



# SAINT LOUIS DE MONTFORT PARISH

January 4, 2026



### Weekend Masses

Vigil at Our Lady of Grace Church – 4:00pm  
Sunday at St. Anthony Church – 8:00am  
Sunday at St. Thomas Church – 9:15am  
Sunday at St. Anthony Church – 11:00am

### Daily Masses

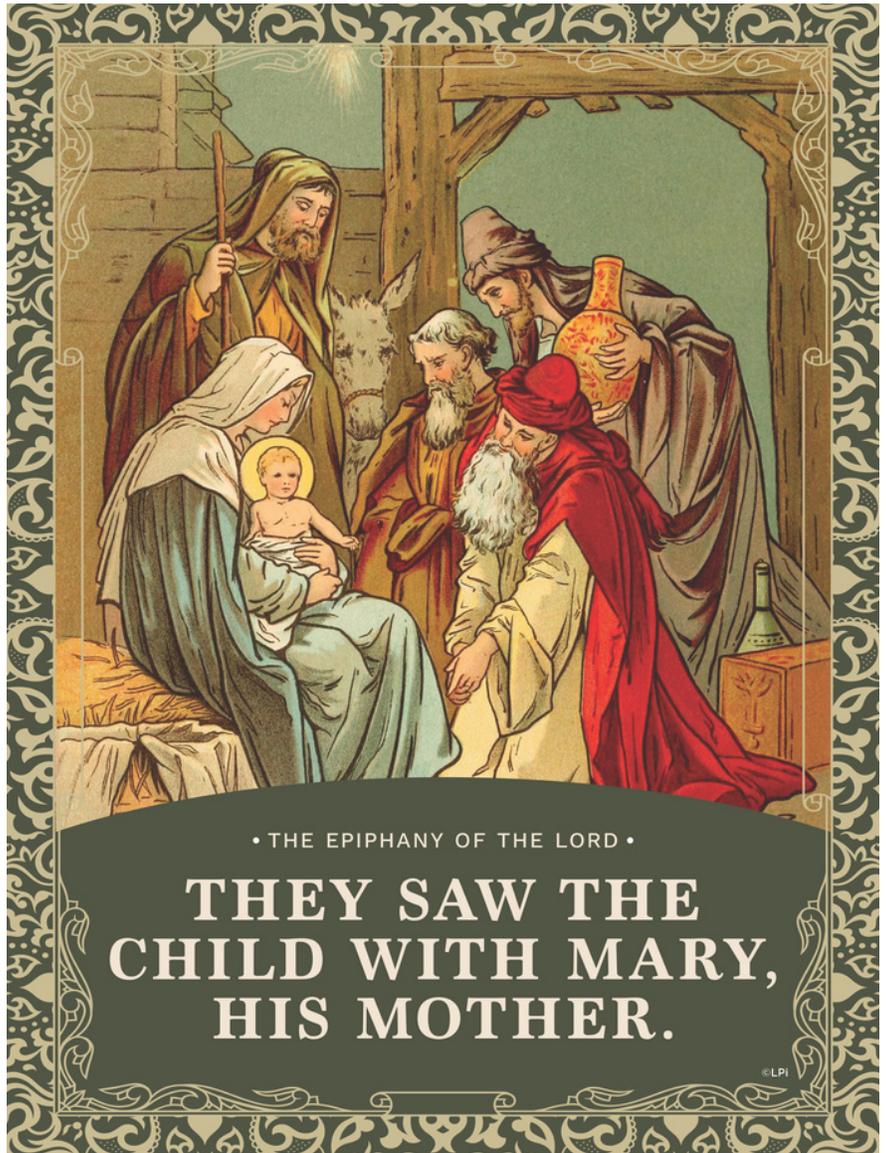
Monday – Friday at  
St. Anthony Church – 8:00am

### Confession

Saturdays at Our Lady of Grace Church –  
3:00 - 3:45pm

### Adoration

Mondays at St. Anthony Church –  
7:00 - 8:00pm – with the  
Sacrament of Confession



### **PARISH STAFF AND MINISTRIES:**

P.O. Box 97, Litchfield, CT 06759  
860-567-5209 [office@stlouisdemontfortparish.org](mailto:office@stlouisdemontfortparish.org)  
The Main Office is located at 49 South Street, Litchfield  
Monday - Thursday 9am-1pm, Friday 9am-12pm  
[litchfieldhillscatholic.org](http://litchfieldhillscatholic.org)

