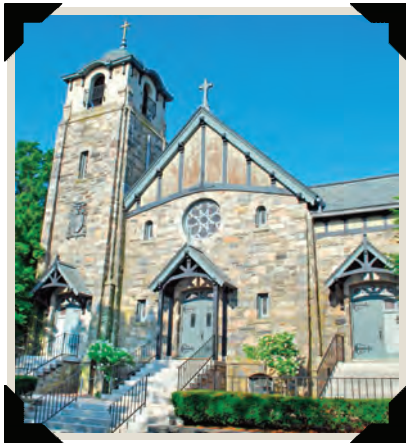


THE PARISH FAMILY OF

SAINT FRANCIS
OF ASSISI
WAKEFIELD



SAINT
ROMUALD
MATUNUCK



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Fax -----
401-783-9667
Email -----
saintfrancis00@aol.com
Web -----
stfranciswakefield.com
Religious Ed. Office -----
401-792-8684
Parish Cemetery -----
401-782-2711



“Advent invites us
to a commitment
to vigilance,
looking beyond
ourselves,
expanding our
mind and heart
in order to open
ourselves up to
the needs of
people, of brothers
and sisters, and
to the desire for
a new world.”

— Pope Francis

Parish Staff

Father Albert D. Ranallo----- *Pastor*
 Father Nicholas P. Smith ----- *Pastor Emeritus*
 Father Henry J. Bodah ----- *Pastor Emeritus*
 Rev. Deacon John Dowd----- *Deacon Assistant*
 Jacki Hunt----- *Administrative Assistant*

Barbette L. Cullen----- *Director of Religious Education*
 Robert J. Moniz ----- *Cemetery Manager*
 ----- *cemeteryoffice@aol.com*
 Robert J. Kelly ----- *Parish Sexton*

Masses

SAINT FRANCIS CHURCH

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday ----- 7:00 am
 Saturday----- 4:30 pm
 Sunday----- 9:00 am and 11:00 am

SAINT ROMUALD CHAPEL

Saturday----- 5:30 pm*
 Sunday----- 8:00 am* and 10:00 am
 *Summer only (Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day Weekend)

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Washington County Office / Contact:----- 401-783-3149
 ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY / Wakefield
 401-871-8936

Sacraments

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday at 3:30 - 4:00 pm in Saint Francis Church or by
 appointment.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Third Sunday of each month.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Please call the rectory at least one year in advance to speak
 with a priest. Due to the reduction in priests we can no
 longer accommodate Sunday weddings.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

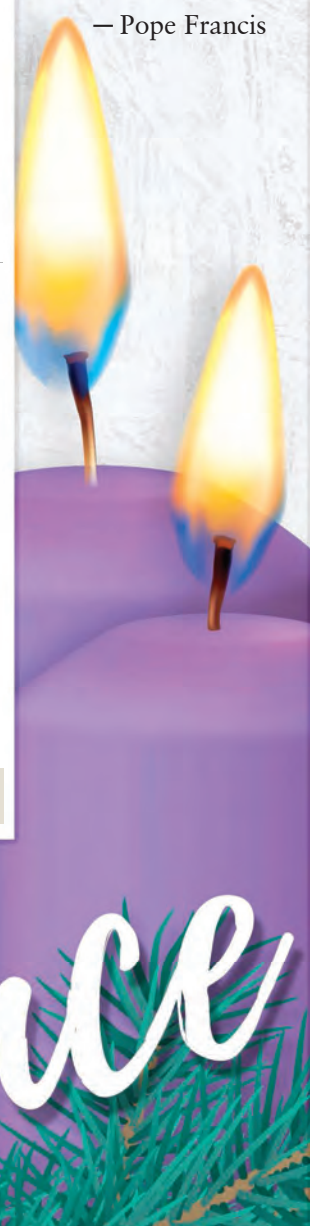
Please call the rectory.

welcome

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm Friday From 9:00 am—12:30 pm

