



St. Francis Xavier Parish

June 18, 2017

The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

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

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DeaconRoland@sfxnewmilford.org

SUPPORT STAFF

Doreen Gray, Administrative Assistant
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860-354-2202

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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

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CGrenier@sfxnewmilford.org

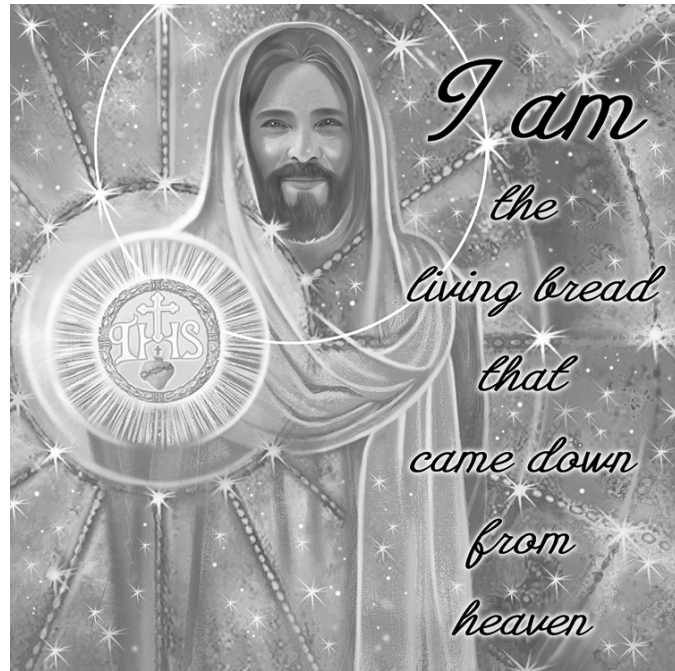
HOLY INFANT NURSERY SCHOOL

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.



St. Francis sends a final
farewell
to our dearly departed:
Raymond Plue
Russell Carlson

SATURDAY VIGIL - June 17

5:00 P.M. +Gilbert Speede & Debra Bello
Req. by The Speede Family

**The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ
SUNDAY - June 18**

7:30 A.M. In Honor of All Fathers -
Living and Deceased
10:00 A.M. +Raymond O'Brien
Req. by His Wife and Children
5:00 P.M. +Neil & Carol Lynch
Req. by Their Family

MONDAY - No scheduled Mass - June 19

TUESDAY - June 20

6:30 P.M. +Peg Fogarty (3rd Anniversary)
Req. by Her Family

WEDNESDAY - June 21

8:00 A.M. +Ronald F. Courville & Leroy Cote
Req. by The Cardi Family

THURSDAY - June 22

6:30 P.M. +Anna Funaro
Req. by The Lalak Family

FRIDAY - June 23

8:00 A.M. +George A. Lalak
Req. by The Lalak Family

SATURDAY VIGIL - June 24

5:00 P.M. +James & Lucy Matts
Req. by Jo DeCosa

Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

SUNDAY - June 25

7:30 A.M. For The People of St. Francis Xavier &
The Immaculate Conception Province
10:00 A.M. +Edward Mendoza
Req. by His Parents & Brothers
5:00 P.M. +Jack McPartland
Req. by His 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.

Father's Day Affirmation of Wedding Vows:
Celebrating our Catholic Marriages and Families
THIS Sunday, Father's Day, at our 10 AM Mass
Father's Day is an important time to celebrate and promote the role of fatherhood within the Christian family. Fathers, by their word and example, pass on the faith and reflect the image of God the Father within their homes. Christian marriages reflect the relationship between Christ and the Church and have the Holy Family as their primary model. As devoted Catholics, members of the Knights of Columbus nourish, support and strengthen Catholic family life through parish-based programs and charitable works. Today, our parish's Knights of Columbus council invites each couple present to affirm their wedding vows. We hope that by doing so you and your spouse will again experience the grace received on your wedding day, when you gave witness to the union of Christ and the Church. We pray that your marriage continues to be strengthened through the example of the Holy Family and the love that comes from Christ.

