



SAINT LOUIS DE MONTFORT PARISH

August 2, 2026



PARISH STAFF AND MINISTRIES

Pastor: Rev. Matt Collins

Pastor's Assistant: Aidan Stewart

Pastoral Associate: Anthony Belske

Religious Education Director: Emma Belske

Finance Operations Director: Cate Corwin

Cemetery Director: Bob Zavagnin

Parish Property Manager: Doug Corwin

PARISH OFFICE

49 South Street, P.O. Box 97, Litchfield, CT

Monday - Thursday 9am-1pm,

Friday 9am-12pm

(860) 567-5209

office@stlouisdemontfortparish.org

litchfieldhillscatholic.org

TAKING THE FIVE LOAVES AND THE TWO FISH, AND
LOOKING UP TO HEAVEN, HE SAID THE BLESSING, BROKE
THE LOAVES, AND GAVE THEM TO THE DISCIPLES, WHO
IN TURN GAVE THEM TO THE CROWDS. [MATTHEW 14:19]



EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saint Anthony of Padua Church

49 South Street, Litchfield, CT 06759



Sunday Mass: 8:00am & 11:00am

Daily Mass: Monday - Friday 8:00am

Adoration & Confession:

Mondays from 7:00pm-8:00pm

Saint Thomas of Villanova Church

71 North Street, Goshen, CT 06756



Sunday Mass: 9:15am

Our Lady of Grace Church

715 Bantam Road, Bantam, CT 06750



Vigil Mass: Saturday 4:00pm

Rosary: 3:30pm before Mass

Sacrament of Confession:

Saturdays 3:00pm - 3:45pm



EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – AUGUST 2ND, 2026

Welcome to Saint Louis de Montfort Parish in the towns of Litchfield, Goshen, and Bantam. Here at St. Louis de Montfort Parish, we are a welcoming community rooted in Christ, dedicated to deepening our faith, serving others with compassion, and nurturing spiritual growth. We strive to be a light of Faith, Hope and Love in our parish and beyond by “**Building Bridges to Christ!**”



MASS INTENTIONS



SATURDAY, AUGUST 1, 2026

OLG 4:00 PM + *PJ Zguzenski* ~ By the Zguzenski Family

SUNDAY, AUGUST 2, 2026

SAP 8:00 AM ~ Living & Deceased of the Parish

STV 9:15 AM + *The Horvay and Carisio Families*

~ By Henrietta Horvay

SAP 11:00 AM + *Gordon & Joan Hayward*

~ By Kenneth Hayward

MONDAY, AUGUST 3, 2026

SAP 8:00 AM + *Gordon & Joan Hayward*

~ By Kenneth Hayward

TUESDAY, AUGUST 4, 2026

SAP 8:00 AM + *Marie Condon Lewis* ~ By Ruth Keefe

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5, 2026

SAP 8:00 AM + *The McKenna Family*

~ By the Harlow Family

THURSDAY, AUGUST 6, 2026

SAP 8:00 AM + Living & Deceased of the White & Duran Families ~ By Mr. and Mrs. James White

FRIDAY, AUGUST 7, 2026

SAP 8:00 AM ~ A Special Intention

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8, 2026

OLG 4:00 PM + *Victoria, Peter, Kathy, Petie*

& *Tom Kabelka* ~ By the Kabelka Family

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9, 2026

SAP 8:00 AM + *Christine Longo*

~ By Jeanette and Wendy Albano

STV 9:15 AM ~ Living & Deceased members of the Pease Family

SAP 11:00 AM ~ Living & Deceased of the Parish

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 contact the Parish Office.

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.



Collections: *THIS Weekend* is the Parish Weekly and the Parish Monthly Collections. *NEXT Weekend* will be the Parish Weekly Collection.

