

THE MOST REVEREND MICHAEL R. COTE, BISHOP OF NORWICH

## The Cathedral of Saint Patrick

213 BROADWAY, NORWICH, CT 06360

RECTORY PHONE: 860-889-8441 FAX: 860-889-2978

Email: [stpatsnorwich@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stpatsnorwich@sbcglobal.net)

PAROCHIAL SCHOOL PRE K-8, PHONE: 860-889-4174

Web Site: [www.stpatsnorwich.org](http://www.stpatsnorwich.org)

### PARISH STAFF

Rector, Msgr. Anthony S. Rosaforte  
Rev. Peter Langevin, Parochial Vicar  
In Residence: Rev. Brian Romanowski  
Wedding Coordinator, Sunnie Robinson  
School Principal, Mrs. C. Reed  
CCD Director, Sr. Kateri  
Music Director, Mr. Douglas Green  
Secretary, Mrs. Sheila Habeeb

### CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Saturday Vigil 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday: 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.  
Radio Mass 9:00 a.m., WICH 1310 AM  
Daily: Mon-Fri 7:00 a.m. and 12:00 Noon  
Saturday 7:00 a.m.  
Blessed Virgin Novena Mass Monday 7:00 p.m.

### MINISTRY OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Children are expected to receive a Catholic upbringing in their family life, to worship regularly at Sunday Mass and to participate in ongoing Religious Education. Our Programs include:  
Catholic School, Pre K-8, Weekdays  
Religious Ed. Program, Pre K-8, Sundays  
Confirmation classes grades 8 & 9 (2 year program)

### CARE OF THE SICK

Please advise us of parishioners who are sick or in the hospital, that we might keep them in our prayers, and if possible, visit them. Anyone who is unable to celebrate the Eucharist with us in Church is urged to advise us so that we might share Communion with them at home.

### NEED PRAYERS?

Call St. Patrick Prayer Line to request prayers. Contact Bea Mackenzie 887-3355 or Jane Morosky 887-6681.

### LITURGY

Order of Mass	#202
Processional Hymn	#461
Kyrie	#317
Readings	#1027
Gospel Acclamation	#338
Holy, Holy	#214
Memorial Acclamation	#215
Great Amen	#218
Lamb of God	#220
Recessional Hymn	#466

### MISSION STATEMENT

St. Patrick Cathedral Parish is a Roman Catholic community of the Diocese of Norwich, CT which seeks to put the love of Christ into action by:

- Providing for the spiritual nourishment of the community.
- Living according to the Gospel message of Jesus Christ.
- Reaching out to those in need.
- Extending the love of Christ to all who come into our midst.

### CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENTS

**Baptism:** Each Sunday at 11:30 a.m.  
Please call for appointment.

**Reconciliation:** Confessions heard Mon-Fri at 11:15am  
Mon. at 6:15pm and Sat. at 4:00pm

**Marriage:** Arrangements should be made with the church one year before the date. The Diocese requires a marriage preparation program.

### RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

Catechumenate is the process of welcoming new members into the Roman Catholic Church. It is meant for those who are not baptized, baptized into another Christian Church or baptized into the Catholic Church but have yet to receive the sacraments of Eucharist and/or Confirmation. Classes begin in September. Contact the rectory for information.

### NEW PARISHIONERS

New parishioners are welcome to our Parish Community. Please call us at the rectory to register. We want to know you and serve you. We hope that you will take an active part in our parish.

### REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Thomas N. Rec, Irene Jacaruso

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent

March 5, 2017

9:00 Sunday Mass: Cathedral Choir  
10:30 Sunday Mass: Children's Choir  
5:00 Sunday Mass: Ed Stoltz, organist

**COLLECTIONS: The Weekly Offertory last weekend was \$9,801.96**  
**The Second Collection this weekend is the regular Monthly Collection.**

**THANK YOU:** Do you remember “I talk to the trees but they don’t answer me”? Our version is “I talk to the poor box warriors and they definitely answer me by their most generous response to “The Christ of the poor.”

**SPIRITUAL COMMUNION:** Lord, I am not able to receive you sacramentally but they come spiritually in to my soul. I embrace you as already there.

