

**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 18, 2017 St. Cyril of Jerusalem, bishop,  
doctor of the Church**

4:00 PM Confessions

5:00 PM Souls in Purgatory

**Sunday, March 19, 2017 Third Sunday of Lent**

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

10:30 AM People of the parish living & deceased

**Monday March 20, 2017 St. Joseph, spouse of the Blessed**

**Virgin Mary**

NO MASS

**Tuesday March 21, 2017 Lenten Weekday**

NO MASS

**Wednesday March 22, 2017 Lenten Weekday**

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

**Thursday March 23, 2017 St. Turibius of Mogrovejo, bishop**

NO MASS

**Friday March 24, 2017 Blessed Oscar Romero, bishop, martyr**

9:00 AM Parishioners who are ill

7:00 PM Stations of the Cross

**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

Offertory: \$ 2122.00

Today's second collection is for Building Maintenance.

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 March 25 & 26**

5:00pm Lector: Carole Briggs

Eucharistic Minister: Sharon Nejako

Altar Servers: CJ Frank, Steve Bardes

8:00am Lector: Jim Dyer

Eucharistic Minister: Gregg Lafontaine

Altar Servers: Christian & Jack Terwilliger

10:30am Lector: Roger Proulx

Eucharistic Minister: Tony Coscia

Altar Servers: Erika Densman & Becca Wheaton

**Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors needed for 5pm and 10:30am Masses. Please call Cheryl in the office and leave your name. Training with Fr. Mark to be scheduled at a later date.**

**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 V. Rev. Michael Phillipino, Rev. Walter Nagle, Rev. C. Paul Boudreau, V. Rev. Richard Ricard, Rev. Thomas Griffin, V. Rev. Gregory Galvin, Rev. Leon Susaimanickam, Rev. John Welch MS, Msgr. Thomas Bride, Rev. Richard Archambault, V. Rev. Douglas Mosey CSB, Rev. Gregory Mullaney, Our Holy Father. Heavenly Father, during this penitential season, we pray that the Blood of Jesus may kindle in the hearts of our priests the divine fire of Your love by their devotion to the Eucharist. (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.

**12 Goats for Haiti: Collected to date \$ 238**

**PASCHAL CANDLE**

If anyone would like to help along with other families to purchase the Paschal Candle in memory of a loved one, please contact Cheryl in the Parish Office. The cost of the candle is \$250.

## 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
- ✓ **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.
- ✓ Natural Family Planning is scientific, safe, and is 99-percent effective for conceiving or responsibly postponing a baby. A three-session class for married and engaged couples will begin in the Gales Ferry area Saturday, March 25. For information, call Craig and Liz Schantz at 860-464- 1184.
- ✓ **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 8th & 9th (Palm Sunday) before and after masses. Just meet us in the rear parking by the white pickup truck.



**Grades 2 & 9**  
**Will be assisting at the 10:30am Mass**  
**Sunday March 26.**

### 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!!!**

### **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.

#### **Some Grant Recipients:**

**Out Reach to Haiti:** Serves the people of Haiti in the spirit and values of the Gospel, providing sacramental and spiritual support, it offers education, health care, parish twinning opportunities, and community development to benefit Haitians in need and hospitality to international volunteers and visitors. Immediate objectives are to alleviate malnutrition in infants and children and to decrease the infant mortality, and to reduce the number of stunted children and children with grave disease.

**St. Vincent de Paul Place:** This food pantry provided food bags in emergencies, over 1200 households from 23 towns in eastern CT obtained food.

**March for Mercy- Youth Service Event** – A great way to get service hours! On Saturday March 25<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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 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

- Fish Fry on Lenten Fridays including Stations of the Cross at 6pm. \$15pp <http://enders.is/fishfry>
- Gregorian Chants of Holy Week & Easter. Wednesday evenings March 15-June 14. Begins at \$260 for first month. <http://enders.is/paschalchants>
- Byzantine Iconography Mandylion “Not Made by Hands” Thursdays March 16-June 15 Begins at \$260 for first month. <http://enders.is/mandylionicon>

Saint Joseph Church 120 Cliff Street, Norwich is hosting their **annual Lenten Fish and Chips Dinner** every Friday through April 14<sup>th</sup> (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](tel:860-887-1565).



