



ST. FRANCIS
CATHOLIC

THE BULLETIN

JANUARY 18 - JANUARY 31, 2026



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Word of God*
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Family Faith Formation*
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Lent*
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Welcome to Saint Francis Catholic

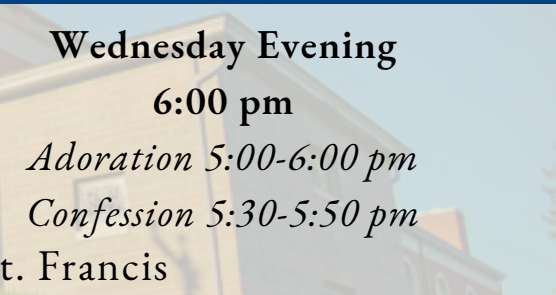
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| 3. Contact Us | 7. Chesterton Academy Upcoming Events | 12. Bingo Volunteers Needed |
| 4. Finance & Stewardship | 8. SEEK 2026 In Pictures | 13. This Week in Saints |
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by Msgr. Matera | 11. Preparing for Lent | |

Mass, Confession & Adoration Times

Weekends

 Saturday Vigil 4:00 pm St. Jerome <i>Confession 3:00-3:30 pm</i>	 Sunday 8:30 am St. Maurice	 Sunday 10:30 am St. Francis
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Weekdays

 Daily (Monday-Saturday) 8:00 am <i>Confession 7:30-7:50 am</i>	 Wednesday Evening 6:00 pm <i>Adoration 5:00-6:00 pm</i> <i>Confession 5:30-5:50 pm</i>
All Weekday Masses are at St. Francis	

Our Parish Churches

St. Francis	St. Jerome	St. Maurice	St. Joseph*	St. Peter*
1755 Stanley Street New Britain, CT 06053	1010 Slater Road New Britain, CT 06053	100 Wightman Road New Britain, CT 06052	195 S. Main Street New Britain, CT 06051	98 Franklin Square New Britain, CT 06051
*St. Joseph and St. Peter Churches are no longer used for regular Masses.				

Community - Liturgy - Formation - Holiness

St. Francis Catholic exists to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ, bring all people into relationship with God, and form the next generation of evangelical Catholics. We do this by means of 4 pillars: welcoming community, engaging liturgical prayer, doctrinal formation, and commitment to growing in personal holiness.

Parish Leadership Contact Information



Rev. Michael Casey

Pastor

fr.casey@stfranciscatholic.org



Rev. Sean Yates

Parochial Vicar

fr.yates@stfranciscatholic.org



Omar Acosta

Facilities Manager

omar@stfranciscatholic.org



Deacon Alan Bielawski

Deacon



Andrew Blaski

Headmaster

headmaster@chestertonsfa.org



Elizabeth Famularo

Music Director

elizabeth@stfranciscatholic.org



Kristyn Figbie

Communications Coordinator

kristyn@stfranciscatholic.org



Katie King

Faith Formation Coordinator

katie@stfranciscatholic.org



Jack Lacey

Campus Minister

jack@stfranciscatholic.org



Patti Pavia

Parish Secretary

patti@stfranciscatholic.org



Sofia del Rio

Pastoral Associate

sofia@stfranciscatholic.org



Janet Trainer

Business Manager

janet@stfranciscatholic.org

Address:

1010 Slater Rd., New Britain, CT 06053

Office Hours:

Monday-Friday, 9:00 am - 4:30 pm

Phone:

860-224-2411

Fax:

860-224-6838

Email:

parishoffice@stfranciscatholic.org

Connect on Social Media & Online



www.stfranciscatholic.org



FINANCE & STEWARDSHIP

Weekly Collection

Christmas: \$12,117.76

December 28, 2025: \$8,694.81

January 4, 2026: \$11,991.30

January 11, 2026: \$11,296.72

This amount includes the basket, mail in and online donations.

Mass Attendance

Christmas: 944

December 28, 2025: 542

January 4, 2026: 597

January 11, 2026: 698

Tax statements are in the process of being mailed to parishioners registered for envelopes who donated \$75 or more for the year. Online giving users will receive a statement directly from Parish Giving.

Online

Visit www.stfranciscatholic.org

Click Donate to launch the Parish Giving website
Select *Give Now* for a one time donation or create an account to set up recurring contributions

Venmo

@StFrancisCatholicNB

Please Note: Venmo should be used for donations to the church.
Mass Intentions must be paid cash or check to St. Francis Church



Thank you for faithfully using the gifts God has generously given you!

