

**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 December 8, 2018 Immaculate Conception
of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

9:15 AM Dave & Edith Perotti req. by their family
5:00 PM Nancy Godere req. by the Wengloski family



Sunday December 9, 2018 Second Sunday of Advent

8:00 AM Raymond Boisvert req. by his family
10:30 AM Happy 75th Birthday Joan Russoniello Goba req. by
Michael Goba, Trish Goba Churchill & Bill Goba

Monday December 10, 2018 Advent Weekday

NO MASS

Tuesday December 11, 2018 St. Damasus I, pope

NO MASS

Wednesday December 12, 2018 Our Lady of Guadalupe

9:00 AM Living & deceased members of the Andrews family
req. by Mackie Boone

Thursday December 13, 2018 St. Lucy, virgin, martyr

NO MASS

**Friday December 14, 2018 St. John of the Cross, priest,
doctor of the Church**

9:00 AM Robert Burns req. by Irene Burns

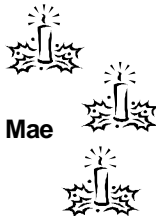
Saturday December 15, 2018 Advent Weekday

5:00 PM Nancy Godere req. by Joan Syphers

Sunday December 16, 2018 Third Sunday of Advent

8:00 AM Janet Lea Gertschitz req. by Norm & Ella Mae
Kuzel

10:30 AM Fernando Afonso req. by his family



Offertory: \$ 2, 814, 00 Extraordinary: \$ 646.00
Today's second collection is for the Immaculate Conception of the
Blessed Virgin Mary.
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 December 15 & 16

5:00pm Lector: Bob Nejako
Eucharistic Minister: Pam Flaherty
Altar Servers: Nina & Luci Gardella
8:00am Lector: Jim Dyer
Eucharistic Minister: Gregg Lafontaine
Altar Servers: Christian Terwilliger
10:30am Lector: Sandy Grillo
Eucharistic Minister: Wally Gagnon
Altar Servers: Nicholas Barrett & Drew Taylor



Christmas flower envelopes available at the
Church entrances. Please return your envelope by
Dec. 16th. Envelopes are not being mailed this
year.

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 Rev. Thomas Griffin,

Rev. John Welch MS, Rev. Erik Lenhart OFM Cap, Rev. Rafal Walczyk
OSPPE, Rev. John Antonelle, V. Rev. David Choquette, Rev. Michael
Giannitelli, Msgr. James Carini, Rev. Gregory Mullaney, V. Rev. Jan
Swiderski, Rev. Joseph Castaldi, Rev. Tadeusz Zadorozny. We also
pray for any priests who have left the ministry.

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.
May they be a channel for His Precious Blood, always acting through
love. (Ven. Mother Catherine Aurelia, foundress)



Confessions: Friday, December 21st 6:00 PM

Christmas Eve Mass - 4:00 PM

Christmas Day Masses - 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

New Year's Eve Mass – 5:00 PM

New Year's Day Mass - 9:15 AM

We will be collecting the following list of items for the Neighbors Helping Neighbors Food Cupboard during December:



Tuna (in water only)
Ketchup
Sweet cereals
Creamy peanut butter
Raman noodles
Coffee
Canned soups
Hot chocolate mix

Thank you for your generosity.

The 9th grade will be assisting at the 10:30am Mass on December 16th.

The Knights of Columbus will be selling "Keep Christ in Christmas" magnets for \$5 each after all Masses.

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
- ✓ **The monthly Eucharistic Holy Hour for Vocations** will take place at **Our Lady of Lourdes**, Gales Ferry on **December 13 from 6-7pm.**

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, Wednesday, December 12, 2018. 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.

SAINT VINCENT de PAUL PLACE ~ Norwich Miracle Bags 2018

A special dinner will be served on Christmas Day. On that day, we would like to give each person a Miracle Bag filled with the following items: Soap, Deodorant, Razors, Shampoo/Conditioner, Toothpaste/Toothbrush, Shaving Cream, Hats, Gloves, Socks, \$5 or \$10 gift cards to Grocery stores/Walmart/McDonalds. Please drop off your donations by **December 18, 2018.** We are also happy to receive handmade cards with prayers, quotes or drawings. Our guests really value these sentiments. Please call Bonnie at 860.889.7374 or email her at bysvdpp@gmail.com if you have questions. If you are an internet shopper have your donations delivered to 120 Cliff St., Norwich, CT 06360

We offer hygiene products to families all year long. It is difficult to keep up with the demand as we average 400 requests for hygiene each month. We are beginning a campaign called SOAP AND HOPE that will run throughout the year.

