

**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**



Saturday January 27, 2018 St. Angela Merici, virgin, religious founder

4:00 PM Confessions

5:00 PM People of the Parish living & deceased

Sunday, January 28, 2018 Fourth Sunday Ordinary Time

8:00 AM Mary Mateycik req. by the Dyer family

10:30 AM Souls in Purgatory

Monday, January 29, 2018 Weekday

NO MASS

Tuesday January 30, 2018 Weekday

NO MASS

Wednesday January 31, 2018 St. John Bosco, priest

9:00 AM Living & Deceased members of the Udovich family req. by their family

Thursday February 1, 2018 Weekday

NO MASS

Friday February 2, 2018 Presentation of the Lord

9:00 AM Carol Barrett req. by Mike & Gail Kasuba

Saturday February 3, 2018 St. Blaise, bishop & martyr; St. Ansgar, bishop

NO MASS

4:00 PM Confessions

5:00 PM Living & Deceased members of the Ladies Guild
Blessing of Throats after Mass

Sunday, February 4, 2018 Fifth Sunday Ordinary Time

8:00 AM Ronald Lavertu req. by the Ladies Guild

Blessing of Throats after Mass

10:30 AM

Blessing of Throats after Mass

Offertory: \$ 2,213.00 Building Maintenance: \$ 679.00
Today's second collection is a special collection for offertory makeup due to the recent heavy weekend snowstorms Dec. 9 & 10, Dec. 15 & 16, and Dec. 24 & 25. Your generosity is deeply appreciated.

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 1.adorers, please consider omitting to a specific hour. Contact Dennis Girard @ 860.334.9894 or dennisgirard51@gmail.com

PASCHAL CANDLE

If anyone would like to help along with other families to purchase the Paschal Candle in memory of a loved one, please contact Cheryl in the Parish Office. The cost of the candle is \$250.

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

CTN3 Jonah Swett, U.S. Navy

ITSA Rocky Spedaliere Jr., U.S. Navy

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. Arul Peter, Rev. Martin Jones, Rev. Stanley Szczapa, Rev. George Busto CO, Rev. Brian Maxwell, Rev. Jonathan Ficara, Rev. John Ashe, Rev. Tomasz Albrecht, Rev. Benjamin Soosaimanickam, Rev. Victor Chaker, Rev. Christopher Zmuda, Rev. Thomas Sickler MS, V. Rev. Laurence LaPointe, Msgr. Leszek Janik. Our priests speak to the faithful with their hearts and their faith. Fill them, Lord, with burning zeal for the conversion of sinners. O Jesus, Eternal Priest, look with love upon Your priests. Teach them to penetrate the secret of the tabernacle...the Divine Blood. (Ven. Mother Catherine Aurelia, foundress)

Weekend February 3 & 4

5:00pm Lector: Carole Briggs

Eucharistic Minister: Richard Lataille

Altar Servers: Grace & Nina Gardella

8:00am Lector: Rosanne Coffey

Eucharistic Minister: Kathy Walden

Altar Servers: Christian & Jack Terwilliger

10:30am Lector: Angela Coentin

Eucharistic Minister: Paul Pelletier

Altar Servers: Erika Densman & Becca Wheaton

Grade 9 will assist at the 10:30am Mass on February 4.

Refreshments following the Mass in the meeting room.

MEETINGS

75 Anniversary Committee Monday Jan. 29 @ 6:30pm

Knights of Columbus Thursday Feb. 1 @ 7:00pm

BLESSING OF THROATS after all Masses Feb. 3 & 4



St. Blaise: (d. 316) bishop & martyr. While there is no accurate history about St. Blaise, tradition is that St. Blaise retreated to a cave during the persecution of Licinius. He became a hermit, befriending wild animals and caring for them when they were wounded or sick. Hunters found Blaise surrounded by wild animals, arrested him, and planned to take him to prison. On the way, they encountered a woman whose young son was choking to death on a fishbone. Blaise healed him. The tradition of blessing of throats is derived from that encounter. Blaise was brought to Governor Agricolaus and beheaded. Through the intercession of St. Blaise, may God deliver us from all evils of the throat and from every other evil.

