



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
Rectory Phone: 860-799-7449

Rev. Chacko Kumplam
Parochial Vicar
kumplam@gmail.com

Deacon Roland Miller
DeaconRoland@sfxnewmilford.org

SUPPORT STAFF

Chris Grenier,
Administrative Assistant
Parish Office & Faith Formation
CGrenier@sfxnewmilford.org
860-354-2202

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

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

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

St. Francis Xavier Parish

JANUARY 28, 2018

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The people were astonished at Jesus' teaching,
for he taught them as one having authority.

Mark 1:22



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 - January 27

5:00 P.M. + Kathleen King
Requested by: The Coleman Family

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

SUNDAY - January 28

7:30 A.M. + Luann Westerlund
Requested by her sister, Virginia

10:00 A.M. + Patricia Zona
Requested by Maura McPartland & Family

5:00 P.M. + Anna Funaro
Requested by The Lalak Family

MONDAY - No scheduled Mass

TUESDAY - January 30

6:30 P.M. + The Living and Deceased Members of
The DeAlessio & Martin Families
Requested by John DeAlessio & Family

WEDNESDAY - January 31

8:00 A.M. + Rita Molella
Requested by Joyce & Bob Osnoe

THURSDAY - February 1

6:30 P.M. + George Usaty
Requested by Mary & George Gill

FRIDAY - February 2

8:00 A.M. + Katherine Fogarty (46th Anniversary)
Requested by Tom Fogarty

SATURDAY VIGIL - February 3

5:00 P.M. + Alice & James McAleer
Requested by their daughter

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

SUNDAY - February 4

7:30 A.M. + Ellen Haussner
Requested by the Lorenzen Family

10:00 A.M. + Ronald Britton
Requested by Rosie Markstaller

5:00 P.M. + Dick Krosky
Requested by Jocelyne & George
Verrastro & Family



St. Francis sends a final
farewell
to our dearly departed:

Patrick Thomas Maguire
Mary Elizabeth Selback
Gus Markstaller
Vincent DeRosa
Casey Rose Shanahan



The Sanctuary Lamp for the week
burns in memory of
Jean Marie McLaughlin
Requested by
The Gevinski Family



The St. Francis Xavier Memorial
Window is illuminated this week for
The People of St. Francis Xavier
Requested by
Fr. Gerry and Staff

**FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION OF THE BLESSED
SACRAMENT**

Will be held at St. Francis Xavier on the odd months (January, March, May, July, September and November), following the Friday 8:00 a.m. Mass.

And it will be held at Our Lady of the Lakes on the even months (**February**, April, June, August, October and December), following the Friday 9:00 a.m. Mass.

The **Confraternity of the Rosary** will hold its next meeting on Mon., Feb. 5th at 12 noon in the St. Francis Xavier Church Hall. The guest speaker, will be Jessica Higgins who will be speaking on the "Peace Light" from the Grotto in Bethlehem where Jesus was born. Please join us and bring your own candle to receive the "Peace Light" and a way to transport it safely home.

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The Knights of Columbus will be having their next meeting on Tuesday, February 6th at 8:00p.m. in the Church Hall. For more information regarding the K of C, please feel free call Bill Byrd at 860-350-6263.

The THIRD INTERNATIONAL ROSARY AND POTLUCK SUPPER

Will be held on Sunday, Feb. 11th following the 5:00 p.m. Mass in the St. Francis Xavier Church Hall. All are welcome to join us as we celebrate the many different cultural heritages which make up our community of Faith, this is a family friendly event. Bring a dish which is representative of your culture to share with others. We will be praying an International Rosary together after our time of sharing and breaking bread. We are looking for volunteer to lead a decade in different languages. Salads, desserts and beverages will be provided. Sign up in the Church Hall after all the Masses. Any questions please call Sue deFriesse at 860-355-8601.

WOMEN'S GUILD

The **Women's Guild** will hold its next meeting on Tuesday, February 13th at 7:00 p.m. in the Church Hall. Bring a friend, new and old members are always welcome and encouraged to join. Come find out the many different ways you can be involved in our Parish. We're praying we see you there.

DONATION TAX STATEMENTS:

If you use the parish envelope system and would like a printout of your yearly donations for 2017, please call Chris in the Parish Office at 860-354-2202 or email her at cgrenier@sfxnewmilford.org. Please include your name, address, phone number and envelope number. Thank you.

When the **High School Collection** occurs in our parish this weekend, we ask for your participation in helping us reach our 2018 goal of \$250,000. Your investment will yield significant results, since our Catholic high schools offer students exceptional academics, solid faith formation, and a true spirit of service. We deeply value your support of Catholic school education as we continue to form another generation in the faith.