Saint Louis de Montfort Parish

July 25th & 26th

Our Weekly Collection Goal: \$6,500

WEEKLY + ONLINE : \$ 5,459.25

SEMINARIAN COLLECTION : \$ 937.00

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

Parish Website



Online Giving



Request a Mass



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

· · · PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS · · ·

THE GARY-THE OLIVIA PLAYERS
AT THE ABBEY OF REGINA LAUDIS
PRESENT

BABETTE'S FEAST

Conceived and Developed by ABIGAIL KILLEEN
Written by ROSE COURTNEY
Adapted From the Short Story by ISAK DINESEN

JULY 31 - AUG 9, 2026

FRI & SAT 7:30 PM • SUN 2 PM

Directed by JEN GLEASON



ADMISSION IS FREE. RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED.

abbeyofreginalaudis.org/visit-theater.html

call 959-988-6068, or email garyliviathheater@gmail.com



The Gary-The Olivia Theater is located at 249 Flanders Road, Bethlehem

PRODUCED BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH
THE DRAMATIC PUBLISHING COMPANY, INC., OF WOODSTOCK, ILLINOIS.

Open Mass Intentions for August 2026 (as of 7/29)

8/10 - SAP 8:00 AM

8/11 - SAP 8:00 AM

8/12 - SAP 8:00 AM

8/13 - SAP 8:00 AM

8/15 - SAP 9:00 AM

8/17 - SAP 8:00 AM

8/18 - SAP 8:00 AM



8/19 - SAP 8:00 AM

8/20 - SAP 8:00 AM

8/21 - SAP 8:00 AM

8/23 - SAP 8:00 AM

8/24 - SAP 8:00 AM

8/25 - SAP 8:00 AM

8/26 - SAP 8:00 AM

8/27 - SAP 8:00 AM

PARISH NEWSLETTER & DIGITAL BULLETINS

Parishioners are encouraged to sign up for an all-digital newsletter to stay up-to-date and informed with parish events and initiatives, as well as updates and news from the Archdiocese. Sign up is available by using the QR



Code or by filling out a name & email on the form at the entrances of the churches.

Parishioners will also be able to receive email bulletins as well. Please contact the office for more information or regarding any questions.

On Sunday August 16th, the Ladies Guild is having a special Mass and prayers for the health and intentions of Fr. Josh Wilbur at the 9:15 Mass at St. Thomas of Villanova Church. They will be leading the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary before Mass at 8:45. All are invited to participate in praying. Rosaries and guide pamphlets will be available in the back of the church to join in praying for Fr. Josh. Those who are unable to attend are kindly asked to pray the Rosary that Sunday in union with the intention for the healing for Fr. Josh.

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY, PRAY FOR US!

Save The Date! October 20-22 @ Sight & Sound Theater in Lancaster, PA. Only 50 tickets available! Call the Parish office for inquiries or to sign up.



3 Day Trip & Tour of Lancaster

Tour includes:

Meals - two breakfasts with a traditional Amish dinner & a smorgasbord dinner

1 ticket to Sight & Sound Theater

Visit to the Kitchen Kettle Village

The Barnyard Art Studio's "Chalk Talk"

Wilbur Chocolate Factory Tour

Approximate cost per person - \$405

More information to come!



ATTENTION PARENTS:

