

**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 June 17, 2017 Blessed Virgin Mary**

4:00 PM Confessions

5:00 PM All fathers living & deceased

**Sunday, June 18, 2017 Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ**

8:00 AM Gene Grecki req. by Norm & Ella Mae Kuzel

10:30 AM Ed & Gloria Bigenski req. by Bill & Joan  
Russoniello Goba

**Monday June 19, 2017 St. Romuald, abbot**

NO MASS

**Tuesday June 20, 2017 Weekday**

NO MASS

**Wednesday June 21, 2017 St. Aloysius Gonzaga, religious**

9:00 AM Jennifer & Bob Chesters req. by family

**Thursday June 22, 2017 St. Paulinus of Nola, bishop; Sts.**

**John Fisher, bishop and Thomas More, martyrs**

NO MASS

**Friday June 23, 2017 The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus**

9:00 AM Souls in Purgatory

**Saturday June 24, 2017 Nativity of Saint John the Baptist**

4:00 PM Confessions

5:00 PM People of the parish living & deceased

**Sunday, June 25, 2017 Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:00 AM Living members of the Clinch & Kuzel families req.  
by Norm & Ella Mae Kuzel

10:30 AM In celebration of Fr. Mark's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of  
ordination in the priesthood

Offertory: \$ 2,151.98      Poor: \$ 418.00  
Today's second collection is for the building maintenance.  
Next weekend's second collection is for the World Combined  
Collection.  
A very sincere thanks to all those parishioners who make-up their  
offertory while away.

**Adoration of our Lord. Jesus is the Friend who never abandons us.**  
(St. Luigi Guanella) Adoration begins at 8:30am following the  
8:00am Mass on Thursdays and continues until Benediction at  
7:00pm at St. Andrew Church. There is always a need for faithful  
adorers, please consider omitting to a specific hour. Contact Dennis  
Girard @ 860.334.9894 or dennisgirard51@gmail.com

**Weekend June 24 & 25**

5:00pm Lector: Dick Lataille

Eucharistic Minister: Sharon Nejako

Altar Servers: Nina & Genevieve Gardella

8:00am Lector: Kathy Pellerin

Eucharistic Minister: Betsy Petrie

Altar Servers: Anthony & Emily Pomerleau, Ryan Dungan

10:30am Lector: Roger Proulx

Eucharistic Minister: Pat Dubiel

Altar Servers: Nicholas Barrett, Henry & Marianne  
Clippinger

**Military Service Honor Roll**

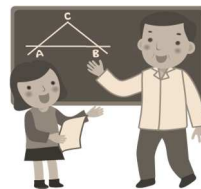
LCPL Alex Bielawa, U.S. Marines  
Lt. Colonel William J. Girard, U.S. Army  
Sgt. Derek Keegan, U.S. Army  
Major Michael A. Goba, U.S. Army JAG  
E-5 Francis Orcutt, U.S. Army  
HMC Heather S. Gardipee, U.S. Navy  
Pvt. Zachary Berquist, U.S. Army  
Pvt. First Class Jacob Grzanowicz  
SFC Justin A. VonEdwins, U.S. Army  
Sgt. Robert Massicotte U.S. Army  
1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Miles N. Snelgrove USMC 2<sup>nd</sup> Batt. 6<sup>th</sup> Marines  
AM3 Emerson Flannery, U.S. Navy  
Seaman Alex R. Paris, U.S. Navy  
LCPL Chad Wengloski, U.S. Marines  
Seaman Jonathan Wengloski, U.S. Navy  
CTN3 Jonah Swett, U.S. Navy  
Seaman Recruit Rocky Spedaliere  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Tyler McGuire, U.S. Air Force

**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 Msgr. Henry  
Archambault, Rev. John Antonelle, Rev. Juan A. Palacio, Msgr.  
Richard LaRocque, Rev. Christopher Zmuda, Rev. Edward  
Wisneski, Rev. Russell Kennedy, Rev. Jose Rizal Dimapilis OP,  
Rev. Wojciech Pelczarski SDS, Rev. Francis Rouleau, Rev.  
Thomas Sickler MS, Rev. Peter Liszewski, and all priests.  
Mary Immaculate, we know you are blessing our priests. Dear  
Mother, cover with your maternal mantle those whom Jesus has  
honored with the authority and dignity of His priesthood. (Ven.  
Mother Catherine Aurelia, foundress)

**BABY BOTTLES for Life are due on  
Father's Day. Please return all bottles  
by Sunday June 25th.**



**CCD Classes Begin in September.**  
Classes are held from 9:00am to  
10:00am at the Elementary School.  
Teachers and Teacher Aides will be  
needed.

