



# Totoket Times

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Volume 26 No 20, April 3, 2020

## Corona Comes to North Branford

**East Shoe District Health Press Release 3-29-20.** Today, the Connecticut Department of Public Health has confirmed the first positive case of COVID-19 for a North Branford resident. The individual is female and between the age of 60 and 70 years old.

“Positive cases of COVID-19 in North Branford have been expected as community transmission of the virus has been occurring in the area” said Michael Pascucilla, Director of Health for the East Shore District Health Department. The East Shore District Health Department will work with the individual to ensure all appropriate CDC guidance is followed to limit any potential for exposure.

Town Manager Paulhus wants to express that the Town of North Branford’s main objective is to continue to keep residents safe and slow the spread of the virus. He also wants to assure our residents that his leadership staff and all town departments are working with the local public health department, along with state and federal officials. “The single best way to slow the spread is to practice social distancing, and the Town of North Branford is recommending that all individuals both adults and children, stay home and not interact with individuals outside of the household” said Pascucilla. Social distancing is crucial in helping to reduce the spread of the virus and limit the number of people who are infected.

Town Manager Paulhus said, “We must all do our part and follow the recommendations of our health professionals to slow the spread of the virus by staying safe and staying home. These measures will help protect our community against a widespread outbreak.”

Everyone should be taking the everyday preventative actions to help protect themselves, these include:

- Staying home if you are sick except to get medical care.
- Avoiding close contact with people who are sick.
- Washing your hands with soap and water frequently and for at least 20 seconds.
- Covering your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash and wash your hands after.
- Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- If you do become ill, call your doctor immediately.

COVID-19 is a Novel Coronavirus which first emerged in China in December 2019, and is now considered a global pandemic outbreak. Symptoms of the virus include fever, cough, and shortness of breath. Other symptoms may include vomiting, diarrhea and abdominal pain. For more information, resources, hotlines, testing, and how you can support local businesses while practicing social distancing, please visit: <http://www.esdhd.org/coronavirus>.

*At Press time the number of North Branford residents had risen to two.*

## Covid - 19 And The Totoket Times



Covid - 19 has affected all of us in one way or another. In these uncertain times, the Totoket Times will try to bring you the news items you have been accustomed to for many years. Obviously if you are reading this issue, it was delivered to you home through the United States Postal Service. That is not an inexpensive means but it is the easiest way to get the news to your homes.

With the unknown immediate future and the unpredictable almost hour changes, we will make every effort to bring you the news. As many of the services that are in the paper have been put on hold the pages have been limited to 8 and next issue (4-17-20) will be dropped off in stores and put on the website.

Please do not get confused. The Totoket Times is not going out of business and at this time we are not going to drop off every issue in stores. The majority of our issue will still be through the United States Postal Service. These are simply a few adjustments to adapt to the changing times at this moment

You can pick up the issue of 4-17-20 at either the Northford or North Branford Post Office, Northford or North Branford Patco, Northford or North Branford Town Line Wine & Spirits, RV’s Quick Mart Cafe, Cumberland Farms & TJ’s Lauderette.

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May 1	April 24
May 15	May 8
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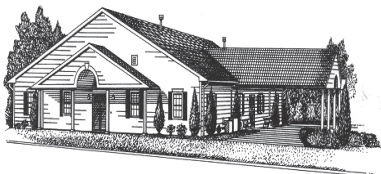


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## Temporarily Closed Due to Covid-19!

*Hope you & your family  
stay safe and healthy  
during this crisis.  
Looking forward to  
seeing you soon.*

### Thank You!



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## State Representative Vincent Candelora

### Striving for Government Balance in this Crisis



Roughly 100,000 people in Connecticut have filed for unemployment since my last column here, and there's a considerable backlog in processing benefits for those laid-off workers who need help covering costs for life's basics.

The people who employed those workers carry not only the gut-wrenching guilt of laying off those who depend on them, but also the frightening possibility of losing the financial and emotional backbone of their own lives—their businesses.

Our state, like many others, is gripped by a public health crisis like none of us has experienced—a virus which doctors deem so easily transmissible that Governor Lamont limited social gatherings to just five people.

