



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

Deacon Roland Miller
DeaconRoland@sfxnewmilford.org

Deacon Alfred "Al" Gambone

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
TRIBE (Jr. Youth Group) (Gr. 6 - 8),
Teen (Gr. 9-12)
& Confirmation
SPullen@sfxnewmilford.org

HOLY INFANT NURSERY SCHOOL
Marge Cooper, Director
HolyInfant@sfxnewmilford.org
860-354-7284

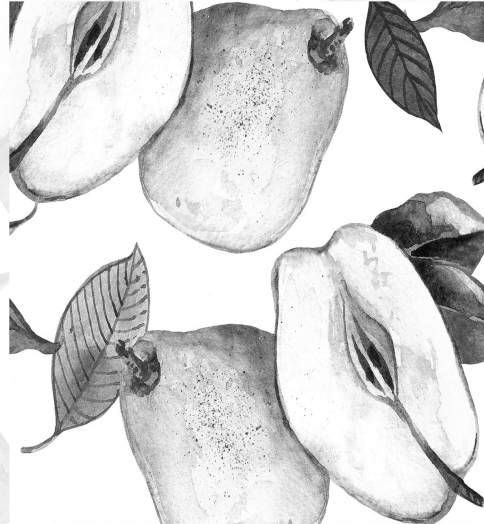
Mailing Address & Office Location
1 Elm Street
New Milford, CT 06776

Fax # 860-355-9485

St. Francis Xavier Parish

MARCH 3, 2019

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



JESUS SAID:

"A good tree does not bear rotten fruit,
nor does a rotten tree bear good fruit.
For every tree is known by its own fruit."

~ Luke 6:43 - 44

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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.

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

SACRAMENTS CONFESSIONS

Saturdays 4:00 - 4:45 p.m.
*Additional Confessions on the First Saturday of the month
from 12:00 noon - 1:00 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 - March 2

5:00 P.M. + Emilio Olabarrieta
Requested by his wife

SUNDAY - March 3

7:30 A.M. + Joseph Samoska, Sr.
Requested by his son & wife, Anne

10:00 A.M. + Iovino & Saliani families
Requested by Tom & Cathy Valedes

5:00 P.M. + Neil Gray
Requested by A.V. Gray

MONDAY - No scheduled Mass

TUESDAY - March 5

6:30 P.M. For the special intention of Michael & Nora Gray
Requested by A.V. Gray

ASH WEDNESDAY

WEDNESDAY - March 6

8:00 A.M. + George A. Lalak
Requested by the Lalak family

4:00 P.M. Service

6:30 P.M. + Scott James Rossell
Requested by his family & friends

THURSDAY - March 7

6:30 P.M. For the special intention of Michael & Nora Gray
Requested by A.V. Gray

FRIDAY - March 8

8:00 A.M. + Neil Gray
Requested by A.V. Gray

SATURDAY VIGIL - March 9

5:00 P.M. + Sharon Lynch Schulte
Requested by Dennis & Sheila Brooks


First Sunday of Lent

SUNDAY - March 10


7:30 A.M. + Constance Samoska
Requested by her son & his wife, Anne

10:00 A.M. + James J. Hornyak
The Senior Center Scrabblers


5:00 P.M. + Virginia Klinger (79th birthday)
Requested by the Raffaele family



St. Francis sends a final farewell to our dearly departed: Jeannine M. Buehler David J. Farley



Wed., March 6th is Ash Wednesday
The schedule at **St. Francis Xavier** is:
8:00 am Mass with Ashes
4:00 pm Service with Ashes
6:30 pm Mass with Ashes
At **Our Lady of the Lakes** it is:
9:00 am Mass with Ashes
6:00 pm Mass with Ashes
9:30 am - 2:00 pm Ashes will be given out at their office



Confessions:
Every Monday: 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. (beg. March 11th)
Every Saturday: 4:00 - 4:45 p.m.
*Additional Confessions on the First Saturday of the month from 12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m.
* please go to ConfessionMondays.com to find additional times at other Churches during Lent

Stations of the Cross:
Every Friday: 7:00 p.m.

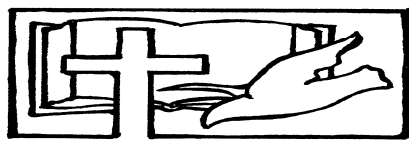
Church Regulations on Fast and Abstinence
Fridays in Lent - Days of Abstinence
On days of abstinence, meat may not be eaten at all. This also includes items made from meat, like gravies and soups. Catholics 14 years of age or older are bound to abstinence on Fridays in Lent, and on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. REMEMBER: THERE IS NO UPPER AGE LIMIT ON ABSTINENCE. You are not excused from abstaining from meat if you have reached a certain age. However, those who have health issues which prevent them from abstaining from meat on these days should seek other forms of penance.
ASH WEDNESDAY AND GOOD FRIDAY ARE DAYS OF ABSTINENCE AND FASTING. Fasting and abstinence are not the same. Fasting is different than abstinence. Fasting means one full meal, two light meals, with no eating in between meals.
Catholics from 18 to 59 are bound to the obligation of fasting. Those who have health issues may find other means of penance if fasting is impossible.

