

**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 28, 2020 Lenten Weekday**

5:00 PM For those suffering from Covid-19

**Sunday March 29, 2020 Fifth Sunday of Lent**

8:00 AM

10:30 AM +*Milissa Beatty req. by the Meline family*

**Monday March 30, 2020 Lenten Weekday**

NO MASS

**Tuesday March 31, 2020 Lenten Weekday**

NO MASS

**Wednesday April 1, 2020 Lenten Weekday**

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

Sanctification of the Lyon family req. by I. Boone

**Thursday April 2, 2020 St. Francis of Paola, hermit**

NO MASS

**Friday April 3, 2020 Lenten Weekday**

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

6:00 – 7:00 PM Adoration

7:00 PM *Stations of the Cross cancelled*

**Saturday April 4, 2020 St. Isidore, bishop & doctor of the Church**

5:00 PM

**Sunday April 5, 2020 Palm Sunday**

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

10:30 AM +*Jean Filex req. by Joey Major*

Offertory: \$

Today's second collection will be for the CCD project: Goats for Haiti. Next weekend's second collection will be for Operation Rice Bowl.

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

**ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL has been postponed until June.**

**This year's St. Andrew's Annual Passion Play has been cancelled.**

**Easter flower envelopes available at the entrances of Church.**

**Please note that activities posted in the bulletin may be cancelled or postponed. To date no changes for these postings have been received in the parish office.**

**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  
1<sup>st</sup> Class Petty Officer 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  
IT2 Rocky Spedalieri Jr., U.S. Navy  
AMSA Jared Swett, 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 all priests, Rev. James Sucholet, Rev. Charles McGrail, Rev. Ben Vinjoe, Rev. Michael Gill, Rev. Augustine Naduvilekoot, Rev. Alfred Irving, Rev. Luis Agudelo, Rev. William McNulty, Rev. Martin Noe, Rev. Walter Nagle, Msgr. Richard LaRocque, Rev. Richard Sliwinski.

Glory be to the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit. Father, recall to our priests that they hold between their hands the Most Precious Treasure of the Church: the Blood of the Sacred Victim. Enkindle in them the fire of love of Christ as they do Your work.

**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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays at 2pm. Spiritual Renewal Center, 11 Bath Street, Norwich.
- ❖ **Eucharistic Holy Hour** at St. John Church in Cromwell from 6-7pm on April 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- ❖ **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**.

### **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](mailto:crussi45@sbcglobal.net) or 860-887-9621

### **East Catholic High School will hold an entrance exam**

on Saturday, April 4th from 8:30- 12:00 pm; parents are welcome to stay for an information session while their students take the exam. Please plan on staying for a while to meet administrators, take mini-tours with student ambassadors, and have questions answered about the application process.

### **Our Lady of Calvary Retreat Center**

**31 Colton Street, Farmington, CT**

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

**Women's Retreat** April 17-19 July 17-19 July 24-26

**Awakening Our Creative Self in Recovery** August 7 @

7:00pm thru August 9 @ 12:00pm

### **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

[srmmarykathleen@gmail.com](mailto:srmmarykathleen@gmail.com) or Sister Rafael, SCMC 860-822-

8241. All forms will be available on our website:

[www.sistersofcharity.com](http://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](http://www.mercyhigh.com)

Office of Admissions 860-346-6659 x115

**\*Calling all (rising) 6<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> 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.

**\$20,000 Cash Raffle** Sponsored by Mercy High School Home & School Association Ticket Price \$100.

Purchase tickets online at [www.mercyhigh.com](http://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** - The Lord, God is my

help. Let God help your marriage be the Sacrament He intended. Strengthen, renew, and rekindle your marriage sacrament by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next Weekends are Jul 10-12, 2020 in East Windsor, CT and Nov 6-8, 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/>.