U-R qualified if you are --- over 21---a  
high-school grad --- and a practicing  
Catholic who attends weekend Mass. We will help you  
with the rest of the job and help you to easily get certified  
to work with our youth. Call Jim Hay, the DRE at  
860.886.1882 or the parish office at 860.642.6711.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS ~ THE DIOCESE OF NORWICH

- ✓ "Like" the **Office of Faith Events Diocese of Norwich** page on Facebook and stay informed of all our upcoming faith-filled events for Youth, Young Adults, Adults, and Families. [www.facebook.com/ofenorwichdiocese](http://www.facebook.com/ofenorwichdiocese)
- ✓ **Charismatic Prayer Meeting** every Tuesday at 2 PM Spiritual Renewal Center, 11 Bath Street, Norwich, CT (860-887-0702).
- ✓ **Healing Mass: Mondays, June 26, 2017 at 2PM** Spiritual Renewal Center, 11 Bath Street, Norwich, CT
- ✓ **Holy Hour for Vocations: June 25 at St. John, Middletown 4:30-5:30pm**
- ✓ On Sunday, September 10, 2017, at 8:45 a.m., Bishop Cote will celebrate **Mass for Those Dedicated to Education**, in the Cathedral of Saint Patrick. Currently, the Planning Committee for this Mass is seeking additional members to assist in preparing this very meaningful tribute to Educators and to become an active member of the planning committee. The next meeting of the Mass Committee will be held on June 26, 2017 at 10:30 a.m. in the Bishop Hines Conference Room of the Chancery. Please join us in planning the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Mass for Those Dedicated to Education. Contact Mrs. Rebecca McDougal at 860-887-9294.

### Defending Our Religious Liberty June 18, 2017

At the annual Conference of the Academy of Catholic Theologians, Archbishop William E. Lori, asserted that *religious* institutions such as parishes, schools, and charities can no longer pretend that these are ordinary times. They must be robust in their Catholic identity and missionary zeal. He says when parishes lose their evangelizing edge or schools and charities become too much like their secular counterparts, we run the risk of surrendering, bit by bit, our religious freedom. He advises us all to build bridges, reach out in friendship to those we disagree with, but in the process let us not forget or surrender who we are. That is why our parishes and all our institutions need to undergo what Pope Francis calls "a missionary conversion." Let us pray that the revised health care mandate reinstates religious freedom.

**Worldwide Marriage Encounter** "And whoever loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love Him and reveal myself to Him." Expand your married love by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next WWME Weekends are Jul 7-9, 2017 in Manchester, CT and Nov 3-5, 2017 in Manchester, CT. For more information, call Dennis & Jane Lamondy at [860-376-0440](tel:860-376-0440) or visit us at <http://www.wmectw.org/>.

### Hit a "home run" for Catholic Charities!

Join Catholic Charities at Dodd Stadium in Norwich on **Friday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> game time 7:05 PM** to see the CT Tigers vs. the Aberdeen Ironbirds. Executive Director Ed Tessman will throw out the first pitch! It is a great opportunity to bring a group from your parish to enjoy the game, see a great fireworks display after the game **and support those most in need!** Tickets are \$10.00/each. Contact Sue Connolly at 860-889-8346 to purchase tickets. For more information, please contact Christine Jackel, Development Coordinator via e-mail at [cjackel@norwichdiocese.net](mailto:cjackel@norwichdiocese.net) or by phone 860-886-1928.

**Get M-Powered! Join the Mercy High School Summer Program 2017** Programs and clinics are available for girls rising to grades 5<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> Basketball, Cultural Awareness, Field Hockey, Higher Achievement, Soccer, Theatre Arts, and Vocal! Please visit [www.mercyhigh.com](http://www.mercyhigh.com) for specific program information and online registration or call [860-346-6659](tel:860-346-6659) and request a brochure be sent to you.

