

**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



**Saturday February 17, 2018 Seven Holy Fathers of the Servite Order**

4:00 PM Confessions

5:00 PM Jordan Haralson req. by the family

**Sunday, February 18, 2018 First Sunday of Lent**

8:00 AM Jack Hartley req. by Janice Palmer

10:30 AM John VanWagner req. by C. Wheaton

**Monday, February 19, 2018 Lenten Weekday**

NO MASS

**Tuesday February 20, 2018 Lenten Weekday**

NO MASS

**Wednesday February 21, 2018 St. Peter Damian, bishop, doctor of the Church**

9:00 AM George Boone req. by Mackie

**Thursday February 22, 2018 The Chair of St. Peter, apostle**

NO MASS

**Friday February 23, 2018 St. Polycarp bishop, martyr**

9:00 AM Rosario Jacobeno req. by Mackie

7:00 PM Stations of the Cross

**Saturday February 24, 2018 Lenten Weekday**

4:00 PM Confessions

5:00 PM Stanley Dudar 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary req. by his family

**Sunday, February 25, 2018 Second Sunday of Lent**

8:00 AM

10:30 AM Pierce Holleran Austin req. by his family

*This week's sanctuary lamp is lit for the intention of good health for the Soucy & Fauteux families. Please remember this intention in your prayers at Mass and throughout the week.*

**Parish office will be closed Monday February 19th in observance of President's Day.**

Offertory: \$ 2,271.05

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 1.adorers, please consider omitting to a specific hour. Contact Dennis Girard @ 860.334.9894 or dennisgirard51@gmail.com**

**MEETINGS**

Ladies Guild Monday Feb. 19 @ 6:30pm BINGO

Haiti Presentation Wed. Feb 21 @ 6:30pm in Church

Knights of Columbus Thursday March 1 @ 7:00pm

Altar Server Class Saturday March 3 @ 11am in Church

**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

AM2 Emerson Flannery, U.S. Navy

Seaman Alex R. Paris, U.S. Navy

LCPL Chad Wengloski, U.S. Marines

CTN3 Jonah Swett, U.S. Navy

ITSA Rocky Spedaliere Jr., U.S. Navy

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. Jeffrey Ellis, Rev. Dariusz Dudzik, Rev. Brian Romanoski, Rev. John Gwudz, Rev. Martin Noe, Rev. Charles McGrail, Rev. Raymond Introvigne, Our Holy Father, Rev. William McCarthy MSA, Rev. Robert Buongiorno, Rev. Timothy Roth MIC, Rev. Richard Archambault.

*Our priests speak to the faithful with their hearts and their faith. Fill them, Lord, with burning zeal for the conversion of sinners. O Jesus, Eternal Priest, look with love upon Your priests. Teach them to penetrate the secret of the tabernacle...the Divine Blood. (Ven. Mother Catherine Aurelia, foundress)*

**Weekend February 24 & 25**

5:00pm Lector: Richard Lataille

Eucharistic Minister: Jim Hay

Altar Servers: CJ Frank & Steven Bardes

8:00am Lector: Jim Dyer

Eucharistic Minister: Betsie McComber

Altar Servers: Christian & Jack Terwilliger

10:30am Lector: Roger Proulx

Eucharistic Minister: Paul Pelletier

Altar Servers: Becca Wheaton & Erika Densman

**Mercy High School Honor Roll**

Sophia Pirolli - Congratulations

Programs at Enders Island – Mystic 860.536.0565

Winter Day of Recollection Wednesday February 21at 9am.

Fee: \$50pp. The Mystery of Lent: Finding God in the Feasts and Fasts of Lent. <http://enders.is/WinterDOR>

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 Tuesday, April 10, 2018 at Mercy's Spring Concert (concert begins at 7:00 p.m., drawing at 8:00 p.m.) You do not need to be present to win. Only 650 tickets will be sold. For information, or to order a ticket, visit [www.mercyhigh.com](http://www.mercyhigh.com) or call Mercy at 860-347-8957.

