

ST. PHILIP THE APOSTLE CHURCH

64 Pompey Hollow Rd., Ashford, CT 06278



Father Michael Giannitelli, Pastor

Rectory Phone 860-477-0188

TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Main Office	860-429-2860
Parish FAX	860-429-2860
Deacon Chris Deskus (Cell)	860-490-1539
Ann Phillips	Secretary
Patricia LaBonte	Bookkeeper
Paula Vincent	Bulletin Editor

OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM
Closed Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and also Monday
Holidays.

PARISH EMAIL & Bulletin Announcements

stphilipstjude@gmail.com

PARISH WEBSITE

<https://saintphilipct.com>

NEW PARISHIONERS

We are delighted to welcome you and encourage you to register by filling out a registration form or emailing the office.

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday	4:30 p.m.
Sunday	9:00 a.m.
Sunday	11:00 a.m.

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

Tuesday	8:00 a.m.
Wednesday	8:00 a.m.
Thursday	8:00 a.m.
Friday	8:00 a.m.

CONFESSION: Saturdays 3:30-4:00 pm

SACRAMENTS

Please call the office for information on Baptism, Marriage, and Pastoral Visits.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Sundays in the Parish Center

St. Philip's is Handicap Accessible



October 1, 2023

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

† Mass Schedule and Intentions †

Readings on page 933 St. Augustine Hymnal

- Sat** Sep 30, 3:30-4:00 pm Confession
- Sat** Sep 30, 4:30 pm Mass
- † **Don McNamara** by *Jack Manning*
- Sun** Oct 1, 9:00 am Mass
- † **Debbie Wenger** by *Wesley & Paula Vincent*
- Sun** Oct 1, 11:00 am Mass
- † **Carl Piecyk** by *Anne Shea*
- Sun** Oct 1, 12:00 **Baptism Matilda Patrica Sheldon**
- Tues** Oct 3, 8:00 am Mass
- † **Liam P. Boyce** by *His Family*
- Wed** Oct 4, 8:00 am Mass: *St. Francis of Assisi*
- † **Susan Martin, Birthday Remembrance** by *Bob Martin*
- Thurs** Oct 5, 8:00 am Mass: *St. Faustina Kowalska, Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos*

The Sick of Our Parish

- Fri** Oct 6, 8:00 am Mass: *St. Bruno, Blessed Marie Rose Durocher*
- † **Russell Perkins** by *the Gauthier Family*

ADORATION following Mass; **Benediction 12:00 noon**

- Sat** Oct 7, 3:30-4:00 pm Confession
- Sat** Oct 7, 4:30 pm Mass
- † **Joseph Foran** by *David & Deren Dagon*
- † **Remembrance for Andrew Borysevich** by *His Family*
- Sun** Oct 8, 9:00 am Mass
- Sun** Oct 8, 11:00 am Mass
- † **Rose & Helen Yulo** by *Ralph Yulo*
- † **Carl Piecyk** by *St. Philip's Choir*

If you have a Mass Intention for a loved one, please bring up the gifts during that Mass.

If you need the **Eucharist** brought to you at Mass, please raise your hand after Communion, the Eucharistic Minister will bring it to you.

Coffee and Donuts in Parish Center after 9:00 am & before 11:00 am Sunday Mass!



THE PRAYER BASKET is for your special intentions to be placed on the altar during Mass.



Church open: Mon-Thurs, 9:30-2:30 & Fri Adoration.

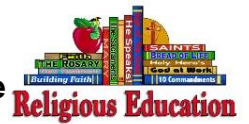
Church Office closed Monday, Oct 9, 2023: Columbus Day.

THE PARISH FLAGPOLE is available through the kindness of some of our parishioners. Any parishioner is invited to fly our flag in honor and memory of a deceased military family member or friend, for one month. To participate, please call Ann at 860-429-2860, during office hours. Thank you to all our veterans who have served, both living and deceased.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Fall is fast approaching! If you have children that will participate in the program, please register them now for the 2023/2024 academic year. We need an accurate count to help us prepare.



PRAYER LIST: For current requests please call 860-429-2860 or email stphilipstjude@gmail.com.

PRAYER LIST: Seth Beebe, John Bergeron, Jr., John Bergeron, Sr., Brian Berry, Megan Berry, Penny Boomer, Ed Borowski, Elizabeth Clifford, Tanner DeJesse, Tony DeMonte, Camille Delisle, Irene Dionne, Yvette & Maurice Dionne, Charles Dobrowolski, Alison Dodd, Helen Donnelly & Family, Kyle Ernst, Agnes Flynn, Barry G., Myles Gratton, Kathy Hills, P.J., Marie James, Joshua, Joyce H., Mikey Harakaly, Melinda King, Sam Kunselman, Patrice Lucas, Barry Madden, Matthew Madden, Noah Markowycz, Ray McCaughey, Jim Meighan, Jackie Mozzicato, Jesse Narwicziks, Bob Ogden, Laura P., M.P., Pauline Picard, Diane Piccoli, Emil Poirier, Heather Poulin, Jim Rook, Mike Schwartz, Skyler Sherman, Maureen Smith, Patrick Stenglein, Mason Studley, Mary Jane Tynan, Joseph Tyson, J.W., Greg & Jocelyne Wakefield, Terri Warren, Caroline Williams.



Fall Choir Rehearsals will begin on Sunday, October 8 at 6:30 P.M.

BOY SCOUTS meet Mon, Oct 2, 7 pm.