Upcoming Second Collection



Archdiocesan High Schools

On the weekend of January 18th there will be a second collection in support of the Archdiocesan High Schools. For more information or to donate visit CatholicEdAOHCT.org

IN LOVING MEMORY

we pray for:



Ernest D'Agata

*Passed away
December 21, 2025*



Nancy Roberge

*Passed away
December 24, 2025*



Russell Passamano, Sr.

*Passed away
December 30, 2025*



Rita Violette

*Passed away
January 1, 2026*

May the souls of the faithful departed, through the Mercy of God, rest in peace.

January 18 & January 25, 2026

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

All weekday Masses are at St. Francis

Saturday, January 17

8:00 am: St. Francis: +Zdzislaw Skorski

4:00 pm Vigil: St. Jerome: +J. Michael Biesad

Sunday, January 18 *Second Sunday in Ordinary Time*

8:30 am: St. Maurice: +Angelina & Paolo Fisicaro

10:30 am: St. Francis: +Emiliano Equina

Monday, January 19

8:00 am: St. Francis: Pro Populo

Tuesday, January 20

8:00 am: Deceased Members of the Rizzo, Carlina,
and Koley Families

Wednesday, January 21

8:00 am: +Jeffrey Cyr

6:00 pm: Intention of the Celebrant

Thursday, January 22

8:00 am: +Mary Roy

Friday, January 23

8:00 am: St. Francis: Intention of the Celebrant

Saturday, January 24

8:00 am: St. Francis: +Ann Cauffman

4:00 pm: St. Jerome: +Tom Trainer

Sunday, January 25 *Third Sunday in Ordinary Time*

8:30 am: St. Maurice: +Jeffrey Cyr

10:30 am: St. Francis: +Steve Ludwikow

Monday, January 26

8:00 am: Pro Populo

Tuesday, January 27

8:00 am: +Richard James Fell

Wednesday, January 28

8:00 am: +Edward & Marilyn Zieger

6:00 pm: Intention of the Celebrant

Thursday, January 29

8:00 am: +George Leone

Friday, January 30

8:00 am: +Anna & Alma Esalnek

Saturday, January 31

8:00 am: St. Francis: +Prospero & Antoinette Pavia

4:00 pm Vigil: St. Jerome: Deceased Members of the
Gronski and Janusonis Families

Sunday, February 1 *Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

8:30 am: St. Maurice: +Larry Henry

10:30 am: St. Francis: +Loretta Spigno and the
Deceased Members of the Spigno Family

Note: The Sunday 10:30 am Masses are ASL interpreted.

SNOW POLICY

If there is active snow on a Sunday, all Sunday Masses (8:30 & 10:30 am) will be held at St. Francis to allow for consistency of snow removal and safe entrance to all buildings. If implemented, it will be announced on parish social media and our notifications email list.



SUNDAY OF THE *Word of God*



By Monsignor Frank Matera

In 2019, Pope Francis designated the Third Sunday of Ordinary Time (this year, January 25) as “Sunday of the Word of God,” a day devoted to the celebration, the study, and the dissemination of the Word of God. To be sure, the Word of God plays a central role in our lives every day not just one day a year. But it is helpful to designate a particular day each year on which we are reminded of the role that God’s Word plays in our life of discipleship.

Every Sunday we are fed at two tables: (1) the Table of the Word and (2) the Table of the Eucharist. While we understand the importance of being fed at the table of the Eucharist, we may forget that we are also fed at the Table of God’s Word through the scriptures we hear every week. In the first reading, which is usually taken from the Old Testament, we hear the Word that God spoke to Israel long ago and now speaks to us in Jesus Christ. In the Responsorial Psalm we respond to God’s Word in God’s own words. In the second reading, taken from the writings of the Apostles, we hear the witness of the apostolic church to Jesus. Finally, in the Gospel we hear the very words of Jesus, the Son of God. Every week, then, we are privileged to hear the Living Word of God in

which God reveals his will and plan for our salvation.

The Epistle to the Hebrews teaches us that God’s Word is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword. It cuts to the quick and reveals God’s will for us. But it is not easy to grasp the full depth of God’s Word in a single hearing, and so we must constantly ask ourselves: How should I live the Word so that it will transform my life? How should I receive the Word so that it will transform my life in the way that the Eucharist transforms my life?

But if the Word is to change and transform our lives, we must become intimate and familiar with it, just as we are familiar and intimate with a good friend. For this to happen, we must read the Word every day, year in and year out. For it is only when we become familiar with the Word that the Word reveals her secrets to us.

