

**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, Parochial Vicar
Deacon Michael Puscas



**MASS
INTENTIONS**

Saturday October 6, 2018, 2018 St. Bruno, priest; Blessed
Marie Rose Durocher, virgin

5:00 PM People of the Parish living & deceased
Sunday October 7, 2018 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00 AM Special intention req. by the Palmer family
10:30 AM Arthur Choquette req. by his family
1:00 PM Blessing of Animals

Monday October 8, 2018 Week Day in Ordinary Time
NO MASS Parish Office closed in observance of Columbus Day
Tuesday October 9, 2018 St. Denis, bishop & companions,
martyrs; St. John Leonardi, priest

NO MASS
Wednesday October 10, 2018 Week Day in Ordinary Time

9:00 AM Robert Burns req. by Irene Burns
Thursday October 11, 2018 St. John XIII, pope
NO MASS

Friday October 12, 2018 Week Day in Ordinary Time

9:00 AM Dave & Edith Perotti req. by their family
Saturday October 13, 2018, 2018 Blessed Virgin Mary
5:00 PM Viola Smutko req. by her family

Sunday October 14, 2018 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00 AM
10:30 AM Norma Geer req. by the Goba family

Offertory: \$ 2,085.00 Building Maintenance: \$ 505.00
Today's second collection is for the Diocesan Cradle Fund.
Next weekend's second collection is for the diocesan Mission
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
1.adorers, please consider omitting to a specific hour. Contact Dennis
Girard @ 860.334.9894 or dennisgirard51@gmail.com

Weekend October 13 & 14

5:00pm Lector: Carole Briggs
Eucharistic Minister: Jim Hay
Altar Servers: Steve Bardes, CJ Frank
8:00am Lector: Rosanne Coffey
Eucharistic Minister: Joan Grecki
Altar Servers: Emily Pomerleau
10:30am Lector: Maureen Polana
Eucharistic Minister: Tony Coscia
Altar Servers: Erika Densman, Drew Taylor

Liturgy Committee Wednesday October 10 @ 6:30pm



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
AM2 Emerson Flannery, U.S. Navy
PO 3 Alex R. Paris, U.S. Navy
Sergeant Chad Wengloski, U.S. Marines
CTN2 Jonah Swett, U.S. Navy
IT3 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 Bishop Michael R. Cote, V. Rev. Jan Swiderski, Rev. Joseph Castaldi, Rev. Tadeusz Zadorozny, Rev. William McNulty, Rev. John O'Neil MS, Rev. Frank McKenna, Rev. Joseph Ashe, Rev. Michael Gill, Rev. Kevin Reilly, Msgr. Thaddeus Malanowski, Rev. Michael Parisi, Msgr. Anthony Rosaforte. Mary Immaculate, look upon our priests as the children of your love. Let them love you fervently and open their hearts to the dew of your grace. (Ven. Mother Catherine Aurelia, foundress)

Beginning October 6 & 7, Grades 2 and 8 are asked to sign-in in the sacristy for attendance at Mass.

ANNIVERSARY MASS — All couples married 25 & 50 years or celebrating any significant anniversary year are invited to attend a Silver and Gold Jubilee Anniversary Mass at the Cathedral of St. Patrick in Norwich on Sunday, October 21, 2018 at 2 P.M. Come and renew your commitment to live your marriage in holiness in a Pontifical Mass celebrated by Bishop Michael R. Cote. Family and friends are invited to share in this special testimony and witness to love marriage. Light refreshments will be served following the Mass in the Cathedral Hall. Register through your parish by October 9th. For more information, call the Catholic Family Services Office at 860-848-2237, Ext. 306.

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 7, 2018 at 1:00pm, gathering near the Statue of Saint Francis in front of the Church. All pets MUST be leashed or caged.

