

**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 December 2, 2017 Blessed Virgin Mary**

4:00 PM Confessions  
5:00 PM *Christopher Grabarek req. by the Dyer family*  
**Sunday, December 3, 2017 First Sunday of Advent**  
8:00 AM *Norm Pellerin req. by his wife*  
10:30 AM *Alicia Wayland req. by Christopher & Trish Goba  
Churchill*



**Monday December 4, 2017 St. John Damascene, priest,  
doctor of the Church**

NO MASS

**Tuesday December 5, 2017 Advent Weekday**

NO MASS

**Wednesday December 6, 2017 St. Nicholas, bishop**

9:00 AM NO MASS

**Thursday December 7, 2017 Vigil Immaculate Conception of  
the Blessed Virgin Mary – Holy Day of Obligation**

7:00 PM *Carol Barrett req. by the family*  
**Friday December 8, 2017 Immaculate Conception of the  
Blessed Virgin Mary – Holy Day of Obligation**

9:15 AM *Special intention for Bob Frank req. by Mackie*

**Saturday December 9, 2017 St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatatzin**

4:00 PM Confessions

5:00 PM

**Sunday, December 10, 2017 Second Sunday of Advent**

8:00 AM *Edmond Stack & Florence Cunniff req. by the Dyer  
family*  
10:30 AM *Barbara Poore Swol req. by Bill & Joan Russoniello  
Goba*



11/19 Offertory: \$ 2,133.45 Parish Fuel: \$ 829.00  
11/26 Offertory: \$ 2,218.00 Building Maintenance: \$ 714.00  
Today's second collection is for monthly extraordinary expenses.  
Next weekend's second collection is for the Diocesan Fuel Fund.  
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 December 9 & 10**

5:00pm Lector: Richard Lataille  
Eucharistic Minister: Jim Hay  
Altar Servers: CJ Frank., Steven Bardes  
8:00am Lector: Jim Worth  
Eucharistic Minister: Jim Dyer  
Altar Servers: Christian & Jack Terwilliger  
10:30am Lector: Maureen Polana  
Eucharistic Minister: Paul Pelletier  
Altar Servers: Becca Wheaton, Erika Densman

**Knights of Columbus Meeting  
Thursday Dec. 7 @ 7:00pm**

**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  
AM3 Emerson Flannery, U.S. Navy  
Seaman Alex R. Paris, U.S. Navy  
LCPL Chad Wengloski, U.S. Marines  
CTN3 Jonah Swett, U.S. Navy  
Seaman Recruit Rocky Spedalieri  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Tyler McGuire, U.S. Air Force

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

O Prince of Peace, we humbly ask for Your protection for all our men and women in military service. Give them unflinching courage to defend with honor, dignity, and devotion the rights of all who are imperiled by injustice and evil. Guard our churches, our homes, our schools, our hospitals, our factories, our buildings and all those within from harm and peril. Protect our land and its peoples from enemies within and without. Grant an early peace with victory founded upon justice. Instill in the hearts and minds of men and women everywhere a firm purpose to live forever in peace and good will toward all. Amen.

**APOSTOLATE OF PRAYER** — We pray for Rev. Mark Masnicki, Rev. Anthony DiMarco, V. Rev. Laurence LaPointe, Rev. Brian Converse, Rev. V. Antony Alaharasan, Rev. Brian Romanoski, Rev. Augustine Naduvilekoot, Rev. Arthur Archer, all of our priests, Rev. Michael Sequeira, Rev. Keith Shuley. We also pray for those priests who have left the ministry. Heavenly Father, may the Immaculate Virgin prepare our priests for the radiant feast of Christmas...so that the Divine Emmanuel might find in each of their hearts a little cradle scented by the purity of His all beautiful and loving Mother. For that, may they be purified in the waves of the Divine Blood of Jesus. (Ven. Mother Catherine Aurelia, foundress)



**All Parishioners are invited to join the CCD classes for a Living Rosary. Sunday December 3rd at 9:00 in the Lebanon Elementary School gymnasium, 479 Exeter Road. Please join us as we come together to show special devotion to the Blessed Mother in this most holy season.**

**Grades 3 & 5 will be assisting at the 10:30am Mass on December 10th. There will be refreshment following the Mass in the meeting room.**

**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** at 2pm Monday December 11, 2017 Spiritual Renewal Center, 11 Bath Street, Norwich
- ✓ **Holy Hour for Vocations** December 14th at Saint Mary in Putman from 6pm – 7pm.