**EUCCHARISTIC HOLY HOUR:**

On Thursday, March 16, 2017, come join in praying with Bishop Cote a Eucharistic Holy Hour for Vocations. This month the holy hour will be at Saints Peter & Paul Church, Norwich, from 6:00-7:00 p.m. 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 Prayer Team for Vocations by emailing the vocation office for more information at [vocations@norwichdiocese.net](mailto:vocations@norwichdiocese.net) and check out our website at [god-calls.com](http://god-calls.com)!

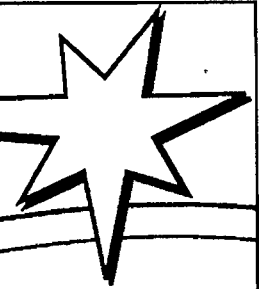
**24 HOURS FOR THE LORD:**

Once again, this Lent, in every deanery of the Diocese, we will observe 24 Hours for the Lord, on the weekend of March 24-25. In the Norwich Deanery, Confessions will be heard at Saints Peter and Paul Church beginning at 12:30 p.m. on Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup> through 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Defending Our Religious Liberty #262**

Mar. 5, 2017

Over the last several years, the federal government has eroded our First Amendment right to religious freedom. The HHS mandate poses an incredibly heavy burden for the Little Sisters of the Poor and others due to conscientious objections to facilitating coverage of sterilization and contraception, including drugs and devices that may cause abortions. The Little Sisters—and so many others—still do not have adequate relief and still face possible fines in the tens of millions of dollars if they do not comply with the HHS mandate. The new administration must work to change this.



Cathedral of St. Patrick  
Msgr. Anthony S. Rosaforte, Pastor



### Thoughtful Moments

#### St. Dominic Savio

Born to a peasant family in Riva, Italy, St. Dominic became a student at St. John Bosco's Oratory. Even from a young age, he was roundly recognized for his holiness. Dominic also had mystical experiences in prayer that he called his "distractions." He made a resolution to receive Confession and Communion as often as possible and encouraged his peers to do so. He died from a lung infection when he was about 15.



#### Share the load

Jesus said, "Take my yoke upon you" (Matthew 11:29). In Jesus' day, a farmer used a yoke to link two farm animals together to plow a field more effectively. Likewise, when we are wearied by family burdens, we can "link up" with Jesus. He promises to be with us always. If we stay connected to him, he will bring us through any trial.

"Shame not a repentant sinner; remember, we all are guilty" (Sirach 8:5).



### Teach children to be cheerful penitents

Invite children to go for a swim or a bike ride, and you'll hear squeals of delight. Ask them to accompany you to Confession and you may hear groans instead. In fact, the Sacrament of Reconciliation is more refreshing than a swim and more strengthening than a bike ride. It is our gift from Jesus to help us experience his grace and make things right with God. Try these tips to brighten the family trip to the confessional:

**Establish the background.** Explain that Jesus created this Sacrament (Matthew 16:19) not to blame us or "catch" us breaking the rules, but because he loves us and knew we needed help to stay holy.

**Work out the jitters.** It's normal to be

anxious about admitting wrong and taking responsibility for our actions. Rehearse ahead of time so that it will feel familiar when your child is faced

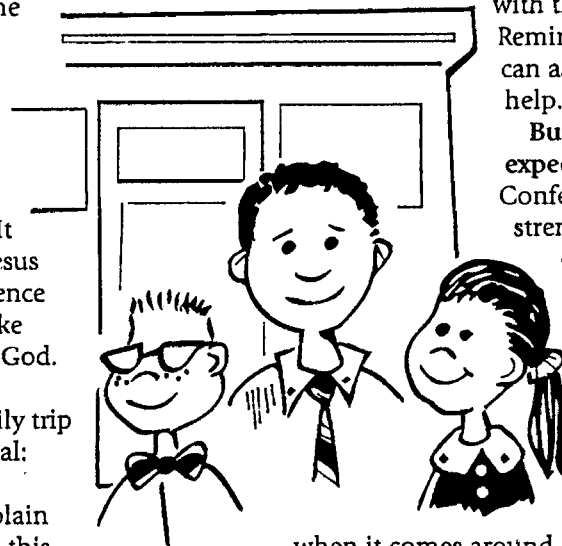
with the real thing. Remind her that she can ask the priest for help.

**Build the expectation.** Regular Confession will strengthen the entire family.

Pick a set day and time - once a month, for example - so that no one is surprised

when it comes around. Mark it on the calendar and schedule around it.