ANNOUNCEMENTS ~ THE DIOCESE OF NORWICH

- ✓ **Charismatic Prayer Meeting** every Tuesday at 2pm.
Healing Mass: Every 2nd and 4th Mondays at 2pm.
Spiritual Renewal Center, 11 Bath Street, Norwich
- ✓ **Twenty-Sixth Annual Mass for Firefighters/EMS Personnel** Saturday, October 13, 2018, at 5:00 p.m. On Saturday, October 13, 2018, 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 Deacon Scott Brown, Deacon Assistant, Immaculate Conception Parish, Cranston, 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, x265.
- ✓ **Eucharistic Holy Hour for Vocations** October 18 at St. Colman in Middlefield from 6-7pm.
- ✓ **RACHEL'S VINEYARD RETREAT WEEKEND** ~ 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 is confidential and offers an opportunity to experience God's love, forgiveness and compassion. It includes discussions, Living Scriptures with meditations, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, a Memorial Service and Mass of Entrustment. The next weekend in Connecticut is October 19-21. For more information call Marie at 203-631-9030, email her at mlaffin@prolifeministry.org or visit the national website at www.rachelsvineyard.org. "**PROJECT RACHEL**" is our Norwich 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.
- ✓ 11th Annual Connecticut Catholic Men's Conference **SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2018** 8 am – 4 pm (Mass celebrated by Archbishop Blair) St. Paul Catholic High School, Bristol, CT. Featuring dynamic speakers, exhibitor, confession, adoration, food, and fellowship. Speakers include Fr Bill Casey, Bob Kroll, Jason Calvi and Deacon Doug Hoffman. **BUY TICKETS ONLINE** www.ctcatholicmen.org Questions? 860-484-7950 Early bird Cost: \$45 (includes lunch)
- ✓ **Silver & Gold Wedding Anniversary Mass:** Sunday October 21A 2:00pm at the Cathedral of Saint Patrick in Norwich. To register, please contact Cheryl in the Parish Office. 860.642.6711.
- ✓ **Trip to Haiti!** Diocese of Norwich Outreach to Haiti is organizing an Immersion Trip for October 24-31. Visit our clinic, a school, experience Mass at a twinned parish. See the amazing spirit of the Haitian people, and get a sense of their culture and history through a neighborhood tour, and a visit to the National Museum. If interested, call 860-800-3601 or contact info@outreachtohaiti.org. See more on our website at outreachtohaiti.org.
- ✓ **Pontifical Mass for the Diocesan Partnership on Disability** Please bring a friend and join us for a celebration of the Liturgy for people living with disabilities; for their family, friends, care-givers, co-workers, support staff and health care professionals. **Principal Celebrant Bishop Michael R. Cote, Sunday October 28, 2018 @11:00 a.m. @ Our Lady of Lourdes, 1650 Rt. 12, Gales Ferry** Brief presentation & refreshments to follow in Church Hall. For more information please contact the Office of Faith Events, 860-848-2237 x304 or faithevents@norwichdiocese.net

- ✓ **9th Annual Seton Scholarship Dinner**, Sunday October 28 @ 4:00pm at the Mystic Marriott Hotel, 625 North Road, Groton. Honoring the recipients of the Most Reverend Michael R. Cote, D.D. Award for Contributions to Catholic Education in the Diocese of Norwich. Msgr. Robert L. Brown (posthumously), Rev. Mark O'Donnell, Mrs. Doris Messina. All proceeds benefit tuition assistance for Catholic Education. Tickets \$150pp. For more information on sponsorships, advertising or to purchase tickets, please contact Kathy Gaito at 860.886.1928 or kgaito@norwichdiocese.net
- ✓ **WORKSHOP Catholic Funerals: Rites, Cremation, Planning, Pre-planning, Cemetery Policies** Saturday, November 3, 2018 St. Matthew Parish, Tolland Registration at 9:00AM. Program from 9:30 to noon Fee: \$10 For more information go to www.norwichdiocese.org Or call 860-848-2237x203
- ✓ **The monthly Diocesan Pro-Life Mass** will take place at Sacred Heart Church in Norwich on **November 15 from 6-7pm.**

Save the Dates – Parish Mission for St. Andrew and St. Francis are scheduled for October 13/14 and 15, 16, & 17.