#### **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, February 26, 2018 Spiritual Renewal Center, 11 Bath Street, Norwich
- ✓ **Holy Hour for Vocations:**
- ✓ **Life in the Spirit Retreat Opportunity** at My Father's House, Moodus, CT Friday, March 9, 7:00pm to Sunday, March 11, 2018 After lunch by Fr. Ray Introigne
- ✓ **Women's Conference 2018: Called to Joy!** The Office of Faith Events and the Norwich Diocesan Council of Catholic Women welcome women of all ages. Offering workshops on parenting, relationships, prayer, scripture and more. Keynote speaker ValLimar Jansen, and Mass with Bishop Cote...Saturday, April 14, 2018, 8:30-3:30, St. Bernard High School, Uncasville. Find the registration form at [www.norwichdiocese.org](http://www.norwichdiocese.org) under the Office of Faith Events- Upcoming Events. Or contact us at 860-848-2237. Register today! Registration forms available at Church entrances. Deadline for registration is March 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Worldwide Marriage Encounter** "Brothers and sisters, I should like you to be free of anxieties." Let us learn to calm our anxieties about our spouses by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next Weekend is Jul 6-8, 2018 in MANCHESTER, CT. For more information, call Dennis & Jane Lamondy at 860-481-3720 or visit them at <https://wwmectw.org/>.

**"Discover Mercy" Mercy High School - Middletown, CT Saturday, March 3, 2018 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.** Register online – [www.mercyhigh.com](http://www.mercyhigh.com) For 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> grade girls Girls participate in two activities of their choice followed by lunch in the dining commons. The day concludes with closing comments and a performance by the Mercy/Xavier "Vocal Dimension" Show Choir in the auditorium. This year's activities: Chemistry of Tie-Dyeing & Simple DNA, Cupcake Decorating, Field Hockey Clinic, Introduction to Italian, Mad about Math, Mini Mock Trial, Paint the Town – Everything French, Show Choir Workshop, Theater Arts Workshop  
Optional Parent Activities: Parents will have the opportunity to participate in the choice of the following sessions: Admissions Process & Questions for the Administration, School Counseling Department Personnel and Faculty Health and Personal Concerns for your Teenage Daughter Parent-to-Parent – Current Parents Answer your Questions School Tour – Join Mercy Students on a Guided Tour of the Campus

#### **Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center Programs**

860.760.9705 [www.holyfamilyretreat.org](http://www.holyfamilyretreat.org)

303 Tunxis Road, West Hartford

- ❖ Ash Wednesday or Evening Retreat Wed. Feb. 14 from 10am-2pm or 6-9pm \$40 includes meal.
- ❖ Women's Evening of Reflection on February 28.
- ❖ Retreat Theme: Grace Enough - Join Holy Family's retreat team for a weekend of peace and reflection on the power of God's grace in our lives. Discover anew how God's grace is our greatest source of strength and courage to meet the ever-present challenges in our lives. Together we'll reflect on how living in God's grace guides us to make wise choices, leading to true happiness and peace. The retreat includes: home-cooked meals, inspirational liturgies, uplifting music, free time, and workshops. The retreat begins with dinner at 6:00 p.m. on Friday evening and concludes with Sunday brunch at noon. Register at [www.holyfamilyretreat.org/graceenough](http://www.holyfamilyretreat.org/graceenough) or call Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center, West Hartford, CT at 860.760.9705 for more info. Men's Retreat Date: March 23-25, 2018  
Women's Retreat Dates: March 2-4, April 20-22, and June 1-3

#### ***Operation Rice Bowl:***

#### ***Our Lenten Program: Encounter Lent***

Lent is a time of opportunity for us to strengthen our faith through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. These practices bring us closer to God and demonstrate our solidarity with those in need at home and around the world. This Lent make your sacrifices become opportunities to feed the hungry poor. Please participate in CRS Operation Rice Bowl and let the sacrifices you make for the hungry poor nourish them and may these sacrifices witness to the love that disciples of Christ have for all people, especially for the least of the Lord's sisters and brothers.

#### **BENEFIT PASTA FUNDRAISER FOR THE JIM SHIFRIN FAMILY**

Saturday, February 24 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Lebanon Fire Safety Complex 23 Goshen Hill Road

\$10 Adult \$8 Seniors and Children 6-18

Free for Children 5 and under

Spaghetti, meatballs, salad, bread, dessert & beverages

Take out available

Sponsored by *Lebanon Life*, BS Troop 58 and local churches

Raffle drawings

Jim Shifrin was in a devastating bicycle accident on July 5, 2017. This accident resulted in a severe spinal cord injury which has left Jim with paralysis in his upper and lower extremities and torso. He is looking towards a long recovery process with extensive medical expenses for equipment and services.