### Principal Vacancy Sacred Heart School, Groton, CT

Located in Groton, CT, Sacred Heart School is a parish co-educational Parish school of all faiths from Pre-Kindergarten to Grade 8, seeks a principal to begin July 1, 2017. Accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Sacred Heart School provides an exceptional educational program that places emphasis on the spiritual, intellectual, physical, and aesthetic development of each student.

The eligible candidate will be a practicing Roman Catholic in good standing in the Church, hold a minimum of a masters' degree in education and have completed at least five years of teaching experience and two years' administrative experience, preferably in a Catholic school.

He or she must be able to direct a joyful Catholic school faith community where every student has daily opportunities to encounter the love of God in Jesus Christ. He or she will value the importance of moral character development, self-discipline, and Christian service. He or she will be able to guide the faculty as a professional learning community and promote 21<sup>st</sup> century and learning research-based practices with an emphasis on STREAM instruction and personalized learning. He or she will model life-long learning. The position also requires outstanding verbal and written communication skills, professional experience in supervision and evaluation, and an understanding of enrollment management, institutional advancement, and Catholic school finance stewardship.

Information about the school may be found at [www.sacredheartgroton.org](http://www.sacredheartgroton.org). Download application and candidate forms at [www.norwichdso.org](http://www.norwichdso.org) under the "employment" tab

Send completed candidate forms by to:

Sacred Heart Principal Search, Attn: Mr. Henry Fiore, Jr., Superintendent of Schools, Diocesan School Office, 43 Perkins Avenue, Norwich, Ct 06360

### Programs at My Father's House – 39 N, Moodus Rd,

**Moodus [Mfh.moodus@gmail.com](mailto:Mfh.moodus@gmail.com) 860.873.1906**

- ❖ **The Holy Shroud of Turin Retreat** ~ Saturday July 8 from 7:30am – 4:00pm \$ per person A relic of the Holy Shroud will be available for veneration
- ❖ June 22 Teaching on the Immaculate Heart of Mary and the Sacred Heart of Jesus
- ❖ June 23 Mass at noon followed by Adoration
- ❖ October 7 Retreat on the Rosary
- ❖ November 18 Thanksgiving Retreat
- ❖ December 9 Retreat on Our Lady of Guadalupe

**Women's ACTS Retreat:** The Corpus Christi Catholic Community of Willimantic is sponsoring a Women's ACTS retreat at Immaculata Retreat House in Willimantic from July 13-16, 2017. This retreat experience is an opportunity for spiritual renewal, faith strengthening and experiencing God's unconditional love through the women who serve on the retreat team. It would be a great gift to yourself or any of the special women in your life. Informational brochures and registration forms are available at the Church doors. For more information you can contact Donna Cawley at [860-456-2505](tel:860-456-2505) or go to [actsct.net](http://actsct.net).

### Knights of Columbus Spirit of Service Award 2017

Each year the Knights of Columbus, Council 9653, present their award to a graduating senior or seniors who epitomizes the Knights belief in charity, the love and giving of one's self for others. This award is to aid the recipient in furthering his or her education beyond high school. The Award Committee reviews each application and the recipient is selected based on, parish service, community service, academic performance and co-curricular activities.

This year's award goes to Kayla DiFrancesca. We wish Kayla the best as she continues her education. Francis Malozzi, Grand Knight

### The Knights of Columbus are hosting a Charity Golf Tournament at Mohegan Sun Golf Club...

It is not too late to sign up a foursome for the 2017 St. Joseph School Golf Tournament scheduled on Friday, June 30, 2017! If you know of someone who would enjoy a great day of golf or would like to just to come for dinner and auction activities, please go to [www.kofcbaltic.org](http://www.kofcbaltic.org) to sign up ...or for more information Thank you. Look forward to seeing you there.



# Registration Information

IT IS TIME TO REGISTER FOR CCD CLASSES!  
We are now accepting registrations for the 2017-2018 CCD Classes.  
Registrations are due August 1<sup>st</sup>. Forms are available from the parish office, and at the entrances of Church.  
Please return registrations ASAP.

Thank You Concert for Our Active and Retired Religious  
Sunday June 25, 2017, 2-4 p.m.