The Parish Mission this year will be directed by Raymond de Souza, K. M. International Lay Catholic Speaker, Knight of Magisterial Grace of the Sovereign and Military Order of Malta, Delegate for International Missions for Human Life International (HLI) and EWTN program host.

The theme of the Parish Mission is: "On Logic and Mental Sanity to Exercise Relativism". The sessions for St. Andrew and St. Francis are scheduled on Monday 7:00pm, Tuesday 7:30pm, and Wednesday 7:00pm – in St. Andrew Church. One session, for the convenience of St. Francis Parishioners, is scheduled in St. Francis Church on Tuesday, 6:00pm (as in the past).

Raymond will be available at St. Andrew Church, during the day to chat with parishioners interested in learning more about Apologetics and Argumentation techniques.

St. Mary-St. Joseph School is now accepting applications for our annual **Holiday Craft & Vendor Fair**. The Fair is to be held on Saturday, December 8th from 9am-3pm in the school, located at 35 Valley Street, Willimantic. Please email smsjschoolcraftfair@yahoo.com or call the school at 860.423.8479 for more information or an application.

Safe Environments Abuse Prevention Training

In the Diocese of Norwich, all volunteers who have regular contact with minors, all employees, all clergy, and all religious, are required to complete safe environments training.

This training is also available to any parishioner, or parent of a parochial school child, regardless of whether or not they wish to volunteer at their parish or school.

The Diocese of Norwich offers two Praesidium programs. Both cover the same material, just in different formats. You can take the on-line program *Armatus*, or attend a one-time DVD presentation, *Called to Protect*.

Please contact Cheryl in the parish office (860.642.6711) in order to be enrolled, or for more information.

Our children's safety is the responsibility of all Catholics.

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 & Indian Missions, and the Catholic Home Mission Appeal. Registered parishioner should have received information in the mail about this collection last week. Additional brochures and gift envelopes are available in Church. Please read this material and bring your gift envelope to Mass next weekend, October 13 & 14.

OFFICE OF FAITH EVENTS

ADORATION AND PRAISE MUSIC- 177 PROJECT COMES TO ST. MATTHEW'S TOLLAND. The 177 Project is an initiative to spark a renewal in parishes across the country through the power of spending time in front of the Eucharist and participating in praise and worship music. The evening is a holy hour followed by an interactive concert. **On Wednesday- October 24th, the 177 Project will be at St. Matthew's in Tolland at 6:00pm.** Come join us; Tickets to the evening are free and you can get yours by visiting the177project.com

ADORATION AND PRAISE MUSIC- 177 PROJECT COMES TO ST. MARY'S NEW LONDON

The 177 Project is an initiative to spark a renewal in parishes across the country through the power of spending time in front of the Eucharist and participating in praise and worship music. The evening is a holy hour followed by an interactive concert. **On Thursday- October 25th, the 177 Project will be at St. Mary in New London at 6:45pm.** Come join us; Tickets to the evening are free and you can get yours by visiting the177project.com

YOUTH EXPLOSION X 2018 The Diocese of Norwich invites Grades 7 – 12 to YOUTH EXPLOSION with host and song leader John Angotti and speaker Robert Feduccia. Spend the afternoon sharing your faith with teens from all over the Diocese, going to Mass with Bishop Cote, and rocking to Catholic Christian Music. The event takes place on Sunday- November 4th at St. Bernard's School in Uncasville, the doors open at 11:30am and the cost is \$20 for the day and includes snack and dinner. Please see your Catechetical Leader to register or go to www.youthexplosionct.com. For questions, please email Liza Roach at lroach@norwichdiocese.net or call (860)848-2237 ex. 305.