For updates on Jim's condition or to donate to the James Shifrin Medical Support Fund, please visit [gofundme.com/helpjimshifrin](http://gofundme.com/helpjimshifrin)

**Care Net's Annual Fundraising Banquet**

Speaker: Darlene Pawlik

"Address Exceptions"

March 8

Lunch 11:15-2:00pm Dinner 6:15-9:00pm

Groton Inn & Suites

99 Gold Star Highway Route 184 Groton, CT

RSVP by March 3rd at [www.psclife.org](http://www.psclife.org)

860.449.0386

Expressive Arts ~ Center for Hospice Care

227 Dunham St. Norwich 860.848.5699

Drawing on our Memories

For Teens Thursdays Feb. 15, 22, March 1, 8, 15, 22. 5-6pm

For Adults Tuesdays Feb. 13, 20, 27, March 6, 13, 20 6:30-7:45pm

Children's Programs for 5-12 year olds held on Tuesdays

Valentine's Remembrance Day February 13

Healing Garden Bird Buffet February 20

Say it with Music February 27

The Art Part: Memory Lanterns March 6

Imagine-Action March 13

Welcome Spring March 20

**Our Lady of Calvary Retreat Center**

31 Colton Street, Farmington, CT

To register call 860.677.8519

Retreat for Women: Make me an Instrument of Your Peace

Feb. 16-18 Feb. 23-25

March 2-4 March 9-11

April 6-8 April 13-15

LIFETEEN held at St. Andrew Church, 128 Norwich Ave. Colchester

Sunday February 18 – Life Teen social. Gaga ball, semi-giant jenga, four square and more. Pick up at 8:30pm.

Saturday February 24 – February 25 - Rock-a-thon for Haiti

Sunday March 4 – First week of 'Theology of the Body'. Pick up will be at 8:45pm.

**My Father's House**

Pro-Life Conference, April, Sunday 22, 2018: "LET THERE BE LIFE", a conference to inspire, educate and embolden action.

Featured Speakers: - Melissa Ohden, advocates for life as a national speaker, author, and has addressed the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives. She is a miraculous survivor of a 5 day saline abortion attempt. Her inspirational life story is a compelling witness to God's extraordinary plan for her life. She is the founder of The Abortion Survivors Network, is a board member for the Vitae Foundation and former speaker for Feminists for Life. - Judith Mascolo M.D., Family Practice Medicine - Peter Wolfgang Esq. - Executive Director, Family Institute of Connecticut. - Exhibit by John Martin., Vice President of Human Life International new spiritual event: A Marian Day of Recollection with Fr. Francis J. Peffley on Saturday, November 25th.

**Defending Our Religious Liberty Feb. 11, 2018**

According to USCCB President Cardinal Daniel DiNardo, the Catholic Church teaches that religious freedom has to do with immunity from coercion. Immunity from government coercion is a right that all citizens in this country should enjoy. Let us pray that efforts to change the health care bill protect the Church's First Amendment rights.

**Defending Our Religious Liberty Feb. 18, 2018**

The original health care federal mandate tried to force faith-based employers — including religious charities, schools and pro-life advocacy organizations such as the March for Life — to facilitate the coverage of drugs and contraception devices that go against our religious beliefs. When changing the mandate, let us pray that the administration safeguards religious freedom.

**The Willimantic District Norwich Diocesan Council of Catholic Women invite all women to their annual Lenten Program: *THE DIGNITY OF WOMEN, Empowerment of women, strong in family with a gentle approach.***

A presentation by National Council of Catholic Women President Maribeth Steward Blogoslawski, Sunday March 18, 1 p.m. at St. Mary Church, 1600 Main Street, Coventry. A light lunch will be provided. Please RSVP to Anne King, 860-456-0474 by March 13<sup>th</sup>.

**THANK YOU!!**

Thank you very much to all our parishioners, community members and friends who came out to support our fundraising "Spring Ahead" dinner on Saturday, Feb. 10. We had a wonderful crowd enjoying a delicious dinner and an evening of great entertainment by Wojo Central Amusements. It was a successful fundraising night and we couldn't have done it without everyone's support. A special thank you to all who helped set up, run the event and especially all those who stayed afterwards to clean up. It was a great time!! Thank you!!

Alicia Lamb, Ladies Guild  
Dinner Committee Chair



**April 12-15, 2018**

Come join us on this year's women's retreat  
at

**My Father's House**

Moodus, CT

Brochures are at all entrances

Email: [standrew2018wacts@gmail.com](mailto:standrew2018wacts@gmail.com)



## **75<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

### ***A note from the Anniversary Committee:***

*It is our intention that the events planned throughout the Anniversary year will be paid for by donations. The church will not be financially responsible for the 75th Anniversary celebration.*

### **Our wish list**

Perhaps you or your family knows someone who can help for a reduced fee or in-kind services. These include catering/food service and baker (for September 16th) and printing services (book, program & banner). Please contact Barbara at 860-642-7168 or bobbi.w@charter.net if you can help with one of these.