I have immense respect for first responders and healthcare professionals who don't have the luxury of social distancing their way through this coronavirus outbreak. I'll leave talk about symptoms, infection rates, and test results to them.

The work from Governor Lamont and my legislative colleagues, albeit much different, runs parallel to those in healthcare. It's important that we do what we can to stop the virus from spreading. Yet we must also consider the implications of the policies implemented—namely, the short and long-term implications for the people I mentioned at the start of this column.

While I understand the challenges posed by this permeating crisis, I've grown increasingly concerned about the balance of state government's response. Our state's all-out push to blunt the stealthy virus has by far out-paced planning and action to help business owners and workers whose livelihoods are threatened not only by fear but also by the government action it has fueled.

That balance is a topic of current conversation nationwide, from coffee shops to cable news desks. Connecticut, according to Wall Street analysts, could see a \$15 billion contraction in economic activity. Such news would be bad for any state, let alone one with already-precarious budget and economic situations.

Recent news of a new state-funded bridge loan program was welcome news to some business owners, but the \$25 million reservoir isn't big enough and the state had to suspend the program after receiving more than \$200 million in funding requests in just one day.

State government shouldn't assume a federal response package will save the day, either. It will help, but time and red tape are worries for folks on main street.

Legislative leaders have maintained communication with one another and Governor Lamont's team, and all my colleagues are doing what they can to answer surging constituent questions tied to economic instability.

But it's time for the legislature's collective approach to resume, even by video or audio conference. We need discussion about developing a broader range of policy decisions to support businesses and families during and long

after this crisis breaks.

The virus is here, and by many accounts, we'll be dealing with it in some form or another for years. We must figure out how to live with it, and that means spending equal time developing plans on how we'll reopen and recharge our state when experts signal a solid downward trend in coronavirus transmission.

If we don't, Connecticut's comeback will be even more difficult.

## Let's Be "Frank"

It's been a month since I last wrote to you. I guess it is correct what people say, "A lot can happen in a month". Since that conversation I went to my last Mass on March 15th. We never talked about the Ides of March. March 15th at our house was simply, Mary's birthday. It was "the queen's birthday" and that's all she would let us talk or think about. I never knew anyone who celebrated a birthday for more days than our sister Mary.

As I prayed to and for her, little did I know that would be my last Mass for quite some time. It was just announced by the Arch Diocese of Hartford (and most others) that the Catholic Church would have no services until at least April 30th, due to this Corona Virus. I used to get my dander up when I would hear people talk about their Easter parties and traditions and church was never in the conversation. I remember the priest having two collections on Palm Sunday and Easter and warning the regulars in advance. "I won't see them for another year so I might as well give them the opportunity to help us pay our bills," he would joke.

Well, this new virus will give me the opportunity to see what it's like to have Palm Sunday and Easter with no church, no family gathering and a damper on the usual joy. I won't experience my usual complaints about the expenses in both time and money for our large family dinners which are consumed in minutes. I'll miss the long homily and the special Lenten Services and traditions (which have been quite watered down in recent years).

With all that is going on, other than people making this a political event it doesn't seem as though we are complaining about little stuff as much as we normally do. I have heard the religious fanatics talk about God's hand in this thing (I'll leave those conversations to those who are better versed than I am in these matters). I must admit I am tired of Facebook experts who have all the answers and information (many times wrong or one sided). It might make the writers of some of this nonsense feel much better but these brain surgeons just make people worry and fret. I really don't think that's why Facebook was created. With that being said, I think most people are taking time to see what's important in life and maybe what the real reason for our existence is all about.

I will be disappointed and miss all of the traditions of the season but I will not give up. I'll go to the Church on Palm Sunday even if I will be all alone in my car. I'll be away from people and say my prayers at my favorite Statue of Saint Anthony (one that I have been praying at since I was five years of age). I will go to three churches on Holy Thursday even if I will be outside saying my prayers at a distance. I will do the Stations of the Cross on Good Friday. All though there will not be the comfort of our Church and my parish family, All Saints Cemetery has a beautiful depiction of the fourteen Stations and it is always very calm out there.