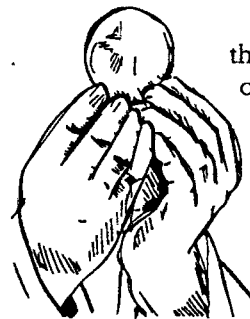
**Celebrate.** Then go for a swim or a bike ride to celebrate the entire family coming back into friendship with God.



### Why Do Catholics Do That?

#### Why do Catholics fast before Communion?

In the Bible, people fasted before coming into God's presence or doing a special job for him. In addition, the Church recognizes that prayer involves the spirit and the body. By fasting, we prepare our bodies to enter God's presence in



the Mass, as well as preparing our souls

In fasting, we experience a physical hunger, which expresses our spiritual hunger for God. Finally, fasting shows respect for Jesus in the

Eucharist; it's a concrete way to give him top priority.

## Help children unwrap the gift of Lent

The Catholic practice of giving something up for Lent – abstaining from a favorite food or activity – develops self-control, serves as penance for sin, and can lead to a greater appreciation of our blessings. Even young children can benefit from a Lenten sacrifice but choosing one that's too hard can turn Lent into a chore. Try these ideas to help choose a rewarding sacrifice:

- Give up something valuable. This can be a favorite dessert, game, toy or activity.
- Make it reasonable. The sacrifice should be

something specific and age appropriate so that she will be able to see it through.

**Add back.** An alternative to giving something up is to add instead: more prayer, an extra chore, a daily devotion such as the Rosary.

**Give up luxuries.** Consider encouraging your youngster to pick something that may not be good for him anyway. For example, sweets, soft drinks, or television watching during the week, make healthy choices for Lenten abstinence. He may even decide to do without it when Lent is over.



### Scripture LESSON

#### John 9:1-41, See as Jesus sees

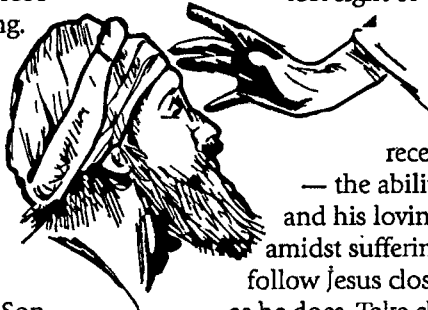
In Jesus' day, it was believed that suffering was a punishment for sin. So, when Jesus encountered a blind beggar, his disciples asked for whose sins the man was suffering. Jesus explained the man's suffering was not for punishment but for God's purpose. His subsequent cure was twofold: Jesus gave the man physical sight which enabled him to believe in Jesus as God's Son.

The faith of the blind man attracted others to Christ. Some of the Pharisees were convinced that Jesus was from God. Others condemned him as a

sinner for curing the man on the Sabbath. These Pharisees were so focused on following the Law, they lost sight of God and his priorities.

*What can a parent do?* In baptism, we receive the gift of faith

— the ability to "see" God and his loving plan, even amidst suffering. When we follow Jesus closely, we learn to see as he does. Take children to Mass at least weekly and Confession at least monthly and make prayer part of daily life. That will help to sharpen children's spiritual "vision."



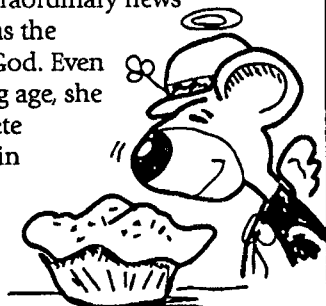
### Feasts & Celebrations

**March 15 – Pope St. Zachary (752).** Born in Calabria, Italy, St. Zachary was pope at a time of civil unrest in Italy. A skilled diplomat, he successfully negotiated peace for Italy on several occasions. He was integral to St. Boniface's German mission and was also a generous patron of restoring churches. He is also known for freeing slaves sold by Venetian merchants.

**March 17 – St. Patrick of Ireland (461).** Born in Scotland, St. Patrick was the son of a Roman citizen, Calpornius. He was kidnapped by pirates at the age of sixteen and brought to Ireland as a

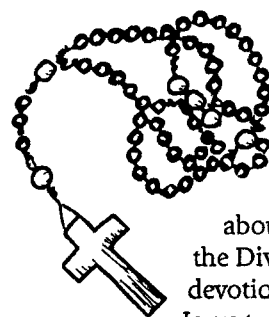
slave. He escaped but later returned to become the bishop of Ireland and is credited for having established the Church there.

