



ST. FRANCIS
CATHOLIC

THE BULLETIN

FEBRUARY 15 - FEBRUARY 28, 2026



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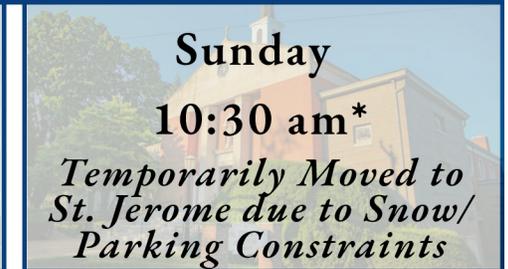
*Chesterton Academy
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Welcome to Saint Francis Catholic

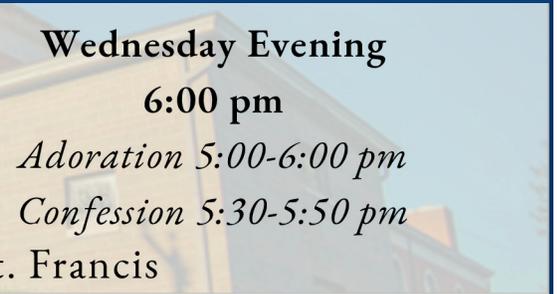
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by Msgr. Matera | 11. Archbishops Annual Appeal Kickoff | |

Mass, Confession & Adoration Times

Weekends

 <p>Saturday Vigil 4:00 pm St. Jerome <i>Confession 3:00-3:30 pm</i></p>	 <p>Sunday 8:30 am St. Maurice</p>	 <p>Sunday 10:30 am* <i>Temporarily Moved to St. Jerome due to Snow/ Parking Constraints</i></p>
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Weekdays

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

Our Parish Churches

St. Francis	St. Jerome	St. Maurice	St. Joseph*	St. Peter*
<i>1755 Stanley Street New Britain, CT 06053</i>	<i>1010 Slater Road New Britain, CT 06053</i>	<i>100 Wightman Road New Britain, CT 06052</i>	<i>195 S. Main Street New Britain, CT 06051</i>	<i>98 Franklin Square New Britain, CT 06051</i>

**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 Director
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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

January 25, 2026: \$8,429.91

February 1, 2026: \$10,640.25

February 8, 2026: \$9,766.76

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

Mass Attendance

January 25, 2026: 484

February 1, 2026: 645

February 8, 2026: 492

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



COLLECTION FOR THE CHURCH IN CENTRAL & EASTERN EUROPE



On the weekend of Sunday, February 22nd, we will take up the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. This collection supports the Church in 25+ countries that are still struggling to recover from former communist rule, as well as aiding communities in the region that are affected by war in Ukraine. Donations support pastoral care, catechesis, renovations of church properties, and seminary formation, restoring the Church and building the future. Learn more information at www.usccb.org/ccee.

IN LOVING MEMORY

we pray for:



Frances Dorbuck

*Passed away
January 27, 2026*



Bipul Rozario

*Passed away
January 27, 2026*



Florence Kragiel

*Passed away
February 3, 2026*



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

MASS INTENTIONS

MARCH 2026

Mark your calendars! Mass Intentions for the months of April, May and June 2026 will be available to reserve beginning **Monday, March 2**. Contact the parish office with any questions.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14

