



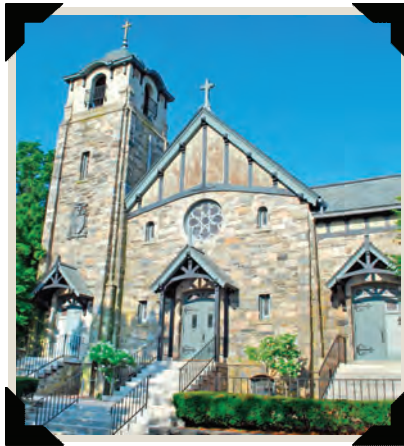
# SOLEMNITY OF MARY, the Holy Mother of God

THE PARISH FAMILY OF

SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI  
WAKEFIELD



SAINT ROMUALD  
MATUNUCK



114 High Street  
Wakefield, RI 02879

**Phone**

401-783-4411

**Fax**

401-783-9667

**Email**

saintfrancis00@aol.com

**Web**

stfranciswakefield.com

**Religious Ed. Office**

401-792-8684

**Parish Cemetery**

401-782-2711



### 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)

CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES OF RI/WASHINGTON COUNTY & ST. GABRIEL'S CALL  
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.



"From Mary we learn to surrender to God's Will in all things. From Mary we learn to trust even when all hope seems gone. From Mary we learn to love Christ her Son and the Son of God!"

Pope John Paul II



welcome

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

# THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

## St. Francis Mass Intentions

**Saturday, December 30**

4:30pm †Thomas Pullano

*Requested by his Wife*

**Sunday, December 31**

9:00am †Mr. & Mrs. Thu Chi Tran & John  
Thanh Ha

*Requested by Family*

11:00am †Karen Clark

(Anniversary Remembrance)

*Requested by Family*



*New Year's Day*

*Monday, January 1*

**9:00am** †Deceased Members of the  
Perpetual Mass Association

**Tuesday, January 2**

7:00am †Charito Paruta

*Requested by Claire Sweet*

**Thursday, January 4**

7:00am †Charito Paruta

*Requested by Claire Sweet*

**Friday, January 5**

7:00am Special Intention

*Requested by Amanda Bremner*

**Saturday, January 6**

4:30pm †June Friel

*Requested by Mark & Diane Castro*

**Sunday, January 7**

9:00am †Bernard (Buddy) Tucker

*Requested by Al & Karen DeAngelus*

11:00am †Christina Warner

*Requested by Laura & Bob Warner*

## St. Romuald Mass Intentions

**Sunday, December 31**

10:00am †Mary Marchand

(Anniversary Remembrance)

*Requested by Al & Gerri Marsocci*

**Sunday, January 7**

10:00am †Martha & Blanche McElkenny

*Requested by Family*

*God has been faithful throughout salvation history, &  
will continue to be faithful to us.*

In today's first reading we hear the story of a man named Abram, soon to be called Abraham, and his wife Sarai/Sarah as they became parents in their old age.

What an outrageous command God gave Abram, to look at the sky and count the stars. Yet God's provision to Abram was just as outrageous, providing a child to him and Sarah beyond her child-bearing years. Despite the outlandishness of this plan, God saw it through. The Scriptures tell us that *God did for [Sarah] as he had promised*. Abram had faith in God, and is considered our father in faith.

Abraham obeyed by faith when, later in the story, as recounted in the Letter to the Hebrews, he is asked to sacrifice Isaac, his only son. This request would have been incomprehensible to Abraham, not only because of its brutality but more so because it contradicted God's initial promise, to provide descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky.

Without Isaac, Abraham would not have even one descendant. Yet, as today's second reading tells us, Abraham had faith that *the one who had made the promise was trustworthy*. Because God is faithful, God does not rescind his promises; Isaac's life was spared, and the story continues.

The story's apex, of course, comes in the form of another child: Jesus. As with Abraham and Sarah, the circumstances of his birth were unusual. Once again the Lord made a promise and fulfilled it. Once again, those to whom he made promises acted with great faith. By faith they came to know the Lord, and by faith they obeyed him.

It is the faith of Mary and Joseph, and not just the law, that brings them to the temple in Jerusalem today. They have a love for God that surpasses their love for all else. It is their duty to present their child in the temple, but it is also an act of love and of faith. This presentation fulfills the precepts of the law, and it provides an epiphany and revelation for two faithful prophets: Simeon and Anna. Long-suffering for their awaiting of the Messiah, they are rewarded for their faith in their old age with a glimpse of their salvation.

