



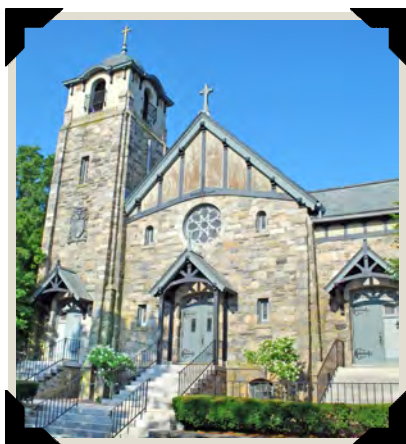
*All-powerful Father, Christ your Son became man for us and was presented in the temple. May he free our hearts from sin and bring us into your presence. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

THE PARISH FAMILY OF

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WAKEFIELD



**SAINT ROMUALD**  
MATUNUCK



114 High Street  
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saintfrancis00@aol.com

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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.

**PRESENTATION OF THE LORD**

*welcome*

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

# THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## St. Francis Mass Intentions

### The Amazing Authority of Jesus

MATTHEW 7:28-29

#### Saturday, January 27

4:30pm †Renee Vachon McHale

*Requested by husband, Buzz McHale*

#### Sunday, January 28

9:00am †Domenic & Matilda Coppolino

(Anniversary Remembrance)

*Requested by Family*

11:00am †Peter Reusch

*Requested by Family*

#### Monday, January 29

7:00am †Calvin Pepe, Jr

*Requested by Family*

#### Tuesday, January 30

7:00am †Rev. Charles Burns

(3<sup>rd</sup> Pastor)

*123<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary Remembrance*

#### Thursday, February 1

7:00am †Peter Reusch

(Birthday Remembrance)

*Requested by Family*

#### Friday, February 2

7:00am Special Intention

*Requested by Amanda Bremner*

#### Saturday, February 3

4:30pm For the People

#### Sunday, February 4

9:00am †Steven Hunt

*Requested by Ed & Diane Rudegeair*

11:00am †John McLoughlin

(10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Remembrance)

*Requested by Family*

## St. Romuald Mass Intentions

#### Sunday, January 28

10:00am †Denise Solomon

*Requested by Gail Dandurand*

#### Sunday, February 4

10:00am †Martha & Blanche McElkenny

*Requested by Family*

## Jesus teaches with authority.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

When Jesus and the disciples come to Capernaum in today's Gospel, the people in the synagogue are astonished. His teaching is different from that of the scribes: Jesus taught as one having *authority*. The word *authority* comes from roots implying self-doing or even self-being. One acting with authority acts with his own power.

The rabbis, Pharisees, and scribes would have carefully and consistently explained that their teaching stood on the foundation of the word of God in the prophets. Their teaching had power only to exhort, and only because it pointed beyond themselves back to the very power of God. They had no authority themselves; they were not authors, only teachers pointing back to what God had already said.

But Jesus taught as one having authority – having power of his own. Not only is this different from the teaching of the scribes, but this is also different from the teaching of the prophets themselves. Moses, speaking for God, tells the people in the first reading: *I will raise up for them a prophet ... and will put my words into his mouth; he shall tell them all that I command him.* The prophets speak the words of God, not their own. Even to prophesy in this way was a great risk. Anyone who dared to speak in the name of the Lord something that God did not command risked death for blasphemy – a penalty imposed by God himself through Moses in today's first reading.

And so, Jesus teaching with authority is astonishing indeed! Everything changes with Jesus' entry into human history. When Jesus speaks, God acts. This is a reversal of the action from the era of the prophets. With the prophets, it was God who spoke first, and the prophet then acted on God's command—often speaking God's words to the people. But, in Jesus, we have God's word present in human flesh. And when he teaches, his words themselves have power to act. The command of Jesus to the unclean spirit is no mere exhortation, it is not a request or an appeal to some higher authority. The words of Jesus, *Quiet! Come out of him!* actually cause the spirit to come out.