And yes I will be at Church on Easter Sunday. Granted, I won't be in my usual spot in the choir loft and I will miss the music and processions but I will be there. Outside next to my favorite statue. The lack of ceremony might give me more time to reflect. More time to pray for those afflicted by this horrible virus and for the many people who are affected in one way or another. Be it God's way of sending us a message or nature's way of helping us reload and work together we should all try to get something positive out of this disaster.

We will have a meal similar to the ones we usually have on Palm Sunday and Thanksgiving only the attendance will be quite limited. Frankie and the fiancée are quarantined in New York and your family has pretty much been staying out of circulation.

Finally for my baseball fix, I will watch my two grandsons play in the back yard. I will offer some of my "expertise" and like with the kids I coach, I will try to stop when they get tired of listening to me. It won't be the same but in a more relaxing atmosphere it will give us quiet time to figure out for ourselves what really matters.

*Well, Happy Easter to all my readers, the community and my family and friends. Happy Easter to my favorite and much older brother. Give best to the family and I'll see you soon. And tell Mary to leave Kenny Rogers alone. He did enough duets with Dolly, he doesn't need one with Mary.*

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**The publisher assumes no responsibility for typographical errors. In the event of an error, the publisher will issue a credit adjustment on only the incorrect portion of the advertisement, as well as a retraction in the next issue.**

### Letters to the editor...

This paper encourages all readers to voice their opinions and comments.

The Totoket Times is not responsible for erroneous information or statements in letters to the editor. Letters should be as brief as possible.

All letters must be signed. A telephone number should be included and no personal attacks.

This paper reserves the right to edit all letters.

All letters should be addressed to :

**The Editor**

PO. Box 313, Northford, CT 06472





## A Message from the Mayor

Dear editor:

By the time this reaches print and your mailbox, a great deal will have undoubtedly happened. However, as our community, our State and our Nation faces this heartbreaking pandemic, let me share a few thoughts.

As an old farming community, North Branford has always been strong and resilient. It is a characteristic we can be proud of, and it will support us to stay calm, cooperative and do the very best we can to help each other and put aside any differences.

Spring is a time of hope for farmers looking toward the abundance of new life. The spring birds are back and the pollinators will be busy. Our sunflowers will symbolize the joy and kindness that marks our town.

The Town of North Branford continues to function with our wonderful committed employees and volunteers. I would like you to know that our Town Council is still working to ensure our citizens needs are met.

I am proud to be mayor of this community and I look forward to speaking with each of you in the future. However, please remember, when these restrictions end, do your very best to support all of the businesses in this town who do so much to make our community a pleasure to live in.

Thank you, Mayor Bob Viglione

## Not in Agreement with “Duck Soup”

Dear editor:

A recent issue contained an article written by Mr. D. Kirt Westfall titled “Duck Soup”. He apparently was trying to duplicate the conditions he claims Donald J. Trump found himself in during the impeachment process underway in Congress. He claims that the House of Representatives based their impeachment on anonymous accusations, introducing nothing but hearsay, denied the President any opportunity to present evidence and failed to charge any crime or misdemeanor.

He also claimed that during the Senate’s impeachment trial when the *Senate defense team* opted to block any new evidence, the House Managers were upset. In my opinion, most of what has presented is either false or is a misrepresentation of the facts for the following reason :

The statements made by the witnesses during the House inquiry would not be defined as hearsay evidence.

The President cannot claim executive privilege when blocking witnesses from testifying and blocking documents from being received during his impeachment. During an impeachment trial of a public official, there is no such thing as the *Senate defense team*.

Based on witness testimony during the House inquiry, quid pro quo did exist when the President withheld aid to a foreign country that had been previously authorized by Congress, in exchange for dirt on a political opponent. This is Bribery, but the House selected Abuse of Power.

Executive privilege does not apply when the President withholds federal aid funds from a foreign country without the approval of Congress.