YOUNG ADULT MASS WITH BISHOP COTE

On Sunday, December 2nd, St. Joseph's in Willimantic is delighted to host Bishop Michael Cote for the 2nd Annual Diocesan Young Adult Mass & Reception. 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.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CATHOLIC YOUTH MINISTRY

Youth Ministers, come to Tampa to learn how to "unlock" faith in young people from December 6-8. The National Conference on Catholic Youth Ministry (NCCYM) gathers and forms adults to inspire, strengthen, and nourish those who accompany young people as they encounter and follow Jesus Christ. The cost is \$369 if you register before November 15th, go to www.nccym.info for more info! Priests attend free; just add code UNLOCKPRIEST at checkout! Questions, contact Liza Roach at lroach@norwichdiocese.net.

East Catholic High School Our annual Open House this year will be on *Thursday, November 1st at 6:45 p.m.* with our Entrance Exams being on *Saturday, November 3rd and Saturday, November 17th at 8:30 a.m.* Pre-registration for these events is not required, but is appreciated. You may reserve your spot by calling our Admissions Office at 860-649-5336 ext. 6456 or by pre-registering online at www.echs.com

My dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

"Every life cherished, chosen, sent" is the theme of this year's Respect Life Sunday. The theme echoes the teaching of the Catechism of the Catholic Church which states: "The dignity of the human person is rooted in his creation in the image and likeness of God" (n.1700). The inviolable dignity and worth of every human being is what the church proclaims.

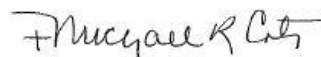
To "cherish" every human life means we care for those who are the most vulnerable to what Pope Francis calls the "throwaway culture": the unborn child, the poor, the disenfranchised, the refugee, the elderly. Even the person on death row has a dignity as a child of God.

Every life "chosen" is a reminder, as scripture teaches, "before I formed you in the womb I knew you." (Jer 1:5). Pope Francis, in his apostolic exhortation *Gaudium et Exultate* writes: "Our defense of the innocent unborn, for example, needs to be clear, firm and passionate, for at stake is the dignity of a human life, which is always sacred and demands love for each person, regardless of his or her stage of development. Equally sacred, however, are the lives of the poor, those already born, the destitute, the abandoned and the underprivileged, the vulnerable infirm and elderly exposed to covert euthanasia, the victims of human trafficking, new forms of slavery, and every form of rejection." If we lose respect for life at its inception we lose respect for life at all other stages as well.

Every life "sent" is a reminder of the missionary nature of our respective vocations. Through the grace of baptism we are "called out" of the world and set apart as priest, prophet, and king. This is the basis for the church's teaching on the universal call to holiness. We are called to be missionary disciples who give witness to what Saint John Paul II called the Gospel of Life. In his encyclical *Evangelium Vitae*, Saint John Paul II reminds us that "the Gospel of life is at the heart of Jesus' message. Lovingly received day after day by the church, it is to be preached with dauntless fidelity as 'good news' to the people of every age and culture."

When we share our care for the legal protection of the unborn, when we advocate for the poor, when we advocate for those displaced by civil war or violence, when we minister to those who are hungry or imprisoned, when we oppose efforts to promote Physician Assisted Suicide we are affirming that every life is cherished, every life is chosen, and every life is sent. Thank you for all of your efforts to build a culture of life in the Diocese of Norwich.

With every best wish, I am
Sincerely yours in Christ,



Bishop of Norwich



12 Things Parents Can Do To Help Create and Maintain Safe Environments at Church and at School

75th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

ON THIS DATE...October 4, 1981

On the 800th birthday of Saint Francis, an off-white outdoor statue, which was placed on a 350-400-pound base with field stone at the entrance of the driveway circle, was unveiled in a simple ceremony at the 10:30 a.m. Mass. It was later painted and now sits in its stone grotto, a perfect place for the blessing of animals each year.

WEBSITE PHOTO GALLERY

Photos of the Outdoor Mass and picnic can be found on the parish website. September 16 photos will be added when available.

COMMEMORATIVE BOOK

Several parishioners have not picked up their copy of the commemorative book. Please contact Barbara at 860.642.7168 or bobbi.w@charter.net to arrange for pick up.