February 15 & February 22, 2026

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

All weekday Masses are at St. Francis unless otherwise noted

Saturday, February 14

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

4:00 pm Vigil: St. Jerome: Intention of the Celebrant

Sunday, February 15 *Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

8:30 am: St. Maurice: +Walter Burkard

10:30 am: St. Jerome: +Clare Onorato

Monday, February 16

8:00 am: Pro Populo

Tuesday, February 17

8:00 am: +Sr. Angela Ricciardi & +Emilia Francalanga

Wednesday, February 18 *Ash Wednesday*

6:30 am: St. Francis: Prayer Service with Ashes

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

12:00 pm: St. Jerome: Intention of the Celebrant

12:00 pm: St. Francis: Prayer Service with Ashes

6:00 pm: St. Francis: Intention of the Celebrant

Thursday, February 19

8:00 am: +Florence Kragiel

Friday, February 20

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

Saturday, February 21

8:00 am: St. Francis: +Lawrence & Evangeline Mangini

4:00 pm: St. Jerome: +Lena Kozlowski

Sunday, February 22 *First Sunday in Lent*

8:30 am: St. Maurice: Intention of the Celebrant

10:30 am: St. Jerome: +Florence Kragiel

Monday, February 23

8:00 am: +Sharen Taratula

Tuesday, February 24

8:00 am: Pro Populo

Wednesday, February 25

8:00 am: Special Intention

6:00 pm: Intention of the Celebrant

Thursday, February 26

8:00 am: +Francesco & Lucia Carlozzi

Friday, February 27

8:00 am: Special Intention

Saturday, February 28

8:00 am: St. Francis: +Walter & Florence Siemiatkaska

4:00 pm Vigil: St. Jerome: Deceased Members of the Danisienka & Tatro Families

Sunday, March 1 *Second Sunday in Lent*

8:30 am: St. Maurice: Deceased Members of the Berrios & Diaz Families

10:30 am: St. Francis: +Eugenio & Gino Ricciardi

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.



THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT

The Greater Righteousness



By Monsignor Frank Matera

In my last column, I introduced you to the Sermon on the Mount. I discussed the Beatitudes that proclaim the blessings that have come upon Jesus's disciples, whom he identifies as "the salt of the earth and light of the world." In this column, I discuss the first part of the Sermon (5:17-48) in which Jesus teaches us about the "greater righteousness" required of his disciples by which he means right conduct in accordance with God's law.

Jesus announces this greater righteousness in Matt 5:17-20. In these verses he assures us that he has not come to abolish the law and the prophet but to fulfill them. He goes on to say that his disciples must practice a greater righteousness that fulfills the deepest meaning of the law and the prophets. To explain what he means, Jesus provides us with six examples of this greater righteousness. Each example has two parts. In the first part, Jesus says, "you have heard that it was said..." Then in the second part he says, "but I say to you ..."

In his first example (5:21-26), Jesus says you have heard that you shall not kill, but I say to you shall not even speak the angry word that leads to murder. In the second (5:27-30), he proclaims that whereas the law prohibits adultery, he requires his disciples to avoid the lustful

thought that leads to adultery. In his third example (5:31-32), Jesus says that whereas the law allowed divorce, he prohibits divorce. In the fourth example (5:33-37), he teaches us that whereas the law requires us to fulfill our oaths, his disciples must be so honest that there is no need to take an oath. In his fifth example (5:38-42), Jesus says that the law allowed limited retaliation for injury, but his disciples must avoid all retaliation. Finally, in the sixth example (5:43-47), Jesus says that whereas the law requires us to love our neighbor, he calls us to love even our enemies.

Jesus requires us to fulfill the deepest intention of God's law. Whereas the law forbids murder and adultery, its deepest meaning is to avoid anger and lust. Whereas the law allows oaths and limited retaliation, its deepest meaning is to be perfectly honest and merciful so that there is no need for oaths and retaliation. We are to love our enemy as well as our neighbor.

At the end of this teaching on righteousness, Jesus says: "So be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect" (5:48). Here the word "perfect" means to be whole-heart and undivided in one's allegiance to God. If we are perfect in this way, we will be practice the greater righteousness because we will give ourselves completely to God.

Is it possible to practice the greater righteousness to which Jesus calls us the sermon? Yes, if we are perfect, that is, undivided in our loyalty to God. Is this teaching meant for the few or for all? Jesus is quite clear. It is intended for all his disciples. It is intended for you and me. **If you want to learn more, join me in my adult enrichment series on the Sermon on the Mount, March 2, 9, 16, 23.**

“

JESUS REQUIRES US TO
FULFILL THE
deepest intention
OF GOD'S LAW.

”

ASH WEDNESDAY

PARISH LENTEN EVENTS

February 18, 2026

Mass with ashes

8:00 am
St. Francis

12:00 pm
St. Jerome

6:00 pm
St. Francis

Prayer Service with ashes

6:30 am
St. Francis

12:00 pm
St. Francis

Stations of the Cross

Beginning Friday February 20: Join us every Friday for Stations of the Cross: 12:00 pm at St. Jerome and 7:00 pm at St. Francis.

