

**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
Rev. Mark Masnicki, Pastor
Rev. Richard Breton
Deacon Michael Puscas



**MASS
INTENTIONS**

Saturday February 18, 2017 Blessed Virgin Mary

4:00 PM Confessions

5:30 PM People of the parish living & deceased

Sunday, February 19, 2017 Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM Ed Bigenski req. by the Knights of Columbus

No 10:30 AM Mass

Monday February 20, 2017 Weekday

NO MASS ~ PARISH OFFICE CLOSED PRESIDENT'S DAY

Tuesday February 21, 2017 St. Peter Damian, bishop, doctor

of the Church

NO MASS

Wednesday February 22, 2017 Chair of St. Peter the Apostle

9:00 AM Jennifer & Robert Chesters req. by their family

Thursday February 23, 2017 St. Polycarp, bishop, martyr

NO MASS

Friday February 24, 2017 Weekday

9:00 AM Souls in Purgatory

Saturday February 25, 2017 Blessed Virgin Mary

4:00 PM Confessions

5:30 PM Stanley Dudar req. by Alicia Lamb

Sunday, February 26, 2017 Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM Josephine Leclerc req. by Betsy & Roddy

No 10:30 AM Mass

Offertory & Building Maintenance to be reported next weekend.
A very sincere thanks to all those parishioners who make-up
their offertory while away.

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 February 25 & 26

5:30pm Lector: Anne Staebner

Eucharistic Minister: Sharon Nejako

Altar Servers: Elizabeth Spedaliere, Nina Gardella

8:00am Lector: Jim Worth

Eucharistic Minister: Jim Dyer

Altar Servers: Jack & Christian Terwilliger

10:30am Lector: No Mass

Eucharistic Minister: No Mass

Altar Servers: No Mass

The parish library is open at all times. Please stop by and choose
a book.

The library is not accepting donations at the present time.

Ladies Guild meeting February 20th at
7:00. Come join us for Religious Jeopardy!

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
Airman Emerson Flannery, U.S. Navy
Seaman Alex R. Paris, U.S. Navy
LCPL Chad Wengloski, U.S. Marines
Seaman Jonathan Wengloski, U.S. Navy

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. Jeffrey Ellis,
Rev. Edward Dempsey DBA, V. Rev. David Choquette, V. Rev.
Dennis Perkins, Rev. Joseph Ashe, Msgr. Michael Donohue,
Our Holy Father, Rev. George Villamthanam CST, Rev. Mark
O'Donnell, Rev. Timothy Roth MIC, Rev. George Richards, Jr.,
Rev. Martin Jones, Rev. Benjamin Soosaimanickam.
Our priests speak to the faithful with their hearts and their faith.
Fill them, Lord, with burning zeal for the conversion of sinners.
(Mother Catherine Aurelia, foundress)

**Children's Mass with Grades 2 & 9 assisting.
February 12 at the 10:30am Mass.
Refreshments in the meeting room following
the Mass.**

**Knights of Columbus sponsored Meet &
Greet with donuts & coffee in the meeting
room after the 8am Mass on February 19.**

Fr. Richard ~ vacation from Feb. 17 -27.

Our Mass times will change.

Saturday Feb. 18 5:30pm

Sunday Feb. 19 8:00am only

NO 10:30am Mass.

&

Saturday Feb. 25 5:30pm

Sunday Feb. 26 8:00am only

NO 10:30am Mass.

Offertory statements for 2016 are available in the Parish Office.

