

**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 September 30, 2017 St. Jerome, priest, doctor of the Church

4:00 PM Confessions

5:00 PM Michael & Amy Goba in celebration of their recent Marriage req. by Bill & Joan Russoniello Goba

Sunday, October 1, 2017 26th Sunday - Ordinary Time

8:00 AM Barbara Abel req. by Norm & Ella Mae Kuzel

10:30 AM Jaimie Nowosad req. by Bill & Joan Russoniello Goba

Baptism during 10:30AM Mass

Monday October 2, 2017 Holy Guardian Angels

NO MASS

Tuesday October 3, 2017 Weekday

NO MASS

Wednesday October 4, 2017 St. Francis of Assisi

9:00 AM Rev. Leoncio T. Almenda

Thursday October 5, 2017 Bl. Francis Xavier Seelos, priest

NO MASS

Friday October 6, 2017 St. Bruno, priest; Bl. Marie Rose

Durocher, virgin

9:00 AM Geoff Boone good health req. by Mackie

Saturday October 7, 2017 Our Lady of the Rosary

4:00 PM Confessions

5:00 PM

Sunday, October 8, 2017 27th Sunday - Ordinary Time

8:00 AM Abbey Marie Coutu req. by Norm & Ella Mae Kuzel

10:30 AM Arthur Choquette req. by his family

1:00 PM Blessing of Animals

Offertory: \$ 2,300.00 Extraordinary: \$ 807.07
Today's second collection is for the Diocesan Cradle Fund.
Next weekend's second collection is for the Mission Combined Appeal.

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 October 7 & 8

5:00pm Lector: Steve Wengloski

Eucharistic Minister: Carole Briggs

Altar Servers: Grace & Nina Gardella

8:00am Lector: Kathy Pellerin

Eucharistic Minister: Betsy Petrie

Altar Servers: Christian & Jack Terwilliger

10:30am Lector: Angela Corentin

Eucharistic Minister: Tony Coscia

Altar Servers: Erika Densman & Nicholas Barrett

**Wedding Banns I & II
Wallace Gagnon & Sandra Grillo**

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
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
2nd 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 Rev. Gerald Kirby, Rev. Krzysztof Drybka OSPPE, Rev. Anthony Gruber, Rev. James Sucholet, Our Holy Father, V. Rev. Ted Tumicki, Rev. John O'Neill MS, Rev. Thomas Angelo, Rev. Roland Cloutier, All Priests. Let us also pray for those priests who have left the ministry.

Mary Immaculate, look upon our priests as the children of your love. For being the sweet Mother of Jesus, they may listen to you attentively when you speak to them. Let them love you fervently and open their hearts to the dew of your grace, for we know that you are blessing our priests. (Ven. Mother Catherine Aurelia, foundress)

Meetings:

Knights of Columbus Thursday Oct. 5 @ 7pm

Parish Mission Oct. 7 – Oct. 11

Polish Dinner Sat. Oct. 14

Coffee & Donuts after the 8am Mass Sunday Oct. 15

Ladies Guild Monday October 16 @ 6:30pm

The **Mission Combined Collection** will be held next weekend. Your contribution will provide assistance to the World Mission Appeal, U.S. Bishop's Appeal for Latin America, Black and Indian Missions, and the Catholic Home Mission Appeal. You will receive information in the mail about this collection. Please read this material and bring your gift envelope to Mass next weekend, October 7/8, 2017.