**Programs at My Father's House – 39 N, Moodus Rd, Moodus [www.myfathershousect.org](http://www.myfathershousect.org) 860.873.1906**

- ❖ December 9 Retreat on Our Lady of Guadalupe

**Worldwide Marriage Encounter**

"You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments." Learn how to better love your spouse by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next Weekend is Feb 2-4, 2018 in Manchester, CT. For more information, call Dennis & Jane Lamondy at [860-481-3720](tel:860-481-3720) or visit them at <https://wwmectw.org/>.

**YOUNG ADULT MASS WITH BISHOP COTE** On Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, St. Joseph's in Willimantic is delighted to host Bishop Michael Cote for the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Diocesan Mass & Reception for Young Adults. All Young Adults (ages 18 - 39, single and married) are invited and encouraged to attend! We encourage Young Adults to invite friends to join us! Mass with the Bishop will begin at 11:15am and following liturgy there will be a coffee social in the hall.

**Our Lady of Fatima's Importance Today  
Donna-Marie Cooper O'Boyle**

Sunday December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 1:00pm.  
St. Edward Church

59 High Street – Stafford Springs

Donna-Marie Cooper O'Boyle is the EWTN host of three television series for mothers and families, an international speaker, award-winning journalist, and best-selling author of more than twenty-five books. Come hear Donna-Marie explain how the message of Fatima is a call from the Mother of God for a renewed fidelity to penance and prayer and continual conversion of the heart. Following Donna-Marie's presentation you are invited to a meet and greet reception with refreshments in the Parish Hall.

**NEWPORT, RI.**—The Annual Convocation for Priests will be held from December 4-6, 2017, at **Gurney's Newport Resort** on Goat Island in Newport, RI. It will be a time for all priests to gather with their bishop for spiritual renewal, support, education and rest. No parish, school or institutional activities will be scheduled during these days. Please pray for your priests, as they will be praying for you.

The theme of this year's Convocation is "**Paul as a Model for Pastoral Ministry.**" The key presenter will be Very Reverend Ronald Witherup, SS, Superior General of the Society of the Priests of Saint Sulpice (Sulpicians) and resides in Paris, France. A former academic dean and professor of Sacred Scripture at St. Patrick Seminary & University in Menlo Park, CA, he holds degrees in Old Testament and spirituality, as well as a licentiate in theology (STL), and a doctorate in biblical studies from Union Theological Seminary in Richmond, VA, (PhD). He is a frequent lecturer on biblical and theological topics and has written many articles for various scholarly and popular journals. Fr. Witherup has written over twenty books. His latest books from Paulist Press are to appear next year, *What the Bible Says about Mercy (and why it matters!)*, and *Life in the New Creation: A Spiritual-Pastoral Reading of Galatians*.

Bishop Cote emphasized the importance of this annual gathering in his letter inviting each priest to the Convocation, "Your presence and commitment to this time together is important to me. This year we celebrate the 36<sup>th</sup> year of gathering as a presbyterate for the Convocation."

The Convocation is coordinated by the Norwich Diocesan Continuing Education and Formation Commission: Very Rev. Dennis M. Perkins, Very Rev. David P. Choquette, Reverends John Antonelle, Gregory P. Brozonowicz, Peter B. Liszewski, Walter M. Nagle, and Michael Smith.

**Holiday Remembrance Workshop** Thursday December 14 from 6:30pm – 8:00pm at the Center for Hospice Center – 227 Dunham St. – Norwich. Free, all supplies will be provided. Space is limited; no children under 18 years of age. Please RSVP to 860.848.5699 x250 or email [lbradley@hospicesect.org](mailto:lbradley@hospicesect.org) to reserve a space by December 8.

**Praise, Worship, and Healing Prayer Service**

Nothing uplifts the soul like praising and worshipping God! Come and rejoice for answered prayer, seek prayer for yourself or for a burden you're carrying for someone else. Join us on Thursday evening, December 7th, at 7:00 p.m. at St. Andrew Church for an evening of praising and worshipping God with music, teaching, witnessing, and prayer. If desired, you may also meet with a prayer team for personal, intercessory, or healing prayer. This service will be held on the first Thursday every month.

