

REJOICE!  
HE IS RISEN!

## 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 April 3, 2021 Holy Saturday

1:00 PM Blessing of Easter Food – St. Francis Church

8:00 PM Easter Vigil – St. Andrew Church

#### Sunday, April 4, 2021 Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

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

10:30 AM People of the parish living & deceased.

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

#### Monday April 5, 2021 Monday within Octave of Easter

NO MASS OFFICE CLOSED

#### Tuesday April 6, 2021 Tuesday within Octave of Easter

NO MASS

#### Wednesday April 7, 2021 Wednesday within the Octave of Easter

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

#### Thursday April 8, 2021 Thursday within the Octave of Easter

NO MASS

#### Friday April 9, 2021 Friday within the Octave of Easter

9:00 AM Living & deceased members of addiction R/b Pam Roberts

+Anthony Jacobeno R/b I. Boone

#### Saturday April 10, 2021 Saturday within the Octave of Easter

5:00PM +Alice Kristoff R/b her family

#### Sunday, April 11, 2021 Divine Mercy Sunday

8:00 AM +Rosalind "Muzzie" Lewis R/b the Kuzel family

10:30 AM +Arthur Choquette R/b his family

3:00 PM Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament – St. Francis

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

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

Offertory 3/28 & Rice Bowl to be reported next bulletin.

Today's second collection is for Easter for Sick & Infirm Priests.

Next weekend's second collection is for extraordinary expenses.

**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

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

#### 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 Bishop Michael R. Cote, Rev. William Flynn, Rev. William Olesik, Rev. James Caldarella, Rev. Brian Romanowski, Rev. Ben Vinjoe, Rev. Christopher Zmuda, Rev. Keith Shuley CDR,CHC, Rev. Thomas Hoar SSE, Rev. Arul Peter, Rev. Augustine Naduvilekoot, Rev. Ernest Bedard OFM, Rev. John Gwudz.

Glory be to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit., As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever.

#### **Our Pascal candle is donated in memory of:**

Peg & Stan Jusyk

Christian Hofmann

John P. Dyer, Jr.

Deceased members of the  
Stygar & O'Neill families

Jones family

Kuzel family

Leone & Ciarcia families



#### Lector Schedule Weekend of April 17 & 18

5:00 pm: Anne Staebner

8:00 am: Jim Worth

10:30 am: Maureen Polana

## **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**.
- ❖ **Sung Chaplet of The Divine Mercy** Join us on Divine Mercy Sunday, April 11 at 3pm, for a sung Chaplet of Divine Mercy. This live event will be streamed from the Cathedral of Saint Patrick and can be viewed on the Diocesan website: [NorwichDiocese.org/Masses](http://NorwichDiocese.org/Masses) and on the Cathedral website: [CathedralofSaintPatrick.org/Resources/Live-Stream](http://CathedralofSaintPatrick.org/Resources/Live-Stream). Social distancing guidelines will be in effect for those wishing to attend in person.
- ❖ **Holy Hour for Vocations:** St. Francis Church in Middletown from 6-7pm on April 15th.
- ❖ **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.

### **Worldwide Marriage Encounter has gone "Virtual"!**

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://wwmectw.org/>.

Let us be open to the love from our spouse and God by participating in a virtual Worldwide Marriage experience on Thursdays/Mondays April 8-29

Friday/Saturday/Sunday April 23-25

Mondays/Thursdays May 3-24

**HVAC Project Coordinator:** Saint Vincent de Paul Place of Norwich, is seeking a Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) volunteer project coordinator to coordinate the installation of two new pieces of HVAC equipment: a walk-in freezer and a packaged rooftop unit (RTU) to supply heating, cooling, and ventilation. The coordinator would be responsible for the coordination between Saint Vincent de Paul Place staff, it's patrons, contractors and any City officials. The ideal candidate would have a background in construction management and HVAC. This person will need to be able to come on site to post communications and receive material. To inquire about the position, please contact Jill Corbin at [jcsvdpp@gmail.com](mailto:jcsvdpp@gmail.com). The ideal candidate would be a retired volunteer who could assist with this project.