ANNOUNCEMENTS ~ THE DIOCESE OF NORWICH

- ✓ **Charismatic Prayer Meeting** every Tuesday at 2 PM Spiritual Renewal Center, 11 Bath Street, Norwich, CT (860-887-0702) .
- ✓ **The monthly Diocesan Pro-Life Mass** will take place at the Cathedral of St. Patrick in Norwich on **Saturday, Feb. 3 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 both at the Cathedral and Planned Parenthood.
- ✓ **Healing Mass** at 2pm Mondays, February 12 and 26, 2018 Spiritual Renewal Center, 11 Bath Street, Norwich
- ✓ On Sunday, February 4, 2018, the 21st Annual Mass of Thanksgiving for the Gift of Consecrated Life will be celebrated at 10:30 a.m., in the Cathedral of Saint Patrick, Norwich. All are invited to join Bishop Cote in thanking God for the gift of consecrated life and for the sisters, brothers, and religious priests who enrich the Church and build up God's Kingdom with the witness of their religious commitment. The homilist will be Father Peter Grover, O.M.V., Rector of Saint Clement Eucharist Shrine in Boston. All are invited to participate in the Mass.
- ✓ **Holy Hour for Vocations:** February 15 at St. John, 22 Maple Ave., Uncasville.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter "Brothers and sisters, I should like you to be free of anxieties." Let us learn to calm our anxieties about our spouses by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next Weekends are Feb 2-4, 2018 in Manchester, CT and Jul 6-8, 2018 in MANCHESTER, CT. For more information, call Dennis & Jane Lamondy at 860-481-3720 or visit them at <https://wwmectw.org/>.

Celebrate Marriage – Now that the holiday rush is through, it's not too early to begin thinking of Valentine's Day. Give your Valentine something special this year – the gift of your time. Come celebrate your marriage at a day-long enrichment that will renew your dreams, increase your passion and refresh and celebrate your marriage. This marriage enrichment aptly entitled, "**Celebrate Marriage**," will take place on **Saturday, February 10, 2018**, from 9 A.M to 3 P.M. at Christ the King Parish, 1 McCurdy Rd., Old Lyme. The cost is \$35 per couple, which includes workbook and lunch. Registration is required. To register, call the Diocesan Catholic Family Services Office at 860-848-2237, Ext. 306.

Women's Conference 2018:
Called to Joy! The Office of Faith Events and the Norwich Diocesan Council of Catholic Women welcome women of all ages. Offering workshops on parenting, relationships, prayer, scripture and more. Keynote speaker Valimar Jansen, and Mass with Bishop Cote...Saturday, April 14, 2018, 8:30-3:30, St. Bernard High School, Uncasville. Find the registration form at www.norwichdiocese.org under the Office of Faith Events- Upcoming Events. Or contact us at 860-848-2237. Register today!

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT ~ If you are in need of consolation after the loss of a loved one, consider attending *Seasons of Hope*, a new Bereavement Support group that will meet Thursday evenings from 7-9 P.M. at **St. Andrew Church Library, 128 Norwich Ave, Colchester**. The program, which consists of four, six-week sessions, will explore issues of mourning through Scripture, prayer, reflection and faith-sharing. For more information, contact Cheryl Laporte at 860-537-4463 or e-mail her at calaporte48@gmail.com.

Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center Programs

860.760.9705 www.holyfamilyretreat.org
303 Tunxis Road, West Hartford

- ❖ Blessings Workshop Saturday Feb. 3 from 10am – 5pm Create practices that nurture our ability to sustain a life lived in blessing, including the making of blessing postcards to share. \$65. Includes lunch.
- ❖ Couples' Weekend Retreat Fri. – Sun. Feb. 9-11 \$575
- ❖ Ash Wednesday or Evening Retreat Wed. Feb. 14 from 10am-2pm or 6-9pm \$40 includes meal.

