



St. Francis Xavier Parish

May 21, 2017
Sixth Sunday of Easter

26 CHESTNUT LAND ROAD
NEW MILFORD, CT 06776
860-354-2202

Web Site: www.sfxnewmilford.org
Email: sfxparish@sfxnewmilford.org
Office Hours: 9 A.M. - 5 P.M.
Mon. - Thurs. (Closed on Friday)

PASTORAL TEAM

Rev. Joseph Lorenzo, OFM, Pastor
FrJoe@sfxnewmilford.org

Br. Courtland Campbell, OFM
Pastoral Associate
BrCourtland@sfxnewmilford.org

Deacon Roland Miller
DeaconRoland@sfxnewmilford.org

SUPPORT STAFF

Doreen Gray, Administrative Assistant
DGray@sfxnewmilford.org
860-354-2202

Jocelyne Verrastro
St. Francis Cemetery/Finance Office
JVerrastro@sfxnewmilford.org
860-350-6753

FAITH FORMATION 860-354-5372

Mary Vannucci,
Coordinator Gr. K - 5
MVannucci@sfxnewmilford.org

Sue Pullen, Coordinator Gr. 6 - 12
Edge (Gr. 6 - 8), LifeTeen (Gr. 9-12)
& Confirmation
SPullen@sfxnewmilford.org

Chris Grenier, Administrative
Assistant to Faith Formation
CGrenier@sfxnewmilford.org

HOLY INFANT NURSERY SCHOOL

Marge Cooper, Director
HolyInfant@sfxnewmilford.org
860-354-7284

Mailing Address & Office Location

1 Elm Street
New Milford, CT 06776

Fax # 860-355-9485



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MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil at 5:00 p.m.
Sunday at 7:30, 10:00 a.m. & 5:00 p.m. (Life Teen)

Wednesday, Friday at 8:00 a.m.
Tuesday, Thursday at 6:30 p.m.

SACRAMENTS CONFESSIONS

Saturdays 4:00 - 4:45 p.m.

BAPTISMS

Call Parish Office - 860-354-2202.

MARRIAGES

Contact the priest 1 year in advance.

MINISTRY TO THE SICK

The parish clergy and Ministers of Holy Communion visit New Milford Hospital, Candlewood Valley Health & Rehab, Village Crest Center for Health & Rehab and some homebound regularly. For other specific visits, please contact the Parish Office.

WELCOME

We are glad you are here.
If you would like to join the parish, please call the parish office.



SATURDAY VIGIL - May 20

5:00 P.M. +The Lynch Family
Req. by The Maguire Family

Sixth Sunday of Easter

SUNDAY - May 21

7:30 A.M. For The People of St. Francis Xavier &
The Immaculate Conception Province
10:00 A.M. +Michela Dispensa
Req. by Theresa, Rosa and Children
5:00 P.M. +Rosemary Grubb
Req. by Daria & Richard Wielebinski

MONDAY - No scheduled Mass - May 22

TUESDAY - May 23

6:30 P.M. +Paul LeClair
Req. by Eileen Kiley Hastie

WEDNESDAY - May 24

8:00 A.M. +Teresa Rose Snyder
Req. by Colm & Cathy Farrell

THURSDAY - May 25 - Ascension of the Lord

8:00 A.M. +Attilio & Teresa Serio
Req. by Their Family
6:30 P.M. For the People of St. Francis Xavier &
The Immaculate Conception Province

FRIDAY - May 26

8:00 A.M. +Rose Khoury
Req. by The Coleman Family

SATURDAY VIGIL - May 27

5:00 P.M. +Lt. Col. Timothy P. Brooks (13th Anniv)
Req. by His Family

Seventh Sunday of Easter

SUNDAY - May 28

7:30 A.M. For The People of St. Francis Xavier &
The Immaculate Conception Province
10:00 A.M. For the living and deceased members of
The Reynolds Family
Req. by Their Family
5:00 P.M. +Mary Britton
Req. by The Jonke Family

ITEMS FOR THE MISSIONS: If you have any of the following items: rosaries, prayer cards, medals, small religious books, Bibles, etc, to send to the missions, please contact Judy at 860-354-7254.



St. Francis sends a final
farewell
to our dearly departed:
Lillian Trezza
Elzbeth Fontanella

RACHEL'S VINEYARD WEEKENDS FOR HEALING AFTER ABORTION If you are suffering from an abortion, experience the healing love of Jesus Christ on a Rachel's Vineyard Retreat weekend June 2-4, 2017 in Litchfield, CT. The weekend healing process includes discussions, Living Scriptures with meditations, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, a Memorial Service and Mass of Entrustment. Participation is totally confidential. Both women and men of all ages participate. The fee for the weekend is \$175 for meals, private room and retreat materials. Scholarships are available for financial assistance. Contact Marie at 203-631-9030.



