

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 September 12, 2020 The Most Holy Name of Jesus

5:00 PM +Rev. J William Mickiewicz R/b the Haralson family

Sunday, September 13, 2020 Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary

Time

8:00 AM Wayne & Irene Vojick 35th Wedding Anniversary

10:30 AM +Gaetan Menard R/b C. Wheaton

Mass to also be streamed from St. Andrew 9:30 AM

Monday September 14, 2020 Exaltation of the Holy Cross

NO MASS

Tuesday September 15, 2020 Our Lady of Sorrows

NO MASS

Wednesday September 16, 2020 St. Cornelius, pope, and St.

Cyprian, bishop, martyrs

9:00 AM +Robert Burns R/b Irene Burns

Living & Deceased members of the Lockhart family R/b I. Boone

Thursday September 17, 2020 St. Robert Bellamine, bishop,

doctor of the Church

NO MASS

Friday September 18, 2020 Weekday in Ordinary Time

9:00 AM Living & deceased members of the McAllister family

R/b I Boone

Saturday September 19, 2020 St. Januarius, bishop, martyr

5:00 PM +Stanley & Anne Dudar R/b Alicia Lamb

Sunday, September 20, 2020 Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary

Time

8:00 AM +Betty Therrien R/b her family

10:30 AM

Mass to also be streamed from St. Andrew 9:30 AM

Thank you to all parishioners who have mailed in their contributions.

Offertory September 6th: \$ 1,510.00

National Combined: \$ 983.00

Today's second collection is for Catholic Elementary Schools.

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

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Weekend of September 19 & 20

5:00 pm Lector: Carole Briggs

8:00 am Lector: Jim Dyer

10:30am Lector: Maureen Polana

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 Our Holy Father, V.

Rev. Dennis Perkins, Rev. Gregory Mullaney, Rev. Walter Nagle, Rev. John Ashe, Rev. Jeffrey Ellis, Rev. Augustine Naduvilekoot, Rev. Roland Cloutier, Rev. Anthony DiMauro, Rev. Peter Liszewski, Rev. Richard Archambault. We also pray for priests who have left the ministry.

We pray for our priests; for the sanctity of their souls; and for perfect love, that they may be the voice of Christ. May they be a channel for His Precious Blood, always acting through love.

Increase in Your priests a hunger for the glory of Jesus, and for the salvation of souls. Grant them courage and confidence in carrying out their duties.



Sunday School Begins in October.

TEACHERS ARE NEEDED FOR GRADES 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, & 8. ASSISTANTS ARE NEEDED FOR GRADES 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8. Please give prayerful consideration to volunteering. Class cannot be held without volunteers.

U-R qualified if you are over 16 and a practicing Catholic who attends weekend Mass. We will help you with the rest of the job and help you to easily get certified to work with our youth **If you could volunteer, please call Jim Hay, the DRE at 860.886.1882 or the parish office at 860.642.6711. Registrations for classes is ongoing.**

CONFIRMATION

Rehearsal & Confession Friday September 18 at 6pm
Confirmation Saturday September 19 at 10:00am

Last weekend the National Combined Collection which benefits: The Retirement Fund for Religious, The Annual Appeal for the Holy Father, The Catholic Communications Campaign, and Catholic University of America was taken up in our parish. To all those who made a gift, thank you for your generous response. If you did not bring your gift envelope to Mass last weekend or if you were away, it's not too late to give! Extra envelopes are available at Church entrances. Your contribution can be placed in the collection basket or mailed directly to the Parish. Please be as generous as you can. Thank you.

The 2020 Connecticut Catholic Men's Conference: It's a Home Run!

No doubt, it's Divine Providence

**We're moving the conference to New Britain Stadium!
September 19, 2020**

Prayers to Saint Joseph uncovered this opportunity!

Outdoor venue with up to 1,500 capacity, in total compliance with Social Distancing precautions.

Indoor bathrooms and handicap ramps

Full Seats with cup holders rather than folding chairs

Easy access off the highway right in the middle of Connecticut

Plentiful parking

Going onto the field to receive Eucharist!

Adoration on the roof top!

NOW including lunch with the same ticket price.

