

St. Francis Xavier Parish

December 28, 2025



Our Lady of the Lakes Church
30 Sullivan Road
New Milford CT 06776



St. Francis Xavier Church
26 Chestnut Land Road
New Milford CT 06776



Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church
34 Green Hill Road
Washington CT 06793



THE HOLY FAMILY

"Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead." - Mt 2:20

"Levántate, toma al niño y a su madre y regresa a la tierra de Israel, porque ya murieron los que intentaban quitarle la vida al niño". - Mt 2, 20

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.
Leccionario I ©1976 Comisión Episcopal de Pastoral Litúrgica de la Conferencia del Episcopado Mexicano.

PASTORAL TEAM:

Fr. Carlos Castrillon Castro
Pastor
fr.castrillon@aohct.org
860-354-2202

Fr. Lijo Thomas
Parochial Vicar
fr.thomas@aohct.org
860-354-2202

Deacon Alfred "Al" Gambone
Deacon.al.sfx@gmail.com
860-946-9776

PARISH OFFICE:

Web site: www.sfxnewmilford.org
Email: sfxparish@sfxnewmilford.org

Office Hours: 9:00 A.M.—5:00 P.M.
Mon.—Thurs. (Closed on Friday)
Mailing Address & Office Location
1 Elm Street
New Milford, CT 06776

SUPPORT STAFF:

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

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

FAITH FORMATION

Karen O'Donnell, Director
ololreled@gmail.com
860-354-5372

HOLY INFANT NURSERY SCHOOL
HolyInfant@sfxnewmilford.org
860-354-7284

MASS INTENTIONS:

SATURDAY - DECEMBER 27

ST. JOHN, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST

SFX: 5:00 PM + Ann & Anthony DeNoris and
VIGIL Mary Russo

Requested by Carol Shubin

SUNDAY - DECEMBER 28

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

LOL: 8:30 AM + Ed Howe

Requested by Tom & Ruth Sweeney

SFX: 10:00 AM + Maryellen Whitfield
(Heavenly Birthday)

Requested by her family

OLPH: 10:00 AM + William & Denise Bader

SFX: 11:30 AM + Por los fallecidos de nuestra
en Español parroquia

MONDAY - DECEMBER 29

ST. THOMAS BECKET, BISHOP & MARTYR

SFX: 8:30 AM + For all the souls in Purgatory
Requested by Soraya Carratto

TUESDAY - DECEMBER 30

LOL: 8:30 AM + Caroline Soto

Requested by her family

WEDNESDAY - DECEMBER 31

ST. SYLVESTER I, POPE

SFX: 8:30 AM + Deborah A. Grabner
Requested by her family & friends

SFX: 4:00 PM + Larissa Chapin
Requested by the Kersten family

THURSDAY - JANUARY 1

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

SFX: 8:30 AM + Fr. Sebastian Vazhakala, M.C.
Requested by Laurie Dwyer, LMC

OLPH: 9:00 AM + Madeline Smith
Requested by her family & friends

LOL: 12:00 noon + Martine Hogan
Requested by her family & friends

FRIDAY - JANUARY 2

SAINTS BASIL THE GREAT & GREGORY NAZIANZEN, BISHOPS & DOCTORS OF THE CHURCH

SFX: 8:30 AM + Samuel Schrader
Requested by Christian & Deborah Martirano

SATURDAY - JANUARY 3

THE MOST HOLY NAME OF JESUS

SFX: 8:30 AM + for the deceased of our Parish

IN MEMORIAM

**St. Francis Xavier Parish Churches pray
for the repose of the soul and sends a
final farewell to our dearly departed:**

Carl J. Catalanotto

Peter M. Mommers

Ann T. Martino

Bob Smyth

Matthew Peter Milliard

Deborah A. Grabner

Patricia O'Loughlin

Alan Colville

Margaret Louise "Peg" (Deming) Janssen



**The Sanctuary Candle
at St. Francis Xavier
Church for this week
burns in memory of:**

Frank Ortiz

**Requested by:
Corey & Tess Asman**



**The Sanctuary Candle
At Our Lady of Perpetual
Help Church for this week
burns in memory of:**

Dewey Young, Jr.

