

**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 19, 2019 Sts. John de Brebeuf & Isaac**

**Jogues, priests & companions, martyrs**

5:00 PM +Robert Burns req. by his wife

**Sunday October 20, 2019 Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary  
Time**

8:00 AM Deceased members of the Clinch & Kuzel families  
req. by the Kuzel family

10:30 AM Paul & Christine Pelletier 51<sup>st</sup> Wedding Anniversary

**Monday, October 21, 2019 Weekday in Ordinary Time**

**NO MASS**

**Tuesday, October 22, 2019 St. John Paul II, pope**

**NO MASS**

**Wednesday October 23, 2019 St. John of Capistrano, priest**

9:00 AM Living & Deceased members of the Kissane family  
req. by I. Boone

**Thursday October 24, 2019 St. Anthony Mary Claret, bishop**

**NO MASS**

**Friday October 25, 2019 Weekday in Ordinary Time**

9:00 AM +Rosario Jacobeno req. by I. Boone

**Saturday October 26, 2019 Blessed Virgin Mary**

5:00 PM +Irene Wengloski req. By her family

**Sunday October 27, 2019 Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:00 AM +Sean Clinch Stephenson req. by the Kuzel family

10:30 AM

Offertory: \$ 2,430.00 Mission Combined: \$ 1,054.00

Today's second collection is for monthly extraordinary expenses.

Next weekend's second collection is for building maintenance.

Envelopes for membership with the Norwich Diocese Council of Catholic Women may be placed in either 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 26 & 27**

5:00pm Lector: Steve Wengloski

Eucharistic Minister: Richard Lataille

Altar Servers: CJ Frank, Nina Gardella

8:00 am Lector: Greg Jones

Eucharistic Minister: Ella Mae Kuzel

Altar Servers: Christian Terwilliger

10:30am Lector: Tony Coscia

Eucharistic Minister: Paul Pelletier

Altar Servers: Drew Taylor, Erika Densman

All Souls envelopes available at entrances of Church.  
Please return as soon as possible.

**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

AM2 Emerson Flannery, U.S. Navy

PO 2 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

1<sup>st</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. Michael Parisi, V. Rev. David Choquette, Rev. Michael Giannitelli, Rev. William McNulty, Rev. Jozef Olczak PSPPE, Rev. D. Scott Surrency OFM Cap, Rev. Stephen Gulino, Rev. George Richards, Jr., Rev. Tomasz Albrecht, Rev. Rev. P. Grzegorz Jednaki, Rev. Benjamin Soosaimanickam, Rev. Anthony DiMarco, Rev. Robert Washabaugh.

Glory to the Blood of Jesus! 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)

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF THE BOX OF JOY PROJECT!**

Thanks to your generosity of items we will provide 37 poor children a Christmas they will never forget. This is ten boxes more than last year and your monetary donations covered all of the shipping costs. Your compassion not only gives a Box of Joy, but also gives Christ's love to those who need it most. For more information or to view a video of children receiving boxes visit CrossCatholic.org/BoxOfJoy. This project is on behalf of the St. Francis Ladies Guild, in partnership with the National Council of Catholic Women and Cross Catholic Outreach; boxes will be shipped in early November. Estelle Elliott, project coordinator and Sandra Spedaliere, Guild President

**LECTORS**

**PLEASE PICK UP YOUR LECTOR WORKBOOK  
AVAILABLE  
IN THE PARISH OFFICE**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS ~ THE DIOCESE OF NORWICH**

### **40 DAYS FOR LIFE** continues now through November 3rd.

During this time, please pray and fast for an end to abortion.