THIS WEEK'S SECOND COLLECTION will benefit: The Archdiocesan Catholic High Schools



OFFERTORY -	= \$4,824.00
5 ½ % CATHEDRATICUM	= \$265.32
5 ½ % CATHOLIC SCHOOLS	= \$265.32
ST. FRANCIS' SHARE	= \$4,293.36

ASH WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE:

Wednesday, February 14th
 8:00 a.m. Mass with Ashes
 4:00 p.m. Service with Ashes
 6:30 p.m. Mass with Ashes

STATIONS OF THE CROSS:

Will take place at St. Francis Xavier every Friday during Lent following the 6:30 p.m. Mass beginning Fri., Feb. 16th.
 Children's Stations will take place on Fri., Mar. 2nd
 Teen's Stations will take place on Fri., Mar 9th

CONFESSIONS:

Will take place on Mondays from 6:00-7:00 p.m. beginning Mon.. Feb. 19th as well as Saturday from 4:00-4:45 or You may call for an appointment.

SOCIETIES/MINISTRIES/ORGANIZATIONS

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

Liturgical Ministries:

- Altar Servers** - Peter Tagley 860-868-7821
- Children's Liturgy** - Jessica Higgins 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 info call Bill Byrd 860-350-6263
- Lay Missionaries of Charity** - Joan Kick 860-354-1323
- Maintenance Ministry** - Tom and Cathy Valedes 914-843-5193
- Our Lady Queen of Peace Prayer Group** - Thurs., 2:00 p.m. Church Hall
- Parish Prayer Line** - Terri Lucente 860-355-8143;
Debbie McLachlan - debhmc1@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** - Chris Grenier 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



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

The **JR. YOUTH GROUP** event for grades 6, 7 & 8 will be held THIS Sun., Jan. 28th. This will be a movie night. We will attend the 5:00 p.m. Mass together. Then watch "Remember the Titans". Dinner and dessert will be potluck so please bring a dish to share and do not forget to rsvp. Parent pick up is at 8:30 p.m. R.S.V.P. to Sue Pullen at 860-354-5372 or email her at spullen@sfxnewmilford.org

Grades 6, 7 & 8: Junior Youth Group: next event will be on Fri., Feb. 2nd **GLOW BOWLING AT "DOLAR BILLS"** from 7-9pm. The cost is \$15. at the door. Please RSVP to Sue at 860-354-5372 or email her at spullen@sfxnewmilford.org

Confirmation Date: Saturday, June 9, 2018

LifeTeen Life Night will take place on Sunday, Feb. 11th following the 5:00 pm Mass in the St. Francis Xavier Church Hall. All High Schoolers and their families are welcome and encouraged to attend as we join other parishioners for our Third International Rosary and Potluck Supper. We will celebrate the many different cultural heritages which make up our community of Faith. We ask everyone to bring a dish which is representative of your culture to share with others. We will be praying an International Rosary together after our time of sharing and breaking bread. We are looking for volunteers to lead a decade in different languages. Salads, desserts and beverages will be provided. Sign up in the Church Hall after all the Masses. Or with any questions please call Sue deFriesse at 860-355-8601 or Sue Pullen at 860-354-5372.

FIRST COMMUNION PARENT MEETING:

Due to last weeks snow the NEW date for the MANDATORY parent meeting will be held THIS Wed., Jan. 31st at either 10:00 a.m. or 5:45 p.m. at St. Francis Xavier Church. At this time we will go over the dates, times, dress codes, ceremony details and other requirements. Any questions call Jessica Higgins at 860-354-5372 or email her at jhiggins@sfxnewmilford.org

DONATIONS: APPLE JUICE

The Faith Formation program is once again in need of apple juice. Large or small, all donations are greatly appreciated. You may drop off the apple juice to the Parish Center during operating hours OR you may leave them in the Church Hall. Again we thank you for your generosity to the many children of the program

Faith Formation
860-354-5372

The Faith Formation office hours are Monday thru Thursday 9:00a.m. - 12:30p.m. (closed for lunch) and 1:30 - 5:00 p.m. We are closed on Fridays.

DONATIONS; Baby food jars: We are collecting glass baby food jars with a lid for a project. Please save them for us. You can drop them off at the Parish Center (school building) or leave them in the kitchen at the Church. Thank you.

