

## 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 October 17, 2020 St. Ignatius of Antioch, bishop, martyr

5:00 PM People of the Parish living & deceased

Sunday, October 18, 2020 Twenty-ninth Sunday Ordinary Time

8:00 AM +Deceased members of the Clinch & Kuzel R/b Norm & Ella Mae Kuzel

10:30 AM +Antoine & Maurice Soucy R/b their family

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

Monday October 19, 2020 Sts. John de Brebeuf & Isaac Jogues, priests & companions, martyrs

NO MASS

Tuesday October 20, 2020 St. Paul of the Cross, priest

NO MASS

Wednesday October 21, 2020 Weekday in Ordinary Time

9:00 AM Poor souls in purgatory R/b Pam Roberts

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

Thursday October 22, 2020 St. John Paul II, pope

NO MASS

Friday October 23, 2020 St. John of Capistrano, priest

9:00 AM +Robert Burns req. by Irene Burns

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

Saturday October 24, 2020 St. Anthony Mary Claret, bishop

5:00 PM +Irene Wengloski req. by her family

Sunday, October 25, 2020 Thirtieth Sunday Ordinary Time

8:00 AM +Anthony Cosentino R/b the Dyer family

10:30 AM +Greg Poynter R/b the Meline family

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

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

Offertory Oct. 11: \$ 3,729.56

Missions Combined: \$ 735.00

Today's second collection is for monthly extraordinary expenses.

Next weekend's second collection is for building maintenance.

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 adorers, please consider omitting to a specific hour. Contact Dennis Girard @ 860.334.9894 or dennisgirard51@gmail.com

### Weekend of October 24 & 25

5:00 pm Lector: Anne Staebner

8:00 am Lector: Greg Jones

10:30am Lector: Don Dubiel

### 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

AEAN 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 Bishop Michael R. Cote, Rev. John Gwudz, Rev. P. Grzegorz Jednaki, Rev. Richard Breton, Rev. Bran Maxwell, Rev. Robert Washabaugh, Rev. Dennis Mercieri, Rev. Brian Converse, Rev. Thomas Griffin, Rev. Joseph Tito, V. Rev. Ted Tumicki, Rev. Robert Buongiorno.

Glory to the Blood of Jesus!

**Wear a facemask**

**Sanitize your hands**

**Maintain social distancing**

**All Souls envelopes available at Church entrances. Please return by Sunday, October 25th.**

**East Catholic** is currently accepting applications for the 2021-22. Please visit [echs.com](https://www.echs.com) for more information. Also, we are offering family tours. For an appointment, please go to: [calendly.com/echstours](https://calendly.com/echstours) In lieu of Open House we are extending an invitation to ZOOM Information Session which will take place on October 22 at 5:30 pm. Please inquire at: <https://www.echs.com/Admissions-Process> and you will receive the information about the admissions process, as well as the invitation to the ZOOM session.

**40 Days for Life** campaign runs from Wednesday September 23<sup>rd</sup> through November 1<sup>st</sup>. 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.

### **Amazing Grace: A Calligraphy Adventure**

With Kathy Milici Oct 25th - Oct 30th, 2020. Join Kathy on this creative and spiritual journey as we bring Amazing Grace to life! Learn the mysterious and powerful story behind the written words which seem fitting in any age.

Learn more at [www.enders.is/amazinggrace](http://www.enders.is/amazinggrace)  
**Transforming Your Suffering**

with Rev. Thomas Lynch & Barbara Mariconda  
Wednesday, October 28th, 2020

At some point, all of us will be faced with suffering. How can we deal with the challenges that we are confronted with as we walk this path of suffering together? Father Thomas Lynch and Barbara Mariconda lead this session in which they'll explore what this "path of suffering" entails and how the way in which we choose to walk it can radically change the experience.

Learn more at [www.enders.is/transformdor](http://www.enders.is/transformdor)

St. Edmund's Retreat  
1 Enders Island, PO Box 399  
Mystic, CT 06355  
(860) 536-0565

### **SEEKING - PARISH ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Consideration for candidates to the Parish Advisory Council:

- (a) Active parishioners are eligible.
- (b) Parishioners may nominate any interested parishioner, including themselves.
- (c) Must be a Roman Catholic.
- (d) Must be a practicing Catholic in accordance of Canon Law.
- (e) Must be Confirmed (meaning, has received the Sacrament of Confirmation).

A parishioner desiring to serve on the Parish Advisory Council should be nominated by making his or her interest known to the Pastor. The Pastor will verify and confirm that such individual is eligible and is a Catholic in good standing. Council meets the first Wednesday at 6:30pm in the meeting room every other month September thru May. Meetings usually last 1 hour.

### **Parish Bulletin E-mailed to You**

***If you would like the parish bulletin emailed to you, a friend, or a college student away from home,***

***E-mail the parish office a request to be put on the email list.***

***Parish E-mail address:  
cheryl@stfrancisassisilebanonct.org***

### **Upcoming Events at Mercy High School**

**Open House 2020** - Mercy will hold its open house as a virtual experience this year. Attendees will have the opportunity to speak with current Mercy students, faculty, administration and coaches while exploring all the programs Mercy has to offer – from academics, to athletics, to service opportunities to clubs and activities. Advanced registration is required.