- ❖ **Charismatic Prayer Meeting** every Tuesday at 2pm.
- ❖ **Healing Mass:** Every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays at 2pm. Spiritual Renewal Center, 11 Bath Street, Norwich.
- ❖ **Anniversary Mass:** All couples married 25 & 50 years or celebrating any significant anniversary year are invited to attend a Silver & Gold Jubilee Anniversary Mass at the Cathedral of Saint Patrick in Norwich on Sunday, **October 27 at 2pm**. 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 and marriage. Dessert and beverages will be served following the Mass in the Cathedral Hall. Register through your parish office by Friday, October 11. For more information, call Mary-Jo McLaughlin at the Catholic Family Services Office, 860.848.2237 Ext. 312.
- ❖ The monthly Diocesan Pro-Life Mass will take place at the Cathedral of St. Patrick in Norwich on Saturday, November 2 at 8:30 A.M. Please join our celebrant Rev. Ray Introvigne 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.
- ❖ **Youth Explosion** ~ The Diocese of Norwich invites Grades 6-12 to Youth Explosion with host and song leader Cooper Ray. Spend the afternoon sharing your faith with teens from all over the Diocese. The event takes place on Saturday, November 2nd at St. Bernard's High School in Uncasville, the doors open at 12:30am and the cost is \$25 for the day and includes snack. Please see your Catechetical Leader to register or go to [www.youthexplosionct.com](http://www.youthexplosionct.com). For questions, please email Liza Roach at [lroach@norwichdiocese.net](mailto:lroach@norwichdiocese.net) or call 860.848.2237 ext. 305.
- ❖ **10<sup>th</sup> Annual Seton Scholarship Dinner** – November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 4:00pm at St. Clements Castle & Marina, 1931 Portland-Cobalt Road, Portland, CT. Honoring the recipients of the Most Reverend Michael R. Cote, D.D. Award for contributions to Catholic Education in the Diocese of Norwich. Sister Mary Patrick Mulready, S.C.M.C., Ms. Ann C. Derbacher, and Barbara Hamanaka, Ph.D. All proceeds to benefit tuition assistance for Catholic Schools. Sponsorships available: \$5,000 Seton Sponsor, \$2,500 Aquinas Sponsor, \$1,500 Newman Sponsor. Individual program ads also available. For more information or to purchase tickets, please contact Gina Foster at 860.886.1928 or [gfoster@norwichdiocese.net](mailto:gfoster@norwichdiocese.net). [www.NORWICHDIOCESEDEVELOPMENT.ORG](http://www.NORWICHDIOCESEDEVELOPMENT.ORG)
- ❖ **Bereavement Day of Prayer** ~ The Diocesan Catholic Family Services Office is sponsoring two workshops for the bereaved entitled: **Praying Your Goodbyes**. Both workshops will include time for private reflection, prayer and journaling, and will give participants suggestions on how to navigate the upcoming holidays, and discover ways to grow through the experience of their loss. It will be offered on two separate dates: **Thursday, November 7, 9 A.M. to 12**

P.M. at St. Sebastian Parish Hall, 155 Washington St., Middletown or **Saturday, November 9, 1 P.M. to 4 P.M.** at St Mary Church Hall, 70 Central Ave., Norwich. There is no cost for either workshop, but registration is required. To register for one of the two dates, call Marianne Nicholas at 860-848-2237, ext. 304 or email her at [manicholas@norwichdiocese.net](mailto:manicholas@norwichdiocese.net).

- ❖ **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 Scripture with meditations, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, a Memorial Service and Mass of Entrustment. Participation is confidential and offers an opportunity to experience God's love, forgiveness and compassion. Both women and men have participated in past retreats. Upcoming weekends are: **November 8-10** in Connecticut, call Marie at 203- 631-9030; **November 1-3** in Stockbridge, MA, call 413-452-0661; **November 9-11** in Rhode Island, call 401-351-7730. A Spanish weekend will take place **November 15-17** in Rhode Island, call 401-351-7730 or visit the national website at [www.rachelsvineyard.org](http://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.
- ❖ **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 **Wednesday, November 13, 2019, at 7 P.M. at Sacred Heart Church, 52 West Town St., Norwichtown, CT**. The Mass of Remembrance is an opportunity for family members to memorialize and honor the dignity of the precious lives of pre-born children. For more information, call Mary-Jo McLaughlin at the Catholic Family Services Office, 860-848-2237, Ext. 312.
- ❖ **Eucharistic Holy Hour** at Our Lady of Sorrows, Essex 6-7pm November 21.
- ❖ **Please share your e-mail with The Office of Faith Events of the Diocese of Norwich**. Be the first to know about all the programs we offer throughout the year, and to also receive our own Advent and Lenten reflections! Send your e-mail address to [manicholas@norwichdiocese.net](mailto:manicholas@norwichdiocese.net) to be added to the list!
- ❖ Planning for the **2020 Norwich Diocesan Women's Conference** is underway. The conference is scheduled for March 28, 2020 at St. Bernard's School in Uncasville. **Any women interested in joining the planning committee or volunteering some of their time**, please contact The Office of Faith Events at 860-848-2237, or [faithevents@norwichdiocese.net](mailto:faithevents@norwichdiocese.net).

