

First SUNDAY OF ADVENT

*You are
my hope,
my trust,
O Lord.*

Psalm 71:5

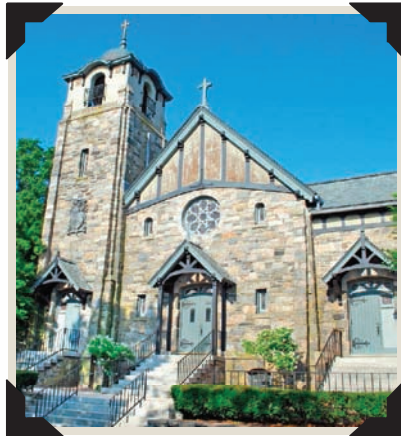


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401-782-2711



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

Christina Imondi-----Office Manager

Jamie Friel-----Faith Formation Coordinator (Grades K-6)

Cheryl Xavier-----Confirmation Coordinator

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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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 and Friday 9:00 am - 12:30 pm



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

St. Francis Mass Intentions



Saturday, November 30

4:30pm †Lynn Quirk Holland

Requested by Ray & Kathy Quirk

Sunday, December 1

9:00am †Sherry Viera

Requested by Dolores DiPrete

11:00am †Dorothy Cloos

Requested by Jim & Susan Meehan

Monday, December 2

7:00am †Rev. William J. McCombe

(1st Pastor)

126th Anniversary Remembrance

†Rev. Robert A. Allaire

(13th Pastor)

20th Anniversary Remembrance

Tuesday, December 3

7:00am †Gloria Carney

Requested by James & Kathleen Carney

Thursday, December 5

9:00am †Dick Bell

Requested by Family

Friday, December 6

7:00am Amanda Bremner

Requested by Family

Saturday, December 7

4:30pm †The Arsenault Family

Requested by Diane & John

Sunday, December 8

9:00am †Steve Hunt

Requested by Family

11:00am †Michael Dufficy

(Birthday Remembrance)

Requested by Wife & Child

St. Romuald Mass Intentions

Sunday, December 1

10:00am †Martha & Blanche McElkenny

Requested by Family

Sunday, December 8

10:00am †Sue & Al Marchand

(Anniversary Remembrance)

Requested by Al & Gerri Marsocci

Prepare the way for God's justice.



Today is the first day of the new liturgical year for the Church. We are entering Advent, a time of preparation for Christmas. We will begin preparing our hearts to celebrate the birth of Christ, and in anticipation of his return.

Hope, light, joy, and "holy waiting" are all terms that illustrate the spiritual movement of these four weeks. But there is another word that underlies them and is highlighted in our readings today: justice.

Justice might not be the first word that comes to mind as we prepare our hearts to celebrate the nativity of baby Jesus. So often when we think of justice, it is in the legal sense. We think of right and wrong or fairness.

God's sense of justice is deeper than that, however. It is about the proper state of things in the world, and about the order God wants in his creation. This is what Jeremiah prophesies in today's first reading. The redemption that awaited God's people was not just about saving us, but about bringing forth God's order in the world. God's way is justice, and it is authentic.

Jeremiah foretold the (first) coming of Christ. The Gospel addresses his second coming, and contains admonitions to keep our hearts alert and free from vice. Jesus says to be vigilant and attentive to what surrounds us: But when these signs begin to happen, stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand.

This is the fullness of the kingdom that awaits us. This is the time when God's just judgment will fall upon each of us, so the Lord tells us to be active in preparation and free from anxieties in life.

Every Advent is a time to prepare for our own journey to Bethlehem, and to await the return of the Son of Man. We take a serious look at our practices and consider how we can grow closer to God. There are countless ways to do this. Perhaps it is a dedicated time each day for prayer. Or maybe it is in reconnecting with a loved one. It could even be starting a new act of service. It might look different from person to person, but God is calling us to prepare to receive him and prepare for his return.



Due to an early transmission of this bulletin, collection information for the weekend of November 24th was not available. It will be posted in next week's bulletin.

This week's second collection is for the Monthly Offering. The second collection next week is for the Retired Religious Fund.

Thank you for your continued generosity.

DECEMBER 1, 2024



SANCTUARY LAMP

This week's sanctuary lamp at St. Francis Church burns in memory of our deceased loved ones.

WE HAVE A NEW EMAIL!

Our office email has been changed to office@stfranciswakefield.com
Please make note of this. Thank You and God Bless!

NET (NATIONAL EVANGELIZATION TEAM) RETREAT

Our NET retreat was held on November 16, 2024, at the Christian Brothers' Center in Narragansett for our Confirmation I and II Students. The theme was "Never Alone". We were joined by confirmation students from St. Mary's Star of the Sea, St. Brendan's, and St. Martha's Parishes. A great time was had by all!



THANK YOU FROM THE SOCIAL OUTREACH COMMITTEE!

