

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH

The Nativity of the Lord

DECEMBER 25, 2023



Welcome to our Parish



Pastor
Rev. Michael Casey

Parochial Vicar
Rev. Eduar Gutierrez

Deacon
Alan Bielawski

**1010 Slater Rd.,
New Britain, CT 06053**

**Office Hours
Monday-Friday,
9:00 am - 4:30 pm**

**Tel: 860-224-2411
Fax: 860-224-6838**

**Email: parishoffice@stfranciscatholic.org
www.stfranciscatholic.org**

Online Giving

Visit www.stfranciscatholic.org, click Donate to launch the Parish Giving website where you can Give Now or create an account to set up recurring contributions. Thank you for your generosity!



Email Notification System

In the event of inclement weather, schedule changes or cancellations, this will be the primary way to notify our parishioners. To opt in, email your request with your full name and email address to: notification@stfranciscatholic.org. Please note: We do not send texts and cannot make phone calls.

Prayer Line

In need of Prayers? Please Call Mary M. at our Prayer Line between 2 pm and 4 pm 860-225-3890.

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil
4:00 pm at St. Jerome

Sunday
8:00 am at St. Francis
9:00 am at St. Joseph
10:00 am at St. Francis
11:30 am at St. Jerome

Daily Mass

8:00 am Monday – Saturday at St. Francis

Confessions

7:30-7:50 am Monday – Saturday at St. Francis
5:15 pm-5:45 pm Monday - Friday at St. Francis
3:30-3:50 pm Saturday at St. Jerome

Adoration

5:00 pm-6:00 pm Monday - Friday at St. Francis

St. John, St. Peter and St. Maurice
Churches are no longer used for regular Masses.

Our Parish Churches

St. Francis of Assisi Church

1755 Stanley St. New Britain, CT 06053

St. Jerome Church

1010 Slater Rd. New Britain, CT 06053

St. Joseph Church

195 South Main St. New Britain, CT 06051

St. Peter Church

98 Franklin Sq. New Britain, CT 06051

St. Maurice Church

100 Wightman Rd. New Britain, CT 06052

St. John the Evangelist Church

655 East St. New Britain, CT 06051

My Dear Friends in Christ,

Merry Christmas! What a joy it is to again celebrate this great day, when Jesus was born that first Christmas morning, truly God with us. That is who Jesus is, Emmanuel, which means *God is with us*. And this, in many ways, is the root reason for our Church's existence and for our work as a parish community. God is with us. In all things, he desired to share life with us, and he remains with us still as he told his apostles as he ascended into Heaven, "*And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age*" (Mt 28:20). God dwells with us here, in the city of New Britain. As Christians, we don't have a God who is distant, who keeps us at arm's length, or who cannot identify with our daily concerns. Our God is in the thick of it all with us. When we have moments of real joy and celebration, God is sharing this happiness with us. When we have those moments of sadness and even despair, God himself is with us, sharing those moments with us as well. He isn't far away, he is right there, whether we acknowledge him or not.

Oftentimes, our busyness of life can make it such that we don't take time to be attentive to God's presence with us. We get distracted by so many things in life that we may miss what is most important. Learning to spend just a few minutes each day being attentive to God's attention to us would be a very good resolution this Christmas Season and New Year. To help with this, our Parish has purchased a parishwide subscription to the app *Hallow*. *Hallow* is a Catholic app which helps people in a busy world to pause and tune into God during the day. There are many great resources on *Hallow* and I have already found it personally very helpful. When I find myself mindlessly scrolling on my phone in between activities, I can flip over to *Hallow* and use those moments to connect with God rather than just wasting time. Many people wish they knew how to pray just a little bit better. *Hallow* is not a magic solution but it is a resource that can help, a little jumpstart in our relationship with God, and we are delighted to be able to provide it free for our parish now until Easter Sunday.

