

**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 March 7, 2020 St. Perpetua & Felicity, martyrs

5:00 PM +Christina Lataille req. by her family

Sunday March 8, 2020 Second Sunday of Lent

8:00 AM +Rev. Thaddeus F. Malanowski

10:30 AM +Robert Wheaton req by his family

Monday March 9, 2020 St. Francis of Rome, religious

NO MASS

Tuesday March 10, 2020 Lenten Weekday

NO MASS

Wednesday March 11, 2020 Lenten Weekday

9:00 AM Poor Souls in purgatory req. by Pam Roberts

Sanctification of the Andrews family req. by I.
Boone

Thursday March 12, 2020 Lenten Weekday

NO MASS

Friday March 13, 2020 Lenten Weekday

9:00 AM Victims of addiction living & deceased req. by Pam
Roberts

7:00 PM Stations of the Cross

Saturday March 14, 2020 Lenten Weekday

5:00 PM

Sunday March 15, 2020 Third Sunday of Lent

8:00 AM +Emil & Erma Kuzel req. by Norm & Ella Mae Kuzel

10:30 AM

Offertory: \$ 2,260.00 Monthly Extraordinary: \$ 625.00
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 of March 14 & 15

5:00 pm Lector: Anne Staebner

Eucharistic Minister: Sharon Nejako

Altar Servers: CJ Frank, Nina Gardella

8:00 am Lector: Greg Jones

Eucharistic: Kathy Walden

Altar Servers: Christian Terwilliger

10:30am Lector: Paul Pelletier

Eucharistic Minister: Tony Coscia

Altar Servers: Drew Taylor, Joey Major

**Grades 1 & 2 will assist at the 10:30am
Mass on March 15th.**

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.

APOSTOLATE OF PRAYER — We pray for Rev. Bogdan
Olzacki OSPPE, Rev. Stanley Szczapa, Rev. William McCarthy
MSA, V. Rev. Jan Swiderski, Rev. John Gallagher OFM Cap,
Msgr. Henry Archambault, Msgr. Michael Donohue, Rev.
Joseph Castaldi, Rev. Aguirre Palacio, Rev. Francis Rouleau,
Rev. Scott D. Surrency OFM Cap, Rev. Izydor Sadowski SDB.
We also pray for the priests who have left the ministry.

O Divine High Priest, May the power of Your mercy accompany
Your priests everywhere and protect them from the traps and
snares of the devil.

FAST AND ABSTINENCE

These regulations unite the whole Catholic Church throughout
the world in the Lenten journey of repentance and conversion of
heart. Observed in a spirit of generosity, fast and abstinence
remind us of our own frailty and make us more sensitive to the
needs of others. Acts of penance find their completion in works
of charity and justice. All parishioners are encouraged to do acts
of penance and charity during the Lenten season beyond what
is prescribed by law.

Fasting: Those between the ages of 18 and 59 years old are
obliged to observe the laws on fasting. Traditionally, to fast
means limiting oneself to one full meal in the day and two
smaller meals. The two prescribed days of fasting are Ash
Wednesday and Good Friday.

Abstinence: The law of abstinence obliges all those who are
over the age of 14. On days of abstinence meat is not eaten at
any meal. The prescribed days of abstinence are Ash
Wednesday and all the Fridays of Lent, including Good Friday.
Those individuals who have a medical condition in which fasting
or abstaining may be considered harmful are not obliged to fast
or abstain, but should perform some other act of penance or
charity.

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. Joseph Church in Chester from 6-7pm on March 19th.
- ❖ **Are you grieving from an Abortion?** Trust in the mercy of God's love. Consider these words from St. John Paul II to those suffering because of abortion: *"The church is aware of the many factors which may have influenced your decision, and she does not doubt that in many cases it was a painful and even shattering decision. The wound in your heart may not yet have healed. Certainly what happened was and remains terribly wrong. But do not give in to discouragement and do not lose hope.... The Father of mercies is ready to give you His forgiveness and His peace in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. You will come to understand that nothing is definitively lost and you will also be able to ask forgiveness from your child, who is now living in the Lord."* (Evangelium Vitae, no. 99). Call **Project Rachel**, the church's post-abortion healing program, for a confidential referral to a priest who can help: **860-861-4439**.