ANNOUNCEMENTS ~ THE DIOCESE OF NORWICH

- ✓ **Charismatic Prayer Meeting** every Tuesday at 2 PM Spiritual Renewal Center, 11 Bath Street, Norwich, CT ([860-887-0702](tel:860-887-0702)).
- ✓ **Mass of Healing and Anointing** Sunday, October 1, 2017 St. Mary Church, Portland at 2pm Celebrant - Fr. Ray Introigne Healing Prayer - Judith Hughes Prayer Teams available for personal prayer.
- ✓ **Life in the Spirit 7 Week Seminar Wednesday's October 4 through November 15, 2017 St. Mary's Church, Portland, CT - 7:30 to 9pm All are Welcomed!**
- ✓ **The monthly Diocesan Pro-Life Mass** will take place at Christ the King Parish, 1 McCurdy Rd., Old Lyme, on **Saturday, October 7 at 8:30 A.M.** Please join our celebrant **Rev. Walter Nagle** at Mass as we pray to end abortion and for the healing for those who have had an abortion. Following the Mass, the Rosary will be prayed.
- ✓ **ANNUAL DIOCESAN MASS OF REMEMBRANCE** – The Annual Diocesan Mass of Remembrance to honor children who have died from stillbirths, miscarriages or abortions, whether recently or years ago, will take place **Tuesday, October 10**, at 7 P.M. at the Cathedral of St. Patrick in Norwich. Bishop Michael Cote will be the main celebrant. The Mass of Remembrance is an opportunity for family members to memorialize and honor the dignity of the precious lives of pre-born children. Light refreshments will be served following the Mass. For more information, call the Catholic Family Services Office at 860-848-2237, Ext. 306.
- ✓ **Holy Hour for Vocations October 12 at St. Mary, Groton 6pm – 7pm**
- ✓ **MINISTERING TO GENERATION Z AND THEIR FAMILIES Workshop** Hartford Date Friday October 13 from 10am-3pm at St Jerome Church, 1010 Slater Road, New Britain. Providence Date Saturday October 14 from 10am-3pm at Cathedral of SS. Peter & Paul Parish Hall, 30 Fenner Street, Providence, RI. Register online at <https://www.cmdnet.org/genz-locations>
- ✓ **Twenty-Fifth Annual Mass for Firefighters/EMS Personnel.** On Saturday, October 14, 2017, at 5:00 p.m., Bishop Cote will celebrate Mass for all Firefighters/EMS personnel, in the Cathedral of Saint Patrick. Each year, brothers and sisters of all faiths gather to thank God for their calling, to pray for their safety, and to remember their fallen colleagues. Assembly at Chelsea Parade for the line-up and the procession (to the Cathedral) of all personnel and apparatus will begin at 3:30 p.m. The Homilist will be Reverend Robert Marciano, Pastor, Saint Kevin Parish, Warwick, RI. Reception immediately following. All companies, departments, and personnel and their families are cordially invited to participate. For more information call, Mrs. Terri Zampini at [860-887-9294](tel:860-887-9294), x265, or Monsignor Brown at x232.
- ✓ **RACHEL'S VINEYARD RETREAT WEEKENDS**
If you are silently grieving or suffering from an abortion, experience the healing love of Jesus Christ on a **Rachel's Vineyard Retreat**. The weekend healing process includes discussions, Living Scriptures with meditations, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, a Memorial Service and Mass. Participation is confidential and offers an opportunity to experience God's love, forgiveness and compassion. The next weekend in Connecticut is October 20-22 in Litchfield, CT. For more information call 203-631-9030 or visit the national website at www.rachelsvineyard.org.
"PROJECT RACHEL" is our Diocesan ministry for anyone seeking healing and forgiveness from an abortion. Priests in the **Project Rachel** ministry are there for you with God's Grace and Mercy. Call 860-861-4439. All inquiries are confidential.
- ✓ **Unlocking the World of Jesus & the Bible** Come for a day long presentation by Speaker Tom Smith, Director of the Denver Catholic Biblical School. Discover the meaning of discipleship, unlock the Gospels with a new understanding of idioms and images in the Bible. **Saturday, October 21, 2017, Christ the King Church, Old Lyme, from 9 a.m. to 2p.m. \$35 (includes lunch).** For more information please contact the Office of Faith Events, 860-848-237 x304 or manicholas@norwichdiocese.net
- ✓ **Saturday, October 21, 2017 COMPOSER AND LITURGIST TOM KENDZIA** How to make the best use of musical resources of your parish. Come all presiders, music ministers, choirs, cantors, RCIA Teams, catechists, Liturgy committees, all who love to sing! **St. Mathias Parish Center, East Lyme, CT 9:00 to Noon. Register by October 16th.**
Cost: \$10 Registration materials available at www.Norwichdiocese.org or call 860-848-2237
- ✓ **Connecticut Catholic Men's Conference** Saturday, October 21, 2017 at St. Paul Catholic High School in Bristol. 8am – 5pm. Tickets at www.ctcatholicmen.org Cost \$45. Theme "You will be my witness"
- ✓ **BEGINNING EXPERIENCE WEEKEND** ~ If you are widowed, separated or divorced and want help in resolving the pain and grief of losing the marriage relationship and create a more peace-filled future, consider attending a **Beginning Experience weekend October 27-29 at St. Thomas Seminary in Bloomfield, CT.** The fee for the Catholic-based weekend is \$235, which covers food, lodging, materials and a follow-up event. *For more information, contact Victoria at 860-993-2384 or Maureen at 860-285-8685 or visit www.beginningexperience.org/connecticut.*
- ✓ **8th Annual Seton Scholarship Dinner** Please join Bishop Cote at the Eighth Annual Seton Scholarship Dinner honoring the recipients of the *Most Reverend Michael R. Cote, D.D. Award for Contributions to Catholic Education* to be held at 4 PM on Sunday, October 29, 2017 at The Riverhouse at Goodspeed Station, 55 Bridge Road, Haddam Connecticut. This year's honorees are: **Ms. Sharon Briere, Principal, St. Joseph School, North Grosvenordale, CT; Mrs. Robin Holtsclaw, Claims/Risk Manager, representing Catholic Mutual Relief Society; and Mr. James Leone, Theology Teacher, St. Bernard School, Uncasville, CT.** Tickets are \$150/person and will be available for purchase until October 16, 2017. All proceeds benefit Catholic elementary school students within the Diocese in the form of tuition assistance. For tickets and more information, please contact Kathy Gaito at 860-886-1928 ext. 15, kgaito@norwichdiocese.net or visit www.norwichdiocesedevelopment.org.
- ✓ **Worldwide Marriage Encounter** "After the fire there was a tiny whispering sound. When he heard this, Elijah hid his face in his cloak and went and stood at the entrance of the cave." Help each other hear God's plan for your marriage by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next WWME Weekends are Nov 3-5, 2017 in Manchester, CT and Sep 15-17, 2017 in Huntington, NY. For more