This is true of all the words of Jesus. In other Gospel passages Jesus says, *I will come back again and take you to myself, so that where I am you also may be* (Jn 14:3); and *Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest* (Mt 11:28). These are not empty promises; they have authority. Let us then put our trust in him – in the God who so loves us that he sent his only Son to speak and act on our behalf, on behalf of our salvation. We can then be free of anxieties about things of this world because when Jesus speaks, God acts. This is astonishing indeed.



Weekly Support	January 21
Budget envelopes used (121)	\$4,252.50
Loose Donations	\$ 991.00
Online Giving (# of donors-75)	\$2,745.00
<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>\$7,988.50</b>
Second Collection (Catholic University)	
Budget envelopes used (26)	\$ 422.50
Loose Donations	\$ 374.00
Online Giving (# of donors-4)	\$ 35.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 831.50</b>

This week's second collection is for Latin America. Next week's second collection is for St. Vincent DePaul  
**Thank you for your continued generosity.**



SANCTUARY LAMP

This week's sanctuary lamp at St. Francis Church burns in memory of Domenic & Matilda Coppolino.



FAITH FORMATION (401) 792-8684

Steubenville East Youth Conference – Save the Date



The 2024 Steubenville East Youth Conference will be held on July 26-28, 2024 at the MassMutual Center in Springfield, MA. Each year we reserve spots for our teenagers who are currently 8-12th grade students. We are trying to get a feel for how many spots to reserve so if you are interested in participating, contact Diane Castro at: diane.castro@stfranciswakefield.com by February 11th. We will be scheduling an info night for both parents and teens so stay tuned! At this point, you are not under any obligation to attend; we are just seeking to find who is interested in attending.

Our teens get a lot out of this weekend, here are some teen reflections from past conferences: "It was nothing like I expected. I felt so close and connected to God. I definitely feel like a stronger Catholic and I think as many teens that have the option to come should."



SUPPORT FOR SEMINARIANS

Each time a man has the opportunity to answer God's call to the priesthood, you make a difference. Together as a Catholic Community of Hope, we can provide support to seminarians currently studying to become priests in the Diocese of Providence. Please support vocations with a generous gift to the 2024 Catholic Charity Appeal at Dioceseofprovidence.org/CCA

As of 1/18/2024 we have raised \$9,436.00. Thank you!



CONSECRATED LIFE SUNDAY

Consecrated Life Sunday is Feb. 4th. Each year every diocese in the country celebrates Religious Sisters and Brothers. In honor of the remembrance of those in religious life, Sisters Barbara McMullen and Mary Francis Fletcher will renew their vows at the 9am Mass.



Sunday, January 28th 9:55-10:50am Classes Grades 1-6 FGC

Pray: Jesus, help us to listen to you in all things. Amen.

9:00am Mass: Celebration of Listening to God's Word.

Our children preparing for First Holy Communion will attend with their families.

Wednesday, January 31st 6:30-8:15pm Confirmation I & II classes in FGC



*This Week*

**Monday, January 29**

7:30-11:00am Adoration (Church)  
6:30pm Men of St. Joseph (JFGC)  
6:30pm Event Committee Meeting (FGC)

**Wednesday, January 31**

10:15am Women's Prayer Group (FGC)  
5:00pm RCIA (FGC)  
6:00pm Prayer Meeting (HBH)

**Thursday, February 1**

6-7:00pm Bible Study (FGC)

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

**DEACON ART MILLER**

*(Will be leading the Lenten Mission February 19-21 at 6:30pm)*

Deacon, author, radio host, revivalist and retired businessman, Deacon Art Miller is the former director of the Office for Black Catholic Ministries for the Archdiocese of Hartford. In addition to his assigned parishes, he is also the Catholic chaplain at Hartford's Capital Community College.