We recently had two events at the parish and we would like to thank you for your generosity! The Baby Bottle Boomerang held on September 28 & 29 raised \$3,722.65 for RI Right to Life in Providence; and a Rose Sale was held on October 19 & 20, and we raised \$944 for the Mother of Life Center in Providence. These are both prolife organizations working to protect the sanctity of life. Thank you again!

THE GIVING TREE



The Social Outreach Committee will again sponsor our annual Giving Tree beginning on the Sunday following Thanksgiving, December 1. Gift tags will be placed on the Advent trees in St. Francis Church and at St. Romuald Chapel.

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

The gift cards need to be returned no later than the weekend of December 14/15. 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!



FAITH FORMATION
(401) 792-8684

Faith Formation K-6



Join us Today at our **Advent Wreath Workshop** at 10:00 AM

\$15 materials cost (Scholarship available if needed, see Jamie.) While this workshop replaces faith formation class this week, we want all families to know you are welcome to join us for this opportunity, whether your child is registered for classes or not.

Saturday, December 7th

Second Grade Reconciliation Retreat
9:00-11:30 AM

Sunday, December 8th

9:55-10:50 AM - Grades K-6 classes will meet in Fr. Greenan Center

Confirmation I and II

Wednesdays: 6:30pm-8:15pm (FGC)

Upcoming classes:

- December 4 (Class and **Grade 8:** Saint Report is due)
- December 18

Children's Liturgy Volunteers Needed at 9 AM Mass

Children's Liturgy of the Word manifests the church's hospitality toward children as Christian believers who are called to grow in their faith through liturgical celebrations. This ministry is for children who have not yet received their First Holy Communion. Children's Liturgy of the Word will take place at Sunday 9am Mass, during the Liturgy of the Word. After the Introductory Rites, Father or Deacon will call the children to the front of the church for a blessing and dismissal. Volunteers then lead the children downstairs to Helen Bouchard Hall, and lead a child-friendly version of the Liturgy of the Word. The children are then brought back to Mass during the Offertory Hymn, so they can be with their families during the Eucharist. Contact Jamie Friel for more information.

This Week

Sunday, December 1

10:00am Advent Wreath Workshop

Monday, December 2

7:30-10:00am Adoration (Church)

6:30pm Men of St. Joseph (↓FGC)

Tuesday, December 3

6:00pm Finance Committee Mtg

6:30pm SVD Meeting (HBH)

Wednesday, December 4

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

5:00pm RCIA Meeting (FGC Library)

6:00pm Prayer Meeting (HBH)

Thursday, December 5

6:00 pm Bible Study (FGC)

Friday, December 6

7:30-9:00am Adoration (Church)

Saturday, December 7

9:00am 2nd Grade Reconciliation Retreat

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 December 24th and December 25th.

PLANNING AHEAD CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS EVE TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24

At the Church

4:30pm

10:00pm

At the Chapel

5:30pm

CHRISTMAS DAY WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25

At the Church

10:00am

At the Chapel

10:00am

SAVE THE DATE

Month of January: Baby Shower
March 5: Ash Wednesday

DRIVE THRU LIVING NATIVITY AT MONSIGNOR CLARKE SCHOOL: SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 5-8:30PM

Visit the website (www.monsignorclarkeschool.org) to reserve your drive thru time, purchase tickets, and see the Christmas Story Come to Life!

All proceeds benefit our school. Make this cherished Christmas tradition part of your family's celebration this year!

STEUBENVILLE RETREAT

Attention Youth of St. Francis of Assisi Parish! Get ready for an unforgettable experience at the **2025 Steubenville Youth Conference** at Franciscan University! From June 27-29, 2025, teens from across the country will gather for a weekend filled with powerful worship, inspiring talks, and deep encounters with Jesus Christ. This year's conference promises to ignite your faith like never before, with dynamic speakers, uplifting music, and opportunities for adoration and confession. Join hundreds of other young Catholics in a vibrant community where you can grow in your relationship with God and be empowered to live out your faith boldly. Don't miss out on this life-changing event that has transformed the hearts of countless teens—mark your calendars.

Attention Parish/Supporters! As with any Youth Conference, fund raising is an essential part of the preparation. Given that this conference will be in Steubenville, Ohio, we will be looking to raise financial support through, but not limited, to the following:

1. Generous donations from St. Francis of Assisi parishioners.
2. Bake sales at both St. Francis of Assisi and St. Romuald Chapel.
3. Car washes at St. Francis of Assisi
4. On-line "Virtual" fundraising (Popcorn Sales)

We sincerely thank you for your consideration in giving to this amazing cause that is transformative to our Catholic Youth.

More to follow! Thank you and God Bless!

FALL DRAMA CAPSTONE AND ADVENT LESSONS & CAROLS AT CHESTERTON ACADEMY

Charles Dickens's "Nicholas Nickleby" on Dec. 5 at 6pm & Festival of Lessons & Carols on Dec. 13 at 6pm. Register at chestertonri.org/lessons/carols



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THE CHAPLET OF THE DIVINE MERCY

(For private recitation on ordinary rosary beads)

Our Father ... , Hail Mary ... , & e Apostles' Creed.

and n, 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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