Please look for the Office of Faith Events' new column: "**Faith Sparks**" in the 4 County Catholic newspaper. This past month's column talks about everyday blessings. "In a world where there is so much going on, we often forget to take time to recognize and acknowledge the many blessings in our lives."

To read this article and find prayers for your children, workday, and mealtime, visit: [NorwichDiocese.org/FaithSparks](http://NorwichDiocese.org/FaithSparks)

**Programs at Enders Island, Mystic**  
860.536.0565 [www.endersisland.com](http://www.endersisland.com).

**++Byzantine Iconography with George Kordis.**

1. Byzantine Drawing October 28 – November 1
2. Byzantine Icon Painting November 3 – 8

**++Stories That Could Be True** Nov. 1-3. \$230pp shared room \$290pp private room Includes designed T-shirt. 4:30pm check-in, 1:00pm departure. New and collected poems by William Stafford.

**++Recovery Retreats for Men:** November 15-17.

**East Catholic High School**

We look forward to getting to know our future eagles this year as they explore East Catholic High School and everything that it has to offer them. Our annual Open House this year will be on *Tuesday, October 22nd at 6:45 p.m.* with our Entrance Exams being on *Saturday, November 2nd and Saturday, November 16th 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](http://www.echs.com)

**Mercy High School Open House for Middle School and Transfer Students** 1740 Randolph Road Middletown Sunday, November 3 from 1:00-4:00pm

1:00 p.m. Presentation by the Administration. Mercy High School is a Catholic diocesan college preparatory high school for young women. Students from over 50 communities across Connecticut and Foreign Countries are challenged to grow academically, emotionally, socially and spiritually. Mercy is committed to providing a challenging educational experience in a safe and nurturing environment.

**Entrance Exam for the Class of 2024**  
Saturday, November 9 & Saturday, November 16,  
1740 Randolph Road, Middletown, CT 8:00 am to 11:15 am

**Let's Recycle Our Empty Pill Bottles**

Here's how we can recycle our empty pill bottles, both prescription and over the counter. Remove the labels and remaining glue; bring them (caps on) to the Church and put them in the boxes provided at the church entrances. They will be washed, sorted and sent to *Matthew 25: Ministries*. *Matthew 25: Ministries* sends the empty bottles to developing countries (and some locations in the U.S.) with other medical supplies. The bottles can then be used for medications in clean bottles instead of wrapped in paper, or maybe loose. Bottles that cannot be used for medications are shredded and used to make other things. This generates some income for *Matthew 25: Ministries*. The benefit here is that the bottles do not enter our waste stream.

**Immediate Opening:** St. Vincent de Paul Place, Norwich is looking for a part-time chef to work in a rewarding environment, Wednesdays and Thursdays 7:00 am-2:00 pm. You will have the opportunity to work with a group of energetic volunteers. You will be responsible for planning and preparing nutritious meals. Send your resume to Jill Corbin at [jcsvdpp@gmail.com](mailto:jcsvdpp@gmail.com). For more information about St. Vincent de Paul Place, check out our website at [www.svdpp.org](http://www.svdpp.org)

**Our Lady of Calvary Retreat Center**  
**31 Colton Street, Farmington, CT**

[olcretreat@sbcglobal.net](mailto:olcretreat@sbcglobal.net) 860.677.8519

- ✓ **OLC Ministry for Catholic Young Adults.** Home-cooked meal from 6-7pm, followed by a Holy Hour with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. During the Holy Hour there will be time for both private and communal prayer. Evening concludes with Mass. You can expect the evening to be ended by 9:00pm. Register by calling 860.677.8519. Dates: Tuesday Oct. 22 – Wed. Nov. 20 – Tues. Dec. 10 – Wed. Jan. 15.
- ✓ **BOOK CLUB** Tues. Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup> from 10-11:30am. "The Hotel at the Corner of Bitter and Sweet" by Jamie Ford.
- ✓ **Movie Matinee – Bridges of Spies.** Wed. October 23 from 12 noon to 3:00pm. \$25 includes boxed lunch
- ✓ **Is It Even Christian? Exploring the Roots of Halloween.** \$35 includes lunch and materials.