**Ascension of The Lord
Holy Day Mass Schedule:**
Thursday, May 25
8:00 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.

Parish Council Nominations

The St. Francis Parish Pastoral Council is seeking nominations to serve our Parish. A table is set up in the Church Hall with more information.

Sponsored by our Knights of Columbus
Every Monday night
VFW Hall (Avery Road, New Milford)
Doors open 5:45 p.m. ; BINGO at 6:30 p.m.



**Memorial Day Mass
At St. Francis Cemetery**

Please join us **Monday, May 29** at 8:00 a.m. at the St. Francis Xavier Cemetery on Fort Hill Road (behind Big Y). We will remember in a special way all of our deceased family and friends, especially those who have died this past year. Everyone is welcome to attend. Please bring lawn chairs or blankets. (In the event of inclement weather, Mass will be celebrated in the Church.)



OFFERTORY - May 14 = \$5,640.00
5 ½ % CATHEDRATICUM = \$310.00
5 ½ % CATHOLIC SCHOOLS = \$310.00
ST. FRANCIS' SHARE = \$5,020.00
Basilica of National Shrine = \$1,828.00

BABY BOTTLE DRIVE St. Francis is holding a Baby Bottle Drive fund raiser that began last weekend (Mothers Day) in support of Carolyn's Place in Waterbury. They assist woman of all ages who become pregnant and need support. Each family is asked to take a bottle home and put whatever loose change that has accumulated during the day into the bottle. The bottles will be collected on Fathers Day. Thank you in advance for your support.

Boy Scout Troop 66 Tag Sale

Boy Scout Troop 66, sponsored by St. Francis parish, will hold a Tag Sale on Saturday, May 27 from 9 am - 2 pm on the Front Lawn of the Parish Center, 1 Elm Street. There are many items for sale including: household items, toys, games and a raffle. Please come and help support our Troop.

Join **The Confraternity of the Rosary** on Wednesday, June 7, 2017 at the Retreat House at The Shrine of Lourdes in Litchfield. Gathering time with coffee will be from 9 - 9:30 a.m. The speaker will be Deacon Arthur Miller of the Hartford Archdiocese. Lunch will be at 12 noon at the Retreat House. You are also invited to recite the rosary and participate in the Stations of the Cross in the Grotto. We will meet in the lower parking lot at Lourdes at 9a.m. and carpool to the House. Bring \$20.00 (cash only) on the day of the retreat. To register please call Connie or Marcy at 1-860-361-6564 by May 31.

SAVE THE DATE...

Wednesday, October 4, 2017

October Day of Reflection at Enders Island

"The Poor Man of Assisi"

All parishioners are invited to attend this Day of Reflection honoring the feast of St. Francis of Assisi. We will carpool to Mystic, CT. The program runs 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and will include a 3-course hot lunch. \$50/per person. More details and sign-ups to follow.

St. Francis Xavier Parish SOCIETIES/MINISTRIES/ORGANIZATIONS

Parish Pastoral Council President - Christine Zona 860-210-7892

Liturgical Ministries:

Altar Servers - Peter Tagley 860-868-7821

Children's Liturgy - Mary Vannucci 860-354-5372

Eucharistic Ministers - Al Gambone 860-946-9776

Greeters - Noreen Fanella - nafanella@att.net 860-355-2625

Lectors - Barbara Mullen - 860-354-6436

Music Ministers-Doreen Gray, Tina Haddad, Christian Martirano

Ushers - Herman Izzard - 860-354-0430

Prayer/Catechetical/Service Ministries:

Confraternity of the Rosary-First Monday -Noon, Church Hall

Knit for Life - Patty Snodgrass - 860-355-4578

Knights of Columbus - For information call 860-355-3462

Lay Missionaries of Charity - Joan Kick 860-354-1323

Maintenance Ministry - Tom and Cathy 914-843-5193

Our Lady Queen of Peace Prayer Group - Thurs., 7:00 p.m.
Parish Center

Parish Prayer Line - Terri - 860-355-8143;

Debbie - debhmel@gmail.com

Prayer Shawl Ministry-Jo DeCosa - 860-355-0342

Pro-Life Ministry - Deacon Roland Miller - 860-355-3737

R.C.I.A. - Robert & Barbara Mullen 860-354-6436

Women's Guild - Second Tuesday of Month - 7 p.m., Church Hall

Youth Ministry - Sue Pullen 860-354-5372

LIFETEEN (High School Youth) **Jr. Youth Group** (Gr. 6 - 8)