### **CONGRATUATIONS TO:**

**Jacy Worth**

for winning the

**Nancy Bergeron, Moment in Time, St. Francis Print**

Thank you to all who entered and supported this fundraiser.

*For more information on anniversary events please read the weekly bulletin or visit the parish website: stfrancisassisilebanonct.org in the Ministries section.*

*True progress quietly and persistently  
moves along without notice.  
St. Francis of Assisi*

**All parishioners are invited to attend a  
PRESENTATION by Marilyn Lowney Haitian Health Foundation  
Wednesday, February 21 at 6:30pm in the Church  
~ How You Can Help ~ Change Lives ~  
One Person at a Time**

Parishioners are invited to learn more about our parish religious education program participation in the Haitian Health Foundation. Over the past few years, our CCD children have raised monies to purchase Happy Houses and goats for the people of Haiti.

With your generous donations, HHP is bringing improved health and well-being to over 250,000 vulnerable people in the greater Jeremie area through healthcare, education, and community development strategies. These important dollars help us to maintain our health facilities, purchase food, medicine, and supplies, ship critical aid items via containers, pay salaries of our Haitian staff (nurses, doctors) and other necessary expenses.

Haitian Health Foundation HHP ~ 97 Sherman Street ~ Norwich, CT 06360 860.886.4357 HaitianHealthFoundation.org

### **Programs offered to help the HHF:**

- ❖ **Adopt-a-Village:** \$5,000 per village. This gift helps HHF provide mobile medical and dental clinics in a rural mountain village, providing between 2,500 – 3,000 people with improved access to health services.
- ❖ **Sponsor-a-Student:** \$350/school year. School is not free in Haiti, and most children lack access to education, needed to achieve social and economic success. Your gift provides tuition, uniforms, food, medical/dental care, and more.
- ❖ **Feed-a-Child:** \$300 or \$25/month. According to the World Food Program, 100,000 Haitian children under five suffer from acute malnutrition, and 1 in 3 children is stunted, or irreversibly short for their age. Your gifts have been able to reduce the rates of malnutrition in our area by providing food to a child for one year.
- ❖ **Give-a-Goat:** \$150. This gift will provide a pregnant goat to a rural family. It is well known that these animals are hardy and adaptive to any terrain. Recipients of a goat are taught

how to breed, barter, and use the meat as a source of animal protein.

- ❖ **House Construction Program:** Poor housing is associated with a wide range of health conditions, including respiratory infections, asthma, injuries, and mental health. Your gift will replace a hovel of rusted metal, thatch, and scrap wood with a cement house and tin roof. There are two ways that you can support this: 1. Happy House: \$1,250. This is the basic cement and tin roof house – a life-changing gift to an impoverished family. 2. Happier House: \$1,950. This is the basic Happy House with a micro-flush toilet, lighting powered by a solar panel, and a slightly angled roof to collect rain water into a 55 gallon drum, to then be run through a simple filtration system.
- ❖ **Save-a-Family:** \$300/year. For over 20 years, this program has helped stabilize the most impoverished families. Your gift of \$25/month will assist these families with expenses such as shelter, food, school tuition, and healthcare.
- ❖ **Micro-flush Toilet:** \$325. This composting toilet is sustainable, low cost, environmentally friendly, and odor and fly free. The solids are composted in an aerobic process enhanced by earthworms. Every 2 years, the rear cover is removed so that the rich compost can be used for gardens.
- ❖ **Micro-lending Program:** Promoting financial self-sufficiency and empowerment is one of HHP's objectives. Your gift to this program provides loans to community members, especially women, as well as training in micro-enterprise business skills.
- ❖ **Powdered Milk:** \$125. Children who are 7 and 8 months old receive Gallia milk, which is designed for babies this age to carefully transition them to cow's milk. Children from 9 months receive whole milk powder and iron once a month until one year of age, unless the child is still malnourished.
- ❖ **Solar Light Kit:** \$75. Most families have no electricity in their homes, and your gift will provide a family with a simple system composed of 2 LED lights, a radio, a small solar panel, and a rechargeable battery for the radio. The lighting will help children study in their houses rather than to walk to find a street lamp.

### ***The Lord says, "I'll Take You!"***



Saint Francis of Assisi Parish needs young people (girls and boys, grades 3 and above) to serve at the Lord's Table. Please join Father Richard for the training session **Saturday March 3<sup>rd</sup> at 11:00am in the Church.** 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 session.**

**My Name is:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone #** \_\_\_\_\_