**Men's Fall ACTS Retreat October 24-27**

The Men's Fall ACTS Retreat is a three-day, three-night Catholic lay retreat presented by men who have attended prior ACTS retreats, under the guidance of a Catholic Guide. Offering a unique format, this retreat is unlike anything you may have experienced in the past. The goals are to renew yourself spiritually, to strengthen your faith and its application in your daily life, and to create lasting and supporting friendships within your Church communities.

The Retreat begins Thursday with a 5:45pm check-in at St. Patrick Church. Participants will then be transported to Our Lady of Calvary, Farmington, CT for the remainder of the retreat. The retreat will end on Sunday with a morning Mass and reception at St. Patrick Church.

Transportation to and from Our Lady of Calvary will be provided.

**Date:** October 24-27

**Sponsoring Parish:** St. Patrick Church, East Hampton. **Co-sponsoring Parish:** St. Andrew Church, Colchester

**For more information: Email:** [ACTS.OCT2019@gmail.com](mailto:ACTS.OCT2019@gmail.com)

**Phone:** Christian Choma – 860.576.7650, Dan Leone – 860.373.6912 or Dennis Girard – 860.334.9894.

Go to [actsct.org](http://actsct.org) for more information about ACTS retreats. On the "Events" page are links to an informational brochure and retreat registration form.



The Ladies Guild is reorganizing the **Lending Library**. We have noticed that many items are missing. Any parishioner who has borrowed items are asked to return them within the next two weeks. More information on this wonderful resource will be in future bulletins. Thank you.

**Women of Influence: presented by Sr. Elissa Rinere, C.P., J.C.D.** November 5th from 7-8:30pm in the St. Andrew Church Hall. This presentation will look at the life and times of St. Hildegard of Bingen, St. Catherine of Siena, St. Teresa of Avila, and St. Therese of Lisieux, what they wrote, prayed and preached, and how each was and is a woman of influence.

### **St. Francis of Assisi and St. Andrew – Parish Mission**

**Three Brothers, Three Deacons, Three Nights!!** Announcing a unique and informative Parish Mission at St. Andrew Church in Colchester, CT entitled, "Why I'm Not an Atheist". This Parish Mission, sponsored jointly by St. Francis of Assisi in Lebanon and St. Andrew, is scheduled for **7:00 PM Monday, October 21, 7:30 PM Tuesday, October 22, and 7:00 PM Wednesday, October 23rd** will be presented by our own Deacon Michael Puscas and his two Deacon brothers, Deacon Steve Puscas, and Deacon Vic Puscas. Using PowerPoint slides, jokes, stories, handouts, interactive exercises and music the three Deacons will talk about Atheism's history, why it's growing, why God is becoming more and more irrelevant, why Catholics are no longer coming to church, why many are questioning whether God and heaven exist, and whether we have "killed" God through moral relativism. Please save the date and mark your calendars. Special Guest: The Deacon's Mom who will reveal which one is her favorite.

### **PARISH RETREAT - 33 Days to Morning Glory**

**Want to Grow in Holiness, But Too Busy?** Want to transform your work, your marriage, your family, and your life, but don't have time? Looking for the quickest, surest, and easiest way to holiness, but don't know where to begin?

Join us for six weeks, starting **Friday, October 25th** (from 6:30 pm -8:00 pm) as we begin a 33-day preparation for Marian Consecration and Group Retreat here at St. Andrew Church. During the retreat we'll individually read Father Michael Gaitley's book *33 Days to Morning Glory* and reflect on four great Marian giants: St. Louis de Montfort, St. Maximilian Kolbe, St. Teresa of Calcutta, and St. John Paul II.