Please Join Us: 2020 ACA Ministry Fair Reservations Required

The 2020 Ministry Fair showcasing our Diocesan ministries and programs will be held in Norwich on Sunday, March 15, 2020 from 11:00 am to 12:30 pm. We will offer a complimentary continental breakfast throughout this open house style event and there will be a kid's corner as well. If you would like to attend to learn how donations to the 2020 Annual Catholic Appeal, **"One Faith, One Family"**, support our ministries and programs please **RSVP by March 9th** to Rosela Precopio at 860-886-1928 ext. 110 or dodadm@norwichdiocese.net. Reservations are required due to space limitations.

Men's Retreat: March 20-22. We spend our time and energy on the necessities of everyday life, which hold so many things that are beyond our control. But what is it that we are longing for in the deepest way? What is our passion in life? This year at Holy Family, 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 begins with a buffet dinner from 6-7:30pm on Friday evening and concludes Sunday with the celebration of Mass at 10:45am followed by a hot brunch at noon. Families of retreatants are most welcome to attend the Sunday Mass and brunch at no extra charge. Offering is \$325.
Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center, 3 Tunxis Rd., West Hartford, CT. More info and to register: holyfamilyretreat.org/themed-retreats

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.

Please join us March 28, 2020 from 9:00am – 3:00pm at St. Bernard's School in Uncasville for the 10th Annual Norwich Diocesan Women's Conference, "Our Tapestry of Faith: Affirming Feminine Gifts and Strengths"

The day will include keynote speaker Danielle Bean, mass with Bishop Cote, vendors, reconciliation, and much more! Lunch is included with registration fee.

Register after February 22.... \$40
Students..... \$20

To print the registration form or register online go to www.norwichdiocese.org and follow the Office of Faith Events link.

Questions, please contact The Office of Faith Events at 860-848-2237, or faithevents@norwichdiocese.net

Registration forms also available at church entrances.

Attendees are requested to bring a canned good.

"The Tribute Page" will be a new addition to our 2020 **Women's Conference Booklet**. Acknowledge all the women who are threads in the tapestry of your life by letting them know their unique contribution has reinforced the fabric of your life and your faith! Write a thankful tribute or a note of gratitude to your Mother, Grandmother, Great-Grandmother or Godmother for all she has done for you, or any woman/women who have helped you throughout your life.

The cost is \$5.00 a line (no more than 65 characters including spaces) Please make checks out to the Office of Faith Events and send to: Office of Faith Events, 199 Broadway, Norwich, CT 06360 Contact Marianne at 860-848-2237, ext. 304 with questions.

Programs at Enders Island, Mystic
860.536.0565 www.endersisland.com

Centering Prayer Weekend: March 27-29. Learn more at www.enders.is/bestill

Triduum Retreat April 9 – 12 www.enders.is/triduum

Enjoy a chef-prepared entrée & a specialty dessert portioned for four adults. Sunday suppers are available for purchase each weekend until April 5. Orders must be placed the preceding Wednesday and picked up on Enders Island after the 9am Mass. Order on-line at www.enders.is/suppers

Care Net Pregnancy Resource Center of Southeastern CT Annual Fundraising Banquet!

Come hear about the past year at Care Net, a life affirming resource center and licensed medical clinic located in New London. Our staff is dedicated to providing women facing an unplanned pregnancy with *real* choices. At Care Net, women and their families receive the following free services: accurate, medically-sourced information about pregnancy, a pregnancy test, ultrasound, STI screening and treatment if needed, peer counseling, parenting & birthing education, and practical items for their infants, as well as referrals to local agencies. We also share the Gospel with each client in word and deed.