**ANNUAL LAYETTE PROGRAM**

The Norwich Diocesan Council of Catholic Women's Annual Layette Program will be on Sunday, March 26<sup>th</sup> at St Mary's Church, Portland. 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.

**Bring a Friend to Church Sunday!**

Bring a friend, family member or loved one to Church with you on **Sunday, March 26, 2017** and share your faith with someone who is important to you! Spend some personal time away from the world and all its stress in a worshipping community where God loves unconditionally. Receive a blessing just for you!

**Saint Bernard School**  
**Grades 6-12**

**Classical \* Spiritual \* Global**  
**Placement Testing - Saturdays,**  
**March 25 @ 8:30am**

For more information call **860.848.1271**

Or email [admissions@saint-bernard.com](mailto:admissions@saint-bernard.com)

Or visit [www.saintbernardschool.org](http://www.saintbernardschool.org)

**Expanded transportation routes and Financial Aid are available. Ask about our Tailored Tuition.**

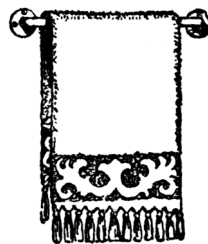
St. Mary – St. Joseph School in Willimantic is now accepting registrations for the 2017-2018 school year. To learn more about the school or to set up a day for your child to shadow, please call Principal, Miss Abby L. Demars at 860.423.8479. Check out the new website at [smjschool.org](http://smjschool.org).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

**Programs at Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center**

303 Tunxis Road, West Hartford, CT 06107-3119  
860-760-9705 [www.holyfamilyretreat.org](http://www.holyfamilyretreat.org)

- **Saturday, March 25 - Knitting Retreat Day: The Spirituality of Working with Our Hands, with Rachel Valente** 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Those who knit and crochet all have powerful stories of how yarn has tied them together, but crafts can also be a way to engage in relationship with the Holy. Together we'll explore the spiritual fruits of these ancient crafts and their history. Please bring a simple project to work on. \$65, includes lunch.

Catholic Charities will hold a **“Divine” afternoon of comedy, wine tasting, light fare and silent auction** on Sunday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> 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@cfsn.org](mailto:finance@cfsn.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.



All ladies of the parish are invited to the Ladies Guild March 20<sup>th</sup> meeting (7:00) for a **Dishtowel Exchange**.  
*Do you have a favorite dishtowel?  
What tasks do you use your dishtowels for?  
Do you categorize your dishtowels?*  
Please bring a new, unwrapped dishtowel or tea towel for the exchange.

**Environmental Justice Ministry & Stewardship of the Earth Presentation March 19<sup>th</sup> ~11:30 a.m. at the First Congregational Church of Lebanon**

Please join us on **March 19, 2017 at 11:30 am** as we welcome special guest Pam Arifian, Director of the Northeast Environmental Justice Center at the Silver Lake Conference Center. As Director of the Northeast Regional Environmental Justice Center at Silver Lake, Pam is responsible for improving Silver Lake's environmental footprint, creating educational opportunities, and to serve as a resource, collaborator, and advocate for environmental justice concerns in the New England region. Pam brings twelve years of professional experience in the fields of sustainability education, policy development, and community development to her role. A long-time Silver Laker, she has a real passion and commitment to environmental advocacy and Earth care.

**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!  
 Holy Apostles College & Seminary ~ Stay Close! Go Far!  
 Quality Catholic Education at an Affordable Price  
[www.holyapostles.edu](http://www.holyapostles.edu)

The Ancient Order of Hibernians (AOH), and the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians (LAOH), are announcing a call for new members. The AOH and LAOH are Catholic organization who mission is to promote Irish Culture, Community, and Christian Charity. The AOH evolved from a need in the early sixteen century to protect the lives of priests who risked immediate death to keep the Catholic Faith alive in occupied Ireland after the reign of England's King Henry VIII.  
 Any male or females of Irish heritage who are practicing Catholic are welcome to join the respective organizations. For more information, on joining the AOH, please contact Rick Connell at [860-867-7866](tel:860-867-7866) or email him at [rconnellsr@gmail.com](mailto:rconnellsr@gmail.com). For information on joining the LAOH, please contact Anne Tortora at [860-334-9104](tel:860-334-9104) or email her at [anne.tortora@gmail.com](mailto:anne.tortora@gmail.com) .

