

# Palm Sunday



...the very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and strewed them on the road...

Matthew 21

**We are pleased and honored**

**To welcome you to**

**St. Francis of Assisi Parish**

67 West Town Street, Lebanon, CT 06249

Telephone: 860.642.6711 Fax: 860.642.4032

www.stfrancisassislebanonct.parishesonline.com

Rev. Mark Masnicki, Pastor

Rev. Benjamin Soosaimanickam, Parochial Vicar

Deacon Michael Puscas



**MASS  
INTENTIONS**

**Saturday March 19, 2016 St. Joseph, spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

4:00 PM Confession

5:00 PM Nicholas Wengloski req. by Ed Bigenski

**Sunday, March 20, 2016 Palm Sunday Passion of the Lord**

8:00 AM Emil & Erma Kuzel req. by Norm & Ella Mae Kuzel

10:30 AM John Holleran req. by his family

**Monday March 21, 2016 Monday of Holy Week**

NO MASS

**Tuesday March 22, 2016 Tuesday of Holy Week**

NO MASS

Chrism Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral 10:30am

**Wednesday March 23, 2016 Wednesday of Holy Week**

9:00 AM Rev. Anthony Nockunas MIC

**Thursday March 24, 2016 Holy Thursday**

7:00 PM Celebrant's intention

Mass of the Lord's Supper, Holy Communion and

Procession: Visits to the Repository until 10:00 P.M.

**Friday March 25, 2016 Good Friday – Passion of the Lord**

NO MORNING MASS

3:00 pm Liturgy of the Passion and Death of Our Lord,

Veneration of the Cross and Holy Communion

7:00 pm Stations of the Cross

**Saturday March 26, 2016 Holy Saturday**

1:00 PM Blessing of Easter Food in the Church.

No vigil service at Saint Francis of Assisi Church.

Parishioners are invited to attend Easter Vigil Services & Mass at St. Andrew Church in Colchester at 8:00 P.M.

**Sunday, March 27, 2016 Easter Sunday**

8:00 AM People of the parish living & deceased

10:30 AM People of the parish living & deceased

Offertory: \$ 1901.00

Today's second collection is for building & maintenance.

Next weekend's second collection is for Diocesan Retired & Infirm Priests.

A very sincere thanks to all those parishioners who make-up their offertory while away.

**Confessions at St. Andrew Church every Tuesday from 6-7pm during Lent.**

**Every Thursday ~ Adoration at 8:30 ~ Rosary at 6:00 ~ Benediction at 7:00pm.**

**Weekend of March 26 & 27**

5:00pm No vigil service at Saint Francis of Assisi Church. Parishioners are invited to attend Easter Vigil Services & Mass at St. Andrew Church in Colchester at 8:00 P.M.

8:00am Lector: Jim Worth

Eucharistic Minister: Rick Kane

Altar Servers: Jack & Christian Terwilliger

10:30am Lector: Angela Coarentin

Eucharistic Minister: Paul Pelletier

Altar Servers: Erika Densman, Marianne Clippinger

**Military Service Honor Roll**

SW1 John P. Dyer Jr. U.S. Navy

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

Sgt. 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

Sgt. Chad Pellerin, U.S. Army Dubai

**Prayer for our Men and Women in Military Service**

O Prince of Peace, we humbly ask 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** — O Jesus, Eternal Priest, look with love upon Your priests. Fill them with burning zeal for the conversion of sinners. Rev. Edward Wisneski, Rev. Paul C. Boudreau, Rev. Thomas Ahern, Rev. John Gwudz, Rev. Mark Curesky OFM Cv, Rev. David Zercie NSA, Rev. Tadeusz Zadorozny, Rev. Jonathan Ficara, Rev. Frank McKenna, V. Rev. Ted Tumicki, Rev. Charles McGrail, Rev. Raymond Introvigne, and all priests. Father, we pray for our priests — for the sanctity of their souls and for perfect love, that they may be the voice of Christ. (Mother Catherine Aurelia, foundress)

We also pray for any priests who have left the ministry.