LADIES BIBLE STUDY meets on the 1st and 3rd Tues each month in the Parish Center **at 9:30am** Next meeting Oct 3rd. We will continue "**The Holy Spirit**" by Fr. Mitch Pacwa. Please join us.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS will meet Tues, Oct 3rd at 7pm in the Parish Center.

ST. PHILIP ADULT EDUCATION every Wednesday at 10 AM in the Parish Center. Led by Ed Conlan, our topic is the *Parables of Jesus*. Oct 4th ~ *The Sower and the growing seed*. All are welcome.



There will be a **Ladies Guild** meeting on Wednesday, October 4, 2023 in the parish center at 6:30 pm. All women are invited to participate in the event. We will be discussing the Annual Craft Fair and the Parish Picnic. Refreshments will be served.

Blessed Mother's Stitches: Tue, Oct 31, 10am. Please join us as we create Baptismal blankets and hats, scarves, and gloves for needy people.



Turkey Dinner on Sat, Nov 4, 2023 after the 4:30pm Mass in the Parish Center.

Tickets on sale starting Oct 14/15 after all Masses and office hours: M-Th, 9:30-2:30!



St. Philips will join over 20,600 other **ROSARY RALLIES** being held on **Saturday, October 14th at 12 noon.**

(Sponsored by America Needs

Fatima). Join us outside the church by the Mary statue (weather permitting) to pray the Rosary for our great country. We hope you can join us.

Safe Environments Abuse Prevention Training

In the Diocese of Norwich, all volunteers who have regular contact with minors, all employees, all clergy, and all religious are required to complete safe environments training. This training is monitored by the **Office for Safe Environments (OSE)**. In addition, this training is also available to any parishioner, regardless of whether or not they wish to volunteer at their parish or school. **It contains important information about keeping our children and youth safe.** The Diocese of Norwich offers an on-line program, *Praesidium*. For information call: **860-848-2237 x 212 or email ose@norwichdiocese.net.**

ATTENTION VENDORS!
CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2023



There are now **37** confirmed crafters for the Christmas Craft Fair. It's not too late to sign up for a table. Applications are available in the office, or they can be sent out via email. We are only accepting **40** vendor applications. Christmas Fair Raffle Baskets



It's that time of the year again! We are looking for our creative parishioners to make up raffle baskets for our Christmas Craft Fair on Saturday, November 25th.

Baskets are due in the Parish Hall **by Tuesday, November 7th**. Please drop-off baskets between 9:00 am and 2:30 pm. All baskets need to be wrapped with cellophane and label them with a title. Themes: Italian Dinner, Game Night, Fishing, Christmas Baking, Home Spa Day, and Dessert Delight, etc.



Our Women's retreat theme this year is **Only Say the Word**. During this women's retreat, January 26-28, 2024, we will explore where healing is

needed in us and in the world. For more info go to www.holyfamilyretreat.org/themed-retreats or contact Burtie: 617-939-4234 or Marsha: 860-429-4926.

Join us for the **CHILDREN'S ROSARY PRAYER GROUP** on the first Saturday




of every month at noon in our church. This prayer group is composed of children and led by children. The group is geared for those 3-15 years old, but all are welcome to join us in praying. Bring your Rosary or use those provided. No experience necessary! Our Lady wants our children and parishioners to know how to pray and experience the powerful strength and graces of the Rosary. The Rosary is a powerful prayer second only to the holy Mass. After we pray, children are invited for a snack and fellowship outside. The next meeting is **Oct 7th at noon**. Hope to see you there! "When one million children pray the Rosary, the world will change." -Saint Padre Pio



KofC Council 6934 Ashford will be collecting **used** coats for needy children and adults. We are resuming this collection since our council was moved back to the Putnam district which participates in used coats. We are also collecting used hats, gloves, sleeping bags and **new** socks. Collections start the weekend of Oct 7/8 after Masses in vestibule in container provided. Items may be dropped off at Parish Center Mon-Thurs, 9-2:30. Collection ends weekend of Nov 18/19. At present time distribution will be held at St. Johns Church, Plainfield on Friday Nov 24th. Thank you for participating in the Church Mission of Clothing the poor and needy. *Clay Wright, Council 6934*


HaitianHealthFoundation.org Missionary at St. Philip.

Each year the Church Propagation of the Faith assigns a different missionary to speak at every Catholic Church in the USA about their service to the poor in the world missions and to ask for financial support. Dr. Jeremiah J. Lowney, founding president of the Norwich-based Haitian Health Foundation (HHF), will speak at St. Philip the Apostle Church at the invitation of Fr. Michael, Dr. Lowney will speak at all **weekend Masses Oct 21 & 22**. Dr. Lowney and the Haitian Health Foundation have served the health needs of over 250,000 of Haiti's poorest, in the city of Jeremie and 105 rural villages in southwestern Haiti for the past 40 years. The poor of Haiti are struggling even more now, due to the horrific gang violence in the cities, leading to increased suffering and malnutrition for our poorest Brothers and Sisters. All donations given in the second collection are fully tax-deductible. HHF is proud to continue as one of Charity Navigator's top-rated charities for low overhead, financial accountability, and transparency. For more information, visit haitianhealthfoundation.org/



COLOR YOUR FALL WITH KINDNESS.


Give blood.




Blood Drive
St. Philip the Apostle Church
 Church Hall
 64 Pompey Hollow Road, Ashford

Thursday, October 19, 2023
1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: SPAC to schedule an appointment.