ANNOUNCEMENTS ~ THE DIOCESE OF NORWICH

- ✓ **Charismatic Prayer Meeting** every Tuesday at 2 PM Spiritual Renewal Center, 11 Bath Street, Norwich, CT (860-887-0702) .
- ✓ **Healing Mass** Monday, February 13 & 27, 2017 at 2PM Spiritual Renewal Center, 11 Bath Street, Norwich, CT
- ✓ **Caregiver Spiritually Night.** Are you taking care of a loved one, spouse, child, parent, sibling, and friend? Join us for a night of reflection to listen and share with others who are experiencing the struggles of caregiving. Feb. 15 from 7-8:30pm. At Our Lady of Lourdes, Gales Ferry. Give yourself the gift of this night.
- ✓ **BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP** ~ A New Catholic-based Bereavement Support group will meet the 3rd Thursday of each month at three alternating diocesan parishes. The first meeting is **Thursday, Feb. 16** from 7-8:30 P.M. at **St. Mary's Parish Hall, 34 No. Main St., Jewett City.** For more information, contact Catholic Family Services at 860-848-2237, ext. 306.
- ✓ **THE NEW RITE OF MARRIAGE** As of December 30, 2016 a new rite for the Sacrament of Marriage is in use in the United States. There will be two workshops offered in the diocese to explain this, and what the changes mean for the liturgy in which the Sacrament is celebrated. All are welcome: those interested to learn more, parish musicians, parish wedding coordinators, wedding planners, and especially couples planning to marry in 2017. **Saturday, March 4th 10 AM to Noon at St. Patrick Parish, East Hampton (Register by March 2)** OR **Wednesday, March 8th 7 PM to 9 PM at St. Joseph Parish, Willimantic (Register by March 6)** Registration materials available at: HYPERLINK "<http://www.norwichdiocese.org>" **www.norwichdiocese.org** Or call: **860-848-2237x203**
- ✓ **Natural Family Planning** is scientific, safe, and is 99-percent effective for conceiving or responsibly postponing a baby. Two three-session classes for married and engaged couples will begin in March. For information about classes in the Montville area beginning **Saturday, March 4**, call **Chad and Sara Estabrooks at 860-917-3938**. For classes in the Old Saybrook area beginning **Monday, March 13**, call **Steve and Lisa Collison at 860-399-8265**.
- ✓ **BEGINNING EXPERIENCE WEEKEND** ~ If you are widowed, separated or divorced and want help in resolving the pain and grief of losing the marriage relationship, consider attending a **Beginning Experience weekend March 3-5 at St. Thomas Seminary in Bloomfield, CT.** Catholic-based, the weekend focuses on such topics as the grief process, changes in family and other relationships, trust and coping with life as a single person. *For more information, contact Victoria at 860-993-7866, email at vsa2525@gmail.com, or call the Catholic Family Services office at 848-2237, ext. 306.*
- ✓ **Marriage Encounter Weekend** ~ By offering married couples the beautiful experience of a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend, the Catholic Church is affirming and supporting you in your chosen vocation – Marriage. Take advantage of this great gift to enhance

your relationship and enjoy a love-filled weekend away together. For more information or to register for the March 3-5, July 7-9, or November 3-5 weekend in Manchester CT area, call Frank & Margie Pearson 860-742.6934 or visit www.WWMECT.org.

- ✓ **Rite of Election:** March 5 at 2pm at Saint Patrick Cathedral in Norwich. Celebrate the Rite of Election and the Call to Continuing Conversion of all catechumens who will be received into the Church on Easter Sunday. All are invited to attend and welcome our newly elected.
- ✓ **Coping with Divorce and Separation.** Are you divorced or separated and struggling with the loss of the marriage relationship? Come and learn about a new Diocesan Support Group that is forming for separated and divorced Catholics. March 8 from 7-8:30pm at Our Lady of Lourdes, Gales Ferry.
- ✓ **Pope Francis Message of Mercy.** Listen to Pope Francis' message of God's mercy with Sr. Elissa Rinere of the Office of Worship, March 16 and 23rd from 10am to noon at St Joseph Church Hall, Willimantic. Registration required. Call 860.848.2237 ext. 304.
- ✓ **Caregiver Spirituality Support Group:** Join us for a night to listen and share with others who are experiencing the struggles of caregiving. March 21 from 6:30-8:00pm at Our Lady of Lourdes, Gales Ferry. This night will be interactive and designed to provide support and hope to caregivers.
- ✓ **Chrism Mass.** The Diocesan Chrism Mass will take place on April 11 at 10:30am at St. Patrick's Cathedral, Norwich. All are invited to attend this yearly celebration of faith and tradition in which the holy oils used in administering the Sacraments throughout the diocese are blessed by Bishop Michael Cote.

Sunday, February 12 at 2 pm "Researching your Historic House" Speaker: Bruce Clouette, Historian and director of Archaeological and Historical Services, Inc. Members free, non-members \$2. Refreshments. *Snow date is Sun, Feb. 26.* Held at the Lebanon Historical Society Museum located at 856 Trumbull Hwy., Lebanon For more information call 860-642-6579 museum@historyoflebanon.org www.historyoflebanon.org

**Men's ACTS Retreat Weekend
March 2-5, 2017
Location is Immaculata Retreat
House
289 Windham Road,
Willimantic, CT
To register see Bob Paris or
www.actsct.org
Cost: \$240**

**Third Annual Collection of Household Goods
for WAIM Weekend of
April 8 & 9**



Just in time for spring cleaning. A truck will be in the Church parking lot before and after all Masses on April 8th and

9th For the drop off your good, usable items.