information, call Dennis & Jane Lamondy at 860-481-3720 or visit us at <https://www.mectw.org/>.

Programs at My Father's House – 39 N, Moodus Rd, Moodus Mfh.moodus@gmail.com 860.873.1906

- ❖ October 5 Holy Spirit Breakfast \$10 Bud Macfarlane presenting St. Faustina and Divine Mercy
- ❖ October 7 Retreat in honor of the Rosary \$45
- ❖ October 26 Msgr. Robert Batule \$10 "Church & Culture"
- ❖ October 28 Frank Runyeon \$25 performing the Sermon on the Mount
- ❖ November 18 Thanksgiving Retreat
- ❖ December 9 Retreat on Our Lady of Guadalupe

Kris Kringle Fair Saturday, November 11, 2017

Sts. Peter & Paul Church 181 Elizabeth Street, Norwich
Vendors wanted for the annual Kris Kringle Fair from 9am-4pm. Spaces available at \$25 each, including 8 foot table & chairs. To apply, please call 860.889.2794. Application and information will be sent to you. Application deadline is September 30.

The Knights of Columbus and Ladies Guild will be sponsoring their 3rd Polish Dinner on October 14th, 5-7 at the FSC.



The number of tickets is limited and advance tickets are required—none will be sold at the door. **TICKETS ARE ON SALE NOW AFTER ALL MASSES** through October 8th. \$18 per person; meal includes: 1 Golumpki (Stuffed Cabbage), 3 Pierogis, kielbasa, sauerkraut, vegetable, bread, dessert & drink. All proceeds will go to St. Francis Parish. Or contact Kathy at [860-617-9577](tel:860-617-9577) before October 8th.

SAVE YOUR HANGING FLOWER POTS!

The Ladies Guild will again make cemetery arrangements. Please donate your EMPTY hanging flower pots from your summer/fall flowers for use in this fundraiser. PLEASE EMPTY ALL DIRT & old flowers from the pots. You may leave them near the side door of the church garage. Please contact Barbara at 642-7168 with any questions. Thank you.

All women of the parish are invited to join the **Norwich Diocesan Council of Catholic Women (NDCCW)**. Membership is only \$5. Membership Drive begins the weekend of Sept. 23 & 24 thru the end of October. Many men donate to the Membership Drive and are listed as supporters. We are truly grateful to them. The Norwich Council of Catholic Women was started in 1955 by Bishop Bernard J. Flanagan, the first Bishop of Norwich. Bishop Flanagan designated the NDCCW as the official women's organization of the diocese. The money collected through the membership drive is divided up as follows: 60% of the dues collected is given to Catholic Charities at our Annual Convention in May (a check for \$16,629 was given his year); 15% of what is collected in each deanery stays in that district for operating expenses; 20% of what is collected goes to the Norwich Diocesan CCW for operating expenses; 5% is given to the National Council of Catholic Women. The Norwich Diocesan CCW and its seven Districts are all affiliated with the National Council of Catholic Women., You may drop your membership envelope in any collection basket. Envelopes may be found at Church entrances.