The story now continues with us, amid our own families, lives, and circumstances. We, too, have the daily choice to trust in God's faithfulness – to live by faith. God has promised us a future. Let us give thanks.



**Collection information for the weekend of December 24<sup>th</sup> was not available when this bulletin was transmitted due to the holiday bulletin schedules. It will appear in next week's bulletin.**

There is no second collection this week. Next week's second collection is the monthly collection. **Thank you for your continued generosity.**

DECEMBER 31, 2023



### SANCTUARY LAMP

This week's sanctuary lamp at St. Francis Church burns in memory of the deceased parishioners of St. Francis and St. Romuald.

### St. Vincent DePaul Society

The work of the St. Francis of Assisi Conference of St. Vincent de Paul is supported by parish donations. Donation boxes are in the Church and Chapel. There is a SVDP option on the parish online giving site.



If you need financial assistance or would like to volunteer, leave your contact information on the Conference phone, 401-871-8936.

New members are most welcome!



### FOOD DONATIONS FOR THE JONNYCAKE CENTER: JUST A FRIENDLY REMINDER

Please remember we are always in need of nonperishable food items (no glass or outdated items). Your donations may be placed in the baskets located at St. Francis or St. Romuald. These items will be donated to the Jonnycake Food Pantry in Peace Dale. Thank you for your generosity.



It is very much a part of our Catholic tradition to have Masses offered for deceased relatives and friends. Parishioners are encouraged to continue this tradition. When was the last time you had a Mass offered for a deceased parent, grandparent, uncle, aunt, brother or sister?

To make arrangements, please call the parish office at (401)783-4411 or send an email to [saintfrancis00@aol.com](mailto:saintfrancis00@aol.com). The donation for a weekday Mass is \$10 and \$25 for a weekend Mass.



FAITH  
FORMATION  
(401) 792-8684



**Sunday, December 31<sup>st</sup>**  
*No classes today. Happy  
New Year!*

**Pray: Dear God, show us  
how to bring Jesus to  
others. Amen.**

**Wednesday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
**6:30-8:15pm** Confirmation I &  
II classes in FGC



# This Week

Monday, January 1

**NO ADORATION**

Tuesday, January 2

7:00pm SVD Meeting (HBH)

Wednesday, January 3

10:30am Women's Prayer Group (FGC)

6:00pm Prayer Meeting (HBH)

Thursday, January 4

6-7:00pm Bible Study (FGC)

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



*Intention for this Monday,  
January 1<sup>st</sup> at 9:00am at the Church*

*The Deceased Members of the  
Perpetual Mass Association*

*John & Marie Champion*

*Yvonne Fanning*

*Paul F. & Susan Greene*

*Marilyn Maley*

*Edna Otto*

*Anthony & Kathleen Rose*

*Christopher Shafer*

*Daniel Shea*

*Laura Webb*

SAVE THE DATE

Month of January: Baby Shower

February 14: Ash Wednesday

February 19-21: Lenten Mission w/ Deacon Art Miller (6:00pm each night)



### ROSARY REPAIRS

We have an anonymous volunteer who has offered to repair rosaries. If you have a rosary that you would like repaired please place the rosary in an envelope and place your name and phone number on the outside of the envelope so that when the repair is complete you can be notified. Please drop your envelope off at the rectory or place it in the black mailbox next to the rectory door.



We are glad that you are here with us this morning. Whether you moved here a while ago or are just here for a brief stay, we welcome you.

If you would like to become a part of this wonderful community, registering in the parish is an easy process. Please see Father Ranallo after Mass to inquire about registering. Again, welcome and God bless!

### CENACLE DEVOTION TO OUR BLESSED MOTHER



Saint James Chapel, Charlestown, RI is looking to extend its Cenacle Devotion to our Blessed Mother to a *bimonthly Monday evening beginning Monday, 1/8/2024 from 6:30 pm to 7:45pm*, in addition to its regular Monday morning devotion at 9:15 am.

The Cenacle is a devotion to our Blessed Mother based on the LECTIO DIVINA format, where, we discuss a particular Bible/Gospel reading, meditation on that reading, offer petition prayers and recitation of the rosary. The devotion is approximately 1 hour long at St James Parish Hall, which offers an ample lighted parking lot. Participants have found that this devotion participation has been deeply spiritual and offers a warm sense of fellowship, especially during these trying times! There is no weekly or bimonthly commitment necessary, come when you can. If you'd like more detailed information, please contact Cheryl Nickles @ 203-233-8477-feel free to leave a voice message if necessary.



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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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