**Requested by:
his wife Dawn**

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

The offices will be closed:

Tuesday, December 30th

Wednesday, December 31st and

Thursday, January 1st

NEW YEAR'S DAY *Mass*

December 31st 8:30 AM SFX
New Year's Eve. 4:00 pm SFX

January 1st 8:30 AM SFX
Solemnity of Mary, 9:00 AM OLPH
Mother of God 12:00 NOON OLOL
Holy Day of Obligation

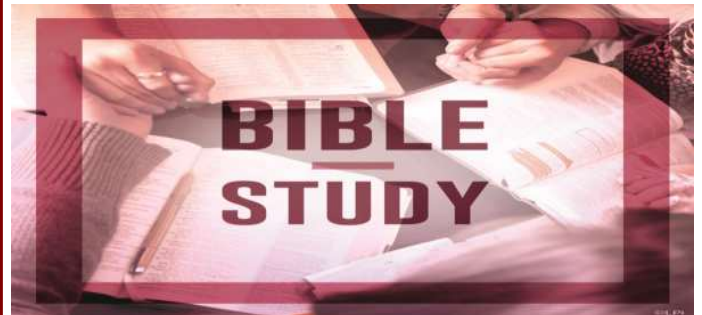
Misa
DE AÑO NUEVO



Fr. Carlos, Fr. Lijo, Deacon Al, Jocelyne, Chris, Karen and Edgardo would like to wish each and everyone of you, your families and your friends near and far a very Happy, and Healthy New Year filled with blessings!



Looking for a New Year's Resolution? Take the Bible in a Year challenge. The Bible in a Year with Father Mike Schmitz is available for FREE through Ascension Press. You can also listen on a variety of platforms. A parish discussion group will be organized. More details about meeting, etc. in January 2026.

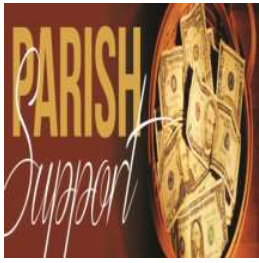


SAVE THE DATES:
WINTER BIBLE STUDY:
THE GOSPEL OF JOHN,
THE BOOK OF GLORY.

WEDNESDAYS, JANUARY 14 TO
FEBRUARY 25, 9:30—11 AM AT THE
ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH HALL.
EVENING SESSION ALSO AVAILABLE,
7:00—8:30 PM.

FREE WILL DONATION FOR BOOK.

SIGN UP SHEETS AT BACK OF
CHURCHES OR CALL THE OFFICE AT
860-354-2202.



OUR COLLECTION TOTAL
FOR SFX & OLOL FOR THE
WEEK ENDING:
12/14/25 \$ 4,479.00

Our Lady of Perpetual Help:
12/14/25 \$ 1,312.00

Immaculate Conception SFX &
OLOL: \$ 1,847.00
OLPH: \$ 219.00

Retirement Fund for Religious for SFX & OLOL:
\$ 1,602.00 OLPH: \$ 159.00

Other collection totals will be in the next bulletin due to
early deadlines.



The next second
collection is 1/4 & 1/5 for
the Monthly
Collection (used to
offset the cost of
utilities)

*We thank you in advance for your continued
generosity towards our Parish and other endeavors.*

In this past year, our parish has raised \$[75,631.25] for the 2025 Archbishop's Annual Appeal. If you have not yet made your gift to this year's Appeal, please consider doing so in the days ahead. Your gift to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal will help continue the vital services, ministries and programs that help so many throughout our Archdiocese. 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/appeal/>. No Appeal funds are ever used for legal fees or settlements.

As winter settles in and our communities gather close in faith, it is a season to embrace the warmth that generosity brings. Just as the colder weather can challenge us, consistent giving sustains and strengthens our parish—supporting ministries, nurturing outreach and providing for those in need.

We have available Online Giving cards at each of the doors to our Churches. Please take one and after careful consideration visit our church website to sign up and get started.

Thank you for all each of you do to help lead our Parish in faith and generosity.



Mon., 12/29 Rosary - 8 am - SFX Church
Mass 8:30 am SFX Church
Portuguese Rosary 5 pm—OLOL Church
Choir Practice 7 pm SFX Church
Choir Practice - en Español - 7 pm SFX Church hall

Tues., 12/30 Mass 8:30 am OLOL Church
Rosary - 9 am - OLOL Church
Choir Rehearsal 7 pm SFX

Wed., 12/31 Rosary - 8 am - SFX Church
Mass 8:30 am SFX Church
Vigil Mass 4:00 pm SFX Church

Thurs., 1/1 Mass 8:30 am SFX Church
Mass 9:00 am OLPH Church
Mass 12:00 noon OLOL Church

Fri., 1/2 Rosary 8:00 am SFX Church
Mass 8:30 am SFX Church
Adoration 9:00 am SFX Church

