

NOTRE DAME OF EASTON

655 MOREHOUSE ROAD - EASTON, CONNECTICUT 06612

The angel
said to her,
"Do not be
afraid, Mary;
for you have
found favor
with God."

-LUKE 1:30



MARCH 22, 2026
Fifth Sunday of Lent

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Christopher J. Ford, *Pastor*
FrFord@diobpt.org

Dr. Gerald F. Sabol, *Deacon*

Richard Scinto, *Deacon*

RECTORY OFFICE

640 Morehouse Road

Phone: 203-268-5838 Fax: 203-459-4940

Email: office@ndeaston.org

Office hours: Monday - Thursday, 9:00 am - 3:30 pm
The Rectory Office is closed on Friday.

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 5:00 pm (*Vigil Mass*)

Sunday: 8:00 am & 11:00 am

Monday through Thursday: 7:30 am

No Mass on Friday

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 4:00 - 4:45 pm

Sikna Tito, *Office Manager*
Stito@ndeaston.org

Robert Gilmore, *Director of Music*

FAITH FORMATION

Laura Danner, *Director of Catechesis
and Evangelization*
faithformation@ndeaston.org

Rebeca Fucci, *Safe Environments Coordinator*
SafeEnvironments@ndeaston.org

PARISH INFORMATION

Lay Members of the
Parish Corporation
Charles E. Welch
Carl Zuanelli

Finance Council
Chair: Jonathan Webster, CFA
Secretary: John Palascak

Parish Council
Chair: Jeanine Pagliaro
Secretary: Mary Welch

First Friday Communion Calls
or Anointing of the Sick
Please call the Rectory office.

Pre-Baptismal Classes
Please call the Rectory office to
schedule a class.

Baptisms
Please call the Rectory office to
arrange Baptisms.

Weddings
Please call the Rectory office at
least one year in advance to
arrange a wedding.

Hospital Visits
Please notify the Rectory office
concerning family members
who are hospitalized.

Parish Registration
Please call the Rectory office to
register.



Handicapped
Accessible
Elevator

Parish Website: www.notredameofeaston.com Find us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/notredameparisheaston

THE
ANNUNCIATION
OF THE LORD

Mass Intentions

MARCH 20 THROUGH MARCH 29, 2026

- Sat. 5:00pm Lucilia Martins Henriques**
r/b Bernadette, Jerry, & Kelly Coughlin
- Sun. 8:00am Richard Naylor**
r/b the Family
- 11:00am June Sokolich**
r/b Jeanine & Frank Pagliaro
- Mon. 7:30am Parishioners, living and deceased**
- Tues. 7:30am Carmine & Fannie Donofrio**
r/b Debra, Gary, & Erica Meno
- Wed. 7:30am Joseph Packer**
r/b the family
- Thurs. 7:30am Kevin Visokay**
r/b the Visokay Family
- Fri. 6:00pm Stations of the Cross**
- Sat. 5:00pm Daniel Coelho**
r/b Maria Coelho
- Sun. 8:00am James Allgeier**
r/b Charles & mary Welch
- 11:00am Michael Trongone III**
r/b Patricia & Jeff Trongone

Please Pray for our Parish

FAMILY AND ALL IN NEED

May our prayers bring peace, healing, and hope to those we remember here:

- Alice Martinich
- Pat Perrotta
- George Adams
- Vincent Esposito
- Ava Link
- Corrine Marsicano
- Douglas Fedorko
- Susan Williams
- Leah Ambrose
- Christopher Vitale
- Sal DiNardo
- Siobhan Smith
- Caryl Besescheck
- Michael DiJulio
- Mary Majcherek
- Walter Gefford
- Henry Barreiss
- Michael J. Weiss
- Ariana Engler
- Gail Stanger
- John Adriani
- Barbara Steneck

To help keep our list current, please contact the parish office with any additions or removals at Office@ndeaston.org.