March for Mercy- Youth Service Event – A great way to get service hours! On Saturday March 25th from 10am – 3pm, Youth are invited to a special service event; The March for Mercy. The March will begin at St. Joseph in Norwich with a witness talk about the realities of drug addiction. Followed by a physician speaking on the effects of drugs. We will then tour St. Vincent de Paul Place, and March to the Cathedral. At the Cathedral, Cooper Ray, a national speaker and musician, will lead our Service Rally Event in the hall. Youth are asked to collect pledges for the mile walk to benefit the Catholic Charities Substance Abuse and Treatment Program, the minimum to participate is \$15. Contact your Catechetical Leader or Liza Roach at lroach@norwichdiocese.net or (860)848-2237 to attend.

**Life Teen @ St. Andrew Church
Life in the Spirit – Seven weeks that could
really change your life.
Open to grades 9-12**

Sunday February 12 - Life Teen Mass at 5pm followed by dinner and then Week three of our Life in the Spirit Seminar – Healing touch of God.

Sunday March 5 - Life Teen Mass at 5pm followed by dinner and then Week four of our Reconciliation Night – Forgiveness

Sunday March 12 - Life Teen Mass at 5pm followed by dinner and then Week five of our Life in the Spirit Seminar – Power of the Holy Spirit

Sunday March 19 - Life Teen Mass at 5pm followed by dinner and then Week six of our Life in the Spirit Seminar – Baptism of the Holy Spirit

Sunday March 26 - Life Teen Mass at 5pm followed by dinner and then Week seven of our Life in the Spirit Seminar – Living a transformed life

**Programs at Enders Island – Mystic CT
860.536.0565**

- **Women's' 11th Step Retreat** Friday 2/24/17 through Sunday 2/26/17 \$210 shared room. <http://enders.is/feb11thstep>

Save the Date!
**7th Annual Catholic Women's Conference of the
Diocese of Norwich**
**Sponsored by the Office of Faith Events and
Norwich Diocesan Council of Catholic Women**
Sat. April 8, 2017, 8:30am – 3:30pm
St. Bernard School-Uncasville, CT
Keynote Speaker: ValLimar Jansen

**The day includes Mass with Bishop Cote,
Reconciliation, Lunch, Adoration,
Music, Vendors and much more!!!**

**"Discover Mercy" for 5th, 6th, & 7th grade girls and their
parents** at Mercy High School, Middletown, CT. Saturday March 4, 2017 from 9:00am – 1:00pm. Register on line @ www.mercyhigh.com

**Mercy High School is sponsoring a \$25,000
Education Raffle.** Anyone can win! The \$25,000 is tax free and can be used at any accredited school in the U.S. (grades K – College) and for student loan payments. Tickets are \$100. The drawing is Wednesday, May 17th at Mercy's Spring Concert starting at 7:00 p.m. You do not need to be present to win. Only 650 tickets will be sold. For information, or to order a ticket, go to www.mercyhigh.com or call Mercy at 860-347-8957.

**Holy Family Retreat Center, West Hartford
Upcoming Programs www.holyfamilyretreat.org
860-760-9705**

- **Ash Wednesday Day or Evening Retreat: The Price and the Promise of Easter, with Bill Walsh - Wednesday, Mar 1, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. or 6-9 p.m.** As we begin another Lenten season in preparation for Easter, we'll examine why Jesus died and how Jesus' passion, death and resurrection can bring healing and hope in our world. We'll also explore how our own struggles relate to Christ's resurrection and what the cross reveals about God's relationship with humanity. \$40, includes meal.

