

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



FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
JULY 12, 2020



15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"The seed sown on rich soil is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold."
- Mt 13:23

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Using the best seeds doesn't always guarantee the best plants. An older Italian gentleman straight from Italy gave me these amazing tomato seeds that he claimed produced the best tomatoes ever grown. Without doubt, the fruit he shared with me was a testament to that fact. These tomatoes were amazing! I couldn't wait until the next growing season to plant these seeds and harvest my own tomatoes. The whole experiment ended up a failure. I did everything the gentleman said, but my fruit didn't even come close. What happened? At first I was perplexed, then some years later the light dawned. The problem wasn't the seeds, it was the soil!

You cannot sow seeds in any old place and in a haphazard way and expect them to be at their best. It doesn't work that way. Planting the seeds is the easiest part. Preparing the soil is the challenge. Tilling, mulching, enriching, and building up the nutrients are all required for good fruit. Then after the seeds are planted, more care is required in order to maintain that healthy, nutrient rich environment for those seeds to sprout, grow, and flourish. God happily sows the seeds of his Word. What do we do with them?

If we expect to be a passive bystander and have good fruit magically grow, we are mistaken. Bearing the good fruit of God's Word requires preparation and work. We have to cultivate the soil of our lives so that those seeds can find a proper home. This one thing alone takes a great deal of patience, time, and effort. What kind of preparation have we put into our lives so that we can be a recipient of God's seed? It takes a great deal of soul-searching and ego-checking to properly prepare. God is the ever faithful and persistent sower. If the seeds do not bear fruit the first time, God will come back time and time again, giving it another try.

If we have created a suitable bed for sowing, then once the seed is sown, we must properly maintain them. What is our maintenance plan for the seeds of God's Word? We need not only a source for water but a watering schedule. We need to weed, aerate the soil, nurture the young plants, protect them, and provide proper nutrients. What does our spiritual maintenance plan look like? If we have done all things well, imagine what the seeds of God's Word could produce in us!

Prayer Line

Mary Ann 860-649-5449

Pastor

Fr. Bill Olesik

Director of Faith Formation

Arnie 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 Scorso 860-646-1423

Website

www.saintmauricebolton.org

WEEKEND MASSES:

Saturdays at 5:00 p.m.

Sundays at 7:30, 9:15 and 11:00 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.



FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JULY 11 — 12, 2020

MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, JULY 11

5:00 P.M. Mass offered for All Parishioners
of St. Maurice Church

SUNDAY, JULY 12

7:30 A.M. Mass offered for All Souls in Purgatory

9:15 A.M. Mass offered for All Souls in Purgatory

11:00 A.M. Mass offered for the souls of Barbara and Donald
Sullivan — request of Patrick and Daniel Sullivan

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

6:00 P.M. ROSARY

MONDAY, JULY 13 — No MASS

TUESDAY, JULY 14 — No MASS

WEDNESDAY, JULY 15

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

THURSDAY, JULY 16

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

FRIDAY, JULY 17 — No MASS

SATURDAY, JULY 18

5:00 P.M. Mass offered for All Parishioners
of St. Maurice Church

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**



Several parishioners have reported receiving spam e-mail purporting to be from Father Bill. If you receive a similar message, probably asking you for help and to respond immediately because Father is in a meeting, do not respond. Delete it instead. It is probably not dangerous as with a virus, but if you respond it will verify your e-mail to the sender.

We have been pleased to mail our bulletin to you while Mass was suspended. Now that weekend Masses have restarted, we will not be mailing the bulletin except on request after July 12th. The Dispensation from Bishop Cote is still in place, and we recognize that many people will not feel safe at Mass yet despite an abundance of caution on our part. So, if you would like to continue to receive the bulletin by mail, please make that request to Tom Manning in one of these ways:

- By calling (860) 990-4698. Leave a message if necessary.
- By text message to (860) 990-4698
- By e-mail to tmanning818@sbcglobal.net
- By mailing the enclosed postcard

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: Mary

Thank you, Mary Ann



Weekend Masses:

Saturday — 5:00 p.m.

Sunday — 7:30 a.m., 9:15 a.m., and 11:00 a.m.

Weekday Masses:

Wednesday and Thursday at 9:00 a.m.



The celebration of Mass will continue **Saturday, Sunday, Wednesday, and Thursday throughout July.** The following steps are taken to safeguard the health of our pastor and

parishioners:

- 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 as 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 television or via the internet
- Our church will be cleaned and disinfected following each Mass.
- The obligation to attend Sunday Mass continues to be dispensed for all the faithful in the Diocese of Norwich until further notice.