Second Sunday
of ADVENT

Peace



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

St. Francis Mass Intentions



Saturday, December 9

4:30pm †Marcia Signorelli
Requested by Family

Sunday, December 10

9:00am †Richard Jaquish
(6th Anniversary Remembrance)
Requested by Family

11:00am †Deceased Members of the
Pouliot & Gallucci Families
Requested by Family

Monday, December 11

7:00am †For the Deceased Members of the
Behie & O'Rourke Families

Tuesday, December 12

7:00am †Tom McGair
Requested by Jean

Thursday, December 14

7:00am For the People

Friday, December 15

7:00am †Tracy Walsh
Requested by Kathleen & Jeff Carney

Saturday, December 16

4:30pm †Fred & Arlene Robinson & Jack
Feeny
Requested by Family

Sunday, December 17

9:00am †Sarah & James Folcarelli
Requested by Family

11:00am †Peter Reusch
Requested by Family

St. Romuald Mass Intentions

Sunday, December 10

10:00am †Bill Harding & Jim Abreu
Requested by Maggie Hayes-Cote

Sunday, December 17

10:00am †Martin Durkin
Requested by Family

*Let us repent of our sins and open our heart to the
Lord's mercy.*



Let us repent of our sins and open our heart to the Lord's mercy.

As we continue our journey through the season of Advent and light the second candle of our wreath, today's Gospel focuses our attention on John the Baptist, the one who prepared the way for Jesus, the last of the prophets.

John the Baptist appears on the scene in the desert, baptizing people in the Jordan River. To us this might sound like an interesting side fact, but to the Jews of that time, this location would have held great significance. Remember the Exodus story? God freed his people from slavery in Egypt, and led them out into the desert where they ended up wandering for 40 years because of their disobedience—they didn't trust that the God who fought for them and destroyed the Egyptians would fulfill his promise and deliver the Promised Land to them.

When those 40 years of wandering in the desert came to an end, it was at the Jordan River, beyond which was the Promised Land which the Lord was now going to give to the Israelites. The river Jordan was a place that separated sin and penance on one side and reward and blessing on the other. John the Baptist was carrying out his message regarding the necessity of repentance in a place that itself spoke to his audience of both the consequences of sin and the mercy of God.

Another interesting feature of John the Baptist is his choice of clothing. Let's just say he was not given to following the latest fashion, even for the first century! But this attire and his diet would have reminded his audience of the prophet Elijah. And one of the best known stories about this prophet was the contest with the prophets of Baal, the conclusion of which was God's triumph, showing that he is truly the Lord God, the only God. Sadly, however, the Israelites turned away from this truth over time, embracing the lifestyle of their neighbors, turning away from the covenant with God, which is how they ended up in exile. It is another reminder of the terrible consequences of sin and the importance of repentance.

Perhaps we feel we don't really need to be reminded that sin can have terrible consequences in our lives. But if we want to prepare and make room in our hearts for Christ, we would do well to heed the call of God's word and examine our consciences, asking ourselves whether we have become too cozy with secular life and what it has to offer at the cost of living a life of holiness and devotion to God. And we can make this examination confident that the Lord is patient and merciful toward his children, that he desires our salvation, and has gone to incredible lengths to extend this gift to us. All we need to do is open our hearts to him.



<u>Weekly Support</u>	<u>December 3</u>
Budget envelopes used (134)	-
Loose Donations	-
Online Giving (# of donors-87)	-
Total Budget	\$9,940.50
<u>Second Collection (Monthly Collection)</u>	
Budget envelopes used (103)	-
Loose Donations	-
Online Giving (# of donors-12)	-
Total	\$2,405.50

This week's second collection is for the Retired Religious Fund. Next week's second collection is for Ongoing Maintenance. **Thank you for your continued generosity.**

DECEMBER 10, 2023

SANCTUARY LAMP



This week's sanctuary lamp at St. Francis Church burns in memory of Branden J. DeLuca.



*Parish Advent Penance Service
Prepare the Way of the Lord.*

*December 12, 2023
6:00 pm. St. Francis of Assisi
Church*

*Come experience the Sacrament of
Reconciliation!*

Priests will be available!

GIVING TREE



The Giving Trees have now been placed in the Church and Chapel. Gift tags have also been placed on the trees.

The Giving Tree provides much needed support to our St. Vincent de Paul chapter here at St. Francis and to the Jonnycake Center which services local families providing basic necessities.

The gift cards need to be returned no later than next weekend, December 16/17. They can be placed in the collection baskets or left in the rectory. Please do not leave them by the trees.

Thank you in advance.