The Garde Arts Center, New London

Featuring Composer and Holy Cross Professor

**Matthew Jaskot**

Religious are FREE, Tickets are \$20- in advance,  
\$25- at the door

People involved in Music Ministry in the Norwich diocese \$15-  
**Purchase through the Office of Faith Events**  
**860-848-2237, ext. 312**

## 26th Annual Steeple Chase Bike Tour

August 19, 2017.



20, 35, 50, 62.5 & 100 mile bike routes and a  
5 mile walk through scenic northeastern CT.

Ride starts at Eastern CT State University  
Athletic Complex, 69 Mansfield City Road, Mansfield Center,  
CT. Registration opens at 7am. Info @ 860.450.7122 and  
[www.steeplechase.org](http://www.steeplechase.org) Register @ [Bikereg.com](http://Bikereg.com)

The St. Andrew/St. Francis Bereavement Committee is preparing to  
expand this ministry and is looking for new members. If interested in  
serving in this ministry or if you want more information, please  
contact Cheryl Laporte at 860 537 4463 or [calaporte48@gmail.com](mailto:calaporte48@gmail.com).  
Even if you can't attend the meeting, there are tasks that you can help  
with.

The Combined Collection for World Charities will be held next  
weekend. Your contribution will provide assistance to the  
Catholic Relief Services Collection, the Campaign for Human  
Development, Aid to the Church in Central and Eastern Europe,  
and The Holy Land. Most of you should have received  
information in the mail about this collection. Please read this  
material and bring your contribution envelope to Liturgy next  
week, June 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. Envelopes will also be available at  
church. Your support and generosity are essential to these  
programs of the Universal Church.

St. Francis of Assisi Parishioners ~ Thank you for all of  
your thoughts, prayers, cards, texts, and phone calls. We  
are blessed to be a part of a caring Church family.  
Ella Mae Kuzel & family

Please join us as we celebrate with  
Father Marek, his 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of  
Ordination into Priesthood Sunday,

June 25, 2017

From 2:00 ~ 4:00 pm

At Saint Francis of Assisi's

Marianne Jean Fortin Parish House,  
61 West Town Street.

BLESSINGS  
on the  
Anniversary  
of your  
Ordination



On May 30, 1992, Father Mark was ordained at Saint  
Patrick's Cathedral, Norwich by Bishop Daniel P. Reilly.

## Father's Day Remembrances:

### Living:

Robert C. Paris

Robert G. Paris

Steve Getman

Russ Burgess

Norman Kuzel

Skip Kuzel

Randy Smith

Kieran Flannery

Glen Coutu

Michael Garrahy

Shane Kuzel

Kenneth Boudreau

Stuart Lamson

Robert Stander

Jim Worth

Paul Duff

David Wheaton

Waldyn Benbenek

### Deceased:

Emil Kuzel



John Clinch

Alexander A. Getman

William Werner

Nicholas Wengloski

Bill Brewster

Paul Maffiolini, Sr.

Joseph Gallicchio

Dominick Gramegna

Bart Termine

Robert Wheaton

Dave Perotti

Theodore Pelletier

Roy Showalter

**Sixth Fortnight for Freedom will be observed from June 21 to July 4, 2017. Its theme is Freedom for Mission.** Materials for the observance of the Fortnight for Freedom can be found on the website, [www.fortnightforfreedom.org](http://www.fortnightforfreedom.org).

**Historically, what have been significant religious liberty issues affecting Catholics in our country?**

**Equal treatment of Catholic Schools:** Catholicism was introduced to the English colonies with the founding of the Province of Maryland by Jesuit settlers from England in 1634. However, the 1646 defeat of the Royalists in the English Civil War led to stringent laws against Catholic education and the extradition of known Jesuits from Maryland, as well as the destruction of the school they founded. During the greater part of the Maryland colonial period, Jesuits continued to conduct Catholic schools clandestinely. The American Revolution brought historic changes, and in 1782, Catholics in Philadelphia opened St. Mary's School, considered the first parochial school in the U.S. In 1791, the ratification of the Bill of Rights, with the First Amendment guarantee of religious freedom, helped Catholics further cement the establishment of Catholic schools. Regardless, anti-Catholic sentiment in the late nineteenth century led to opposition to parochial schools. State governments opposed providing funds to aid students attending parochial schools, which Catholics founded largely in response to the requirement to pray and read from Protestant Bibles in public schools. Some Members of Congress attempted to block all government aid to religiously affiliated schools with the proposed "Blaine Amendment" in 1875. This constitutional amendment was never ratified at the federal level, but many state legislatures adopted similar legislation and amendments. Those "little Blaine" amendments are still in place in the constitutions of about thirty-seven states, and still operate to block Catholic school students from equal participation in government educational benefits.