The CCMC Committee requests those who wish to attend to purchase their tickets before September 1st by going to www.ctcatholicmen.org. We hope to see you there!



A Journey with Mary through Her Seven Sorrows A Virtual Seven- Week Program

If you are seeking to find hope, strength and comfort from a loss, burden, or sorrow, join us for "A Journey with Mary Through Her Seven Sorrows", a virtual seven-week program that will explore each of the seven sorrows of Mary's life and the message of strength and encouragement each one contains.

The program will be offered in two sessions:

Tuesday nights from 7-8:15pm September 15, 22 October 6, 13, 20, 27 and November 3

OR

Wednesday afternoons from 1:30-2:45pm September 16, 23, October 7, 14, 21, 28 and November 4.

Each week will include a reflection on one of Mary's sorrows, guided prayer imagery and discussion. The program is free, but **registration is required**. To do so, or for more information, contact the Catholic Family Services Office at 860.848.2237, Ext. 312, or email mmclaughlin@norwichdiocese.net.

PLEASE HELP US FILL BOXES OF JOY. *Cross Catholic Outreach* will continue with the Box of Joy ministry this season. In these unprecedented times, your help is needed more than ever. The Ladies Guild, with your help, will again send Christmas blessings to children around the world through the *Box of Joy* program. *The program is an annual Christmas gift ministry organized by local Catholic school, parishes, and groups across the United States and facilitated by Cross Catholic Outreach.*

Together we can gather items needed to fill Box of Joy shoeboxes. The Guild will supply the boxes, all you have to do is help fill them, **all items must fit in a 10" shoebox**. Lists of suggested items can be found at the Church entrances. Please put items in the collection boxes at the Church entrances. **COLLECTION DATES:** September 5 to October 11. To help with shipping costs, monetary donations are accepted, please make checks payable to St. Francis Ladies Guild. *Now more than ever, children need to have the reassurance that they are loved by God. Cross Catholic Outreach believes in the urgency of reaching communities with the eternal hope of the Gospel, especially in these uncertain times. Box of Joy gifts, the Story of Jesus and the rosary are powerful tools to share God's love with thousands of children around the world.*

For more information, please contact Estelle at 860.420.7221 or estelle7moodus@yahoo.com

Our Lady of Sorrow Icon Workshop

With Deacon Steven DeMartino Oct 4th - Oct 9th, 2020

In this participatory icon workshop, the central subject will be Our Lady of Sorrows, influenced by Marcos Zapata from the Cuzco school. The icon will be painted in classical traditional, egg tempera medium. Byzantine, Romanesque, and contemporary methods will be applied in this week-long, intensive icon workshop.

Learn more at www.enders.is/ourladyicon

St. Edmund's Retreat

1 Enders Island, PO Box 399

Mystic, CT 06355

(860) 536-0565

Faith for the Future

Catholic Elementary School Collection

This September 12th and 13th the Annual Catholic Elementary School Collection will be conducted throughout the Diocese. Informational flyers and donations envelopes will be available in Church for this in pew collection. Our 9 Diocesan elementary schools offer families a safe and nurturing environment in which to entrust their children's academic, social and moral growth, preparing them to become the future leaders of our Church and communities. In addition to the normal expenses, this year our schools are faced with the unexpected costs of making their school COVID 19 ready. We know how difficult this pandemic period has been for many in our parish community and truly appreciate your support. All funds collected at our parish will be distributed throughout our Diocesan elementary schools. Thank you for your continued support. Please make checks payable to St. Francis and place them in the CES collection envelopes found in Church.

10 Things Concerned Catholics Can Do To Help Create and Maintain Safe Environments at Church and at School

The safety of children concerns all of the Christian faithful, whether or not they have young children, and whether or not they are working or volunteering for the Church. Our children are our most precious resource. They are the present and future of the Church and the future of our society. To allow them to be harmed, harms all of us irreparably.

How can all concerned Catholics help protect our children? As a concerned Catholic, you can take the following steps:

1. Take the time to *learn what is happening in your parish* to create and maintain a safe environment.

2. *Ask questions* of parish employees and volunteers regarding the *Safe Environment practices* in the parish. These practices must include: (a) education for parents, children, employees and volunteers regarding the sexual abuse of children; (b) identifying the warning signs that children may be abused; (c) an awareness of adult behaviors which can signal a danger to children; (d) controlling access to children; and (e) careful monitoring and supervision of children and parish programs.

