

**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 November 16, 2019 St. Margaret of Scotland, St. Gertrude, virgin

5:00 PM Dr. Gordon Comstock req. by the King family
Sunday November 17, 2019 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00 AM +Ed Coutu req. by Norm & Ella Mae Kuzel
10:30 AM +Julie Coscia req. by her family

Monday, November 18, 2019 Dedication of the Basilica of Sts. Peter & Paul, apostles; St. Rose Philippine Duchesne, virgin

NO MASS

Tuesday, November 19, 2019 Weekday in Ordinary Time

NO MASS

Wednesday November 20, 2019 Weekday in Ordinary Time

9:00 AM Living & deceased members of the Copp family req. by I. Boone

Thursday November 21, 2019 Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

NO MASS

Friday November 22, 2019 St. Cecilia, virgin & martyr

9:00 AM Living & deceased members of the Lockhart family req. by I. Boone

Saturday November 23, 2019 St. Clement I, pope & martyr; St. Columban, abbot; Blessed Miguel Agustin Pio, priest & martyr

5:00 PM +Carolyn Taft req by Alicia Lamb & Carole Brown
Sunday November 24, 2019 Our Lord Jesus Christ King of the Universe

8:00 AM +Norman Pellerin req. by his wife
10:30 AM +Janet Gagnon req. by her family

Offertory: \$ 2,093.00 Archdiocese of the Military: \$ 524.00
Today's Collection is for monthly extraordinary expenses.
Next weekend's second collection is for building maintenance.
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 November 23 & 24

5:00pm Lector: Bob Nejako

Eucharistic Minister: Deacon Michael

Altar Servers: Grace Gardella, CJ Frank

8:00 am Lector: Kathy Pellerin

Eucharistic Minister: Deacon Michael

Altar Servers: Christian Terwilliger

10:30am Lector: Maureen Polana

Eucharistic Minister: Deacon Michael

Altar Servers: Nicholas Barrett, Drew Taylor

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 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
1st 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 V. Rev. Richard Ricard, Rev. Victor Chaker, Rev. John Antonelle, Rev. Edward Konopka, V. Rev. Jan Swiderski, Rev. Stanley Szczapa, Rev. George Busto CO, Rev. John Ashe, Rev. George Villamthanam CST, Rev. Joseph Tito, Rev. Martin Noe, Rev. Thomas Griffin, Rev. William McCarthy MSA, Rev. Walter Nagle.

O, Jesus, I pray for Your faithful and fervent priests; for Your priests laboring at home or school in distant mission fields; for the lonely and desolate priests; for Your young priests; for Your dying priests; for the souls of Your priests in Purgatory, I pray.. (Ven. Mother Catherine Aurelia, foundress)

The Academy of the Holy Family presents "The Trial of the Wicked Witch" November 16th at 7:00pm. Come and enjoy a lighted re-examining of classic fairy tales, and be a part of the jury, deciding if she is guilty or not. Screenplay by Craig Sodaro, published by Eldridge Publishing.

The Lebanon Faith Communities and the Franklin Congregational Church invite you to a Community Faith event. The annual Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service will be held at the Franklin Congregational Church, 31 Meeting House Hill Road, Franklin, on Sunday November 24th at 4:00pm. Monetary donations accepted for the Franklin Fuel Assistance Program. Refreshments will be served.

MEETINGS - Monday Nov. 18 @ 6:30PM Ladies Guild

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.
- ❖ **Eucharistic Holy Hour** at Our Lady of Sorrows, Essex 6-7pm November 21.
- ❖ **Divorced and Separated:** The Catholic Family Services Office is offering a day for Catholics experiencing the pain and hurt of losing a marriage relationship. Entitled *Hope and Healing: Surviving Divorce and Separation*, it will take place **Saturday, Nov. 23, 2019** from 9 A.M. to 2 P.M. at The Church of the Holy Family Parish Hall, 185 Church St., Hebron, CT. This workshop will give you time for personal reflection, group sharing, prayer, ritual, journaling, and support with other Catholics seeking hope and healing as you gently move forward in your life. The cost for the day is \$15, which includes materials and lunch. Registration is required by Nov. 12. To register, contact Mary-Jo McLaughlin at 860-848-2237, Ext. 312, or email at mmclaughlin@norwichdiocese.net.
- ❖ **Young Adult Mass with Bishop Cote** on December 8th at 10:30am at St. Mary's in Coventry. Young adults ages 18-39 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 can come with or without children. Coffee social after Mass