Fall into giving blood Oct 1 thru 20 get \$15 Amazon.com Gift Card by email. See rcblood.org/together



Download the Blood Donor App

1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | RedCrossBlood.org | Download the Blood Donor App

The American Red Cross continues to see a critically low blood supply. When supplies are low it can often take weeks for inventories to rebound. The Red Cross must collect 10,000 additional blood products each week over the next month for the blood supply to reach sufficient levels to meet hospital and patient needs. Every two seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood. When donors come to give blood Oct 1 - 20, they'll get a \$15 Amazon Gift Card by email.



40 DAYS FOR LIFE is Sept 27 – Nov 5, 2023, 6 am to 6 pm. Although St. Philip has not adopted a specific day, if you are able, please consider, in groups of 2 or

more, joining the peaceful walk/vigil outside of Planned Parenthood, 12 Case St., Norwich, CT. Please join-in by praying, fasting, and signing-up at www.40daysforlife.com/en/Norwich to participate in this peaceful prayer vigil for the end of abortion. Thank you.

The Mission Combined Collection will be held next weekend. Your contribution will aid the World Mission Appeal, U.S. Bishop's Appeal for Latin America, Black and Indian Missions, and the Catholic Home Mission Appeal. Please read the letter for the Mission Combined Collection by Bishop Cote included in this week's parish bulletin. Please bring your gift envelope to Mass next weekend, or if you are unable to attend Mass please mail or deliver the envelope to your parish office by the end of October. Your support is greatly appreciated.

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 51 East Main Street • Stafford Springs **860-684-2538**

ADVERTISE IN OUR BULLETIN

\$200 for six months for a small ad. (See above).
\$300 for a double-sized ad. Discount for an entire year is \$550 for a double ad. Funeral Homes will receive a triple-sized ad. Ads may be submitted each year in July and January to the Parish Office email: stphilipstjude@gmail.com. If you or someone you know would like to advertise and support the Church bulletin, please let us know.

Diocesan Pro-Life Mass at Cathedral of St. Patrick in Norwich on **Sat, Oct 7 at 8:30am**. Please join our celebrant **Rev. Walter Nagle** at Mass as we pray to end abortion and for healing for those who have had an abortion. Following the Mass, the Rachel Rosary will be prayed at the Cathedral. A brunch in the Cathedral Hall will follow the Rosary this month.

ALTAR SERVERS: Fr. Michael would like parents to consider having their daughter or son volunteer for the privilege of serving at the altar during Mass. If interested, please leave a message with the Canavan family at 860-429-4116.



Awakening: How is the Holy Spirit at work in your life? Join us for a 4-part Mission designed to help deepen your faith! Rediscover God's Unconditional Love, learn more about the Holy Spirit's Gifts, develop a deep and meaningful prayer life, experience the mercy of God through a deeper understanding of reconciliation. For two weeks, Tuesdays and Thursdays, October 3rd, 5th, 10th, and 12th at 7:00-8:30 pm, Our Lady of Sorrows, 14 Prospect St, Essex. Register online at manicholas@norwichdiocese.net or call Marianne at 860-848-2237, ext. 304. Sponsored by the Office of Faith Events.

A parishioner's question: I know it's good to say the Rosary, but why? Answer: Our Lady, being a good mother, gave us the gift of the Rosary to draw us closer to Jesus. Praying the Rosary is praying the Bible. By praying on the stories (mysteries) of the Bible, and meditating on them, our minds are filled with Godly thoughts. Our Lady knows that the greatest battle between good and evil often starts in our minds. By submerging our thoughts into the mysteries of the Rosary, Our Lady can "flood" our thoughts with graces to combat the evil that attempts to bombard our minds daily. In addition, saying the Rosary and meditating has scientifically proven health benefits! It lowers anxiety, regulates breathing, and increases calm to name a few. (Google "Reasons to pray the Rosary" for info.)

BURIED IN TREASURES

A supportive group for people who have too much stuff.



Do you have too much stuff?
Do you have trouble parting with things?
Do you avoid having friends and family over?
Does your stuff get in the way of your daily activities?
Can you safely move about your home?

Join this 8-week nonjudgmental, support group to learn tips on how to declutter and stop over acquiring.

Fridays from 10 am—12 pm
Starting October 27, 2023
Stafford Community Center
3 Buckley Highway, Stafford, CT

Call Stafford Family Services to sign up—860-684-4239

GRIEF
SUPPORT
GROUP



BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

WEDNESDAYS STARTING OCTOBER 4TH

**10:15AM - 11:45AM
ST. BERNARD PARISH CENTER
(ST. JOSEPH'S ROOM)**

Living through grief is not easy but it does not have to be done alone. Blessed Sacrament Parish will offer a 9 week support program called, "New Day", for those who have suffered the loss of a loved one. The goal of this program is to provide a sense of community where support is given and received.

The program is led by trained facilitators and includes prayer, discussion, and journaling. Although "New Day" is a faith-based program, it is not restricted to Catholics and all are welcome. In order to accommodate individual needs, the group size is limited to a minimum of 6 persons and a maximum of 9. It is recommended it has been at least 6 months since the death of your loved one before attending the sessions.

The next support group will run October 4th thru December 6th.

The deadline for registration is September 27th.

For further information or to register for the program, please call:

Deacon Ron @ (860) 872-0200 Ext 310 or
Carol Freedman @ (860) 268-0966

Please share your e-mail address with The Office of Faith Events of the Diocese of Norwich! Be the first to know about all the faith enriching programs, virtual and live, that we offer throughout the year. This will also enable you to receive our bi-weekly Hope and Faith Video series. Email Marianne at manicholas@norwichdiocese.net to be added to the list today!

