



# SAINT LOUIS DE MONTFORT PARISH

December 25, 2025

## 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

### 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

The Main Office is located at 49 South Street, Litchfield

Monday - Thursday 9am-1pm, Friday 9am-12pm

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

### THE PASTOR'S CORNER

My brothers and sisters in Christ, today we rejoice for "A holy day has dawned upon us. Come, you nations, and adore the Lord. For today a great light has come upon the earth." What makes this day holy one may ask? The fact that God in his radiant light has penetrated the darkness that covers the earth to live among us. This 'light,' however small it may have been back in the time of our Lord's Nativity in the brightness of one star, we experience the magnificence of its radiant glory here and now as we celebrate and rejoice with the birth of our Savior!

For all of us, we are "people who walked in darkness"- the 'darkness' of our own challenges and obstacles due to the destructive power of sin. Whether they may be obstacles with family or friends, work or school, financial, physical or spiritual, emotional or psychological; maybe it is because we have experienced the loss of a loved one, or another heartbreaking tragedy in our own life; or maybe there have been moments where we have just wanted to 'give up.' No matter what it is, we are 'a people who HAVE WALKED in darkness,' and now we "have seen a great light... For a child is born to us, a son is given us." The darkness we have experienced in our lives is in the past, and although remnants of it still come in the form of a shadow, nevertheless, we must realize that in the present- here and now- we can experience, as Zechariah says in his prayer of praise after John the Baptist was born, "the dawn from on high shall break upon us, to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace."

The Savior of the world, Jesus, Emmanuel- "God with us", is the light that "dawns from on high," and He is the light that gives us Hope. As Pope St. Leo the Great said, "Today our Savior is born; let us rejoice. Sadness should have no place on the birthday of life. The fear of death has been swallowed up; life brings us joy with the promise of eternal happiness." Let us not be sad, let us not live in the darkness, but allow for the radiance of Christ's light to overcome us to give us the hope, joy, and peace of Christmas.

Over these past few weeks during the season of Advent, we have been reflecting upon "Be still," and one of the most cherished moments a Priest professor in Seminary invited us to do every year on Christmas night is to "be still" in front of the Nativity scene at night. Not too many lights on, but just enough to "be still" in the presence of the Nativity allowing for the Christ-child to touch our hearts and give us the warmth of the fire of His love. This is what I invite you all to do. "Be still" in the presence of the nativity scene, and allow for Christ's light to disperse the darkness, so that when dawn appears, you may see the radiance of the glory of the newborn King!

I would like to take this time, personally, to thank all of you. Over the past 6 months since I arrived here, I honestly say that I did not know what to expect. Being a Parochial Administrator of a Parish for the first time is exciting but comes with its moments. I have learned so much in the little time I have been here. I have made errors and mistakes, tried and failed, disappointed and discouraged people; but know this, that it is because of my love for Jesus Christ and my love for all of you, and the love of Christ that I see in all of you, I know I can succeed. For it is because of Msgr. Tucker, Fr. Cooney, Fr. Don and Fr. Bill, the staff, volunteers, and the entire Parish and social community- consisting of Bantam, Goshen, and Litchfield- I know that God is working through us and with us to be the "best bridge builders to Christ" we can be, ultimately leading us to the Kingdom of Heaven. Thank you to all of you, and please be assured of my prayers for you and your families this Christmas Season and the New Year.

In Christ, Fr. Matt

### Mass Schedule for January 1st, Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God:

6:00 PM Vigil Mass - OLG

8:00 AM Mass - SAP ~ 9:30 AM Mass - STV