Please look for the Office of Faith Events new column: "Faith Sparks" in the 4 County Catholic newspaper. This past month's column is about the "Art of Giving". Writer Mary Jo McLaughlin says "Giving from the heart was something I saw during my 13 years of teaching at Sacred Heart School in Taftville, where the school motto is "Love Serves". To read this entire article and find prayers for your children, workday, and mealtimes, visit: NorwichDiocese.org/FaithSparks

"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, in 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

East Catholic High School Entrance Exam for Eighth Graders will be given Saturday November 16th and Saturday December 7th at 8:00am. Pre-registration is appreciated but not required. You may reserve your spot by calling the Admissions Office at 860.649.5336 ext. 6456 or online at www.echs.com

Programs at Enders Island, Mystic

860.536.0565 www.endersisland.com.

++Young Adult Series: The Immaculate Conception with Fr. Tom Hoar, SSE Sunday, December 8, 2019 11:30 am - 4:00 pm To learn more & register, please visit <http://enders.is/mothermary>

++ Bereavement Retreat Sunday Dec. 8 with Fr. Ed Dempsey. \$50pp includes conferences & 3 course hot served lunch. Register at www.enders.is/DecBereavement

Would you be able to help the least among us this fall?

As the end of the year draws nearer, we need your help to fill our emergency food pantry with non-perishable items, donations of personal care items and infant diapers, especially size 3 and up. Donations can be dropped off at any of our locations in Norwich, New London, Middletown, and Willimantic.

Catholic Charities is your ministry within the Diocese of Norwich which helps those of all faiths who are in desperate need of the most basic necessities. Catholic Charities has had a presence in the area since 1921, making it one of the oldest social service agencies in the region. We have a strong commitment to assist those most in need, as well as supporting, strengthening and empowering them to attain the highest level of self-sufficiency through education and enrichment. With your support and generosity, Catholic Charities will continue our rich history of **Providing Help** and **Creating Hope** to those most in need. Visit www.ccfns.org or call 860-889-8346 for more information.

Saint Bernard School

Placement Test Saturday, December 7 8am to noon

Corpus Christi Catholic Parish (St. Mary, St. Joseph, Sagrado Corezon) are holding a cash raffle on December 14. Five cash prizes ranging from \$5000 to \$1000. Tickets are \$20 each. Monies raised will benefit St. Mary-St. Joseph School. Winner need not be present to win. Winner assumes responsibility for all Federal & State taxes. Call 860.423.8479 for more information.

ACA Annual Catholic Appeal Update

**St. Andrew Parish has achieved its goal!
21.73% of parishioners have donated.
St. Francis of Assisi Parish is \$3,733 short of
its goal.
16.58% of parishioners have donated.**

Our ACA supported ministries do the work of Christ every day. From a participant of "Wine, Wisdom and Why" sponsored by the Office of Faith Events, "I found the evening extremely educational. I have been a Catholic my whole life and never knew some of the 'whys' behind our traditions."

Please contact the Development Office at (860) 886-1928 or go online to

www.norwichdiocesedevelopment.org to make a gift to our 2019 appeal, Hand in Hand with All God's Children, by December 31. Thank you!

Center for Hospice Care Expressive Arts for Children

860.848.5699 hospicesect.org

Sessions focus on processing grief in imaginative and therapeutic ways. Each session begins with Pet Therapy and Snack Time from 4:30pm to 5:15pm. The Expressive Arts Session is from 5:15pm to 6:15pm. Children's Groups are for 5-12 years old and are held on Tuesdays at the Center for Hospice Care, 227 Dunham Street, Norwich.

Nov. 19 Say it With Music

Nov. 26 Gratitude Day

Dec. 3 Pet Remembrance Day

Dec. 10 The Art Part: Dream Catchers

Dec. 17 Holiday Remembrance

My Father's House Retreat Center 39 Moodus Rd., Moodus, CT

860.873.1906 www.myfathershousect.org

Coming Thursday, November 21 at 10:00am Tony Coscia, a Christian author and 45 year evangelist believes that Jesus desires a personal friendship with each person (a Miraculous life) and that Jesus, Himself will make this happen for each one of us, if we Just get out of His way! Come listen to this seasoned Evangelist and you too will understand more clearly Jesus's love and desire to be in close union with each of us. Tony's book "Tony's 50,000 Co-incidence Miracles" will be available for purchase after the presentation with a special message and signature from Tony.