**March 25 – The Annunciation of the Lord (1st century).** The angel Gabriel visited the Blessed Virgin Mary with the extraordinary news of her role as the mother of God. Even at her young age, she had complete confidence in God's grace and trusted in his wisdom.



### Parent TALK

This year I wanted to shake up our practice of Lent. Normally, we made our usual sacrifices of candy, TV, and video games, and those are all good sacrifices to offer, but I wanted to find a way to make more time for prayer. The



problem is that with young children, it's hard to get through an entire Rosary. Then I learned about the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy. This devotion was revealed by Jesus to St. Faustina, a

simple Polish nun. The Chaplet is prayed on regular rosary beads and takes less time to pray than a Rosary. Even my young children enjoy saying the short, easy-to-remember prayers.

We say the Chaplet together at bedtime. What a great reminder of Jesus' great sacrifice and God's unending mercy! It has become one of our favorite bedtime rituals. Most importantly, it helps us to place our focus on Jesus during Lent.

#### Our Mission

To help parents raise faithful Catholic children  
 Success Publishing & Media, LLC  
 Publishers of Growing in Faith™ and Partners in Faith™  
 (540)662-7844 (540)662-7847 fax  
<http://www.partnersinfaith.com>  
 (Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible.)

# MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS FOR LENT 2017

## *"The Word is a gift. Other persons are a gift"*

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Lent is a new beginning, a path leading to the certain goal of Easter, Christ's victory over death. This season urgently calls us to conversion. Christians are asked to return to God "with all their hearts" (*Joel* 2:12), to refuse to settle for mediocrity and to grow in friendship with the Lord. Jesus is the faithful friend who never abandons us. Even when we sin, he patiently awaits our return; by that patient expectation, he shows us his readiness to forgive (cf. *Homily*, 8 January 2016).

Lent is a favorable season for deepening our spiritual life through the means of sanctification offered us by the Church: fasting, prayer and almsgiving. At the basis of everything is the word of God, which during this season we are invited to hear and ponder more deeply. I would now like to consider the parable of the rich man and Lazarus (cf. *Lk* 16:19-31). Let us find inspiration in this meaningful story, for it provides a key to understanding what we need to do in order to attain true happiness and eternal life. It exhorts us to sincere conversion.

### **1. The other person is a gift**

The parable begins by presenting its two main characters. The poor man is described in greater detail: he is wretched and lacks the strength even to stand. Lying before the door of the rich man, he fed on the crumbs falling from his table. His body is full of sores and dogs come to lick his wounds (cf. vv. 20-21). The picture is one of great misery; it portrays a man disgraced and pitiful.

The scene is even more dramatic if we consider that the poor man is called *Lazarus*: a name full of promise, which literally means *God helps*. This character is not anonymous. His features are clearly delineated and he appears as an individual with his own story. While practically invisible to the rich man, we see and know him as someone familiar. He becomes a face, and as such, a gift, a priceless treasure, a human being whom God loves and cares for, despite his concrete condition as an outcast (cf. *Homily*, 8 January 2016).

Lazarus teaches us that *other persons are a gift*. A right relationship with people consists in gratefully recognizing their value. Even the poor person at the door of the rich is not a nuisance, but a summons to conversion and to change. The parable first invites us to open the doors of our heart to others because each person is a gift, whether it be our neighbor or an anonymous pauper. Lent is a favorable season for opening the doors to all those in need and recognizing in them the face of Christ. Each of us meets people like this every day. Each life that we encounter is a gift deserving acceptance, respect and love. The word of God helps us to open our eyes to welcome and love life, especially when it is weak and vulnerable. But in order to do this, we have to take seriously what the Gospel tells us about the rich man.

### **2. Sin blinds us**

The parable is unsparing in its description of the contradictions associated with the rich man (cf. v. 19). Unlike poor Lazarus, he does not have a name; he is simply called "a rich man". His opulence was seen in his extravagant and expensive robes. Purple cloth was even more precious than silver and gold, and was thus reserved to divinities (cf. *Jer* 10:9) and kings (cf. *Jg* 8:26), while fine linen gave one an almost sacred character. The man was clearly ostentatious about his wealth, and in the habit of displaying it daily: "He feasted sumptuously every day" (v. 19). In him we can catch a dramatic glimpse of the corruption of sin, which progresses in three successive stages: love of money, vanity and pride (cf. *Homily*, 20 September 2013).