***In addition to our Virtual Open House we invite you to take a tour of our Campus! In-person or Virtual Tours available anytime by appointment!***

**"Mercy Girl for a Day" Visits:** Mercy Girl for a Day has been revamped for the 2020-2021 school year to meet the Mercy High School COVID Management Plan. We are now offering the "Inside Look" Program. This program is for 8th grade students who are interested in learning what a day at Mercy High School is like. Space is limited to three students per day. The day will begin at 8 a.m. and will conclude after lunch at 11:45 a.m. The day will consist of three 30 minute classes, advisor group with a Mercy Ambassador, a tour of our campus and lunch in our cafeteria.

**"Mornings at Mercy!"** – Select dates now through May from 8:30 – 10:30 a.m. - For families and students to meet with student ambassadors, faculty, school guidance counselors, and administrators, tour the campus and grab a snack in the Mercy Commons Cafeteria. ***Virtual Options Available.***

You can also find all of the above forms and information on our website at <https://www.mercyhigh.com>. Please feel free to contact me with any questions. Thank you!

**Entrance Exam Dates** - Saturday, November 7 & Saturday, November 14, from 8:00 - 11:15 a.m. The exam will be held at Mercy High School in-person. We will follow social distance guidelines as outlined in our **Mercy High School COVID Management Plan**. Virtual Options are available upon request.

**\*\*To register for the exam, please create an admissions account and complete the online application for the 2021-2022 school year.**

You can also find all information on our website at <https://www.mercyhigh.com> Please feel free to contact me with any questions. Thank you!

Last weekend the Mission Combined Collection for the World Mission Appeal, U.S. Bishop's Appeal for Latin America, Black and Indian Missions, and the Catholic Home Mission Appeal was taken up in our Parish. If you were unable to bring your gift envelope, extras are available at Church entrances. Your support of the missionary needs of the Universal Church is greatly appreciated. This collection is an opportunity to share your faith and strengthen the church at home and abroad. Your contribution can be placed in the collection basket next weekend or mailed directly to the parish. Thank you for your generosity in the past and thank you for what you will do now to help our missionaries continue their vital work.

CONNECTICUT PUBLIC AFFAIRS CONFERENCE

134 Farmington Avenue

Hartford, Connecticut 06105-3784

**“Respect Life Month” 2020 and the 25th Anniversary of *The Gospel of Life***

One year ago, even before the unthinkable effects of the pandemic and the social unrest and division that we are now witnessing, a piece in the *New York Times* stated: “The world we live in now is one in which no place is safe, no lives really matter, when it comes to violence” (9/2/19). This statement was prompted by the tragedy of repeated mass shootings in our country. To this we must now add the outbreaks of random violence and the deaths that have prompted outrage and have called into question the level of force employed by law enforcement in some cases, especially with regard to people of color.

This year marks the 25th anniversary of *Evangelium vitae* (*The Gospel of Life*), written by Pope St. John Paul. He urged the world to uphold the sacred value and inviolability of human life rather than giving way to a culture of manipulation and choice in life matters, as evidenced in abortion, euthanasia, biological engineering, ecological destruction and unnecessary recourse to the death penalty. Violating the right to life, the Pope stated, only results in the destruction of values that are fundamental not only for the preservation of the lives of individuals and families, but of society as well. This message has been strongly echoed by Popes Benedict and Francis.

Amid all the ominous polarization, acrimony and even violence that are increasing in our country, we would do well to ponder Pope St. John Paul’s teaching. He said that respect for innocent human life from conception until natural death is a “transcendent truth” that surpasses any one religion, philosophy, law code or system of government. Religion can and should serve that truth, but it does not create it. If there is no God-given higher truth about the human person than the one we feel free to create, then everything degenerates into competing views of personhood and life itself; the “force of power” prevails, and the inalienable God-given meaning of the human person, and his or her dignity and right to life, are trampled.

Until recent times the religious beliefs of the vast majority of Americans did acknowledge the transcendent truth that all innocent human life is to be respected as inviolable. Indeed, the first thing that struck the French observer Alexis de Tocqueville about the United States in 1831 was its “religious atmosphere.” He wrote: “... while the law allows the American people to do everything, there are things which religion prevents them from imagining and forbids them to dare.” Religion taught virtuous behavior, which is essential if liberty is to be ordered to the common good. By bringing a moral dimension to issues, religion also helped ensure that majority rule not deteriorate into an immoral tyranny. Religion in America also created an allegiance and devotion among its adherents that counteracted the tendency of government to swallow up all aspects of life.