**Administrator:** Rev. Matt Collins

**Pastor's Assistant:** Aidan Stewart

**Pastoral Associate:** Anthony Belske

**Business Manager:** Cate Corwin

**Coordinator of Parish Cemeteries:** Bob Zavagnin

**Property Manager STV:** Doug Corwin

**STV Altar Guild:** Dolores Marshall

**SAP Altar Guild:** Anna Wilson

### **PARISH CAMPUSES**



#### **ST ANTHONY OF PADUA CHURCH**

49 South Street, Litchfield, CT 06759



#### **ST THOMAS OF VILLANOVA CHURCH**

71 North Street, Goshen, CT 06756



#### **OUR LADY OF GRACE CHURCH**

715 Bantam Road, Bantam, CT 06750

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## The Epiphany of the Lord - January 4th, 2026

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Pope Leo's Prayer Intention For December:  
*For prayer with the Word of God*

Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.

LDM = St Louis de Montfort Parish; SAP = St Anthony of Padua Church;  
STV = St Thomas of Villanova Church; OLG = Our Lady of Grace Church

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 3, 2026

OLG 4:00 PM + *Eugene Leo O'Brien III* ~ By Geri &  
Frank Dunne

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 4, 2026

SAP 8:00 AM + *Dick Dauphinais* ~ By Family  
STV 9:15 AM + *Robert Skinner* ~ By Knights of Columbus  
Council #13128

SAP 11:00 AM + *Cecilia Prytko*

### MONDAY, JANUARY 5, 2025

SAP 8:00 AM + *Sherrri Loomis Waldron*

### TUESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2026

SAP 8:00 AM + *Freda Ahl*

### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2026

SAP 8:00 AM + *Howard Hax* ~ By the Ron Hax Family

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 2026

SAP 8:00 AM ~ Living and deceased of our Parish

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 9, 2026

SAP 8:00 AM ~ Intentions of the Celebrant

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 10, 2026

OLG 4:00 PM + *Anne Ascolese* ~ By Her Sisters

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 11, 2026

SAP 8:00 AM + *MaryJane Wilkins* ~ By Nancy Flanagan  
STV 9:15 AM + *Francine Walter* ~ By Pierre &  
Frances Lachance

SAP 11:00 AM + Living and deceased of St. Louis de  
Montfort Parish



*Collections: THIS Weekend's will be the Parish Weekly and Monthly. NEXT Weekend's will be the Parish Weekly.*

**Saint Louis de Montfort Parish  
December 28th**

*Due to early bulletin submission the collection numbers for this week will be published in the following bulletins. Thank you for understanding.*

*Thank you for Your Continued Generosity to  
Saint Louis de Montfort Parish.*

**Online Giving IS HERE...**



Saint Louis de Montfort Parish's Online Giving tool for contributions. Go to our Parish Online Giving website at [www.osvhub.com/stlouisdemontfortparish/giving/funds](http://www.osvhub.com/stlouisdemontfortparish/giving/funds)

### Sacraments At Our Parish

**Sacrament of Baptism:** Call the office for more information.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Every Saturday at Our Lady of Grace Church (3:00--3:45pm); during Adoration on Mondays 7:00--8:00pm at St. Anthony's Church

**Sacrament of Matrimony:** Please call the office at least six months in advance before making any other arrangements.

**Anointing of the Sick:** Please call the office.

**Religious Education:** Sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Communion, and Confirmation: Please call Cate Corwin.

**Adult Sacraments:** Any adult wishing to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, First Communions, and/or Confirmation are welcome to join the OCIA and Adult Confirmation process. Please call the office for more information.

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*Please add the following people to your prayers*

- ♥ Marie Sanford ♥ Lois Buchanan ♥ Gordon Hills
  - ♥ Fiona Riley ♥ John Pelchat ♥ Eileen Proveaux
  - ♥ Bob Grosclaude ♥ Liz Carter ♥ Ed Perry
  - ♥ Mary Corbo ♥ Tracey Bassos ♥ Stephen Foster
  - ♥ Lacey G & Elliott ♥ Brior Stack-Sweeney
  - ♥ Chris Dole ♥ Bernard Harrington ♥ Fr. Josh Wilbur
-



**ST. ANTHONY'S COUNCIL 56**  
**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**  
*Grand Knight Michael Barrachina*  
*mbarrachina59@gmail.com*



**ST. THOMAS' COUNCIL 13128**  
**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**  
*Grand Knight David Poirier*  
 860-248-9489  
*poitiersax@aol.com*

**Call or email for more information or to join!**

Call for Artist & Sculptors  
 2026 Montfort Sculpture Exhibition  
 Contemplation <> Reflection

Lourdes in Litchfield is sponsoring an outdoor sculpture exhibition, encouraging Silent Contemplation and reflection as a practice to pray and connect with God. The exhibition will run from the Opening Reception,

