

**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 January 4, 2020 St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, religious

5:00 PM +Stanley Baran req by his family

Sunday January 5, 2020 Epiphany of the Lord

8:00 AM Marriage blessing to all Clinch & Kuzel families req.
By Norm & Ella Mae Kuzel

10:30 AM +Raoul Pomerleau req. by his family

Monday January 6, 2020 St. Andre Bessette, religious

NO MASS

Tuesday January 7, 2020 St. Raymond of Penafort, priest

NO MASS

Wednesday January 8, 2020 Christmas Weekday

9:00 AM Poor Souls in Purgatory req. by Pam Roberts
Sanctification of the Venosh family req. by I. Boone

Thursday January 9, 2020 Christmas Weekday

NO MASS

Friday January 10, 2020 Christmas Weekday

9:00 AM Living & Deceased victims of addiction req. by Pam
Roberts

Saturday January 11, 2020 Christmas Weekday

5:00 PM

Sunday January 12, 2020 Baptism of the Lord

8:00 AM +Lorraine Kane req. by the Dyer family

10:30 AM

11:30 AM Baptism

12/22 Offertory: \$ 3,035.32 Building Maintenance: \$ 744.00
12/25 & 12/29 Offertory totals to be reported in next bulletin due
to early submission.
Today's second collection is for extraordinary expenses.
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 of January 11 & 12

5:00 pm Lector: Kevin Flaherty

Eucharistic Minister: Pam Flaherty

Altar Servers: Genevieve & Luci Gardella

8:00 am Lector: Ella Mae Kuzel

Eucharistic: Kathy Pellerin

Altar Servers: Jack Terwilliger

10:30am Lector: Sandy Grillo

Eucharistic Minister: Wally Gagnon

Altar Servers: Drew Taylor, Erika Densman



MEETINGS:

**Parish Advisory Council Wednesday January 8, 2020 at
6:30pm.**

Grade 8 will be assisting at the 5:00pm Mass on January
12th.

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 Spedalieri 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.

Urgent - Support Those in Need!

The end of the calendar year also marks the end of "Hand in
Hand with All God's Children", the 2019 Annual Catholic
Appeal. Bishop Cote wishes to thank all who have reached
out and made a gift. Unfortunately we are still a long way
from reaching our goal. Our ACA ministries and programs
provide essential emergency services, spiritual guidance
and education, food for the hungry, pregnancy care, and so
much more. There is still time to make your gift! New gifts of
stock, IRA direct rollovers, and monetary donations to the
2019 ACA should be post-marked by December 31st. Please
visit www.norwichdiocesedevelopment.org to donate online,
send a check to 197 Broadway, Norwich CT 06360, or call
860-886-1928 for more information.

Altar Server Training and Parents Meeting

- ❖ Saturday, January 18th at 11:00am at
St. Andrew Church
- ❖ Saturday January 25th, 2020 at
10:00am at St. Francis Church

**This training is for current altar servers
and their parents as well as anyone who
would like to be an altar server
and their parents.**

You may attend either training.

**Additional Christmas flowers in memory of
Christopher Grabarek
Janet Gagnon
Deceased members of the Long family**



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 St. Mary, Jewett City from 6-7pm on January 16th.

The Diocesan School Office and the Office of Faith Events present... Faith and Reason Workshop Presentation on how to address mistruths about Science and God, with our youth and young adults!

March 16, 2020, Mercy High School, Middletown

Two sessions 8:30-12:00 am or 6:30-9:00pm

Mr. Robert Alderman is the Regional Director of Catholic Education Development for the Northeastern United States. As a member of Fr. Spitzer's staff he will be presenting a *new supplemental Module series for teenagers and young adults called 7 Essentials.*

*This series is meant to augment existing religious education and confirmation programs.

*This series focuses on the issues that are causing a growing number of young people to abandon religion.

*This series has seven engaging PowerPoint presentations, with embedded videos and voice narration, totaling 14 hours of classroom material. They are entirely FREE.

*The series is incredibly flexible, and is designed to educate today's young Catholics, allowing them to recognize mistruths about the faith.

*The presentation of modules is geared at the instructional level for middle school and high school students.

We hope you can join us for this informational presentation! RSVP by March 10th - Office of Faith Events: manicholas@norwichdiocese.net, 860-848-2237, ext. 304.

Men's Retreat – Our Deepest Longing Jan 31 – Feb 2, 2020

This year at Holy Family Retreat House in West Hartford, we will explore that deep longing planted in our hearts by God – a longing for peace, for wholeness and for relationships that give us joy and lift us up. Come away and rest awhile to find and pursue your deepest longing and by doing so, may you experience how God is longing so deeply for you, too. The retreat starts Friday evening and concludes with 10:45 Sunday Eucharist at followed by brunch at noon.

For information or to register, please call Bill Ziegenhagen at 860-267-2976.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors Food Cupboard would like to thank the Lebanon Churches for their continued support of the annual Ham & Bean Dinner. This year \$1,295 was raised at the dinner. Without your ongoing support we won't be able to continue our mission to help those in need in our community. Thank you!

The Academy of the Holy Family presents The Top Life Café: Teens of Pro-Life. Pro-woman is Pro-life.

Saturday, January 18, 2020 at the Academy of the Holy Family from 6:30-8:00pm. Speakers, entertainment and food will be provided.

54 West Main Street, Baltic 860.822.9272.

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 New Year's Resolutions. Director of the Office of Faith Events, Andrea Hoisl writes, "What if we all took a new approach to a New Year's resolution this year? What if we all resolve to get to know God better this year?" To read this entire article and find great tips on reacquainting yourself with God along with 3 helpful apps to help you keep this resolution this year, visit: NorwichDiocese.org/FaithSparks

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

olcretreat@sbcglobal.net 860.677.8519

Women's Retreat January 10-12 & 17-19., 2020

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: Wed. Jan. 15.

