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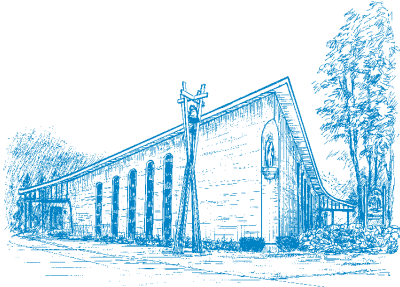
CHURCH NAME: St. Francis Xavier

BULLETIN # 911014

BULLETIN FOR WEEK OF: September 24, 2017

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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: Contact Doreen Gray at 1-860-354-2202; dgray@sfxnewmilford.org



St. Francis Xavier Parish

September 24, 2017
Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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. Gerald Dziedzic, Pastor
PapaGer621@att.net

Rev. Chacko Kumplam
Parochial Vicar
kumplam@gmail.com

Deacon Roland Miller
DeaconRoland@sfxnewmilford.org

SUPPORT STAFF

Doreen Gray, Administrative Assistant
DGray@sfxnewmilford.org
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St. Francis Cemetery/Finance Office
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FAITH FORMATION 860-354-5372

Jessica Higgins, Coordinator Gr. K - 5
JHiggins@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
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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 - September 23

5:00 P.M. +John J. Haran, Sr. & John J. Haran, Jr.
Req. by Jo DeCosa

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

SUNDAY - September 24

7:30 A.M. For The People of St. Francis Xavier

10:00 A.M. +”Uncle Vic” Bazzoni
Req. by Stephen E. Barone & Family
5:00 P.M. For the Intentions of Maria and Renata
Req. by Their Family

MONDAY - No scheduled Mass - September 25

TUESDAY - September 26

6:30 P.M. For the Intentions of Sr. Ellen Elizabeth
(Happy 95th Birthday)
Req. by Maura McPartland & Family

WEDNESDAY - September 27

8:00 A.M. +Blaise Fernandes
Req. by Fr. Joe Lorenzo, OFM

THURSDAY - September 28

6:30 P.M. +Mary Bridget Grech
Req. by Fr. Joe Lorenzo, OFM

FRIDAY - September 29

8:00 A.M. +Gregorio Velez
Req. by His Family

SATURDAY VIGIL - September 30


5:00 P.M. +George Pilch
Req. by The Whitlock Family

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

SUNDAY - October 1

7:30 A.M. +Bob Driscoll
Req. by Virginia Driscoll
10:00 A.M. +Connie Tudisco
Req. by Guy Tudisco
5:00 P.M. For The People of St. Francis Xavier

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.



The Sanctuary Lamp for the week
burns in memory of
John J. Haran, Sr. & John J. Haran, Jr.
Requested by Jo DeCosa

Come Pray With Us...

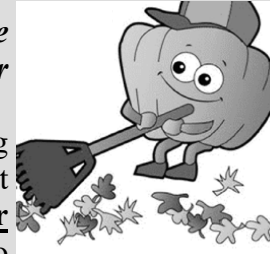
Join us on Sunday, October 15 at 12 noon at the Parish Center on Elm Street to celebrate the anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima Apparitions. Our Lady Queen of Peace Prayer Group will be leading the Rosary on the front lawn of the Parish Center. The rosary will also be prayed in memory of Joseph Samoska III. All are welcome to attend.

18th Annual Rake ‘n Bake
Volunteers Needed -
Many Hands Make Light Work!!

Registration is opening for the 18th Annual Rake ‘n Bake project sponsored by the Handy Dandy Handyman Non Profit Organization. Volunteers are needed to assist over 80 families with the clearing of Fall leaves. This will be held on Saturday, November 11 from 7:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. We meet at Brookfield High School Gym and then return after the raking is complete for a lunch celebration with baked goods, salads, and all the hot dogs you can eat. St. Francis will be forming a team, or two, to participate in this year’s project. We will begin sign-ups the weekend of October 8 & 9 in the Church Hall or call the Parish Office at 860-354-2202. **RAIN OR SHINE!** Kindly bring equipment such as rakes, blowers, and tarps. (No equipment is allowed in the school building.)

