

**We are pleased and honored
To welcome you to
St. Francis of Assisi Parish**
67 West Town Street, Lebanon, CT 06249
Telephone: 860.642.6711 Fax: 860.642.4032
www.stfrancisassisilebanonct.parishesonline.com
Rev. Mark Masnicki, Pastor
Rev. Benjamin Soosaimanickam, Parochial Vicar
Deacon Michael Puscas



**MASS
INTENTIONS**

Saturday November 21, 2015 Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

4:00 PM Confession
5:00 PM Mary Lou Ross & Julia Ayres req. by the Dyer family
Sunday, November 22, 2015 Our Lord Jesus Christ King of the Universe

8:00 AM Anthony & Margaret Combe req. by their daughter
10:30 AM Doris A. Finelli req. by Alan & Janice Palmer
Monday, November 23, 2015 St. Clement I, pope & martyr; St. Columban, abbot; Blessed Miguel Agustin Pro, priest & martyr

NO MASS
Tuesday November 24, 2015 St. Andrew Dung-Lac, priest & companions, martyrs

NO MASS
Wednesday November 25, 2015 St. Catherine of Alexandria, virgin & martyr

9:00 AM James Maffioli req. by his parents
Thursday November 26, 2015 Thanksgiving Day

9:00 AM Mass of Thanksgiving
Friday November 27, 2015 Weekday
NO MASS

Saturday November 28, 2015 Blessed Virgin Mary
4:00 PM Confession
5:00 PM Janet Gagnon req. by her family
Sunday, November 29, 2015 First Sunday of Advent
8:00 AM Norman Pellerin req. by his wife
10:30 AM Rheda Cavanaugh Wanstreet req. by her nephew

Offertory: \$ 2,428.63
Fuel fund: \$ 898.05
Today's second collection is for building maintenance.
Next weekend's second collection is for monthly extraordinary expenses.
A very sincere thanks to all those parishioners who make-up their offertory while away.

St. Andrew Church – Colchester on Thursdays ~ Adoration at 8:30 ~ Rosary at 6:00pm...Benediction at 7:00pm.

Weekend of November 28 & 29
5:00pm Lector: Bob Nejako
Eucharistic Minister: Sharon Nejako
Altar Servers: Nina Gardella, Nicholas Barrett
8:00am Lector: Rosanne Coffey
Eucharistic Minister: Kathy Walden
Altar Servers: Anthony Pomerleau, Wayne Woodward
10:30am Lector: Don Dubiel
Eucharistic Minister: Pat Dubiel
Altar Servers: Becca Chesters, Erika Densman

MEETINGS

Knights of Columbus Thurs. Dec. 3 @ 7pm

Military Service Honor Roll

SW1 John P. Dyer Jr. U.S. Navy
LCPL Alex Bielawa, U.S. Marines
Lt. Colonel William J. Girard, U.S. Army
Sgt. Derek Keegan, U.S. Army
Major Michael A. Goba, U.S. Army JAG
E-5 Francis Orcutt, U.S. Army
HMC Heather S. Gardipee, U.S. Navy
Pvt. Zachary Berquist, U.S. Army
Pvt. First Class Jacob Grzanowicz
Sgt. Justin A. VonEdwins, U.S. Army
Sgt. Robert Massicotte U.S. Army
1st Lt. Miles N. Snelgrove USMC 2nd Batt. 6th Marines

Prayer for our Men and Women in Military Service

O Prince of Peace, we humbly ask Your protection for all our men and women in military service. Give them unflinching courage to defend with honor, dignity, and devotion the rights of all who are imperiled by injustice and evil. Guard our churches, our homes, our schools, our hospitals, our factories, our buildings and all those within from harm and peril. Protect our land and its peoples from enemies within and without. Grant an early peace with victory founded upon justice. Instill in the hearts and minds of men and women everywhere a firm purpose to live forever in peace and good will toward all. Amen.

