

## 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 13, 2021 Lenten Weekday

5:00 PM +Dave & Edith Perotti R/b their family

### Sunday, March 14, 2021 Fourth Sunday of Lent

8:00 AM +Emil & Erma Kuzel R/b the Kuzel family

10:30 AM + Barbara Core R/b the Kuzel family  
Mass to also be streamed from St. Andrew 9:30 AM

### Monday March 15, 2021 Lenten Weekday

NO MASS

### Tuesday March 16, 2021 Lenten Weekday

NO MASS

### Wednesday March 17, 2021 St. Patrick, bishop

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

### Thursday March 18, 2021 St. Cyril of Jerusalem, bishop & doctor of the Church

NO MASS

### Friday March 19, 2021 St. Joseph, spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary – (Abstinence)

9:00 AM +Anthony Jacobeno R/b I. Boone

7:00 PM Stations of the Cross

Pre-recorded Stations of the Cross to be streamed from the St. Andrew Facebook page each week.

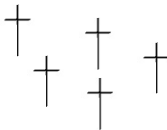
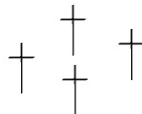
### Saturday March 20, 2021 Lenten Weekday

5:00 PM +Nick Wengloski R/b his family

### Sunday, March 21, 2021 Fifth Sunday of Lent

8:00 AM +John Walden R/b his wife

10:30 AM People of the parish living & deceased  
Mass to also be streamed from St. Andrew 9:30 AM



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

Offertory 3/07: \$ 1,268.00

Extraordinary expenses: \$ 178.00

Today we will conduct the Annual Catholic Appeal. Please place your ACA envelope in the large RED BIN at the side entrance. Next weekend the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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



### PASCHAL CANDLE

Thank you to the families who have joined together to donate this year's Pascal Candle.

### 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  
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 for Rev. David Zercie MSA, Msgr. Anthony Rosaforte, V. Rev. Jan Swiderski, Rev. Richard Breton, Rev. George Villamthanam CST, Rev. Victor Chaker, Rev. Michael Sequeira, Rev. Paul Ramen, Rev. Bogdan Olzacki OSPPE, V. Rev. David Choquette, Rev. Peter Liszewski, Rev. Tadeusz Zadorozny. We also pray for those priests who have left the ministry.

God our Father, reveal Your omnipotence in the superabundance of Your mercy.  
O Divine High Priest, may the power of Your mercy accompany Your priests everywhere and protect them from the traps and snares of the devil.

### Lector Schedule Weekend of March 20 & 21

5:00 pm: Bob Nejako

8:00 am: Jim Dyer

10:30 am: Angela Coentin

**Stations of the Cross** will be held every Friday in St. Francis of Assisi Church at 7:00pm. Also, the pre-recorded Stations of the Cross will be streamed from the Saint Andrew Facebook page at 6:30pm each week.

### Lenten Confessions:

Every Tuesday at St. Andrew Church from 6:30pm – 7:00pm.  
St. Francis of Assisi Church Monday March 29 at 6:30pm – 7:00pm.

**Easter flower envelopes available at Church entrances. Please return by Palm Sunday.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS ~ THE DIOCESE OF NORWICH**

- ❖ **Virtual Project Rachel Rosary:** The third Tuesday of each month at 3:00pm. Pray for an end to abortion and healing for those who have been involved in an abortion. To obtain the link, contact [lroach@norwichdiocese.net](mailto:lroach@norwichdiocese.net).
- ❖ **Marriage Preparation Classes to Meet Virtually:** With the uncertainty surrounding Covid-19, the Catholic Family Service Office will be offering virtual or one-on-one marriage preparation classes for engaged couples. All formal live classes have been suspended through July 1, 2021. Couples getting married in 2021 or beyond, should contact Mary-Jo McLaughlin at the Catholic Family Services Office to establish class dates. She can be reached Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 860-848-2237, Ext 312 or by email at [mmclaughlin@norwichdiocese.net](mailto:mmclaughlin@norwichdiocese.net).
- ❖ **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**.
- ❖ **This Lent grow in a deeper, more intimate relationship with God through the Office of Faith Events (OFE) sponsored weekly Lenten Videos and Mission.** Each weekly video is approximately three minutes long. **To enroll in the series, send a text – (Phone Number) TO: 81010 (TEXT) Message: @lentvid (one word).** It will then ask you to reply with your name. You may also receive the video via email by contacting Marianne Nicholas at [manicholas@norwichdiocese.net](mailto:manicholas@norwichdiocese.net). **A virtual Diocesan Lent mission will be offered online each Thursday during Lent beginning February 25<sup>th</sup>. The Mission will run from 7-8 P.M. March 11, 18, and 25. To register, contact Marianne Nicholas at 860.848.2237 ext. 304 or email her at the address above.**
- ❖ **Holy Hour for Vocations:** St. John Church in Cromwell from 6-7pm on March 18th.
- ❖ **The Stations of the Cross for Couples** – The Catholic Family Services Office and Worldwide Marriage Encounter is sponsoring a virtual Stations of the Cross for Couples on **Friday, March 26 at 7 P.M.** Join us as we accompany Jesus on His way to Calvary in praying the

