

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 November 28, 2020 Blessed Virgin Mary

5:00 PM +Robert Wheaton R/b his family

Sunday, November 29, 2020 First Sunday of Advent

8:00 AM +Norm Pellerin R/b his wife

10:30 AM People of the parish living & deceased

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

Monday November 30, 2020 St. Andrew, apostle

NO MASS

Tuesday December 1, 2020 Advent Weekday

NO MASS

Wednesday December 2, 2020 Advent Weekday

9:00 AM +Jennifer & Robert Chesters R/b their family

Thursday December 3, 2020 St. Francis Xavier, priest

NO MASS

Friday December 4, 2020 St. John Damascene, priest & doctor of the Church

9:00 AM Kim & Ceara Concannon & family R/b Pam Roberts

Saturday December 5, 2020 Advent Weekday

5:00 PM +Harvey Hull R/b the Nejako family

Sunday, December 6, 2020 Second Sunday of Advent

8:00 AM +Frank Smutko R/b his 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.

Nov. 22 Offertory & Building Maintenance to be reported in next weekend's bulletin due to early submission of the bulletin.

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 December 5 & 6

5:00 pm Lector: Steve Wengloski

8:00 am Lector: Jim Worth

10:30am Lector: Angela Coentlin

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION ~ Saint Francis

The next First Fridays one hour Blessed Sacrament Adoration is on December 4th from 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM. Please come and visit our Lord Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament for the whole hour or any time during the adoration.

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 V. Rev. Gregory Galvin, All priests, Msgr. Roberto Garza, Rev. Fermin Solana, Rev. James Marshall SJ, Rev. James Diaz, Rev. Richard Ulam OSB, Rev. Elvis Gonzalez, Our Holy Father, Rev. Theodore Lange, Rev. Andrew Chan-A-Sue
Glory to the Blood of Jesus!

The Knights of Columbus 9653 will be selling advent wreaths again this year. They will be available after the 5 p.m. and 8 a.m. masses or by calling 860-642-7168. Complete wreath - \$15. Replacement candles - \$5. Keep Christ in Christmas magnets also being sold - \$5.

Remember to wear a facemask

Sanitize your hands

Maintain social distancing



Christmas Flower Envelopes available at Church Entrances.

Please return by December 11th due to early submission of the Christmas week bulletin.

ANNOUNCEMENTS ~ THE DIOCESE OF NORWICH

- ❖ Let the Office of Faith Events brighten your Wednesday mornings by signing up for the weekly **Hope and Faith video series**. Throughout the year be inspired with varied reflections on Lent, Advent, the Saints, Gratitude and much MORE! **There are two easy ways to receive our weekly video...** Simply send your e-mail to manicholas@norwichdiocese.net or have the videos sent right to your cell phone by texting @lentvid to #81010
- ❖ ***Giving Tuesday December 1st Our Annual Catholic Appeal helps fund diocesan ministries that provide spiritual, educational and physical support throughout the Diocese of Norwich and Haiti.***
- ❖ **Diocesan Advent Mission**
The Office of Faith Events is offering a virtual Diocesan Advent Mission. It will take place the first three Thursdays in December at 7 P.M. beginning on December 3rd. The mission will focus on three of the themes of Advent: Patience, Love and Peace. There is no cost to participate in the Advent Mission, but registration is required. You can do so by emailing Marianne Nicholas at manicholas@norwichdiocese.net or calling Marianne Nicholas at 860-848-2237, 304.
- ❖ **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 16th 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. 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*
- ❖ **Volunteers Needed!**
"As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace" 1Pet 4:10
Catholic Charities is looking for dependable weekly volunteers to pick up, unload and put away boxes of food for our food pantries in Norwich, New London and Willimantic. If you can lift boxes up to 30 pounds and can make a regular commitment to help one day a week, please contact Cindy Mageski at 860-889-8346 ext. 269 or email cindymageski@ccfsn.org. **Thank you!**

East Catholic High School

Applications for the 2021-22 keep flowing in. Also, we have many participants of family tours. For scheduling a tour, please go to: calendly.com/echstours

The month of November will bring you the Department Highlights Series.