### Lenten Reflection

It is Lent and we are challenged to better ourselves spiritually while at the same time being positive and grateful for the unconditional love we have all been given. What better way to do that than to look at the *Beatitudes*, those eight simple statements given to us by Jesus to help us live lives of loving service to God and one another.

#### **For our purposes this Lent let's refer to those teachings as the BE-Attitudes!**

This first full week of Lent we reflect on the first Beatitude: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

Jesus is calling us to be "poor in spirit" but what does it mean to actually be spiritually poor? "Poor in spirit" happens when we recognize and accept that we have nothing and are nothing without God and His love; total surrender to our heavenly Father.

Unfortunately, most of us do not see many positives in doing this. We spend most of our days doing the opposite. Trying to handle everything on our own. We juggle work, family, hobbies, finances, caregiving, friends, exercise etc. leaving our relationship with God last on the list.

For most of us the outcome is the same- ultimately we fail. This failure comes in the form of sickness, exhaustion, addiction, alienation from others, depression, etc. When we leave God out of our lives, we leave out the one true source of our happiness/wholeness.

It's like trying to drive a car with no gas, it just does not work.

#### **This Lent change that first Beatitude to your own personal Be-Attitude!**

Be poor in spirit by thanking God for the many blessings you received throughout the day.

Be poor in spirit by reading a spiritual book/prayer/reflection instead of the newspaper.

Be poor in spirit by putting away your phone for a few hours to focus on the world around you.

Be poor in spirit by turning off your favorite tv show and acquiring a favorite saint to study.

Be poor in spirit by writing a prayer instead of a list of chores to do.

This Lenten Season if we share our *Be-Attitude* with everyone we come in contact with, our world will definitely be a better place!

God's blessings



**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.



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.

**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."

### **Lenten Reflection:**

It is Lent and we are challenged to better ourselves spiritually while at the same time being positive and grateful for the unconditional love we have all been given.

#### ***Let's reflect on the BE-Attitudes!***

This week of Lent we reflect on the second and third Beatitude:

**"Blessed are they who mourn, for they shall be comforted."**

**"Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth."**

**Who are the mourners and the meek in our world today?**

WE ARE ALL MOURNERS! The act of mourning is to "feel or express sorrow or grief". There are so many reasons to feel sad, in our lives and in our world today. We are bombarded by negativity through the media and in our interactions with one another every day. We mourn for better times, positive change, improvements, financial stability, justice, peace etc.

WE ARE ALL MEEK! To be meek is to be "humbly patient" and we are humbled everyday by the blessings that God places in our lives. Amid the unrest in our world we still persist as people of hope and faith. We are able to focus on the future because we know that this life and all its suffering is preparing us for the next life, where we will experience inexplicable joy and happiness. ***That is both our comfort and our inheritance!***

### **Defending Our Religious Liberty March 19, 2017** **24 Hours for the Lord**

In the Willimantic Deanery, 24 Hours for the Lord, will be held at Saint Joseph Church, 99 Jackson Street, Willimantic, on Friday, March 24, beginning at 9:00 a.m. through 9:00 p.m., and resuming on Saturday, March 25, from 8:00 a.m. through 4:00 p.m.

### **Talking to Your Kids about Drugs**

March 21, 2017 @ 7pm

Our Lady of Lourdes Church  
1650 Route 12, Gales Ferry

To register, call Josephine Cometa at 860.464.7251  
Parents have the greatest influence over whether their kids use drugs. Communication is the key. This talk is full of practical tips/resources and is relevant for parents with kids or young adults of any age as well as for grandparents, teachers, administrators, community leaders, and counselors.

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

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

- ❖ Conference with Carol Marquardt Thursday March 23. Breakfast at 9am. Fee: \$10
- ❖ Woman's Retreat "Bloom who you are ~ Vocation of Women" March 24-26 Beginning Friday March 24 at 7pm. Fee: \$125
- ❖ 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.

# 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