The Constitution identifies two types of crime: judicial crimes and legislative (political) crimes. Judicial crimes are identified in what some Republican politicians called the Criminal Code Book. Persons accused of committing judicial crimes are tried using judicial trial proceedings. These proceedings include the defendant’s rights under the 6<sup>th</sup> Amendment and other rights. The defendant is innocent until proven guilty. If a person is accused of a crime that is not listed in the criminal code book, judicial trial proceedings do not apply, since no judicial crime has been committed. The framers of the Constitution recognized when public officials take their oath of office, they hold a special trust in the eyes of the public. Violating their oath of office is not found in the criminal code book so it is not a judicial crime. To handle legislative (political) crimes, the Framers included an article on impeachment in the Constitution that identifies what constitutes legislative (political) crimes. They are treason, bribery and other high crimes and misdemeanors. This would allow Congress to remove public officials that were found guilty of committing these crimes. The impeachment article in the Constitution specifies the trial proceedings that Congress must follow when impeaching a public official.

The Constitution also specifies that the House of Representatives has the sole power to impeach public officials and the Senate has the sole power to try impeached public officials. The sole power given to the House and Senate also included determining what political crimes are included under high crimes and misdemeanors. - The House opens an impeachment inquiry where they look for evidence of wrongdoing by interviewing witnesses and reviewing documents pertaining to the alleged political crime. If they determine that a public official has committed an impeachable crime, the House votes to convict or acquit and if convicted, articles of impeachment are prepared and sent to the Senate by the House Managers for trial. The House impeachment inquiry is not a trial and judicial trial rights do not apply to the defendant. During the trial in the Senate, the Senators become the jury, the House Managers become the prosecutors, the impeached official is the defendant and is represented by his/her defense team. During the impeachment trial of the President, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court presides. Sincerely, James B. Woodman

## PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

By Attorney Marc P. Guertin

At Guertin and Guertin, LLC we have been actively monitoring the situation regarding the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). We are concerned, and our clients are concerned as well. In these uncertain times everyday living has become more stressful, and that stress can easily send you into a panic if you let it. But we must resist the urge to panic. Instead, we must make plans. In my house we’re planning meals, stocking up on household essentials, revising vacation plans, and figuring out a contingency plan in case one of us gets sick.

So while we’re all practicing social distancing and figuring out our next moves, it’s also a good time to think about creating an estate plan, or reviewing the plan you currently have in place. A good estate plan always contemplates life *and* death, and should answer two questions: “What happens to my stuff when I die?” and “What happens if I become seriously ill?”

Thinking about your own mortality is not easy. Planning for your death can be stressful and uncomfortable. If you don’t know where to start, I suggest you focus your thoughts on your loved ones and your property. Identify the important people in your life and make a list of your property. Once you do that, you can begin to create a plan for who gets what, and when. This is called a *Last Will and Testament*. Wills can range from simple documents distributing assets outright to your heirs, or they can be more complex, planning for all types of situations from minor children to special needs beneficiaries. But having a Will only answers the first question, “What happens to my stuff when I die?” so it’s critical that your estate plan also addresses what happens if you become seriously ill and are unable to make decisions for yourself. In estate planning the term we use is “incapacitated.” Planning for incapacity is just as important as planning for death.

Financially speaking, the core document in an incapacity plan is a *Durable Power of Attorney*. A Durable Power of Attorney allows you to appoint an agent who can handle your financial affairs if you should become incapacitated and is critically important. In the absence of this document NO ONE has the power to manage your affairs while you are incapacitated and the only way to get that kind of power is to go to Court. And going to Court (even Probate Court) is not what I would call a cost-effective solution. Any time you have to get a doctor, a lawyer and a judge involved it is going to be costly. This problem is easily avoided by having a Durable Power of Attorney.

*Healthcare Directives* and *Living Wills* are also extremely important when planning for incapacity because they focus on your well-being. With a Healthcare Directive you appoint someone to interact with healthcare professionals and make decisions on your behalf if you become incapacitated. Just like the Durable Power of Attorney, if you don’t have a Healthcare Directive in place your family would have to petition the Court to get the power to make your healthcare decisions. This makes an already stressful situation, even more stressful for your family.