The Apostle Paul tells us that "the love of money is the root of all evils" (*1 Tim* 6:10). It is the main cause of corruption and a source of envy, strife and suspicion. Money can come to dominate us, even to the point of becoming a tyrannical idol (cf. *Evangelii Gaudium*, 55). Instead of being an instrument at our service for doing good and showing solidarity towards others, money can chain us and the entire world to a selfish logic that leaves no room for love and hinders peace.

The parable then shows that the rich man's greed makes him vain. His personality finds expression in appearances, in showing others what he can do. But his appearance masks an interior emptiness. His life is a prisoner to outward appearances, to the most superficial and fleeting aspects of existence (cf. *ibid.*, 62).

The lowest rung of this moral degradation is pride. The rich man dresses like a king and acts like a god, forgetting that he is merely mortal. For those corrupted by love of riches, nothing exists beyond their own ego. Those around them do not come into their line of sight. The result of attachment to money is a sort of blindness. The rich man does not see the poor man who is starving, hurting, lying at his door.

Looking at this character, we can understand why the Gospel so bluntly condemns the love of money: "No one can be the slave of two masters: he will either hate the first and love the second, or be attached to the first and despise the second. You cannot be the slave both of God and of money" (*Mt 6:24*).

### 3. The Word is a gift

The Gospel of the rich man and Lazarus helps us to make a good preparation for the approach of Easter. The liturgy of Ash Wednesday invites us to an experience quite similar to that of the rich man. When the priest imposes the ashes on our heads, he repeats the words: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return". As it turned out, the rich man and the poor man both died, and the greater part of the parable takes place in the afterlife. The two characters suddenly discover that "we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it" (*1 Tim 6:7*).

We too see what happens in the afterlife. There the rich man speaks at length with Abraham, whom he calls "father" (*Lk 16:24.27*), as a sign that he belongs to God's people. This detail makes his life appear all the more contradictory, for until this moment there had been no mention of his relation to God. In fact, there was no place for God in his life. His only god was himself.

The rich man recognizes Lazarus only amid the torments of the afterlife. He wants the poor man to alleviate his suffering with a drop of water. What he asks of Lazarus is similar to what he could have done but never did. Abraham tells him: "During your life you had your fill of good things, just as Lazarus had his fill of bad. Now he is being comforted here while you are in agony" (v. 25). In the afterlife, a kind of fairness is restored and life's evils are balanced by good.

The parable goes on to offer a message for all Christians. The rich man asks Abraham to send Lazarus to warn his brothers, who are still alive. But Abraham answers: "They have Moses and the prophets, let them listen to them" (v. 29). Countering the rich man's objections, he adds: "If they will not listen either to Moses or to the prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone should rise from the dead" (v. 31).

The rich man's real problem thus comes to the fore. At the root of all his ills was *the failure to heed God's word*. As a result, he no longer loved God and grew to despise his neighbor. The word of God is alive and powerful, capable of converting hearts and leading them back to God. When we close our heart to the gift of God's word, we end up closing our heart to the gift of our brothers and sisters.

Dear friends, Lent is the favorable season for renewing our encounter with Christ, living in his word, in the sacraments and in our neighbor. The Lord, who overcame the deceptions of the Tempter during the forty days in the desert, shows us the path we must take. May the Holy Spirit lead us on a true journey of conversion, so that we can rediscover the gift of God's word, be purified of the sin that blinds us, and serve Christ present in our brothers and sisters in need. I encourage all the faithful to express this spiritual renewal also by sharing in the Lenten Campaigns promoted by many Church organizations in different parts of the world, and thus to favor the culture of encounter in our one human family. Let us pray for one another so that, by sharing in the victory of Christ, we may open our doors to the weak and poor. Then we will be able to experience and share to the full the joy of Easter.