*"Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest".*

**Visit the NEW Caregiver Spirituality Webpage**

**Sponsored by the Office of Faith Events**

**Resources for caregivers include prayers, articles, books and websites that offer both practical and spiritual support**

**[www.norwichdiocese.org/caregiver-spirituality-support-group](http://www.norwichdiocese.org/caregiver-spirituality-support-group)**

Nominations are underway for the **Longest Married Couple** search sponsored by **Worldwide Marriage Encounter**. Nominations are open to all husband and wife couples regardless of religious affiliation through January 10, 2018. Email the couple's name, wedding date and city and state where they reside to **[bkberland@gmail.com](mailto:bkberland@gmail.com)**. Include your contact phone or email address. Or, visit the national website at **[www.wwme.org](http://www.wwme.org)**. For more information, contact the Catholic Family Services Office at 860-848-2237, Ext 306.

**GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEA:** Tony Coscia's new book, which is EN-TITLED (Tony's 50,000 Co-incidence Miracles), is helping people to notice their own everyday common miracles. Tony writes in a captivating and exciting way -- about 100-common daily miracle stories -- which will remind you of some of your own daily miracles too. The book is a great GIFT ITEM -- to help people to notice all of the miracles they might be missing in their own lives.

The book is a life-changing Christmas-Gift-Item ... and you can get the book at Merciful Savior book store in Colchester CT, (or at St. Francis of Assisi parish in Lebanon CT -- in the parish office there, from 9-to-2: PM on: (Mon, Wed, Fri) or to noon on Sun).

**Our Lady of Guadalupe!** All are invited to join Bishop Cote and the Latino people of the Diocese in our annual bilingual celebration of the Feast day of Our Lady of Guadalupe at St. Patrick's Cathedral, Tuesday, December 12, 2017. The celebration begins with the Rosary and opportunity for confessions at 6:30pm, followed by Holy Mass at 7:00pm. Fiesta following. We look forward to honoring Our Lady with you.\_



All ladies of the parish are invited to the Ladies Guild Christmas Party on Monday,

December 18<sup>th</sup>,

6:00 cocktails/6:30 dinner at

The Log Cabin.

Reservation forms can be

found at the church

entrances, the deadline is

December 13<sup>th</sup> to submit

entrée choices and payment.

Please contact Sandra at

860-537-1372 or

Alicia at 860-465-7603 if you have any questions.

## **BAMBINELLI WEEKEND** **GAUDETTE SUNDAY**

Bambinelli is Italian for Christ Child. This will be the third year at St. Francis of Assisi Parish, in celebration of Gaudette Sunday – 16 & 17 December 2017.



Pope Francis, on a recent visit to America said, "The family is the core of the Church."

A special blessing will take place at all Masses 16 & 17 December 2017 – for your Bambinelli (Baby Jesus) from your family Nativity set.

Remember to bring your Family Bambinelli, from home, to Mass that weekend.

Thank you. ~ Liturgy Committee

The Word Among Us Advent books are available at Church entrances. Please bring one home. The daily readings will enhance your Advent preparation for the precious gift of Jesus's coming on Christmas Day.

Enders Island, Mystic, CT  
860.536.0565

Day of recollection with Alice Camille: Holy Women of Salvation ~ Mary & her Role Models  
Wednesday December 6 @ 9:00am  
Register at [enders.is/decdor](http://enders.is/decdor)

**Come to a very special Christmas adoration.** Come start Christmas week off by spending some time with Jesus. The St Francis parish is invited Join St. Andrew Parish for a very special time of adoration on Sunday Dec. 17th from 6:30 - 8:30 in our church. The evening will include a short talk by Tim Messenger, from the diocese of Worcester MA, beautiful adoration and Christmas music, confession and time with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.

Knights of Columbus

## **BREAKFAST WITH SANTA**

SUNDAY

December 10, 2017  
8:00am to 11:30am

Fire Safety Complex  
Goshen Hill Road, Lebanon, CT

All you can eat buffet, photos-ops with Santa!

\$8.00 per person – Children under 12yrs \$5.00 –  
Children under 5yrs FREE



Naughty or Nice everyone is welcome!

St. Francis has been chosen by artist Nancy Bergeron for this year's *Moment in Time* Christmas card.

Cards are being sold this weekend after Masses; a portion of each sale benefits the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration.

Cards and prints are also available at her Open Studio (173 Grand View Drive, Lebanon) December 2 & 3 from 10-5.

If you are unable to purchase your cards this weekend, you may still contact Nancy at 860-468-0079 to arrange a time to meet with her.

Let her know you are from St. Francis and for each card sale she will give a portion to be put towards the celebration!