



Connecticut Chapter Newsletter

Issue 27 February 1, 2022

www.actsct.org

For God so loVed the world
that he gAve
His onLy
begottEn
SoN
thaT whoever
believes In him
should Not Perish
but have Eternal life

John 3:16

We are made to have the heart of God. The Lord is calling us to love the people closest to us. We are called to care for them. "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another" (John 13:34-35).

We need to cultivate a heart of compassion for the people around us. Let our hearts go out to these people. We need to have sympathy for those around us who are struggling. We need to try to see people the way the Lord sees them.

St. John tell us, "let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love."

"Better to have loved and lost than never to have loved at all." There is truth to that but it has a flaw. If you have loved it is never lost in the eternal scheme of things. Love is not so much the response it gets back as the joy of giving love. The only way we lose is when we withhold love.

Alan Cohen writes in Dare to Love Boldly: "As I observe the lives of happy people, I see they all have one thing in common: they have chosen to keep on giving love. They do not let outer circumstances dictate whether or not they will keep their hearts open. And daily we will find greater strength of heart as we are willing to take love's hand and let its gentle guidance illuminate our path. Never stop loving. It is our only salvation and our only hope of finding true peace."

I've heard it said that, "Life is too short for drama and petty things, so laugh hard, love truly and forgive quickly. Tell the people you love that you love them, at every opportunity."

St. Valentine would agree!

Pat LaPointe

ACTS CT Chapter



Prayer to the Holy Family

By Pope Francis

**Jesus, Mary and Joseph,
in You we contemplate
the splendor of true love,
to You we turn with trust.**

**Holy Family of Nazareth,
grant that our families too
may be places of communion and prayer,
authentic schools of the Gospel
and small domestic Churches.**

**Holy Family of Nazareth,
may families never again experience violence,
rejection and division: may all who have been
hurt or scandalized find ready comfort and
healing.**

CATHOLIC GUIDE TRAINING

We ask that all Catholic Guides and those who have indicated that they are interested in becoming a Catholic Guide attend this training to hear about the new changes to the retreat format, receive the new ACTS CT Catholic Guide Manual and go over the manual.

There is no cost to attend this training, nor to receive the new manual

When: Sunday, February 20th from 1:00-3:30

Where: St. Mary's Church, 95 Main St. Stonington Borough, CT

Contact: Pat LaPointe at pateacher19@hotmail.com



Baskets Are In Full Bloom!

ACTS CT Chapter is sponsoring their 2nd Annual Online Raffle beginning Tuesday, March 1, 2022.

Last year we included 52 baskets in the raffle provided by 34 generous contributors.

We would like to repeat this effort again this year with your help. Please consider donating a gift basket

Without last year's success, we would not have been able to pay our insurance. This year, any profits will contribute to furthering our evangelization, as well as strengthen our financial position.

Please have baskets ready for display on Rally Up by taking a photo showing the items in the basket without any covering to see the items clearly.

Also, send a list of items in the basket with the photo to Leo Letendre at: leo.letendre@yahoo.com by Monday, February 28th.

Please make sure you identify the person(s) who donated the basket.

Winners will be notified Palm Sunday weekend.

You can look online at Pinterest for ideas. Below are some ideas.

Chocolate Basket
Coffee/Tea Basket
Game Night
Snack Attack
Beer from around the World
Wine & Cheese
Spa Day Basket
Gift Certificate
Dinner & a Movie
Cozy up with a Book
Italian Basket
Picnic Basket
Pet Items
Accessories for your Car
Barbeque Basket
Garden Basket



Please join us for Candlelight on Saturday, Feb. 26th, 7:00 P.M.
St Edmunds Retreat Center, Enders Island
for the St. Dominic Men's Retreat

CONNECTICUT

March for Life

Hartford, March 23, 2022

SAVE THE DATE!

The First Connecticut March for Life

***Let our Connecticut legislators and governor know there are people in
our state who value all human life.***

Spread the Word

Mark your calendar and watch for more details.

Start planning now to attend.

Perhaps organize a bus from your parish.

Sponsored by:



Norwich Diocesan Women's Conference


The 2022 Norwich Diocesan Virtual Women's Conference will be held

March 26th from 9-Noon

Keynote speaker, author and certified spiritual director Liz Kelly will present ideas from her book "Love like a Saint"

We will also hear from Bishop Cote as he names the 2022 Our Lady Queen of Hope Award recipient and more, all from the comfort of your own home.

