

**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
Rev. Mark Masnicki, Pastor
Rev. Richard Breton
Deacon Michael Puscas



**MASS
INTENTIONS**



Saturday December 17, 2016 Late Advent Weekday

4:00 PM Confessions

5:00 PM Carolyn Sharpe req. by her family

Sunday, December 18, 2016 Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:00 AM Janet Lea Gertschitz req. by Norm & Ella Mae Kuzel

10:30 AM Affonso Fernando req. by the Mastroluca family

Monday December 19, 2016 Late Advent Weekday

NO MASS

Tuesday December 20, 2016 Late Advent Weekday

NO MASS

Confessions 6:00 PM

Wednesday December 21, 2016 St. Peter Canisius, priest and doctor of the Church

9:00 AM Edmund Leete req. by Ann Sheedy

Thursday December 22, 2016 Late Advent Weekday

NO MASS

Friday December 23, 2016 St. John Kanty, priest

9:00 AM Phyllis Jacobeno req. by Mackie

9:30 AM Chaplet of Divine Mercy

Saturday December 24, 2016 Christmas Eve

No scheduled confessions

Note time change

4:00 PM People of the parish living & deceased

**Sunday, December 25, 2016 Christmas Day
Nativity of the Lord**

8:00 AM People of the parish living & deceased

10:30 AM People of the parish living & deceased

Offertory: \$ 2,485.00 Diocesan Fuel Fund: \$ 285.00

Immaculate Conception: \$ 302.00

Today's second collection is building maintenance.

Next weekend's second collection is your Christmas Gift to your Parish

A very sincere thanks to all those parishioners who make-up their offertory while away.

**Every Thursday ~ Adoration at 8:30pm ~ Rosary at 6:00pm
~ Benediction at 7:00pm at St. Andrew Church.**

Weekend of December 24 & 25

4:00pm Lector: Steve Wengloski

Eucharistic Minister: Carole Briggs, Jim Hay,
Dick Lataille

Altar Servers: Grace & Genevieve Gardella

8:00am Lector: Kathy Pellerin

Eucharistic Minister: Peggy Stygar, Gregg Lafontaine,
Kathy Walden

Altar Servers: Emily & Anthony Pomerleau

10:30am Lector: Sandy Grillo

Eucharistic Minister: Wally Gagnon, Paul Pelletier,
Tony Coscia

Altar Servers: Marianne Clippinger & Erika Densman

Military Service Honor Roll

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
SFC Justin A. VonEdwins, U.S. Army
Sgt. Robert Massicotte U.S. Army
1st Lt. Miles N. Snelgrove USMC 2nd Batt. 6th Marines
Airman Emerson Flannery, U.S. Navy
Seaman Alex R. Paris, U.S. Navy

Prayer for our Men and Women in Military Service

O Prince of Peace, we humbly ask for 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 — We pray for Rev. Timothy Roth MIC, Rev. William McCarthy MSA, Msgr. Richard LaRocque, Rev. Benjamin Soosaimanickam, Rev. Arthur Archer, Msgr. Thomas Bride, Rev. Edward Wisneski, Rev. C. Paul Boudreau, Rev. Thomas Ahern, Rev. John Gwudz, Rev. Mark Curesky OFM Cv, Rev. David Zercie MSA, Rev. Tadeusz Zadorozny, Rev. Jonathan Ficara.

Heavenly Father, may the Immaculate Virgin prepare our priests for the radiant feast of Christmas so that the Divine Emmanuel might find in each of their hearts a little cradle scented by the purity of His all beautiful and loving Mother. (Mother Catherine Aurelia, foundress)

Christmas Masses

Confessions Tuesday Dec. 20 at 6:00pm

Saturday Vigil (Children's Mass) at 4:00 PM

Sunday Morning Mass 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM



New Year's Masses

Saturday Vigil 5:00pm

Sunday Morning Mass 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

**The Knights of Columbus will be selling
"Keep Christ in Christmas" magnets for \$5
each after all Masses.**

Meetings & Activities

- **Life Teen Mass Dec. 18 at 5pm followed by dinner and Emmanuel Adoration at St. Andrew Church**
- **Ladies Guild Christmas Party Monday Dec. 19**