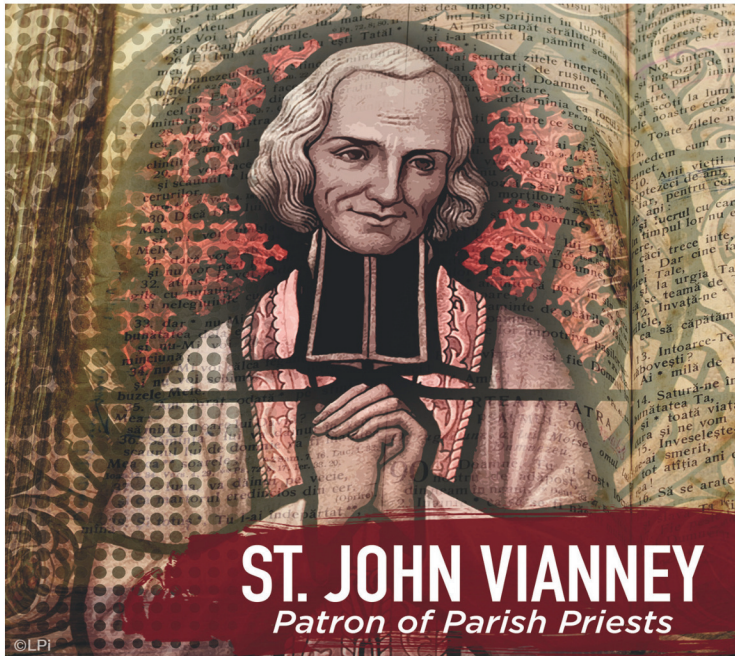
There is a meeting regarding the new Confirmation and Faith Formation processes for 2026-2027 school year on August 19th at 6:30pm at Saint Anthony's. All parents and students are encouraged to attend. Light refreshments will be served.



... FAITH IN ACTION ...



Stay connected with our parish throughout the week with instant notifications and updates by downloading our **Parish App**, available for iPhone and Android smartphones. Enjoy a bunch of additional features like prayers, daily readings, helpful reminders for Mass, Confession guides, and much more! To learn more or to download our app today, visit myparishapp.com or scan our QR Code.



ST. JOHN VIANNEY
Patron of Parish Priests

Torrington Area Parkinson's Support Group Hosts

A Walk In The Woods for Parkinson's
Sunday Sept. 20, 2026
at White Memorial Conservation Center

Register at
torringtonparkinsonssupportgroup.com



Save the date for this year's
Franciscan Golf Classic!
August 10, 2026
Stanley Golf Course, New Britain. Scan the QR Code to register today!



WANDA HOUSTON & HER BAND

PLATINUM - \$5,000
8 TICKETS, PERSONAL TABLE FOR 8 GUESTS.
BANNER & YARD SIGN
LOGO & ADVERTISEMENT IN PROGRAM
8 MEALS
6 BOTTLES OF WINE

GOLD - \$2,500
6 TICKETS, TABLE FOR 6 GUESTS.
YARD SIGN & LOGO IN PROGRAM
6 MEALS
3 BOTTLES OF WINE

SILVER - \$1,000
4 TICKETS
LOGO OR MENTION IN PROGRAM
4 MEALS
2 BOTTLES OF WINE

BRONZE - \$500
2 TICKETS
LOGO OR MENTION IN PROGRAM
2 MEALS
1 BOTTLE OF WINE

SPONSOR - \$250
2 TICKETS
MENTION IN PROGRAM

LIVE AT THE GROTTO

DATE **08 08**
6PM
GATES OPEN 4:30PM
LOCATION
50 MONTFORT RD LITCHFIELD, CT 06750

Adult Confirmation and OCIA Classes:
Please contact the office. More information to come.



.. PRAYER CORNER ..

Pope Leo XIV's Prayer Intention For August:

For evangelization in the city.

Let us pray that in large cities often marked by anonymity and loneliness we find new ways to proclaim the Gospel, discovering creative paths to build community.

Please add the following people to your prayers:

- ♥ Marie Sanford ♥ Lois Buchanan ♥ Stephen Hayes
- ♥ Susan Shepard ♥ Betty Perry ♥ Karen Jennings
- ♥ Fiona Riley ♥ John Pelchat ♥ Eileen Proveaux
- ♥ Bob Grosclaude ♥ Liz Carter ♥ Makenna Mattesi
- ♥ Mary Corbo ♥ Tracey Bassos ♥ Stephen Foster
- ♥ Lacey G & Elliott ♥ Brior Stack-Sweeney
- ♥ Bernard Harrington ♥ Fr. Josh Wilbur ♥ Ed Perry



COUNCIL 56
Knights of Columbus®

Business Meetings:
Second Thursdays of the Month
in the St. Anthony Church Hall



COUNCIL 13128
Knights of Columbus®

Business Meetings:
First Tuesdays of the Month
in the St. Thomas Church Hall

Contact the parish office for more information or to join!