**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.

**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.

**Collected to date for the Happy House in Haiti is \$ 614.78. Our goal for one Happy House is \$1250. Please help our CCD classes with this project. The collection jar may be found by the side exit. Extra funds collected will be used to buy chickens, goats, or pigs.**

## Meetings

- ❖ **Children's Mass Sunday March 20<sup>th</sup> @ 10:30am.** Grades 3 & 4 helping. Refreshments following the Mass in the meeting room
- ❖ **Ladies Guild - Monday March 21 @ 7:00pm**

## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS Council 9653



St. Francis of Assisi Church  
Invites all families and  
friends to the annual  
**EASTER EGG HUNT**  
Sunday March 20, 2016  
at 11:30 AM  
Rain or Shine

### OLD PHOTOS/VIDEOS OF THE ROUTE 87 CHURCH WANTED!!

In two years St. Francis will celebrate 75 years in Lebanon and the memories of the Route 87 church are slowly fading.

Do you have old photos of the Route 87 church? Inside or outside photos are appreciated.

Baptisms, First Communion, Confirmation, weddings of yourself or other members of your family?

Do you have old video of any of these occasions?

Please contact Barbara at 860-642-7168,

[bobbi.w@charter.net](mailto:bobbi.w@charter.net) if you have any to share.

Copies or originals are accepted and originals will be copied and returned.

If possible, please supply date and identify people in the photos.

### THE NEXT WOMEN'S ACTS RETREAT WEEKEND FOR ST. ANDREW, ST. FRANCIS & ST. PATRICK CHURCH WILL TAKE PLACE ON APRIL 14-17

at the newly renovated Immaculata Retreat Center in Willimantic. We invite all women to consider making this beautiful life-changing retreat. This is a three day, 3 night Catholic lay Retreat presented by women who have attended prior ACTS retreats. Retreat activities focus on Adoration, Community, Theology, and Service with the goals of renewing yourself spiritually and strengthening your faith and its application to your daily life, and to create lasting and supporting friendships. The cost of the retreat is \$230.00. Registration forms are located at the entrances to the Church. Please call Karen Bouley Director @ 860.334.7090, or Virginia Hurlbert (Co-Director) @ 860.803.4220 (Retreat Director) @ 860.614.3901, Tracy London (Co-Director) with any questions you may have. Registration forms are also available on the [www.actsct.org](http://www.actsct.org) website.



Save the Date  
Spring Fling Dinner  
Sat., April 2, 2016

6 - 10 pm at the Fire Safety Complex  
Sponsored by the Ladies Guild

## ANNOUNCEMENTS ~ THE DIOCESE OF NORWICH

- ❖ **Marriage Preparation Classes for Engaged Couples:** Registration is currently underway for *God's Plan for a Joy-Filled Marriage*, a three-session marriage preparation class to be held Friday nights, **April 8, 15, 22, 2016**, from 6:30 to 9 P.M. at St. Francis of Assisi Parish, 10 Elm St., Middletown. For more information about the class or to register, call the Catholic Family Services Office at **860-848-2237, ext. 306**. The cost is \$60 per couple.
- ❖ Please join the Most Reverend Michael R. Cote D.D. on Saturday April 9<sup>th</sup> at the Mystic Marriott in Groton CT to celebrate **Catholic Charities 95<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala**. The evening begins with a Silent Auction and Dinner. We will honor the following individuals: Humanitarian of the Year: Meg Gustafson; Community Servants of the Year: Willimantic Advisory Board; Honoring our Heritage Award: Jacqueline Keller and Catholic Charities Employee of the Year: Therese Fontaine. Tickets are \$100 if purchased before March 18 (\$125 after). Proceeds from this event allows Catholic Charities to continue our mission of providing services for our neighbors most in need in Eastern CT. To purchase tickets, contact Christine Jackel @ 860.886.1928 x12 or e-mail [cjackel@norwichdiocese.net](mailto:cjackel@norwichdiocese.net)
- ❖ **WORKSHOP** Life is Changed, Not Ended: How to Prepare a Funeral Saturday, April 9, 2016 at St. Catherine of Siena Parish, 243 Route 164 Preston, CT 06365 Registration at 8:45 AM. Program from 9:15 to 1 PM. Fee: \$10 For more information go to [www.norwichdiocese.org](http://www.norwichdiocese.org) Or call 860-848-2237x203 Registration forms on entrance tables of Church.
- ❖ Women of all ages are invited to enhance their journey of faith and build community by attending the Annual Women's Conference on Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup> from 8:30am – 3:30pm at St. Bernard's High School. The day begins with Mass celebrated by Bishop Michael Cote, followed by the talented author and Blogger Kathy Irr to dazzle us, a catered lunch, reconciliation, and adoration. It is a great day for women's growth and faith life, so register today by contacting the Office of Faith Events – Marge Vanner at (860)848-2237 ex. 312 or [faithevents@norwichdiocese.net](mailto:faithevents@norwichdiocese.net).
- ❖ You are invited to our **9th Annual Gala**, to be held April 23, 2016 at Great Neck Country Club, Waterford, CT. Reception at 6:00pm followed by dinner (4 menu options). Live and silent auction! MC's will be Fox 61 personalities John Charlton and Lorenzo Hall. Live entertainment during reception. For more details or to order tickets, see our website at [www.outreachtohaiti.org](http://www.outreachtohaiti.org), or call 860-887-1019 x817.