Date: Thursday, March 19

Time: Lunch @ 11:15 am

Dinner @ 6:15 am

Location: Groton Inn & Suites 99 Gold Star Highway, Route 184 Groton, CT 06340

If you'd like to host a table or RSVP, please call our office at 860-449-0386 OR email Katie at katie@carenetsect.org. Thank you for considering joining us and supporting this ministry!

Saint Andrew's Ladies Guild Trips

April 28-30, 2020 - Trip to Lancaster, PA. View the brand new show **Queen Easter** at the Sight and Sound Theatre in Lancaster, PA. Also included, viewing Improv Comedy Show, Old Windmill Farm, Strasburg Railroad, shopping time - travel by deluxe motor-coach, 2 nights hotel, 2 breakfasts, 2 dinners, sightseeing and admissions per itinerary. Cost \$521pp double.

Boston Pops on Old Cape Cod:

Aug. 9-10 Pops by the sea with Keith Lockhart and the Boston Pops, visit JFK Museum and have a Hyannis Harbor Cruise. Travel by deluxe motor-coach, 1 night hotel stay, 1 breakfast, 1 dinner and reserved seats for the Boston Pops. Cost \$369 pp double

Don't wait--deposits are being accepted at this time.

Please contact Cathy Russi if you need added information:

crussi45@sbcglobal.net or 860-887-9621

Come Soar with the Eagles! East Catholic High School will hold an entrance exam on Saturday March 28 from 8:30-12:00pm. Parents are welcome to stay for an information session while their students take the exam.

NEW) LENTEN ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM - Wednesdays at St. Andrew Church

"FORGIVEN", the Transforming Power of Confession. "FORGIVEN" explores the grace and healing offered in Confession and show how this sacrament of mercy reveals the depth and bounty of God's love. By looking at God's revelation of his mercy in Scripture and making a step-by-step examination of the Rite itself, "FORGIVEN" communicates God's invitation to each one of us to come experience his indescribable love in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

This series is free of charge and will be held in the church, Wednesday evenings from 6 to 7 PM on the following dates: **March 11, and 18**

This program is for all, no matter where you are in your faith journey, whether you are just beginning, returning or have many years under your belt. No problem if you miss a week-feel free to join us whenever you can. Flyers with additional information are located in the side and front entrances of the church. If you have any questions, please call Ed or Marie Fusco (860) 537-6386. Please bring a notebook or journal with you.

OPERATION RICE BOWL: OUR LENTEN PROGRAM FOR LENT FOR LIFE

Trinh's family are farmers in Vietnam who have been affected by climate change. What would you do if your source of nutrition was threatened? How can we support those whose livelihoods are vulnerable to weather? Visit crsricebowl.org for more.

This Lent make your sacrifices become opportunities to feed the hungry poor. Please participate in Operation Rice Bowl and let the sacrifices you make for the hungry poor nourish them and may these sacrifices witness to the love that disciples of Christ have for all people, especially for the least of the Lord's sisters and brothers.

Families are encouraged to gather each week in prayer for the hungry poor and to share a sacrificial meal. With the moneys saved from this meal, a donation is placed in the family Rice Bowl and brought to Church on Palm Sunday.

Holy Family Summer Camp 2020

Theme: **Jesus Our Eucharistic King**

July 28-July 31

Located at Holy Family Motherhouse in Baltic, CT!

For girls, ages 11-15

Come join us for a wonderful spiritual experience and lots of fun!

Contact: Sister Mary Kathleen, SCMC 860-388-1517

srmarykathleen@gmail.com or Sister Rafael, SCMC 860-822-8241. All forms will be available on our website: www.sistersofcharity.com

Email Sr. Mary Kathleen and she will send these directly to you!