· · · THE PASTOR'S CORNER · · ·

My brothers and sisters, over these past few weeks, we have been reading from the Gospel of Matthew about various parables that Jesus uses to describe the Kingdom of Heaven. He is speaking both to the crowds and His disciples. When he speaks, though, giving realistic metaphorical parables- typically actions, events, or opportunities the people would be able to relate to- He not only instructs and gives hope, but also empowers and commissions His disciples in the work they are called to do- namely, to work with their own hands to build the Kingdom of Heaven.

Since arriving here last year and coining the phrase after Pope Leo XIV for our Parish, "Building Bridges to Christ", and also being installed as the Pastor of the Parish, I feel as if we are moving in that direction. It is not easy, being a Spiritual father and shepherd to all of you. I look at the vocation of a father in a household, and compared to them, its similar work; and all I can say is that I am grateful to have many fathers in the Parish that provide an example for me by teaching me how to feed and lead your families, God willing, across the bridge into the Kingdom.

As the response in the Responsorial Psalm says, "The hand of the Lord feeds us; he answers all our needs." We have bene reflecting upon "My hands and God's Hands" in relation to the work I am called and commissioned to do by our Lord, and that is to work with my hands to build up the Kingdom, as he does to His disciples. The main ministry where both the Spiritual and the physical meet happens, most especially, in the Sacrifice of the Mass. This is where we hear the Word of God and it becoming a reality on the Altar. It is in the celebration of Mass, where the Priest, like Jesus in our Gospel, has a heart that is "moved with pity for the [the crowd]." It's the heart that helps to bring what is temporal to that which is eternal. It is the heart that compels the Spiritual to be united to the physical. In a sense, it is the heart that drives me, and my brother Priests, to carry out our ministry in service to you. As St. John Vianney once said, "The Priesthood is the love of the heart of Jesus." I became a Priest because I love Jesus; and as a Priest, empowered by His love, I am able to pour it all out on you so you too may experience His love through me as His instrument.

Jesus heals the sick and feeds the crowd because He loves them. He works with His hands because He loves them. He does everything with His hands, and not just commands with them, because He loves them. It is the same thing for us. He loves us, and uses His hands every day, through the Priest, to provide for you. As St. Paul says in his letter to the Romans, "For I am convinced that neither death, nor life... nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." The Love God has for us is revealed through the person of Jesus Christ- who is the bridge between Heaven and earth, the one who united the Spiritual and the physical compelled by His love for the world. If He chose to come into the world because He loves us, again not the temporal or worldly view of love, but true authentic and eternal love, then why cannot we do so in return. If the people during the time of the Old Testament forsook their own love for God for the world, even though God continued to love them, then why don't we, who live in the time of the New Testament, reverse that and reciprocate that love. Our reciprocation is us "Building the Bridge to Christ" and continuing the work of Christ by uniting the physical to the Spiritual. Pray my friends, that my hands may be hands of love- the Love of Christ- in order for my to help build the bridge, to help build the Kingdom, in order for you all to experience the joy of being fed and satisfied.

