

**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 May 16, 2020 Easter Weekday

5:00 PM + Anne Dudar req. by her family

Sunday May 17, 2020 Sixth Sunday of Easter

Only one Mass to be streamed from St. Francis at 10:30 AM
In celebration of the 40th anniversary of the West Town Street Church

Monday May 18, 2020 St. John I, pope, martyr

NO MASS

Tuesday May 19, 2020 Easter Weekday

NO MASS

Wednesday May 20, 2020 St. Bernadine of Sienna, priest ~ Vigil of the Ascension

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

7:00 PM Vigil of the Ascension at St. Andrew Church

Thursday May 21, 2020 St. Christopher Magallanes, priest &

companions, martyrs ~ The Ascension

8:00 AM Mass at St. Andrew Church

9:15 AM Mass at St. Francis of Assisi Church

Sanctification of the Evancho family req. by I. Boone

+Jennifer Wheaton req. by her family

7:00 PM Mass at St. Andrew Church ~ streamed

Friday May 22, 2020 St. Rita of Coscia, religious

9:00 AM Sanctification of the Grushinski fam. req. by I. Boone

Saturday May 23, 2020 Easter Weekday

5:00 PM +Robert Burns req. by Irene Burns

Sunday May 24, 2020 Seventh Sunday of Easter

Only one Mass to be streamed from St. Andrew at 9:30 AM

+JoAnn Pomerleau req. by her family

Collection totals for May will be reported at the end of the month. Thank you to all parishioners who have mailed in their contributions.

There was some confusion with second collections. May 3rd's second collection was Seminary Education, May 10 second collection is extraordinary expenses, May 17 second collection will be building maintenance. May 24 second collection is for St. Bernard School.

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



Our annual gift of seeds have been blessed. Packets of beans, squash, peas, pumpkins, & cucumbers are available for parishioners to take

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
1st 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 Spedaliere Jr., U.S. Navy
AEAN Jared Swett, 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. Jeffrey Ellis, Rev. Augustine Naduvilekoot, Rev. Roland Cloutier, Rev. Anthony DiMarco, Rev. Peter Liszewski, Rev. Richard Archambault, Rev. Grzegorz Brozonowicz, Rev. Paul Boudreau, Rev. Keith Shuley CDR CHC, Rev. Edward Dempsey DBA Rev. William McCarthy MSA, Rev. William Olesik. We also pray for those priests who have left the ministry. Mary Immaculate...we know you are blessing our priests, your beloved consecrated ones. Dear Mother, cover them with your maternal mantle and hold them in your Immaculate Heart.

The Church is open during the week from 8:00am to 6:00pm so individuals can come and pray and make an Act of Spiritual Communion with the Lord.

Confirmation scheduled for June 6th has been postponed until further notice based on a directive from the Norwich Diocese.



Annual Layette Program

The Annual Layette Program has been postponed. A new date has not been set yet. However, we are still collecting **NEW** baby items such as diapers all sizes, baby clothing (sizes 0-3), 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 bassinet located at the side entrance of the Church. We will be collecting items until the day of the event. Any questions please contact Sandra Spedaliere at 860.537.1372. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Happy 40th Anniversary St. Francis of Assisi West Town Street Church!

In 1964, a large tract of land was purchased on the west side of the Green. (In 1975 it was decided to sell the house on West Town Street and eighteen acres, keeping five acres. The house and acreage were repurchased in 2007 and again sold in 2018.) In early 1969 Father Hugh Murphy began a monthly building fund collection to be used towards the eventual new Church. By the mid 1970's the increasing number of the *faithful* at Mass called for more seating in the Church.

Under the direction of Father Edward Davis construction of a new Church on West Town Street began in 1979. A building committee was established, and a pledge drive was conducted to raise funds. Edward Breen was the architect and construction was done by the Joseph Drouin Company of Willimantic. "The church was designed to harmonize with Lebanon Green's colonial setting, while still abiding by the diocesan building directives and the latest in liturgical thinking". The original plan was a church and hall, but upon the opening of the contractors' submitted bids and the staggering disclosed figures "it was the painful but agreed on consensus to postpone the hall and concentrate on the church."