Contact the Office of Faith Events at 860-848-2237 or email
manicholas@norwichdiocese.net



Journey for Life Ministries
presents

RECORDING ARTIST

**DAVID
KAUFFMAN**

WITH SPECIAL GUEST MARK SCHUENEMANN

LIVE - SONG & STORY

Join us
March 17th
at
Our Lady of
Perpetual Help
Church
\$20/pre-sale
\$25/at door



3.17.22 | 7PM | Thursday
St. Patrick's Day
OLPH - Quaker Hill
63 Old Norwich Rd

FOR TICKETS CALL 860-961-7609
OR VISIT WWW.JOURNEYFORLIFE.ORG

Honoring Fr. Ray Introvigne



On Sunday, January 30th, a few couples from Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish held a SURPRISE appreciation luncheon for Fr. Ray at The Villa Louisa in Bolton.

Speakers gave touching speeches on how Fr. Ray has touched their lives. Love letters were presented to Father in appreciation for all he has done to share the love of the Lord through his leadership as their prior pastor, bringing ACTS to CT, the Spiritual Renewal Center ministry and for always reminding us that even if we were the only person on earth Jesus would still have died for us.

Looking to make 2022 your year with Mary?

Relevant Radio has the answer....Sign up for this exclusive offering that is 100% free at

www.relevantradio.com



Didn't start January 1st? It's never too late to begin reading the bible

This highly recommended and informative podcast is the **perfect** way to begin your new year!!



<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/the-bible-in-a-year-with-fr-mike-schmitz/id1539568321?i=1000543696327>

Our Lady of Calvary Retreat House in Farmington opens up for ACTS Retreats Jan. 2022

April 21-24, 2022 Women's retreat sponsored by Middletown Core, contact Adrienne Davis at 860-670-4989

June 9-12, 2022 Men's retreat sponsored by St Dominic Southington, contact Mike Knopf at miknopf1@gmail.com or at 203-241-9515

June 16-19, 2022 Women's retreat sponsored by St. Jeanne Jugan, Enfield. Contact Maureen Haynes at maureen_t_sbcglobal.net or at 860-810-4638

Sept. 22-25, 2022 Women's retreat sponsored by St. Padre Pio, East Haven, Contact Carol Silva at carnajoe93@gmail.com

Oct 13-16, 2022 Women's retreat sponsored by St. Dominic Southington, contact the core co- facilitator Paula O'Neil at 860-378-4488

Oct. 20-23, 2022 Men's retreat sponsored by Middletown Core, contact the core facilitator Gary Cioe at 860-670-8301

Oct. 27-30, 2022 Women's retreat sponsored by The Immaculate Conception of the Basilica in Waterbury. Contact Chapter facilitator Pat LaPointe at 860-331-3118 or at pateacher19@hotmail.com

St. Edmunds Retreat Center, Enders Island, Mystic Retreats for 2022

Feb. 24-27, 2002 Men's retreat sponsored by St Dominic Southington, contact Mike Knopf at mjknopf1@gmail.com or at 203-241-9515

May 12-15 Women's retreat sponsored by Willimantic Core. Contact Elizabeth Percy at espercy@msn.org or at 860-463-5288

Sept 29-Oct 2 Women's retreat sponsored by St. Patrick, Mystic, New London Core

Oct. 20-23 Men's retreat sponsored by St Patrick Mystic, New London Core

Nov 3-6 Men's retreat sponsored by Willimantic Core

For up-to-date Retreat information go to [Women's Retreats](#) or [Men's Retreats](#)

Join us for an upcoming spiritual opportunity

Into the Breach: Open to all Men

"Into the Breach" is an apostolic exhortation by Bishop Olmstead of Phoenix which explores the need for men to step into the breach in the battle for the family. The Knights of Columbus has produced a series of 12 videos based on Bishop Olmstead's work.

Contact Dave Imhof at imhofda@aol.com

We are offering 2 retreat choices to accommodate everyone's busy schedules.