Last but not least, a *Living Will* informs your doctors (and loved ones) of your wishes regarding what extraordinary medical procedures you do or do not want performed if you are in a terminal condition with no hope of recovery. It spells out your exact intentions and takes the heavy burden of those decisions off of your family. In these uncertain times it is critically important to have a Healthcare Directive and a Living Will in place to convey your wishes regarding end-of-life decisions.

To summarize, an effective estate plan must include the four documents mentioned here: 1) a Last Will and Testament, 2) a Durable Power of Attorney, 3) a Healthcare Directive and 4) a Living Will. So as we all hunker down and connect with our loved ones, take the time to make some plans or reevaluate your current ones. If you’d like to talk to me about your estate plan, please call my office at 203-234-7400 to schedule a free consultation. We offer phone and video consultations so you don’t even need to leave your house. In-person meetings are also available. Be safe. Lead with compassion. We are all in this together.

**Marc Guertin, is a partner at Guertin and Guertin, LLC. Guertin and Guertin, LLC is dedicated to Estate Planning, ElderLaw, Trust and Probate Administration. Visit us on the web [www.guertinandguertin.com](http://www.guertinandguertin.com)**

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# Recycling News

**Due to Health Crisis**  
**Simple Recycling Weekly Curbside Collection Program**  
**is temporarily halting pink bag pickup.**  
*Please continue to save items for when program resumes.*

\*\*\*\*\*  
**Plastic Film Drop Off Suspended**

**Please save plastic film at home until further notice**  
**when program resumes.**  
**Thank You!**

\*\*\*\*\*

**North Branford Spring Leaf Collection**

North Branford residents can bring their leaves  
to the leaf drop off center located at the  
Public Works Facility on Route 22 from 9:00am to 3:00pm on the  
following Saturdays this Spring:  
**April 4, 11, 18 and 25.** Follow the signs.

Please place leaves in biodegradable brown leaf bags  
or empty them loose onto the ground.

**NO COMMERCIAL VEHICLES ALLOWED**

For more information, please call the recycling hotline at **203-484-4091**

\*\*\*\*\*

**North Branford Scrap Metal Pickup**  
**April 13<sup>th</sup> through April 17<sup>th</sup>**

The Spring scrap metal pickup will be collected  
the same day as your regular weekly trash pickup.  
**Please note:** scrap metal should be placed at the curb  
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For more information, please call the recycling hotline at **203-484-4091**

\*\*\*\*\*

**BULKY WASTE PICKUP (TWICE A YEAR)**  
**Week of April 20th and November 9th on your scheduled**  
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**\*No home cleanouts\***

\*\*\*\*\*

## Earth Day 2020

**Celebrate Earth Day's 50th anniversary with individual**  
**home and yard or neighborhood cleanup.**  
**The townwide celebration has been cancelled.**

## Health Department Reminds People to “Live Your Best Healthy Life

As your local health department, we would like to take this opportunity to assure our residents we are actively working with our federal and state health officials, and most importantly, we are in regular communication with our local elected officials and all town departments. The East Shore District Health Department has been monitoring and working to answer questions and guide people, businesses and town leaders through the quickly changing pandemic situation. We understand that many of the readers of this message have gone from sure to unsure, from sure footed to the feeling that our world is shifting under our feet. It is a feeling that we may not have control of the situation around us. While understandable, together we will get through these challenging times.

So, what can we do about this besides wash our hands, not touch our faces, self-isolate, and clean often-touched items?

The answer is quite simple... we are all concerned about our health. Therefore, lets live our most healthy life. By healthy life, we mean spend some time creating the “best” version of yourself” - use this extra time to focus on improving your physical health and mental health. .

Eat a mostly plant based diet with plenty of bright colored fruits and vegetables. Reduce the amount of added sugars and salt, but that being said, do not deprive yourself from an occasional treat. Remember, it's the first bite that satisfies, so keep it small.