See our website for details sydpp.org

Your gift, large or small, will make a difference. Merry Christmas and God Bless!

Make time for your marriage by attending a **Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend**. The next Weekends are Feb 1-3, 2019 in MANCHESTER, CT and Jul 12-14, 2019 in MANCHESTER, CT.

For more information, call Pat & Mary-Jo McLaughlin at 860-315-2127 or visit them at <https://www.mectw.org/>.

BAMBINELLI WEEKEND **GAUDETTE SUNDAY**



Bambinelli is Italian for Christ Child. This will be the third year at St. Francis of Assisi Parish, in celebration of Gaudette Sunday – 15 & 16 December 2018.

Pope Francis, on a recent visit to America said, "The family is the core of the Church."

A special blessing will take place at all Masses 15 & 16 December 2018 – for your Bambinelli (Baby Jesus) from your family Nativity set.

Remember to bring your Family Bambinelli, from home, to Mass that weekend. If you do not have a Bambanelli, kits are available in the Sacristy.

Thank you. ~ Liturgy Committee

GIFTS + NEW MOVIE:

Tony Coscia has been a member of: ACTS, Cursillo, Marriage Encounter, Catholic Charismatic, and Knights of Columbus. His book; "*Tony's 50,000 Coincidence Miracles*"; is now being made into a movie and also translated into other languages. It improves the lives of readers in the first 45-minutes.

If you do make a small-donation toward the movie on "GoFundMe", you will receive a FREE "e-book" automatically E-mailed to someone (or to yourself) as a gift from you.

FOR MORE INFO: just Google (*Tony's 50,000 Coincidence Miracle/Enroute*) and then; click on the GoFundMe button.



All ladies of the parish are invited to join the Ladies Guild at their Christmas Party on Monday, December 17th.

6:00 cocktails/6:30 dinner at Apollo Restaurant, Route 32, South Windham.

Reservation forms can be found at the church entrances, the deadline is December 12th to submit entrée choices and payment. Please contact Sandra at 860-537-1372 or Alicia at 860-465-7603 if you have any questions.

LEBANON CHILDREN'S WARDROBE would like to thank the community for their continued support. We are continuing our fundraising effort to expand into a much larger and usable space. Today, we have reached 20% of our goal. At our Thank God Its Friday event in November, we served 50 families, 13 of which came to us for the first time. We also had over 30 families come to us for appointments to pick up clothing and other items this month. This increase in the number of people we serve each month demonstrates our need for a larger space. We'd like to announce two fundraising events: Indoor Tag Sale January 5th. Spaces/tables can be rented for \$20/\$25. You bring your own items and keep your profits.

Evening of Fun: Saturday January 19th at 6:00pm. Appetizers, sit-down dinner and concludes with music by Seat of Our Pants. Tickets are \$25 per person and are on sale now. (These will make great gifts). Seat Of Our Pant (SOOP) music is heartfelt and humorous, featuring folk instruments and rock-infused songwriting.

For space/table at the Tag Sale or for tickets for the Dinner please email lebanonccw@gmail.com

To donate go to www.gofundme.com/LCCW-Expansion-Project or checks made out to the Lebanon Children's Clothing Wardrobe and mailed to the Savings Institute at 554 Exeter Road, Lebanon CT 06249.

2018-2019 CCD Project



Dear Parents and Parishioners,
This year our CCD project is again to help the people of Haiti.

This year we would like to assist with several of the programs needed by the Haitian Health Foundation.

- ❖ Powdered Milk. Program cost is \$125 per child per year. Children who are 7 and 8 months old receive Gallia milk, which is designed for babies this age to carefully transition them to cow's milk. Children from 9 months receive whole milk powder and iron once a month until one year of age, unless the child is still malnourished.
- ❖ Solar Light Kit: Cost is \$75 per kit. Most families have no electricity in their homes, and your gift will provide a family with a simple system composed of 2 LED lights, a radio, a small solar panel, and a rechargeable battery for the radio. The lighting will help children study in their houses rather than to walk to find a street lamp.

We have participated in a project for Haiti for a few years now and the children really enjoy it. It will be a great way for our kids to help those in Haiti.

Last year we raised over \$ 1,950 for our efforts...a total of 13 goats. I would like to set our goal this year for 10 units of milk and 10 solar light kits. A goal of \$2,000.

