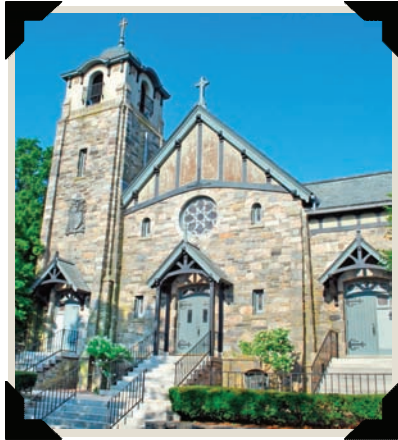


Third
SUNDAY OF

LENT

THE PARISH FAMILY OF

SAINT FRANCIS
OF ASSISI
WAKEFIELD



SAINT
ROMUALD
MATUNUCK



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Wakefield, RI 02879

----- **Phone** -----
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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

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

Destroy this temple,
and in three days I
will raise it up.

JOHN 2:19

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

St. Francis Mass Intentions



Saturday, March 2

4:30pm †Hazel Cinquegrana

Requested by Family

Sunday, March 3

9:00am †Steve Hunt

Requested by Family

11:00am †Rick Soltysiak

Requested by Family

Monday, March 4

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

Tuesday, March 5

7:00am †Madelyn Burzenski

Thursday, March 7

7:00am †Ralf T. Levesque

Requested by Family

Friday, March 8

7:00am †Irene Scripsack

Requested by Patty Grimes

Saturday, March 9

4:30pm †Grace Gray

(Anniversary Remembrance)

Requested by Family

Sunday, March 10

9:00am †Sister Margaret Mary Laffey

Requested by May & Ben

11:00am †Mary Peterson

Requested by Family

St. Romuald Mass Intentions

Sunday, March 3

10:00am †Roger Fenaughty

(Birthday Remembrance)

Requested by Family

Sunday, March 10

10:00am †Martha & Blanche McElkenny

Requested by Family

In the sacraments, the Lord fills us with his grace to help us love him with our whole hearts.

As we continue our journey through Lent, today's reading from Exodus enumerates the commandments God's people were to live by as part of the covenant relationship God established with them at Mount Sinai. The first three commandments shape our relationship with God, and the remaining seven shape our relationship with one another. Jesus summarized these with the great commandment: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and mind, and you shall love your neighbor as yourself. If we live this dual commandment of loving God and neighbor, we will fulfill the 10 Commandments.

Let's focus on the very first commandment: *You shall not have other gods besides me.* Sounds easy enough. We don't go to some other church to worship the god of rain or the god of fertility as the pagans did back in the day. We only worship God as revealed in sacred Scripture and sacred Tradition.

And yet, is it really true that we do not have other gods besides the Lord God? Because if it is true, then he is the one we seek to please first; whose commandments we seek to obey; the one to whom we turn first for guidance and help; the one around whom we organize our lives; the one who comes first in our hearts.

Each of us loves God. But maybe there are times when he doesn't *really, always* come first. The daily distractions of our lives can end up receiving all our attention. We may lack energy, and might be running low on the gifts of the Holy Spirit, and so rather than pray, we watch a show or spend time on social media. Rather than share our faith with a family member, well, we'll find pretty much anything else to do instead. God, and the things of God, seem to take a back seat at times in our lives. Thank goodness we never take a back seat for him!

That is part of the reason giving something up for the six weeks of Lent is so affirming and challenging. The Lord is always attending to, caring for, and loving us. We take this time to participate in prayerful, spiritual practices that they might help us remember to whom we belong, and to whom we ought to give our "first fruits."

Fortunately, the Lord is ready to help us. Every time we receive him in the Eucharist, every time we encounter him in the sacrament of reconciliation, the Lord fills us with his grace, cleansing our hearts and strengthening them to resist the temptation of all those attachments and desires that keep us from loving God wholeheartedly. That same zeal we heard Jesus display in the Gospel story as he cleansed the temple he also has for us—for seeing us get rid of all that inner clutter that keeps us from truly and fully loving him. All we need to do is ask; all we need to do is come to him.

Parish Giving

Weekly Support

Budget envelopes used (114) -
Loose Donations -
Online Giving (# of donors-77) -
Total Budget

February 25

\$3,612.00
\$2,138.00
\$2,857.00
\$8,607.00

This week's second collection is the Monthly Collection. There is no second collection next week.