1) Virtual mini-Retreat, 4th Monday each month, 7:00 pm

Topics:

2/28/22 Prayer

3/28/22 Suffering

4/25/22 Sacramental Life

5/30/22 Spiritual Warfare

6/27/22 Evangelization

7/25/22 The Cornerstone

Praise and Worship



**Praise and Worship
Tuesday Evenings
St James Church
Manchester
7-8:30 P.M
in the church hall
all are welcome to attend**

Prayer Requests

Please pray for:

The repose of the soul of ACTS sister **Denise Cordner**

The repose of the soul of **Joseph Forcucci** who passed away suddenly on Friday, Jan 28, husband of Robin

Prayers are requested for:

Jane Moreno's daughter **Regina** who is having difficulties after giving birth.

Elizabeth Percy's niece **Nori**, who is in the hospital with a brain tumor as well prayers for her family who are devastated with this news.

Claire Fafard Bussiere's daughter, **Michelle**. She is hospitalized for bacterial pneumonia. Her left lung is 85% filled with fluid which is causing severe breathing problems and stress on her heart. The doctors are hopeful draining her lung will have favorable results and help her recover.

Sandy Sutyla, an ACTS sister, who has been in the hospital with kidney failure.

Please keep the **families** who have been **displaced by the fire** in the apartment building in East Lyme in your prayers as they try to put the physical part of their lives back together.

An ACTS Sister Spreading God's Love



Join our Sister Maureen Fleming Monday through Friday for a short meditation from the Bible. To get notifications or to see past/present meditations.....

Subscribe here: [Jesus Time with Maureen](#)

An ACTS Brother Putting His Faith into Action



[Facebook @downthehalldave](#)

Prayer Requests prayer@castingthe.net

Book Recommendations

- Signs of Life- 20 Catholic Customs and their Biblical Roots by Scott Hahn
- You are Enough by Danielle Breen
- Manual for Spiritual Warfare by Paul Thigpen: A guide to help you recognize, resist and overcome the devil's attacks
- Imagine Heaven: Near-Death Experiences, God's Promises, and the Exhilarating Future That Awaits You by John Burke

Young Adults to Help Start Young Catholic Professionals

The Office of Faith Events is looking at the possibility of starting a chapter of Young Catholic Professionals (YCP) in the Diocese of Norwich. They are seeking dedicated young adult Catholics from our diocese who would have a vested interest in starting a local YCP. YCP mission is to challenge, train, and inspire young adults working in various professions to work in witness for Christ. YCP brings together young adults and seasoned business professionals in a variety of programs to foster Catholic identity, encourage community and inspire action. If you are interested, please contact Liza Roach at lroach@norwichdiocese.net or call (860)848-2237 ex. 305.

Encounter Jesus in God's Holy Word!

Catholic Biblical School

Adult Bible Studies For Discipleship

Virtual and In-person Options

Study and pray with us from the comfort of your own home!

Or gather in fellowship with others.

Contact: Barbara Jean Daly Horell

Director Catholic Biblical School Office of Education,

Evangelization and Catechesis

www.CatholicEdAOHCT.org

Catholic.Biblical.School@aohct.org

(860) 242-5573

CATHOLIC NEWS

The Catholic League: the nation's largest Catholic civil rights organization. They defend the right of Catholics – lay and clergy alike – to participate in American public life without defamation or discrimination. Motivated by the letter and the spirit of the First Amendment, the Catholic League works to safeguard both the religious freedom rights and the free speech rights of Catholics whenever and wherever they are threatened. The Catholic League is listed in the Official Catholic Directory.

Catholic News Agency closely covers the Catholic Church in the United States and news related to the creation of a culture of life.

Life Site News dedicated to issues of culture, life, and family

Church Militant The Church Militant (Ecclesia Militans) is the Christian militia. The Church Militant does battle against sin, the devil and the demonic "rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places" (Ephesians 6:12).

Core Happenings: contact info is included and for any one not associated with a core please feel free to reach out to any of the cores if you are interested in one of their activities

Middletown Core Ongoing Events:

Cup of Coffee with Christ- ladies start your day with scripture verses and or excerpts from St Faustina's diary contact Cory Bourgeois at brgs97@aol.com

Women's Faith Share- meets via zoom on the first and third Monday of the month from 7-9 P.M., next meeting is June 5th, contact Cory at brgs97@aol.com

Brothers in the Lord- men's faith share meets via zoom the first Monday of the month, contact Domenic Marrara at marrarad@ymail.com

New London Core Ongoing Events:

Women's faith sharing at St. Agnes church, Niantic: contact Diane Letendre at dletendre@sbcglobal.net

Men's faith sharing at St. Mary Mother of the Redeemer, Groton: contact Leo Letendre at leo.letendre@yahoo.com

Friday morning rosary at Enders Island, contact Leo Letendre at leo.letendre@yahoo.com

New York Core Ongoing Events:

Men's faith share group meets Saturday mornings via zoom at 9:30. Contact David Ciasca at 201-446-6508 or at dciasca@yahoo.com

St. Dominic Core Ongoing Events:

Men's bible study-calling all men! if you have a desire to grow in your walk with Christ, you are invited to join a Bible study with other like-minded men. This group has been formed out of a Holy Spirit driven desire to learn more about our Christian faith through the study of scripture.