APOSTOLATE OF PRAYER FOR PRIESTS

This week November 22 thru Nov. 28: Rev. Joseph Whalen MS, Msgr. Kevin Randall, Rev. P. Grzegorz Jednaki, Rev. Thomas Angelo, Rev. Robert Buongiorno, Rev. Joseph Ashe, Rev. Peter Liszewski, Rev. John Ashe, Rev. David Kashen OFM Cv, Rev. Charles LeBlanc, Rev. Dennis Mercieri, Rev. Charles McGrail, Rev. Martin Noe. — Mary Immaculate, let us love you fervently and open our hearts to the dew of your grace, for we know that you are blessing our priests. (Mother Catherine Aurelia, foundress)

We also pray for any priests who have left the ministry.

PAVING PLEDGE UPDATE

Pledges received to date total \$60,825.00
If you have not yet pledged, extra pledge cards are available at the Church side entrance.

Grades 2 & 5 will be helping at the 10:30am Mass on Sunday November 22nd. Refreshments following the Mass in the meeting room.

Parish Office Hours Thanksgiving Week: Tuesday 9am – 4pm.

The Ladies Guild will again be selling cemetery arrangements. Orders will be taken the weekends of November 21-22 and 26-27th. The arrangements are \$10.00 each and come with a bow. Checks are to be made payable to *Saint Francis Ladies Guild*. Arrangements can be picked up after all masses the weekend of December 5-6th in the church garage. Questions, please contact Barbara at 860-642-7168 or bobbie.w@charter.net. Thank you to everyone who donated their used pots; this project would not be possible without your contributions.



GIVING BASKET

It is time to replenish our food supplies in preparation for Christmas Food Baskets.

We ask that those able and willing to donate consider the

following items that are needed:

HAMS, Gravy, Stuffing, Cranberry Sauce, Jelly, Peanut Butter, Flour, Sugar, Pie Crusts and Fillings, Bread and Cake Mixes, Spices, Vegetable Oil, Frostings, Canned Vegetables, Soups, Tuna, Canned Fruits, Chef Boyardee, Mac & Cheese, Cereals (hot or cold), Jell-O, Puddings, Pasta, Pasta Sauce, etc.

Baskets are being delivered early – Saturday Dec. 12. Donations need to be received by Wednesday Dec. 9. As always, we are thankful for food donations of all types. Your continued support of this program has helped many of our friends and neighbors when they have stumbled upon difficult times. Thank You.

ANNOUNCEMENTS ~ THE DIOCESE OF NORWICH

- **Mass of Healing** November 23 at 2 PM. Spiritual Renewal Center. Fr. Ray Celebrant, Judith will have a healing prayer. Individual prayer available- 860-887-0702.
- **Praise, Prayer and Worship** every Tuesday afternoon at 2 PM Spiritual Renewal Center.
- **On Sunday, December 13, 2015, Bishop Cote will open the Holy Year of Mercy at the Cathedral of Saint Patrick 10:30 a.m. with a special celebration of the Eucharist. During this celebration representatives from every parish of the diocese will be commissioned as Disciples of Mercy. We will also have the traditional ritual of opening the Holy Door of Mercy. All parishioners are cordially invited to participate in this Diocesan Celebration of Mercy. Following the Mass, a reception will be held in the Cathedral Auditorium. All are invited to participate.**
- **Advent Diocesan Prayer Gathering** December 15th at 7:30 PM at St. Mary's Church Hall, Portland. Great music teaching by Fr. Paul Bourdreau, Pastor and Hospitality. Hosted by Light of Christ Prayer Community. All are welcome.

The Franklin Congregational Church and the Lebanon Ecumenical Clergy invite you to a Community Faith Event. The **annual Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service** will be held at the Franklin Congregational Church, 31 Meetinghouse Lane, Franklin, on Sunday November 22nd, 2015 at 7:00pm. The message will be by Lebanon Baptist Church Pastor Tom Cowger. Please bring a non-perishable food or a toiletry item for Lebanon's Neighbors Helping Neighbors.



Our CCD classes have begun their Project for Haiti.

You can help a build a Happy House!

Every contribution helps.

OUR GOAL: \$ 1,250.00.

Each grade will have a jar to collect loose change. Just send your loose change in each CCD class to add to the jar. A jar will also be available in Church for parishioners to make donations. This project will be ongoing for the entire school year. **Working together Saint Francis can provide a Happy House for Haiti.**

LIVE NATIVITY

All children of our churches & community re invited to participate in the Lebanon Churches & Franklin Congregational Church combined

Ecumenical LIVE NATIVITY, Saturday December 19 at 3:00pm on the Lebanon Green. Participants please assemble at 2:30pm.