East Catholic High School

Come visit East Catholic High School during our Open House this year on *Thursday, November 2, 2017 at 6:45 p.m.* The Entrance Exam for eighth graders will be given on the following Saturday, November 11, 2017 at 8 a.m. at East. Pre-registration for the exam is advised but not required. Visit www.echs.com or call our Admissions office at [860-649-5336](tel:860-649-5336) x6456 for more information!

Saint Bernard School

1593 Norwich-New London Turnpike, Uncasville
cbrown@saint-bernard.com 860-848-1271

One of the first impressions our new students have when coming to campus is the sense of being a part of something greater – a sense of being part of a close-knit community of faculty, staff, and students – a sense of "family". At Saint Bernard School, students in grades 6-12 benefit from a unique and leading edge curriculum. Our learning community, which is infused with the teachings of the Catholic Church as well as the traditional Xaverian values of humility, compassion, trust, zeal, and simplicity, inspires students to form a greater sense of self, of others, and of purpose.

Information Sessions Saturday, October 21st 10am – Noon and Thursday, November 9th 6pm

Placement Testing Saturday, November 4th 8:30am – Noon and Saturday, November 18th 8:30am - Noon

Accepting Applications for fall 2018 Apply Today

State Energy Assistance Applications are being taken by appointment at Lebanon Social Services.

Contact 860.642.4580 to schedule an appointment.

You will need to bring income verification for last 4 weeks of everyone in the home with income, copy of all current bank statements, stocks, bonds, CDs for anyone in the home 18 years +, Copy of lease or mortgage, Copy most recent electric bill, SS numbers & dates of birth for everyone in the household.

Defending Our Religious Liberty Sept. 24, 2017

"In a diverse society like ours, people will disagree on moral issues. A majority should not be able to impose its way of life on others by using the government to coerce people into violating their consciences. The Catholic Church teaches that religious freedom has to do with immunity from coercion. Immunity from government coercion is a right that all citizens in this country should enjoy. So in asking for an exemption to the HHS mandate to fully accommodate deeply held moral and religious beliefs, we are simply asking that the government give us the space to fully participate in American life." -- *Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo, archbishop of Galveston-Houston & president of the USCCB.*

Defending Our Religious Liberty Oct. 1, 2017

For four years, the Little Sisters of the Poor and many other faith-based nonprofit groups have patiently asked the government to do the right thing and let them serve the poor. In a pluralistic society like ours, people should be free to serve the common good without compromising their moral or religious convictions. The HHS mandate, requiring employers to cover contraceptive and abortion-inducing drugs and devices, has tested this country's commitment to a healthy pluralism. Let us pray that in revising the HHS mandate, religious rights of the Catholic Church will be safeguarded.

The Lyman Memorial Bulldog Community would like to invite everyone to the **4th Annual Military Appreciation Night** on Monday, October 2 at 6:00 pm for a pre-game ceremony to honor all military personnel active or retired. Lyman Bulldogs VS Windham Tech, will take the field for a girls' soccer game, following the ceremony.

All active, reserve, and retired military personnel are specially invited to attend and will be honored on the field. Refreshments will be served and all military attendees will be invited to stay and watch the game. Admission is free for all honorees.

Fans are encouraged to attend and support their teams and pay tribute to our local veteran, reserve and active military personnel.

If you have any questions, please call Sherrilyn at 860-465-7342.

Webinar: Enjoying our Faith October 18 at 7:00pm. In

this webinar, you will participate in education to envision fun as part of creating new disciples of Christ, practical ways to integrate fun in faith life, ways to evangelize youth, children and families with fun, and share ideas with colleagues from other parishes on ways they have created discipleship through faith fun.

To register, Email Liza at Iroach@norwichdiocese.net

My dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

The month of October is Respect Life Month and Sunday, October 1, is Respect Life Sunday. The theme this year is "Be not afraid." On hearing these words one immediately thinks of St. John Paul II and his inaugural homily (Oct. 22, 1978) where three times he encouraged the faithful to "Be not afraid." The message continues with Pope Francis who is calling the church to "Be not afraid" and take Christ to the margins of society. "Go. Do not be afraid and serve" was the central message of his homily at the final mass of World Youth Day in Rio, 2013. The message was repeated last year at World Youth Day in Krakow where he exhorted the young people: "Don't be afraid to say yes to him (Jesus) with all your heart, to respond generously and follow him!"

