



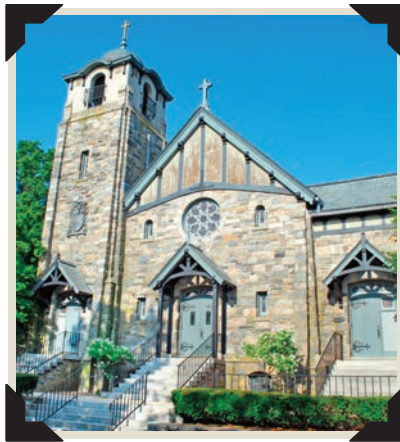
SOLEMNITY OF MARY, *the Holy Mother of God*

THE PARISH FAMILY OF

SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI
WAKEFIELD



SAINT ROMUALD
MATUNUCK



114 High Street
Wakefield, RI 02879

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----- Fax -----
401-783-9667
----- Email -----
office@stfranciswakefield.com
----- Web -----
stfranciswakefield.com
----- Religious Ed. Office -----
401-792-8684
----- Parish Cemetery -----
401-782-2711



"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



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)

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 and Friday 9:00 am - 12:30 pm

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

St. Francis Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 28

4:30pm †Bill Bailey

Requested by Ed & Kathleen

Sunday, December 29

9:00am †Deceased Members of the Flynn
& Carney Families

Requested by Kathleen & Jeff Carney

11:00am †Harold C. Jacobs

Requested by Maggie Hayes-Cote

Monday, December 30

7:00am †Karen Clark

(Third Anniversary Remembrance)

Requested by Family

Tuesday, December 31

7:00am †Sylvia DeLuca

Requested by Family



New Year's Day
Wednesday, January 1

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

Thursday, January 2

7:00am †Donna Andrews

Requested by Eve Sweeney

Friday, January 3

7:00am †John T. McNulty

(Anniversary Remembrance)

Requested by Kelli

Saturday, January 4

4:30pm †Rose Silva

(Birthday Remembrance)

Requested by Kelli

Sunday, January 5

9:00am †Mary & Joseph Costanza

Requested by Family

11:00am †Helen Roque

Requested by Jim & Susan Meehan

St. Romuald Mass Intentions

Sunday, December 29

10:00am †Walter Johansen

Requested by Jude

Sunday, January 5

10:00am †Martha & Blanche McElkenny

Requested by Family

*Holiness within the home leads us to
be about the Father's business and will
in our lives.*

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family. Interestingly, the Gospel chosen for this feast day does not include a story of togetherness and harmony in the household, but of separation and anxiety. Then again, it is in those moments when the opportunities for reliance on God and the striving for holiness are most visible and appreciated.

We know the story: Jesus remains in the temple when everyone else leaves Jerusalem to return home, and after three days of searching for him, Mary and Joseph find him sitting, listening to the teachers and asking him questions. They have been anxious and concerned.

But Jesus says, Did you not know I must be in my father's house? Jesus' utterance of his divine mission shows an obedience to the [heavenly] Father, while not dismissing that which was due to Mary and Joseph. They do not fully understand, but they acknowledge and love. Here, in this very statement, Jesus points to God the Father as his father. It is here that Jesus puts forth his divinity. Jesus, fully God and fully human, lays forth who he is at the age of twelve. Mary took all of this and pondered it in her heart, just as she did the prophecy of Simeon. While this statement of Jesus may not have been known to everyone, there was something in Mary that stirred her to keep it close in her heart, because her son was slowly revealing himself to the world.

Even in the midst of beginning to reveal his divinity to the world, Jesus went home with Mary and Joseph to learn from them. It was under the tender compassion, wisdom, and purity of Mary, and the chaste devotion and loyalty of Joseph that Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man.

Even in those early childhood years, Jesus was about the Father's business. The Holy Family models for us that holiness in families is possible. And that holiness within the home leads each of us to be about the Father's business and will in our lives.

Jesus, though he was God, obeyed Mary and Joseph in the most perfect and pure sense. When reflecting on the evangelical counsels, obedience is one of the vows that religious profess. Humble obedience allows for us to more clearly see the Father's plan for our lives. Jesus models obedience in the home of Mary and Joseph. He models what it looks like to honor father and mother and yet, at the same time, he completes the Father's will.

Mary kept all these things in her heart and pondered them. May we, too, find our hearts constantly pondering the mystery of Christ and his great love for us.



