attacks upon his character, but he was unafraid to speak out in the name of the Lord. The psalmist in today's Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 69) trusts in God when he is misunderstood and ill-treated even by his brothers and relatives. In the second reading, Paul assures the Christians in Rome that they need not be afraid of opposition both because they share in the death of Jesus and because they are united with Christ, the new Adam, in his Resurrection. Today's Gospel passage is taken from the end of Jesus' instruction to his disciples as he sends them forth to carry on his mission of preaching and healing. He asks them to live simple lives and to expect opposition and rejection. After having foretold future opposition and persecution, Jesus encourages his disciples to stand firm. Three times they are urged, "Do not fear!" "Do not be afraid!" Instead of shrinking from their task, they are to proclaim the Gospel boldly, because they will be protected just as Jeremiah was assured of God's protection. Hence, Jesus commands his disciples not to fear their persecutors. He presents before them the image of the sparrow to reinforce the disciples' trust and hope in God. The readings hint at the opposition we future Christians will encounter as we carry on the work of Jesus in the world, and they encourage us to persevere in doing the work of Jesus. They assure us that we will be successful, despite the opposition we encounter.



Overcome doubts about ourselves to overcome fear: First of all, we have doubts about ourselves. Some of us are ruled by our fears because we lack confidence in ourselves. That lack of confidence is a tremendous barrier to our achieving what God has called us to achieve. We have doubts about ourselves. In Robert Schuller's book, *Power Thoughts*, he tells of a woman called Sweet Alice. At the age of twelve, Sweet Alice was in jail. She was pregnant at thirteen, homeless by the time she was fifteen and had attempted suicide. Sweet Alice was convinced that she had ruined all her chances in life, and

that she would never make anything good out of her life. It would have been easy for Alice to give into her fears and settle for a life of quiet failure. But then one day, Sweet Alice ran into a Jewish woman named Anne Cohn. Anne Cohn told Sweet Alice that she had a million-dollar smile and that people needed to see that smile. Anne assured Alice that she had great potential. No one had ever spoken to Sweet Alice like this before, and she desperately needed to hear it. Sweet Alice began to take action in her life. In 1965, the Watts riots flamed up in Los Angeles. Sweet Alice formed a group called POW - Parents of Watts. These parents worked together to improve their community. Recently, they shut down the business of a vendor in the Watts neighborhood who was selling t-shirts with objectionable, inflammatory messages. Sweet Alice also gave away her own house to start a program for the homeless. Since then, she's added nine more houses to the program. She's convinced that God rewarded her giving by giving her more to do. In 1993, Sweet Alice received a "Hero Award" and *Essence* magazine's "Essence Award" for her work with POW and with the homeless. She was recognized alongside Senators, artists, and Olympic athletes for her contributions to American society. And all because one person noticed her million-dollar smile. (New York: Harper Collins, 1993). You are a child of God. You have all kinds of potential. All you have to do is release it. Fear not. Believe in yourself. And believe in God.



Tom Brown's School Days: This story of an English boys' school, written in 1857 as a novel by Thomas Hughes, was based on his own experiences as a student of Rugby Boys School. A new boy joined the school. As he got ready for bed the first night, he knelt to say his prayers in a dormitory with twelve other lads. Tom Brown was among them and he was the most popular boy. The other boys were looking forward to making fun of the newcomer. Tom noticed a heavy shoe flying in the air to hit the praying boy. But it missed his head. Laughter and ridicule followed. The incident shook Tom and he could not sleep for some time. He kept thinking of his mother and the prayers she had taught him, prayers he had not said since coming to the school. So, encouraged by the example of the fearless newcomer, the following night Tom also knelt down to pray. The other

boys who planned to bully the new boy the second night, immediately noticed what their leader and hero was doing, and they withdrew with respectful silence. Soon, the courage of the two boys won the respect and admiration of the entire class. Here is an example of what Jesus taught his apostles in today's gospel to preach the good news without fear.

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.



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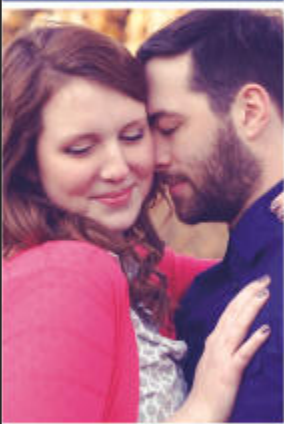


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