

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY



Mass Intentions

Saturday, April 30

5:30pm Susan Marie Hogan

Requested by family

Divine Mercy Sunday, May 1

8:00am Special Intention for
Marian Servants of Divine Mercy

10:00am Florence Tambini &
Ginny Olson

Requested by Joan Cavanaugh

12:00NN Mavis Phelan

Requested by Kelli R. McNulty

Monday, May 2

7:00am Robert Cote

Requested by family

Tuesday, May 3

7:00am Leonard Staudinger

Requested by wife

Wednesday, May 4

7:00am Luke & Henrietta Pucella

Requested by family

Thursday, May 5

7:00am Joseph Lord

Requested by Mark & Laurie Friel

First Friday, May 6

7:00am Laura Daigle Vincent

Requested by Ted & Denise Carlson

First Saturday, May 7

5:30pm Howard, Wayne & Dana

Fanning—*Req. by family*

Sunday, May 8

8:00am For the Parish

10:00am Dorothy Feipel

Req. by Mary Ann's co-workers

12:00NN Marian Santaniello

Requested by Matuza family



St. Romuald Chapel Mass Intentions

Divine Mercy Sunday, May 1

10:00am Al Marchand

Req. by Gerri and Al Marsocci

First Saturday, May 7

8:00am First Saturday—BVM

Sunday, May 8

10:00am Sondra Giles

Req. by Mary Grace & Roger Hood



For Your Information

PARISH SUPPORT

Parish Support for April 24th was Budget—\$12,484; Easter Offering—\$9,045. This weekend's second offering is the monthly offering for May. Thank you for your continued generosity!

SANCTUARY LAMPS at St. Francis Church burns in memory of James and Margaret Flynn. The sanctuary lamp at St. Romuald Chapel burns in memory of Fred Matazzaro.

DIVINE MERCY REMINDER

TODAY is Divine Mercy Sunday. Join us at St. Romuald's chapel for adoration at 1:00PM, followed by the Chaplet of Divine Mercy at 3:00PM, and the Celebration of Mass at 3:30PM. All are welcome!

SOCIAL OUTREACH COMMITTEE ... will meet tomorrow, Monday, May 2nd at 7pm in the Mary Cummings Conference Room located in the rectory office building. All are welcome.

THE CATHOLIC CHARITY FUND APPEAL

Where we stand to date: Received: \$82,895; Goal: \$104,000

As always, thank you for your generosity.

FIRST SATURDAY MASS

Please join the newly formed Militia Immaculata for morning Mass this First Saturday, May 7th at 8:00am at St. Romuald Chapel, Matunuck. We'll discuss a date and time for the next Militia Immaculata meeting. Bring your calendars!

DISCOUNT CARDS

Youth Ministry Discount Cards are still available for purchase through the Religious Education Office (792-8684), the parish office (783-4411) or our young adults who will be attending the Steubenville East Youth Conference this summer. For a cost of \$10, you receive various savings from 16 local businesses throughout the year. The card is valid through May 15, 2012. Please help support our Youth Ministry!

CALLING ALL HIGH SCHOOL TEENS!!!

Steubenville East Youth Conference 2011 is set for July 22-24 at URI. Visit their website: www.catholicyouthministry.com and on Facebook. Paperwork and a \$75 deposit to secure a spot are due to the religious education office by April 30th. Don't delay! You'll miss out on a powerful weekend of dynamic talks, awesome music and engaging worship with 2000 Catholic teens. Any questions call Jacqui Bertrand at 782-3505 or the Rel. Ed. Office at 792-8684.

"BRING FLOWERS OF THE RAREST" - MAY CROWNING

On Sunday, May 8, at the 10:00AM Mass at Saint Francis, we will celebrate a traditional "May Crowning." May is traditionally celebrated as a month of special devotion to Our Blessed Mother. The Church has always encouraged veneration of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and the practice of crowning images of Our Lady appears as early as the fifth century. The crowning of an image of Mary reflects an interior desire to be devoted to her as Queen of Heaven. The images we use in our worship should aid us in lifting up our minds and hearts to those whom they portray. Parish children who will have received their First Holy Communion the day before will assist with the crowning. ***Please join us NEXT Sunday, May 8 at the 10:00AM Mass for this special celebration of devotion to Our Lady!***

MAY 1, 2011

THANK YOU!