### **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**

### 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

### 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 15<sup>th</sup>. 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](mailto:carolannpetit1@gmail.com)

### HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE: **Subject to Change To Be Determined by the Diocese** **Please call parish office for latest changes**

- Easter Egg Hunt at Saint Francis has been cancelled
- Confessions at Saint Andrews Tuesdays 6:30pm – 7:00pm
- Confessions at Saint Francis Monday, April 6 at 7:00pm
- Holy Week St. Andrew Church: Saint Francis parishioners invited to attend  
Holy Thursday 7:00 PM  
Good Friday 3:00 PM  
Holy Saturday 8:00 PM  
No vigil service at Saint Francis of Assisi Church. Parishioners are invited to attend Easter Vigil Services & Mass at St. Andrew Church in Colchester at 8:00 P.M.
- Blessing of Easter Food at St. Francis Holy Saturday 1:00 PM
- Easter Sunday Masses at Saint Francis  
Masses: 8:00 A.M. and 10:30 A.M.



### Annual Layette Program

All ladies are invited to attend the Annual Layette Program on Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup> at 1pm at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church Hall, 63 Old Norwich Road, Quaker Hill. We are collecting NEW baby items such as diapers all sizes, baby clothing (sizes 0-3 years old), blankets, etc. All items collected will go to Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Norwich, and will be distributed to Norwich, New London, Middletown and Willimantic. You may leave your items in the collection box located at the side entrance of the Church. We will be collecting items until the day of the event. Any questions, please contact Sandra Spedalieri at 860.537.1372. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

**All parishioners are invited to the consecration of the Chrism and the blessing of the Oil of the Sick and the Oil of the Catechumens at the Chrism Mass on Tuesday, April 7, 2020 at 10:30am Procession of Priests and Deacons will begin into the Cathedral at 10:20am. The Mass will be celebrated at the Cathedral of Saint Patrick in Norwich. Bishop Michael R. Cote will celebrate this liturgy. All are invited.**

The Sacred Chrism, oil mixed with sweet perfume, symbolizes the presence of the Holy Spirit. It will be used in the parishes of the Diocese of Norwich in the sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation. It is also used at the Ordination of Bishops and Priests and at the Dedication of a Church and altar.

The Oil of the Sick is used to anoint those who are suffering from illness so that they may receive strength and healing, both physical and spiritual.

The catechumens will be anointed with the Oil of the Catechumens in preparation for their Baptism at the Easter Vigil.

The Chrism Mass is a celebration of the entire local Church, and the subsequent use of the oils in the various parishes is a sign of unity among God's people. Why not plan to take your family to the Cathedral that day? It is a very special experience!

### Message from Neighbors Helping Neighbors

In light of the rapid spread of (COVID-19) Coronavirus through Connecticut, Neighbors Helping Neighbors Food Cupboard is taking a proactive measure and will be closing until further notice. This closure will protect the health of the volunteers who work to keep the pantry maintained, and the health of those who use the Cupboard. While this decision was very difficult, with many considerations and factors taken into account, the safety of the people we work with and serve is of the utmost concern. We will continue to be in contact and assist all of the folks of Lebanon that frequently rely on NHN Cupboard to supplement their groceries. Any questions please call 860-208-9963. We will need your help in the future. Thank you.

Dear Parishioners,

Although there is a temporary suspension of public Masses, Fr. Mark and Fr. Richard will offer a private Mass daily and the intentions will be acknowledged. The Mass will be streamed on Facebook: Saturday Vigil Mass at 4pm, Sunday morning at 11:00am, Tuesday at 7pm, Wednesday at 9am and Thursday and Friday at 8am. If you do not have Facebook you can also find live Mass on EWTN. To find Mass streamed on Facebook: Search for St Andrew's Roman Catholic Church on Facebook and scroll to the live stream.

Confessions will still be heard at regular time Saturday at 4:00 to 4:45pm.

The Church will be open if you wish to stop by and spend a few moments in private prayer.

We will continue to have the weekly bulletin available in limited numbers. The bulletin is also posted on the parish website:

[www.stfrancisassisilebanonct.lebanonct.org](http://www.stfrancisassisilebanonct.lebanonct.org)

Blessed palms will be available in the Church for Palm Sunday.

We ask that you also remember that although there is no public Mass, our expenses are still here. Please consider mailing in your weekly offering or using Bill Pay through your bank.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the parish office at 860.642.6711 between the hours of 9am – 12pm (noon) Monday, Wednesday and Friday. You can call anytime and leave a message ... 860.642.6711.