### **Catholic Charities needs your help!**

Due to the enormous impact of Covid-19, we are quickly running out of resources to help all of those who come to us in need within the Diocese of Norwich. At this time, all locations are badly in need of toiletries. Items such as shampoo, soap, toothbrushes, tooth paste etc. If you would like to donate any of these much-needed care items, please contact one of our locations nearest you.

Norwich- 860-889-8346

New London-860-443-5328

Middletown- 860-346-0060

Willimantic-860-423-7065

"Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me."

Mathew 25:40

**East Catholic High School**

**800.649.5336 X6456**

**OUTDOOR OPEN HOUSE**

**April 8 from 4 to 6 pm**

San Jose Assembly 121, Fourth Degree, Knights of Columbus, is pleased to announce the **Andrew J. Kuhar Memorial Scholarship**. The Knights of Columbus is a fraternal organization of Catholic men based on the principles of Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism. Although academics will be one of the criteria for this award, the major criterion will be voluntary service to the applicant's Church, community, or both. This scholarship is open to all graduating high school seniors in eastern Connecticut, who will be attending a two-year College, four-year College, University or Technical School in the fall of 2021. Application deadline is May 15. The award for this year is \$500 and will be awarded on or about June 1, 2021. Applications available in the parish office.

**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).



### **St Andrew Choir releases**

#### **2nd "Virtual Choir" Recording for Easter!**

The St Andrew Choir has recently produced their second "Virtual Choir" recording with elite national recording team "Arts Laureate." Over the course of two virtual recordings, sixty current and former members

of the choir and cantor corps, living in Germany, Switzerland, Florida, Virginia, North Carolina, Indiana, New York, Rhode Island, Alabama, and the Colchester area joined together in song!

Based upon the grand success and thousands of YouTube views of their first recording, released last Christmas, "Rejoice with Exceeding Great Joy" <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dKmqwGRZjhQ> the choir has released their second Virtual Choir performance, just in time for Easter: "Alleluia Fanfare." <https://youtu.be/jUQ0aJoJtCY> The St Andrew Choir has been fortunate to enlist the talents of "Arts Laureate" professionals, whose audio and video engineers have created "virtual recordings" for the Los Angeles Opera, the U.S. Marine Band, the Choral Arts Society of Washington, the Kansas City Symphony, the Virginia Symphony, and the National Children's Chorus. The new video will also be viewable on the St Andrew parish Website [standrewcolchester.org](http://standrewcolchester.org) during Holy Week. A blessed Holy Week and Easter to everyone, from the St Andrew Choir!

**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)** 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

**God needs priests. Is He calling you?  
If you are 30-60, you may be surprised.  
"Friday Adoration"**

**Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary  
558 South Ave. , Weston, MA**

**Friday, April 9**

**Friday, May 7**

**5:00pm**

**Join the Seminary community virtually for prayer &  
fellowship Holy Hour and Evening Prayer.**

**<https://www.psj.edu/chapel-live-stream>**

**Zoom meeting with Seminarians**

**RSVP Msgr. William Fay to [msgr.fay@psj.edu](mailto:msgr.fay@psj.edu)**

**To get Zoom link.**

## Easter Message, 2021

**“The two recounted what had taken place on the way and how He was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.” Luke 24:35**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Risen Lord,

One of the most interesting and often puzzling aspects about the appearances of our Lord after His resurrection is that in most cases, those to whom He appears fail to recognize Him. Mary Magdalen, the Apostles, and the two disciples on the road to Emmaus all fail to recognize that it is Jesus with whom they are speaking, at first. The ways in which the Lord reveals His identity to them through these interactions can teach us about the power of the Resurrection, as well as give us some food for thought about our own encounters with the Risen Lord who continues to make His presence known to us!

