

**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 November 25, 2017 St. Catherine of Alexandria,  
virgin & martyr**

4:00 PM Confessions

5:00 PM Michael & Amy Dorney Goba on their recent  
Marriage req. by Bill & Annette Russoniello Peck

**Sunday, November 26, 2017 Our Lord Jesus Christ King of  
the Universe**

8:00 AM Deceased members of the Lavertu family req. by  
Bert & Rachel Bosse

10:30 AM Janet Gagnon req. by her family

**Monday November 27, 2017 Weekday**

NO MASS

**Tuesday November 28, 2017 Weekday**

NO MASS

**Wednesday November 29, 2017 Weekday**

9:00 AM Living & deceased members of the Evanco family  
req. by the family

**Thursday November 30, 2017 St. Andrew, apostle**

NO MASS

**Friday December 1, 2017 Weekday**

9:00 AM Carol Barrett req. by her family

**Saturday December 2, 2017 Blessed Virgin Mary**

4:00 PM Confessions

5:00 PM Christopher Grabarek req. by the Dyer family

**Sunday, December 3, 2017 First Sunday of Advent**

8:00 AM Norm Pellerin req. by his wife

10:30 AM Alicia Wayland req. by Christopher & Trish Goba  
Churchill

Offertory & Parish Fuel to be reported next weekend due to early  
submission of the bulletin.

Today's second collection is for building maintenance.

Next weekend's second collection is for extraordinary expenses.

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 December 2 & 3**

5:00pm Lector: Anne Staebner

Eucharistic Minister: Pam Flaherty

Altar Servers: Genevieve & Nina Gardella

8:00am Lector: Rick Kane

Eucharistic Minister: Peggy Stygar

Altar Servers: Anthony Pomerleau & Ryan Dungan

Eucharistic Minister: Wally Gagnon

Altar Servers: Felipe & Gabriela Mastroluca

**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  
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 Rev. William Flynn,  
Rev. Christopher Feeney, Rev. John Gallagher OFM Cap, Rev.  
Charles McGrail, Rev. Joseph Whittel, Rev. Grzegorz  
Brozonowicz, Rev. David Zercie MSA, Rev. Victor Chaker, Rev.  
Joseph Castaldi, Rev. John Ashe, Rev. Domink Libiszewski  
OSPPE, and for all our priests.

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. For that, may they  
be purified in the waves of the Divine Blood of Jesus. (Ven.  
Mother Catherine Aurelia, foundress)



**All Parishioners are  
invited to join the CCD  
classes for a Living  
Rosary.**

**Sunday December 3rd  
at 9:00 in the Lebanon  
Elementary School  
gymnasium, 479 Exeter  
Road.**

**Please join us as we  
come together to show  
special devotion to the  
Blessed Mother in this  
most holy season.**

## **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** at 2pm Monday, November 27, 2017 Spiritual Renewal Center 11 Bath Street, Norwich
- ✓ **Holy Hour for Vocations** December 14th at Saint Mary in Putman from 6pm – 7pm.

### **WINE, WISDOM, AND WHY**

Wine, Wisdom, and Why at Holy Family Hebron on Thursday November 30<sup>th</sup> from 7 – 9pm. "The Advent Edition" - Learn more about your faith and share some fellowship with other adult Catholics. Join us for an evening of questions and answers about our Faith! Ask questions about *Advent Traditions* as well as any other *Faith Traditions* you have always wondered about! A panel of experts ready to answer any questions include: *Bishop Michael Cote, Bishop of the Norwich Diocese, Sr. Elissa Rinere CP, Director of Office of Worship/Pastoral Planning, Norwich Diocese, Deacon Chris Deskus, Director of Prison Ministry Office, Norwich Diocese, and Mr. Brendan Bell, Scripture Teacher, Xavier High School, Middletown* RSVP BY Nov. 10th to via email to [faithevents@norwichdiocese.net](mailto:faithevents@norwichdiocese.net) – Questions for the evening may also be sent to this email.

### **The Pope wants to hear from Young People!**

To prepare for the upcoming international Synod on "Young People, the Faith, and Vocational Discernment," the Holy Father wants online feedback from all youth and young adults, ages 16 to 29, from around the world, regardless of how active they are in the practice of the faith. Youth and young adults, ages 16 to 29, are invited to go online and fill out the Vatican survey: <https://survey-synod2018.glauco.it/limesurvey/index.php/147718> When you get to the page, click box in the top right hand corner that say "italiano". A drop down menu will appear, select English then begin the survey. The online survey is open until November 30, 2017.