May 16, 2026 to November 30, 2026

Collaborating sponsors are:

Northwest CT Arts Council

Connecticut Society of Sculptors

New England Foundation for the Arts

New England Sculptors Association

Applications can be completed online now or before

January 18, 2026:

[www.shrinect.org/sculpture](http://www.shrinect.org/sculpture)



## 2025-26 How We Worship

**January 4th - Starting at the 9am Mass**  
 at St Thomas of Villanova Church, Goshen

**Family Session #4 Sacraments . . .**  
**the Eucharist & the Mass**



*Come and Grow your faith with us...*

**to register: email [stlouisdemontfortparish@gmail.com](mailto:stlouisdemontfortparish@gmail.com) or call 860-491-2756**

The St. Louis de Montfort Ladies' Guild and Knights of Columbus Council #13128 will be sponsoring a diaper drive throughout the month of January to support Two Hearts Pregnancy Care Center. Please drop off diapers of any size at the entrance to the church before any Mass in January. The Knights will deliver the diapers during the final week of the month.

Thank you!

David Poirier, Grand Knight - Council #13128



### Saints Corner

St. John Neumann | January 5

St. John Neumann is the patron saint of educators, immigrants, and sick children, was the first male saint to be canonized from the USA. He was born in Bohemia and immigrated to the United States in 1836. At the age of 25, after being turned away because of the number of Priests in Europe, he was ordained in New York a month after he came. He worked as a missionary in New York for a few years before joining the Redemptorists- a congregation known for helping the poor and most abandoned. At the age of 41, Neumann was named the 4<sup>th</sup> Bishop of Philadelphia. During his time as Bishop he expanded Catholic education in his region from 2 schools to 100 & ministered in 6 different languages! He was a man of the people. He was canonized a Saint on June 9, 1977. St. John Neumann was the first American man to be canonized a saint.



Photo Credit Matthew Meise

**PAUL WINTER**

**IN CONCERT**

**"THIS GLORIOUS EARTH"**

ACCOMPANIED BY HENRIQUE EISENMANN

JANUARY 25, 2026 3:00 P.M.

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**Christmas Flower Offerings  
For the Living and Deceased:**



Alice L. DosSantos, Anna & Louis Guglietti, Anne & Sigmund Herman,  
Barbara & Donna Anderson, Barbara Vallely, Bazzarini & Tiuns  
Families, Betty Locke, Birdsall Family, Bob Kaminiski,  
Borrelli/Duquette Family, Brian & Him Falkwen, Camille Radocchio,  
Carisio Family, Caterina Santopietro, Catherine & Ed MacLeod,  
Catherine Cremasro, Catherine Fabbri, Charlie Hague, Clone Fenning,  
Corkey Sauer, Dave McKeand, Day Family,  
DeDominicis Family, Deceased Members of Pilch & Fenn Families,  
Dennis Browir Sr., Departed of the Reising, Blowers, Eglington, &  
DeMichael Families, Dick Gallagher, Donald H. Sage, Doug Parker  
Ed & Martha White, Edith Thibault & Family, Edward D. Zeiner  
Edward J. Zeiner, Edward Perry Sr., Eileen & Conrad Baur,  
Elba Magdon, Emil Gianni, Erin McGuigan Parker, Eugene Grania  
Eugene Kelly, Father John D'Alonges, Father Robert Shec,  
Fran & Anthony Chester, France Giacin, Gualin Family, George & Mary  
Walla, Giorgi Family, Guglielmo Family, Helen Keefe, Helen Sage,  
Helene Stewart, Henry J. & Angeline Carisio, Jackie & Dick Cacifield  
James & Lucille Reynolds, James Lombardi, James Stewart,  
Janice Grelle, Jean Poetz, Joan Slick, John & Dorothy Walla  
John & Millie Wright, John & Sally Slick, John Bacon, John Barrett,  
John Brennan Jr., John Kelly, John Roy, Joseph & Helen Kelly,  
Joseph C. LaRosa, Joseph F. Keefe, Joseph G. & Mary Barra  
Joseph Vallely, Joseph Willicas, Juau Zeiner, Kathy Martin,  
Kearcher Family, Lombardi Family, Loomis Family,  
Loved Ones in the Diskavich Family, Lucille Barra,  
Margaret Vaiskausas, Marie & Anthony Casadei, Marlene Beyam  
Mary & Ben Cardillo, Mary & Louis Brennan, Mary Beloski,  
Mary Demirs, Mary Mullens, Maureen Sullivan  
Mazzarelli & Conti Family, Monicas, Mr. & Mrs. Iannuzzi  
Mr. & Mrs. M. Del Chario, Mr. R. Ciccarelli Sr.  
Nicholas & Gertrude D'Alonges, Patricia J. Hayes  
Pat & Mary Evangelisti, Pat Dignacco, Pat Gallagher, Patchell Family  
Paul & Joan Collins, Paul & Norma Deneault, Paul & Susan Horvay  
Paul Casadei & Family, Porter Family, Renato Guglietti Sr.  
Rendino Family, Reynolds & Gill Family, Roberta Messina,  
Ruth & Ken Kurczal, Ruth B Dennison  
Ruth, Ellen, Fred, Howard, & Stewart Schmiedal, Samuel Mazzarelli  
Santopietro Family, Simpson Family, Stephan Krilyno  
The Bialoglowy Family, The Pitonak Family,  
The Marshall, Pulica, King, Bonetti & Rebecchi Families  
The Robinson Family, The Walla, Farrell, & Kelly Families  
Thomas & Ben March, Thomas Dignacco, Thomas O'Hare  
Tom & Eileen Donaldson, Victor & Jenny Betz, Vilma Hague,  
Walter M. Horvey, Walter and Frances Barrett, Wendy Livanayage  
William Raffone, Zachary Barra, Zavaghun Family, Beaupre Family,  
De Maria Family, Katherine Giampetruzzi, Carmen Giampetruzzi,  
Hazel Affenito, James Affenito, William and Robert Giampetruzzi,  
The Curulla & Petronis Families, Tish Sampanero, Sean Quigg,  
Claudette St. Pierre, Caron & Owens Families, Kevin Irvin