Programs at Mercy High School
1740 Randolph Rd. Middletown, 06457
Register online – www.mercyhigh.com
Office of Admissions 860-346-6659 x115

***“Discover Mercy”** “Discover Mercy” is a morning program offered for girls and their parents to get their first look at Mercy by enjoying activities, student performances and informal conversations with Mercy students, parents, administrators and faculty.
Saturday, March 21, 2020
9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

For 5th, 6th & 7th grade girls. Girls participate in two activities of their choice followed by lunch in the dining commons. The day concludes with closing comments and a performance in the auditorium. Some of this year’s activities: **Beginner’s Yoga, Chemistry of Tie-Dyeing & Simple DNA, Creative Writing, Mad about Math, French Cuisine, Theater Arts Workshop, Field Hockey Clinic, Card Making, Introduction to Italian, Mini Mock Trial, Musical Dance/Musical Vocal.**

***Calling all (rising) 6th – 9th graders**
Super Charge your summer and register for the 2020 M-Powered Summer Programs:
Basketball, Higher Achievement, Soccer, Theater Arts (co-ed), plus additional programs for the Mercy Class of 2024. Visit Mercy’s website for information or contact the school for a brochure.

www.mercyhigh.com/summerprograms
Mercy High School 860-346-6659

\$20,000 Cash Raffle Sponsored by Mercy High School Home & School Association Ticket Price \$100.
Purchase tickets online at www.mercyhigh.com or call 860-346-6659. Only 650 tickets will be sold. You do not have to be affiliated with Mercy High School to Play or Win. Winner need not be present. Winner will be responsible for all taxes.

**Catholic Charities invites you to
SAVE THE DATE, APRIL 18, 2020**

Come and celebrate 99 years of Providing Help & Creating Hope for our neighbors in need at our Hope Anchors the Soul Gala!

An Evening of Cocktails, Dinner, Dancing and Silent Auction too! Through Catholic Charities, Diocese of Norwich, our community becomes stronger with your help! For more information call 860-889-8346 ext. 285.

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://www.mectw.org/>.

Our Lady of Calvary Retreat Center

31 Colton Street, Farmington, CT
olcretreat@sbcglobal.net 860.677.8519

Women’s Retreat

March 13-15 March 27-29 April 17-19
July 17-19 July 24-26

Family Recovery - Freedom from Someone’s Addiction through Grace Saturday March 14 9am-1:30pm

Pysanky Workshop Wednesday March 25 6:00-9:00pm

Awakening Our Creative Self in Recovery August 7 @ 7:00pm thru August 9 @ 12:00pm



ChurchArt Online! www.churchart.com

An Ecumenical Lenten Service will be held on Wednesday March 18 at 7:00pm at the First Congregational Church.

This year’s theme is *a focus on healing and making the world a better place...a focus on family, strength, and the peace of God that surpasses understanding with an acknowledgment of past events.*

If you are interested in singing in a ‘combined’ choir of our churches, please come to the rehearsal at 6pm. There will be a time of refreshment and fellowship following the service. The event is sponsored by the Lebanon Ecumenical Clergy and Franklin Congregational Church.

CT March for Life – April 15th

St. Francis and St. Andrew Parishes will have a bus to go to the March for Life in Hartford, CT this April 15th. The day will start with a march from Bushnell to the State Capitol at 11:15am and will end with a rally that will begin at noon. Great speakers are promised for the rally. The bus will pick up at St. Andrew at 10:00am, take us to the Bushnell. The return bus will pick us up at 1:30pm at the State Capitol. We are expected to return to St. Andrew about 2:00pm. The cost of this trip is only \$10 per person. Those under 18 must be accompanied by their parents. **To reserve a spot, please send the name of who will be attending along with a check to St. Andrew Church in a sealed envelope and place in the collection basket at St. Francis. Seats will be filled on a first come first serve basis.** Any questions, please feel free to contact Carol Petit at carolannpetit1@gmail.com

Dear Parishioners,

Saint Francis Church will no longer be a food drop off for Neighbors Helping Neighbors.