A MEN'S VIRTUAL
FAITH, PRAYER, AND
DISCUSSION GROUP

BROTHERS IN CHRIST

EVERY SECOND
THURSDAY OF THE
MONTH, NEXT ONE
OCTOBER 12, 2023

THE MEN'S GROUP
IS A VIRTUAL EVENT
ON WEBEX FROM
7:00PM - 7:45PM

WITH DEACON DENNIS DOLAN AS SPEAKER



To Register email Liza Roach at
lroach@norwichdiocese.net or call
(860)848-2237 ex. 305

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YOU'RE INVITED!

Blessed Sacrament Parish in Cooperation with the
Diocese of Norwich presents

**ARRAY OF HOPE AWAKENING HEARTS
AN EVENING OF FAITH, HOPE AND LOVE
A MUSICAL MULTIMEDIA EXPERIENCE CONCERT**

October 14, 2023 at 7:00pm
The Garde Arts Center
325 State Street, New London, CT

Ticket Prices

Adults over 18: \$25 Youth ages 12-18: \$20

Children under 12: Free Admission

For Tickets:

Call: 866-444-7373 ext 1 or

Scan the QR code or

Go to: [https://gardearts.org/events/
array-of-hope/](https://gardearts.org/events/array-of-hope/)



The 13th Annual Seton Scholarship Dinner, celebrating Catholic education in the diocese honoring Sister Mary Cabrini S.C.M.C. – Sacred Heart School, Taftville, LTC (RET) Larry Fitzgerald – Sacred Heart School, Groton/ Saint John Paul II Catholic School, Middletown, and Jayne Anne Vitale – Xavier High School, Middletown, will take place on Sunday, November 5, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. for cocktail hour and 5:00 p.m. for dinner at the Riverhouse at Goodspeed Station 55 Bridge Road Haddam, CT. Tickets sales are well underway and are \$150/person and \$100 for Priests, Religious, Ministry Directors, & current Diocese of Norwich Catholic School Faculty & Staff. All proceeds benefit students attending our diocesan Catholic elementary schools. To purchase tickets, reserve a table, list a congratulatory ad for our honorees, donate a silent auction item or for sponsorship opportunities please contact Gina Foster at 860-886-1928 ext. 115, gfooster@norwichdiocese.net or visit: norwichdiocesedevelopment.org/Stewardship

HOPE

AFTER ABORTION

THE RACHEL ROSARY

Returning the third Tuesday of each month, come and pray the Project Rachel Rosary at St. Patrick's Cathedral, Norwich with the Office of Faith Events. The Project Rachel Rosary focuses on hope, healing, and forgiveness for those affected by abortion and for an end to abortion.

St. Patrick's Cathedral in Norwich
Tuesday, October 17th
3rd Tuesday of
Every Month
After the Noon Mass
Materials to pray with us
will be provided.

Join us for the Diocesan Virtual Book Club!
Streaming Thursday nights, October 19th, 26th,
November 2nd and 9th, 6:30-7:30 PM. We will be
discussing **Stolen Blessing**, by Jim Sano. Space is
limited, for details and to register Please contact
Marianne at manicholas@norwichdiocese.net or
860-848-2237 ext. 304.

2023 ACA update: As of Sept 9, 2023, St. Philip the Apostle Parish, Ashford has donated \$26,957.71 or 92.39% of its goal, and 26.26% of parishioners have donated. We are striving for as close to 100% participation as possible. THERE IS STILL TIME TO DONATE! Our campaign year ends December 31, 2023. With your donation, our ACA supported ministries do the work of Christ every day. If you have not made your contribution to the 2023 Annual Catholic Appeal, "One Faith, One Family", or would like to make an additional gift, donation envelopes are still available or you can contact the Development Office at (860) 886-1928 or go to www.norwichdiocesedevelopment.org.
Thank you to everyone for your support!

**ST. EDMUND'S RETREAT
ENDERS ISLAND, MYSTIC CT. 06355**

A Catholic Community offering welcome and hospitality to all. Come walk our grounds or join our upcoming programs.



A ROSARY MAKING WORKSHOP: BEAUTY WILL SAVE THE WORLD

Thursday, October 5 - Friday, October 6

Arasely Rios: Business Owner. Entrepreneur. Corporate Executive.

Program Price: Private Room – \$300. Commuter – \$200.

Join us for a creative, informative, prayerful and fun Rosary making workshop. Participants will learn how to make their very own Seraphym One Decade Rosary, whilst learning about the wonders and miracles of the Rosary through speaker and special guest testimonies.

WRITING GOD'S SUPERABUNDANT BEAUTY

Sunday, October 15 - Friday, October 20

Sarah Cortez: Founder and President of Catholic Literary Arts.

Program Price: Twin Double Shared – \$1,185.00. Twin Single – \$1,335.00. Commuter – \$860.00.

This retreat offers a unique opportunity to uncover a deeper sense of purpose and meaningfulness in your creative journey. Experience divine inspiration and creative exploration, guided by the talented author and editor, Sarah Cortez. Delve into the profound connection between prayerful silence and the art of expression through poetry, short essays, and short memoirs.

Sign up now at enders.is/programs or call 860.536.0565.

A NOTE ABOUT PARISH REGISTRATION

If you regularly worship with us, we invite you to register with St. Philip parish. This allows us to provide accurate census data to the diocese. Registration forms (green) are in the vestibule. Please return them to the office. Thank you.