### **Holy Family Summer Camp 2016** **Theme: Oceans of Mercy**

The Sisters of Charity of our Lady Mother of the Church are having their annual Summer Camp from July 28-July 31 located at Holy Family Motherhouse in Baltic, CT. The Camp is for girls from ages 11-15. Come join us for a wonderful spiritual experience and lots of fun!

Contact Sister Mary Kathleen, SCMC at 860.423.5122 or [smarykathleen@gmail.com](mailto:smarykathleen@gmail.com) or Sister Rafael, SCMC at 860.822.8241. All forms are on our website: [www.sistersofcharity.com](http://www.sistersofcharity.com) God Bless you and we hope that the Ocean of Christ's Mercy fills you with peace and joy.

## Youth Group ([www.standrewym.org](http://www.standrewym.org))

### Life Teen High School youth Ministry Gr. 8-12.

Sun. March 20<sup>th</sup> Life Teen Mass 5pm followed by dinner & our 3<sup>rd</sup> night of the Year of Mercy.

Sun. March 27 – Easter - No Life Teen Mass.

Youth Groups Meet @ St. Andrew Church.



### Trip to Incredible India

12 days from October 16<sup>th</sup> to 27 -2016  
South and North India. 12 days in October 2016. In south – St. Thomas the apostle's tomb, place of his martyrdom, Loudres of east basilica, Famous Hindu temples, cultural programs, elephant rides on the

Western Ghats Mountain. In the North - New Delhi, Agra Taj Mahal, famous monuments and Jaipur beautiful palaces. It includes all breakfast, lunches dinners and all entrance fees, and air tickets, and visa cost.

Cost \$ 3450.00 per person from New York double occupancy

For more information:

Hosted by Fr. Benjamin Soosaimanickam

St. Andrew Church, Colchester

- Contact Fr. Benjamin 860.537.2355
- Email- benjaminvin@yahoo.com.

## ANNUAL LAYETTE PROGRAM

The Norwich Diocesan Council of Catholic Women's Annual Layette

Program will be on Sunday, April 3 at St Matthias Church, East Lyme. We are collecting **new** baby items (diapers and blankets) and baby

clothing sizes newborn, to size 3T. All items collected will go to Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Norwich. You may leave your items in the collection box located at the side entrance of the church.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.



### Holy Family Retreat Center, West Hartford.

[www.holyfamilyretreat.org](http://www.holyfamilyretreat.org) 860-760-9705

- ✓ Saturday, Apr 9, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. The Forgiveness Prayer, with Mary Dwyer. Come discover this prayer practice that opens the practitioner to God's presence and action and grace. \$65, includes lunch.
- ✓ Wednesday, Apr 20, 6-9 p.m. This Changes Everything: Laudato Si, Our Planet, and Our Common Future, with Patrick Carolan. A discussion of what the Pope's groundbreaking encyclical means to us as individuals, as a Church, and as a global family. Includes an engaging presentation and a prayer service for peace with musicians from Holy Family's music ministry. \$40, includes dinner.

**The Cross of Mercy** will be displayed for the entire



Year of Mercy. The purpose of the Cross is to provide all our parishioners the opportunity to display their Works of Mercy. As you perform a Work of Mercy we ask you to write it down on the cards provided and using a push pin attach it to the Cross. The cards should be nameless. Cards, push pins and pencils will be provided. Let's be

mindful of the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy.