Outreach Ministries:

Beautification Committee - Joe Caruso 860-355-0670

Community Garden Ministry - Steve Fugardi - 203-770-4103

Mass Taxi - need a free ride to Mass? Mark Speede 860-210-0289

Martha & Mary Community Care - 860-354-2202

Meals Ministry - Chris Grenier 860-354-2202

Affiliated Groups:

Recovery Anonymous - 7 pm, Thursday, 3rd FL

Boy Scout Troop 66 - Darrin Thorndike 860-799-0730

Cub Scout Pack 66 - Steve Morris 203-526-6254

Fund Raising Event at Colosseo Restaurant

Our parishioner, Rosalia DesBiens, the owner of the newly renovated Colosseo Restaurant, is offering this special coupon as a fund raiser for St. Francis Xavier Church.

For every \$50 spent, St. Francis will receive \$5.

Coupon valid Sunday, May 21 - Sunday, May 28

Colosseo is under new management and has a new menu, too.

Please stop in this week and bring this coupon with you.

Colosseo is located on Rt. 202 (38 Park Lane) in New Milford. (Open 7 days until 10 p.m.)



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Italian Feast



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LIFE TEEN MASS
Every Sunday
5:00 P.M.

CONFIRMATION YEAR TWO: the date for the Confirmation ceremony is: Sat., June 3rd. If your son/daughter is in the Wednesday afternoon or evening classes your Confirmation will be in the morning ceremony (10:00am). **Rehearsal** for the morning ceremony is Tues., May 30th at 7:15pm. If your son/daughter is in the Sunday classes your Confirmation will be held in the afternoon ceremony (1:00pm). **Rehearsal** for the afternoon ceremony is Wed., May 31st at 6:30pm. Please bring your sponsor to the **rehearsal** if possible, if not a parent or guardian **MUST** stand in. Both **rehearsals** and ceremonies will take place at the Church. Call Sue P. with questions. An email confirmation was sent out to everyone this past week.

FAITH FORMATION VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DINNER: will be held THIS Tues., May 23rd. Our evening will begin with 6:30pm Mass, followed by wine, a buffet dinner and desserts. Please come and let us Give Thanks to the Lord! We have been blessed by the gifts of your time and talents this past year. Please come let us show our gratitude and appreciation of you “our” volunteers. Please RSVP to Mary, Chris or Sue by May 22nd at 860-354-5372 or email CGrenier@sfxnewmilford.org Praying we see ALL of you there.

GRADUATION MASS AND SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS: will take place on Sun., June 4th following the 5pm Mass. All High School seniors and their families are invited to attend this special Mass where they will be recognized for all their hard work and dedication. A reception will follow in the Church hall. Please call 860-354-5372 to RSVP with your name and number attending with you. Thanks.

REGISTRATION 2017-2018: was held. A letter with all the details was mailed a month ago. You must come or call the office to register. The Faith Formation office hours are Monday thru Thursday 9:00am– 12:30pm and 1:30–5:00pm. We are closed on Fridays, and also on Monday, May 29th in observance of Memorial Day.

Faith Formation 860-354-5372

SUMMER SPIRIT 2017: Join us this summer in our fun-filled Summer Spirit program. This year’s program will be held July 10-14, 8:45am – 12:00noon (Monday through Thursday) and until 1:00pm on Friday for our annual Friday cookout. Your child will have a great week participating in music, art, outdoor play, Bible stories and other great activities. Summer Spirit is open to children entering Kindergarten through and including grade 6. Campers and counselors must be currently enrolled in Faith Formation or have been Confirmed to register. Cost: \$20./one child, \$30./two children and \$35./three or more children. \$10./counselor. **Cost includes Summer Spirit t-shirt, arts and crafts, daily snack and drinks, Friday cookout, special entertainment. Registration is THIS Sat., May 20th following the 5pm Mass in the Church Hall OR THIS Sun., May 21st following the 10am Mass in the Church Hall or come to the Faith Formation office during office hours. Any questions please call 860-354-5372.