LADIES-Join us for a Trip to Elizabeth Gardens!
The Women's Guild is taking a carpool trip to Elizabeth Gardens, in Hartford on Saturday, June 24th. We're meeting in the Church parking lot at 9 AM, leaving at 9:15. Admission to the Gardens is free. There is a picnic area in addition to the Pond House Cafe for lunch. Elizabeth Gardens has on it's 100 acres formal Victorian gardens and 15,000 roses. Rain date is Sunday, June 25th. For more information contact Ellen Cote, (860) 354-5883 or ebcote@yahoo.com. All women of the parish are invited to join us.

Prayer Shawl Ministry - Our Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet on Tuesday, June 20 at 1:00 p.m. in The Parish Center. New members are always welcome to join this ministry to knit/crochet Prayer Shawls for the homebound and infirm.

Baby Bottle Drive Ends This Weekend!!!

St. Francis Xavier Parish has been holding a Baby Bottle Drive fund raiser which began on Mother’s Day in support of Carolyn’s Place in Waterbury. They are a charity run group who assist any woman who becomes pregnant and needs physical, spiritual or emotional support. Each family was asked to take a bottle home and put whatever loose change that has been accumulated during the day into the bottle. **The bottles will be collected this weekend.**

BAKE SALE THIS WEEKEND!!

Our Prayer Shawl Ministry is sponsoring a Bake Sale to raise funds for the purchase of yarn for their ministry. Please stop by the Church Hall and help support this wonderful service of providing prayer shawls for the homebound and infirm.



Honoring Those Who Serve!

During the month of July we will be remembering those who have served our country and community. If you would like to honor a loved one or friend, living or deceased, there will be stars in the back of the hall after each Mass. Please write their name and information such as rank and type of service (military branch, police, firefighter, EMT, etc.). We will honor our heroes by placing these stars on a banner to display in the church.

Reminder...We have “Online Giving”

Online Giving is a convenient, secure and confidential way to make your donations.

How Do I Get Started?

1. Visit our parish website www.sfxnewmilford.org
2. Click on the Online Giving link
3. Click on the Create New Account link.

If you have any questions or need help, please call the office staff for assistance.



OFFERTORY - June 11	= \$4,796.00
5 ½ % CATHEDRATICUM	= \$264.00
5 ½ % CATHOLIC SCHOOLS	= \$264.00
ST. FRANCIS’ SHARE	= \$4,268.00
Catholic Relief Services	= \$1,845.00

At A Glance...

Upcoming Dates and Events:

- June 17 & 18 - Prayer Shawl Ministry Bake Sale
- June 18 - Marriage Blessing at 10am Mass
- June 20 - Prayer Shawl Ministry 1pm Parish Center
- June 20 - Knights of Columbus meeting 8pm Church
- June 23 - Jr. Youth Group Party at Church
- June 24 & 25 - Pray ‘n Wash - benefit Steubenville
- June 25 - E.M. Commissioning at 10 a.m. Mass
- June 26 - Teen Leaders Meeting - 12 noon
- June 29 - Life Teen End of Year Party - Church
- July 1 - Patriotic Rosary - after 5pm Mass
- July 10 - 14 - Summer Spirit!!!

Parish Council Email Address

Your Parish Council would like to hear from you!
Thoughts, Ideas, Questions, Suggestions?
sfx.pcouncil@gmail.com

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.

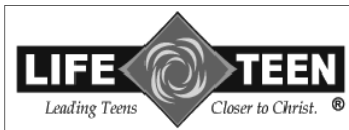
My Fathers House Presents:

The Holy Shroud of Turin Retreat

A special One Day Retreat with the Holy Shroud will be held on Saturday, July 8 from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at My Fathers House in Moodus, CT. A relic of the Holy Shroud will be available for veneration. Donald Nohs will be the presenter. He is known as the Apostle of the Holy Shroud and brings the message of the Holy Shroud and Passion of Jesus world-wide. Cost is \$40 per person. Breakfast and lunch concession on site. For directions and more info call 860-873-1906.

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





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

REGISTRATION 2017-2018: was held. A letter with all the details was mailed in March and phone calls were placed this past week and SEVERAL email reminders were sent out to. A LATE FEE OF AN ADDITIONAL \$25. PER CHILD WILL BE CHARGED STARTING THIS WEEK. 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. Closed Fridays.

