

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 860-643-2837



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 3, 2023



1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"Be watchful! Be alert!
You do not know when
the time will come."
- Mk 13:33

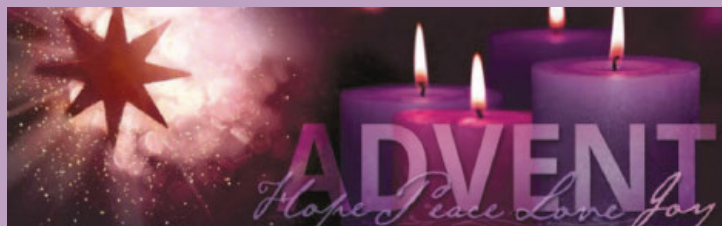
Excerpt from the Lectorian for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1978 CDD

Lately I've been listening to a science-based podcast on healthy daily living. The host frequently discusses the wide range of health benefits of sleep. So, each night I'm trying to get more, and better, slumber, and it's helping me feel energized. So, why in the world should we follow Christ's advice this week? **"Watch therefore, for you do not know when the master of the house will come ... lest he find you asleep."** Isn't sleep, especially at midnight and cockcrow, a good thing?

Of course, it is. But the wakefulness the Lord calls us to is a deep, personal orientation to Him. A nightly vigil is therefore a metaphor for this, but it's not just that. We should give up real sleep in order to pray, too. This difficult practice is a time-tested way to foster wakefulness of heart. When we give up sleep to pray, it focuses us. We learn that life is not an endless series of days. You and I belong to the Lord — awake or asleep, in life and in death. Sooner or later, even our need for our physical sleep will pass away. And our attentiveness to God — that is, whether we are awaiting Him to meet us — will be all that matters.

May I challenge us this week and this Advent to intentionally give up at least one hour of sleep each week for prayer? Stay up later, wake up in the middle of the night, or an hour earlier, and pray. Will we be a bit more tired the next day? Yes. But we'll be amazed at the spiritual wakefulness that results, too.

— *Father John Muir*



Pastor
Fr. Bill Olesik

Prayer Line
Carol Zabielski 860-643-2837

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 Cison
Office Hours - Mon., Tues., & Fri. - 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
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Eucharistic Minister to Homebound
Patricia Cinea 860-646-0564

Fair and Workshops
Beth Harney 860-649-1331
Sharon Corso 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 3:25 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

Please call the rectory (860-643-9553) 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.



**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 2 — 3, 2023**

Ushers Group III

ST. MAURICE FUEL COLLECTION

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2

- 3:30 P.M.** Rosary (in the Cry Room)
- 4:00 P.M.** Mass of thanksgiving requested by Sheila Rydzial
- Chaplet of Divine Mercy (in the Cry Room)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3

- 7:30 A.M.** Mass offered for All Souls in Purgatory
- Chaplet of Divine Mercy (in the Cry Room)

8:00 A.M. TRIPLE PLAY CAFÉ PANCAKE BREAKFAST
Parish Center from 8:00A.M. to 10:00A.M.



“SLEIGH BELLS RING” MINI FAIR
8:00A.M. till 11:30 A.M. in the Parish Center



- 9:00 A.M.** FAITH FORMATION CLASSES
- 10:00 A.M.** Mass offered for All the Parishioners of St. Maurice Church
- Chaplet of Divine Mercy (in the Cry Room)
- 5:30 P.M.** Evening Prayer from the Liturgy of the Hours

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4 — No MASS

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5 — No MASS

- 7:15 P.M.** Choir rehearsal in church.
We are practicing music for Christmas.
New voices are always welcome!

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6

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

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7

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

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8

**THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION**

- 9:00 A.M.** Mass offered for All Souls in Purgatory
- 7:00 P.M.** Mass offered for All the Parishioners of St. Maurice Church

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9

- 3:30 P.M.** Knights’ Rosary (in the Cry Room)
- 4:00 P.M.** Mass offered for All Souls in Purgatory
- Chaplet of Divine Mercy (in the Cry Room)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10 — SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Ushers Group IV

- 7:30 A.M.** Mass offered for All Souls in Purgatory
- Chaplet of Divine Mercy (in the Cry Room)
- 9:00 A.M.** FAITH FORMATION CLASSES
- 10:00 A.M.** Mass offered for All Souls in Purgatory

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: Barbara, James, Doctor .

Candle Intentions: Special prayers for the Intentions in the Candle Note Book.

Please call Carol Zabielski at (860) 643-2837

ST. MAURICE PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY



Members of the Prayer Shawl Ministry are making full size prayer shawls for our long term care patients. Also, mini pocket prayer shawls are available for everyone. If you can help in any way in

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
OF THE *Blessed Virgin Mary*

"Immaculate Mary, your praises we sing!" December 8th is one of our feasts celebrating Mary - the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. From the beginnings of the Church, spiritual writers and theologians have acknowledged the innocence and holiness of Mary. St. Irenaeus called her the "new Eve." Both faced with the pure freedom to accept or reject God, Mary began with work of redemption with her yes to Christ! The Church began to celebrate the feast of Mary's conception in the early Middle Ages. In 1854, Pope Pius IX infallibly declared that Mary was free of original sin from the first moment of her conception. On this feast day, we celebrate the beauty and goodness of Our Lady!