Sat., 1/3 Confession - 4 pm - SFX Church
Vigil Mass - 5 pm - SFX Church

Sun., 1/4 Mass - 8:30 am - OLOL Church
Rosary - 9:30 am OLPH Church
Mass - 10 am - SFX Church
Mass - 10 am OLPH Church
Mass - 11:30 am SFX Church - en Español

Carolyn's Place - January Wish List:

Diapers—size 1 & 2 Wipes crib sheets
Baby Bath Tubs Baby washcloths
Diaper Bags—Backpack style
Adult shower flipflops Baby bulb Syringes
Large sized canvas tote bags
Vaseline—small or medium size
Little Remedies Saline Solution
New Car Seats (infant carrier style)

If you wish to donate any of the above items leave them in the Church marked Carolyn's Place or drop them off at the office to Chris. Thank you.

WEATHER POLICY

©LPI

As winter is HERE, the following inclement/bad weather protocol is in place for the 2025-2026 season in regards to delays and cancellations of parish activities.

As always your safety is of the utmost importance to us.

WEEK DAY DAILY MASS, FAITH FORMATION CLASSES AND EVENTS, MEETINGS, GATHERINGS, ETC. will be cancelled if New Milford Public Schools are cancelled.

Sunday Mass will be celebrated unless the Governor declares a State of Emergency.

School delays will NOT affect our schedule, but always call first to make sure the offices are open.

We will post notifications on the local TV stations, the app and our facebook page too.

NORMAS DEBIDO AL MAL CLIMA

©LPI

Como el invierno está AQUÍ, el siguiente protocolo contra el mal tiempo y el mal tiempo está en vigor para la temporada 2025-2026 en relación con retrasos y cancelaciones de actividades parroquiales.

Como siempre, su seguridad es de suma importancia para nosotros.

LA MISA DIARIA ENTRE SEMANA, LAS CLASES Y EVENTOS DE LA FORMACIÓN DE FE, REUNIONES, REUNIONES, ETC., se cancelarán si se cancelan las Escuelas Públicas de New Milford.

Se celebrará la misa dominical a menos que el gobernador declare el Estado de Emergencia.

Los retrasos en el colegio NO afectarán a nuestro horario, pero siempre llama antes para asegurarte de que las oficinas estén abiertas.

También publicaremos notificaciones en las cadenas de televisión locales, en la app y en nuestra página de Facebook.

Giving Tree Donations

©LPI



We at St. Francis Xavier Church are once again asking everyone to make a financial contribution to our Martha and Mary Community Care program, so that we can assist each of the NINE community agencies in giving out gifts and gift cards for Christmas. If you would like to make a donation to help us offset the cost, we will accept any all amounts offered. Every dollar counts.

Please mail to: St. Francis Xavier 1 Elm St. New Milford, CT 06776 Attn. Chris or put in the collection baskets to my attention or come and see me in the office Monday—Thursday 9am—5 pm. Any questions call me at 860-354-2202.

Thank you in advance for your continued generosity in helping us to help others. God bless!!

The “Feed the Hungry” Ministry of St. Francis Xavier Church is continuing the Food Drive. All donations collected at St. Francis Xavier Church will be donated to Loaves & Fishes. Please drop off your donations in the Church hall at SFX (ask Bob Greco if you have any questions). Donation of reusable bags accepted too!



©LPI

Mother Mary's Cupboard

The next Love In Action Sunday is Sunday, December 21st. Donations collected at Our Lady of the Lakes Church will be donated to New Milford Food Bank. Please drop off your donations in the Atrium at OLOL. (if you have any questions ask Sal Guagenti). **P.S. We are also in need of reusable bags!**



Class Schedule

OUR 2025-2026 FAITH FORMATION, aka RELIGION CLASSES (CCD) ARE:

- *SUNDAY 8:30—9:45 AM AND
- *SUNDAY 11:15 AM—12:30 PM
JANUARY 11TH
- *MONDAY 6—7:15 PM
JANUARY 12TH

IF YOUR CHILD/CHILDREN ARE IN GRADES
1—5 THEY SHOULD BRING THEIR BIBLE,
BOOK AND BAG WITH THEM TO ALL THEIR
CLASSES.

CHILDREN IN GRADES 6—8 SHOULD ALSO
BRING THEIR BOOKS TO ALL CLASSES.

SHOULD YOUR CHILDREN BE
ABSENT PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE AT
860-354-5372 OR 860-354-2202 AND LET US
KNOW. THEY MUST DO THE WORK ON
THEIR GRADE LEVEL CALENDAR.