3. *Keep your eyes and ears open.* Children talk among themselves. Listen carefully and with a discerning ear to what is being said. If an adult is making them uncomfortable this should be brought to the attention of the proper authorities.

4. A child who comes from a dysfunctional home is exceptionally vulnerable. If there is conflict, divorce, abuse, alcohol or drug dependency in a child's home, *be aware* of it and *help and support* that child in an appropriate manner. *Watch* for changes in the child's behavior, including silence, withdrawal, acting out, and/or slumping grades.

5. *Notice adults who are overly friendly or who place themselves on the same level as adolescents or young children*, those who seem to relate better to adolescents or children than to adults, those who suggest activities of which parents would not approve. Observe any adult who takes pictures extensively -and/or exclusively of adolescents; this behavior could signal problems and should be reported to the appropriate authorities. If an adult offers explicit pornographic materials to teenagers, report such behavior to the appropriate authorities.

6. *Understand the Church's efforts where employment or volunteer status is denied to an individual.* It is important to appreciate that: (a) such a decision is made based upon a good faith concern for the welfare of children and of our community; and (b) those making the decision may have access to confidential information which they may not legally be allowed to release or disclose. While an individual may not be prevented from challenging the Church's decisions, the Church is constrained from responding or releasing any confidential information it has acquired as the result of a screening process.

7. When an allegation is made against any adult, we all must *be concerned for that person's right to due process and a fair hearing.* We all should presume innocence until guilt is proven in some definitive manner.

8. Similarly, we need to *respect the right* of all of the People of God to a *good name and reputation.* Innuendo, suggestive remarks, snide comments, stereotyping, and generalizations can do just as much damage to a person's reputation as an ad in a newspaper. We should not place ourselves in the position of judging either accuser or accused unless or until we have access to all of the facts in any given situation.

9. *Familiarize yourself with the Pastoral Code of Conduct* for the Diocese of Norwich, available at www.norwichdiocese.org. Know the rights and obligations of all of the members of the Church community. If you see any member of the community failing in his or her responsibilities, bring it to the attention of the

proper authorities (see *Process of Reporting and Addressing Complaints and Allegations* listed under the section entitled *Enforcement*).

10. *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.

12 Things Parents Can Do To Help Create and Maintain Safe Environments at Church and at School

The Church teaches that parents have the most serious duty, and primary right, to do all in their power to assure the physical, social, cultural, moral and religious upbringing of their children. Parenting is a difficult and demanding task. It is a task that requires the support and assistance of the entire Christian community. Parents, children and Church ministers, *must all work together to assure the safety and welfare of our most precious resource, our children.*

Parents need to take an active, and even proactive, role in the educational and social activities of their children. As a parent, you can work with your child (ren) to assure their safety. Among other things, you need to:

1. *Know your child's teachers* as well as those adults who have some supervisory role in relationship to your child (ren). Two adults should normally be present when working with your child (ren).

2. Satisfy yourself that the adults having contact with your child (ren) have been *carefully screened.* If you have doubts about whether or not an employee or volunteer was properly screened, talk with the person in charge of the activity, or your pastor, and communicate your concerns. If your doubts concern a school employee, talk with your child's principal.

3. *Visit the classrooms and places* where activities are held to assure you that these places are safe environments.

4. *Become involved* in programs and activities at church and school.

5. *Teach your child (ren)* that most people are only allowed to touch certain parts of their body, like your hands or your shoulders. But NO ONE should touch the private parts of your body unless they are helping you keep these parts healthy. Private areas are those parts of our bodies covered by a swimsuit.

6. *Encourage your children to speak openly about their experiences and not keep secrets about their relationships with other people.* Children need to be taught that they can and should discuss anything that happens to them that makes them feel uncomfortable, confused, or upset in any way. They need to know they can talk to a parent or another trusted adult about feelings such as these.