stations together. The everyday struggles couples face in their relationships can, at times, be a heavy cross to carry, but when we journey with Jesus to Calvary as a couple, we find hope and strength to enrich our relationships. We all need images of hope in living out our vocation to married life, and Jesus offers us those images in His passion. The stations will be led by two married couples. Each will offer a brief reflection and insight on how we can see our relationship with our spouse mirrored in Jesus. Registration is required. Call Mary-Jo McLaughlin, at 860-848-2237, Ext 312 or email [mmclaughlin@norwichdiocese.org](mailto:mmclaughlin@norwichdiocese.org) A link will be sent to you prior to the event.

- ❖ **VIRTUAL BINGO FOR ALL AGES:** The Office of Faith Events invites people of all ages to participate in Virtual Bingo! Bingo will take place on Sunday, April 25<sup>th</sup> from 3:30 – 5pm. You will receive your cards online, mark them and even remark them for the next game or you can print them and play. Through video conferencing, we will call the numbers and play different BINGO games from regular bingo, double bingo, picture frame, and finally black out! It will be great fun with lots of gift certificates for prizes! We are only selling 200 cards, so act fast! The cost is \$6 per card for the whole Bingo event! To register for your Bingo card, go to: <https://bit.ly/2Laol7Y> or call Marianne at 860-848-2237 ex. 304

**The Office of Faith Events is sponsoring The Make a Memory Easter Basket Project. We invite every family to make a basket this Easter that will be delivered to a soup kitchen/shelter in the area of the Norwich Diocese for children and families who would not otherwise receive an Easter Basket.**

Any size basket or bucket will do, fill with Easter treats (small toys, candy, etc.)\***For safety, make sure all candy is packaged- no loose candy please, and no candy with nuts or peanut butter for allergy reasons.\***, wrap whole basket in a cellophane bag (available 2 for \$1- at the Dollar Tree) and drop it off at a designated place in your parish or at the Bishop Flanagan Ministry Center, 199 Broadway, Norwich, CT. A homemade Easter card from your family to theirs would be a great addition. **Please have all completed baskets to us by March 23<sup>rd</sup> so we can deliver them before Easter.**

**Any questions or concerns please contact Andrea at OFE. 860-848-2237, ext.203**

### **HOMESCHOOL:**

**Please remember to send in your unit tests if you are homeschooling your children for CCD this year. Unit tests were sent in October to you. If you need another set, please call Cheryl in the Parish Office.**

### Operation Rice Bowl - Lenten Program For Lent for Life

During the 40 days of Lent, you can make a positive difference in the lives of our brothers and sisters who suffer from hunger and poverty. The CRS collection benefits organizations that work for the social mission of the Church. Operation Rice Bowl receives all of its support from individual and family contributions. Catholic Relief Services, the official overseas aid and development agency of Catholics in the United States, used 75% of all contributions for development projects\* overseas. 25% of the moneys collected remain in the local diocese where they are used to support projects assisting the needy.

*\*Projects include: agriculture projects to help farmers improve crop yields and increase food security; water projects to make clean water accessible for communities; microfinance projects to encourage the growth of small businesses; mother and child projects to provide basic health and nutrition education for families; and education projects to provide participants with opportunities to improve their livelihoods.*

Rice Bowl donations are to be brought to Church on Palm Sunday weekend (March 27 & 28). Envelope users do have a Rice Bowl envelope in their envelope packet.