Important Notice for Those Needing Assistance with their Lawns:

If you are in need of having your lawn raked, please contact Peter Brady **BEFORE October 20.** Peter will meet with you to see how large your property is to ensure he has the proper number of volunteers available. Please call him at 203-740-1243 or 203-733-8002. You can also email Peter at peterbrady@hdhm.org.



SUMMER HEALING SERVICE
Place: St Marguerite Bourgeoys, Brookfield
Wednesday September 27th at 7 pm

At A Glance... Upcoming Dates and Events:

- Sept. 24 - Life Teen Kick-Off - see p. 4
- Sept. 30 - Women's Guild car pooling to Averill Farms - meet 10 a.m. in church parking lot
- Oct. 1 - Blessing of the Animals - 1 p.m. church
- Oct. 2 - Confraternity of the Rosary meeting - 12 pm
- Oct. 3 - Knights of Columbus meeting 8pm Ch. Hall
- Oct. 4 - Ender's Island Day of Reflection
- Oct. 5 - Queen of Peace Prayer - 7pm , Parish Center
- Oct. 9 - Offices Closed - Columbus Day
- Oct. 10 - Women's Guild meeting - 7pm - Ch. Hall
- Oct. 15 - Pray the Rosary - 12 noon - Parish Center

Parish Council Email Address

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

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 October 20-22, 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 and offers a beautiful opportunity to experience God's love, forgiveness and compassion. Both women and men have participated in past retreats and have ranged in age from teens to mid-eighties. The fee for the weekend is \$175.00 for meals, private room and all retreat materials. Scholarships are available for financial assistance. For more information contact Marie at 203-631-9030, e-mail her at mlaffin@prolifeministry.org, or visit our website at www.rachelsvineyard.org.

The *Wheels Program* of Greater New Milford is seeking volunteers to drive seniors and citizens with disabilities to their non-emergency medical appointments. The vehicle and gas are supplied, only your time is needed. You can volunteer weekly or monthly based on your schedule. Please call the WHEELS office for more information 860-354-6012 or website: www.wheelsofnewmilford.org.

The **Annual "Run for Joe"** in memory of Joe Leto, who died in July 1999 during training in the U.S. Marine Corps, will take place on Oct. 1 at 1:30 p.m. Registration begins at 12:30 p.m. He was a 1997 graduate of Canterbury School. The "Run for Joe" will consist of a "fun run" of one mile, or a 5K run for more seasoned runners. Donations for the Joe Leto Scholarship Fund can be mailed to: Canterbury School, c/o Joe Leto Scholarship Fund, 101 Aspetuck Ave, New Milford CT 06776, or you can donate through Canterbury's website: www.cbury.org/give. Questions? Call Mimi Leto at 860-354-4038.

CRAFT FAIR VENDORS NEEDED:

There's still table space available for the Women Guild's Holiday Fair on Saturday, November 18th & Sunday, November 19th. Table spaces are \$20.00 each and we are requesting a donated item to be used by our Edge & Life Team groups. For more information, please contact Ellen Cote, (860) 354-5883 or ebcote@yahoo.com.

Emergency Collection October 14 & 15

From Daniel Cardinal DiNardo, President, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops ...

In the past few days Hurricane Irma devastated significant parts of the Caribbean and the southeastern United States. While emergency outreach was immediate, we know that the road to recovery and the rebuilding of communities will be long and additional support will be needed.

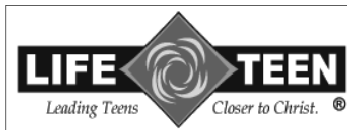
This emergency collection will be used in the affected areas to support humanitarian aid, assistance with long-term efforts to restore communities after widespread destruction, and for the pastoral and reconstruction needs of the Church in US and the Caribbean. The Church is a channel for grace and solidarity in the wake of natural disasters as it offers solace and support in their aftermath.