Employment Opportunity

Catholic Charities is seeking a full time, temporary Behavioral Health Program Manager for our Behavioral Health Clinic in Norwich. This person will be responsible for managing our outpatient behavioral health clinic in Norwich. Responsibilities include supervision of all staff, quality assurance, and utilization management. This position requires direct service responsibilities. Requirements: MSW, LCSW with at least five year's post-graduate experience. Please email resume, cover letter, and salary requirements to Laura Malone, Executive Assistant at lauramalone@ccfsn.org

Saint Joseph Church 120 Cliff Street, Norwich is hosting their **annual Lenten Fish and Chips Dinner** every Friday beginning Feb.24 and ending April 14th (Good Friday) from 4:30-6:30. A full meal consisting of 2 pieces of fish; a 1 piece meal and Chowder will be available. Meals include fish, French fries, coleslaw, dessert and beverage. Please join us! For more information, call 860-887-1565.

On **Thursday, February 23, 2017**. Come join in praying with Bishop Cote a Eucharistic Holy Hour for Vocations. This month the holy hour will be at Church of the Holy Family, Hebron, CT from 6:00-7:00pm. Come pray for those who are called to priestly or consecrated religious life Pray for our seminarians and those in the process of applying to the Diocese. Join our Diocesan Pray Team for Vocations by emailing the vocation office for more information at vocations@norwichdiocese.net and check out our website at god-calls.com.

The Willimantic District of the Norwich Diocese Council of Catholic Women invite all ladies to a Lenten lunch and presentation Sunday March 12th at 1:00pm, St. Mary's Church, 1600 Main Street, Coventry. The theme is Body & Soul: Joseph Zukel, Hartford Health Care Center for Healthy Aging Resource Coordinator will offer resources available for stress management, coping skills, chronic illness management, unique needs and challenges faced by our aging population. For the Soul portion, Rev. Jeffrey Ellis, Parochial Vicar at St. Bernard's, Rockville & St. Mathew's, Tolland will speak on holiness. There is no admission fee for this event. Please contact Lynda Nappi at 860.423.5064 or Annette Murphy at 860.423.2397 to make a reservation. The deadline is Thursday March 9th.

JOURNEY OF Faith

Enrich your 40 day Lenten Journey

Join a small faith sharing group that will meet each week to read, reflect, and pray using the page-a-day Lenten resource *Becoming Whole, Becoming Holy*. Author Alice Camille says, "Lent is a season that assists us in putting all the pieces of our lives in proper order, and if we thoughtfully observe these forty days, our purpose becomes clearer, and our direction, truer."

Groups will meet Friday mornings, 9:45-10:45 AM in the rectory beginning March 3
OR Tuesday evenings, 7:00-8:00 PM in the cry room beginning February 28

To register, please call Cheryl at 860-642-6711 by February 25. Cost of the booklet is \$1.25.



Altar Servers Training Sessions

Saturday, March 4, 2017
At 10:00am
St. Francis, Lebanon

Saturday, March 11, 2017
At 10:00am
St. Andrew, Colchester

Hurricane Matthew devastated southwestern Haiti. The city of Jeremie and surrounding villages were at the storm's epicenter, and 80% of buildings and 90% of crops were destroyed. Over 1,000 lives were lost. Desperate

families continue to face homelessness, hunger, and disease. Since the hurricane the Haitian Health Foundation has been working non-stop to collect food, medicine, and building supplies to ship to Haiti, gather the latest information from Jeremie,



respond to donor inquiries and fundraise. HHF has recently been able to access many of the mountain villages under their care; in many cases HHF is the only agency to reach these rural villages.

HHF continues to work to access more remote locations, which is difficult as flooding, mudslides, and debris still block

the roads. This has been made worse by the rain that continued daily since the hurricane struck. Cholera is a growing threat, as the number of cases rise, and other medical conditions – malnutrition, pneumonia, and intestinal problems like diarrhea – are widespread among vulnerable children and pregnant women.

This year we will again work to raise monies for goats for Haiti. The cost for one goat is \$150.00. Each goat given is pregnant. As the people raise their goats, they are provided with milk, meat, and a source of income through the sale of goats as the herds become larger. Our CCD will be able to name the goats. When the goats are presented to the selected families, a picture is taken and sent back to us.

Each class will have a collection jar and one will also be near the giving basket in Church. This project will continue thru mid-May.

February 19 @ 5:00pm at the First Congregational Church, Lebanon. Bring your friends to see Tapped, an award winning movie that is a compelling and disturbing portrayal of what happened in Maine when Nestle Bottling Co. moved to town. Explore the issues at stake as a multi-national water bottler moves into Connecticut and we face severe drought. Speaker ~ Donna Landerman, the founder of saveourwaterct.org,