STEWARDSHIP

- Offertory: November 12 — \$3,425**
- November 19 — \$2,782**
- November 26 — \$3,119**

Projected Amount needed — \$3,670

“Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come.” - Mark 13:33

We all take things for granted. In particular, we take time for granted. We make our lives too busy. We plan our days, weeks, months, even years in advance. Remember, our time on earth is a gift. None of us knows how long we will be here. Start today and begin thanking God for each and every day. Take time in silence, every day, and listen to how God is calling you right now to help build His kingdom on earth.

^ Tear off

Parish Membership Form

Drop in collection ^

Please enroll the following as members of the Church of St. Maurice:

Adults _____

Children (under 18) _____

Street Address _____ E-mail Address _____

City State Zip _____ E-mail Address _____

Home phone _____ Cell phone _____

Send offertory envelopes _____ Send form for EFT (electronic donation) _____ We will Donate Online _____

We can help out as: Altar server _____ Lector _____ Usher _____ Eucharistic Minister _____ Choir _____ Crafts workshop _____

FROM ST. MAURICE PARISH

Delicious
Pancake Breakfast 

JOIN US FOR BREAKFAST AT THE TRIPLE PLAY CAFE



Time: 8:00 A.M. — 10:00 A.M.
Date: Sunday, **December 3rd**
Location: St. Maurice Parish Center
\$6.00 / Person \$18.00 / Family

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St. Maurice Council 6199
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At the business meeting held on November 15, 2023, Grand Knight Ted Lloyd and Council 6199 honored past **Financial Secretary Jack Smythe as Knight of the Month** in recognition of his long service in that position. Jack and Kathy Smythe have also consistently supported our events with their presence and effort. Congratulations Jack!

FROM SLEIGH BELLS RING CHRISTMAS FAIR GROUP



“SLEIGH BELLS RING” MINI FAIR
will take place in the Parish Center
on December 3rd, 8 A.M. to 11:30 A.M.
There are still gift items available along with mixes for your holiday giving.
Come take a look for those last minute gifts.



SLEIGH BELLS RING SEASONAL SHARING

As we have done in the past, this year the St. Maurice faith community will support the less fortunate in Bolton too.

Please drop off non-perishable food donations at the Church or Parish Center by **Sunday, December 17th for Christmas food delivery.**

If you prefer to give money, please make your check payable to “Church of St. Maurice” with the memo “Christmas food” and put in the regular collection or mail.

Thank you for your support. It does make a difference!



CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

with the bells for Bolton Families in need is in the church. If you can help by purchasing a requested gift for a Bolton resident in need this Christmas take a bell of the tree and return unwrapped gifts with the bell attached by **Sunday, December 10th.**

If you can't shop at this time, please send a check to St. Maurice with “Seasonal Sharing” in the memo line, and we will do the shopping for you.



FROM THE DIOCESE OF NORWICH



Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe! All are invited to join Bishop Cote and the Latino people of the diocese in our annual bilingual celebration of the Feast day of Our Lady of Guadalupe at St. Patrick's Cathedral, Tuesday, December 12, 2023. The celebration begins with the Rosary at 6:30pm, followed by Holy Mass at 7:00pm. Fiesta following. We look forward to honoring Our Lady with you. For more information, please contact the Office for Hispanic Ministry, Tel: 860-456-3349
email: aposthispano@gmail.com

PROJECT RACHEL ROSARY AT THE CATHEDRAL

The third Tuesday of each month at the Cathedral of St. Patrick following the noon mass, join the Office of Faith Events as we pray the Project Rachel Rosary. The Project Rachel Rosary focuses on hope, healing, and forgiveness for those affected by an abortion and also for an end to abortion. Please join us for this in-person Project Rachel Rosary on Tuesday, December 19th following the noon mass at the Cathedral of St. Patrick in Norwich.



Seven Sorrows of Mary

If you are seeking to find hope, strength and comfort from a loss, burden, or sorrow, join us for A Journey with Mary Through Her Seven Sorrows, a virtual seven-week program that will explore each of the seven sorrows of Mary's life and the message of strength and encouragement each one contains.

The program will meet online Monday nights from 7-8:15 P.M. January 8, 15, 22, 29 and February 5, 12, and 19. Each week will include a reflection on one of Mary's sorrows, guided prayer imagery and discussion.

The program is free, but registration is required. To do so, or, for more information, contact the Catholic Family Services Office, 860-848-2237, Ext. 312, or email mmclaughlin@norwichdiocese.net



VIRTUAL DIOCESAN ADVENT MISSION

The Office of Faith Events is offering a Virtual Diocesan Advent Mission with speaker Fr. Jeffrey Ellis. It will take place the first **3 Tuesdays in December- the 5th, 12th, and 19th from 7:00 – 7:45pm.**


Fr. Ellis will focus the mission on the Holy Family- Mary, Joseph, and baby Jesus. Please register by emailing Marianne Nicholas at

manicholas@norwichdiocese.net
or at 860-848-2237, 304.

YOUTH AND FAMILY EXPLOSION

The Family and Youth Explosion will take place on December 3rd from 1 -4pm at Mercy High School in Middletown with speaker, song writer, and musician Jesse Manibusan. Everyone is invited to attend! Tickets will be \$5 per Person, \$25 for a family or \$4 per person for a youth group. For more information or to buy tickets go to: <https://youthexplosionct.weebly.com/> Questions? Email Liza at lroach@norwichdiocese.net

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