Congratulations to the proud parents and godparents of Thomas Owens & Matthew Anthony Blinkhorn, Jr. who were baptized on November 19 by Fr. Ranallo. *Your parish family rejoices with you!*



FAITH
FORMATION
(401) 792-8684

Sunday, December 10th

9:55-10:50am All classes and families are invited to attend the **Advent Wreath Workshop** today during class time!

Pray: Lord, please help us to prepare not only for Christmas celebrations but also for your arrival in our hearts. Amen.



4:00-6:00pm in FGC Sunday evening, **December 10th**! All 7-12th graders invited! Bring a FRIEND!

Wednesday, December 13th

6:30-8:15pm Confirmation I and II Classes in Fr. Greenan Center

Saturday, December 16th

10-11:00am Christmas pageant rehearsal in FGC

*All are invited to our annual
Christmas Pageant*

Sunday, December 17th at

10:00 am in

Fr. Greenan Center.



For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Messiah and Lord. You will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.

This Week

Monday, December 11

7:30-11:00am Adoration (Church)
6:30pm Men of St. Joseph (↓FGC)

Wednesday, December 13

10:30am Women's Prayer Group (FGC)
6:00pm Prayer Meeting (HBH)

Thursday, December 14

6-7:00pm Bible Study (FGC)

The parish office is open 9am to 4pm Monday through Thursday and 9am to 12:30 on Friday.

Christmas office closing: The Parish office will be closed from December 20 through December 26.



Month of January: Baby Shower
February 14: Ash Wednesday
February 19-21: Lenten Mission w/ Deacon Art Miller (6:00pm each night)



*TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS
RAFFLE—THE PERFECT CHRISTMAS GIFT!*

Purchase a lovely Christmas card for Twelve Days of Christmas chances to win!

~Drawings Christmas through January 5th~

Christmas card recipients have 9 chances to win \$100 and 3 chances to win \$500.

Christmas cards will be sold for \$25 after Masses at the Church and Chapel as well as at the parish office.

Don't miss out on this great gift idea while helping our parish!!



PLANNING AHEAD
CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

As you may know, this year Christmas Eve falls on Sunday and Christmas falls on Monday; therefore, we would like for you to see the Mass schedule for planning purposes.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

SUNDAY MASS OBLIGATION

At the Church

4:30pm Saturday, December 23

9:00am Sunday, December 24

(Please note there will be only one Morning Mass at the Church on this day—there will be no 11am Mass)

At the Chapel

10:00am Sunday, December 24

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

CHRISTMAS EVE, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

At the Church

4:30pm Sunday, December 24

10:00pm Sunday, December 24

At the Chapel

5:30pm Sunday, December 24

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

CHRISTMAS DAY,
MONDAY, DECEMBER 25

At the Church

9:00am and 11am

At the Chapel

10:00am

RCIA Inquiry Night at St. Francis



If you know someone—a spouse, relative, friend, neighbor who might be interested in becoming a Catholic, or is a Catholic but has not received all the sacraments of initiation, please let them know that our parish will be starting a Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) program. Please pass the word to anyone you know who may be interested in joining us.

We will be holding Inquiry Night on Tuesday, December 19, 2023, from 6pm to 7pm at Fr. Greenan Hall to provide an overview of the program and answer any questions.

RCIA classes will start in January. If anyone would like further information, please contact Pat Lefoley plefoley1@cox.net or 401-339-3858. You may also call the parish office at 401-783-4411.



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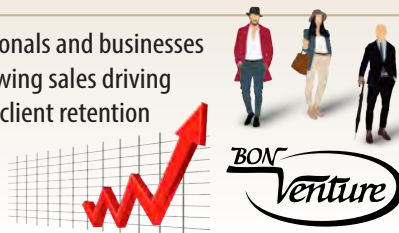
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Jubilee Year of Mercy

THE CHAPLET OF THE DIVINE MERCY

(For private recitation on ordinary rosary beads)

Our Father ... , Hail Mary ... , The Apostles' Creed.

Then, on the **OUR FATHER BEADS** you will say the following words:

Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.

On the **HAIL MARY BEADS** you will say the following words:

For the sake of His sorrowful Passion have mercy on us and on the whole world.

In conclusion **THREE TIMES** you will recite these words:

Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

From the Diary of the Servant of God Sr. Faustina - Note Book I, p 197

IMPRIMATUR: + Joseph F. Maguire
November 17, 1979 Bishop of Springfield, Mass.



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Woody

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