### **Programs at My Father's House – 39 N, Moodus Rd, Moodus [www.myfathershousect.org](http://www.myfathershousect.org) 860.873.1906**

- ❖ Saturday, November 25, 2017 Fr. Francis J. Peffley Day. Fr. Francis J. Peffley is a dynamic and informative speaker, had 8 Legion of Mary in 1 parish. Author of Inside the Legion of Mary and The Priest and The Legion of Mary. Has recorded over 200 audio CD's. His homilies appear on line.9:30 a.m.-4:30p.m. Love offering is \$20 Includes continental breakfast and lunch. Register online [www.myfathershousect.org](http://www.myfathershousect.org)
- ❖ December 2 Retreat speaker Rocco Fortunato Founder of Spread the Blaze
- ❖ December 9 Retreat on Our Lady of Guadalupe

**East Catholic High School:** The Entrance Exam for eighth graders will be given on Saturday, December 2nd, 2017 at 8 a.m. at East Catholic High School. Pre-registration for the exam is advised but not required. Visit [www.echs.com](http://www.echs.com) or call our Admissions office at 860-649-5336 x6456 for more information!

### **Worldwide Marriage Encounter**

"You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments." Learn how to better love your spouse by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next Weekend is Feb 2-4, 2018 in Manchester, CT. For more information, call Dennis & Jane Lamondy at [860-481-3720](tel:860-481-3720) or visit them at <https://wwmectw.org/>.

### **YOUNG ADULT MASS WITH BISHOP COTE**

On Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, St. Joseph's in Willimantic is delighted to host Bishop Michael Cote for the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Diocesan Mass & Reception for Young Adults. All Young Adults (ages 18 - 39, single and married) are invited and encouraged to attend! We encourage Young Adults to invite friends to join us! Mass with the Bishop will begin at 11:15am and following liturgy there will be a coffee social in the hall.

St. Joseph School, Baltic will host their annual Christmas Auction and Basket Raffle on Saturday, December 2nd in the school gym. Doors open at 4:30pm for viewing and entry is free. The Knights of Columbus are hosting a baked potato bar beginning at 5:00pm, with a cost of \$5.00 per person for baked potato or sweet potato with a huge variety of toppings, salad and a drink. The live auction, beginning at 6a;00pm, will feature fantastic items to include Disney Park hopper passes, a hand-carved piece from Hanover Woodworking, and so much more. Raffle tickets can be purchased at the door that evening; a sheet of 20 for \$20. Raffle winners for these amazing basket will be announced following the auction. Come join us for an evening of great fun and delicious food. For more information, please call St. Joseph School at 860.822.6141.

### **EUCHARIST, REVELATION AND YOU**

**Where: Sacred Heart Church Hall (Norwichtown)**

**When:** Mondays from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

You are invited to participate in this weekly class that will leave you with a whole new appreciation of the Mass. It will help you to see more clearly the correlation between the Eucharist as the heavenly worship spoken in the Book of Revelation and your daily life. This course is free and is offered to those who want to know more about their faith. This class will begin on November 13<sup>th</sup> and will be led by Msgr. Les Janik.

Required Books: *The Lamb's Supper – Scott Hahn, The Bible – Book of Revelation*

**NEWPORT, RI.**—The Annual Convocation for Priests will be held from December 4-6, 2017, at **Gurney's Newport Resort** 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 "**Paul as a Model for Pastoral Ministry.**" The key presenter will be Very Reverend Ronald Witherup, SS, Superior General of the Society of the Priests of Saint Sulpice (Sulpicians) and resides in Paris, France. A former academic dean and professor of Sacred Scripture at St. Patrick Seminary & University in Menlo Park, CA, he holds degrees in Old Testament and spirituality, as well as a licentiate in theology (STL), and a doctorate in biblical studies from Union Theological Seminary in Richmond, VA, (PhD). He is a frequent lecturer on biblical and theological topics and has written many articles for various scholarly and popular journals. Fr. Witherup has written over twenty books. His latest books from Paulist Press are to appear next year, *What the Bible Says about Mercy (and why it matters!)*, and *Life in the New Creation: A Spiritual-Pastoral Reading of Galatians*.

Bishop Cote emphasized the importance of this annual gathering in his letter inviting each priest to the Convocation, "Your presence and commitment to this time together is important to me. This year we celebrate the 36<sup>th</sup> year of gathering as a presbyterate for the Convocation."