In the particular appearance to the disciples journeying on the Road to Emmaus, Jesus draws near and begins to speak with them. St. Luke, who narrates the account for us, includes an interesting detail: “their eyes were prevented from recognizing him...” (Lk 24:16b) This sounds like Jesus deliberately concealed his identity from them. The Lord likewise seemed to conceal Himself or His intentions twice more throughout the interaction – both when He asked why they appeared to be upset, and when He “pretended” that He is going to continue His journey beyond the town itself. This can sound somewhat shocking to us: why would Jesus do that? The answer is that He wanted to inspire and strengthen their faith, not simply give an “easy” answer to their longing and questions. In other words, He had a deeper purpose in remaining “hidden” to them for the time being.

Jesus asked these disciples to recount what had taken place in Jerusalem so that He, the Word made flesh, could explain and break open the Word of God for them. Jesus gave the impression of going on farther so that, at supper, when the Lord took the bread, said the blessing, broke and gave it to them, the disciples would recognize Jesus in the Most Holy Eucharist – the way the Risen Lord Jesus has chosen to remain with us until the end of time, hidden to our senses, under the humble appearances of bread and wine!

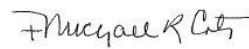
What does this mean for us? By reflecting on this resurrection appearance on the first Easter as recounted in the Gospel, we too are called to recognize that although the Lord Jesus may be hidden from our physical eyes, it is the very same risen Lord who is present to us when we read Holy Scripture and gather together to celebrate the Holy Eucharist. This begs an important question: Do we really believe this? Do we not only live, but orient our lives, i.e., prioritize how we live and use the time we have been given us in a way that acknowledges this profound reality?

It seems that we are also reminded that when we are downcast because of the situation of our lives, wearied as we have been throughout the past year due to the ongoing pandemic for example, Jesus draws near and speaks words of comfort and hope to us. Sometimes Jesus conceals his presence among us as a way to challenge us to deepen our faith in Him, and in His enduring presence among us in both Word and Sacrament. But dear brothers and sisters, once we do

recognize Him and encounter the power of His presence, most of all in the Holy Eucharist, we, like those first disciples, are called to go forth and tell others so that they might believe that Jesus is real; that He is alive; that He is truly risen, and that He continues to make Himself, and the redeeming grace He won for us present in so many ways!

Please be assured of my prayerful closeness to you all, particularly in these challenging times. May you and your loved ones have a truly blessed and grace-filled Easter!

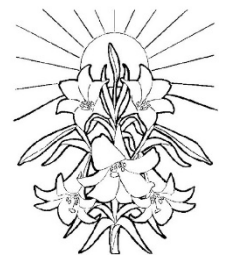
Sincerely yours in Christ,



Bishop of Norwich

### Easter Flowers donated in memory of:

Chester & Isabelle Stygar  
Robert, Margaret & Harry O'Neill  
Stanley & Anne Dudar  
Connie Miner  
Lynn Powell  
Joe Weingart  
William & Margaret Fries  
Constance & Wallace Arsenault  
Katherine Macht  
Roy Showalter  
Mark Showalter  
June & Waldyn Benbenek  
John M. Petrofsky  
Claude Moore  
M/M. A. M. Zebedeo  
John Walden  
Richard & Louise Pratt



Living & deceased members of the Burns family

### Deceased members of the:

Nejako & Hull & Armstrong families	Elliott family
Brisson & Lataille families	Dudar family
Dyer & Foley families	Kulynyck family
Sunega family	Nye family
Staebner family	Hazen family
Paris & Getman families	Clinch family
Kuzel family	Smith family
Flannery family	Coutu family
Garrahy family	Gingras family
Pelletier family	Leone family
Jones family parents	Ciarcia family
Oliveira & Medeiros families	Burns family
Wheaton & Perotti & Cote families	
Soucy family	
Therrien & Beckwith families	