Monday Night Adoration and Confession

Beginning Monday February 23: Join us every Monday at St. Francis for Adoration (5:00-6:00 pm) and Confessions (5:15-5:45 pm).

Adult Enrichment on *The Sermon on the Mount and Its Meaning for our Lives Today*

Beginning on Monday, March 2: 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 the St. Francis School Hall at 6:30 pm.*

ASH WEDNESDAY

THE BEGINNING OF LENT

WHAT IS LENT

The 40 day period from Ash Wednesday to before Easter Sunday. It is marked by prayer, fasting, abstinence and other acts of penance.



WHAT IS FASTING

One meal a day, and two smaller meals which if added together would not exceed one full meal.



WHAT IS ABSTINENCE

Abstinence is refraining from eating meat. Meat is considered to be flesh & organs of mammals & fowl.



DAYS OF FAST

Ash Wednesday

Good Friday

DAYS OF ABSTINENCE

Ash Wednesday

All Fridays of Lent

Good Friday

WHO ARE REQUIRED

Catholics aged 18-59



The sick and pregnant or nursing women are excused from fasting



WHO ARE REQUIRED

Mandatory for everyone



Older than

14



SAINT FRANCIS LADIES GUILD

invites you to



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Led by Deacon Alan

**Followed by a Lenten Lunch:
Homemade Soups, Bread & Beverages**

▶▶▶ Please bring a donation of non-perishable food for the St. Joseph Food Pantry

For questions call the Parish Office or reach out to active Ladies Guild members Maria Lazicki, Donna Domizio, Mary LeBel, Dorothy Krein, or Mary Morocco



**Tuesday, March 10 from 12:00-3:00pm
St. Francis Church**

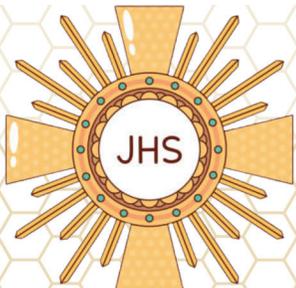
Saint Francis Moms Group



Moms of the parish are invited to our weekly playgroup at St. Francis School!

Please Note: Our group is open to all moms seeking good fellowship, although our attendees are predominantly young moms with babies and toddlers under 3 years old

For more information contact our Pastoral Associate Sofia del Rio at 860-929-8077 or by email at sofia@stfranciscatholic.org



Family Adoration

AND SPIRITUAL ENRICHMENT

14

MARCH

ST. FRANCIS

CHURCH

9 AM

TO 11 AM

CALLING ALL FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN!
CHECK OUT THE SCHEDULE & RESERVE YOUR SPOT WITH THE QR CODE (RSVP IS REQUIRED):



LIVING

Stations of the Cross

MARCH 20TH - 4:30PM & 7PM

ST. MAURICE SCHOOL
100 WIGHTMAN RD.
NEW BRITAIN, CT 06052

Join us for a prayerful presentation of the Stations of the Cross. Through reverent student reenactment, accompanied by a choir, we hope to provide an opportunity to enter more deeply into this traditional Lenten prayer.

ADMISSION IS FREE, BUT PLEASE RESERVE YOUR SEAT AT WWW.ADOROTE.ORG

PRESENTED BY (A.M.D.G.)²

NEW BRITAIN COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN

The next meeting of the New Britain Council of Catholic Women will be held February 26, 2026 at 1pm at St. Jerome Hall. There will be a standard business meeting and discussion of events for the rest of the year.

February 15 & February 22, 2026



APPLY NOW!
ChestertonSFA.org

Earlier this month our Chesterton Academy of St. Francis of Assisi hosted an Open House & Info Session (*pictured below*), and our Headmaster and prospective families spent a day at the Chesterton Academy of Our Lady of Hope in Rhode Island (*pictured at top*) for a day of shadowing and hands on experiences!



FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

SUNDAY, MARCH 1 ✦ 10-11:30 AM ✦ ST. MAURICE HALL

JOIN US AS WE EXPLORE THE

Sacraments of Healing

RECONCILIATION ANOINTING OF THE SICK

and Sacraments supporting the Church Community



MATRIMONY HOLY ORDERS

ALL FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN* WELCOME
PRE-REGISTRATION NOT REQUIRED

**Nursery age - High School*

Contact Katie King with questions at katie@stfranciscatholic.org

Seven Sacraments Altarpiece, Rogier van der Weyden, 1464. Public Domain Use.

