

THE START OF LENT



Ash Wednesday

All come
from dust,
and to dust
all return.

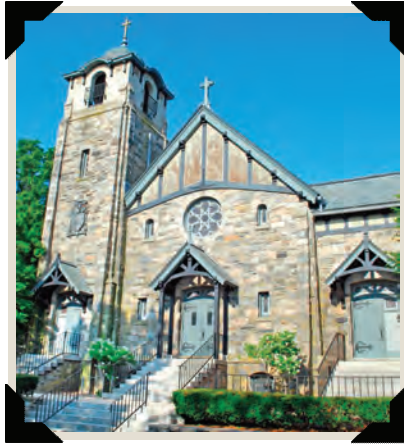


THE PARISH FAMILY OF

SAINT FRANCIS
OF ASSISI
WAKEFIELD



SAINT
ROMUALD
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Email

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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.

welcome

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

THE SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

St. Francis Mass Intentions

Saturday, February 10

4:30pm †Robert Cavallaro
(Birthday Remembrance)
Requested by Family

Sunday, February 11

9:00am †June Friel
Requested by Dolores
11:00am †Donald Joseph Boyle
Requested by Jeanne & Dan Thompson

Monday, February 12

7:00am †James House
Requested by the House Family

Tuesday, February 13

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



Ash Wednesday, February 14

7:00am †Jeannette DeLuca
Request by Family
Noon Liturgy of the Word/Distribution of Ashes (Not a Mass)
6:30pm For the People

Thursday, February 15

7:00am †Larry V. Burns
Requested by John O'Hale

Friday, February 16

7:00am †Joseph DeLuca
Requested by Family

Saturday, February 17

4:30pm †Anna DeLuca
Requested by Family

Sunday, February 18

9:00am †Marcia Signorelli
Requested by Family
11:00am †Mr. & Mrs. Thu Chi Tran
Requested by Family

St. Romuald Mass Intentions

Sunday, February 11

10:00am †Jeannette DeLuca & Joe Luciano
Requested by Family

Sunday, February 18

10:00am †John Estes
(Anniversary Remembrance)
Requested by Family

*In healing the leper, Jesus went to the periphery,
as we are called to do.*

Each year on Holy Thursday, Pope Francis has opted to wash feet not necessarily within the confines of Saint Peter's Basilica, but in prisons, care facilities, or refugee centers. It is here, at the "peripheries," where Pope Francis follows Jesus' lead.

The first reading provides context to help us understand Jesus' interaction with the leper in today's Gospel. In addition to declaring himself "unclean," the leper, according to the Levitical law, *shall dwell apart, making his abode outside the camp*. While this law protected others from contracting the disease, it also stigmatized and ostracized the sick for something that they had little or no control over. Lepers were outsiders in every sense of the word.

Amid this context, Jesus went to the peripheries, both literally and figuratively. At this point in Mark's Gospel, Jesus has been traveling around Galilee, proclaiming the message of the kingdom of God. It is a harsh environment; the land around is vast and dry; the sun shines hot and bright. It can be uncomfortable for even the healthiest of people. It is no wonder, then, that Jesus is moved with compassion upon seeing the leper. The leper thirsts for physical health but, even more so, for companionship and love.

While we commonly see the miracle of this story as Jesus healing leprosy, just as extraordinary is the man's willingness to approach Jesus, to risk even more censure, punishment, or even his life, to receive the love and healing touch of the Lord. This was possible, of course, because Jesus made himself available.

We may not have the ability to heal in a physical way as Jesus did, but we can allow our hearts to be overcome with compassion for others. We can follow Jesus to the people on the outskirts of society and make ourselves available to those experiencing poverty; those who are sick, mentally ill, or disabled; those who are homebound or in nursing homes. With the aid of God's grace, we can love them and perhaps even offer a gentle touch or embrace. These acts are mini-miracles, healing the hearts of those who, like the leper, may have been stigmatized or ostracized.

Grace and prayer certainly are needed for this work, for it is natural to fear such journeys to the periphery. Only through union with Christ do we desire to help shoulder the burdens of others—trading our safety, health, or comfort for compassion and sacrificial love of others.