The obligation to attend Sunday Mass is commuted (i.e., can be fulfilled in lieu of their participation of Mass) by doing one of the following and making an Act of Spiritual Communion:

- ❖ Watching Sunday Mass on TV or online.
- ❖ Reading and reflecting upon the Scripture for Sunday – available on the Diocesan website, USCCB website and in print through hand missal missals, Missalettes and subscription services.
- ❖ Praying 5 decades of the Rosary – the Sorrowful Mysteries being particularly suited to both the current situation and the Lenten Season.
- ❖ Meditating on the Stations of the Cross – there are many online and print resources available.
- ❖ Please consult the Diocesan website for additional information and resources.

At this time we do not know how Holy week will be. Most likely all services will be streamed.

Please note that things can change at any time and we will try to keep you informed as well as we can.

**Act of Spiritual Communion by St. Alphonsus Liguori**  
My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Amen.

**Prayer to the Most Holy Redeemer (Anima Christi)**  
Soul of Christ, sanctify me. Body of Christ, save me. Blood of Christ, embolden me. Water from the side of Christ, wash me. Passion of Christ, strengthen me. O good Jesus, hear me. Within Thy wounds hide me. Never permit me to be parted from You. From the evil enemy, defend me. In the hour of my death, call me, and bid me come to Thee, that with Your saints I may praise Thee for age upon age. Amen.

**Prayer to Our Lord Jesus Crucified**

Behold, O good and loving Jesus, that I cast myself on my knees before You and, with the greatest fervor of spirit, I pray and beseech You to instill into my heart ardent sentiment of faith, hope and charity, with true repentance for my sins and a most firm purpose of amendment. With deep affection and sorrow I ponder intimately and contemplate in my mind Your five wounds, having before my eyes what the prophet David had already put in Your mouth about Yourself, O good Jesus: They have pierced my hands and my feet; they have numbered all my bones (Ps. 21: 17-18)

**The Prayer of Pope Francis to Mary during the Coronavirus Pandemic**

O Mary, you always shine on our path as a sign of salvation and of hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain, keeping your faith firm. You, Salvation of Your People, know what we need, and we are sure you will provide so that, as in Cana of Galilee, we may return to joy and to feasting after this time of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform to the will of the Father and to do as we are told by Jesus, who has taken upon himself our sufferings and carried our sorrows to lead us, through the cross, to the joy of the resurrection. Amen. Under your protection, we seek refuge, Holy Mother of God. Do not disdain the entreaties of we who are in trial, but deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen.

# PARISH NEWS

As things continue to develop we will keep you informed on the parish website:

[www.stfrancisassisilebanonct.org](http://www.stfrancisassisilebanonct.org)

Or on the St. Andrew Facebook page: St Andrew Church Colchester.

Please stay safe and healthy!

## LIVE STREAMING OF MASSES

March 29<sup>th</sup> – April 4<sup>th</sup>

Fifth Sunday of Lent

March 29<sup>th</sup> – Sunday at 9:30am – from St. Andrew Church

March 31<sup>st</sup> – Tuesday at 7:00pm – from St. Andrew Church

April 1<sup>st</sup> – Wednesday at 9:00am – from St. Francis Church

April 2<sup>nd</sup> – Thursday at 8:00am – from St. Andrew Church

April 3<sup>rd</sup> – Friday at 8:00am – from St. Andrew Church

## PALM SUNDAY

April 5<sup>th</sup> – Sunday at 10:30am – from St. Francis Church

## CONFESSIONS

St. Andrew Parish

Tuesday, March 31<sup>st</sup> at 6:30pm

Wednesday, April 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:30pm

Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30pm

St. Francis Parish

Monday April 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm

**There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Friday April 3<sup>rd</sup> from 6:00 – 7:00 pm.**

**There will be no Stations of the Cross on Friday April 3<sup>rd</sup>.**

## PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Mondays

9:00am – 12:00pm

Wednesdays

9:00am – 12:00pm

Fridays

9:00am – 12:00pm