Update Your Parish Information:

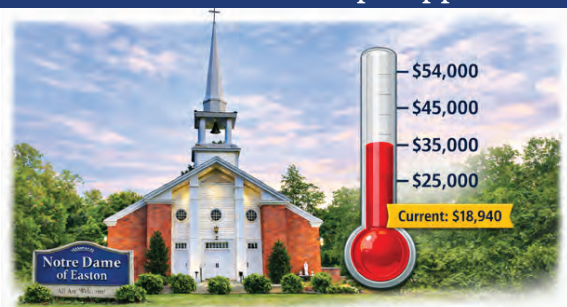
Have you recently moved, changed your phone number, email, or family information? Please take a moment to update your parish registration so we can stay connected by emailing the parish office or scanning the QR Code.



Weekly Collection for: MARCH 14 & MARCH 15, 2026

Saturday	5:00 pm	882.00
Sunday	8:00 am	2,224.00
	11:00 am	1,859.00
Online Giving		2,081.00
Other Offertory		115.00
Total Collection		\$7,161.00
Catholic Relief C&E Europe		\$ 805.00

ONE in Christ - 2026 Bishops Appeal



Help Us Reach Our Goal!

Thank you to everyone who has already responded with such generosity and faith-filled support. Any pledges received above our parish goal before June 30 will be returned directly to our parish to support our ministries and parish life.

Fifth Sunday of Lent - Sunday Reading

First Reading: Ezekiel 37:12-14

This reading is a loving promise that the Lord will put His spirit into his people and will let them live.

Second Reading: Romans 8:8-11

Paul reminds the Romans that they are not people of the flesh but people of the Spirit because the Spirit of God dwells in them.

Gospel: John 11:1-45

In great detail, John tells the story of the raising of Lazarus to life. Upon learning of the death of Lazarus, his dear friend, Jesus goes to comfort Martha and Mary. After proclaiming, "I am the Resurrection and the Life", Jesus goes to the tomb of Lazarus and restores him to life.

Faith Formation

There will be NO classes on March 31st for Holy Week. There WILL be class on April 7th. There will be no class the week of spring break, April 14th. Last day of classes is April 28th.

Our virtue for this week is **Modesty**.

This week we will practice the virtue of modesty. Modesty is our purity of heart in action, especially in reference to how we dress and how we talk. Do I say things that respect my own dignity and that of others? Do I dress in a way that gives God glory at all times? Do I do things because I want to glorify God, or do I do things so others will see me and praise me? Do I attract attention to myself instead of giving the glory to God?

Dear Jesus, help me to have a heart that belongs entirely to You. May I always act and speak as if You were standing right next to me. I want to always live in Your presence, so that one day I can rejoice with You in heaven. Amen.

< KID'S KORNER > Gospel Today
Fifth Sunday of Lent / John 11:1-45
Jesus is called by Martha & Mary with news their brother Lazarus is very ill. When Jesus arrived in Bethany, Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Jesus loved His friends deeply and was so saddened by their grief, He cried. Jesus called upon His Father, who raised Lazarus, much the same as Jesus will rise Easter morning!
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LEND for LENT

WEEK 5
Dear God,
This week I...

Love,

LENT

Examples

- Make a special card for someone who is sad or sick.
- By yourself, or with family members, write a "Thank you Jesus, for Loving Me" prayer. Read it each day from now until Easter.
- Plant some seeds in a cup or planter, giving it water & sun daily. In a few days, you too will witness the miracle of new life. Your new sprouts should be ready by Easter to give as a loving gift.


In the past weeks of Lent we have seen a lending of physical, emotional, spiritual and healing support. With the rising of Lazarus, Jesus' friends experiences all of these comforts, and many people became believers.

Lent is nearing the end. Using these remaining two weeks of Lent, think about how much Jesus loves us, and pass this love on to others. Lend your talents to an activity that will comfort someone. Write your lend/lent action on the cross. Color in the cross.

Early Childhood - First Witnesses

Parents with littles, check out our new Kids Corner in the vestibule of the Church! This cabinet is full of activities for your littles to borrow during Mass-- to help them engage with what's going on, and to help you get a moment's peace to pray. Please use gently and return to the shelf as you found it before you leave, so it's here for you and your friends again next week! Prayer cards and pamphlets are for you to keep.