Note: Please contact the ushers at the back of Church; if the Mass is being said for your loved one and you wish to bring up the gifts!

**JOB
POSTING**

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POSTING**

FAITH FORMATION



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JOB POSTING

Coordinator of Religious Education for grades K-5
St. Francis Xavier - New Milford, CT

This position is a deeply rewarding opportunity to help guide and teach the children and their families in their Faith Formation development. This is a part-time position of 20-25 hours. This position does involve regular weekday, some weeknight and some weekend hours. The successful candidate needs to be a practicing Catholic having received all their sacraments and if not already will have to complete a Protecting God's Children course, as well as a background check. A love of children, solid organizational skills and a deep desire to share your faith are vital.

If you would like more information please contact Chris Grenier at 860-354-2202 or cgrenier@sfxnewmilford.org P.S. This position is open due to Jessica having to move out of state to care for her parents.

ONLINE GIVING

St. Francis Xavier offers the opportunity to give your weekly donations through online giving. Please go to our website: www.sfxnewmilford.org or use the APP and follow the links to set up your personal account. Please call Jocelyne Verrastro, our bookkeeper at 860-350-6753 if you have any questions or problems

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.

DONATION TAX STATEMENTS:

If you use the parish envelope system and would like a printout of your yearly donations for 2018, please call Chris in the Parish office at 860-354-2202 or email me a cgrenier@sfxnewmilford.org. Please remember to include your name (with spelling), address where to be mailed and your envelope number. Thank you.



Sacrificial Giving

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OFFERTORY -

= \$4,477.00

Corrected: CONFRATERNITY OF THE ROSARY ALTAR DUTY / SCHEDULE

March 9	Sally Adams/Jeanne Dingee/Charlene Palmisani
March 16	Joy Gaiser / Maura McPartland
March 23	Helen Manizza / Kathy Hyland
March 30	Jeanne Schuler / Maura McPartland
April 6	Patti Fisher / Sue Fisher
April 13	Jo DeCosa / Judy DeAlessio
April 20	Sally Adams/Jeanne Dingee/Charlene Palmisani

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 - Deacon Al Gambone 860-946-9776

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

Lectors - Barbara Mullen 860-354-6436

Music Ministers - Tina Oviatt 7:30 a.m. Sunday Mass,

*Christian Martirano 10:00 a.m. Sunday Mass

Michael Fitch & Matt Williams 5:00 p.m. Sat. & Sun. Masses

Ushers - Herman Izzard 860-354-0430

Prayer/Catechetical/Service Ministries:

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

Knit for Life - please contact the office for further information

Knights of Columbus - For info call Dan Sullivan 860-354-4913

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

Maintenance Ministry - Tom and Cathy Valedes 914-912-1432 or 860-488-3126

Our Lady Queen of Peace Prayer Group - Thurs., 2:00 p.m.
Church Hall

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

Debbie McLachlan debhmcl@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

TEEN (High School Youth) (Gr. 9-12)

TRIBE (Jr. Youth Group) (Gr. 6 - 8)

Outreach Ministries:

Beautification Committee - Joe Caruso 860-355-0670

****Community Garden Ministry** -

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 Floor Parish Center

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

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

**** Our Community Garden Ministry needs someone to head it as Steve has sold his house and moved out of state. If you are interested in this "growing" ministry, please call the office. Thank you.**

Postponed from last week and rescheduled to this week:

St. Francis Xavier High School Community

(All 9th, 10th, 11th & 12th graders)

Will be having a movie night, Sun., 3/3 following the 5pm Mass. "I Can Only Imagine", the inspiring and unknown true story behind Mercy Me's beloved, chart topping song that brings ultimate hope to so many is a gripping reminder of the power of true forgiveness. Dinner is baked ziti, salad and dessert. Parent pick up is 8:15pm. Any questions call Sue Pullen at 860-354-5372 or email spullen@sfxnewmilford.org

First Communion

The First Communion Preparation classes have begun. The remaining date is Thurs., March 7th. All classes are from 6-7pm at the **Parish Center**. Classes begin promptly at 6:00 pm, please be on time .

Thank you.

ALSO: Mark your calendars with the First Communion Retreat date: It is Sat., 3/16 from 8:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at the Parish Center (school building). You must bring a wallet size photo of your child. Snacks will be served, please let us know if you would like to donate baked goods and or a special treat and or juice boxes or the children.