**Anti-Catholic bigotry in presidential campaigns:** During the 1884 presidential campaign, candidate James G. Blaine (who proposed the "Blaine Amendment" in Congress) attended a meeting in a church in New York at which a minister chided those who had left the Republican Party by stating, "We don't propose to leave our party and identify with the party whose antecedents are rum, Romanism, and rebellion." Blaine sat quietly during the anti-Catholic remark. The scene was reported widely in the press, and it cost Blaine the election, particularly in New York City. During the 1928 presidential campaign, Al Smith, a Catholic who had been elected governor of New York three times, was the Democratic candidate for president. It is widely believed that Smith's Catholic beliefs played a key role in his loss of the 1928 presidential election, as anti-Catholic sentiment among the electorate was strong. Many feared that Smith would answer to the pope and not the constitution if elected president. During the 1960 presidential campaign, John F. Kennedy's Catholicism became a major issue in the election. Like Al Smith, Kennedy faced charges that he would "take orders from the Pope" and could not uphold the oath of office.

**Establishment of diplomatic relations with the Vatican:** In the first years of the United States, the new Republic had contacts with the Papal States. However, in 1867, Congress prohibited the financing of any diplomatic post to the Papal authority. This began a period of over seventy years when the U.S. did not have a diplomatic representative to the Pope, coinciding with a period of strong anti-Catholicism in the U.S. In 1940, President Roosevelt sent a "personal representative" to the Pope who served for ten years. However, when President Truman nominated an ambassador to the Vatican in 1951, opposition mounted, and President Truman abandoned the effort. Presidents Nixon and Carter sent personal

representatives to the Vatican. In 1984, President Reagan announced that full diplomatic relations between the U.S. and the Vatican had been established, and the U.S. has continued to send ambassadors to the Vatican since then.

**How was religious liberty addressed at the Second Vatican Council (*Dignitatis Humanae*)?**

*Dignitatis Humanae* provides that "the exercise of religion, of its very nature, consists before all else in those internal, voluntary and free acts whereby man sets the course of his life directly toward God." (*Dignitatis Humanae*, No. 3.) Therefore, individuals are "not to be forced to act in manner contrary to [their] conscience" nor "restrained from acting in accordance with [their] conscience . . . ." (*Id.*)

The Second Vatican Council also "declare[d] that the human person has a right to religious freedom. This freedom means that all men are to be immune from coercion on the part of individuals or of social groups and of any human power, in such wise that no one is to be forced to act in a manner contrary to his own beliefs, whether privately or publicly, whether alone or in association with others, within due limits." (*Dignitatis Humanae*, No. 2.)

Further, *Dignitatis Humanae* provides that "[r]eligious communities [] have the right not to be hindered, either by legal measures or by administrative action on the part of government, in the selection, training, appointment, and transferral of their own Ministers . . . ." (*Dignitatis Humanae*, No. 4.)

**Where are the roots of religious liberty?**

Religious liberty is inherent in our very humanity, hard-wired into each and every one of us by our Creator. Religious liberty is also prior to the state itself. It is not merely a privilege that the government grants us and that can be taken away at will.

**What has the Church said about religious liberty since Vatican II, for example, through Blessed Pope John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI?**

- **Blessed John Paul II:** "[T]he most fundamental human freedom [is] that of practicing one's faith openly, which for human beings is their reason for living." (*Address to Diplomatic Corps*, 13 Jan. 1996, No. 9.)
- **Pope Benedict XVI:** "[Religious freedom] is indeed the first of human rights, not only because it was historically the first to be recognized but also because it touches the constitutive dimension of man, his relation with his Creator." (*Address to Diplomatic Corps*, 10 Jan. 2011.)
- **The distinction between Church and State,** between God and Caesar, remains "fundamental to Christianity." (*Deus Caritas Est*, No. 28.) The Church has "a proper independence and is structured on the basis of her faith as a community which the State must recognize." (*Id.*)