So what can we do this year to become more familiar with God’s Word? Here are two suggestions. First, set aside time every day to read and pray over the Scriptures. Read the text slowly. Be silent. Let the Word speak to you. Listen to what the Word says to your heart. Second, develop a program for reading Scripture. For example, read through the Four Gospels, one each month. When you have finished, read through the Book of Psalms, five psalms each day. When you are finished, begin all over again! Pray as you read, be silent, and the Word will nourish and transform you.

“
IF THE *Word*
IS TO CHANGE AND
TRANSFORM OUR LIVES,
WE MUST BECOME
INTIMATE AND
FAMILIAR WITH IT.
”



CHESTERTON ACADEMY
OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI



New! Upcoming Events

Virtual Info Session

Tuesday, January 27, 2026
at 7:00 pm

Visit ChestertonSFA.org to register

Pre-registration Required

Open House & Info Session

Sunday, February 1, 2026
at 1:00 pm

30 Pendleton Road
New Britain, CT 06053

Now Accepting Applications!

What are the
Three Pillars
of a Chesterton Education?

Intellect

Teaching the classics of Western thought—from physics to philosophy—and not merely what to think but how to think.

Character

Helping students grow in the four cardinal virtues: prudence, temperance, fortitude and justice.

Spirituality

Embracing the truth of existence: to know, love, & serve God in this world & be happy with Him forever in the next.



SEEK

Over 20,000 college students—including dozens from our parish community—traveled to Columbus, Ohio, this month in pursuit of an ever deepening relationship with Jesus Christ while attending SEEK 2026: *To The Heights*.



January 18 & January 25, 2026

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2026
10-11:30 AM | ST. MAURICE HALL

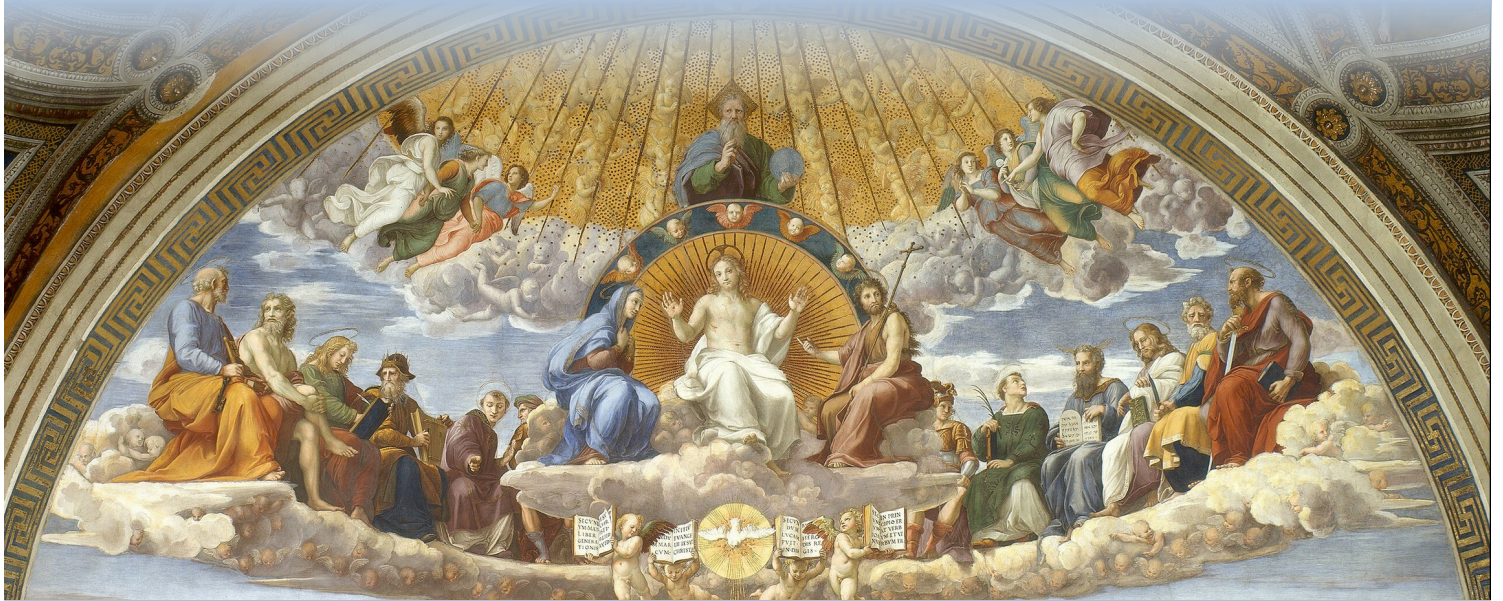
THE SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION



