

**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 30, 2019 St. Andrew, apostle

5:00 PM +Dave & Edith Perotti req. by their family

Sunday December 1, 2019 First Sunday of Advent

8:00 AM +Frank Smutko req. by his family

10:30 AM +Jennifer & Robert Chesters req. by their family

Monday, December 2, 2019 Advent Weekday

NO MASS

Tuesday, December 3, 2019 St. Francis Xavier, priest

NO MASS

Wednesday December 4, 2019 St. John Damascene, priest,
doctor of the Church

NO MASS - Convocation

Thursday December 5, 2019 Advent Weekday

NO MASS

Friday December 6, 2019 St. Nicholas, bishop

9:00 AM Intentions of Kim & Ceara Concannon & family req.
by Pam Roberts

Saturday December 7, 2019 St. Ambrose, bishop, doctor of the
Church

5:00 PM +James & Harry Dobrolet req. by their family

Sunday December 8, 2019 Second Sunday of Advent

8:00 AM +Raymond Boisvert req. by his family

10:30 AM

Monday December 9, 2019 Immaculate Conception

7:00 PM Sanctification of Bob Frank req. by I. Boone



Collections will be reported next bulletin.

Today's Collection is for monthly extraordinary expenses.
Next weekend's second collection is for Parish Fuel. Last winter
season our parish oil costs were \$6,144.26. Please be as
generous as your means allows.
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 7 & 8

5:00pm Lector: Kevin Flaherty

Eucharistic Minister: Pam Flaherty

Altar Servers: Genevieve & Grace Gardella

8:00 am Lector: Ella Mae Kuzel

Eucharistic Minister: Rick Kane

Altar Servers: Jack Terwilliger

10:30am Lector: Sandy Grillo

Eucharistic Minister: Wally Gagnon

Altar Servers: Nicholas Barrett, Erika Densman

**Knights of Columbus Meeting
Thursday December 5th at 7:00pm**

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 Bishop Michael R.
Cote, Rev. John Gallagher OFM Cap, Rev. Peter Liszewski,
Rev. Roland Cloutier, Rev. Richard Archambault, Msgr. Henry
Archambault, Rev. Raymond Introvigne, Rev. Elson
Kattookaran MS, Rev. Brian Converse, Rev. James Sucholet,
Rev. Aguirre Palacio.

We thank Father, for those who have responded to Your call to
priestly ministry. Fill Your priests with the knowledge of Your
love. Open their hearts to the power and consolation of the Holy
Spirit. O Mary, Mother of Christ, guard maternal to these chosen
ones. Intercede for our priests. (Ven. Mother Catherine Aurelia,
foundress)

**Mass for the Immaculate Conception
7:00pm on Monday December 9th.**



All ladies of the parish are invited to join
the Ladies Guild at their Christmas Party
on Monday, December 16th, 6:00
cocktails/6:30 dinner at the Log Cabin,
Lebanon. Reservation forms can be found
at the church entrances, the deadline is December 11th
to submit entrée choices and payment. Please contact
Sandra at 860-537-1372 or Barbara at 860-642-7168 if
you have any questions.