ACTS RETREAT FOR MEN Sponsored by: Corpus Christi Parish. Held at: Immaculate Conception Retreat Ctr, Putnam CT, **Oct 5-8, 2023.** Catholic men present an ACTS retreat under guidance of clergy, to strengthen your faith and its application in your daily life, to renew yourself spiritually, and to build community through lasting friendships. The retreat begins Thurs, Oct 5th with a 5:30pm check-in at St. Joseph Church, Willimantic, CT. Participants will be transported to Immaculate Conception Retreat Ctr, Putnam for the remainder of the retreat. The retreat ends Sun, Oct 8th at 10:30am Mass at St. Mary's, Willimantic. A reception follows Mass in the church hall of St. Joseph's. Transportation will be provided. Cost for first time retreatants is \$199. If you are a return retreatant, it is \$289. A limited amount of "need-based" assistance is available. Our parish representative is Paul Godere 860-942-3980. Applications are available in the vestibule and at the end of our online bulletin.

**SECOND ANNUAL SAINT EDWARD CHURCH
STARLIGHT WINE & CHEESE SOCIAL**

SATURDAY OCTOBER 7, 2023, 6:00PM - 9:00PM

SAINT EDWARD CHURCH HALL

27 CHURCH STREET

STAFFORD SPRINGS, CT. 06076

DONATION \$30.00 PER PERSON

NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR

RSVP by OCTOBER 1, 2023

call 860-684-2705 or 860-306-9419



Help the **OFFICE OF FAITH EVENTS**

decorate two trees for the Wadsworth Athenaeum Festival of Trees 2023! Our two trees' themes will be "Warm and

Toasty Christmas" and "Mental Health Awareness".

Handmade hats and scarves of all sizes, shapes and colors needed – the brighter the better as well as ornaments that show Hope, Understanding, and Support and Donations of BRIGHT GREEN ribbon. Any contributions can be mailed or delivered to the Office of Faith Events, 199 Broadway, Norwich. Questions? Call 860-848-2237 ext. 203 or ext. 304.

If you would like to become a **Hospice Volunteer**, training is available through Hartford Healthcare at Home in September and October. Please visit <https://hartfordhealthcareathome.org/health-professionals/hospice-volunteer-training> for info.

WHEN PLANNING YOUR ESTATE: Please consider putting St. Philip in your will as a way to be remembered while supporting the ongoing needs of the parish.

From September to June the **Office of Faith Events: Hope and Faith video series** will ask the question, “What is your favorite part of mass and why?” If you would like to share your answer to this question in a short 2 minute video that would be shared with the whole diocese, please contact Marianne at 860-848-2237 x 304 or email: manicholas@norwichdiocese.net

We all know how important the ministries and programs of the **ACA** are, to provide spiritual, educational, physical, financial and emotional support to the people of our Diocese and Haiti. Unfortunately, less than 14% of us are making the commitment to donate and help do the work of Christ. Looking back at the last 5 years, an average of 21% of our parishioners donated! We know that together, we can do better! Our programs will be threatened without your help. We ask you to do what you can to bring us closer to our 2023 ACA goal. We are currently only months away from the end of the year and still close to \$500k shy of our goal. If you, who are members of the 86% who have not yet given, decide to contribute, we will be all set! You can make your gifts by calling Heather Harris, ACA Campaign Manager at 860-886-1928 ext. 111 or online at www.norwichdiocesedevelopment.org. Thank you very much for sharing your blessings.

YOUTH AND FAMILY EXPLOSION

The Family and Youth Explosion will take place on **December 3rd** from 1-4pm at Mercy High School in Middletown with speaker, song writer, and musician Jesse Manibusan. Jesse has that knack to build instant rapport, connect to his audience, and create life-giving memories that help deepen faith and cultivate the joy that inspires service, sacrifice and the celebration of life. He works with any and every age group, so everyone is invited to attend! Tickets will be \$5 per Person, \$25 for a family or \$4 per person for a youth group. For more info or to buy tickets go to: <https://youthexplosionct.weebly.com/> Questions? Email Liza lroach@norwichdiocese.net

Natural Family Planning is scientific, safe, and is 99 % effective for conceiving or responsibly postponing a baby. For information, call Craig and Liz Schantz at 860-464-1184. www.ccli.org.

Marriage Preparation Classes to Meet Virtually

The Catholic Family Services Office will be offering virtual or one-on-one marriage preparation classes for engaged couples. Couples getting married should contact Mary-Jo McLaughlin at the Catholic Family Services Office to establish class dates. She can be reached Mon – Wed at 860-848-2237, Ext 312 or email: mmclaughlin@norwichdiocese.net.

Four County Catholic Weekly Newsletter

Get the latest news and announcements from around the diocese emailed right to your inbox. Connecting area Catholics to church, faith and the common good with news, upcoming events and spiritual reflection, the new digital newsletter will keep you updated. Discover the good work being done in our two dozen ministries as well as learning about employment and volunteer opportunities. It's informative, it's weekly and it's free! Sign up today! Your email address is safe with us. <https://www.norwichdiocese.org/newsletter>.

DID YOU KNOW!?

Catholic Charities is a SNAP Outreach agency. We help with SNAP applications and redetermination of benefits in all four offices. For assistance, please contact a Catholic Charities office near you:
331 Main St., Norwich: 860-889-8346
28 Huntington St., New London: 860-443-5328
88 Jackson St., Willimantic: 860-423-7065
16 Stack St., Middletown: 860-346-0060
Spanish Speaking Case Workers available.