Collection information for the weekend of December 22nd was not available when this bulletin was transmitted due to the holiday bulletin schedule. 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 29, 2024



SANCTUARY LAMP

This week's sanctuary lamp at St. Francis Church burns in memory of the Flynn and Carney Families.

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!

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR:

During this Christmas Season I want to thank all of our staff members, parishioners, supporters, volunteers, and committee members who serve this parish not only with their time, treasure, and talents, but also with their hearts. I want to also thank Deacon John Dowd for all of the work he does here for our parish family, and I want to thank all the priests who assist in celebrating our Masses. I am grateful to be the pastor of a parish family that simply cares for each other here at the church and beyond. I have noticed that our parish continues to nourish the gift of welcoming all who visit our church and chapel. To the youth in this parish, I want to let you know you are loved and cherished as members of St. Francis. Thank you for your willingness to learn about your Catholic faith and put it into action. With anticipation, I look forward to what the Holy Spirit has in store for us in the new year!!!

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!
Fr. Albert Ranallo/Pastor

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

On Saturday, December 14th, our Faith Formation Students treated us to a wonderful Christmas Pageant to help us prepare our hearts for Jesus' birth. This annual tradition was made even more meaningful by being held in our Church.



FAITH FORMATION
(401) 792-8684

Faith Formation K-6

Pray: Lord help me to see and seek you as I celebrate Jesus' coming at Christmas. Amen.

Sunday, December 29th
No Classes - New Year's Break

Sunday, January 5th
K-6th Classes resume in FGC 9:55-10:50am



Confirmation I and II
Wednesdays: 6:30pm-8:15pm (FGC)

Upcoming classes:
January 8

Children's Liturgy Volunteers

We have had some volunteers step forward to lead Children's Liturgy once a month in the new year! Stay tuned, we will announce the beginning date soon. In order to offer Children's Liturgy weekly we still need more volunteers. Please contact Jamie Friel if you feel God calling you to this ministry.



Mark Your Calendar: The Youth Ministry Group will meet again on January 26th from 4-6pm.

This Week

Monday, December 30

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

6:30pm Men of St. Joseph (JFGC)

Wednesday, January 1

Office Closed - Women's Prayer Group and Wednesday Prayer Meeting will not be held.

Thursday, January 2

6:00 pm Bible Study (FGC)

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

K OF C BREAKFAST (PUBLIC INVITED)

The Knights of Columbus Council 2011 North Kingstown RI will hold a Breakfast at the Council Hall, 1265 Tower Hill Road, North Kingstown, on **Sunday, January 12th, from 7:30-10:30am**

Scrambled Eggs, Home Fries, Bacon, Baked Beans, Breakfast Pastries, Orange Juice, Coffee and Tea will be served.

The cost is \$10, children 6 and under are free!



The St. Francis of Assisi Social Outreach Committee is sponsoring a Baby Shower during the month of January 2025 to assist St. Gabriel's Call. St. Gabriel's Call provides supportive services to women and families facing unexpected pregnancies. If you, or someone you know, is in need of baby items, please contact Melanie at the St. Francis Diocesan Office at 401-783-3149.

Items needed:

Diapers (All sizes up to 6/XL, especially sizes 4-6)

Warm Sleepers (0-24 months)

Warm Children's Clothing (Infant to 5T, especially 2-5T)

Baby Wipes

Bibs

Infant Onesies

Pacifiers

Baby Blankets

Baby Bottles & Bottle Brushes

(Cash donations and Gift Cards are gratefully accepted:

Checks to be made out to **Retreat House**)

Please place donations in the collection baskets located at the St. Francis Statue in the church and St. Romuald Chapel from January 1-31st.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

SAVE THE DATE

Month of January: Baby Shower

March 5: Ash Wednesday

2025 EUCHARISTIC ADORATION SCHEDULE

It is said that many blessings come from spending time with our Lord. Here at St. Francis we give our parishioners the opportunity to do just that! Each Monday morning our Lord is exposed in the Monstrance from 7:30am until 10:00am including Holy Days of Obligation. (As of January 1st, there will no longer be Adoration on the 1st & 3rd Fridays of the month.) This gives parishioners, and others in the community, the opportunity to be able to come and visit Jesus on a more personal level. It is a time for quiet prayer and reflection. You can sign up for a 30 minute time slot (or more) by using the QR code or by contacting the parish office. Whether you only spend 30 minutes or an hour, each moment is a great treasure.



*Intention for this Wednesday,
January 1st, at 9:00am at St. Francis*

*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



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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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