Please inquire at: <https://www.echs.com/Admissions-Process> and you will receive the information about the admissions process, as well as invitations to our ZOOM sessions.

In case if you missed our Virtual Orientation Session, please look out for information about another one coming in December.

Our Lady of Calvary Retreat Center

31 Colton Street, Farmington, CT

olcretreat@sbcglobal.net 860.677.8519

Dec. 9 – Waiting – An Advent Experience on Zoom at 1:00pm-3:00pm. Fee: \$20

Dec. 24 – OLC Christmas Eve Celebration on Zoom @ 11:00am. Free. One hour celebration featuring music, prayer, reflection & sharing.

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!



BAMBINELLI WEEKEND

St. Francis will again continue with this annual

family tradition. A special blessing will take place at all Masses the weekend of December 12 and 13.

Please remember to bring your Bambinelli (baby Jesus) from your family Nativity Set to Mass that weekend (Gaudette Sunday) where either Father Mark or Father Richard will give your Bambinelli a special blessing.

There are a few Bambinelli kits available in the Sacristy for children who have not already received one.

Thank you. Liturgy Committee



PARISH GIVING: Did you know that you can have your weekly offering automatically sent to the parish with online banking automatic bill pay through your bank.

All you would need to do would be to contact your bank and ask to set up online banking and automatic bill pay. Questions: Please contact Cheryl in the parish office at 860.642.6711

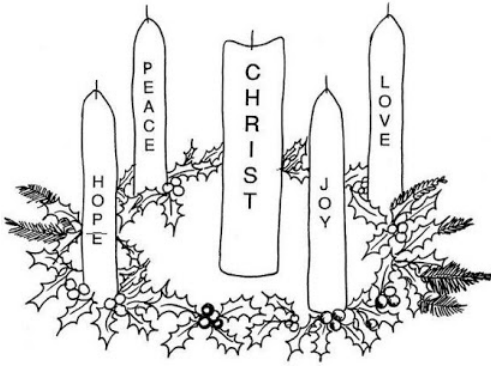
The offertory collection is the lifeline of our parish. This weekend please consider an increase in your offering. If you are away from home and unable to attend Mass at St. Francis, please make up this offering when you return. By maintaining this type of giving practice on a yearly basis, the parish can rely on a consistent contribution enabling us to better meet our financial obligations.

Catholic Trivia Challenge:

- In which United States East Coast City are the remains of Mother Cabrini displayed behind glass? New York City. Known as Mother Cabrini, the Italian-born St. Frances Xavier Cabrini was the first American citizen to be canonized a saint.
- Of which United States East Coast diocese was St. John Neumann bishop from 1852 to 1860? Philadelphia. St. John Neumann was the first American bishop to be canonized. Today, his body is displayed behind glass at St. Peter the Apostle Church in Philadelphia.
- In which American City on the East Coast did St. Katharine Drexel grow up? Philadelphia. St. Katherine Drexel (1858-1955) devoted herself to the poor and oppressed, especially Native Americans and blacks in the South and Southwest. She became the second American-born saint to be canonized.
- In which American City on the East Coast was St. Elizabeth Seton born? New York City. Considered a patron saint of Catholic schools, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton (1774-1821) founded the American Sisters of Charity in Emmetsburg, Maryland, where the saint's shrine is located today. She was the first American-born saint to be canonized.
- On October 9, 2009, President Barack Obama announced he was sending a six-member delegation to the Vatican for the canonization of which Catholic saint? Fr. Damien de Veuster (1840-1889), a Belgian priest who devoted his life to working with patients afflicted with leprosy (also called Hansen's disease) in Hawaii. Having lived in Hawaii as a child, President Obama said he could recall many stories from his youth about the saint's tireless work with lepers. Fr. Damien was canonized on October 13, 2009.

Social Services – Town of Lebanon will not be collecting food for Christmas this year. Currently the Food Bank is well stocked.