Many thanks to all who participated in making our Holy Week liturgies so reverent and special! Thanks are especially due to our dedicated altar servers, readers and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion; those who decorated the church and chapel with such care and creativity; those who constructed the repository in Helen Bouchard Hall; those who participated in presenting the oils on Holy Thursday; and those who participated as greeters, gift-bearers and ushers. Many thanks to Deacon Paul for preparing our RCIA candidates throughout the year, and to their sponsors for witnessing to the beauty of our Catholic faith. A round of applause goes to Bobby Kelly for the many, many hours of setup and cleanup. Thanks to Bill Harding for serving as Master of Ceremonies at our Triduum liturgies. And a very special thank you to the church and chapel choirs, our cantors, and other parish musicians who enhanced our worship through song under the careful guidance of Mimi Battey and Karen Graham! We are truly blessed at St. Francis and St. Romuald!

CONGRATULATIONS TO THOSE "SEALED WITH THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT"!

Congratulations to all those who received the Sacrament of Confirmation from Bishop Evans this past Friday evening. May you always see in St. Francis a loving home, a spiritual oasis, and a source of support and encouragement as you journey through life. Many thanks to our team of dedicated catechists who worked throughout the year preparing our candidates: Laurie Friel, Paula Duhamel, Dan Mahoney, Nancy Meehan, Joanne Morrissey, Anita Nascenzi, Marisa Shanstrom. And a very special thank you to Diane Castro, the Coordinator of our stellar Confirmation program, for her tireless work in holding everything together with the help of the Holy Spirit!

BLESSED JOHN PAUL II

Today in Rome, Pope Benedict XVI beatified his predecessor, Pope John Paul II. This act is not unprecedented, but you would have to go back about 1,000 years to find a pope beatified by his immediate successor. Pope John Paul II, who is now known as "Blessed," is only one step away from sainthood. Following the confirmation of a miracle involving the healing of French religious sister from Parkinson's disease, the process of beatification was able to move forward. Diocesan seminarian Ryan Connors summed up the significance of this event in the latest edition of the RI Catholic: "A beatification, like a canonization, is first about saying thank you to God. Yes, it is about honoring the new blessed and certainly it is an invitation to imitate his or her sanctity. But first and foremost the church recognizes saints and blessed to give glory to God. We want to praise and thank him for what he did in the life of this Christian. Saint-making is God's business and the beatification of John Paul II is an occasion to thank God for what he accomplished in this man. The beatification of John Paul II also encourages us to look to him as a special model of virtue and holiness, as a model priest and Christian disciple. His joy, openness, transparency, courage, and fidelity are qualities to imitate and virtues for which we should beg God's help...John Paul II is a hero of history and model for the new millennium. He is now the church's newest blessed. For the gift that he was—and is—we can say only thanks be to God. Blessed John Paul II, pray for us."



Religious Education

Sunday, May 1st is our last Sunday class for the year.

Monday, May 2nd at 6:00PM

First Communion Rehearsal for the 10am Ceremony. Please report to the lower church. All students and a parent must attend.

Tuesday, May 3rd at 6:00PM

First Communion Rehearsal for the 1pm Ceremony. Please report to the lower church. All students and a parent must attend.



This Week

Sunday, May 1

Divine Mercy Celebration at

St. Romuald Chapel, Matunuck
1-4:30pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Chaplet of Divine Mercy (3pm), Holy Mass (3:30) 6:30pm Praise Rehearsal (FGC)

Monday, May 2

6:00pm First Communion Rehearsal for 10am Ceremony
7:00pm Social Outreach Mtg (MCCR)
7pm Rosary at St. Romuald Chapel

Tuesday, May 3

6:00pm First Communion Rehearsal for 1pm Ceremony
7pm Adult Choir Rehearsal (loft)
7pm Rosary at St. Romuald Chapel

Wednesday, May 4

1-10pm Habitat for Humanity Volunteer Appreciation Night (FGC)
7pm Rosary at St. Romuald Chapel