Any questions call the office. Thanks again.

St. Francis Xavier Parish

**BAD WEATHER CANCELLATION POLICY
2018-2019**

As winter approaches, the following policy is in place for delays/cancellations of parish activities, etc.

If school is cancelled, early dismissal or cancellation of after school activities, all parish functions are cancelled except MASS. For grades K-10, each class will be allowed two snow days for the year. The lessons missed in classes K-8 will be given out at their next class and then completed at home and brought to their next class. We will notify you if it becomes necessary to makeup additional snow days.

If school is delayed (e.g. delayed 3 hours or less), afternoon functions such as Faith Formation classes, evening meetings/ events will still take place at their regular time.

This policy does NOT affect Sunday Masses or Masses on Holy Days of Obligation, unless the Governor declares a State of Emergency.

MASS will always be at the regularly scheduled time. Please use your discretion in inclement weather.

For information about school closings and delays, please check our app or our facebook page or watch your local Connecticut T.V. news stations to receive notifications and/or cancellation information. When possible we'll also send out text/emails, but the very best way to be notified immediately is with the Parish App. If you have not signed up please so go right now by texting App to 88202 for the download.

WE HAVE A DATE!! St. Francis Xavier, New Milford: The Sacrament of Confirmation will be administered on Sat., June 1st, at 10 a.m., by **Bishop Juan M. Betancourt, SEMV, with Mass.**

Faith Formation 860-354-5372
Office Hours: Mon. - Thurs. 9:00am - 5:00pm
We are closed for lunch (12:30-1:30pm)
The offices are closed on Fridays.

CLASSES WEEK OF: March 3rd

Sun., March 3rd	11:30am-1:00 pm	K-Conf.
Sun., March 3rd	2:45-4:15 pm	gr.2-Confirm.
Mon., March 4th	3:00-4:30 pm	Confirm.
Mon., March 4th	6:30-8:00 pm	gr. 6-8
Tues., March 5th	3:30-5:00 pm	gr. K-2
Tues., March 5th	6:30-8:00 pm	gr. 6-8
Wed., March 6th	3:30-5:00 pm	gr. 3-5
Wed., March 6th	6:30-8:00 pm	Confirm.

CLASSES WEEK OF: March 24th

Sun., March 24th	11:30am-1:00pm	K-Conf.
Sun., March 24th	2:45-4:15 pm	gr.2-Confirm.
Mon., March 25th	3:00-4:30 pm	Confirm.
Mon., March 25th	6:30-8:00 pm	gr. 6-8
Tues., March 26th	3:30-5:00 pm	gr. K-2
Tues., March 27th	6:30-8:00 pm	gr. 6-8
Wed., March 28th	3:30-5:00 pm	gr. 3-4
Wed., March 28th	6:30-8:00 pm	Confirm.

CHILD LURES & TEEN LURES

The Child Lures and Teen Lures will be presented to ALL students in our program. The dates we will presenting the program at the Parish Center are:

- Sunday, March 3rd for grades K-5 11:30 am - 1:00 pm**
- Sunday, March 3rd for grades 6-8 11:30 am - 1:00 pm**
- Sunday, March 3rd for grades 2-3 2:45 - 4:15 pm**
- Sunday, March 3rd for grades 6-8 2:45 - 4: 15 pm**
- Monday, March 4th for grades 6-8 6:30 - 8:00 pm
- Tuesday, March 5th for grades K-2 3:30 - 5:00 pm
- Tuesday, March 5th for grades 6-8 6:30 - 8:00 pm
- Wednesday, March 6th for grades 3-5 3:30 - 5:00 pm
- Monday, March 25th for grades 9&10 3:00 - 4:30 pm
- Wednesday, March 27th for grades 9&10 6:30 - 8:00 pm
- Sunday, March 31st for grades 9&10 11:30am - 1:00 pm
- Sunday, March 31st for grades 9&10 2:45 - 4:15 pm

*Note these programs will be presented during the students regular class time.

Thank you for helping us keep your children as safe as possible. Please feel free to contact Jessica for grades K-5 or Sue for grades 6-10 should you have any questions or concerns.

DONATIONS:

One of our grade 9 Confirmation classes is looking for donations for the Animal Welfare Society on 8 Dodd Rd. New Milford. A shelter "general needs" list; can be located on their website: www.aws-shelter.org. Please support them in this endeavor; you may drop off items in the Church hall in the box under their signage or you may bring your items to the Parish Center (school building). Any questions, you may call the office and leave a message for Doreen or Alice Cherniske.



AND



The Morning Rosary Group will be hosting a Soup and Bread meal here at St. Francis Xavier on Friday, March 8th from 5:00 - 6:30 p.m. All are welcome to come enjoy a hot bowl of soup and bread. The Stations of the Cross will be presented following at 7:00 p.m. Please call Jeanine Dingee at 860-354-9236 with any questions.