A great Act of Mercy would be to contribute to the Happy House project for Haiti in support of the catechism classes. Containers are available at both entrances.

**Divine Mercy Chaplet** We will begin reciting the Chaplet of Divine Mercy on Fridays beginning April 1<sup>st</sup> following the 9 A.M. Mass. Please join us.

## CHRISM MASS

As announced last week, all our parishioners are invited to the consecration of the Chrism and the blessing of the Oil of the Sick and the Oil of the Catechumens at the Chrism Mass on Tuesday, March 22, 2015, at 10:30 a.m. The Mass will be celebrated at the Cathedral of Saint Patrick in Norwich. Bishop Michael R. Cote will celebrate this liturgy. All are invited.

The Sacred Chrism, oil mixed with sweet perfume, symbolizes the presence of the Holy Spirit. It will be used in the parishes in the sacraments of baptism and confirmation. It is also used at the ordination of bishops and priests and at the dedication of a church and altar.

The Oil of the Sick is used to anoint those who are suffering from illness so that they may receive strength and healing, both physical and spiritual.

The catechumens will be anointed with the Oil of Catechumens in preparation for their baptism at the Easter Vigil.

The Chrism Mass is a celebration of the entire local Church, and the subsequent use of the oils in the various parishes is a sign of unity among God's people. Why not plan to take your family to the Cathedral that day? It is a very special experience!



All are invited to an Easter Sunrise Service: March 27<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 a.m. On the Green by the First Congregational Church; breakfast to follow in the Fellowship Hall.

### Public Way of the Cross on Good Friday

The Most Reverend Michael R. Cote, Bishop of Norwich, will join with clergy of other Christian communities from the Norwich area in leading a public Way of the Cross on Good Friday, March 25, 2016, from Chelsea Parade to Central Baptist Church. This service will begin at 6:00pm. In case of inclement weather, it will be held at the Central Baptist Church in Norwich. You will receive an e-mail alert or you can check the Central Baptist Church website at [www.centralbaptistnorwich.com](http://www.centralbaptistnorwich.com)

### Tenebrae Service

On Good Friday at 7:00 pm, St. Columba will again hold a Tenebrae service. All area Christians are invited.

Thank you to everyone who has already answered the request to participate in the **2016 Annual Catholic Appeal, "MERCY – The Beating Heart of the Gospel"**. Your donation will be utilized to help others in the Diocese, allowing our over 25 ministries and programs to perform the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy that are the basis of their missions. This contribution is greatly appreciated, Thank You! If you have not made a gift, please reflect on what you can do to make a difference. Every gift is valued! It's not too late to offer your support...support that is utilized within our Diocesan communities through the vital work performed by our ministries and programs. Your donations to the Annual Catholic Appeal sustain a wide array of programs that impact many aspects of everyday life. Social service, spiritual guidance, educational, and informational programs are a few of the areas that are supported...providing comfort, sustenance and aid to those suffering hardships. The works performed by our ministries are made possible because of YOUR generosity! Please pray that our **"MERCY – The Beating Heart of the Gospel,"** Annual Catholic Appeal campaign is successful in addressing the needs of many in our communities. Please visit [www.norwichdiocesedevelopment.org](http://www.norwichdiocesedevelopment.org) to make your pledge.

### ENJOY A YEAR OF MERCY PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY

12 DAYS MAY 15-26, 2016

*Visiting Rome and Florence's Best Basilicas and Religious Art Museums, Daily Mass in the Holiest of Holies, Papal Audience with Pope Francis, Pass thru the Holy Door at St. Peter's, And a Day at Padre Pio's too!* Pilgrimage price is \$3279 per person, double occupancy. Includes Coach to Logan (departs Colchester), Airfare, 3 star hotels, most meals, all tips, taxes, and museum admissions. Organized by Father Brian Maxwell, Missionary of Mercy. To receive further information, or to reserve your space on this wonderful pilgrimage, please contact Teena at Dube Travel: 800-879-3823 [tdick@dubetravel.com](mailto:tdick@dubetravel.com)

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

In the Jubilee Year of Mercy, especially during Holy Week, we reflect on the Eucharist and priesthood. We pray for our priests that they may always exemplify the love and mercy of Christ and that they may worthily carry on His ministry to reveal the image of God the Father and His merciful love for us. Since the establishment of this Diocese in 1953, hundreds of faithful priests have given glory to God through the celebration of the Sacraments and the preaching of the Gospel. In their priestly ministry, our priests are called to be merciful like our Heavenly Father.