LIGHTHOUSE CATHOLIC CDs: We have lots of

CDs you can trust to provide correct Catholic teaching. Thank you for all your donations that help to keep the program going. Contact Donna Vertefeuille: 860-429-4508 or email donna@vertefeuille.org.



Caregiver resources and prayers are available through the Office of Faith Events. To receive **caregiver info** monthly, send your email address to manicholas@norwichdiocese.net and we will add you to the distribution list.



**July 17-21, 2024, Lucas Oil Stadium,
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA**

A Catholic Experience Unlike Any Other

Join your Catholic brothers and sisters at the 10th National Eucharistic Congress. For the first time in a generation, the Church will gather to ask Jesus to breathe his life into our dry bones and then send us back to our community to share his love. This historic 5-day gathering of missionary disciples will be a new Pentecost, a powerful anointing and personal commission to invite others to know Christ. Your life—and our Church—will never be the same. <https://www.eucharisticcongress.org/schedule>.

PARENTS DIVORCING AND/OR RESOLVING CHILD CUSTODY ISSUES Are you concerned about the effects of divorce, separation or family disruption on your children? **Catholic Charities offers ongoing, monthly one day Parenting Classes in Norwich, Rockville and Middletown. A monthly 2- part Spanish/bilingual parenting education class is held in Willimantic.**

Attendance at both sessions is required for the certificate of completion. Fees are determined by the State of CT. Call 1-860-889-8346 x 260 info.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter: 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time-"Be united in heart with one another." Philippians 2:1-2 "If there is any encouragement in Christ, any solace in love, any participation in the Spirit, any compassion and mercy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, with the same love, united in heart, thinking one thing." Ask the Lord to help your marriage be united in heart with one another. Check out a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience. You can find one by looking up WWME.org. Upcoming dates are:
Oct 16-Nov 6, 2023, Virtual 3RE (M/W evenings)
Oct 20-22, in Barre, VT(St. Monica/St. Michael)
Nov 10-12, in Huntington, NY (Immaculate Conception Seminary)

Worldwide Marriage Encounter sponsors a variety of in-person and virtual marriage experiences, some on weekends and some on seven weekdays. Couples explore their relationship with each other, God, and the Church. Registration is limited; there is a \$100 application fee. For more information or to apply, call Frank & Margie Pearson at 860-337-2447 or <https://wwmectw.org/>.

WHY DON'T OUR ADULT CHILDREN ATTEND MASS? REPLAY – Did you miss the virtual presentation of "Why Don't our Adult Children attend Mass?" with Deacon Dennis Dolan and Mary-Jo McLaughlin, Catholic Family Services Coordinator? Don't worry, you can watch it again at your leisure from the comfort of your home by adding the link <https://bit.ly/3SR2slk> into your browser. Join Deacon Dennis and Mary-Jo as they explore the topic of adult children who stopped going to Mass. Listen to parents who are burdened by this knowledge as they reflect on the presentation. The session covers why adult children have chosen not to attend, options that may help you encourage them to come back to church, and time for prayer and reflection.

YOU CAN HELP YOUR MARRIAGE – If your marriage has become troubled or stressed, unloving or uncaring, even if you are divorced or separated but want to try again, the Retrouvaille program can help. Retrouvaille is a program for married couples that feel bored, frustrated, or angry in their marriage. Some experience coldness and simply shut down. Others experience conflict and arguments in their relationship. Most don't know how to change the situation or even communicate with their spouse about it. This program has helped thousands of couples experiencing marital difficulty at all levels including disillusionment and deep misery. For info, call confidentially 1-800-470-2230, email 3002r@retrovaille.org or visit the national website at: <http://helpourmarriage.org>.

Pregnant? Need help? CATHOLIC CHARITIES Pregnancy and Adoption Programs provide concrete help & answers. Call 1-800- BABYDUE, even if you simply want to talk.

Please do not respond to any messages on the internet from Father Michael Giannitelli. He does not communicate via the internet. If you see anything that bears his name, it is fraudulent. Thank you.

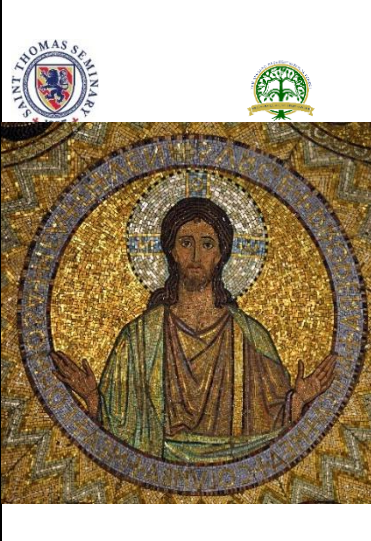


REMINDER: If you do not currently use our church envelopes and would like an end-of-the-year statement, please register in our parish and include your check or cash in an envelope with your name and address on it. We need this information for our software program. Thank you.

RACHEL'S VINEYARD RETREAT WEEKEND
If you are silently grieving or suffering from an abortion, experience the healing love of Jesus Christ on a **Rachel's Vineyard Retreat** which includes discussions, Living Scripture with meditations, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, a Memorial Service and Mass of Entrustment. Participation is confidential and offers an opportunity to experience God's love, forgiveness, and compassion, for both women and men. Call Marie at 203-631-9030 or e-mail her at mlaffin@prolifeministry.org; or visit the national website at www.rachelsvineyard.org. **"PROJECT RACHEL"** is our Diocesan ministry for anyone seeking healing and forgiveness from an abortion. Priests in the **Project Rachel** ministry are there for you with God's Grace and Mercy. Call 860-861-4439. All inquiries are confidential.