**Friday Retreat dates are the following (Oct 25th, Nov 8th, Nov 15th, Nov 22nd & December 6th).**

Contact Shelly Polo at (860) 931-7447 (call or text message) or email [spolo@seedsofhopect.com](mailto:spolo@seedsofhopect.com) prior to October 20<sup>th</sup>.

### **Comfort and Caring Shawl Ministry**

Do you knit or crochet to take up the time? Do you know someone in need of a Comfort and Caring Shawl? The St. Francis Ladies Guild has made a commitment to distribute hand-made prayer shawls to anyone in need; someone who is ill, on potent medication, battling the pain of depression or lost a loved one. The gift of a shawl is not limited to members of the Guild or our parish, but can be given to anyone you feel would benefit from this shawl of love and comfort. There are numerous shawls of many colors, shapes and weight as well as lap robes available. If you wish to contribute a knitted or crocheted shawl (must be certain dimensions) or know of someone who would benefit from this gift, please contact Barbara Dyer (Keeper of the Shawls) at [45bfdyer@gmail.com](mailto:45bfdyer@gmail.com) or 860.822.9400

**Last weekend the Mission Combined Collection or the World Mission Appeal, U.S. Bishop's Appeal for Latin America, Black, & Indian Missions, and the Catholic Home Mission Appeal was taken up in our parish.** If you were unable to bring your gift envelope, extras are available at the entrances to Church. Your support of the missionary needs of the Universal Church is greatly appreciated. This collection is an opportunity to share your faith and strengthen the Church at home and abroad. Your contribution can be placed in the collection basket next weekend or mailed directly to the parish. Thank you for your generosity in the past and thank you for what you will do now to help our missionaries continue their vital work.

October 19/20, 2019

Dear Parishioners,

The annual fiscal report for this past year can be found in your bulletin. The finance committee and I felt that it was important to take a few moments to review the parish's financial status with you. While we have had improvements in our weekly collection, we still ended the 2018-19 year with a deficit. The good news is we no longer face the cost of maintaining the parish house and the deficit is less than the previous year. The bad news is we cannot continue to draw on savings each year to cover regular expenses. We need to maintain adequate savings to have available in case of emergency. While we will work to contain or reduce expenses, if everyone could increase their weekly donation by \$2, we would be very close to covering the current level of regular expenses.

We were very fortunate to have received grants from the Hugh Trumbull Trust over the past three years to help with the cost of paving our driveways and parking lot and with the re-shingling of the Church and garage roofs. The success of our pledge drive was key to completing the paving project. This has made it possible to not have to use our savings for these projects. Looking forward, we will face sealing and painting the driveway and parking lot this coming year. We are looking at ways to fund this project, but may require a special collection or pledge effort.

Our parish needs your help. We hope that you will prayerfully consider a \$2.00 increase or more in your current weekly offering. The offertory collection is the financial lifeline of our parish. If you are away from home and unable to attend Mass at St. Francis, please make up your offering when you return. By maintaining this type of giving practice the parish can better and more consistently meet our financial obligations. Our willingness to return a portion of our gifts back to God reflects the priority we place in Him in our lives and is a measure of the depth of our spiritual lives.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

*Fr. Mark*

### **"A Christmas Carol" Musical December 5, 6, 7**

Back by popular demand! The first weekend in December, St Andrew Church will present one of the greatest stories of redemption and mercy ever told, the tale of the transformation of Ebenezer Scrooge, in Charles Dickens' immortal "A Christmas Carol." This spiritually uplifting musical includes a cast of talented performers from our region, and will be directed by Nathan Caron, with the part of Ebenezer Scrooge being played by Deacon Michael Puscas. Due to fire code regulations, Only 200 tickets are available for each performance

**What: "A Christmas Carol" musical**

**When: Thursday December 5, 7:30pm**

**Friday, December 6, 7:30 pm**

**Saturday December 7, 1:00 pm matinee,  
& 7:00 pm (not 7:30)**

Doors open 30 minutes prior to each performance

**Where: St Andrew Hall**

**Tickets: General admission** (ages 13-61) **\$12** (\$15 at the door)

**Reduced admission** (12 and under, 62 and over) **\$10** (\$12 at the door)

For advanced ticket sales: Terry Phillips 860 608 0130