To support married couples during this time of social distancing, Worldwide Marriage Encounter is sponsoring virtual marriage experiences. Some are on weekends and some span multiple weeks on a given weekday. Couples will explore their individual personality styles, improve listening and communication skills, understand God's plan for their marriage, and learn how to keep their relationship a priority. Registration is limited and a \$100 application fee is required. For more information or to apply, call Frank & Margie Pearson at 860-337-2447 or visit them at <https://www.mectw.org/>.

"This is my beloved Son. Listen to him." Let us learn to listen better to each other and God by participating in a **virtual Worldwide Marriage Encounter experience on Friday/Saturday/Sunday March 19-21 Thursdays/Mondays April 8-29**

Care Net Pregnancy Resource Center will host a virtual banquet this year on Saturday, March 20 at 7:00 PM! We hope that you can share in an exciting evening of ministry updates, client stories, and a keynote message from author/speaker Steven Holland! As a non-profit, faith-based pregnancy center, we are 100% community-funded and receive no tax dollars.

Contact us for more details about how you can participate on your own, with a small group of friends, with your family, or as part of a viewing party.

**860-449-0386/info@carenetsect.org**

You must register to receive the link to attend!

Registration and event details are available at [psclife.org/banquet](https://psclife.org/banquet)

**Remember to wear a facemask  
Sanitize your hands  
Maintain social distancing**

### FAST AND ABSTINENCE

These regulations unite the whole Catholic Church throughout the world in the Lenten journey of repentance and conversion of heart. Observed in a spirit of generosity, fast and abstinence remind us of our own frailty and make us more sensitive to the needs of others. Acts of penance find their completion in works of charity and justice.

**Ash Wednesday** and **Good Friday** are days of fast and abstinence. The **Fridays of Lent** are days of abstinence.

**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.

All parishioners are encouraged to do acts of penance and charity during the Lenten season beyond what is prescribed by law.

**2021 Annual Catholic Appeal:** Today our parish will be conducting the in-pew collection for the 2021 Annual Catholic Appeal, "One Faith, One Family". From ministry to the sick, food and shelter programs, to our youth, clergy and religious, your donations are vital to meet the needs of our community and parishes. Covid-19 has certainly increased the demands placed on our ministries.

We ask that you please show your support by placing your completed pledge card or envelope in the RED ACA collection bin located at the front entrance of Church or by going directly to

[www.norwichdiocesedevelopment.org](https://www.norwichdiocesedevelopment.org)

Thank you and God Bless.

**The goal this year for Saint Francis is \$20,581.**

### 2021 Annual Catholic Appeal Prayer

Loving Father, as we come together as "One Faith, One Family" let us be open to your words.

Remind us of Jesus' call to "love one another as I have loved you".

Help us to reflect on the needs of those we know and those we will never meet.

We thank you Lord for inspiring each of us to support, through prayer and deed, all those in need during this pandemic.

Let us remember how our act of giving to 2021 Annual Catholic Appeal will impact many lives, by providing crucial emotional, spiritual, physical support, education, renewal, and hope.

We ask you to guide our clergy, ACA leadership and parishioners, as "One Faith, One Family" to embrace our diocesan ministries which rely on the generosity of each one of us to carry out their missions.

We humbly ask this through Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

**Pre-HSPT Entrance Exam for the Mercy Class of 2026  
Saturday, April 24, 2021 ~ 9:00 a.m.**

The HSPT (High School Placement Test) is the test Mercy High requires for acceptance and placement into our academic program. The Pre-HSPT practice exam gives current 7th graders an opportunity to prepare for the HSPT by familiarizing themselves with the test content and structure as well as offering insight on their performance. Each student will receive a comprehensive scoring report providing feedback and identifying strengths and areas for improvement. The exam for the Class of 2026 is scheduled for Saturday, **April 24, 2021 at 9 a.m. (The exam will be given virtually)**

\*\*Students who achieved in 90th national percentile or higher were given a \$500 Scholarship at Mercy for the 2021-2022 academic year pending acceptance in November 2021. Registration is required at [www.mercyhigh.com](http://www.mercyhigh.com).

Mercy offers the **Higher Achievement Program** in the summer for rising 7th & 8th grade girls. During this two-week program, students take a practice HSPT at the beginning and end of the session, have the opportunity to improve test taking skills and gain exposure Mercy educators and students. Afternoon activities include a variety of athletic, artistic, service and social opportunities for the participants.