Save the date:: Join our team of mentors and peers for a **First Witnesses Cocktail Hour, April 26th @ 5pm** in Deacon Sabol Hall. This is an evening out for parents with children ages birth-3 years. Heavy appetizers and a brief talk on living the faith at home. Bring a friend! Babysitting available; contact ldanner@ndeaston.org with names & ages of children if needed.

 *The Face of Prayer*

Celebrating 40 Million Prayers and Counting

Text PRAY to 55778 to receive daily prayers from Bishop Frank Caggiano

Blessed Sacrament Food Pantry collection

Help nourish our neighbors! Blessed Sacrament is the **ONLY** food pantry on the East Side of Bridgeport, and they serve **approximately 800 families** each week! Please bring your donations to the kitchen in the lower church hall. Please do not leave your donations outside of church. All donations are welcomed and appreciated!



Loaves & Fishes Spare Change Collection: Ash Wednesday Through Easter Sunday, April 5

Fasting during the Lenten season creates in us a greater openness to God's spirit, deepens our compassion for others, and enriches our Lenten journey as we acknowledge our sins and prepare our hearts and minds to celebrate the great joy of Easter. As you fast during Lent, please consider dropping your spare change into the Loaves and Fishes collection jars located in the vestibule of the church. Together we can give up meals and donate the cost of those meals; all donations go to Catholic Charities. If you prefer, you can drop a check into the jar or mail it to the rectory office; please make checks payable to "Notre Dame of Easton" with "Loaves and Fishes" in the memo. Thank you!

Join the *Festival Choir* for Holy Week!

Rehearsals:

- Sunday, March 22 • 10:00 AM
- Tuesday, March 24 • 6:45-8:00 PM
- Sunday, March 29 • 10:00 AM
- Tuesday, March 31 • 6:45-8:00 PM

The choir will sing at the following liturgies:

Palm Sunday **Holy Thursday** **Holy Saturday**

All voices are welcome! Come share your gift of music as we celebrate the passion, death, and resurrection of the Lord.

Lenten Stational Church Pilgrimage at Notre Dame

Join us daily for our Lenten Stational Church Pilgrimage!

On Monday, March 30, the stational church is Notre Dame of Easton and includes the following events:

- Morning Daily Mass: 7:30 am
- Evening Daily Mass: 7:00 pm



For a full Lenten Stational Church Pilgrimage schedule please scan QR below

What's Happening in Our Diocese

WINE: Catholic Women's Conference

ARISE

the King is Calling
YOUR NAME

SAT, APRIL 11
8am - 3:00pm
St. Matthew Church
Norwalk, CT

Answer the Call
Join women from around the Archdiocese for an incredible experience of faith, fellowship, and fun.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Teresa Torres, Maria Morra Johnson, Dr. Ruby Rhee

GUEST SPEAKERS **EMCEE**

Deborah Kane, Kelly Walquist, Myra Barnes

INCLUDES:

- Adoration
- Confession
- Prayer teams
- Mass with Bishop Cagiano
- Fabulous lunch
- Shopping
- Chocolate
- And more!

BONUS SOCIAL & CONCERT
Friday, April 10

Featuring Marie Miller 6:30 - 8:30 pm

A special evening with our speakers and women of WINE for anyone feeling called to lead women to Christ. Includes social hour, dinner, networking, and fun.

Invite a Friend!

REGISTER NOW!



Social + Conference: www.wine.org
 \$125 early bird - by Mar 25, 2026
 \$140 - after Mar 25
 \$60 Religious Sisters/Consecrated/Students
Conference Only:
 \$55 Early Bird - by Mar 25, 2026
 \$65 - after Mar 25
 \$30 Religious Sisters/Consecrated/Students



Easter Basket Items

Collection for Blessed Sacrament Food Pantry Through March 29

In addition to our usual non-perishable food items, from now until March 29 we're collecting Easter items!