PRAY – N – WASH: Mark the dates on your calendar Sat., June 24th before, during and after the 5pm Mass and Sun., June 25th before, during and after the 7:30am and 10am Masses. This will benefit our youth attending the Steubenville retreat in July.

SUMMER SPIRIT: we are in need of the following items to be donated for the program: apple juice, goldfish, cheese its, pretzels and CHEESE BALLS for the snacks.

Items may be dropped off at the Parish Center (office) or call and let us know what you will be bringing the first day. Thanks for your help.

JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP: End of the School Year Party at the Church for grades 6, 7 & 8 on Fri., June 23rd from 6:30 – 9:00pm. There will be ICE CREAM TASTING, and then build your own Sundae; a whip cream pie contest and outside games weather permitting that might get wet so bring a towel. Hang out with friends and celebrate the SUMMER. Bring you favorite topping to share for the Sundae making. Questions or suggestions call Sue Pullen at 860-354-5372 or email her at SPullen@sfxnewmiford.org.

LIFETEEN LIFENIGHT: SCHOOL’S OUT FOR SUMMER: At the Church RAIN OR SHINE on Thurs., June 29th begins with 6:30pm Mass – parent pick up at 11:00pm. This is open to ALL high schoolers (grades 9, 10, 11 & 12). We will have pizza, ice cream, bonfire (weather permitting) and games (inside and outside). We will also show the movie **“SPIDERMAN 3”**. Questions or suggestions call Sue Pullen at 860-354-5372 or email her at SPullen@sfxnewmiford.org.

Faith Formation
860-354-5372

This Fall, over 570 children and young people, in grades Kindergarten through Grade 10, will sign up to learn more about Jesus and our Catholic Faith.

YOU can help them to learn and grow in Faith by becoming a Catechist or Assistant in our Faith Formation program. As you nurture the Faith of our young, you will learn and grow as well. As one long time catechist said, “I learn so much from the children!”

We provide you with materials, training and support. Classes begin Sun., Sept. 24th and meet every other week. If interested or you would like more information for grades K-5 please call Mary Vannucci and for more information for grades 6-10 or Youth Ministry (Junior Youth Group) or (Lifeteen) please call Sue Pullen.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

- Sundays – 11:30am – 1:00pm
 - 5th Grade – Catechist and Assistant
- Sundays – 2:45 – 4:15pm
 - 6th Grade – Assistant
- Mondays – 3:00 – 4:30pm
 - 10th Grade – Confirmation – Assistant
- Mondays – 6:30 – 8:00pm
 - 6th Grade – 2 Catechists and 3 Assistants
 - 7th Grade – Catechist and Assistant
 - 8th Grade – Assistant
- Tuesdays – 6:30 – 8:00pm
 - 6th Grade – Catechist and 2 Assistants
 - 7th Grade - Catechist and 2 Assistants
 - 8th Grade – Catechist and Assistant
- Wednesday – 6:30 – 8:00pm
 - 9th Grade – Confirmation – Catechist and Assistant
 - 10th Grade – Confirmation – Assistant
- Tuesday NES – 3:30 – 5:00pm
 - Kdg. – Catechist and Assistant
 - 1st Grade – Catechist and Assistant
 - 2nd Grade – 2 Catechists and 2 Assistants
- Wednesday SNIS – 3:30 – 5:00pm
 - 3rd Grade – Catechist and Assistant
 - 4th Grade – Catechist and Assistant
 - 5th Grade – Catechist and Assistant
- Thursday SNIS – 3:30 – 5:00pm
 - 4th Grade – Catechist and Assistant
 - 5th Grade – Assistant

The View From *Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ*



My Window

Through the years I have attended many concerts. In my college days, I followed my favorites at various venues- Peter, Paul, and Mary; John Denver; Blood Sweat and Tears. I lived in the Albany area and would go to the RPI Fieldhouse in Troy or the Saratoga Performing Arts Center. Later on, I became a fan of Neil Diamond, Bruce Springsteen, Willie Nelson, Billy Joel, Emmylou Harris. The first time I saw John Denver he was doing warmups for Mary Travers (of Peter, Paul, and Mary fame). Later, after "Country Roads" came out, he became a big star.