*From the Vatican, 18 October 2016*

**FRANCIS**

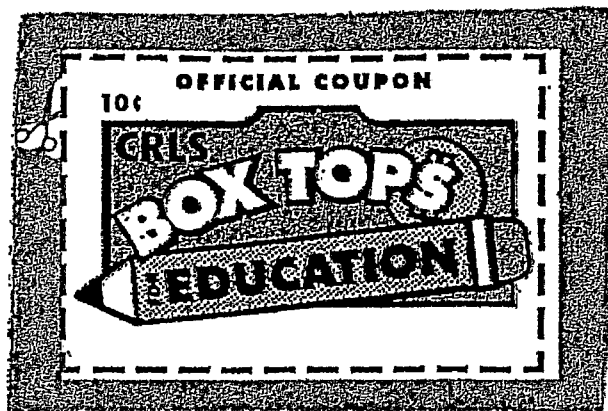
# Two Ways to Help Others

## During Lent

### **COLLECT BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION**

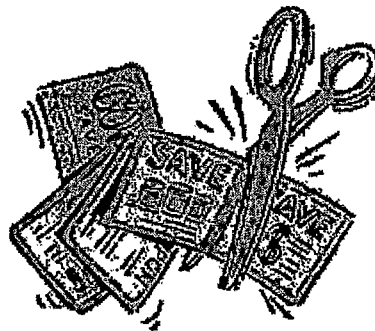
### **FOR**

### **ST. PATRICK CATHEDRAL SCHOOL**



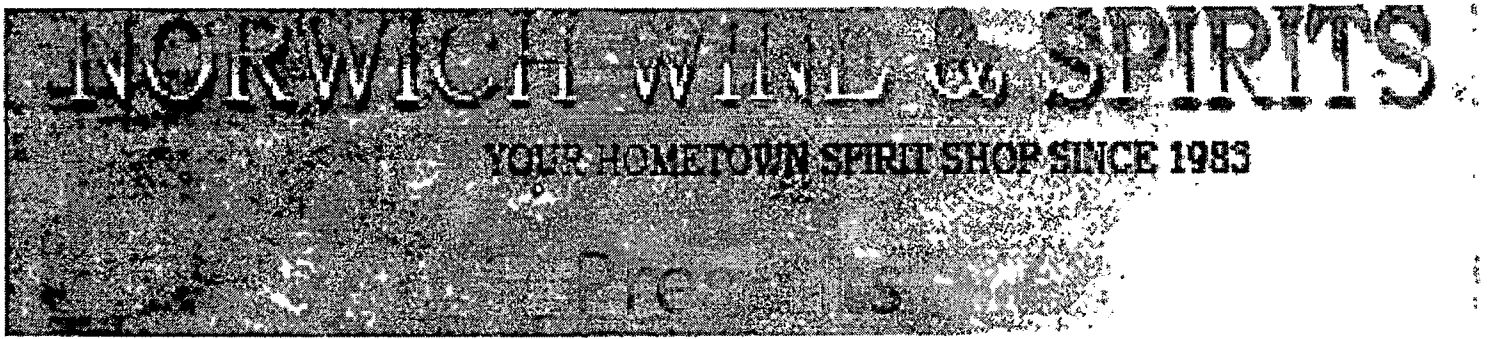
### **CLIP COUPONS**

### **FOR THE ELDERLY**



Please be sure  
coupons have not  
expired!

**BOX TOPS AND COUPONS MAY BE PLACED IN THE BOXES IN THE VESTIBULE.**



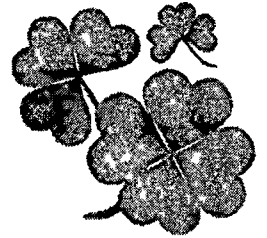
# 12th Annual Wine Tasting and Beer Sampling



To Benefit

## St. Patrick's Cathedral School

Hosted by Jeffrey Pierce



**Date: Saturday, March 18th**

**Time: 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM**

**Location: Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox  
Church Hall**

247 Washington Street, Norwich

**Tickets: \$25 per person in advance  
\$30 per person at the door**

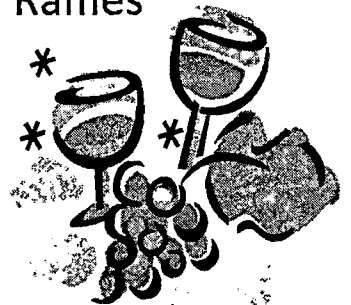
Homemade Hot & Cold Hors d'oeuvres / Music / Raffles



