

**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 March 25, 2017 Annunciation of the Lord**

4:00 PM Confessions  
5:00 PM Nick Wengloski req. by his family

**Sunday, March 26, 2017 Fourth Sunday of Lent**

8:00 AM Frances Dyer req. by the Knights of Columbus  
10:30 AM Lauren Bauer: for a complete and speedy recovery  
from injuries from a sledding accident req. by  
Cheryl & Becca Wheaton

11:30 am Baptism

**Monday March 27, 2017 Lenten Weekday**

NO MASS

**Tuesday March 28, 2017 Lenten Weekday**

NO MASS

**Wednesday March 29, 2017 Lenten Weekday**

9:00 AM Dave & Edith Perotti

NO MASS

**Friday March 31, 2017 Lenten Weekday**

9:00 AM Souls in Purgatory

7:00 PM Stations of the Cross

**Saturday April 1, 2017 Lenten Weekday**

4:00 PM Confessions

5:00 PM

**Sunday, April 2, 2017 Fifth Sunday of Lent**

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

10:30 AM Ed & Gloria Bigenski req. by their family

Offertory: \$ 2,260.10 Building Maintenance: \$ 640.30  
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 April 1 & 2**

5:00pm Lector: Steve Wengloski  
Eucharistic Minister: Deacon Michael  
Altar Servers: Grace & Genevieve Gardella

8:00am Lector: Kathy Pellerin  
Eucharistic Minister: Deacon Michael  
Altar Servers: Christian & Jack Terwilliger

10:30am Lector: Angela Corentin  
Eucharistic Minister: Deacon Michael  
Altar Servers: Erika Densman, Nicholas Barrett

**12 Goats for Haiti: Collected to date \$ 388**

**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  
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. John Gwudz,  
Msgr. James Carini, Rev. Izydor Sadowski SDB, Msgr. Kevin  
Randall, Rev. Richard Breton, Rev. Michael Gill, Rev. Brian  
Maxwell, Rev. Jonathan Ficara, Rev. Frank McKenna, Rev. Leo  
Almendrea, Rev. Paul Ramen, Msgr. Anthony Rosaforte. We also  
pray for any priests who have left the ministry,  
Father, recall to our priests that they hold between their hands  
the Most Precious Treasure of the Church: the Blood of the  
Sacred Victim. Enkindle in them the fire of love of Christ as they  
do your work. Increase in Your priests a hunger for the glory of  
Jesus, and for the salvation of souls. Grant them courage and  
confidence in carrying out their duties. (Mother Catherine  
Aurelia, foundress)

**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.

Grades 2 & 9 will be assisting at the 10:30am Mass  
Sunday March 26. Refreshments in the meeting room  
following the MASS

## 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.



**Way of the Cross:** a public procession of scripture and prayer. Good Friday April 14 at 6:00pm

from Chelsea Parade to the Central Baptist Church. Walk with the Most Reverend Michael R. Cote, Bishop of Norwich and leaders of other Christian communities in forming a prayer pilgrimage called the Way of the Cross. Walk & sing in commemoration of Christ's journey. In case of inclement weather, it will be held at the Cathedral of Saint Patrick.

### During Lent families are encouraged to participate in Operation Rice Bowl.

Families are encouraged to gather each week in prayer for the hungry poor and to share a sacrificial meal. With the monies saved from this meal, a donation is placed in the family Rice Bowl to be brought to Mass on Palm Sunday, April 9. 75% of Operation rice Bowl funds will feed the hungry poor overseas, the remaining 25% will be used in the diocese to feed the needy. This Lent, gather in prayer and sacrifice as a family to pray and to care for the hungry poor.

### WINE, WISDOM, and WHY- NIGHT OF CATHOLIC DISCUSSION

Join us for an evening of questions and answers on Thursday, April 27<sup>th</sup> from 7 – 9pm at St. Andrew's in Colchester. Ask questions about your *faith-* past, present or future. A panel of experts are ready to answer your questions: *Bishop Michael Cote, Sr. Elissa Rinere CP-Director of Office of Worship/Pastoral Planning, Deacon Chris Deskus- Director of Prison Ministry Office, and Mr. Paul Kieda- Morality and Apologetics Teacher from Xavier High School.* Soft drinks and wine will be provided, please feel free to donate drinks at the Office of Faith Events by April 13<sup>th</sup>.