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

**Sacred Heart Church**  
**52 West Town St. Norwichtown**

**Invites everyone to the**  
**Annual Snowflake Fair**  
**December 2nd from 9-2.**  
**Theme baskets, white elephant, home**  
**baked goodies, handmade items, lunch**  
**and more!**

**Holiday Remembrance Workshop** Thursday  
December 14 from 6:30pm – 8:00pm at the Center for  
Hospice Center – 227 Dunham St. – Norwich.  
Free, all supplies will be provided. Space is limited; no  
children under 18 years of age. Please RSVP to  
860.848.5699 x250 or email [lbradley@hospicesect.org](mailto:lbradley@hospicesect.org)  
to reserve a space by December 8.

**Defending Our Religious Liberty**  
**Nov. 26, 2016**

"Religious freedom is not only that of private thought or worship. It is the liberty to live, both privately and publicly according to the ethical principles resulting from found truth," says Pope Francis. This is why it is important that our lawmakers protect the rights of the Church and its ministries and organizations when considering the changes to the current healthcare mandate.

**Our Lady of Fatima's Importance Today**  
**Donna-Marie Cooper O'Boyle**

Sunday December 3rd at 1:00pm.

St. Edward Church

59 High Street – Stafford Springs

Donna-Marie Cooper O'Boyle is the EWTN host of three television series for mothers and families, an international speaker, award-winning journalist, and best-selling author of more than twenty-five books. Come hear Donna-Marie explain how the message of Fatima is a call from the Mother of God for a renewed fidelity to penance and prayer and continual conversion of the heart. Following Donna-Marie's presentation you are invited to a meet and greet reception with refreshments in the Parish Hall.

***"Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest".***

**Visit the NEW Caregiver Spirituality Webpage**

**Sponsored by the Office of Faith Events**

**Resources for caregivers include prayers, articles, books and websites that offer both practical and spiritual support**

**[www.norwichdiocese.org/caregiver-spirituality-support-group](http://www.norwichdiocese.org/caregiver-spirituality-support-group)**

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, 2018. Email the couple's name, wedding date and city and state where they reside to [bkberland@gmail.com](mailto:bkberland@gmail.com). Include your contact phone or email address. Or, visit the national website at [www.wwme.org](http://www.wwme.org). For more information, contact the Catholic Family Services Office at 860-848-2237, Ext 306.

**The monthly Diocesan Pro-Life Mass** will take place at The Cathedral of St. Patrick in Norwich on **Saturday, December 2 at 8:30 A.M.** Please join our celebrant **Rev. Ray Introigne** 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 both at the Cathedral and Planned Parenthood. A brunch in the Cathedral Hall will follow the Rosary this month.

**OFFICE OF FAITH EVENTS Cordially Invites You to Our YOUNG ADULT MASS WITH BISHOP COTE**

December 3 11:15 a.m. at St. Joseph's in Willimantic, 99 Jackson St., Willimantic, CT 06226

Donut and Coffee social provided after mass.

Young adults are persons from 18 - 39 who represent diverse cultural, racial, ethnic, educational, vocational, social, political, and spiritual backgrounds. They are college students, workers, and professionals; they are persons in military service; they are single, married, divorced, or widowed; they are with or without children; they are newcomers in search of a better life.



**GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEA:** Tony Coscia's new book, which is EN-TITLED (Tony's 50,000 Co-incidence Miracles), is helping people to notice their own everyday common miracles. Tony writes in a captivating and exciting way -- about 100-common daily miracle stories -- which will remind you of some of your own daily miracles too. The book is a great GIFT ITEM -- to help people to notice all of the miracles they might be missing in their own lives.

The book is a life-changing Christmas-Gift-Item ... and you can get the book at Merciful Savior book store in Colchester CT, (or at St. Francis of Assisi parish in Lebanon CT -- in the parish office there, from 9-to-2: PM on: (Mon, Wed, Fri) or to noon on Sun).

**Our Lady of Guadalupe!** All are invited to join Bishop Cote and the Latino people of the Diocese in our annual bilingual celebration of the Feast day of Our Lady of Guadalupe at St. Patrick's Cathedral, Tuesday, December 12, 2017. The celebration begins with the Rosary and opportunity for confessions at 6:30pm, followed by Holy Mass at 7:00pm. Fiesta following. We look forward to honoring Our Lady with you.\_

All ladies of the parish are invited to the Ladies Guild Christmas Party on Monday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 cocktails/6:30 dinner at The Log Cabin.

Reservation forms can be found at the church entrances, the deadline is December 13<sup>th</sup> to submit entrée choices and payment.

Please contact Sandra at 860-537-1372 or Alicia at 860-465-7603 if you have any questions.