There are no speaking roles. Everyone will sing Christmas Carols together.

The youth have been asked to portray ANGELS and SHEPHERDS. No fancy costume necessary – very simple attire is fine, such as:
ANGELS: White sweatshirt, wings*, tinsel halo. *to make a simple paper plate wing visit: <http://m.wikihow.com/Make-Angel-Wings>.



Shepherds: Dark hooded sweatshirt, tea towel with rope, and walking stick.

In case of inclement weather the event will be held inside of the Congregational Church Fellowship Hall. In case of severe weather, tune into Channel 3.

If interested in participating please contact Anne McAwley-LeDuc @ a.mccawley.leduc@charter.net or 860.642.1786.

Snowflake Fair!

Sacred Heart Church, 52 West Town St. Norwichtown, on December 5 from 9-2. Featuring; Theme Baskets, White Elephant Items, Home Baked Goodies, Hand Made Items and more!

Refreshments and Lunch Available!

Annual Christmas Auction & Basket Raffle

St. Joseph School, Baltic
Saturday December 5
Doors open at 4:30pm Raffle 6:15pm
Live Auction follows the raffle
Fully loaded theme baskets, museum memberships,
gift certificates, and much more!
Dinner is hosted by the knights of Columbus starting at
5pm for \$5 per person. \$20 per family. For more
information, please call 860.822.6141.

MUSIC TO WARM THE HEART WINTER CONCERT FOR WAIM

Sunday December 6 at 3:00pm.
Proceeds to benefit WAIM
Saint Paul Episcopal Church
Windham Center

**Sunday, November 29 1:30pm –OR-
2:30pm**

Holiday Door Spray-making Workshop

Fun for the whole family. Choose one of two sessions.
Materials fee is \$5 per spray. Non-members pay an
additional \$3. Pre-registration required.

**Held at the Lebanon Historical Society Museum
located at 856 Trumbull Hwy., Lebanon**

For more information call 860-642-6579
museum@historyoflebanon.org
www.historyoflebanon.org

During **National Adoption Month**, Catholic Charities
Adoption Program is sponsoring an **Essay Contest** for
students between the ages of 10 and 17. Participants
should write a one page essay that addresses the topic,
"How Adoption Has Affected My Life". The Winner will
receive \$100.00 and his or her essay will be printed in the
4 County Catholic. Entries should be emailed to
susansedensky@cfsn.org by December 11th.

Are you looking for a prayerful way to begin your
Advent? The Sisters of Charity of Our Lady
Mother of the Church will host **Solemn Vespers**
at Holy Family Motherhouse Chapel, 54 West
Main Street, Baltic on Sunday, November 29th,
at 5:00pm. Vespers will be followed by
Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, after
which a light supper will be served. All are
welcome. For more information and to make a
reservation for supper, please call Sister Mary
Grace or Sister Joan Clare at 860.822.8241.

ST. ANDREW ANNOUNCEMENTS

NOTE: Time CHANGE: Christmas around the World



Dinner Concert

The St Andrew
Principal choir, in
cooperation with
Doreen's Dance
Center, will present a
festive Christmas

Dinner Concert Friday, December 4 (snow date Sat Dec
5.) Choir members, in international costumes, will be
performing traditional Christmas music from many
countries! Special bonus: Fr Mark will sing in Polish, and
Fr Ben will sing a song from India! Dinner concert tickets
are \$28 (\$25 seniors and children 10 and under).
Concert/dessert only tickets (no dinner) \$15 each. Menu:
Polynesian Spinach salad, Tropical fruit salad, Vegetable
fried rice, Beef stroganoff, Chicken Saltimboca, Honey
glazed green beans, gourmet dessert! Please phone
Joanne Cannella [860 531 8717](tel:8605318717) to reserve individual
tickets or tables of 8. Note change: Dinner begins
6:00. Doors open at 5:30. Concert only ticket
purchasers should arrive at 7:15 for 7:30 concert. There
will be a cash bar (beer/wine) from 5:30-7 pm, since the
Diocese has asked that parishes discontinue BYOB.

Christmas Cards: Photographs of the Nativity
Scenes taken at the 2015 St. Andrew Passion Play have
been transformed into "professional looking" Christmas
cards. Cards are on display at the doors of the Church.
They are available for sale after Masses.