Get some physical activity every day. Exercise is not optional to be healthy as a body in motion, stays in motion. Getting outside into the open air will give you much needed fresh oxygen into your lungs and vitamin D from sunshine. Take a walk, do some sit-ups and push-ups or just spend a half an hour stretching and doing deep breathing exercises. Play ball with the kids, do overdue yard work- its springtime, dance with your partner and enjoy the great parks, beaches and all the quintessential outdoor beauty Connecticut has to offer from our shores to hills. With the proper social distancing of course!

Don't underestimate the power of sleep. Try for 7-9 hours of sleep per night. During sleep your body makes and releases cytokines, a type of protein that targets infection and inflammation. Keep a regular sleep pattern by going to bed at the same time every night and reducing the evening hours spent in front of electronic screens.

Attend to your mental health as well. If you are starting to feel anxious, start some small projects that you can complete. This will not only give you a sense of control, but it can keep you occupied in these times where we cannot socialize as much. Paint, pull out the cook book, play board games, read a book, build a model or a decorative shelf, play a musical instrument or learn a new language. Don't dwell on hours of news. Check in for information, but do not obsess. Check in with others and make those overdue phone calls. While we may not be able to be together in person, we live in a time with many technologies that enable us to keep in touch. Check on your family, friends and neighbors.

This pandemic will come and go, and through it people and communities become more resilient and stronger, and grow through these challenging times together. Be healthy, be kind and be patient with those around you. There is no one around you that doesn't want everyone to be healthier. So please, follow our advice and become the healthiest person you can be; mind, body and spirit...

We leave you with this quote –  
**“Never lose hope. Storms make people stronger and never last forever”.**  
**Roy T. Bennett**



**Wee Care of North Branford, Inc.**  
**Daycare and Preschool**

At Wee Care of North Branford, Inc. all day preschool is available for children ages 3-6 from 7 a.m. - 6 p.m. Monday through Friday. Some of the highlights of the program are:

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## CHURCH DIRECTORY

**Branford Bible Chapel.** 212 Branford Rd., corner of Twin Lakes Rd. 203-488-3586. Sunday morning : 9:15 - 10:30 Worship & Lord's Supper, 11:00 -12:15 Ministering of God's Word & Sunday School. .Nursery provided. Awana for kids, vacation Bible School, missions & outreach programs. [www.branfordbiblechapel.org](http://www.branfordbiblechapel.org)

**Hope Christian Church "A Place to Belong".** 211 Montowese Ave., North Haven, CT. [www.hopeag.com](http://www.hopeag.com) Sunday services 10AM. Coffee served every Sunday 9:00 am. Church open for prayer Tuesdays noon to One. Thursday Bible study 7:00 PM. Like us on facebook.

**North Branford Congregational Church, UCC.** 1680 Foxon Rd., North Branford, CT, 203-488-8456 or nobfdcong@sbcglobal.net or [www.northbranfordcongregational.org](http://www.northbranfordcongregational.org). Office Hours: Wednesday through Friday, 9:00 - 1:00pm. We worship every Sunday at 10:00am. Nursery care available. Get to know us by joining us for Coffee Hour following Services. The second Sunday of every month is Family Sunday when the children remain with their parents during the Service. This is followed by our second Sunday Brunch. Holy Communion is on the first Sunday of every month. Church School through grade 8 meets during worship. All are welcome no matter who you are, no matter where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

**Northford Congregational Church, United Church of Christ.** Church is located on Old Post Rd., (corner of Rte 17 and Rte 22), PO Box 191 Northford. Phone 203-484-0795, Fax 203-484-9916. email; [northfordcc@gmail.com](mailto:northfordcc@gmail.com) Office Hours: Tuesday 9am - 1pm; other days by appointment. Rev. Robin Blundon, Acting Pastor. Jane K. Leschuk Minister of Music. Worship Service 10am. Join us for coffee hour following worship. Holy Communion on the first Sunday of each month. Like us on Facebook. Our website is [www.northfordcongregational.church](http://www.northfordcongregational.church)

**St. Ambrose Parish** is a Roman Catholic Parish in the Archdiocese of Hartford comprised of two church locations; St. Augustine Church located at 30 Caputo Rd in North Branford and St. Monica Church located at 1321 Middletown Ave. in Northford. The Pastor is Reverend Robert Turner. Weekday Masses are celebrated on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday & Saturday at 9:00am at St. Monica Church, Weekend Masses are celebrated on Saturday at 4pm at St. Augustine Church and 5:30pm at St. Monica Church and on Sunday at 9am at St. Monica Church and 11am at St. Augustine Church. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated every Saturday afternoon from 3:00 to 3:30 at St. Augustine Church or by appointment by calling the parish office at 203-484-0403. If you are new to the area and are looking for a parish family to join, please visit us! The office is open M-F from 9am-1pm at 30 Caputo Road in North Branford.