-Fr. Matt

Apocatastasis Institute's

Restauratio Center

Presents

Our Fourth Annual Assumption Pilgrimage

FOR MORE INFO

www.RestauratioCenter.wordpress.com

NOTES Volunteers needed to drive

* Do not park in the lot of the Bantam church; if you must park near the start point, park at the IGA and walk over

DATE Saturday, August 15th, 2026,

8:30am-3pm

ITINERARY

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| 8/8:30am | Meet in the Lourdes Shrine parking lot to be ferried to the start point at Our Lady Of Grace in Bantam*, |
| 9:00 | Terce and depart, |
| 9:15-11:30 | Walk to the Shrine (mostly on the Litchfield Greenway and side street), |
| 11:30 | Holy Mass, |
| 12:30pm | Lunch, gift store, |
| 1:30 | Rosary, Stations Of The Cross, |
| 3:00 | Depart. |



Branches on the Vine

NEWS FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF HARTFORD

AUGUST 1 - 7, 2026

Archdiocesan Employee Venerates Mortal Remains of *St. Francis of Assisi*

- Story by Shelley Wolf

Fulfilling a dream, an employee of the Archdiocese of Hartford got the rare opportunity to get a little closer to St. Francis of Assisi.

Meriline Sarkar participated in a rare exposition of the body of St. Francis, whose mortal remains were made visible for veneration for only one month (Feb. 22 to March 22) in Assisi, Italy, to commemorate the 800th anniversary of his death.

"I thought, 'I cannot miss this opportunity,'" says Sarkar, an administrative assistant for the Archdiocese of Hartford's Metropolitan Tribunal, who saw the event advertised online in the fall of 2025.

St. Francis of Assisi's relics have been viewed by the public only once in 800 years. The recent viewing attracted 370,000 pilgrims, who had to register online for their visit.

"St. Francis of Assisi is just so inspiring," says Sarkar, who admires the saint for his humility and Gospel-inspired way of living. "I wanted to see him. I felt a pull. I couldn't stop myself, even though I didn't have the money for the trip."

In the interim, she landed a new job with paid vacation time, which made the pilgrimage possible. "It's like God lined it up," she says with gratitude. Sarkar, now a U.S. citizen, traveled to Rome alone, then joined five priests from her homeland of Bangladesh for the final leg to Assisi.

The Basilica of St. Francis, which houses the saint's remains, was built in Assisi in the saint's honor in 1230. Now a papal basilica, the care of the saint's remains are overseen by the Order of Friars Minor Conventual (Franciscan Conventuals).



Meriline Sarkar stands in front of the Basilica of St. Francis, the site of St. Francis of Assisi's tomb, built in 1230 in Assisi, Italy. SUBMITTED PHOTO

Waiting outside to get in, she says, "I waited anxiously praying. Then we were led inside by a monk and shown the church."

The pilgrims were led to a glass container, where St. Francis' bones were laid. "I touched the case and started crying," Sarkar says, as she prayed to the saint. "It was overwhelming. He has always been my favorite, with his humble story."



Pilgrims pray over the exposition of the body of St. Francis of Assisi in the Basilica earlier this year. SUBMITTED PHOTO

Sarkar also saw the famous San Damiano crucifix, from which St. Francis heard a voice commanding him to "repair my house." "I saw the cross he used to kneel before and pray to. That cross is still hanging," she reports.

Sarkar enjoyed the small town of Assisi. "It's so beautiful. It's a Medieval town and still has cobblestone streets. You need great endurance to walk up and down," she says.

While in Assisi, she also prayed at the tombs of St. Clare, one of the first followers of St. Francis, and St. Carlo Acutis, the first millennial saint.

Then there was the site of St. Francis' father's house, which is topped by a church. "There's a statue of his parents holding a piece of garment," she says, referring to the garments St. Francis rejected, along with his father's worldly textile trade, for a life devoted to Christ and lived in poverty, humility and fraternity.

St. Francis, a lover of peace, the poor, and the natural world, founded the Franciscan orders and later received the stigmata of Christ.

Though his remains are no longer on view, visitors are still welcome to visit the Basilica of St. Francis and to pray at his tomb. For more information, visit sanfrancescovive.org/en/home.

2026 ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

Scan the QR code to learn how you can make a lasting impact!