As we turn to the sacrament to come, we remember Pope Francis' teaching that the Eucharist does not end with our reception of holy Communion. The Eucharist must be brought outside the doors of the church through our very lives—the body of Christ in action. If we are going to embody Jesus in our world today, we must go where he went, to the peripheries.

Parish Giving

<u>Weekly Support</u>	<u>February 4</u>
Budget envelopes used (135)	\$17,177.50
Loose Donations	\$ 903.00
Online Giving (# of donors—84)	\$4,293.00
Total Budget	\$22,373.50
<u>Second Collection (St. Vincent DePaul)</u>	
Budget envelopes used (90)	\$2,960.00
Loose Donations	\$ 731.00
Online Giving (# of donors—12)	\$ 440.00
Total	\$4,131.00

This week's second collection is the Monthly Collection. Nest week's second collection is for Ongoing Maintenance
Thank you for your continued generosity.

FEBRUARY 11, 2024



SANCTUARY LAMP

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



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."*



Tuition Assistance at Catholic Schools

The Catholic Charity Appeal helps make tuition more affordable for families that want to provide their children with a Catholic education. Our schools are centers of education and formation where students witness, share, and grow in a Catholic faith community. Within the framework of Catholic values, the schools strive to excel academically, to nurture spiritual, social and emotional growth, and to assist students in becoming lifelong learners and promoters of the Gospel. Together we can help pass on the faith by making a generous gift to the 2024 Catholic Charity Appeal Dioceseofprovidence.org/CCA

As of 2/1/2024 we have raised \$23,376.00. Thank you!

In-pew solicitation will take place at the Chapel on Sunday, February 25

In-pew solicitation will take place at the Church the weekend of on March 2/3



Sunday, February 11, 2024
9:55-10:50am Grades 1-6 FGC

Pray: Jesus, teach me to see when people are in need and reach out to them. Amen.

Next Sunday, February 18th begins school vacation-there will be **NO Faith Formation Classes on the 18th**.



Monday, February 12

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

Wednesday, February 14 (Ash Wednesday)

See Mass schedule for Ash Wednesday schedule

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

6:00pm NO PRAYER MEETING TONIGHT

Thursday, February 15

6-7:00pm Bible Study (FGC)

Friday, February 16

5:30-6:30pm Lent Soup Supper (FGC)
7:00pm Stations (Church)

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

This Week

SAVE THE DATE

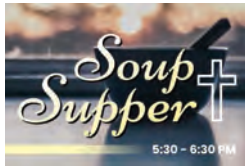
- February 16:** Stations begin [each Friday thru March 22] at the Church (7:00pm)
- February 16:** Lenten Soup Suppers begin for 6 weeks on Fridays (5:30-6:30pm FGC)
- February 21:** Stations begin at the Chapel [each Wednesday thru March 27] (12:30)
- February 19-21:** Lenten Mission w/ Deacon Art Miller (6:30pm each night)
- April 4:** Alpha Begins (6:30-8:00pm FGC) [More information to follow]



DAYS OF FASTING AND ABSTINENCE

Church discipline requires that Ash Wednesday and Good Friday be observed as days of fasting. Those between the ages of 18 and 59 should take only one full meal on those days, without taking solid food between meals. Abstinence from meat is also required on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent. Those with serious health conditions are excused from these requirements.

LENTEN FISH FRY & SOUP SUPPERS



There will be a fish fry in Father Greenan Center on Friday, February 16th from 5:30-6:30pm. Fish, fries and cold slaw will be on the menu at no charge. In addition, our usual home made soup suppers will be prepared on the remaining 5 Fridays of Lent from 5:30-6:30pm and offered to all. There is no charge for either the fish fry or the soup suppers but a basket will be available to receive free will donations to our St. Vincent DePaul chapter for assistance to our neighbors in need.

So come and join us for fish and soup on Fridays in Father Greenan Center! Bring a friend and stay for Stations of the Cross at 7pm.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS AT ST. FRANCIS CHURCH

Fridays at 7:00pm through March 22; *Good Friday, March 29 at 3:00pm*

STATIONS OF THE CROSS AT ST. ROMUALD CHAPEL

Wednesdays at 12:30 beginning February 21 through March 27.



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 19th through Wednesday February 21st, from 6:30 to 7:30pm. Confessions to be heard on Tuesday, February 20.





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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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