**Mornings at Mercy: now- May'21**

Students and parents are invited to spend a morning experiencing Mercy during the school day. Girls in the 6th, 7th and 8th grade, as well as high school students considering a transfer to Mercy, and their parents, are welcome to visit from 8:30 - 10:30 a.m. to see for themselves what it's like to attend an all-girls school, to gain an understanding of what happens at a Catholic college preparatory high school during the school day and to explore and experience a learning environment that supports personal growth and leadership development in the classroom, on the playing fields and through clubs and activities. For more information and to register, visit [www.mercyhigh.com](http://www.mercyhigh.com) or call 860-346-6659

**Get M-Powered! Join the Mercy High School Summer Program 2021:** Calling all (rising) 6<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> graders Super Charge your summer and register for the 2021 M-Powered Summer Programs: Basketball, Higher Achievement, Soccer and Theater Arts (co-ed).

Visit Mercy's website for information or contact the school for a brochure [www.mercyhigh.com/summerprograms](http://www.mercyhigh.com/summerprograms) Mercy High School 860-346-6659

**XAVIER HIGH SCHOOL'S \$20,000 RAFFLE** will yield one winner. It could be you! The winner will be chosen on April 30 at 11 a.m. in front of Xavier. Tickets are \$100 each, and there is no limit to the number you can purchase. You do not need to be present to win, but you must be 18 years or older to participate.

Tickets can be purchased online, through the mail or in person in the Advancement Office, Room 105. Information on online purchases or a form to be mailed in can be found at [xavierhighschool.org](http://xavierhighschool.org). Click on **Alumni & Giving**, and then click on **\$20,000 Cash Raffle**. The raffle is a game of chance, as such it is not considered a charitable contribution as per State of Connecticut and IRS guidelines. All proceeds will benefit the Xavier Annual Fund.

For more information contact the Advancement Office at 860-346-7735

Or email [advancement@xavierhighschool.org](mailto:advancement@xavierhighschool.org).

**EAST CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL:**

860-649-5336, ext. 6456

The Admissions Office is excited to announce that we will be offering an Outdoor Open House for Prospective Freshmen and Transfer Students on Thursday, April 8 from 4-6 pm. Weather Permitting. Please join us on campus to experience the East Catholic difference as families can walk freely amongst stations featuring academic departments as well as athletics and the fine arts. Masks and social distancing required. More details to follow.

**It's a Springtime Spectacular!!!**

A great time to think of purchasing a special something for that special somebody. Many baskets and wreaths to bid on for special occasions such as Birthdays, Easter, Mother's Day, Father's Day, St. Patrick's Day, etc. The raffle will assist with ongoing bills and help further the mission of ACTS. ACTS' mission (A-Adoration, C-Community, T-Theology, S-Service) is to provide opportunities for each person to focus on his or her faith and build purpose in one's prayer life, to increase their presence at liturgy, and to cultivate friendships among members of the Church community. The purpose is to enter into a new and deeper relationship with Christ and fellow laypersons. To view what is available and purchase tickets, click on <https://go.rallyup.com/427489>. Bidding will begin on Monday, March 1st and end at 6 PM on Wednesday, March 24th. Winners of the baskets or wreaths will be notified on Thursday, March 25th. Drop off deliveries will occur on Friday, March 26th and Saturday, March 27th. For more information, you can contact: Leo Letendre at 269-599-5856, [leo.letendre@yahoo.com](mailto:leo.letendre@yahoo.com) or Veronica Beaudoin at 860-940-9684, [vbeaudoin61@att.net](mailto:vbeaudoin61@att.net)

**Catholic Trivia**

1. Who was the second Pope?  
St. Linus was the first to succeed St. Peter as pope (bishop of Rome) in the first century. The third and fourth bishops of Rome were St. Cletus and St. Clement of Rome.
2. What was the home country of Pope John Paul II?  
Poland. Pope John Paul II was the first non-Italian pope in 455 years. The native lands of previous popes have included Spain, Portugal, France, Palestine, Syria, Greece, Africa, and most of all Italy.
3. Which of the following is not true about Pope Francis?  
Pope Francis is not a Franciscan, but a Jesuit (member of the Society of Jesus, which is a religious order of priests and brothers). He became Arch-bishop of Buenos Aires, Argentina in 1998 as a cardinal in 2001. He was elected pope on March 13, 2013 at the age of 76. He chose his papa; name for St. Francis of Assisi.
4. Pope Adrian IV was the only pope from which European Country?  
England. Pope from 1154-1159, Adrian IV handed Ireland over to King Henry II of England.