This year has certainly been a big one for our parish. We have had so many wonderful ministries and activities, some highlights of which are featured in this Christmas Bulletin. There are so many blessings in our community as a parish family, and this Christmas season is a great time to thank God for them. Yet, we don't ever want to be comfortable just planting our flag and staying put. We always want to bring in more and more of our friends and family to meet Jesus here with us. We are anticipating several baptisms this Easter, including some from among our university students. We should never be content with where we are, but always trying to invite just one or two people more, even those farthest away from religion, to come and find Jesus with us. We have done this very well this past year and I look forward to seeing the fruits as we move forward in the years to come. Know of my prayers for you this Christmas season and please keep me in yours.

In Christ,
Fr. Casey





PARISH FESTIVALS



MUSIC MINISTRY



FOCUS & CCSU



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI
PARISH LIFE

Count & Collection

Due to early publishing deadlines for Christmas, the Count & Collections figures and Mass Attendance for December 17, 2023 will be published as soon as they become available. Thank you to all who support our parish.

In Loving Memory we pray for

Joseph Rapisarda

Joseph Sambitsky

and all the recently deceased

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord;
let your light shine upon them*



WOMEN'S CENTER

A local, trusted and confidential pregnancy resource center: 8 Concord Street, New Britain

Call for a free pregnancy test, ultrasound, parenting class, post abortive support, or the D.A.D Program: 860-344-9292

Office is open: Tuesday-Thursday, 10:00 am - 5:00 pm, Friday, 10:00 am - 3:00 pm
www.abcwomanscenter.org

Calendar Notes

Parish Office Closed:

Monday December 25th

Tuesday December 26th

Monday January 1st

Tuesday December 26

Mass will be at 9:00 am at St. Francis
There will be no adoration or confession

Monday January 1

The Feast of Mary, Mother of God
*It is NOT a Holy Day of Obligation
as it falls on a Monday*

Mass will be at 9:00 am at St. Francis
There will be no adoration or confession

Weekly Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 23

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

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

Sunday, December 24 Fourth Sunday of Advent

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

9:00 am: St. Joseph: Intention of the Celebrant

10:00 am: St. Francis: Intention of the Celebrant

11:30 am: St. Jerome: Intention of the Celebrant

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24 CHRISTMAS VIGIL

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

10:00 pm: St. Jerome: Intention of the Celebrant

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25 CHRISTMAS DAY

9:00 am: St. Joseph: Intention of the Celebrant

11:00 am: St. Francis: Intention of the Celebrant

All weekday Masses are at St. Francis

Tuesday, December 26

9:00 am: Intention of the Celebrant

Wednesday, December 27

8:00 am: +Leonard Couzzi

Thursday, December 28

8:00 am: +Kamil Filipowicz

Friday, December 29

8:00 am: St. Francis: Pro Populo

Saturday, December 30

8:00 am: St. Francis: +Josephine Santoro

4:00 pm Vigil: St. Jerome: +Gino, Giuseppe, Maria,
Eugenio Ricciardi & Salvatore Petrillo

Sunday, December 31

8:00 am: St. Francis: +Kamil Filipowicz

9:00 am: St. Joseph: +Thomas J. Luddy

10:00 am: St. Francis: Special Intention

11:30 am: St. Jerome: +Susie Perzan

**To Schedule a Mass Intention, please call
the Parish office at 860-224-2411**

Hallow



TO GET STARTED ON HALLOW

Scan the QR code here or start on the Registration Page:

hallow.com/holyday

Type in and select "St Francis of Assisi, New Britain CT"

Follow the instructions on the screen

Download the Hallow app from the app store

Log in with the same email address and password you used to create your account on the registration page

St. Francis Young Mothers Group

Join other faithful Catholic women in their 20's through early 40's, with children from the age of newborn through 6 for a decade of the rosary, good fellowship (and sometimes food)!

Meetings are Wednesday mornings from 9:30am - 11:30am in the St. Francis School Cafeteria. For more information contact Rebecca Noon at becca.dworak@gmail.com

BINGO

Sunday Afternoons
at **St. Joseph School**

195 South Main St.

New Britain

Doors open at 11:30am,

Games begin at 2:00pm



AA Meetings

Wednesdays at 7pm

St. Francis
Church basement

Fridays at 7pm

St. Joseph School
(Spanish speaking group)

Saturdays at 7pm

St. Jerome
Church Hall

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Email OCIA@stfranciscatholic.org for more information or to sign up

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