With gratitude for your understanding and support, I remain fraternally yours in our Lord,
Daniel Cardinal DiNardo

NEXT WEEK'S SECOND COLLECTION will be our regular Monthly Collection used to offset the cost of utilities.



OFFERTORY - September 17	= \$5,266.00
5 ½ % CATHEDRATICUM	= \$290.00
5 ½ % CATHOLIC SCHOOLS	= \$290.00
ST. FRANCIS' SHARE	= \$4,686.00



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

LIFETEEN (YOUTH GROUP): KICKOFF/WELCOME will be held this Sun., 9/24 with the 5pm Mass followed by a dinner and bonfire (weather permitting). "You are the APPLE of my eye" will be our theme for the evening. All high schoolers in grades 9, 10, 11 & 12 are encouraged and invited to join us. Parent pick up will be at 8:30 p.m. Any questions or to RSVP please contact Sue Pullen at 860-354-5372 or send an email to her at spullen@sfxnewmilford.org.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY IS BACK!! And better than ever, please come and join us **THIS SUNDAY**, Sept. 24th at the 5pm Mass. Children's Mass will now be offered **EVERY SUNDAY AT THE 5PM MASS**. After the opening prayer all the children in grades kindergarten through grade 5 will be invited to hear the Liturgy of the Word with adult and teen leaders in the Church hall. The children will return to their families for the Liturgy of the Eucharist after the petitions. This is a wonderful opportunity for the children to hear the Gospel and its meaning in words they understand, as well as give their parents a chance to experience Mass with less distractions. Please call Jessica Higgins at the Faith Formation office if you wish to help or with any questions.

LIFETEEN BINGO will be held at the Village Crest Nursing Home on Sat., 11/21 at 1:45pm-3pm. If you are interested in being a part of this Ministry, please contact Sue in the office.

SNACKS: We are accepting and need donations of apple juice, goldfish or cheese it crackers, pretzels. You may drop them off in the office or leave them clearly marked at church. Thank you!!

OFFICE HOURS: The Faith Formation office hours are Monday thru Thursday 9:00am– 12:30pm and 1:30–5:00pm. We are closed on Fridays.

If you have not returned your Catechists/Assistants manual/cds from the 2016-17 year please do so ASAP. Thanks.

Faith Formation 860-354-5372

HELP: Over 568 children and young people, in grades Kindergarten through Grade 10, have signed 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. We provide you with materials, training and support. **Classes meet every other week.** (that works out to be only 15 classes). If interested or you would like more information call the Faith Formation Office.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

Mondays – 3:00-4:30pm
 10th grade – Assistant
 Wednesday SNIS – 3:30 – 5:00pm
 3rd Grade – Catechist and Assistant
 4th Grade – Assistant
 5th Grade – Assistant
 Wednesday Confirmation 6:30 - 8:00 pm
 Year 1- Assistant

CLASSES FOR THIS WEEK:

SUN., 9/24 11:30am-1pm grades K-5
 SUN., 9/24 11:30am-1pm Conf. 9&10
 SUN., 9/24 2:45-4:15pm grades 6-8
 SUN., 9/24 2:45-4:15pm Conf. 9&10
 Mon., 9/25 6:30-8pm grades 6-8
 **TUES.,NES 9/26 3:30-5PM GRADES K-2
 Tues., 9/26 6:30-8pm grades 6-8
 ***WED., SNIS 9/27 3:30-5PM GRADES 3-5
 Wed., 9/27 6:30-8pm Conf. 9&10
 *SNIS Thurs., 9/28 3:30-5pm grades 3-5

CLASSES FOR NEXT WEEK:

Sun., 10/1 11:30am-1pm grades K-5
 Sun., 10/1 11:30am-1pm Conf. 9&10
 Sun., 10/1 2:45-4:15pm grades 6-8
 Sun., 10/1 2:45-4:15pm Conf. 9&10
 Mon., 10/2 6:30-8pm grades 6-8
 Tues., 10/3 NES 3:30-5pm grades K-2
 Wed., 10/4 SNIS 3:30-5pm grades 3-5
 Thurs., 10/5 SNIS 3:30-5pm grades 3-5

SUBSTITUTES: If you can volunteer to help in the classroom after school and/or evenings please contact the office and let us know of your availability. Thanks.