Confraternity of the Rosary

The St. Francis Xavier Confraternity of the Rosary monthly meeting will be held on Monday, March 4th at 12:00 noon in the St. Francis Xavier Church Hall. In honor of St. Patrick's Day we will be entertained with Irish music and we are sure it will make your feet tap. Please join us and bring a friend. Bring a lunch, coffee and to be sure Irish soda bread will be served. Look forward to seeing you. Any questions please contact Maura McPartland at 860-354-4054.

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 am 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 am Mass.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Our local Knights of Columbus will begin selling tickets for the State Council Knights of Columbus after the Sunday 7:30 & 10:00 am Masses only. There are 10 prizes to be awarded: 1st prize is \$5,000 in varying amounts down to 10th prize is \$200. Ticket price is \$10 each. Winner need not be present to win. The drawing will be held on Fri., April 26th at 9:00 pm in Hartford, CT. Any questions please contact Dan Sullivan at 860-354-4913.

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.



Enders Island: Recover / Create / Retreat

A Lenten Day of Recollection; Lent as a Time of Deeper Living and Forgiving. This event with Sr. Eugenia Brady, SJC will be held on Wed., March 13 from 9:00 am - 3:30 pm. Please register at: <http://enders.is/LentenDOR> Enders Island is located in Mystic, CT. Any questions please call 860-536-0565.

JOIN US...CAROLYN'S PLACE AND PREGNANCY CARE CENTER - ANNUAL MEETING -

It will be held on Wednesday, March 27th and it will be held at St. John of the Cross (1321 Whittemore Rd. Middlebury, CT). The evening will begin at 5:30 pm with a Mass celebrated by their founder, Fr. Robert Rousseau, in celebration of life. Mass is followed by the meeting in the church hall beginning at 6:30.

They will update you on their activities and their plans for the future and provide an opportunity for you to ask questions of their Board of Directors and staff. They will end early so that you may enjoy a delicious dessert buffet.

ALL ARE WELCOME...AND ENCOURAGED TO BRING A FRIEND OR TWO!

Sharing the Joy of the Gospel for Generations

This weekend marks the start of the 2019 Archbishop's Annual Appeal in our Parrish. If you haven't already, you will soon receive a letter from Archbishop Blair seeking your support. As Catholics in the Archdiocese of Hartford we have a profound impact on our local communities not only in the spiritual realm, but intimately connected to it, the realm of social services and many charities and outreach services performed by, or with help from, our Church.

For the third year in a row, in 2018, the Archbishop's Annual Vicariate Outreach Program provided over \$1,000,000 to over 200 local organizations in Hartford, Litchfield and New Haven counties.

Organizations such as Literacy Volunteers on the Green, Loaves & Fishes and Martha & Mary Outreach Ministry right her in our own town received funding from the Appeal's Vicariate Outreach Program that make a difference in serving our neighbors.

All funds contributed to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal are used exclusively for the purposes outlined in the Appeal literature, which can be found at <https://archdioceseofhartford.org/aaa-2019-last-years-appeal-impact/>.

No Appeal funds are ever used for legal fees or settlements.

Please respond generously.

"40 CANS IN 40 DAYS"

The Knights of Columbus Council 40 is sponsoring a "40 Cans in 40 Days" food drive during LENT. This drive is starting this weekend and will continue through Easter. Each family is asked to donate 40 cans of nonperishable food during this season. There will be a container or two in the back of the Church where this food can be dropped off. Donations will also be accepted at the Parish Center in the office where a container will be available. All of the donated food will be given to the Loaves & Fishes soup kitchen, which benefits so many in need year round.

This is part of the nationwide Knights of Columbus Food For Families initiative. Since 2012, the Knights have collected nationally more than 21.5 million pounds of food and \$10.7 million in donations to ensure that families in our local communities have adequate access to nutritious food.

Last year St. Francis Xavier and Our Lady of the Lakes donated 2354 pounds of non-perishable food and \$110. Thank you to everyone for your anticipated participation.

"Living The Catholic Life: Fullness of Purpose"

This event will take place on Mon., March 4 & Tues., March 5 at 7:00 p.m. Each evening consists of a one-hour presentation followed by musical adoration for approximately 30 minutes.

Are you living God's purpose for your life? Could there be more to our faith experience than what we have come to know? Dynamic speaker and author Ken Yasinski will be leading a 2-day parish mission at St. Joseph Church, Brookfield, designed to empower people to experience the life God has for them. This mission is Catholicism in everyday simple language that will make relevant the timeless truths of our faith. Come be inspired to live your full potential I life.

Want a free introductory talk by Ken! Text the word FREETALK to 44222