**WASH YOUR
HANDS**



**DON'T TOUCH
YOUR FACE**



**KEEP YOUR
DISTANCE**

STEWARDSHIP

"The seed sown among thorns is the one who hears the word but then the cares of the world and the lure of riches choke the word and it bears no fruit." - MATTHEW 13:22

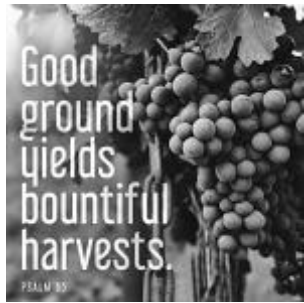


Does the lure of riches and material goods choke God out of your life? Are you so caught up in earthly activities that you have no time for God? Gratitude and generosity are virtues that we should strive to do on a daily basis. Every decision we make either takes us one step closer to God or one step further away. What we receive at Mass every Sunday should be shared with others all the other days of the week as well.

REFLECTIONS



Introduction: Today's readings are about the transforming power of the word of God when read, preached, and lived. They also warn us not to be disappointed at the absence of immediate results. We must take a positive and optimistic view of our missionary efforts, as we keep on bearing witness to Christ's Gospel. The parable of the sower in today's Gospel challenges us to listen intently to God's Word, to be open to it, and to allow our lives to be shaped by its power. The parable reminds us that man's reception of God's Word is determined by the condition of his heart.



Scripture lessons summarized: In the first reading, Isaiah consoles the Jewish slaves in Babylon, assuring them that, like rain and snow which water the earth so that seeds may sprout and grow, God's word will accomplish its purpose, in this case by returning the exiles to their homes in peace as God promised. In the second reading, St. Paul reminds us that just as seeds must fall into the earth and die to produce an abundant crop, the pain and sufferings God permits in our lives help our redemption. Paul wants us to wait for our eternal reward while we continue sowing the word of God diligently and suffering for the Lord, as he did. Today's Gospel teaches us that the word of the Lord is the seed, and our hearts and minds are the soil. The seed's good spiritual yield in one's life depends on how fully one willingly accepts and responds to the word of the Lord. The yield arising from the positive response will be abundant beyond all imagining. The parable tells us to do our part by preparing fertile soil in our hearts in which the word of God can germinate, grow, and yield 30-, 60, or 100-fold.



Dear comrade in Russia: Dr. Keith Wagner, of St. Paul's United Church of Christ in Sidney, Ohio tells the story of a small boy in Florida some years ago. It seems he heard that the Russians were our enemies. He began to wonder about the Russian children, finding it hard to believe that they were his enemies. He wrote a short note: "Dear comrade in Russia. I am seven years old and I believe that we can live in peace. I want to be your friend, not your enemy. Will you become my friend and write to me?" He closed the letter, "Love and Peace" and signed his name. He then neatly folded the note, put it into an empty bottle, and threw it into an inland lake near his home. Several days later, the bottle and note were retrieved on a nearby beach. A story about the note appeared in a local newspaper and the media picked it up nationwide. A group of people from New Hampshire who were taking children to the Soviet Union as ambassadors of peace, read the article, contacted the boy and his family. They invited them to accompany the group to Russia. So, the little boy and his father traveled to Russia as peace-makers. One little boy made a difference. He planted his seed and it bore much fruit.



FROM THE DIOCESE OF NORWICH

The **Annual Catholic Appeal** provides funds for many of the pastoral, educational, and charitable ministries in the Diocese of Norwich. This year's theme, "**One Faith, One Family**", has been lived by each of us. We have all prayed that this COVID19 pandemic would come to an end, and in living our lives apart from each other, we have day in and day out, relied on our ONE FAITH, and the belief that by working together as ONE FAMILY we would get through this. The ACA in-pew collection will be taking place in our parish on **July 25/26, 2020**. Please give prayerful consideration when contemplating your sacrificial gift to the appeal. The future of our ministries depends on it.

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.

SUNDAY OBLIGATION

The obligation to attend Sunday Mass continues to be dispensed for all the faithful in the Diocese of Norwich until further notice. Those who are considered "high risk" due to age or underlying health condition, are encouraged to stay home. Stay home also if you are experiencing symptoms of illness or not feeling well. Since Sunday is still the Lord's Day, the faithful are encouraged to do one of the following while unable to attend Mass:

- Read and reflect on the Sunday scriptures; • Pray the rosary reflecting on the Glorious Mysteries; • Watch the Sunday Mass on TV, or via the internet; • Wherever possible, pastors have been encouraged to continue live-streaming Mass for those who are unable to attend.



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