10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%

Total Goal: \$10M 95.93% as of 7/20/26

\$9,592,507.09 in pledges from 26,454 generous donors

*This figure does not include bequests given to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal



WE ARE ONE

www.archdioceseofhartford.org/appeal





JUNE 4 - AUGUST 27 @ 6 - 8PM
**SUMMER ALPHA YOUNG
 ADULT GROUP**
 St. Margaret Mary Church,
 Rectory Basement, South Windsor

Welcome to all people ages 18 to 39 years old.
 Join us for food, friendship, faith, and fun, every Thursday throughout
 the summer! Every week we share pizza, watch faith-based videos, and
 participate in small group discussions. If you have any questions, text
 860-816-6149. Our welcoming group would love to have you join us!



AUGUST 13 - 16
UNIQUE BOUTIQUE TAG SALE
 St. Teresa Of Calcutta Parish,
 St. Bridget Church, Manchester

Come join and explore at the St. Bridget Church Tag Sale!
 On Thursday, August 13th from 5pm - 8pm admission fee is \$10.00.
 Thursday admission includes wine and cheese while you shop.
 Admission Friday, August 14th from 4pm - 8pm is \$1.
 Admission on Saturday, August 15th from 9am - 4pm is free.
 Admission on Sunday, August 16th from 9am - 11am is free.

Items for sale include furniture, books, jewelry, collectibles, toys, hard-
 ware, artwork, household items, linens, glassware, sporting goods,
 holiday items, crafts, stationery, gardening supplies, luggage, pocket-
 books and much more!



AUGUST 6 - 8 @ 5PM - 10PM
**HOLY ROSARY'S ANNUAL
 ITALIAN FESTIVAL**
 Our Lady of the Valley Parish,
 Holy Rosary Church, Ansonia

Our Annual Italian Festival offers wonderful Italian food, featuring our
 handmade meatballs, lasagna, pasta e fagioli, porchetta, fried cala-
 mari, fried dough and more! Don't forget to grab some Italian pastries
 for dessert! Enjoy live music, dancing, raffles, and fun for the kids.
 Bring your family and friends and your appetite!



AUGUST 7 @ 6PM
**HEALING MASS WITH ANOINTING
 OF THE SICK**
 St. John Paul the Great Parish, St. Peter
 Church, Torrington

In these challenging times, many of us carry burdens... be it physical
 ailments like cancer and kidney disease, emotional struggles like
 depression, anxiety, PTSD and grief, or spiritual battles. YOU'RE NOT
 ALONE. Reconnect, find solace, and embrace the healing powers of our
 divine physician, Jesus Christ. The evening begins with the Divine Mercy
 Chaplet followed by the Mass. Let's come together, share our stories, and
 experience the transformative power of faith.



AUGUST 10 @ 8:30AM
**30TH ANNUAL FRANCISCAN GOLF
 CLASSIC**
 Stanley Golf Course, New Britain

Come play golf at our annual Franciscan Golf Classic benefiting the
 Franciscan Life Center and Franciscan Home Care and Hospice Care,
 Monday, August 10, 2026. Bring a foursome, be a sponsor, be a dinner
 guest at the beautiful Stanly Golf Course in New Britain, CT. There are
 great opportunities to win prizes. The cost per player is \$195.00. To
 learn more visit franciscanlifecenter.square.site or call 203-237-8084.



AUGUST 15 @ 2PM \$25
**ST. JUSTIN - ST. MICHAEL MULTICULTURAL
 JAZZ & GOSPEL FESTIVAL**
 St. Justin - St. Michael Parish Lawn, Hartford

Join us for the 6th Annual St. Justin - St. Michael Jazz & Gospel Concert
 celebrating diversity through music, food, and fellowship in a welcoming
 atmosphere. Delicious food included in the ticket price and amazing
 door prizes. Tickets cost \$25 per person; kids under 12 are FREE. Don't
 miss out on this joyous community event! Prepare for a day of incredible
 music and good vibes. Call the Parish Center Office 860-246-6897 for
 tickets and information.



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