For Christmas they are asking for Wal-Mart or Game-Stop or a general Visa gift card for the 0-15 year olds, arriving at the Town Hall before December 3rd.



The Advent wreath is the traditional centerpiece of the Christmas season. It symbolizes the passage of the four weeks of Advent in the liturgical calendar of the Western Church. Advent begins on the fourth Sunday before Christmas Day. On the First Sunday of Advent, a purple (or blue) candle is lit to celebrate Hope, the inspiring and uplifting hope that Christ among us represents. On the Second Sunday of Advent, another purple (or blue) candle is lit to celebrate Peace, both the Prince of Peace

himself and the promise of peace on Earth. On the Third Sunday of Advent, a pink candle is lit to celebrate Joy, the joy the shepherds received at hearing the news of Christ's birth, or the joy that God brings into our lives. As the coming of Christ draws near, the final purple (or blue) candle is lit on the Fourth Sunday of Advent to celebrate Love, both God's boundless love for us and our love for one another. Some Advent wreaths include a fifth, "Christ" candle which can be lit at Christmas to celebrate the purity of Jesus and the joy felt on this day. The bright light from the candles is an expression of the growing anticipation of the birth of Jesus Christ, who in Christian faith is seen as the Light of the World. The circular shape of the wreath represents God's eternity and unity. (Autom)

For a blessing of the wreath the following prayer is suggested and prayed by the Father: O God, by Whose Word all things are sanctified, pour forth Thy blessing upon this wreath, and grant that we who use it may prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ and may receive from Thee abundant graces. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Hope Candle (also known as the Prophet's candle), this first candle of Advent signifies the promise of the Messiah.

Pray as candle is lit: "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; Upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom, a light has shone." Isaiah 9:2

The Faith Candle (also known as the Bethlehem candle), this second candle of Advent signifies the journey of Joseph and Mary to the City of David.

Pray as second candle is lit: "But you Bethlehem ~ Ephrathah ~too small to be among the clans of Judah, From you shall come forth for me, one who is to be ruler in Israel." Micah 5:2

The Joy Candle (also known as the Shepherd's Candle), this third candle of Advent signifies the joy of our coming Savior.

Pray as the third candle is lit: "And Mary said: my soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my Savior." Luke 1:46-47

The Peace Candle (also known as the Angels' candle), this fourth candle of Advent signifies the peace of the Prince of Peace.

Pray as the fourth candle is lit: "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom His favor rests." Luke 2:14

REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

EACH DAY ADD AN ITEM TO A BOX.

ON CHRISTMAS EVE DONATE THE CONTENTS
TO A FOOD BANK.

- December 1 – box of cereal
- December 2 – peanut butter
- December 3 – stuffing mix
- December 4 – boxed potatoes
- December 5 – macaroni and cheese
- December 6 – canned fruit
- December 7 – canned tomatoes
- December 8 – canned tuna
- December 9 – dessert mix
- December 10 – jar of applesauce
- December 11 – canned sweet potatoes
- December 12 – cranberry sauce
- December 13 – canned beans
- December 14 – box of crackers
- December 15 – package of rice
- December 16 – package of oatmeal
- December 17 – package of pasta
- December 18 – spaghetti sauce
- December 19 – chicken noodle soup
- December 20 – tomato soup
- December 21 – can corn
- December 22 – can mixed vegetables
- December 23 – can carrots
- December 24 – can green beans

The list on the left is a suggestion for an Advent Project for families to participate in.

Similar to the Advent Calendar that we are all used to, with this Advent Calendar you collect each item on the list for each day of Advent, adding the item to a box.

At the end of Advent, donate the box and its contents to a local food bank of your choice.

One suggestions would be to bring your box to Catholic Charities food pantries in Norwich, New London and Willimantic. Please contact Cindy Mageski at 860-889-8346 ext. 269 or email cindymageski@ccfsn.org.

Or St. Vincent de Paul Place 120 Cliff Street, Norwich. Call 860.889.7374