There will be a donation jar in the office building and in the Church. Children should bring whatever they can each Sunday to put into the jar. Teachers will also have a jar at the American Legion Hall for their classes.

I ask that you support this Corporal Act of Mercy to feed the hungry and to help those who are not as fortunate as we are.

Sincerely, *James Hay*, DRE

Knights of Columbus

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

SUNDAY

December 09, 2018

8:00am to 11:00am

Fire Safety Complex
Goshen Hill Road, Lebanon, CT



Adults: \$8.00 * 12 & under \$5.00 under 5 FREE



75th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

**HAPPY 38TH ANNIVERSARY ST. FRANCIS
AS AN INDEPENDENT PARISH!**

The Most Rev. Daniel P. Reilly, Bishop of Norwich announced the establishment of Saint Francis of Assisi Parish and the appointment of Rev. Roger M. Gaulin as its first pastor effective December 8, 1980. The Official Clergy Appointment and Decree were published in *The Catholic Transcript*.

75th ANNIVERSARY REMINDERS OF THE PAST...

ADVENT PINS

During the 1990's, Advent pins were handed out to parishioners as a token of the "REASON FOR THE SEASON". Pins were handed out last weekend as a reminder of this past event. Please check the Church entrances to see if there are any left, and take one to wear during the Advent season.

BARRINGTON BUNNY

Did you get a copy of the *Barrington Bunny* story last weekend and read it? Did you remember the story once you had? Perhaps with the explanation that went with it, there is more understanding into the story, other than that the rabbit died.

UPCOMING EVENTS

In early January we will be handing out Warm Fuzzies. Do you remember which priest brought these little creatures to St. Francis?

SAVE THE DATE! February 16

Turkey Dinner & DANCE THROUGH THE DECADES

Continuing to celebrate the anniversary, sponsored by the Anniversary Committee and the Ladies Guild. More information on this fun filled evening to come.

WE ONLY CELEBRATE 75 YEARS ONCE!

Join us for our events throughout the year

St. Andrew and St. Francis parishioners are invited to spend time with Jesus on December 16 from 6:30 – 8:30 PM. The evening will include adoration, worship and Christmas music and a talk by our own Deacon Michael Puskas. We will also have 5 priests available throughout the evening for confession. What a beautiful way for our parishes to join together and spend time with the Lord a week before Christmas.

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES?

Would you like to receive offertory envelopes? The rectory has received a number of inquiries regarding how an individual can receive them. Please fill out this form and within a few weeks they will be sent to you. If you have any questions, please call the rectory at 642-6711. Thank you!

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

**Visitation of Major Relic – St Jean Vianney
Monthly Holy Hour for Vocations
December 13, 2018**

At the behest of Bishop Cote we are very excited to announce that the Diocese of Norwich has been blessed with the opportunity through the Knights of Columbus, to host the major relic of St. Jean Vianney on December 13, 2018 at the Parish of Our Lady of Lourdes in Gales Ferry.

The evening begins at 5pm with a time of quiet visitation and prayer with the relic followed by our Monthly Holy Hour for Vocations and finally an opportunity to venerate/touch the reliquary holding the relic.

The Shrine of Ars, France, has entrusted to the Knights of Columbus the major relic of St. Jean Vianney's incorrupt heart for a national tour in the U.S., from November 2018 through early June 2019.

The Knights of Columbus welcome this special opportunity to offer for veneration a major relic of the patron of parish priests, whose holiness and integrity is a model for clergy and laity alike.

The Knights of Columbus Museum, at 1 State Street in New Haven, has a new Christmas exhibit, ***Christmas in Poland***. The show features more than 100 items from the museum's own collection. Highlights include: Szopki from Krakow, hand carved wooden crèches and traditional Polish clothing. Open 10-5 daily. Free admission & parking. More at 203.865.0400 or kofcmuseum.org.

How would our celebration this Christmas be different if our focus was being prepared on the inside not just the outside?

Advent is a period of time given to us by the Church as a gift. It's time set aside in our religious calendar to **remind us** how important the coming of Christ is for all of us personally. It provides us an opportunity to gain a better understanding of our faith.

That better understanding will help us truly enjoy Christmas, **all 12 days of it**, from Christmas Day to Epiphany. For as Christians we know the true CELEBRATION of Christmas begins with the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

We pray that you are able to gain a new perspective on Advent and Christmas this year and that you will share it with everyone you come in contact with!