Congratulations !!!
to all our First Communion children:

Dahlia Angulo	Thomas Mason
Sebastian Berisha	Max McCaffrey
Andres Bonilla	Giorgiana Mejias
Emma Brodeur	Hayley Mesa
Noelia Camacho	Landry Messina
Zachary Candela	Rafael Morataya
Barbara Cardenas	Daisy Munoz
Kendall Chung-Lim	Anna Natoli
Else Dahl	Declan O’Brien
Jonathan DeRoberts	Kyleigh O’Brien
Sebastian Dota	Shayleigh O’Brien
Gavin Dunlap	Jake O’Toole
Olivia Fedak	Ashley Opdyke
Brianna Gray	Simone Piazza
Alessandra Greczyn	Katelyn Roberts
Kayla Guailazaca	Levi Roussel
Jorge Guaman	Alexa Sartoris
Kayley Herring	Julia Skrypczyk
Ethan Johnson	Jillian Sloane
Samantha Johnson	Owen Staller
John King	Elena Stein
Lia Manka	Nicholas Vochis

May God continue to bless each and every one of you and your families.

*The View From**The Evangelization of the New World by the Franciscan Order**My Window*

The Franciscan Order, founded by Saint Francis of Assisi in 1209, is intimately linked to the spread of the Gospel throughout the world. From the very beginning of the order, Saint Francis sent the friars out to foreign lands in response to the mandate of Jesus Christ to preach the Gospel to all the world. The missionary activity of the Franciscans marks a great legacy of Franciscan history, and there are many parts of the world today that saw a

great spread of the Catholic faith through the witness and preaching of Franciscan missionaries.

It should come as no surprise, however, that when explorers from Europe set sail to find a western route to the Indies, Franciscan Friars would have joined in the journey. While it is not known if Franciscans accompanied Christopher Columbus on his journey of discovery in 1492, Columbus did bring two Franciscans on his second voyage in 1493. Columbus himself was a close associate of the Franciscans in Spain, and friars served as his mentors and spiritual guides. It is known that the Franciscan scholar Fray Antonio Marchena, an astrologer, had a great influence on Columbus and interceded on his behalf before Ferdinand and Isabella, the king and queen of Spain. These friars are acknowledged as the first missionaries to the Americas. Shortly after that, Franciscans began establishing foundations in Mexico and Central America.

Franciscan missions were established in northern Mexico and Yucatan, as well as Guatemala and Honduras. Around 1510, the first friars entered Colombia and Venezuela in South America, and in 1516 three friars were martyred there by cannibals. In 1540, the first Franciscans set foot in Trinidad, but were killed by cannibals. The work of the friars soon spread to Peru and Chile. Franciscans went as far south as the Straits of Magellan, and the Franciscan Saint Francis of Solanus worked for 20 years in what is now Argentina and Peru.

In North America, five Franciscans in 1527 began spreading the gospel in Florida, but the real beginnings of the missions in the United States began in 1597 in Florida and Georgia, where the friars converted great numbers of natives. In 1539 the friars arrived in New Mexico and from there spread to Arizona, where they worked among the Apaches. In 1609 a Franciscan jurisdiction was established in Florida, and in 1616, the Custody of the Conversion of St. Paul was founded in New Mexico and Arizona. In 1690, the friars began working in Texas, especially along the Rio Grande River and in the area of San Antonio.

We are probably all familiar with the work of the Franciscans in what is now the state of California. The friars literally founded the state through the ministry of Saint Junipero Serra and his companions. They established missions up the Pacific coast of California, which gave birth to cities whose names sound like the Franciscan Litany of Saints: San Diego (named after Franciscan St. Didacus of Alcalá), San Francisco (after St. Francis of Assisi), Los Angeles (named after the Mother Church of the Franciscan Order, Our Lady of the Angels in Assisi), San Juan Capistrano (after the Franciscan Saint John Capistran), Santa Clara (from St. Clare of Assisi, companion of St. Francis), San Buenaventura (Ventura) (the great Franciscan theologian St. Bonaventure), San Luis Rey (after St. Louis, King of France- Third Order Franciscan), and San Luis Obispo (a Franciscan bishop).

Fr. Conrad Harkins, O.F.M., a Franciscan Scholar, wrote in his paper "Franciscan Friars in the New World"

"The successful evangelization of the Americas is an achievement in which the Franciscans certainly had a major share. The poverty and evangelical zeal which were part of the very foundation of the Order made the friars ideally suited for the missionary task before them. But at least two other characteristics of the Franciscans contributed to their rapport with the native population and therefore their success, namely a cosmopolitan view of the world and a vision of a reformed Church and society ... Any hope of evangelizing the natives of the New World depended on the friars' abilities to master their languages. How well they did is evidenced by the innumerable dictionaries, grammars, catechisms, sermons, and spiritual writings in the native languages. By 1572 the Franciscans had written at least eighty works in the native languages, an achievement unequalled by all the other Orders combined."

As Franciscans, we are very proud of our heritage as the first evangelizers of the New World, and that legacy continues in the work of the friars to this very day.

Love,

Fr. Joe