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 Diocesan Pro-Life Mass** will take place at The Cathedral of St. Patrick in Norwich on **Saturday, December 7 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.
- ❖ **Watermelon, Wisdom and Why Night: A Great Way to Kick Off the Advent Season.** Come join us, *Thursday, December 5th- 6:30-8:00 pm- St Pius X Church Hall, Middletown!* Families, children, parishioners and priests are all invited to come and ask Bishop Cote, and a panel of knowledgeable guests, questions about our Catholic faith traditions. The evening will highlight the season of Advent. Questions can be submitted through your local parish Faith Formation program or to the Office of Faith Events when you RSVP. All questions need to be submitted in advance. Come for a night of fun, fellowship and faith! With lots of faith activities for our young people. RSVP to your parish office or to the OFE 860-848-2237, ext.304 or manicholas@norwichdiocese.net. You don't want to miss the watermelon treats!
- ❖ **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.
- ❖ **Our Lady of Guadalupe**, Thursday 12 December Cathedral of St. Patrick 213 Broadway, Norwich, CT 6:30pm Rosary & Confessions 7:00pm Eucharistic Celebration (Bilingual). The Most Rev. Michael R. Cote Bishop of Norwich, Principal Celebrant. Following the Liturgical celebration, please join us for a fiesta of delightful music, delicious food & warm fellowship, as together we honor Our Lady and ask her intercession for peace in our hearts, in our homes, in our land, and in our world. A free-will offering will be asked to cover the cost of the buffet. For more information, please contact the Office for Hispanic Ministry: 860-456-3349 / e-mail: aposthispano@gmail.com
- ❖ **Eucharistic Holy Hour** at Sacred Heart, Taftville from 6-7pm on December 19th.

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.

"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

East Catholic High School Entrance Exam for Eighth

Graders will be given 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

Our Lady of Calvary Retreat Center

31 Colton Street, Farmington, CT

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: Tues. Dec. 10 – Wed. Jan. 15.

Saint Bernard School

Placement Test Saturday, December 7 8am to noon

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 re for 5-12 years old and are held on Tuesdays at the Center for Hospice Care, 227 Dunham Street, Norwich.

Dec. 3 Pet Remembrance Day

Dec. 10 The Art Part: Dream Catchers

Dec. 17 Holiday Remembrance

16 Things Employees and Volunteers Can Do To Help Create and Maintain Safe Environments at Church and at School

Employees and volunteers who engage in ministries on behalf of the Church want to teach and guide children and young people as safely and effectively as possible. It does not matter if those in ministry are employees or volunteers, the obligations for providing safe environments are the same. What can we do to assure a safe environment in Catholic churches, schools, and institutions? We can follow the following guidelines.

1. Fulfill the tasks confided to us in a manner that is *respectful* toward others. The pastoral relationship is one that should never be exploited by any minister, employee or volunteer for his or her own benefit. The people we serve have the right to expect that no one will be physically, sexually, or emotionally abused, neglected, or exploited, by Church related personnel.

2. *Be familiar with the Pastoral Code of Conduct* of the Diocese of Norwich and *abide by its provisions*. Abide by the Diocese of Norwich Electronic Communications, Internet and Computer Use Policy.

3. *Listen attentively* to concerns raised in regard to the *Pastoral Code of Conduct* or compliance with the *Code* and properly address any lack of compliance.

4. It is the goal of all volunteers, official ministers, employees, and contractors to:

create and maintain safe environments for minors and adults;
 ensure that no minor is alone with an adult and no adult is alone with a minor except in emergency situations or during the Sacrament of penance;

strive not to place oneself in a vulnerable or unsafe position.

In efforts toward achieving this goal, *adhere to the following principles*:

A. Two adults must be present when working with children or teenagers. As a rule, both must have read and agreed to abide by the Pastoral Code of Conduct, be aware of and know how to create and/or maintain a safe environment for children and adults, and have undergone comprehensive screening. If this is not possible, then adults should be paired so that one adult always has the requisite commitment, training, and screening.

B. All adults on an overnight trip must be screened and trained. Chaperones must be adults over the age of 21 years. The initial one to ten youths should be chaperoned by no less than two adults. For each additional ten youth, there must be at least one additional adult. Chaperones should be in proportion to the gender breakdown of the youth participants attending the event.

C. When more than two adults are required by the nature of an activity (e.g., dance, field trip, etc.), adults should be *paired* so that one adult always has the *requisite commitment, training, and screening*.

D. When the presence of two adults is not possible, such as medical emergencies, urgent or emergency situations, sacramental confession, or counseling and spiritual direction, *other safe environment measures* should be utilized, such as *remaining visible* to another adult or assuring that the adult involved has the *requisite commitment, training and screening*.