**St. Andrew's Episcopal Church,** 1382 Middletown Avenue - the white church on the hill in the heart of Northford (at the intersection of Rtes. 17 & 22). We celebrate the Holy Eucharist every Sunday at 10:00am. Coffee and fellowship always follows. All are welcome. Please join us - we'd love to get to know you! St. Andrew's is the proud home of the Food Pantry of North Branford - a vital community resource serving families in need in Northford and North Branford. St. Andrew's also partners with St. Pauly Textile in a broad outreach program to help people in need here in the U.S. and around the world. Donations of usable clothing, shoes, belts, purses, sheets, blankets and stuffed animals may be made at the donation shed in the church parking lot. We are a member of the Middlesex Area Cluster Ministry. The Rev. Jim Bradley is Missioner In Charge and we have rotating clergy serving the parishes of St. Andrew's as well as Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Killingworth and St. James Episcopal Church, Higganum. Visit our website at <http://standrewsnorthford.org>. Like us on Facebook - St. Andrew's Episcopal Church of Northford, CT. For more information contact us at 203-484-0895; Nan Monde, Sr. Warden, 203-710-7005; MACM office, 860-345-0058; or Rev. Bradley, 203-525-6846.

**Zion Episcopal Church,** 326 Notch Hill Road, North Branford. 203-488-7395 Rev. Lucy LaRocca, Vicar. In June we begin with single summer service of Holy Eucharist at 9 a.m.. The first Sunday in September we return to two services of Holy Eucharist at 8 & 10 a.m. Music and two safe church certified babysitters are available for childcare during the 9 a.m. service and at the latter service September – May. Healing prayer is offered after each service on the second Sunday of each month. Please visit our Facebook page or our website [www.zionepiscopalchurch.org](http://www.zionepiscopalchurch.org). Zion is a registered Integrity Episcopal Believe Outloud Congregation, a designation earmarking Zion as an open and affirming congregation for those seeking a safe place to worship and grow in Christ.



## FLOWER/PLANT SALES TO BENEFIT CHURCH

*Please check the church website or our Facebook page for updates/cancellations/changes. Events will depend on the COVID-19 situation.*

Northford Congregational Church, "A Little Church with a Big Heart," will have an Easter weekend flower/plant sale to benefit the church on Fri. and Sat., April 10-11, from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., and on Sun., April 12, from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. The church will also have a Mother's Day Weekend flower sale on Fri., May 8, from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Sat., May 9, from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., and Sun., May 10, from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

In the event of inclement weather, the flowers/plants will be sold inside the church social hall downstairs.

The historic church (203-484-0795) is located at 4 Old Post Road at the corner of Routes 22 and 17 in the Northford village in North Branford. Website: [www.northfordcongregational.church](http://www.northfordcongregational.church). New email address: [northfordcc@gmail.com](mailto:northfordcc@gmail.com). Like us on Facebook.

## DRIVE - THRU PRAYERS AND BLESSINGS

Pastor Robin Blundon from Northford Congregational Church, "A Little Church with a Big Heart," gave drive-thru prayers and blessings for the first time on Sunday, March 29. It was also the first time that the bell was rung since the new bell tower and steeple were installed in late February. During this time of social distancing, the church will continue its drive-thru prayers and blessings for everyone at 10 a.m. every Sunday in April or until further notice or regular church services resume. Cars can drive thru by entering from the driveway across from the library and then drive out onto Route 22.

The historic church (203-484-0795) is located at 4 Old Post Road at the corner of Routes 22 and 17 in the Northford village in North Branford. Website:

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