February Faith Formation Follow Up:

Make a plan for Lent: take some time with each of your children to discuss how they might do better with prayer, sacrifice and almsgiving. Help your children think about the little things they can give up, the difficulties they can embrace, the people that need God's grace, and the ways they can be more generous with the gifts God has given them. Encourage them to choose: a virtue to practice, a person to pray especially for, common difficulties or irritations they can choose to bear more patiently, sacrifices of good things, or ways they can give of their time and attention to build up others.



Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Class at February Family Faith Formation

2026
Archbishop's Annual Appeal

WE ARE
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ARCHDIOCESE of HARTFORD

-  [archdioceseofhartford.org](https://www.archdioceseofhartford.org)
-  [ArchdioceseofHartford](https://www.facebook.com/ArchdioceseofHartford)
-  [ArchdioceseofHartford](https://www.instagram.com/ArchdioceseofHartford)

Kickoff Weekend:
February 14 - 15, 2026

Scan for more
information,
or to donate
now.



COMMUNITY Snapshots



Baptism of Raymond Jones at St. Francis



Celebrating Fr. Casey's 8th Anniversary as Pastor of St. Francis



Thanks to the Gaffney School in New Britain for their generous donation of nearly 2,000 items for our our Food Pantry!



REVOIR SCHOLARSHIP

The Martha and Kenneth Revoir Scholarship was established in 2016 by Kenneth Revoir in memory and in honor of his mother, Martha Revoir, a parishioner of Saint Maurice Church, now known as St. Francis Parish. The Scholarship is primarily to provide financial assistance to eligible students who have been members of Saint Francis Parish for at least the year prior to application. Scholarships of a minimum of \$2,500 may be awarded to full time students who are enrolled at accredited colleges, universities or community colleges, or are pursuing a course of study which will prepare them for a trade or profession at an accredited educational facility which awards degrees or certificates and has a full-time faculty. High school seniors who will be enrolled at an accredited educational facility by June for the fall semester are also eligible to apply. It was Mr. Revoir's intention, in creating the scholarship trust, to assist eligible students pursue the education for which they are qualified and which they wish to pursue in order to become useful, productive citizens. Scholarships may include assistance with tuition, fees, books, and living expenses.

All applications will be sent to the Scholarship Committee at St. Francis of Assisi Parish. Scholarship applications that contain all of the requirements needed to apply may be obtained at the Saint Francis of Assisi Office (860) 224-2411 or contact parishoffice@stfranciscatholic.org. Failure to enclose the required materials and to meet the deadlines will cause the application to be deemed incomplete and it will not be forwarded to the Trustees for consideration. **Application deadline is March 15, 2026.**

February 15 & February 22, 2026

THIS WEEK IN SAINTS

"All you holy men and women pray for us"



Feast Day of SAINT CONRAD OF PIACENZA

Celebrated on: Thursday, February 19

Feast Day of SAINTS JACINTA & FRANCISCO MARTO

Celebrated on: Friday, February 20



Feast Day of SAINT PETER DAMIAN

Celebrated on: Saturday, February 21



Feast of the CHAIR OF SAINT PETER

Celebrated on: Sunday, February 22



Feast Day of SAINT POLYCARP

Celebrated on: Monday, February 23



The Bulletin

ONGOING MINISTRIES

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. During Lent Msgr. Matera will teach us about the Sermon on the Mount. See page 7 for details.

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:

Cereal

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

Find and circle these words from today's Gospel:

- | | | |
|--------|----------|---------|
| OBEY | ANGRY | PROMISE |
| BETTER | FAITHFUL | KEEP |
| MURDER | THOUGHTS | SWEAR |

Y T O B U O M E U Y S
 A G L S W E A R O T I
 B R E H T I N Y E H A
 C I F O R A G E Y O M
 E S A T I B R O T U A
 O D I S K O Y I E G C
 B E T T E R M U N H D
 E S H B E T Y R A T A
 Y T F A P R O M I S E
 A C U H I S E F O L U
 W Y L A N M U R D E R



PUZZLE

Fit this Gospel message into the empty squares:

**Worship the Lord your God
 and serve only him.**

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