“Pay attention and come to me; listen, that you may have life.”

(Is 55:3 NABRE)



Each day we let either the world or God's Word shape our lives.

**Who is influencing your life?
Whose voice are you allowing to shape who you are?**

The New England Catholic Biblical School offers accredited two-year and four-year certificates in Biblical Studies for adult learners and is now enrolling *virtual* classes for the 2023-24 academic year. Find out more at www.CatholicEdAOHCT.org, or contact us: catholic.biblical.school@aohct.org



August 22, 2023

Dear Diocesan family,

As our summer is rapidly drawing to a close, I write this letter to invite you to an amazing celebration of faith, music, and witness. On October 14th, Blessed Sacrament Parish in cooperation with the Diocese of Norwich will present **Array of Hope**. The 2 ½ hour Contemporary Catholic Rock concert will begin at 7:00 pm at the beautiful Garde Arts Center in New London. We felt the concert would be a great way during this year of the Eucharistic Revival to inspire and excite our parish families. Either in Lent or Easter, we hope to continue our journey with a three-night mission given by the Franciscans of the Renewal. Each night will be centered on the Eucharist with music provided by some of the same artists we'll hear on October 14th.

To promote the evening, our bulletin editor has already sent information to all the diocesan parishes. In this mailing, please find two posters, and four flyers that you can use to display the event.

I'm excited that we can offer this evening for our entire Diocese. We are one family and especially during this year of the Revival, we need to do everything we can to light the fire of hope and faith and love in our parish communities. Thank you for promoting this event.

Sincerely,

Rev. Richard Ricard

SAINT BERNARD CHURCH
25 St. Bernard Terrace
Rockville, CT 06066
Phone: 860-875-0753 Fax: 860-871-7460

SAINT MATTHEW CHURCH
111 Tolland Green
Tolland, CT 06084
Phone: 860-872-0200 Fax: 860-875-4413

www.blessedsacramentct.org



COLOR YOUR FALL WITH KINDNESS.

Give blood.



Blood Drive **St. Philip the Apostle Church**

Church Hall
64 Pompey Hollow Road, Ashford

Thursday, October 19, 2023
1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: SPAC to schedule an appointment.



Fall into giving blood Oct 1 thru 20 get \$15 Amazon.com Gift Card by email. See rcblood.org/together



[27] Order ID: 158423 Item ID: 7207889 Qty: 1 of 1 • 50836 • 2023-10-19 08:11:45:33 • 23700

1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | RedCrossBlood.org | Download the Blood Donor App

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Fall Into Donating

When donors come to give blood Oct 1 thru 20, they'll get a \$15 Amazon.com Gift Card** by email.*



Our Lady of Fatima Pilgrim Statue &

First Class Relics of Saints Jacinta & Francisco



9 am

Confession begins

10 am

**Procession of the statue, relics,
and a presentation by the
Statue Custodian**

10:30 am

**Holy Mass, followed by
Eucharistic Adoration**

12:30 pm

Veneration of relics

2:00 pm

**Closing & Blessing of religious
articles**

**Rosaries made in Fatima will be
available for purchase.**

All are welcome to spend the whole or part of the day.

October 14, 2023

St. Sebastian Church

155 Washington Street

Middletown, CT. 06457

*Help the Office of Faith Events
decorate two trees for the
Wadsworth Athenaeum
Festival of Trees 2023!*

Our two trees' themes will be...



Warm and Toasty Christmas- handmade hats and scarves of all sizes, shapes and colors needed- the brighter the better!



Mental Health Awareness-

ornaments that show

Hope, Understanding, and Support!

Donations of BRIGHT GREEN ribbon needed!



We are also looking for a donation of a five- or six-foot tree, white or silver- if anyone has one to donate- we will come pick it up!

Please contact us at 860-848-2237 ext. 304 or 203

Thank you!

*Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened,
and I will give you rest. -Matthew 11:28*

Come join us for a
Healing Mass & Healing Service

2:00-3:00 pm

3:00-4:00 pm

2 PM the third Sunday of every month
with Fr. Ray Introvigne and Fr. Michael Philippino
Music by Joe D'Ambrose



All will be celebrated at the
Church of the Holy Family
185 Church St, Hebron

August 20
September 17
October 15
November 19
December 17

For more information contact Andrea Hoisl at faithevents@norwichdiocese.net
Or 860-848-2237 ext. 203



ACTS Retreat for Men

Sponsored by: **Corpus Christi Parish**
Held at: **Immaculate Conception Retreat Center, Putnam CT**
October 5-8, 2023

Catholic men present an ACTS weekend retreat under guidance of clergy. The goals of the retreat are to strengthen your faith and its application in your daily life, to renew yourself spiritually, and to build community through lasting friendships. The retreat begins Thursday evening, October 5th with a 5:30 pm check-in at St. Joseph Church, Willimantic, CT. Participants will then be transported to Immaculate Conception Retreat Center, Putnam, CT for the remainder of the retreat. The retreat will end Sunday, October 8th at the 10:30am Mass at St. Mary Church, Willimantic, CT. A reception will follow immediately after Mass in the church hall of St. Joseph's. Transportation to and from the retreat center will be provided.

The cost first time retreatants is **\$199**. If you are a return retreatant it is \$289. If you cannot pay in full at this time, a deposit of **\$100** made payable to **Corpus Christi Parish** and submitted with this form will reserve your place. In the memo section of your check, note "**Men's ACTS Retreat**". The remaining balance will be due at the Thursday evening check-in. If you have never attended an ACTS retreat and the cost of the retreat is a concern, please discuss with one of the directors below. Financial difficulties should not prevent anyone from attending. A limited amount of "need based" assistance is available.