No experience is necessary! This informal and open format setting invites you to share your thoughts and observations, or just sit quietly and listen. Leave with some takeaways on how to apply scripture into your daily life. The study group meets every other Saturday from 8:00-9:30 AM via Zoom for virtual meetings. All are welcome. contact Joe Premus at joepremus@gmail.com

Walking with a Purpose- 6 week course Fearless and Free on Tuesday evenings is coming to a close, but they may be offering another of the series. Contact Pat Adams at adamspn@gmail.com

Willimantic Core Ongoing Events:

Monday Night **Rosary and Novena** 7:00 PM , St Mary's Church, Coventry- contact Rick Parr at Rick.Parr@hotmail.com

ACTS CT - Sharing the Vision

Please help make it possible for more of our sisters and brothers to develop a more personal relationship with God and become more involved in their faith, parish and families. What greater gift can we give each other?

Checks can be made out and mailed to:

ACTS CT
PO Box 906
Coventry, CT 06238

Donations can also be made by clicking here <https://go.rallyup.com/b0ec41/NTISHX>

ACTS Missioners

ACTS Missions TX has relaunched their Missioner Monthly Giving Program with the first meditation sent to their Missioners. Thank you to everyone who signed up as a Missioner. Keep an eye on your email for Fridays at noon for weekly spiritual content to fill your soul. More is on the way!

If you haven't signed up yet and would like to do so, click the button below to become a Missioner! For as little as \$5 a month, you can receive weekly meditations and so much more.

SIGN UP HERE

Technology Corner

Gospel/Christian Music

Phil Wickham
For King and Country
CAIN
Matt Maher
Maverick City Music

Podcasts

[Along "The Way"](#) hosted by our ACTS brother Dave Fortin along with his producer, ACTS brother, Dave Imhof. Notable guests such as Fr. Donald Calloway of The Divine

Mercy Shrine and Bear Wozniak from EWTN. Check out their website at CASTINGTHE.NET. The podcasts can be found by clicking the "Along the Way" tab.

[All things Catholic with Dr. Ed Sri](#) available on Ascension Press Podcasts and iTunes

The Catholic Talk Show available at <https://catholictalkshow.com>

[Abiding Together](#) a weekly podcast hosted by Michelle Benzinger, Sr. Miriam James Heidland, and Heather Khym, providing a place of connection, rest and encouragement for people who are on the journey of living out their passion and purpose in Jesus Christ.

Fr. Mike Schmitz Podcasts available on Ascension Press as well as on iTunes, goggle podcasts, stitcher

[Pints with Aquinas](#) hosted by Matt Fradd, available on **YouTube**

[Morning Coffee](#) hosted by Matt Fradd, available on **YouTube**

[The Catholic Talk Show](#) available on You Tube

Film

The First Lady and Her Successors-Dr. Josephine Lombardi is a faculty member at St. Augustine's Seminary in Toronto. She recently released a film that explores the many ways that the Blessed Mother Mary can guide us today.. available at <https://josephinelombardi.com/>

Patterns of Exodus- a filmmaker's journey. Timothy Mahoney embarks on a journey to prove the biblical account of the Exodus of the Israelites. <https://www.revelationmedia.com/watchexodus/>

[The Gathering 2021-Seek first the Kingdom](#) available on Youtube

[The Catholic Traveler](#) available on Youtube

App

[Hallow App](#).....Catholic prayer and meditation App. Hallow is a prayer app that offers guided meditation sessions to help us grow in our faith & spiritual lives and find peace in God.

Finding Peace in difficult moments:

Monsignor Charles Pope gives an analogy for understanding--and accepting--our current sufferings.<https://spiritualdirection.com/2021/01/27/finding-peace-in-a-difficult-moment>