Women's Retreat February 21-23 & February 28-March 1, 2020

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Worship of the Blessed Sacrament, acknowledging Christ's real presence there as incarnate God. Reverential practices varied during the centuries. After the 12th century, a strong cult honoring the Eucharistic species developed. With the institution of the feast of Corpus Christi came processions, monstrances, and Forty Hours Devotion.

Our parish began the First Fridays one hour Blessed Sacrament Adoration on Jan. 3, 2020.

The next First Fridays one hour Blessed Sacrament Adoration is on February 7th from 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM. Please come and visit our Lord Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament for the whole hour or any time during the adoration.

**Where is the child who has
been born king of the Jews?
For we observed his star
at its rising, and have come
to pay him homage.**

Matthew 2.2





Additional Christmas Flowers in memory of deceased and survivors of Sandy Hook School 2012.

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January 22, 2020 marks the 47th anniversary of the Supreme Court's infamous abortion-on-demand ruling. Because of that decision, millions of pre-born babies have been denied their most basic right - their right to life. On Friday, January 24, 2020, people from across the nation will assemble in Washington, D.C. to visibly express their opposition to abortion. On Thursday, January 23, 2020 at 9 P.M., buses sponsored by the Connecticut Right to Life Eastern Chapter will leave from the Norwich Municipal Parking Lot (Exit 11, I-395) and travel to D.C. to attend the March For Life on Friday, January 24, 2020. Bus fare is \$70 per person. If you are unable to attend the March for Life, please consider sponsoring a seat on the bus. For further information and/or to reserve a seat or to sponsor a seat, please call Lisa Duda at 860-494-0049.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter "So too, you also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come." Enrich and renew your marriage by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next Weekends are Mar 27-29, 2020 in Albany, NY and Jul 10-12, 2020 in East Windsor, CT. For more information, call Pat & Mary Jo McLaughlin at 860-315-2127 or visit them at <https://wwmectw.org/>.

Looking for the perfect Valentine's Day gift for your spouse? Give your spouse the gift of your time by spending a day together celebrating the joy of your love. Come away for a day and re-energize and deepen your marriage and your faith with practical insights from Pope Francis' wisdom on marriage and family life. Join other married couples for a day-long enrichment entitled "**The Joy of Love**" on **Saturday, February 8, 2020**, from 9 A.M to 3 P.M. at **St. Mary Parish Hall, 34 North Main St., Jewett City**. The enrichment is based on Chapter 4 of Pope Francis' **Amoris Laetitia: The Joy of Love** and will feature four talks on: Daily Love, Conjugal Love, Passionate Love and Transformation of Love. This enrichment is for married couples of all ages and years married. The cost is \$25 per couple, which includes lunch and materials. Registration is required. To register, call the Diocesan Catholic Family Services Office at 860-848-2237, Ext. 312. Or, send your first names (husband and wife), last name, address and telephone number with fee made payable to the Diocese of Norwich to: Catholic Family Services Office, 199 Broadway, Norwich, CT 06360.

Is your marriage tearing you apart? Is there little or no meaningful communication? Are you considering separation or divorce? For serious marriage building and repair: Retrouvaille is a lifeline. At a **Retrouvaille** weekend, couples are given tools to re-establish communication, work on their issues, gain new insights and heal. The weekend is presented by three married couples and a priest. A series of 6 post sessions follow the weekend phase. For more information or to sign up for the **January 17-19, 2020** weekend in the Hartford area, call 413-525-1634, or 203-710-6207, or visit the Website at www.retrouvaille.org.

APOSTOLATE OF PRAYER — *We pray for Our Holy Father, Rev. William Flynn, Rev. Stephen Gulino, V. Rev. Laurence LaPointe, Rev. Patrick McCorry, Msgr. Kevin Randall, Rev. William Olesik, Bishop Michael R. Cote, Rev. Dennis Mercieri, Rev. Christopher Feeney, Rev. Joseph DeCosta, V. Rev. David Choquette, all priests, Rev. Brian Maxwell, Rev. Bogdan Olzacki OSPPE, Rev. Stanley Szczapa, Rev. William McCarthy MSA, V. Rev. Jan Swiderski, Rev. John Gallagher OFM Cap..*

Father, we pray for our priests: for the sanctity of their souls and for perfect love, that they may be the voice of Christ. May each day of this New Year bring our priests more souls to save and more holy influence to spread around.

East Catholic High School

In response to popular demand we are pleased to offer another Entrance Exam on *Thursday, January 23rd, 8:30 a.m.* Pre-registration for the exam 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

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.

Dear Parishioners:

This year our CCD project is again to help the people of Haiti. This year we will collect funds for the "Give-a-Goat" program.

The goat brings hope to a family trapped in poverty. Goats can provide milk and meat. Pregnant goats often will give birth to twins or triplets. This in turn, increases the herds quickly.

When we give a goat, the children have the opportunity to name the goats. We later receive pictures of the goats we donated take with a member of the family that receives each goat.

The Give-a-Goat Program is a great way for our children to learn the importance of giving to others.

Each class will have a donation jar and children should bring whatever they can each Sunday. I would like to have this fund raising for the rest of this CCD year.

The cost of a pregnant goat is \$150.00. Parishioners who wish to donate a goat may also choose a name for the goat. In addition to the collection jar located near the Giving Basket, there will also be two second collections between now and June.

The second collection for January 18 & 19 will be for the CCD project.

Sincerely,
Jim Hay
Jim Hay
Director of Religious Education