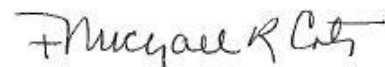
What I am saying today is "Be not afraid" of the church's beautiful teachings on life. "Be not afraid" is the message to communicate to the person considering an abortion. "Be not afraid" to bring that child into the world. The unborn child is cherished, loved and wanted by a large community. "Be not afraid" to share the incomparable dignity and worth of every human being to all whom you meet. Now, more than ever, Pope Francis is encouraging us to "Be not afraid" of the stranger, the migrant, the refugee who is created in God's image and likeness. "Be not afraid" if you have experienced an abortion or participated in an abortion. Hope and healing is possible through the great mercy of God.

"Be not afraid" of suffering. Christ unites Himself to those who are sick and suffering and you can find meaning in the sufferings of the passion of Jesus. No one is alone. Physician Assisted Suicide is still being promoted under the guise of words like "Aid in dying" or "Death with dignity." It is a sign of an age that lacks hope that these means of ending a life are being promoted. The elderly and the disabled are the most vulnerable to efforts at bringing Physician Assisted Suicide into the medical profession.

"Be not afraid" is essentially a message of joy. Our Lady at the Annunciation and the shepherds in the field were both greeted with joyful messages of hope from an angel. St. Joseph, in a dream, was told "do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home." You and I are to be messengers of hope and joy to a country facing a growing epidemic of opioid use. We are to be angels of mercy to share our food with the hungry, clothe the naked, and visit the imprisoned. In short, we are to be witnesses that life is beautiful from the first moment of conception to natural death. As St. John Paul II said in The Gospel of Life: "The Gospel of life is for the whole of human society. To be actively pro-life is to contribute to the renewal of society through the promotion of the common good. It is impossible to further the common good without acknowledging and defending the right to life, upon which all the other inalienable rights of individuals are founded and from which they develop."

Thank you for all you do for life in the Diocese of Norwich and "Be not afraid" to bring the good news of the gospel to everyone you meet.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Bishop of Norwich

Praise, Worship, and Healing Prayer Service

Nothing uplifts the soul like praising and worshipping God! Come and rejoice for answered prayer, seek prayer for yourself or for a burden you're carrying for someone else. Join us on Thursday evening, October 5th, at 7:00 p.m. at St. Andrew Church for an evening of praising and worshipping God with music, teaching, witnessing, and prayer. If desired, you may also meet with a prayer team for personal, intercessory, or healing prayer. This service will be held on the first Thursday every month, immediately following Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

**Lebanon Ecumenical Clergy Sponsored Event:
An Informational Guide to use in Preparation of
Death.**

No Charge.

Place: Lebanon Senior Center

Date: October 24, 2017

Time: 12:45pm

Lunch served at 12 noon

Reservations call the Senior Center at 860.642.3040

Speakers: Clergy, Lawyers, Sexton and others

"Time well Spent"

**St. Francis of Assisi –
Born 1181 - Died 1226**

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

All pets accompanied by their owners (young & old) will be welcomed at St. Francis of Assisi Parish's Annual Blessing of the Animals to be held on Sunday, October 8, 2017 at 1:00pm, gathering near the Statue of Saint Francis in front of the Church.

All pets MUST be leashed or caged



**Permanent Deacon Formation Program
Announcement:**

The Diocese of Norwich intends to start a new Permanent Diaconate Formation Class. A deacon is ordained and missioned by Christ through the bishop to minister to the needy and the poor and to be a minister of Word and Sacrament, working in obedience to his bishop and in close fraternal cooperation with priests. The deacon is a sacramental sign of this service and he solemnly promises to be a living example of such service for others. The first step is the identification of potential Candidates for the five-year Permanent Diaconate formation program. If you are college educated, under the age of 55, and feel called by the Holy Spirit to begin investigating a vocation to the Permanent Diaconate then please discuss this with your pastor and send an email to director@norwichdeacons.org no later than **Sunday November 5, 2017.**

**40th Anniversary Party
To Celebrate Spiritual Renewal Ministry
St. Patrick Cathedral Auditorium
Sunday, October 8th, 2-4pm
All Are Invited!**