Thursday, May 5

7pm Prayer Shawl Ministry (MCCR)
7pm Rosary at St. Romuald Chapel

First Friday, May 6

6:30pm Holy Hour w/Adoration led by Deacon Paul Iacono

7pm Rosary at St. Romuald Chapel

First Saturday, May 7

8:00am First Saturday Mass with Militia Immaculata

Don't forget to check out our
NEW parish website:
<http://stfranciswakefield.com>

IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH: THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK



Year of Liturgical and Spiritual Renewal

In our first reading from the Acts of the Apostles, we catch a glimpse into the life of the early church. What we see is an already-vibrant communal life, centered around liturgy. The early church devoted itself to common prayer and the Eucharist. Where gathered in the temple area, praying the psalms, or gathered in their homes for the Eucharist, the early church knew that liturgy held them together. They were gathered together into a church-body for the purpose of worshiping God in spirit and in truth. And the risen Jesus that they had come to love was not merely an idea to them, he was alive, and present in their midst, through the faithful celebration of Mass. Does the liturgy bind us together as a parish family? Or is liturgy just one thing we do among many? The liturgy should define us as a people, because in the liturgy we encounter the risen Jesus who wants to lavish His grace upon us. The paradigm of the early church should serve as a challenge to us. Are we committed to the teachings of our Catholic faith, which is the teaching of the apostles? Do we have a vibrant communal life or do we meet every week as strangers? Is the breaking of the bread--the Mass--the very center of our parish life? And are we committed to a thriving personal prayer life that helps us enter more deeply into communal prayer? These are tough questions, but without these fundamentals, we *would* not nor *could* not be an Easter people!

WHY THE NEW TRANSLATION?

On Good Friday, at the Celebration of the Lord's Passion, the celebrant prayed the following prayer: *Lord, by shedding his blood for us, your Son, Jesus Christ, established the paschal mystery. In your goodness, make us holy and watch over us always.*

Here is the new translation, which is more faithful to the original Latin, and is thus more poetic: *Remember your mercies, O Lord, and with your eternal protection sanctify your servants, for whom Christ your Son, by the shedding of his blood, established the Paschal Mystery.*

The new translation of this prayer, like so many others in the new missal (which will make its appearance in Advent 2011), is more biblical and employs richer language to highlight the transcendent quality of our worship. For more information on the new translation, visit <http://usccb.org/romanmissal>.

FROM YOUR PARISH PRIESTS...

Many thanks to all those who sent Easter greetings, gifts and goodies to the rectory! In light of all that you had to do and prepare for your own families in preparation for Easter, it meant so much that you kept us in mind as well. Your kindness and thoughtfulness are deeply appreciated! Be assured of our prayers for you and your loved ones during this holy season.

Fr. Nick & Fr. Joe

SAVE THE DATE

Back by popular demand! Our next Taize prayer service will be held at 7:00PM on Sunday, May 22 in St. Francis Church. Mark your calendars now! Details will soon follow! You won't want to miss this unique experience of prayer, song and reflection!

WE HATE TO SAY GOODBYE!

For the past few years, our parish family has been blessed by the presence of **Sr. Barbara Matazzaro**, a member of the Apostles of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, a worldwide community of women religious. She has been living in our parish while waiting for appropriate housing to become available for her mother closer to her community in Connecticut. Appropriate arrangements have been made and Sr. Barbara and her mother Rita will be leaving us later this month. While we are delighted that Sr. Barbara will be able to return to her community with her mother close by, we are also very sad to see her go. She has been a familiar face at parish liturgies, events, and enrichment opportunities. And despite her already busy schedule, she generously agreed to moderate our Dumb Ox book club this past spring. Many thanks, Sr. Barbara, for your witness and your service! Know that you are always welcome at Saint Francis and Saint Romuald! To learn more about Sr. Barbara's community, visit <http://www.ascius.org/>.

WOMEN'S CLUB SCHOLARSHIP

The St. Francis Women's Club is pleased to announce three \$750 scholarships for the year 2011 available to graduating high school seniors, who are parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi in Wakefield, RI. Scholarship information and application may be picked up after Mass at the church or chapel on Sunday, May 1 through Sunday, May 8 or may request one from the Parish Office from Monday, May 2 through Friday, May 20.

Return the application to the St. Francis of Assisi parish office at 114 High Street, Wakefield, RI 02879 no later than Friday, May 20, 2011.