## 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 March 27, 2017 at 2PM Spiritual Renewal Center, 11 Bath Street, Norwich, CT
- ✓ **The monthly Diocesan Pro-Life Mass** will take place at Christ the King Parish, 1 McCurdy Rd., Old Lyme, on **Saturday April 1 at 8:30 A.M.** Please join our celebrant **Rev. Walter Nagle** at Mass as we pray to end abortion and for the healing for those who have had an abortion. Following the Mass, the Rosary will be prayed.
- ✓ **Are you separated or divorced and in need of support? The Church is here to help.** The Catholic Family Services Office is sponsoring a Divorce Healing Program entitled **The Catholic's Divorce Survival Guide.** This is a 12-session DVD ministry program with expertise from Catholic psychologists, theologians and spiritual directors. It is based on the teachings of the Catholic Church. The group will meet from 7-8:30 P.M. the second and fourth Mondays of each month beginning April 10 through September 25 at Sacred Heart Parish Rectory, Sacred Heart Drive, Groton, CT. There is a \$20 fee for the program to cover materials and registration is required. To register, call Catholic Family Services, 860-848-2237, ext. 306.
- ✓ **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.
- ✓ **The Diocese of Norwich Outreach to Haiti invites you to our 10th Annual Gala,** Saturday, April 29, 2017, 6pm cocktails, dinner, silent auction, at the Deanston House, Storrs, CT. Come meet Bishop Cote, LT. Governor Nancy Wyman and guest speaker Bishop Eric Toussaint from Haiti. The price, \$100/person, is to benefit the children of Haiti. We are also in need of ad sponsors and auction items. For more information visit [www.outreachtohaiti.org](http://www.outreachtohaiti.org) Thank you for your generosity."

Lent is a time to think of others who have less than us.



WAIM help's families from many backgrounds and many different situations. This year we are looking for basic household items for the home.

Such as: Laundry detergent, spray cleaners, shampoo, body and hand soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, mouthwash, first aid supplies, facial tissue, toilet paper, paper towels etc. These items can be dropped off in the church parking lot on April 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> (Palm Sunday) before and after masses. Just meet us in the rear parking by the white pickup truck.



### Programs at My Father's House Moodus CT

860.873.1906 [www.myfathershousect.org](http://www.myfathershousect.org)

- ❖ Conference with Bud MacFarlane Thursday March 30. Breakfast at 9am. Fee: \$10
- ❖ San Damiano Cross & Passion Saturday April 4 9am-4pm Fee: \$40 Registration at 8:30am.

**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!!!**

**Life Teen @ St. Andrew Church**

**Open to grades 9-12**

**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.

**Sunday April 2** – Life Teen Mass at 5pm followed by dinner and Life Night

**Sunday April 9** – Life Teen Mass at 5pm followed by dinner and social

**Sunday April 16** – Easter – No Life Teen Mass or activities

**Sunday April 23** – Life Teen Mass at 5pm. No activity to follow due to retreat that weekend

**Sunday April 30** – Life Teen Mass at 5pm followed by dinner, speaker and retreat

St. Mary – St. Joseph School in Willimantic is now accepting registrations for the 2017-2018 school year. To learn more about the school or to set up a day for your child to shadow, please call Principal, Miss Abby L. Demars at 860.423.8479. Check out the new website at [smjschool.org](http://smjschool.org). Save the date: Annual Spring Gala Saturday May 20 with spaghetti dinner beginning at 4pm. Live and silent auctions, basket raffles.

Catholic Charities will hold a **“Divine” afternoon of comedy, wine tasting, light fare and silent auction** on Sunday, April 23rd from 1:00-4:00 PM (doors open at 12:30 PM) at St. Sebastian Parish Hall, 151 Broad Street in Middletown CT. Dave Kane, known as “Fr. Patrick Aloysius Misgivings” will share stories of growing up Catholic. This event is being coordinated with help from the Catholic Charities Middletown Advisory Board. Proceeds from the event will “Provide Help and Create Hope” for those in need throughout Eastern Connecticut. Tickets are \$35.00 in advance, \$40.00 at the door, and can be purchased by contacting Susan Connelly (860) 889-8346 x264 or [finance@ccfsn.org](mailto:finance@ccfsn.org). Tickets can also be purchased at any of the Catholic Charities office locations: Norwich – 331 Main Street; New London 28 Huntington Street; Middletown – 151 Broad Street and Willimantic – 88 Jackson Street. For more information, contact Christine Jackel, Development Coordinator [cjackel@norwichdiocese.net](mailto:cjackel@norwichdiocese.net) or (860) 886-1928 x12.

**Defending Our Religious Liberty March 26, 2017**

On December 7, 1965, the Second Vatican Council approved *Dignitatis Humanae*, the Declaration on Religious Liberty. The Declaration addresses a question that comes up in every generation: how do we understand freedom, truth, and the relationship between church and state?

Visit: [usccb.org](http://usccb.org) and search for: Human Dignitatis Humanae for a comprehensive explanation.