Today the withering away of respect for the transcendent truth about the right to life, and for traditional religious teaching about the sin and crime of taking innocent human life, has created what Pope St. John Paul called a “culture of death.” It is reflected in the words we cited from the *New York Times* that “the world we live in now is one in which no place is safe, no lives really matter, when it comes to violence.” In his new encyclical *Fratelli tutti* Pope Francis speaks of a “throwaway” world in which “persons are no longer seen as a paramount value to be cared for and respected” (n. 18). Hopefully the 25th anniversary of *Evangelium vitae* will be an inspiration for all people of good will to work for a “culture of life” that cherishes, serves, defends, and protects human life from conception until natural death.

Local pro-life leaders across the world are currently conducting an annual *40 Days for Life* campaign that runs through November 1. *Walking with Moms in Need* is a year of service where Catholic parishes and communities “walk in the shoes” of local pregnant and parenting women in need. And then there is *Project Rachel*, a network of caregivers, including clergy, mental health professionals and others who provide one-on-one care to those struggling after involvement in an abortion. The church continues to advocate strongly for hospice care for the dying, not death imposed by others or by suicide, and for an end to the death penalty because it is no longer needed to protect society.

For well over half a century the U.S. Bishops have spoken out nationally as a body about the evil of racism, most recently in 2018, calling yet again for Catholics and all Americans to take to heart in particular the lived experience—past and present—of African-Americans, Hispanic Americans, and Native Americans. Without equal respect and opportunity for the life and dignity of each and all we cannot hope to have a nation at peace with itself.

Likewise, Pope Francis has dramatically and urgently spoken of the plight of refugees, immigrants and all those who are vulnerable and at risk across the world. Our Church strives to uphold the life and dignity of every person by providing education, health care and works of charity on a large scale, and by advocating for economic justice, immigration reform, and the alleviation of the desperate plight of so many of the world’s migrants, near and far.

These are just some of the ways the Catholic Church is working to promote a gospel of life. We invite you to join us, so that, in the words of Pope St. John Paul, “together we may offer this world of ours new signs of hope, and work to ensure that justice and solidarity will increase and that a new culture of human life will be affirmed, for the building of an authentic civilization of truth and love.”

Most Reverend Leonard P. Blair  
Archbishop of Hartford

Most Reverend Michael R. Cote  
Bishop of Norwich

Most Reverend Frank J. Caggiano  
Bishop of Bridgeport Eparch of Stamford

Most Reverend P. Paul Chomnycky  
Eparch of Hartford

Most Reverend Juan Miguel Betancourt, SEMV  
Auxiliary Bishop of Hartford

**Life Teen Kick-Off**  
**Come to the Survivor Kickoff**  
**October 18<sup>th</sup> from 5:45-8:00pm**  
**Grades 9-12**  
**At St. Andrew Church**

Help your team be a survivor – don't get sent to isolation island.  
Upperclassmen, we have missed you al so much. It has been so had to not be with you all and we are really excited to be back with you.

Freshman, we cannot wait to get to know you all through Life Teen.

This has been a memorable year.

Sick of quarantine, missing your friends?

Let's finish 2020 on a great note together.

**Our Lady of Calvary Retreat Center**

**31 Colton Street, Farmington, CT**

olcretreat@sbcglobal.net 860.677.8519

**Liturgical Dance Workshop:** This in-person workshop at our Lady of Calvary on Oct. 21 @ 7:00pm – 9:00pm with Brother Michael Moran will be conducted in adherence to all Covid-19 safety guidelines and is limited to 15 participants.

**Spirituality and Art: Eaten by God:** This in-person program at our Lady of Calvary on Oct. 28 @ 9:00am – 12:00 noon will be conducted in adherence to all Covid-19 safety guidelines and is limited to 25 participants.

**Zoom: Silence With-in** – An at home four day guided retreat based on Sacred Scripture. Nov. 5-8 on Zoom

**Programs at Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center**

**303 Tunxis Road West Hartford**

**860.521.0440**

**Wed. October 21 – Mental & Spiritual Wellbeing in a Pandemic with Michael Norko, MD from 7:00pm-8:30pm**

This program will be offered online via Zoom platform. Visit [www.holyfamilyretreat.org](http://www.holyfamilyretreat.org) for more info and to register.

**Wed. November 18 – The Darkness of Evil and the Light of Christ with Fr. David Cinquegrani, C.P. from 7:00pm-8:30pm**

Visit [www.holyfamilyretreat.org](http://www.holyfamilyretreat.org) for more info and to register.

**St. Vincent de Paul Place's community meals program increased 26% since the COVID-19 shut down began and our food pantry sign ups have increased 31%. We have not missed a day or a meal since the shutdown. On the 16<sup>th</sup> day of September, we distributed a record 8,134 meals. The increase in need from the pandemic grows daily. We rely on your donations to continue this work. You can find out more and donate at [svdpp.org](http://svdpp.org). Checks can be mailed to SVDPP, 120 Cliff St. Norwich, CT 06360. Questions, call 860.889.7374. Every donation large or small is appreciated!**

**On behalf of the thousands served by St. Vincent de Paul Place, thank you for your support.**

*You saw me hungry and fed me.  
One of the 7 Corporal Works of Mercy*