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

9 Things Teenagers Can Do To Help Create and Maintain Safe Environments at Church and at School

Laws and rules are at the service of a community as well as individuals. Given the unique needs of children and teenagers in relation to the rest of the Christian community, it is not surprising that in the Church we place the needs of our children and teenagers first. Our laws and rules are at the service of our children and teenagers.

Teenagers can also help create and maintain safe environments. As a teenager, you need to be aware that:

1. *Your body is your own.* No one should touch you in a way you do not want to be touched. If another person touches you inappropriately, that person is wrong and should be reported to the proper authorities.

You *should not accept expensive gifts from non-family members.* You should not accept food, drinks, or rides from people you do not know well.

2. When attending Church functions, expect to be *chaperoned at all times and have behavioral expectations made clear to you.* If this is not occurring, then either the people in charge or your parents must be told. When attending an activity you need to advise the adult(s) in charge before you leave the activity.

3. You must not stay overnight in church-owned or operated facilities without *chaperones and the written permission* of your parents.

4. Adolescents must not bring, consume or abuse *drugs or alcoholic beverages.* Any Church ministers, employees, or volunteers who provide drugs or alcohol to teenagers are *acting illegally* and must be *reported promptly* to both Church and civil authorities.

5. *Be cautious* when dealing with *overly friendly adults*, those who place themselves on the same level as adolescents, those who seem to relate better to adolescents than to adults, those who suggest activities of which parents would not approve. Similarly, exercise caution around any adult who takes pictures extensively of adolescents, or offers explicit pornographic materials to teenagers. Such behavior should be reported immediately to parents or other trusted adults. Overlooking or thinking of such behavior as harmless can pose a real threat to everyone in the community.

6. Church personnel have certain limitations on their behavior. Church ministers, workers, and volunteers are not allowed to give expensive gifts to young people. They are not allowed to travel unchaperoned with young people. They are not allowed to touch young people in unacceptable ways. Generally, except in certain limited situations, it is expected that there will be at least two adults present for youth activities. If you observe violations of these rules by Church personnel, you should *report* those violations to your parents or appropriate Church authorities (see *Process of Reporting and Addressing Complaints and Allegations* listed under the section entitled *Enforcement*).

7. *Reporting violations* of this *Pastoral Code of Conduct* may not be an easy or popular thing to do. However, the purpose of this Code of Conduct is to assure the safety of people young and older. The Church personnel who may be disregarding these provisions are wrong and may pose a real threat to the health and safety of others. None of us can look the other way and pretend we do not see what is happening.

8. Discuss with your parents, the *Diocese of Norwich Electronic Communications, Internet and Computer Use Policy.* Abide by this policy.

9. *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.

8 Things Children Can Do To Help Create and Maintain Safe Environments at Church and at School

Rules tell children what to do and what not to do. Children should be taught that if they follow the rules they can stay safe. Given the unique needs of children and teenagers in relation to the rest of the Christian community, it is not surprising that in the Church we place the needs of our children and teenagers first.

Children can help maintain a safe environment by following certain rules. Children need to know that:

1. They can and should discuss anything that happens to them that makes them feel uncomfortable, confused, or upset in any way. They would usually talk to one of their parents, but they can also talk to a teacher, a school nurse, or another adult they can trust. When someone touches them in a way they do not want to be touched, they can tell that person to stop.
2. Most people are only allowed to touch certain parts of their body, like their hands or their shoulders. But NO ONE should touch the private parts of their body unless they are helping you keep these parts healthy. Private areas are those parts of their bodies covered by a swimsuit. If they are touched in a way they do not want to be touched they must tell their parents or an adult they trust. They need to remember that if an adult touches them in a place they do not want to be touched, that adult is wrong. It is never a child's fault when an adult does something wrong.
3. They do not talk to or ride in cars with people they do not know. They do not accept gifts from adults they do not know. When accepting gifts they tell their parents.
4. When they go on field trips, they stay close to each other and they do not wander away from their parents or teachers. They always remember to have permission slips signed by their parents or guardians that allow them to go on field trips. If there is no permission slip, then there is no field trip.
5. If they see a friend doing something that could be bad for their friend, they tell their friend to stop. If he or she keeps doing it, they tell their parents or another adult. If a friend tells them that another person is making him or her feel uncomfortable, confused, or upset in any way, they tell this to an adult who can help, like their parents or a teacher.
6. If someone around them makes them uncomfortable or worried, they should tell their parents or another adult they trust.
7. They do not wander off alone to lonely or secluded places. They always keep an adult they trust within sight. Before they leave the area of the adult in charge, they must ask permission of the adult.
8. They treat other people the way they would want to be treated. They do not treat other people as objects. They do not use other people to get what they want.