**Thank you for your generosity!**

**GROWING**   
WITH THE *Gospel*  
CYCLE A



**COLOR**

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



Epiphany of the Lord • Matthew 2:1-12



**GOSPEL**

It may be hard to find the star in the east, but God will always show you how to find him. Bow before the altar of God and give the baby Jesus three presents of your own. For gold, share your goodness with others. For frankincense, send your prayers up to God for yourself, your family, and your friends. For myrrh, follow God's words like a sweet perfume.



**PRAYER**

Lord, I offer you my words, my actions, and my thoughts.



# Branches on the Vine

JANUARY 3 - 9, 2026



Father Jeffrey Gubbiotti holds the General Store in his Christmas village, one of many three-dimensional puzzles he made for the display at the St. Mary rectory in Derby.  
PHOTO BY JOE PISANI

## PRIEST KEEPS CHRISTMAS SPIRIT ALIVE WITH NOSTALGIC TRIBUTES

When Father Jeffrey Gubbiotti was in high school, five friends came over for pizza two days before Christmas, and while they were hanging out, someone mentioned caroling. That night, young Jeffrey, who had never seen carolers, began a lifelong tradition when the six friends went out singing Christmas carols in the Oakville neighborhood of Watertown.

He continued doing it every year through college, seminary and his priesthood, and now as pastor of Our Lady Queen of the Apostles Parish in Derby, he recently hosted the "Christmas Caroling Party" at St. Mary rectory followed by an open house. "From six of us in high school to as many as 70 in later years, I've tried to keep up the tradition," he says. "The week before Christmas, we have an Advent prayer service, trivia games and caroling in the neighborhood, and later everyone is invited to the rectory to see the decorations." It's a holy and nostalgic time for Father Gubbiotti, who cherishes reminders of past Christmases with his parents and sister — including the nativity set his mother Cindy made in ceramics class, still displayed although the camel's head had to be repaired. Then, there was the merry-go-round carousel he got when he was 8 years old.

"Over the years, you collect things that hold memories and evoke people you knew and events in your life," he says. "I still have family ornaments from when I was young, and I put them on the tree now."

For the priest, the season is also filled with religious symbolism.

"To me, the Christmas tree symbolizes Christ, the source of life," Father Gubbiotti says. "He's the vine and we are the branches, and when you put lights on the tree, it's a reminder he's the light of the world. The ornaments represent me and my family members. Hanging them is a way of uniting my life and those I love to Christ's life. It's a prayerful thing."

There's also another tree he displays that has special meaning. It's a tree he bought for \$3 15 years ago, which he decorates with New York Yankee ornaments. At the top is a star he got for 50 cents that blinks blue and white — the team's colors. Sometimes, he says, friends surreptitiously hang Boston Red Sox ornaments on it when he's not looking.