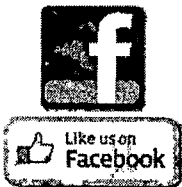
Tickets may be purchased at

**Norwich Wine & Spirits**

**237 West Main Street**



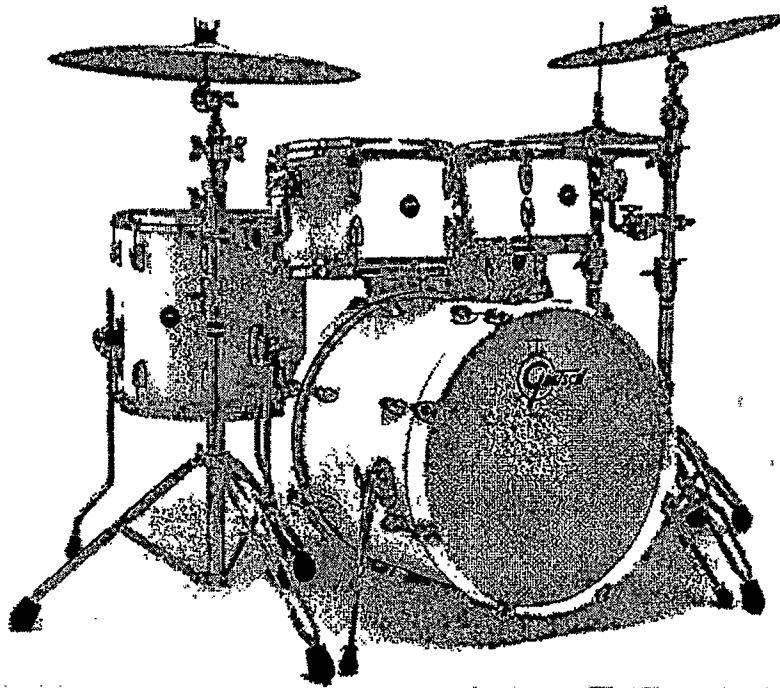
Contact Amy Daley  
stpatswinetasting@comcast.net



<https://www.facebook.com/StPatsWineandBeerTasting/>







**Do you have a drum set hanging out in your attic  
not in use?**

**Would you consider donating it to the school?**

**If so, please call the school at 860-889-4174**

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*Welcome to  
St. Patrick Cathedral  
213 Broadway Norwich, Ct.*

Our warmest welcome to all who  
celebrate with us whether  
long-time residents or newly  
arrived in our parish. If you  
are not registered, please  
complete the form below and  
drop it in our collection basket  
or mail it to the parish office.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