- ✓ Bags of individually wrapped Easter candy (no loose candy, please)
- ✓ Small Easter basket items (toys, stickers, etc.)
- ✓ Easter baskets, and basket grass

Please drop off any Easter donations in the church kitchen in the box labeled "Easter Donations for Blessed Sacrament."

If you would like to help assemble the Easter baskets, please meet in Sabol Hall on Monday, March 30 at 10:00 a.m.

Thank you for your continued generosity and support!

ONE in Christ
2026 Bishop's Appeal
DIOCESE OF BRIDGEPORT

ACCOMPANYING NEIGHBORS IN NEED!

After losing his job and his home, **Aaron** felt overwhelmed and unsure where to turn. Through the compassionate outreach of **Catholic Charities' New Covenant Center in Stamford**, he found hope and someone to walk with him on his journey forward.

Dedicated staff accompanied Aaron as he searched for housing, regained stability, and re-entered the job market. With their guidance and support, he now has a new apartment and renewed hope for the future. His story reflects the life-changing impact of programs that serve those who are unhoused, seeking employment, and ready to rebuild their lives.

Stories like Aaron's are made possible through the **Bishop's Appeal**. Your generosity helps ensure that our neighbors in crisis are met with dignity, compassion, and the love of Christ.

Thank you for supporting **Catholic Charities** and for helping transform lives through the Bishop's Appeal.



CATHOLIC CHARITIES, CLIENT
Aaron May

MAKE YOUR GIFT TO THE BISHOP'S APPEAL TODAY!
2026BISHOPSAPPEAL.ORG

From Fr. Ford's Desk

Dear friends,

As we continue to build a future full of hope, it's important to stay clear about where this is all leading.

At its heart, renewal means helping more people return to and engage more deeply in Sunday Mass. That's where the life of the parish is most real. Everything else we're doing is meant to support that.

This Sunday, we hear the story of Lazarus. Jesus calls him out of the tomb and back to life. It's not dramatic in the way we might expect. Lazarus comes out still wrapped, still needing others to help him fully step back into life. That's often how renewal works.

For many people, coming back to Mass is a first step. It may feel unfamiliar. It may take time to re-engage. But it's where Christ meets us and begins to do something new.

Sunday Mass is where that new life is given and sustained. It's where we are formed, week after week, by the Lord's presence.

If you're already faithful in coming to Mass, use this Lent to be more intentional. Arrive with purpose, pray more attentively, invite someone to come with you.

If you've been inconsistent, this is a good time to return. You don't need to have everything figured out. You just need to come.

That's how new life begins, and that's how a future full of hope takes shape in our parish.

In Christ,
Fr. Ford



Save the Date

Sunday, March 22 at 10:00 AM
Festival Choir Rehearsals

Tuesday, March 24
Faith Formation: Elementary & EDGE

Tuesday, March 24 at 6:45 PM
Festival Choir Rehearsals

Wednesday, March 25 at 6:30 PM
Bible Study

Friday, March 27 at 6:00 PM
Stations of the Cross

Tuesday, March 29 at 10:00 AM
Festival Choir Rehearsals

Monday, March 30: Diocesan Station Mass
at Notre Dame of Easton

Tuesday, March 31 at 6:00 PM
Family Stations of the Cross

Tuesday, March 31 at 6:45 PM
Festival Choir Rehearsals

Wednesday, April 1 at 6:30 PM
Bible Study

Rise to something new this
HOLY WEEK
— 2026 —

PALM SUNDAY WEEKEND
March 28-29
Regular Mass Schedule

Monday, March 30
Diocesan Stational Church
Masses at 7:30 AM & 7:00 PM

Thursday, April 2
Holy Thursday
7:00 PM Mass of the Lord's Supper
Adoration until 10 PM

Friday, April 3
Good Friday of the Lord's Passion
12:00 PM Stations of the Cross
3:00 PM Passion of Our Lord

Saturday, April 4
Holy Saturday
11:00 AM Blessing of Easter Food
8:00 PM Easter Vigil Mass

Resurrection
of our Lord
Special Mass Schedule
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM



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feedingamerica.org



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