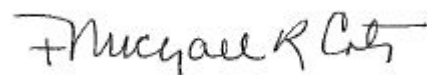
At Easter, we remember those retired priests who over the years have been an inspiration to us. At this sacred time, I ask for your prayers for our priests, especially those who are ill and in need of our prayers and our financial support due to their infirmities. For the past thirty-three (33) years, the Diocese has appealed to the faithful to remember in prayer the priests who serve them in the person of Jesus Christ. We have special concern for their needs and we want to help them.

Annually, the Easter Collection is taken up for sick and retired priests of our Diocese. In the fiscal year that ended on June 30, 2015, the Easter Collection amounted to \$209,277. The Diocese spent \$289,447 for sick and retired priests. The money was spent for medical insurance for sick and retired priests, medical costs not covered by insurance, such as special housing needs, the cost of necessary extended stays in nursing homes after surgery, convalescent home care, counseling, residential care, and monthly compensation for priests on sick leave.

Through your Easter gift, you help to provide security and support to these devoted priests. Please show your love and care for our retired and infirm priests by offering a generous gift for them in the special second collection at all Masses on Easter weekend.

May God bless your generosity to this appeal and may you have a blessed observance of Holy Week and a holy and happy Easter.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Bishop of Norwich

### **Defending Our Religious Liberty March 20, 2016**

The federal health care mandate violates religious liberty because it forces conscientious objectors to actively go against their moral principles. It also deprives those objectors of the right (a right that others continue to exercise) to do what they see as morally required.

If you haven't done so already, please voice your opposition to the federal health care mandate by calling U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Sylvia Mathews Burwell at 202-205-5445. Let her know that the mandate is in violation of our First Amendment right to religious freedom.

If you haven't done so already, please voice your opposition to the federal health care mandate by calling U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Sylvia Mathews Burwell at 202-205-5445, and your elected representatives. Let them know that the mandate is in violation of our First Amendment right to religious freedom.

Senior Accountant – Catholic Charities, Diocese of Norwich, Inc.

The Senior Accountant will participate in all accounting functions including budgeting, bookkeeping, accounts receivable, accounts payable, billing and payroll. The Senior Accountant will participate in preparing monthly financial reports as well as grant proposals.

BA in accounting preferred. Strong financial accounting and non-profit background desired.

Apply no later than April 8, 2016. Resume, cover letter, salary requirements and the contact information for three professional references should be sent to: Edward J. Tessman Catholic Charities, Diocese of Norwich, Inc., 331 Main Street, Norwich, CT 06360.or [edwardtessman@ccfsn.org](mailto:edwardtessman@ccfsn.org).



Saint Francis of Assisi Parish needs young people (girls and boys, grades 4 and above) to serve at the Lord's Table. Please join Father Benjamin for the training session which will be scheduled at a later date. Parents are welcome.

Please complete this form and return it to the rectory or drop it in the offertory basket.

I am interested in being an altar server. Please register me for the Altar Server training sessions, date to be announced.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone# \_\_\_\_\_



### THE PRACTICE OF COVERING CROSSES AND IMAGES

Until recent time it was customary to veil prominent statues and crucifixes in church with a purple cloth as a sign of sadness and mourning. In some churches, beginning around 900, one large cloth was hung between the people and the altar from the beginning of Lent. This was done to hide the heavenly glory depicted by statues of saints and crosses with the figure of the triumphant Christ. This custom came to symbolize the exclusion of all sinners from the altar just as public sinners were excluded. Since the 1600's, this veiling was limited to Passiontide, beginning on the fifth Sunday of Lent, originally called "Passion Sunday". On that Sunday (today only in Cycle B), the final words of the Gospel are: "At that they picked up rocks to throw at Jesus, but He hid Himself and slipped out of the temple precincts" (J. 8:59).

Crosses remain covered until the end of the celebration of the Lord's Passion on Good Friday, but images remain covered until the beginning of the Easter Vigil.