My first Neil Diamond concert was in 1976 at the Civic Arena in Pittsburgh. I was instantly hooked. Neil Diamond has always been one of my favorite performers. A friend of mine brought me to my first Neil Diamond concert, and I've been hooked ever since. I've seen him many times- maybe 20 times or more- in Toronto, at the Boston Garden and Fleet Center, Madison Square Garden, in Cleveland, Cincinnati, and Philadelphia, and other places. He always put on a great show and had the arenas rocking. Thousands of fans were dancing, singing, cheering, and clapping during the almost two and one half hours that he performed. There is something magical about attending a concert like this. Today, with modern technology, you can pop a compact disk or DVD into a stereo or computer, and get wonderful sound, perhaps even better and more perfect sound than you would hear in a live performance. You don't have to drive all the way to Boston or New York, fight the terrible traffic that is always a problem both coming and going, pay enormous fees for parking, wait on line for everything (including the bathrooms), be crammed with thousands of other people, and generally be uncomfortable. You can sit in your favorite armchair, relax in the comfort of your own home, and listen to the same sounds and hear the same voices. But it is not the same.

There is something exhilarating about being with the other people, hearing the live voices, seeing the interaction between entertainer and audience, and the excitement of the concert. This is why people leave their homes to go to concerts, movies, sporting events, theater. It has something to do with being with others- socialization. Even with the great views of our large-screen televisions, we can watch a baseball game with every comfort at our beck and call, and not have to be subjected to the crowds at the ball park. As much as I love my Yankees (go Aaron Judge #99), I used to love to go to Fenway Park- especially when the Yankees were in town. When I lived in Boston, the Red Sox would give passes to all the priests, religious, and seminarians. For fifty cents, you could sit in any empty seat in the park- though it was often difficult to find one. Slip a few bucks to an usher, and he would escort you to a seat that was usually empty. It was all worth it. Later on, it became more uncomfortable. I would sometimes get harassed for wearing my Yankee hat and jersey. Beer would "accidentally" get spilled on me, and people would get very angry with me, especially if the Red Sox were losing. Also, for some reason the seats would get smaller and smaller (I wonder what that was all about) LOL

Yankee Stadium was another matter. I had a rich benefactor who would give me Legends Box tickets- the seats right behind home plate. There would be a giant banquet before the game and the seats were very comfortable. It was definitely a more sophisticated clientele than the bleachers. Even though it was more comfortable and less hassle watching it on television, there was something very exciting about being at the game.

We know that as human beings we are social creatures. We do not like to be alone, and we like to do things with others. We seek others for support, for encouragement, for interaction. We like to talk, to discuss, to share, to laugh, and to cry together. There are very few things we like to do alone. Even when it is immensely more convenient to do something by ourselves, or to stay at home, we prefer the company of others.

God understood this aspect of our lives when he sent Jesus to establish his church. The very nature and essence of church brings into play people coming together to worship, to pray, to honor our God. There are some religions of the world, particularly Eastern religions that are primarily made up of private and personal relationships with their divine being. There is no coming together for worship in a church. Religion is seen as something very private and intimate something solely between the person and their god. It is not like that with us. Jesus has told us "where two or three are gathered in my name, I am with them."

Jesus asked his followers to come together and "do this in my memory." He asks us to come together on Sundays in worship and praise, to celebrate the Eucharist as a community, as family and as church. In doing so, we are not only true to our common social call as human beings; we are also traveling together for our common salvation. Jesus does not wish us to get to heaven by ourselves. He wants us to do this together- to bring others with us through our love for one another.

This is what today's feast is all about- The Body and Blood of Christ- Real Presence. God loves us so much that He wants to be with us forever in a way that we can understand, a physical way- in the Mass, in the Word of God, in our gathering together in community, and most of all, in the Eucharist- the Real Presence of Christ in our midst. The song "Gather Us In" I think hits the nail on the head:

Not in the dark of buildings confining
 Not in some heaven, light-years away
 Here in this place the new light is shining
 Now is the Kingdom, now is the day

Thus, for us as Catholics, there is nothing that can take the place of our coming together to worship our God. Nothing can ever take the place of Sunday Mass.

Happy Feast Day. Happy Father's Day.

Fr. Joe

The Franciscan Friars and Parish Staff of St. Francis Xavier wishes all our fathers a very Happy Father's Day.

We also remember this weekend our fathers who are no longer with us.