Free Seminar: Human Trafficking – the dangers, risks and signs! Tuesday February 6th (snow date: Feb 7th) from 6:30-8pm, the Mercy Alumnae Association is hosting a seminar at Mercy High School to inform the local community on the dangers, risks, and signs of human trafficking. Panelists, including an FBI agent, Middletown Police Officer, and representative from DCF, will discuss local occurrences and provide advice to local youths and adults. Following the panel, the audience will be invited to ask questions. After the program, the panelists as well as a registered therapist will be available for audience members who would like to speak confidentially. Contact Barb Miller, Director of Alumnae at bmiller@mercyhigh.com or 860-347-8957 for more information. The event is free and open to the public. Mercy High School, 1740 Randolph Rd. Middletown, CT 06457.....www.mercyhigh.com

Save the Date



Dinner with Music by Wojo
Saturday, February 10th
6 to 10 pm

At the Fire Safety Complex
Tickets will be sold after Masses
Advanced ticket sales only
\$20 per person

Sponsored by the St. Francis Ladies Guild
Questions call Alicia at 860-465-7603

"Discover Mercy" Mercy High School - Middletown, CT
Saturday, March 3, 2018 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Register online – www.mercyhigh.com For 5th, 6th & 7th grade girls Girls participate in two activities of their choice followed by lunch in the dining commons. The day concludes with closing comments and a performance by the Mercy/Xavier "Vocal Dimension" Show Choir in the auditorium. This year's activities: Chemistry of Tie-Dyeing & Simple DNA, Cupcake Decorating, Field Hockey Clinic, Introduction to Italian, Mad about Math, Mini Mock Trial, Paint the Town – Everything French, Show Choir Workshop, Theater Arts Workshop
Optional Parent Activities: Parents will have the opportunity to participate in the choice of the following sessions: Admissions Process & Questions for the Administration, School Counseling Department Personnel and Faculty Health and Personal Concerns for your Teenage Daughter Parent-to-Parent – Current Parents Answer your Questions School Tour – Join Mercy Students on a Guided Tour of the Campus

Mercy High School is sponsoring a **\$25,000 Education Raffle**. Anyone can win! The \$25,000 is tax free and can be used at any accredited school in the U.S. (grades K – College) and for student loan payments. Tickets are \$100. The drawing is Tuesday, April 10, 2018 at Mercy's Spring Concert (concert begins at 7:00 p.m., Drawing at 8:00 p.m.) You do not need to be present to win. Only 650 tickets will be sold. For information, or to order a ticket, visit www.mercyhigh.com or call Mercy at 860-347-8957.

Please join us on Thursday evening, February 1st, at 7:00 p.m. at St. Andrew Church for an evening of praising and worshipping God with music, teaching, witnessing, and prayer. The service planned for January 4th was canceled because of a snow storm. We will be repeating the theme for that evening. Deacon Michael Puscas will be teaching about "Grief," and Shelly Pollo from Seeds of Hope will be telling everyone about a new Catholic Bereavement Support and Education Program which began on January 11th at St. Andrew Church.

Programs at Enders Island – Mystic 860.536.0565
Winter Day of Recollection Wednesday February 21st at 9am.
Fee: \$50pp. The Mystery of Lent: Finding God in the Feasts and Fasts of Lent. <http://enders.is/WinterDOR>

MASS INTENTIONS

We have several open Masses during 2018. You may have a Mass said for a variety of intentions: for a deceased loved one, in celebration of a marriage, anniversary, birthday, in thanksgiving, for a special intention, for world peace, etc.

To request a Mass intention, please call Cheryl in the parish office during office hours.

Dear Friends in Christ,

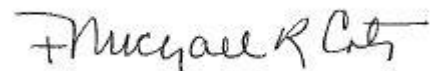
Catholic Schools Week, which is celebrated January 28 to February 3, 2018, is an annual celebration of Catholic education in our country. Our schools observe the week with open houses and other special activities for students, faculties, families, parishioners, and community members. It is a time to acknowledge the value of our Catholic schools in the Diocese of Norwich, and their contributions to the Church, local communities, and the nation.