#### **HOLY WEEK SERVICES 2016**

**Saint Francis of Assisi Church**

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#### **Confessions**

**7:00 P.M. Wednesday, March 16**

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#### **Easter Egg Hunt**

**Palm Sunday March 20 following 10:30am Mass  
(Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus)**

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#### **Holy Thursday**

**Mass of the Lord's Supper**

**Holy Communion and Procession: 7:00 P.M.**

**Visits to the Repository until 10:00 P.M.**

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#### **Good Friday**

**Liturgy of the Passion and Death of**

**Our Lord, Veneration of the Cross**

**and Holy Communion: 3:00 P.M.**

**Stations of the Cross: 7:00pm**

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#### **Holy Saturday**

**1:00 PM Blessing of Easter Food in the Church.**

**No vigil service at Saint Francis of Assisi Church. Parishioners are invited to attend Easter Vigil Services & Mass at St. Andrew Church in Colchester at 8:00 P.M.**

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#### **Easter Sunday**

**Masses: 8:00 A.M. and 10:30 A.M.**



**BLESSING OF  
EASTER FOOD**  
**Saturday March 26**  
**at 1:00pm in**  
**Church**



Parishioners Are Invited To Bring Their Easter Food Baskets for the Blessing of Easter Food Baskets on Saturday April 4 at 1:00 pm at Saint Francis of Assisi Church (Gathering in the Church)

**A traditional Polish Easter Basket would contain a small amount of the following:**

- ❖ Butter (maslo) - This favorite dairy product is often shaped into a lamb or a cross. This reminds us of the goodness of Christ that we should have towards all things.
- ❖ Easter bread (babka) – A round loaf topped with a cross or a fish, symbolic of Jesus, who is the Bread of Life.
- ❖ Horseradish or pepper (chrzan/pieprz) – The bitter herbs of Passover and the Exodus, signifying first the bitterness of spiritual exile; second and more meaningfully, the bitterness of the sufferings of Our Lord Jesus.
- ❖ Eggs (jajka) decorated with symbols of Easter, life, and prosperity (pisanki) – Indicate new life and Christ's Resurrection from the tomb.
- ❖ Sausage (kielbasa) – A spicy sausage of pork products, indicative of God's favor and generosity.
- ❖ Ham (szynka) – Symbolic of great joy and abundance. Some prefer lamb or veal. The lamb also reminds Catholics that the Risen Christ is the "Lamb of God".
- ❖ Smoked bacon (slonina) – a symbol of the overabundance of God's mercy and generosity.
- ❖ Salt (sol) – So necessary an element in our physical life, that Jesus used its symbolism: "You are the salt of the earth".
- ❖ Cheese (ser) – Shaped into a ball, it is the symbol of the moderation that Christians should have at all times.
- ❖ Wine (wino) – Often added reminds us of the blood of sacrifice which Jesus Christ spilled for us on Calvary.
- ❖ Vinegar (ocet) – Reminds us of the gall (sour wine) which was given to Our Lord as he hung on Calvary.

A candle is inserted into the basket to represent Jesus, The Light of the World. A colorful ribbon and sometimes sprigs of greenery are attached. A linen cloth is drawn over the top and it is ready for the trek to church where it is joined with the baskets of others to await the blessing that will render it fit for consumption on Easter Sunday.

Saint Francis of Assisi Parish thanks our Eighth Grade class for organizing a Corporal Works of Mercy Project for our CCD classes.

The Eighth Grade Class requested that all children in our CCD classes bring in a non-perishable food item for the weekends of February 27 & 28 and March 5 & 6. Together our children donated 156 non-perishable food items for our annual Easter Basket Food Program.

We thank the children for their generosity and for their Corporal Work of Mercy ~ Feed the Hungry.

**Free Rosary Repair Service:**

We have lots of parts. Send your broken rosaries in padded envelope to: Betty & Dick Holden, 7 Crane Place, Simsbury, CT 06070. They will be repaired and returned to you within the week of receipt. Donations of old and broken rosaries are also accepted which will be repaired and sent on to the missions. Include a note indicating repair and return to me or this is a donation. 860.658.6330 or email HoldenBnD@comcast.net.

May – October

7930 Estero Blvd #502 Fort Meyers Beach FL 33931

Nov-April