CLASSES FOR THIS WEEK:

Tues., 1/30 3:30-5:00 p.m. Grades K-2
Wed., 1/31 3:30-5:00 p.m. Grades 3-5
Thurs., 2/1 3:30-5:00 p.m. Grades 3-5

CLASSES FOR NEXT WEEK:

Sun., 2/4 11:30am-1:00pm Grades K-5
Sun., 2/4 11:30am-1:00pm Confirm. Gr. 9&10
Sun., 2/4 2:45-4:15pm grades 6-8
Sun., 2/4 2:45-4:15pm Confirm. Gr. 9&10
Mon., 2/5 3:00-4:30pm Confirm. Gr. 9&10
Mon., 2/5 6:30-8:00pm grades 6-8
Tues., 2/6 6:30-8:00pm grades 6-9
Wed., 2/7 6:30-8:00pm Confirm. Gr. 9&10

THE FIRST RECONCILIATION RETREAT:

Will take place on Sat., Feb. 3rd from 8:45 a.m. - 12:00 noon. This is mandatory for all students receiving their First Confession this year. Please bring a wallet size photo of your child. Any questions call Jessica at 860-354-5372. Our snow date for this event is Sat., 2/10 (same time and place).

CHILDREN'S LITURGY:

Please come and join us Sunday, Jan. 28th at the 5:00 p.m. Mass. After the opening prayer all the children in grades K-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 fewer distractions. Please call Jessica Higgins at 860-354-5372 with any questions or you may email her at jhiggins@sfxnewmilford.org

FAITH FORMATION SUBSTITUTES:

If you can volunteer to help in the classroom after school and/or evenings please contact the Faith Formation office and let us know of your availability. Thank you for taking the time to consider this vocation, God bless.

Defending Our Religious Liberty

Religious freedom is a fundamental right, not a political football. Freedom belongs to us by human nature, not by government dictate. A government that serves its citizens is one that respects the right to religious freedom.

Let us pray that in revising the HHS mandate, religious rights of the Catholic Church will be safeguarded.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

“Brothers and sister, I should like you to be free of anxieties.” Let us learn to calm our anxieties about our spouses by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next weekends are Feb. 2-4, 2018 in Manchester, CT and Jul. 6-8, 2018 in Manchester, CT. For more information, call Dennis & Jane Lamondy at 860-481-3720 or visit them at <https://wwmectw.org/>.

Threshold Bible Study: People of the Passion:

This 6 week Bible Study to be held on Thursdays from 1:00-2:00 pm or 7:00-8:00 pm (Feb. 15 & 22) (March 1, 8, 15 & 22) at St. Francis Xavier, will be presented by Maura Pauli.

The People of the Passion in this study are the well known and lesser known characters who participated in some dramatic way in the suffering and death of Jesus. Suffering seems to bring out the best and the worst in our human nature. Through the biblical narratives we are also invited to take our own place in the drama because we are indeed people of the passion.

Sign up in the Church Hall after all the Masses the weekend of 1/27 & 1/28 as well as 2/3 & 2/4 or call the Parish Office at 860-354-2202 and leave your name, phone number and how many attending. A free will offering will take place.

RACHEL’S VINEYARD RETREAT 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 **March 9-11, 2018 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, email her at mlaffin@prolifeministry.org, or visit our website at www.rachelsvineyard.org.

Parish Vocation Reflection:

People were spellbound by the teachings of Jesus. Jesus’ teaching was extraordinary in that he taught with authority. The church needs bold teachers and preachers today. Consider a vocation to priesthood or religious life to teach as Jesus taught. Call **Fr. Michael Casey**, Director of Vocations, Archdiocesan Center at St. Thomas Seminary, Tel 860-761-7457, e-mail vocations@aohct.org or visit the web at www.hartfordpriest.com

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.

Lenten Fasting Regulations

Abstinence on all the Fridays of Lent, on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. No meat may be eaten on days of abstinence. Catholics 14 years and older are bound to abstain from meat. Persons with medical conditions, pregnant or nursing mothers are exempt.

Fast on Good Friday:

Fasting means having only one full meal to maintain one’s strength. Two smaller, meatless and penitential meals are permitted according to one’s needs, but they should not together equal the one full meal. Eating solid foods between meals is not permitted. Catholics from age 18 through age 59 are bound to fast. Again, persons with medical conditions are exempt.

LENTEN CONFESSIONS:

If you have gotten caught up in the busyness of life and have fallen away from the Sacrament of Reconciliation, you can change that. During this Lenten season, in the Archdiocese of Hartford every church will be open on **Mondays from 6 to 7 pm** for Confessions. Come and experience God’s love and endless forgiveness.

registration



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REGISTRATION AND OPEN HOUSE for Holy Infant Nursery School for the 2018-2019 school year will be held on Monday, February 26th from 10:30 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. There will be a non-refundable registration fee. Parents of alumni please call 860-354-7284 before February 23, 2018 if you wish to register your child. (Snow date for Registration is: Wednesday, February 28th, 10:30am until 2:00pm).