St. Andrew Youth Group www.standrwym.org

Life Teen High School Youth
Sun. Nov. 22 Life Teen Mass 5pm, dinner & life night

The Edge Middle School Youth Grades 6-8
Sat. Dec. 12 from 7pm to 9:15pm – snow date Dec. 19



Second Annual Toy Swap

We will be accepting donations
of new or gently used, clean toys
(books, puzzles, games, etc.)
on Wednesday, December 9 from

3 pm – 6 pm at the Lebanon Community
Center. Appointments can be made for other
days/times.

The Toy Swap will be Friday Dec. 11 from 6-
8pm at the Community Center.

**34th Annual Convocation
For the Priests in the Diocese of Norwich**

NEWPORT, RI.—The Annual Convocation for Priests will be held from November 30-December 2, 2015, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel on Goat Island in Newport, RI. It will be a time for all priests to gather with their bishop for spiritual renewal, support, education and rest. No parish, school or institutional activities will be scheduled during these days. Please pray for your priests, as they will be praying for you.

The theme of this year's Convocation is "The Melchizedek Project and Priestly Renewal."

Our key presenter will be Father Brett Brannen, Pastor of Most Blessed Sacrament Church in Savannah, Georgia. Father Brannen is widely known as a powerful speaker and an expert in priestly formation. He has given over 70 parish missions and retreats to seminarians, priests, and religious orders.

Bishop Cote emphasized the importance of this annual gathering in his letter inviting each priest to the Convocation, "Since the Convocation is essential to our unity and ministry as a presbyterate, I pray that each of you will make every effort to attend."

The Convocation is coordinated by the Norwich Diocesan Continuing Education and Formation Commission, Reverend Michael S. Smith, Chairman; Very Rev. Dennis M. Perkins, Very Rev. David P. Choquette, Reverends John Antonelle, Gregory P. Bronzowicz, Peter B. Liszewski, and Walter M. Nagle.

If you'd ever thought about learning more about the book of Revelation, now's the time to do it.



We are offering "The Lamb and the Beasts, The Book of Revelation" Bible study to take a closer look at the book that:

- momentarily gives us the eyes of God to glimpse the heavenly meaning of our worship
- to look at evil in the face and see its full reality
- to gaze upon the cosmic meaning of Christ's sacrifice
- to envision the world renewed by the hope of God's victory

**WAIM PUBLIC SALE
December 12 & 13
From 10 am until 1 pm**

**SUMMER CLOTHING CLEARANCE
\$1.00 PER ITEM;
FURNITURE (VINTAGE/NEW)
DISHES AND KNICK KNACKS,
PRICED TO SELL!**

**WAIM is located at 866 Main St.
Willimantic**

Defending Our Religious Liberty Nov. 22, 2015

In this Thanksgiving season, let us give thanks for our God-given rights, and stand strong in our opposition to the current encroachments being made on our religious freedom through the passage of the Health and Human Services federal mandate.

If you haven't done so already, please voice your opposition to the federal health care mandate by calling U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Sylvia Mathews Burwell at 202-205-5445, and your elected representatives. Let them know that the mandate is in violation of our First Amendment right to religious freedom.

Come join us Friday mornings in the parish office Jan. 8, Jan. 15, Jan. 22, Jan. 29 and Feb. 5. We will meet from 9:30 AM-11:00 AM. This interactive Bible study is easy-to-understand and no previous Bible study is necessary.

Sign up is necessary by Sunday, December 13 so that books can be ordered. Call Cheryl at 860.642.6711 or stop in to register.

The "Knights of Columbus Pro Life Project" is focused on raising funds to purchase a new ultrasound machine for the "A Better Choice" Women's Center, 180 East Main Street, Middletown, CT 06457, to allow them to continue saving the lives of unborn babies. Please write your check payable to The Knights of Columbus, Council 9653, and indicate checks are for: the Ultrasound Initiative. Since the Knights of Columbus are a 501c8, fraternal organization, your donation should be tax deductible to the extent allowed by the Internal Revenue Service. Donors should always check with their own tax attorneys and accountants, as individual situations vary. Businesses and corporations may make donations but they are not eligible for a "pass through" tax deduction.