10 Things Concerned Catholics Can Do To Help Create and Maintain Safe Environments at Church and at School

The safety of children concerns all of the Christian faithful, whether or not they have young children, and whether or not they are working or volunteering for the Church. Our children are our most precious resource. They are the present and future of the Church and the future of our society. To allow them to be harmed, harms all of us irreparably.

How can all concerned Catholics help protect our children? As a concerned Catholic, you can take the following steps:

1. Take the time to *learn what is happening in your parish* to create and maintain a safe environment.
2. *Ask questions* of parish employees and volunteers regarding the *Safe Environment practices* in the parish. These practices must include: (a) education for parents, children, employees and volunteers regarding the sexual abuse of children; (b) identifying the warning signs that children may be abused; (c) an awareness of adult behaviors which can signal a danger to children; (d) controlling access to children; and (e) careful monitoring and supervision of children and parish programs.

3. *Keep your eyes and ears open.* Children talk among themselves. Listen carefully and with a discerning ear to what is being said. If an adult is making them uncomfortable this should be brought to the attention of the proper authorities.

4. A child who comes from a dysfunctional home is exceptionally vulnerable. If there is conflict, divorce, abuse, alcohol or drug dependency in a child's home, *be aware* of it and *help and support* that child in an appropriate manner. *Watch* for changes in the child's behavior, including silence, withdrawal, acting out, and/or slumping grades.

5. *Notice adults who are overly friendly or who place themselves on the same level as adolescents or young children*, those who seem to relate better to adolescents or children than to adults, those who suggest activities of which parents would not approve. Observe any adult who takes pictures extensively -and/or exclusively of adolescents; this behavior could signal problems and should be reported to the appropriate authorities. If an adult offers explicit pornographic materials to teenagers, report such behavior to the appropriate authorities.

6. *Understand the Church's efforts where employment or volunteer status is denied to an individual.* It is important to appreciate that: (a) such a decision is made based upon a good faith concern for the welfare of children and of our community; and (b) those making the decision may have access to confidential information which they may not legally be allowed to release or disclose. While an individual may not be prevented from challenging the Church's decisions, the Church is constrained from responding or releasing any confidential information it has acquired as the result of a screening process.

7. When an allegation is made against any adult, we all must *be concerned for that person's right to due process and a fair hearing.* We all should presume innocence until guilt is proven in some definitive manner.

8. Similarly, we need to *respect the right* of all of the People of God to a *good name and reputation.* Innuendo, suggestive remarks, snide comments, stereotyping, and generalizations can do just as much damage to a person's reputation as an ad in a newspaper. We should not place ourselves in the position of judging either accuser or accused unless or until we have access to all of the facts in any given situation.

9. *Familiarize yourself with the Pastoral Code of Conduct* for the Diocese of Norwich, available at www.norwichdiocese.org. Know the rights and obligations of all of the members of the Church community. If you see any member of the community failing in his or her responsibilities, bring it to the attention of the proper authorities (see *Process of Reporting and Addressing Complaints and Allegations* listed under the section entitled *Enforcement*).

10. *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.



Secret Santa Holiday Giving Program for Lebanon children ages birth to 15 years of age.

We will be collecting \$5 or \$10 gift cards to the following places: Staples, Dunkin Donut, Friendly's, Walmart, iTunes, & McDonald's. Cards may be placed in the offertory basket and are due back to Church by December 1st.



The Ladies Guild will be holding a Home-made breads and muffins Bake Sale after all Masses the weekend of November 23 & 24. Stop by and purchase something for the holidays!