Going forward, please bring your food donations directly to Neighbors Helping Neighbors located at the First Congregational Church in Lebanon. We will only collect food items at Saint Francis when Neighbors Helping Neighbors asks for special collections.

The parishioners of Saint Francis have always been extremely generous to food collections and it is hoped that you will continue to do so.

With God's Blessings,

Father Mark

24 hours for the Lord Will be held

- **Friday, March 20 at St. Columba, Columbia from 8:00-8:45am, 9:30-10:00am, 12:00-1:00pm and 4:30-5:00pm**
- **St. Andrew, Colchester from 8:30-9:30am**
- **St. Joseph, Willimantic from 4:00-6:00pm, 6:30-7:30pm**
- **St. Francis Church, Lebanon from 7:30-8:30pm**

And Resuming on Saturday March 21

- **St. Joseph, Willimantic 1:30-3:30pm**
- **Church of the Holy Family, Hebron 3:00-4:30pm. 6:00-6:30pm**
- **St. Mary, Coventry from 3:00-3:45pm**
- **St. Andrew, Colchester from 3:00-3:45pm**
- **St. Francis, Lebanon from 4:00-4:45pm**
- **Sagrado Corazon de Jesus, Windham after 5:30pm Mass**
- **Church of the Holy Family, Hebron from 6:00-6:30pm**



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

June 22-26 6-6:30pm

St. Andrew Church

Our theme is:

The Knights of North Castle

Volunteer & registration info coming soon

Lenten Soup & Bread

Every Friday during Lent at the First Congregational Church in Lebanon – through March 10, (except March 13th). Time 5-7pm. Take Out Available.

Info please call 860.642.6179.

Fish Fry Lenten Dinners

St. Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church in Colchester offers Friday Fish - Fry Lenten Dinners this year from 4:30 till 7:00 pm. The last Fish - Fry Friday Dinner will be April 3rd. Everyone is welcome. The menu and prices are the same as in previous years: your choice of Baked or Beer-battered fillet of fried fish, French Fries or onion rings, Homemade Coleslaw, variety of Home-made desserts and soft drinks- all for \$15 donation for adults and \$7 for Kids Ages 5-10. Children under 4 are free of charge. Take out is also available. For more information please call 860-537-2069. Thank you for your support of our very small parish and wish you all a happy & joyful Lenten journey.

Stations of the Cross & Fish Fry every Friday in Lent at Enders House on Enders Island. 5pm or 6:30pm seating, also orders to go. Stations of the Cross in the Chapel of the Assumption at 6pm. **Enders Island, Mystic**
860.536.0565 www.endersisland.com

Women's Acts Retreat April 2-6

St. Francis/St. Andrew/St. Patrick/St. Bridget

To be held at Our Lady of Calvary, Farmington, CT. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to the following:

Adrienne Davis, Director 860.670.4989
Jeanette Girard, Co-director 860.334.9893
Joanne Phillips, Co-director 860.334.8986

Sunday, March 8 at 2pm

Yellow Roses: Voices of Women's Suffrage

Historian Bev York, presents the history of the Women's Suffrage through first-hand accounts of icons of the Movement. Snow date: March 15. Program is free to members, non-members \$2.

Refreshments and conversation

Held at the Lebanon Historical Society Museum

located at 856 Trumbull Hwy., Lebanon

For more information call **860-642-6579**

museum@historyoflebanon.org

www.historyoflebanon.org

St. Andrew' 16th Annual Passion Play

Wednesday April 1st, Friday April 3rd

And Saturday April 4th at 7:30pm.

It will once again portray the life, death, and resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ in a musical. Over 100 voices will be heard in the phenomenal production which changes from year to year as to which aspects of Christ's life are portrayed. There is no charge for admission, however tickets are required since seating is limited to the capacity of St. Andrew Church located at 128 Norwich Ave. in Colchester. In order to help defray the costs of presenting the play, a free will offering is appreciated. For tickets you may call Teresa Dziatko at 860.295.8315. Tickets are also available at Merciful Savior and Colchester Florist.