E. Adult leaders should *know the location* of the young people confided to their care immediately before, during, and after any Church-sponsored activity.

F. When transporting children and/or teenagers, drivers are required to submit to a State of Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicles record check, as part of their comprehensive screening. In light of this, it is strongly recommended that professional bus companies be used for

transporting minors whenever possible. Policy, forms and procedures can be found in the Diocese of Norwich Comprehensive Screening Policy.

G. No Religious Education classes are to take place in private homes.

H. No parish activities are to take place in private homes unless safe environments screened and trained chaperones are present. These activities must always be supervised by a screened and trained individual.

In certain instances, exceptions to the above principles may be granted by the Office for Safe Environments after an application for an exception is placed with this office.

5. *Signed parental consent forms* are a necessity when transporting young people as part of a School or Church group. Similarly, each minor must have a consent form/permission slip signed by his or her parent or guardian to participate in a youth activity.

Any *travel* with an unrelated child (or children) by authorized School or Church-related personnel may only occur when it is part of a School or Church-sponsored, chaperoned activity, with the express written permission of the young person's parents, when there is a second adult in the same vehicle and when diocesan transportation policies are followed.

6. *Minors ministering to or working with other minors* must be supervised by at least one adult who has the requisite commitment, training, and screening. It is strongly recommended that two adults be present during such activities and/or ministries.

7. *Touching* must be appropriate and initiated by the person being ministered to. In certain very visible situations, age-appropriate touching may be initiated by the minister, such as shaking hands before and after Mass. Otherwise unacceptable behavior does not become acceptable if it is done by a minor to an adult. The adult has the obligation to stop the behavior and counsel the minor as to the proper behavior. The adult must also report any such incident to his/her supervisor.

8. Ministers, employees, and volunteers must refrain from giving, or receiving, *expensive gifts* to, or from, young people without express parental consent.

9. *Under no circumstances* may an unrelated young person *stay overnight* in a rectory.

10. The use of *illegal drugs*, or misuse of over-the-counter or prescription drugs by Church related personnel is strictly prohibited. Church ministers, employees, or volunteers who provide, share, or offer illegal drugs, controlled substances, or alcohol, to young people will be terminated and removed from office or ministry and must be reported to the proper civil and church authorities.

11. *Boundaries* between personal/living space and public space must be clear and maintained at all times. As a rule, personal living space in rectories is not to be used for parish/school ministries or functions involving minors and /or vulnerable individuals. No religious education classes are to take place in private homes.

12. *Proper behavioral expectations* of minors under age eighteen must be communicated to them prior to the start of the activity.

Private conversations with young people should be considered confidential except insofar as may be necessary to fulfill diocesan and state mandated reporting requirements and/or to protect or save someone's life.

13. *Discipline* in Catholic parishes, schools and institutions should respect the dignity of each child. It is not acceptable to strike, spank, shake or slap a child. When it is necessary to discipline a child, such discipline should be *thoughtful, measured and restrained*.

14. *Visiting lay people* performing any church-sponsored function, at which minors will be present, are to be supervised by a person who is screened and trained according to diocesan safe environment policies. The parish, school, institution or ministry sponsoring the event will be responsible for assigning a screened and trained individual to the visitor. It is not necessary to inform the Office for Safe Environments, about the event, unless you wish the office to verify screening and training.

15. In the event of *visiting priests, deacons and seminarians* you must notify the Office of the Vicar for Clergy that a cleric will be visiting the diocese and for what purpose or event, as a Statement of Suitability is required.

16. *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.

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

**38th Annual Convocation
for the Priests in the Diocese of Norwich**

NEWPORT, RI.—The Annual Convocation for Priests will be held from December 2-4, 2019, at **Gurney's Newport Resort** on Goat Island in Newport, RI. It will be a time for all priests to gather with their bishop for spiritual renewal, support, education and rest. No parish, school or institutional activities will be scheduled during these days. Please pray for your priests, as they will be praying for you.