Contest Announcement

New Milford Knights of Columbus, Council 40 to Sponsor Youth Soccer Challenge Competition

All boys and girls ages 9-14 are invited to participate in the local level free competition for the 2017 Knights of Columbus Soccer Challenge. The local competition will be held Saturday, September 30 (rain date-Sunday October 1) 2:00 PM at Northville Elementary School, Hipp Road.

All boys and girls 9 to 14 years-old are eligible to participate and will compete in their respective age divisions. All contestants on the local level are recognized for their participation in the event. Participants are required to furnish proof of age and written parental consent.

For entry forms or information contact: Lawrence M Gunerman, Council 40. Phone 203-788-5670 or 860-355-4063, or email golfski51@yahoo.com. Pre-registration is a must so to avoid delays the day of the competition.

The Knights of Columbus Soccer Challenge is sponsored annually, with winners progressing through local, district, and state competitions. International champions are announced by the K of C international headquarters in New Haven, CT, based on scores from the state-level competitions.

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.



RESPECT LIFE MASS

October 8, 2017 11:00 a.m.

The Annual Archdiocesan Respect Life Mass will be celebrated by Archbishop Leonard P. Blair on Sunday, October 8, 2017 at 11:00 a.m. at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Hartford. When Mass has ended, anyone representing a parish or regional pro-life committee, may go to the front of the Cathedral and receive a blessed candle from the Pro-Life Ministry. If you have any questions, please call 203-639-0833. Sister Suzanne Gross, F.S.E., Program Coordinator, Pro-Life Ministry

BEQUESTS We appreciate the thoughtfulness of parishioners who have made a bequest to St. Francis Xavier Parish. These charitable gifts build our parish endowment to help pass on our Catholic faith to future generations.

Retreat Theme: Grace Enough - Join Holy Family's retreat team for a weekend of peace and reflection on the power of God's grace in our lives. Discover anew how God's grace is our greatest source of strength and courage to meet the ever-present challenges in our lives. Together we'll reflect on how living in God's grace guides us to make wise choices, leading to true happiness and peace. The retreat includes: home-cooked meals, inspirational liturgies, uplifting music, free time, and workshops. The retreat begins with dinner at 6:00 p.m. on Friday evening and concludes with Sunday brunch at noon. Register at www.holyfamilyretreat.org/graceenough or call Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center, West Hartford, CT at 860.760.9705 for more info.

Men's Retreat Date: November 3-5, 2017

Women's Retreat Dates: September 29 – October 1, 2017 (see website for additional dates)

R.C.I.A.

Are you thinking you would like to be a Catholic? There are many reasons for considering Catholicism.

- **Searching for God
- **Searching for family unity
- **Searching for meaning in life
- **Searching for belonging
- **Searching for Truth

Please get in touch with our Parish Office or Fr. Gerry. We will be starting an RCIA program this Fall for all those who wish to be in full communion with the Catholic Church.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

“Seek the LORD while he may be found, call him while he is near.” Encourage those moments by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next WWME Weekends are Nov 3-5, 2017 in Manchester, CT and Feb 2-4, 2018 in Manchester, CT. For more information, call Dennis & Jane Lamondy at 860-481-3720 or visit us at <https://wwmectw.org/>.



Blessing of the Animals

Please join us on Sunday, October 1 at 1:30 p.m. on the Church Grounds as we celebrate the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi with the blessing of the animals. Please bring your pets for this special blessing.