NEXT CLASSES:

- *SUNDAY 8:30—9:45 AM AND
- *SUNDAY 11:15 AM—12:30 PM
JANUARY 25TH
- *MONDAY 6—7:15 PM JANUARY 26TH

*The Archdiocese of Hartford announced last
year about a new program for all the children
called:

“EMPOWERING GOD’S CHILDREN”.

It will be presented to the grade 6 children on
Sunday, 1/11 and Monday, 1/12.

It will be presented to the grade 7 children on
Sunday, 1/25 and Monday 1/26.

Any questions, please contact Karen, the Faith
Formation Director.

Karen O'Donnell - Director
860-354-5372 or ololreled@gmail.com

Please make sure to **add** Karen's email address, so
that you receive your emails.
All communications are sent via email and posted in
this bulletin and put on the app.
We will also add posts on our Facebook page and
Instagram page too!

THE CONFIRMATION CLASSES FOR ST. FRANCIS XAVIER FAITH FORMATION ARE:

**JANUARY 11 & 25TH;
FEBRUARY 1ST, 8TH & 22ND AND
MARCH 1ST & 8TH**

**If you are signed up for the Sunday class and
cannot make it you MUST attend the Monday
class.**

**If you are signed up for the Monday class and
cannot make it you MUST attend the Sunday
class.**

**Please call the office and let us know if you must
attend a different class.
You must attend all SEVEN classes or you cannot
make your Confirmation.**

OLPH DATES:

Family Catechesis: Saturday, January 10th at 5:00
pm “Hail Mary”
Any questions contact Christine Kersten
ckersten71@gmail.com

Reconciliation and Communion: Sunday,
January 18th from 8:45—9:45 am “Preparing”
Any questions contact Annie Haddad
anniehaddad@sbcglobal.net

Confirmation: Sunday, January 18th from 11:00
am—12:15 pm “Anointed by the Spirit”
Any questions contact Marcella McVay
mcvaymarcella@gmail.com or Christine Kersten
ckersten71@gmail.com

Life Teen: Any questions contact Shannon Kozak
shamako4@yahoo.com

CONFRATERNITY OF THE MOST HOLY ROSARY:

The St. Francis Xavier Church group will hold its next meeting on Monday, January 5th in the church hall.

The meeting will begin at 12:00 noon.

We ask that you bring a bagged lunch.

Coffee and dessert will be served.

All are welcome and

please feel free to bring a friend.

Any questions call Maura Pauli at 860-690-1882.



THIS WEEK'S READINGS:

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5/Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

Monday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6/Lk 2:22-35

Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Lk 2:36-40

Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13/Jn 1:1-18

Thursday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6 and 8/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

Friday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Jn 1:19-28

Saturday: 1 Jn 2:29-3:6/Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6/Jn 1:29-34

Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

LET'S GROW YOUR BUSINESS

Place Your Ad Here and Support Our Parish!

CONTACT ME Nichol Stanley

nstanley@4LPi.com • (800) 477-4574 x9422

A&A Tree Service LLC.

FORESTRY RECYCLING/GRINDING
MAJOR EXCAVATION
SITE WORK & DEVELOPMENT
LOT CLEARING

FORESTRY MOWING SERVICES
PROFESSIONAL TREE SERVICES
LARGE SCALE EQUIPMENT SERVICES

860-946-3594



Office: 860-350-4409

Cell: 203-788-7991

Paul James Garlasco

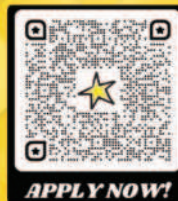
Attorney

www.ctpersonalinjurylawyer.net

Personal Injury, Motor Vehicle Accidents, Slip & Fall, Dog Bites,
Workers' Compensation, Estate Planning, Criminal, and Product Liability
83 Park Lane Road, New Milford, CT 06776 • Email: attygarla@aol.com



Drive Your Career!