Through loans both by the diocese and parishioners and the fundraising group, the Supper Club, as well as lots of Masses and prayers the church building was made possible.

To help with the costs parishioners volunteered to do many of the various jobs including carpentry and painting to have the building ready for the dedication day.

On **May 18, 1980**, the Solemn Liturgical Celebration for the Blessing and Dedication of the new Saint Francis of Assisi Church was held at 3 p.m. Principal Celebrant was the Most Rev. Daniel P. Reilly, Bishop of Norwich. Concelebrants included Father Edward Davis; three priests who had served St. Francis in years past: Fathers Edmund Barrett, Richard Archambault and Hugh Murphy; John Suprenant and Msgr. Joseph King, and other clergy. Mass included the Rite of Blessing, Prayer of Dedication, and the Liturgy of the Eucharist (including blessing of the Tabernacle). Parishioners offered up a variety of gifts pertaining to the church and Lebanon.

Approximately 325-350 people gathered for the dedication including town officials and representatives from the Lebanon and Jewish communities. After the service, an open house with light refreshments was held in the old Church. Later that day, at a large gathering of priests, Bishop Reilly termed our new parish Church, "the gem of the diocese".

Today, in these unprecedented times, as we continue to pray separately in our homes and watch Mass on TV or online, we must remember that St. Francis Church will once again be open to us and we will be together soon to pray, participate in the Mass and receive the holy Eucharist. Please pray for an end to this pandemic and for all those it has affected.

Live Stream Schedule

Sunday May 17 at 10:30am from St. Francis Church

Tuesday May 19 at 7:00pm from St. Andrew Church

Wednesday May 20 at 9:00am from St. Francis of Assisi Church

Wednesday ~ Vigil of the Ascension May 20 at 700pm from St. Andrew Church

Thursday May 21 at 8:00am from St Andrew Church Adoration from 9:00am – noon

Friday May 22 at 8:00am from St. Andrew Church

Sunday May 24 at 9:30am from St Andrew Church

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.

Confession: Saturday from 4:00 to 4:45pm or by appointment.

Please note: if you are unable to go to Sacramental Confession, do not despair. The Church in her merciful love and as attested by the wisdom of many Saints, allows that you can experience God's forgiveness by an act of perfect contrition, provided you have the intention to seek Sacramental Confession as soon as you are able.

Act of Contrition: Oh my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended Thee: and I detest my sins most sincerely because they displease Thee, my God, Who are so deserving of all my love for Thy infinite goodness and most amiable perfections: and I firmly purpose by Thy holy grace never more to offend Thee.

2020 Annual Catholic Appeal Update: While we were not able to conduct our video/in pew 2020 Annual Catholic Appeal, "One Faith, One Family" weekend, we are still very much in need of your support. Please go to our website, www.norwichdiocesedevelopment.org to watch our video to see some of our ministries' good works. You may also make your gift/pledge online on our website a well. If you have not returned your ACA envelope, please do so at your earliest convenience. Now, more than ever, our diocesan ministries need your help to support those of our brothers and sisters who are suffering physically, spiritually, and emotionally from this pandemic Thank you and God Bless You.

Wanted: Director for Catholic ministry office for child and youth protection. Must have good skills in administration, organization, management, training/teaching, and communication. Computer literacy required, including in MS Word, Excel, Outlook, Power-point, and Access. Must be a practicing Catholic in good standing. By May 22, 2020, send resume and cover letter with salary expectations to: SE Search Committee, 201 Broadway, Norwich, CT 06360.

The months of **May** and October are special months on the Catholic Church's liturgical calendar, dedicated to the veneration of the Virgin **Mary, mother of Jesus**. **May** is the liturgical month of **the Blessed Virgin Mary** whose commemoration according to the Catholic Encyclopaedia dates from the 17th century.

The "**crown**" of **Mary** has been mentioned since the 6th century, as "corona virginum" (**crown** of virgins). ... The Three kings present their crowns to the newly born Jesus as a symbol of secular power submitting to Christ. Marian crowns often include elements of victory and glory, especially during the Baroque period. The twelve **stars** on the crown above her head apply to both the twelve patriarchs of the tribes of Israel (original people of God), and the twelve apostles.