ALL FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN* WELCOME
PRE-REGISTRATION NOT REQUIRED

**Nursery age - High School*

Baptism ♦ First Communion ♦ Confirmation



Contact Katie King with questions at katie@stfranciscatholic.org

JANUARY FAITH FORMATION CHECK-IN

Pope Leo's Recommended Resolutions

1. Go to confession regularly.
2. Begin and end each day with Jesus.
3. Make a habit of Eucharistic adoration.
4. Commit to real friendship with Jesus in prayer.
5. Find and invest in one "faithful friend."
6. Pray the rosary.
7. Limit your screen time.
8. Choose one way to be more present in person.
9. Join something in your parish.
10. Teach the faith to someone else.

(Source: Catholic News Agency; <https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/268781/10-new-years-resolution-ideas-inspired-by-pope-leo-xiv-s-advice-to-youth-in-2025>)

Thank you to all who attended our January class!



COMMUNITY *Snapshots*



Wedding of Marcellina Halas & Antonio Pensanti



Baptism of Christopher Fazio, Jr.



Archbishop Coyne celebrates Mass at St. Maurice on December 28th and prays with parishioners after Mass



CAPTURING *the heart* OF PARISH LIFE



PALM COLLECTION

BEGINNING **SUNDAY, JANUARY 25**

We will be collecting old palms from the weekend of Sunday, January 25 - Sunday, February 15th. Please leave them in the designated boxes in the entrances of St. Francis, St. Jerome or St. Maurice Churches.

ASH WEDNESDAY

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18

Prayer Service with ashes

6:30 am
St. Francis

12:00 pm
St. Francis

Mass with ashes

8:00 am
St. Francis

12:00 pm
St. Jerome

6:00 pm
St. Francis



LENTEN ADULT ENRICHMENT

BEGINNING **MONDAY, MARCH 2**

Join Monsignor Frank Matera on Mondays during Lent for an adult enrichment series on: **The Sermon on the Mount and Its Meaning for our Lives Today.**

Saint Augustine once described the Sermon on the Mount as "the perfect way to lead the Christian life." It is not a sermon for the few but for all who want to follow Jesus faithfully in the way of discipleship.

During the Season of Lent, try to become better disciples. To assist us in this, Monsignor Matera will offer a four-part Lenten series on the Sermon on the Mount. If you would like to know more about the Sermon on the Mount and how it can help you grow in discipleship, join us for this adult enrichment session, which will be held on the **Mondays of March 2, 9, 16, 23 in St. Francis School Hall at 6:30 pm.**

We need more Bingo Volunteers to help continue this ministry!

If you're able to join us one Sunday per month from either 12:00-2:00 pm or 2:00-4:30 pm please contact our Pastoral Associate, Sofia del Rio by email at sofia@stfranciscatholic.org or by phone 860-929-8077.



H O M E B O U N D P A R I S H I O N E R S

Please help us identify parishioners from our parish community who are homebound and unable to attend Mass so that we can bring Our Lord to them. Please reach out to our Pastoral Associate, Sofia del Rio at sofia@stfranciscatholic.org or 860-929-8077.

112%

Thank you to all our generous parishioners who contributed to our 2025 Annual Collection! Thanks to your support, we surpassed our goal of \$50,000 for quality improvements within our parish.

GOAL: \$50,000

COLLECTED: \$55,639.44

thank you

to everyone who generously supported our Retired Religious with our special collection!

\$5,063.00

January 18 & January 25, 2026

THIS WEEK IN SAINTS

"All you holy men and women pray for us"



Memorial of SAINT AGNES VIRGIN & MARTYR

Celebrated on: Wednesday, January 21

Memorial of SAINT FRANCIS DE SALES BISHOP & DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

Celebrated on: Saturday, January 24



Memorial of SAINTS TIMOTHY & TITUS BISHOPS

Celebrated on: Monday, January 26



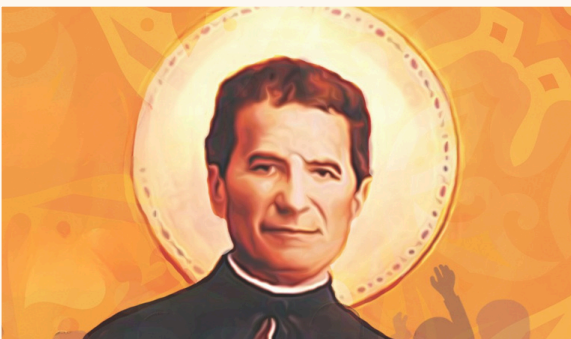
Memorial of SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS BISHOP & DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

Celebrated on: Wednesday, January 28



Memorial of SAINT JOHN BOSCO PRIEST

Celebrated on: Saturday, January 31



ONGOING MINISTRIES

The Bulletin

AA MEETINGS

Wednesdays 7pm: St. Francis Church basement
Fridays 7pm: St. Joseph School (in Spanish)
Saturdays 7pm: St. Jerome Church Hall

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Meets Mondays, 6:30pm at St. Francis School. Led by Deacon Al, participants will learn Catholic Apologetics and how to defend our faith.