This year's theme is Catholic Schools: Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed. In our diocese, student learning is carried out by research based best practices in academics in a faith-filled environment. The faith-based nature of our schools provides an education in our deeply rooted Catholic faith. Our schools serve those in need both locally and globally, as we provide them with the tools to put their faith in action. Our schools prepare our students to be the future leaders in our society by instilling a moral compass and preparing them to communicate well. Our Catholic school students' success is evidenced by the high graduation rates, the increasing number of college scholarships and credits offered, and by their commitment to their faith beyond their school years.

It is also a time to express my appreciation for the tremendous amount of support that parishioners show for our Catholic schools, in giving of your time, talent, and treasures. It is a time to thank all of those involved in the ministry of Catholic education for their dedication not only to the students whom they serve, but also for the faith that they live and profess each and every day. It is a time to reflect upon the importance of the prayerful, safe, and peaceful environments in which our students learn high standard academics as well as how to better serve God and each other. It is also a time to consider a Catholic education for your children and the many benefits of doing so.

With God's abundant blessings,

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Bishop of Norwich

75th Anniversary Celebration

DRAWING FOR A 12 X 16 FRAMED & MATTED Nancy Bergeron, Moment in Time, St. Francis Print

Tickets: \$5.00 each

Tickets will be sold after all Masses:

January 27-28 & February 3 & 4

And the Ladies Guild Dinner February 10th

Drawing will be held at 9:00pm February 10th

Do not need to be present to win

For more information on anniversary events please read the weekly bulletin or visit the parish website: Stfrancisassisilebanonct.org in the Ministries section.

Free Rosary Repair Service:

We have lots of parts.

Send your broken rosaries in padded envelope to: Betty & Dick Holden, 7 Crane Place, Simsbury, CT 06070 (May – October)

They will be repaired and returned to you within the week of receipt. Donations of old and broken rosaries are also accepted which will be repaired and sent on to the missions. Include a note indicating repair and return to me or this is a donation. 860.658.6330 or email HoldenBnD@comcast.net.

Nov-April: 7930 Estero Blvd #502 Fort Meyers Beach FL 33931

PARISH GIVING



Did you know that you can have your weekly offering automatically sent to the parish with online banking automatic bill pay through your bank.

No need to find your check book and write out a check.

No need to stop by the ATM.

No need to remember your weekly envelope.

You can choose how much and how often to give.

Your contributions would still be recorded for tax purposes.

BENEFITS FOR SAINT FRANCIS

Offertory becomes more stable.

No more missed offertory due to sickness, weather, and vacation.

Expense for offertory envelope packets for those using online banking bill pay would be eliminated.

All you would need to do would be to contact your bank and ask to set up online banking and automatic bill pay.

Questions: Please contact Cheryl in the parish office at 860.642.6711

WE CAN HELP

To report inappropriate contact of any kind by a representative of the Diocese of Norwich or for assistance to victims, please call: 1.800.624.7407

Extraordinary Form – Traditional Latin Mass –

Offered each Sunday

- 12pm at Holy Apostles Seminary 33 Prospect Hill, Cromwell, CT (high Mass during academic year, low Mass in summer)
- 2pm at Our Lady of Lourdes, 1650 Route 12, Gales Ferry, CT (low Mass)

SEEKING - PARISH ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS

There are currently 2 openings for youth

members (ages 14-18) and 1 adult member.

Consideration for candidates to the Parish Advisory Council.

- (a) Active parishioners are eligible.**
- (b) Parishioners may nominate any interested parishioner, including themselves.**
- (c) Must be a Roman Catholic.**
- (d) Must be a practicing Catholic in accordance of Canon Law.**
- (e) Must be Confirmed (meaning, has received the Sacrament of Confirmation).**

A parishioner desiring to serve on the Parish Advisory Council should be nominated by making his or her interest known to the Pastor. The Pastor will verify and confirm that such individual is eligible and is a Catholic in good standing.