Among decorations in the rectory are figurines he acquired on pilgrimages, including a carved St. Nicholas when he attended the famous German Passion Play

in the village of Oberammergau; a nativity from Assisi, where St. Francis created the first live nativity in 1223; a crèche from Mexico, where he studied Spanish early in his priesthood, and a Three Kings plate from Puerto Rico.

"They are things that have special meaning and remind me of people and trips I've made," he says. "They also remind me to pray for them."

Most important of all, Father Gubbiotti says traditions like these are a way to spiritually prepare us for the birth of the Christ child. Throughout Advent, the parish had a full calendar of events, including a session for ornament-making, a tree lighting at St. Mary-St. Michael School in Derby, an evening of lessons and carols, a Christmas cookie sale by Ladies Guild, and a crèche reenactment on Christmas Eve.

"The things that we all do to get ready for Christmas can be overwhelming and a source of stress," Father Gubbiotti says, "but they can also be a source of prayer and an encounter with Christ if we invite Jesus be a part of them — whether it's decorating, baking cookies or writing Christmas cards."

-Story by Joe Pisani



# Upcoming Events



## Archdiocese of Hartford

### Wedding Anniversary Mass

The Archdiocese of Hartford is celebrating its' annual Wedding Anniversary Mass in conjunction with the observance of **National Marriage Week** (February 7 – 14, 2026) an international event seeking to strengthen marriages in communities and influence the current culture.

*National Marriage Week* is an opportunity for the Catholic Church to focus on and celebrate the vocation to marriage and family life. It is an opportunity for the Catholic faithful to renew and deepen the lived experience of the Sacrament of Marriage – and bear witness to God's call to love.

On **Saturday, February 7, 2026**, The Most Reverend Christopher J. Coyne, Archbishop of Hartford, will be honoring couples celebrating milestone marriage anniversaries: first and five-year increments from 5 to 60 years, and every year beyond 60 years during 2025 – 2026. *The Marriage Anniversary Mass* will be at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph in Hartford at 4:00 p.m. **Registration closes January 21.** (Snow date if necessary - February 28)



ARCHDIOCESE of HARTFORD  
Office of Faith Formation and Parish Life

Scan the QR code to register:



A Retreat for College Students

## Navigating the New Year

Mercy by the Sea Retreat Center, Madison, CT

January 10-12, 2026

Saturday 4:00 PM – Monday 10:00 AM

FOR MORE INFO OR TO REGISTER VISIT:

### MERCYBYTHESEA.ORG

a retreat to ground yourself for the year ahead

## Pilgrims of Hope

Men's Retreat  
January 16-18, 2026  
Holy Family Retreat Team



We invite you to join us this year at Holy Family as we celebrate our 75th Anniversary of retreat ministry. Together, as part of God's beloved creation, we can find that blessed goal, life with God as beloved companions and pilgrims of hope. Each of our themed retreats begins with a buffet dinner from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. on Friday evening and concludes Sunday with the celebration of Mass at 10:45 a.m. followed by a hot brunch at noon. Families of retreatants are most welcome to attend the Sunday Mass and brunch at no extra charge.

Offering: \$375; more if you can, less if you can't.  
Visit [www.holyfamilyretreat.org](http://www.holyfamilyretreat.org) to register or learn more

Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center, 303 Tunxis Road, West Hartford, CT

**THE PASTOR'S CORNER**

My brothers and sisters in Christ, Happy New Year! A few days ago we marked the beginning of the Year of Our Lord 2026, and what is even more invigorating is that during this entire year we celebrate the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the United State's Independence. It is important for us to remember that our nation was established not so much to be free from taxes, but even more so for freedom of religion. Today, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Epiphany. Although we commemorate when the Magi visited our Lord in the manger, along side Mary and Joseph, and presented him their gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh, this feast celebrates something even more meaningful: the revelation of Jesus Christ to the entire world. The word 'Epiphany' means 'manifestation'. It is on this Solemnity that gives us 'Gentiles' an opportunity to witness the reflection of God on earth. St Peter Chrysologus once said, "Today the Magi gaze in deep wonder at what they see: heaven on earth, earth in heaven, man in God, God in man, one whom the whole universe cannot contain now enclosed in a tiny body." The Magi become the world's representatives to view the 'reflection of God and heaven' on earth. They gaze in wonder, and when they depart become one of the first proto-disciples in evangelizing the Word made flesh on earth. Like the Magi, we all have the opportunity to see the manifestation and reflection of God through the Eucharist. As St. Carlo Acutis once said, "When we face the sun we get a tan...but when we stand before Jesus in the Eucharist we become saints." The Eucharist 'radiates' the rays of Christ so that we can be transformed into being His disciples to 'reflect' His rays of light in this world.

-Fr. Matt



  
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