- Bring Your Children to Work
- No School Bus Experience Necessary
- M-F Part-Time Schedules
- Paid Permit & BTW Training Program
- Fulfilling Career

www.All-StarTransportation.com/Careers
or call (203) 525-9966



**PATRICK FARRELL
Construction, LLC**

Kitchen & Bathroom
Remodeling

203-512-0764



**FREE
AD DESIGN**

with purchase
of this space

**CALL
800-477-4574**



MARANDOLA FUEL SERVICE
A CASEY ENERGY COMPANY
www.marandolafuel.com
860-355-4877
91 Kent Road, New Milford

DJ Hall Roofing & Siding, LLC
Quality Work at Competitive Prices
Fully Licensed and Insured
Proudly serving Connecticut for more than 38 Years
• ROOFING INSTALLATION & REPAIRS
• INTERIOR & EXTERIOR PAINTING
Call or Text **860-485-5887**
5% DISCOUNT WITH MENTION OF THIS AD




Maureen Burmann
203.948.7572
E: Maureen.Burmann@ravelis.com
W: MaureenBurmann.ravelis.com

MPC MILLETTE PEST CONTROL
Protecting What Matters Most
RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL
TERMITE CONTROL • ANT CONTROL
MOISTURE CONTROL • RODENT CONTROL
WE ALSO PROTECT YOUR HOME OR BUSINESS FROM SPIDERS AND BEES
TIME TO GET RID OF THOSE PESTS!
860.868.1825
www.millettepestcontrol.com



Peter Gillen
COLDWELL BANKER
203-470-3452
peter.gillen@cbmoves.com
petergillen.cbintouch.com
Selling, buying or renting - call Pete!
Owned & operated by NRT



Candlewood Valley Pediatrics
Evan R. Hack, M.D. • Frank Fanella Jr., M.D.
Matthew G. Abel, M.D. • Kristi F. Beck, M.D.
Stephanie T. Tiso, M.D.
Betsy Meyer, PA-C • Karla Rosati, PA-C
120 Park Ln., A-101 (860) 355-8190
www.candlewoodvalleypediatrics.com



Angel Corillo's Cuisine
Mexican • Italian • American
You Name it!
Catering for small picnics,
church events, or private events
(203) 917-5099



ALL AMERICAN WASTE
800-826-7952
aawllc.com

LILLIS FUNERAL HOME
Since 1928
(860)354-4655
58 BRIDGE STREET
NEW MILFORD, CT 06776



Ruth Chase Flowers
(860) 355-1111
19 Church St., New Milford
• Flowers for All Occasions
• Specializing in Weddings
www.ruthchaseflowers.com

Thurston Rowe
FUNERAL HOME
Jeffrey R. Thurston
Melissa A. Thurston
283 Torrington Road • Litchfield, CT 06759
860-567-8708
www.thurstonrowefuneralhome.com

DOES YOUR NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION NEED A NEWSLETTER?
Engaging, ad-supported print and digital newsletters to reach your community.
Visit ipicomunities.com



IF YOU LIVE ALONE You Need
MDMedAlert!™
✓ Ambulance ✓ Police ✓ Family
✓ GPS & Fall Alert
As Low As **\$19⁹⁵** /mo.
CALL NOW! **800.808.9294**
md-medalert.com

MUNSON-LOVETERE FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION SERVICES, INC.
Woodbury & Southbury
203-263-2146
www.munsonloveterefuneralhome.com

Office: 860.350.3801 Cell: 203.241.9300
The Aiello Roofing Company
Christopher Aiello
OWNER
5 Bluestone Lane / New Milford, CT 06776
aielloroofingco@gmail.com / HIC 0641306

ACTION COMPUTER SERVICES LLC
Desktops, Laptops & Mac
Virus/Spyware Removal • Installation And Upgrades
Data Recovery-Remote Support
When it's urgent - Call Us!
(860) 957-7171
219 Kent Rd, New Milford
www.actioncomputerservices.com
Proudly supporting St Francis Xavier Church

CHIARELLA'S HEATING & A/C
Serving the Greater New Milford area for over 30 years.
Oil & AC maintenance & repairs Local, Honest & Professional
860-355-5989 860-799-5511
chiarellas.com Parishioner

MUNSON-LOVETERE FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION SERVICES, INC.
Woodbury & Southbury
203-263-2146
www.munsonloveterefuneralhome.com

Roxbury Systems
John Irwin
364 Southbury Rd., Roxbury, CT
Cell: 203-592-2634 • jirwin@snet.net
Small Business - Home Office Technology
Services: Upgrades, Maintenance, Networking, Publishing, Websites and Training

Images UNLIMITED
Screen Printing • Embroidery
Promotional Products
38 OLD STATE RD, NEW MILFORD, CT
860-350-6608
www.imagesultd.com

SHORT STAFFED?
Place an ad here to find new local talent for your business.
CALL 800-950-9952

SUPPORT OUR PARISH

ADT-Monitored Home Security
Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust
• Burglary • Fire Safety • Flood Detection • Carbon Monoxide
Authorized Provider **SafeStreets**
833-287-3502