ANNOUNCEMENTS ~ THE DIOCESE OF NORWICH

- ✓ **Charismatic Prayer Meeting** every Tuesday at 2 PM Spiritual Renewal Center, 11 Bath Street, Norwich, CT (860-887-0702) .
- ✓ Healing Mass Monday, December 12 and December 26, 2016 at 2PM Spiritual Renewal Center, 11 Bath Street, Norwich, CT
- ✓ **Nominations are underway for the Longest Married Couple search** sponsored by Worldwide Marriage Encounter. Nominations are open to all husband and wife couples regardless of religious affiliation through January 10, 2017. Email the couple's name, wedding date and city and state where they reside to wwwelmc2017@gmail.com. Include your contact phone or email address. Or, visit the national website at www.wwme.org. For more information, contact the Catholic Family Services Office at 860-848-2237, Ext 306.
- ✓ **Retrouvaille** Is your marriage tearing you apart? Is there little or no meaningful communication? Are you considering separation or divorce? For serious marriage building and repair: Retrouvaille is a lifeline. At Retrouvaille weekend, couples are given tools to re-establish communication, work on their issues, gain new insights and heal. The weekend is presented by three married couples and a priest. A series of 6 post sessions follow the weekend phase. For more information or to sign up for the January 20-22, 2017 weekend in the Hartford area, call 413-525- 1634, or 203-710- 6207, or visit the Website at www.retrouvaille.org.
- ✓ The **March for Life Bus Trip**. The Annual March for Life will take place this year on Friday, January 27, 2017, in Washington, D.C., as a way for people to express their opposition to abortion. This year's event coincides with the 44th anniversary of the Supreme Court's decision to legalize abortion. Buses sponsored by the Southeast Chapter of Connecticut Right to Life will travel to the March leaving from the Norwich Municipal Parking Lot (Exit 11, I-395) on Thursday, January 26, 2017, at 9 P.M. Bus fare is \$67 per person. For information, to reserve a seat, or, if you cannot go, to sponsor a seat, please call Margaret Becotte at 860-822- 1362.
- ✓ **STEUBENVILLE NYC- JULY 21-23** This summer, join over 3,000 other Catholic teens at Steubenville NYC conference and experience the joy of following Christ and being ELAVATED By HIS Love. The Diocese of Norwich offers youth the opportunity to take advantage of this fun and spirit filled conference with ease. For \$345, The Diocese of Norwich will provide youth and chaperones with Steubenville registration fee, sendoff mass with Bishop Cote and lunch, transportation to and from the Diocese, and 3 t-shirts for each day at the Conference. If you are interested in this life changing opportunity, get in touch with your Youth Minister or Liza Roach at (860)848-2237 ex. 305 or lroach@norwichdiocese.net

Programs at Enders Island – Mystic CT 860.536.0565

- Silent Night for the Broken Hearted w/ Fr. Tom Hoar SSE \$30pp. December 24 12pm midnight <http://enders.is/silentnight>
- Icon Board Preparation & Gilding w/ Susan Von Medicus January 8, 2017. A week long intensive work shop beginning 9at 7pm \$772pp. <http://enders.is/iconboar>

Defending Our Religious Liberty Dec. 17, 2016

Let us pray that the new Administration when revising the Health and Human Services health care mandate reinstates the Church's inalienable right to exercise its First Amendment right to freedom of religion. 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 newly elected representatives. Let them know that the mandate is in violation of our First Amendment right to religious freedom.

Emmanuel adoration on Dec. 18th at St. Andrew Church, Colchester.

There will be adoration on Sunday, Dec. 18th from 7:00 to 8:30 PM. What a beautiful way to start Christmas week. Every one of every age is invited. Music will be provided by Emily Kubena from St. Francis and Andre Toussaint from St. Andrew. Speaker will be Sean Norris. Sean is from St. Andrew Parish and graduated in 2006. He has been doing ministry and speaking since his graduation from Franciscan University in 2011. There is NO cost to this event.

Comfort and Caring Shawl Ministry

Do you know of someone in need of a Comfort and Caring Shawl? The St. Francis Ladies Guild has made a commitment to distribute hand-made prayer shawls to anyone in need; someone who is ill, on potent medication, battling the pain of depression or lost a loved one. The gift of a shawl is not limited to members of the Guild or our parish but can be given to anyone you feel would benefit from this shawl of love and comfort. There are numerous shawls of many colors, shapes and weight as well as lap robes available. If you wish to contribute a knitted or crocheted shawl (must be certain dimensions) or know of someone who would benefit from this gift, please contact Barbara Dyer (Keeper of the Shawls) at 45bfdyer@gmail.com or 860-822-9400.

The St Francis Lending Library is always open!

The library is located in the Cry Room and we have left it open now for your convenience. There are many books to be borrowed on a variety of topics: Conversion, Biblical, Historical, Biographies, Saints and much, much more. We also have tapes and dvds to borrow. Please sign out a book, there is a basket to put the library cards in and there is someone there most Sundays after 8:00 Mass. If you have any questions please contact Rachel Bosse, Barbara Dyer or Joyce Hofmann. Please be respectful of these great resource—take out a book, return the book; and parents if you are in the Cry Room with your children and they remove any books—please put them back where you found them.