Please submit your application by **September 25, 2023**. You will receive a letter within two weeks of the retreat describing the necessities you should bring. **Note: Men that have been on an ACTS retreat previously will be placed on a waiting list to give priority to first-time Retreatants.**

Michael McKeever, Retreat Director – (860-490-4524) michael.mckeever@sbcglobal.net
Kevin Arpin, Co-Director – (860-942-1388) klarp4@gmail.com
Karl Klein, Co-Director – (860-781-0293) karlklein1566@gmail.com

Please send your completed registration form and payment to:
Karl Klein, 22 Hickory Rd, Colchester, CT 06415 Attn: Men's ACTS Retreat

PLEASE DETACH AND RETURN THE BOTTOM PORTION TO THE ABOVE ADDRESS.

Please register me for the Men's ACTS Retreat: October 5-8, 2023

First Name _____ Last Name _____ Name for ID Badge _____ Birth Year _____

Street Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Email Address _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____ Cell Phone _____ Parish you attend _____

Please check if any specific needs: Dietary Medical Physical Financial Assistance

Please explain: _____

Tee-Shirt Size: _____

Emergency Contact:

(Must be provided) Name _____ Relationship _____

Address _____ Phone _____ eMail address _____

I have enclosed my deposit of \$100.00

I have enclosed full payment of \$199 or \$289

I understand that ACTS will collect all retreatants information for quality purposes and testimonials. I also understand that ACTS Missions may contact me after this ACTS Retreat to get feedback on my experience and see if I would like to participate and support future ACTS Retreats. I understand that ACTS will NOT release my personal information to outside agencies.

Initial here to **OPT-OUT** of ACTS follow up initiatives: _____

Retreatant Signature _____

Date _____

Blessed Sacrament Parish
in Cooperation with the
Diocese of Norwich

Presents

ARRAY ^{OF} HOPE

AWAKENING HEARTS

*An Evening of Faith,
Hope and Love*

A Musical Multimedia Experience

Date:

Saturday, October 14th 2023,
7:00pm

Location:

The Garde Arts Center
325 State Street
New London, CT

Ticket price

\$25 - adults over 18

\$20 - ages 12 - 18

Free Admission - children under 12

For Tickets call

860-444-7373 ext. 1

Ticket link:



For information call

860-872-0200 ext. 2



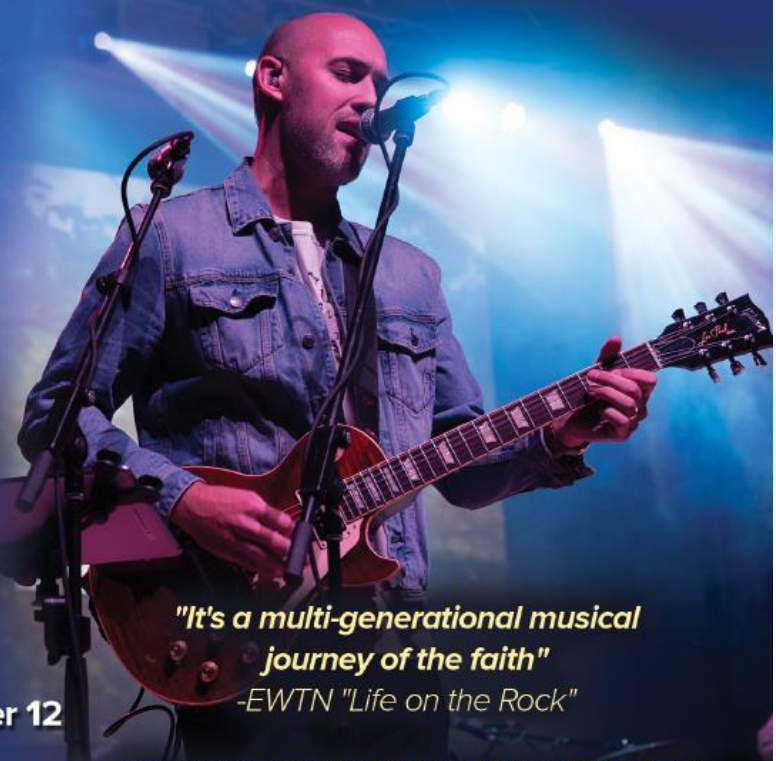
www.arrayofhope.org

*"It's a multi-generational musical
journey of the faith"*

-EWTN "Life on the Rock"

"They present the Gospel in technicolor"

-Relevant Radio, "Morning Air"



The Quiet Corner Chapter of the Disabled American Vets



Are you a Veteran who has combat or service related disability and need assistance with filing for Veterans Administration Benefits? Are you interested in learning more? We are looking for you.

Contact:

Rocky Daigle 860 – 918-0532

Barry Bernier 860 – 830-5443

The Disabled American Veterans are dedicated to a single purpose: empowering Veterans to lead high quality lives with respect and dignity. We accomplish this by making sure Veterans and their families can access the full range of benefits available to them; fighting for the interest of America's injured heroes on Capitol Hill and educating the public about the great sacrifices and needs of Veterans returning to civilian life.



Office of Faith Events

Diocese of Norwich

Enriching the Faith of Youth, Young Adults, Adults, and Families.

Please LIKE us on [Facebook](#)

www.facebook.com/Office-of-Faith-Events-Diocese-of-Norwich

**Get up to date info on fun,
faith-filled events!**