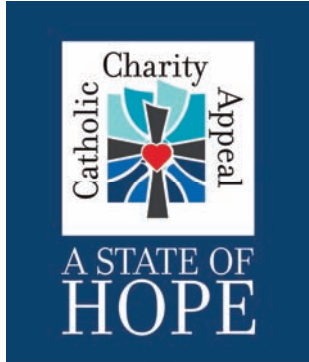
Thank you for your continued generosity.

MARCH 3, 2024



SANCTUARY LAMP

This week's sanctuary lamp at St. Francis Church burns in memory of Blanche Marcoux Jacques.



That through our commitment to the 2024 Catholic Charity Appeal, we as followers of Christ, may always be united to the Lord and each other in communion and charity.

Together we can help pass on the faith by making a generous gift to the 2024 Catholic Charity Appeal Dioceseofprovidence.org/CCA

As of 2/22/2024 we have raised \$36,293.00. Our goal is \$104,595.00. Thank you!

In-pew solicitation will take place at the Church the this weekend

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.



FAITH FORMATION
(401) 792-8684

Sunday, March 3, 2024
9:55-10:50am Grades 1-6 FGC

Pray: Lord, help us to remember we also are God's beloved children. Amen.

Wednesday, March 6
6:30-8:15pm Confirmation I & II classes in Fr. Greenan Center

Faith Formation Convocation 2024

Saturday, March 16
Bryant University,
Smithfield, RI

For a list of topics, speakers, schedule and to REGISTER go to:

<https://faithformationconvocation.com/>

Must register by March 9th.

St. Francis of Assisi's Annual Easter Egg Hunt for all ages

When: Saturday, March 23rd at 10:00 **Rain or Shine!**

Where: Fr. Greenan Parish Center

Donations of wrapped candy and plastic eggs gratefully accepted.

Collection baskets located at the entrance to the church and chapel.

Thank you for your support!

Monday, March 4

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

Tuesday, March 5

7:00pm SVD Meeting (HBH)

Wednesday, March 6

10:15am Women's Prayer Group (FGC)

12:30 Stations (Chapel)

5:00pm RCIA (FGC)

6:00pm Prayer Meeting (HBH)

Thursday, March 7

6-7:00pm Bible Study (FGC)

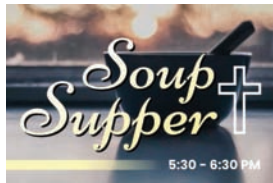
Friday, March 8

5:30-6:30pm Lenten 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



LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS

Our Lenten Soup Suppers have begun. 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 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 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.

CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE

On May 4th, there is a Catholic Men's Conference at the Cathedral of SS Peter & Paul in Providence sponsored by the Men of St. Joseph International and the Diocese of Providence. The keynote speaker will be Father Larry Richards and the topic is "Surrendering to God's Will". The conference is from 7:45am-3:30pm. The cost of attendance is \$50 before 4/5, or \$60 after 4/5. For more information or to register, please visit <https://www.mosji.org/events.php>. For any questions, please contact Mark Castro, 401-443-7607 or email at markcastro05@gmail.com.

SAVE THE DATE

- February 16:** Stations begin [each Friday thru March 22] at the Church (7:00pm)
- February 21:** Stations begin at the Chapel [each Wednesday thru March 27] (12:30)
- April 4:** Alpha Begins (6:30-8:00pm FGC) [More information to follow]



OFFICE OF LIFE & FAMILY

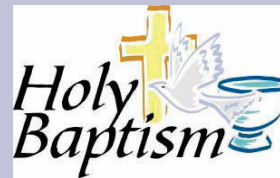
LETTER RECEIVED:

Dear Rev. Ranallo & Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi,

Thank you for your generous donations to our special ministry, St. Gabriel's Call. Your consideration for these families and especially their babies, will be such a blessing to those we serve.

Our mission with Gabriel is to reach out to women who are pregnant, desperate and in need of friendship and love. Through this confidential intervention program, we try to make things a little easier for them during and beyond pregnancy in a compassionate and personal way. Ultimately, we offer support, love and spiritual help in a spirit of Christian love and friendship.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Lisa Cooley, Coordinator
Office of Life and Family Ministries



Congratulations to the proud parents and godparents of Lenox Grace Campanini & Maeve Rush Rogers who were baptized on February 18 by Fr. Ranallo. *Your parish family rejoices with you!*



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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 Bishop of Springfield, Mass.



Jesus I trust in You

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