The key presenter will be Father Luke Ballman, STL, a priest of the Archdiocese of Atlanta, currently serving as Associate Director for the Secretariat for Clergy Consecrated Life and Vocations for USCCB and as an Extern Spiritual Director for the Theological College in Washington, DC. Father Ballman has also served as Vicar for Clergy, Vocations Director, Pastor of St. Augustine Church and Parochial Vicar at Holy Spirit Catholic Church in the Archdiocese of Atlanta. He has served as the Director of Apostolic Formation/Formation Advisor for the Pontifical North American College and as an Adjunct Professor for the Pontifical Gregorian University.

Bishop Cote emphasized the importance of this annual gathering in his letter inviting each priest to the Convocation, "Your presence and commitment to this time together is important to me." The Convocation is coordinated by the Norwich Diocesan Continuing Education and Formation Commission: Very Rev. Dennis M. Perkins, Very Rev. David P. Choquette, Reverends John Antonelle, Gregory P. Brozonowicz, Peter B. Liszewski, and Walter M. Nagle.

**Holy Family Retreat Center, West Hartford, CT.
860-760-9719. www.holyfamilyretreat.org**

Advent Retreat for Young Adults, with Colin Petramale and Patrick Laorden Sun., Dec 9, 1-9 p.m. Join a vibrant group of young adults in exploring how to live out your faith amid the pressures and expectations of being a young adult. Co-sponsored by the Archdiocese of Hartford's Office for Catholic Social Justice Ministry. \$40, includes dinner and Mass.

Advent Reflection: There is a Longing: Hearing the Whispers of Advent, with Fr. David Cinquegrani, C.P. Wed. Dec. 11 from 10am – 2pm or 6-9pm. Each of us has a longing in our hearts to encounter the presence of God in one form or another, to uncover and grasp what Ronald Rolheiser calls "the secret worth knowing"

Advent is not simply a time to get ready for Christmas; it's the time for Christians to prepare their hearts and minds for the revelation of the Divine and to accept God's indwelling in every moment. Join Fr. David in exploring our deep longing for the Savior, Emmanuel – among and within us. Both sessions include Mass; day session includes Sacrament of Reconciliation. \$40 includes meal. 860.760.9705.

St. Edmund's Retreat is looking to hire a Director of Culinary Services. The Director of Culinary Services manages all aspects of the retreat center kitchen. S/he is responsible for planning, overseeing and preparing cold and hot foods, including broiling, baking, roasting meats, preparation of vegetables, and preparation of desserts necessary for any meal or special function. S/he is responsible for coordinating all aspects of ordering foods, paper goods, and supplies for the kitchen, including maintaining and practicing first in first out inventory control system. The position requires the ability to maintain strict budget procedures regarding employee staffing, as well as product costs.

The Director is required to foster a "teamwork" atmosphere, including having the skills needed to address staffing problems that may arise and take the necessary steps to rectify the problem. S/he reports to the President of Enders Island, but must also communicate directly with managers of other departments and staff regarding the management of the kitchen and dining room.

The Director must be able to physically handle and operate kitchen equipment, including working in refrigerated and freezer areas. The ability to follow USDA regulations, State and Local Health Department Codes, and OSHA standards is required. The ability follow MSDS procedures when working with industrial cleaning products is a must.

St. Edmund's Retreat is located on Enders Island, a beautiful, garden-filled oasis in Mystic, CT. We offer a multitude of spiritual retreats, which includes breakfast, lunch and dinner service. The serenity our visitors experience is due in large part to the care and compassion our staff extend, and to the nutritious, lovingly prepared meals served throughout their stay. Interested candidates please contact Tracie, Director of Programs at 860.536.0565, ext. 167 or email your resume or letter of interest to programs@endersisland.com



Breakfast with Santa!
Sunday December 8, 2019
8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
Lebanon Fire Safety
Complex, Goshen Hill Road
Adults \$8.00, 12 & Under \$5.00,
Under 5 free
Good food & fun for everyone
Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus 9653