OCTOBER 13 – PARISH APPRECIATION POTLUCK SUPPER 6:00 at the Fire Safety Complex

**We appreciate all that you do—EVERYONE WELCOME!
Please plan on attending-come to eat and for fellowship!
A St. Francis themed evening.**

**Lots of activities for the kids and young at heart.
Every family and individual attending
will receive a token of appreciation.**

For planning purposes, PLEASE SIGN UP – sheets are at the Church entrances.

Parish Appreciation dinners began in 1980 to thank all the volunteers who helped ready the current Church after it was build. Dinners were held periodically throughout the 1980s and 1990s.

SAVE THE DATE: MOVIE NIGHT November 16, 7:00 P.M.

Do you know the story of our patron saint?
Francis of Assisi, an inspirational story of one man's journey starring Bradford Dillman and Dolores Hart.

A NOTE FROM THE ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

The events planned throughout the anniversary year are being paid for by donations received. The Church is not financially responsible for the 75th Anniversary celebration.

WE ONLY CELEBRATE 75 YEARS ONCE!

Join us for our events throughout the year

Mercy High School Open House for Middle School and Transfer Students. Sunday, November 4, 2018 1:00-4:00 pm 1:00 p.m. Presentation by the Administration. Entrance Exam for the Class of 2023 Mercy High School
Saturday, November 10, 2018 & Saturday, November 17, 2018 8:00 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. 1740 Randolph Road Middletown, CT.
Pre-register at www.mercyhigh.com

The Church teaches that parents have the most serious duty, and primary right, to do all in their power to assure the physical, social, cultural, moral and religious upbringing of their children. Parenting is a difficult and demanding task. It is a task that requires the support and assistance of the entire Christian community. Parents, children and Church ministers, *must all work together to assure the safety and welfare of our most precious resource, our children.*

Parents need to take an active, and even proactive, role in the educational and social activities of their children. As a parent, you can work with your child(ren) to assure their safety. Among other things, you need to:

1. *Know your child's teachers* as well as those adults who have some supervisory role in relationship to your child(ren). Two adults should normally be present when working with your child(ren).
2. Satisfy yourself that the adults having contact with your child(ren) have been *carefully screened*. If you have doubts about whether or not an employee or volunteer was properly screened, talk with the person in charge of the activity, or your pastor, and communicate your concerns. If your doubts concern a school employee, talk with your child's principal.
3. *Visit the classrooms and places* where activities are held to assure you that these places are safe environments.
4. *Become involved* in programs and activities at church and school.
5. *Teach your child(ren)* that most people are only allowed to touch certain parts of their body, like your hands or your shoulders. But NO ONE should touch the private parts of your body unless they are helping you keep these parts healthy. Private areas are those parts of our bodies covered by a swimsuit.
6. *Encourage your children to speak openly about their experiences and not keep secrets about their relationships with other people.* Children need to be taught that they can and should discuss anything that happens to them that makes them feel uncomfortable, confused, or upset in any way. They need to know they can talk to a parent or another trusted adult about feelings such as these.
7. *Discourage your child(ren) from accepting inappropriate gifts.*
8. *Not allow your child(ren) to travel unchaperoned or stay overnight* with adult non-family members as part of Church or school related activities *except with your explicit written permission.*
9. Insist that your child(ren) not be allowed to travel without *explicit written permission*, given only after careful review of the travel arrangements.
10. *Listen carefully and with a discerning ear* to what children are saying to one another about the adults around them.
11. *Be aware of the Pastoral Code of Conduct* in effect for Church ministers and *promptly report* any violations of the same to the appropriate authorities (see *Process of Reporting and Addressing Complaints and Allegations* listed under the section entitled *Enforcement*). Familiarize yourself, and discuss with your child, the *Diocese of Norwich Electronic Communications, Internet and Computer Use Policy.*
12. *Strive to live lives of truth, holiness, and virtue*, treating all human beings as human persons and not as objects for gratification, power, or advancement; and teach your children not to treat other people as objects for gratification, power, or advancement.