A nationally known preacher of God's Holy Scripture, he has traveled throughout the country raising the need of conversion to "Radical Love". The kind of self-denying love that can only be accomplished through the grace and power offered to us through Jesus Christ. Deacon Miller has preached throughout the United States—from New England to the Katrina-ravaged Gulf Coast of Mississippi, from the Rocky Mountains of northern New Mexico, to the south side of Chicago; he teaches and preaches Christ's call to His life-changing "Radical Love".

At public forums, houses of worship, schools and universities across the country, Deacon Miller addresses issues of social injustice. With firsthand knowledge he speaks to his audiences from the perspective of an African American who grew up on the South Side of Chicago in the 1940s and 1950s. Deacon Miller was 10 years old in 1955 when his schoolmate Emmett Till, age 14, was brutally murdered in Mississippi for allegedly whistling at a white woman—an incident that energized the nascent Civil Rights Movement. His book, *The Journey to Chatham* (published by Author House, 2005), details the historic events seen through the eyes of Emmett's friends.

Today, Deacon Miller addresses 21st-century examples of the same intolerance. He is the Hartford Archdiocese representative to the Connecticut Coalition to Save Darfur, a group formed specifically to influence state, national, and international officials and institutions to use their political clout to stop the conflict in Darfur, Sudan. Deacon Miller sees such racial divisiveness as an example of "human hatred that is the result of what happens when one group seeks power by dehumanization." Echoing the thoughts of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., he believes that as part of the great human experience, no one can sit idly tolerant of the great injustices that happen anywhere in the world.

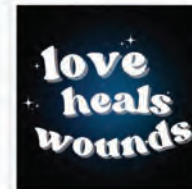
"If God were to give us an 11<sup>th</sup> commandment," Deacon Miller proposes, "I believe it would read: Thou shall not be a bystander."

**SAVE THE DATE**

**Month of January:** Baby Shower  
**February 14:** Ash Wednesday  
**February 16:** Lenten Soup Suppers begin for 6 weeks on Fridays (5:30-6:30pm FGC)  
**February 19-21:** Lenten Mission w/ Deacon Art Miller (6:30pm each night)

**RHODE ISLAND CATHOLIC SUBSCRIPTION**

Rhode Island Catholic's annual Subscription Drive is underway. Your diocesan newspaper depends on its faithful readers to continue its 147-year mission of bringing the good news of the church directly to you. If you are interested in starting a new subscription or continuing to receive Rhode Island Catholic in your mailbox each week, please call Circulation Manager Sue Richard at 401-272-1010 ext. 0, or visit the newspaper's website, [thercatholic.com](http://thercatholic.com), and click on 'Subscribe' to order and pay for a subscription. The cost for a year of in-home delivery of the newspaper is only \$30. **Online payments, checks or money orders (made payable to Rhode Island Catholic) is preferred.**



**LENTEN MISSION WITH DEACON ART MILLER**  
*(February 19-21 at 6:30pm)*

**"Love Heals the Wounds That Time Cannot."**

National speaker, author, radio host, revivalist and retired business man, Deacon Art Miller, leads us on a journey of forgiveness through the power of the Holy Spirit. Our journey will travel through scriptural stories that call us to a deep forgiveness and humility gained through self-love. Little Zacchaeus had to climb a sycamore tree to find his.

Deacon Miller explains that, God does not call us to guilt but to remorse. Remorse can be healed and acted upon. Guilt only fills us with self-loathing. Guilt is about us, remorse is about them. He also reminds us, that, **Forgiveness of others must start with forgiving yourself."**

*Please join us for our annual parish Lenten Mission:*

Monday February 19<sup>th</sup> through Wednesday February 21<sup>st</sup>, from 6:30 to 7:30pm.



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## Please Continue To Pray For



## World Peace



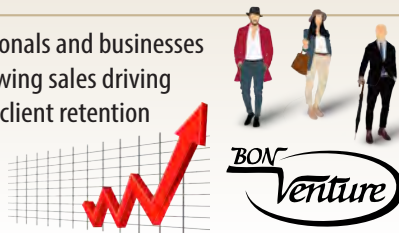
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Jubilee Year of Mercy

## 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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