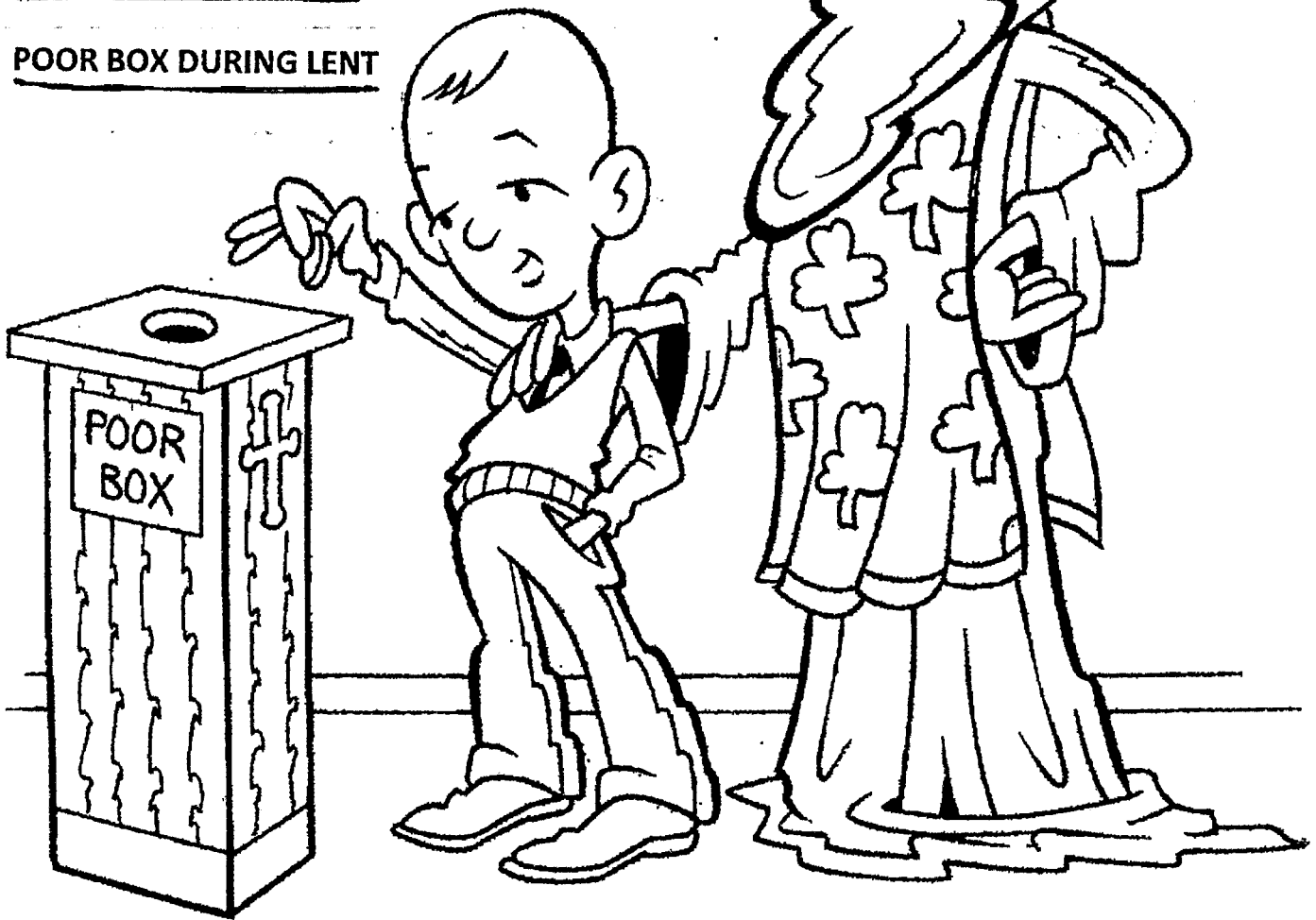
City/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

"WHATEVER YOU DO  
FOR THE LEAST OF  
MY BROTHERS  
AND SISTERS...  
YOU DO FOR ME"

PLEASE REMEMBER THE

POOR BOX DURING LENT



**There is no better way to teach our children  
how to care for those in need  
than to give to the poor box**

# ***You are invited!***

## **Continuing the Year of Mercy: Lenten Bible Study Program**

**Where: St. Patrick Cathedral Hall**

**When: Wednesday March 8, 15, 22, 29, & April 5**

**Time: 7 - 8:15 p.m.**

We invite you to join in this 5-week Bible Study Program which will focus on God's hope, healing and loving mercy. This is a continuation of our very successful 3-week program held during Advent. Participation in the previous program is NOT necessary. Each session will be facilitated by one of our parish catechists, Mona Anne Niedbala. Fr. Peter Langevin will also be present to join in the discussions and answer questions.

This program is free and materials will be provided, including access to online videos for each session.

Please call the Rectory at 860-889-8441 to register by FRIDAY, March 3!

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### NOTICE

Please remove ALL Winter decorations on or before March 26, 2017.

St. Mary & St. Joseph Cemetery of Norwich

Sacred Heart Cemetery of Taftville

St. Patrick Cemetery of Uncasville

Sacred Heart Cemetery of Wauregan

All Hallows Cemetery of Moosup

Norwich Office (860) 887-1019

Winter decorations left after this date will be removed and disposed of.

St. Mary Cemetery of New London

Resurrection Cemetery of Westbrook

New London Office (860) 443-3465

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Saint Joseph Church 120 Cliff Street, Norwich is hosting their annual Lenten Fish and Chips Dinner every Friday beginning March 3<sup>rd</sup> and ending April 14<sup>th</sup> ( Good Friday) from 4:30-6:30. A full meal consisting of 2 pieces of fish will be \$9.00, 1 piece meal \$7.00 and Chowder \$4.00. Please join us! For more information, call 860-887-1565.

# Bake Sale

To Benefit the St. Pat's 8th Grade Class of 2017

Enjoy cookies, brownies, cakes, pies and breads  
freshly made for your enjoyment.

**DONATIONS ONLY!**

Thank you for supporting our class!

Date: 3/11 & 3/12

Following Mass on  
Saturday, 3/11 &  
Sunday, 3/12