7. *Discourage your child (ren) from accepting inappropriate gifts.*

8. *Not allow* your child (ren) to *travel unchaperoned or stay overnight* with adult non-family members as part of Church or school related activities *except with your explicit written permission.*

9. Insist that your child (ren) not be allowed to travel without *explicit written permission*, given only after careful review of the travel arrangements.

10. Listen carefully and with a discerning ear to what children are saying to one another about the adults around them.

11. Be aware of the *Pastoral Code of Conduct* in effect for Church ministers and promptly report any violations of the same to the appropriate authorities (see *Process of Reporting and Addressing Complaints and Allegations* listed under the section entitled *Enforcement*). Familiarize yourself, and discuss with your child, the *Diocese of Norwich Electronic Communications, Internet and Computer Use Policy*.

12. 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; and teach your children not to treat other people 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

40 Days for Life campaign will begin with a Vigil Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral on Tuesday, September 22nd at 7pm. Following Mass, the 40 Days for Life Team will be available to answer any questions and distribute campaign signage and materials. This year The 40 Days for Life Campaign runs from Wednesday September 23rd through November 1st. It is hoped that you will join our Parish by signing up to Peacefully Pray OUTSIDE the Planned Parenthood facility at 12 Case St. in Norwich. Thank you.

RCIA to Begin

If you or a family member or a friend is considering becoming Catholic or learning more about the Catholic faith, the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) will begin on Sunday, September 20 at St. Andrew Church. Classes are held after the 9:30am Mass in the classroom attached to the rectory. All are welcome to learn more and journey deeper into the Catholic faith. For more information or questions, please contact John or Nicole Peck at 860.537.6981 or at jnpeck@mac.com

Catholic Charities SNAP Enrollment Services

Catholic Charities can assist you with food stamp application and determination. Please call any of our locations to make an appointment.

Norwich 860-889-8346, New London 860-443-5328, Middletown 860-346-0060, and Willimantic 860-423-7065.

Saint Robert Bellarmine

Born at Montepulciano, Italy, October 4, 1542, St. Robert Bellarmine was the third of ten children. His mother, Cinzia Cervini, a niece of Pope Marcellus II, was dedicated to almsgiving, prayer, meditation, fasting, and mortification of the body.

Robert entered the newly formed Society of Jesus in 1560 and after his ordination went on to teach at Louvain (1570-1576) where he became famous for his Latin sermons. In 1576, he was appointed to the chair of controversial theology at the Roman College, becoming Rector in 1592; he went on to become Provincial of Naples in 1594 and Cardinal in 1598.

This outstanding scholar and devoted servant of God defended the Apostolic See against the anti-clericals in Venice and against the political tenets of James I of England. He composed an exhaustive apologetic work against the prevailing heretics of his day. In the field of church-state relations, he took a position based on principles now regarded as fundamentally democratic - authority originates with God, but is vested in the people, who entrust it to fit rulers.

This saint was the spiritual father of St. Aloysius Gonzaga, helped St. Francis de Sales obtain formal approval of the Visitation Order, and in his prudence opposed severe action in the case of Galileo. He has left us a host of important writings, including works of devotion and instruction, as well as controversy. He died in 1621. (Catholic Online)

What are angels?

An **angel** is a pure spirit created by God. The Old Testament theology included the belief in angels: the name applied to certain spiritual beings or intelligences of heavenly residence, employed by God as the ministers of His will.

The English word "angel" comes from the Greek *angelos*, which means 'messenger'. In the Old Testament, with two exceptions, the Hebrew word for "angel" is *malak*, also meaning 'messenger'. The prophet Malachi took his name from this word. He was himself a messenger, and he prophesied about the coming of "the messenger of the covenant", Jesus Christ (Malachi 3:1).

Although the word "angel" in the Bible, meaning a messenger, nearly always applies to heavenly beings, it can occasionally apply to human messengers. Malachi himself said a priest was a messenger (*malak*) of the LORD of hosts (Malachi 2:7), and in the Book of Revelation the elders of the seven churches of Asia were called angels (1:20; 2:1 etc.). But when we meet messengers doing supernatural things, there is no doubt they are heavenly beings - God's messengers, working for Him and for the ultimate benefit of mankind.