**St Andrew Passion Play April 7-8** the 13th annual St Andrew Passion Play Musical will be performed at 7:30 PM, Palm Sunday Weekend, Friday and Saturday, April 7-8 at St Andrew Parish, 128 Norwich Avenue, Colchester CT. Doors open at 7:00 P.M. This full scale musical portraying of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, features a cast and crew of over 120 talented individuals, all devoted to bringing this great story to life. Tickets are free, but donations to defray the cost are gratefully accepted. To reserve tickets, phone Theresa Dziatko (860 295 8315) or pick up tickets in person at the parish office or Merciful Saviour Gift Shop in Colchester. Tickets limited to 10 per person, per night, unless special group requests are made. Since the performance is in the church, people are encouraged to bring their own cushions for sitting in the pews. Those who are handicapped should note that there is a special handicapped entrance to the church. For more information, contact Colleen Puscas [colleenpuscas@gmail.com](mailto:colleenpuscas@gmail.com)

Holy Apostles College & Seminary

OPEN HOUSE

SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 2017

9 AM – 11 AM

33 Prospect Hill Road

Cromwell, CT 06416

Come Discover More about our High School / Home School Take Credit Program, Our Undergraduate and Graduate Programs Which can ALL be taken On Campus or 100% Online!

Graduate from High School earning College Credits!

Graduate with an AA –Degree in as little as 1.3 Years!

Graduate with a BA-Degree in as little as 2.6 Years!

Graduate with an MA-Degree in as little as 4 Years!

Our Tuition is Ranked Over 72% Lower than the Average Liberal Arts College in the Country!

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[www.holyapostles.edu](http://www.holyapostles.edu)

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 2017.

Application deadline is May 10. The award for this year is \$500 and will be awarded on or about June 5, 2017.

Applications available in the parish office.

**Norwich Diocesan Council of Catholic Women 62th Annual Convention *Catholic Women: Following the Message of Fatima***, Saturday, May 6, 2017 at Saint Lawrence Church, 7 Hemlock Drive, Killingworth, CT. Join us to hear Donna-Marie Cooper O'Boyle, a catechist for almost thirty years, award-winning author, journalist, speaker, reviewer, and EWTN television host and creator of *Everyday Blessings for Catholic Moms*, *Catholic Mom's Café* and *Feeding Your Family's Soul*. Registration begins at 9:00 a.m. Registration fee of \$25 includes lunch (choice of meal) and materials. The day includes speakers, book signing, Mass with Bishop Cote, luncheon and raffles. Deadline to register is April 28<sup>th</sup>. Forms can be found at the church entrances.

**Public Talk, "Love, Evolution, & Human Relationships: Exploring the Insights of Teilhard de Chardin," on March 31 at St. Thomas Aquinas, Storrs**

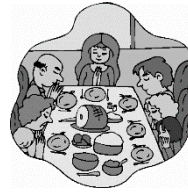
Please join us on Friday, March 31, 7:30pm, for a talk by Louis Savary, PhD, STD. This event will take place at the Student Center at St. Thomas Aquinas, and will be followed by a question/answer session. All are warmly welcome.

Savary will focus on work French Jesuit priest Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, a geologist and anthropologist who was among the first to integrate modern science and the theory of evolution with Christian theology and spirituality.

The Aquinas Student Center is at 46 North Eagleville Road on the University of Connecticut campus in Storrs.

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This weekend we launch the 2017 Annual Catholic Appeal (ACA) campaign, "**Our Faith Calls US to ACTION**". In our lives every day, we see people who need help with the struggles they experience. Their hardships can be economic, educational, emotional, physical, or even confusion about ones faith. These burdens are heavy and people who are afflicted with any of these, or any other personal battle, need our help. Your contributions to the ACA make the services provided by our Diocesan ministries and programs available to everyone living in the Diocese of Norwich. When "**Our Faith Calls US to ACTION**," let's respond and help others to make a difference. Please be prepared to make your pledge to the 2017 ACA next weekend or visit [www.norwichdiocesedevelopment.org](http://www.norwichdiocesedevelopment.org) for more information.



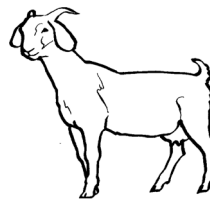
## Easter Food Baskets

It is time to prepare for our annual delivery of Easter Food Baskets.

We are thankful for food donations of all types. Your continued support of this program has helped many of our friends and neighbors when they have stumbled upon difficult times. Thank You.

**Food Suggestions:**

**HAMS**, Boxed Potatoes, Canned Food & Vegetables, Pasta & Sauce, Cake Mixes & Frosting, Brownie & Muffin Mixes, Mayonnaise, Soups, Peanut Butter, Jams & Jellies, Pie Crusts & Pie Fillings, Coffee & Tea, Cereals Both Hot & Cold, Canned Tuna, Canned Fruit, Pudding & Jell-O



To date, through your generosity and the generosity of our CCD students, we have collected \$ 388.00. This represents 2 ½ goats. Our goal is 12 goats. Please help our children reach their project goal.

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.