BINGO

Sunday Afternoons at St. Joseph School, 29 Edson St., New Britain.
Doors open at 11:30am, Games begin at 2:00pm

CROSSROADS 4 CHRIST

Meetings Tuesdays 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm
Adoration & Confession 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm
All young adults are welcome!

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Meetings are monthly on the second Tuesday of the month, from 6:30-8:00 pm at St. Joseph School

MINGLE

The Mingle is looking for volunteers Tuesdays 5:00-6:30 pm at St. Joseph School to help with feeding the less fortunate. Volunteers will help with setup, serving, and cleanup. Please call the Parish Office at 860-224-2411 with questions or to sign up.

NA MEETINGS

Narcotics Anonymous meets Tuesdays at 6:00 pm in the St. Francis Church basement

SFC YOUTH

Faith-based community for high school students in the New Britain area with a focus on formation, prayer, community, food & games. Meets Monday evenings. Contact youth@stfranciscatholic.org or call the Parish Office for more details.

ST. JOSEPH FOOD PANTRY

The Food Pantry opens Tuesdays at St. Joseph School from 9:30 -10:30 am. Please see the shopping list below for our most needed items. Monetary donations or gift cards also appreciated. Donations may be brought to any of our open churches.

SHOPPING LIST

in support of the St. Joseph Food Pantry
The item most needed this week is:

☐ Pasta & Pasta Sauce

thank you

☐ Cereal

☐ Pasta/Pasta Sauce

☐ Canned Soup

☐ Instant Oatmeal

☐ Canned Fruit &

☐ Vegetables

☐ Peanut Butter & Jelly

☐ Canned Meat/Tuna

☐ Instant Potato and Rice

☐ Mixes

☐ Ramen Noodles

☐ Mac and Cheese

☐ Snack Items:

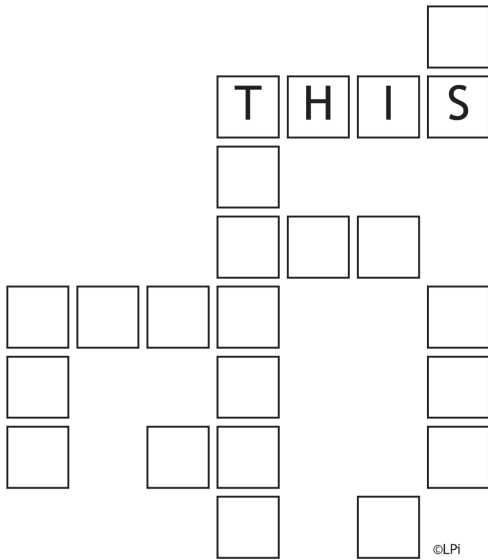
☐ Cookies, Crackers, etc.



PUZZLE

Fit this Gospel message into the empty squares:

I testify that this is the Son of God.

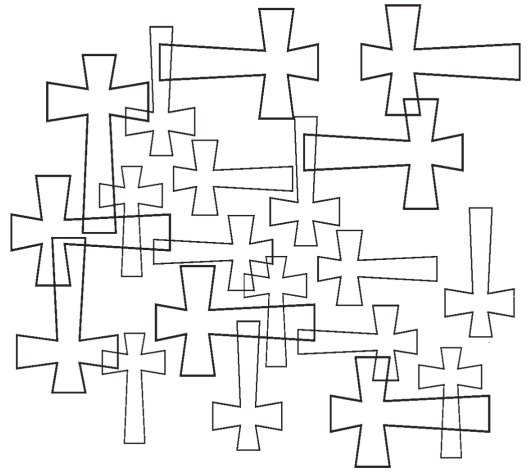


©LPi



PUZZLE

How many crosses can you count?



©LPi

THE ANSWER IS TWENTY CROSSES



MISSION

Sing the song, "This Little Light of Mine."

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time • John 1:29-34

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time • Matthew 4:12-23