

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Mass Intentions

Saturday, November 26

4:30pm Rev. Michael L. Ryan
7th Pastor of St. Francis—59th Anniv.

Sunday, November 27

8:00am Mass for the People
10am Martiniano & Palmiotto Families
Requested by family
12:00NN Rose & Amadeo Tella
Requested by family

Monday, November 28

7:00am Betty Goodwin
Requested by daughter Kathy Cawley

Tuesday, November 29

7:00am Eldora Lord
Requested by Mark and Laurie Friel

Wednesday, November 30

7:00am Rev. William J. McCombe
1st Pastor of St. Francis—113th Anniv.

Thursday, December 1

7:00am Joseph Costanza
Requested by family

Friday, December 2

7:00am Rev. Robert A. Allaire
13th Pastor of St. Francis - 7th Anniv.

Saturday, December 3

8:00am First Saturday Mass
4:30pm James DeLuca, Sr.
Requested by family

Sunday, December 4

8:00am Gloria Carney
Req. by Jeff and Kathleen Carney
10:00am Mass for the People
12:00NN Hugh & Catherine McGee
Requested by Boyle family



St. Romuald Chapel Mass Intentions

Sunday, November 27

10:00am John and Grace Carpinelli
Requested by family

Sunday, December 4

10:00am David Bruyere
Requested by family



For Your Information

PARISH SUPPORT for November 20 & 27 will be published in the December 4th bulletin. Next weekend's second offering will be the Monthly offering for December. Thank you for your continued generosity.

SANCTUARY LAMP

This week's sanctuary lamp at St. Francis Church burns in memory of Donald B. McNulty.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION: A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception commemorates the conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the womb of her mother, Saint Ann. In view of the saving merits of the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, God the Father preserved Mary from the stain of original sin so that she could perfectly carry out in his will in bearing the Messiah. This year, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is a **Holy Day of Obligation**.

Masses on December 8th will be held at the following times: 7:00am, 12:00NN and 5:30pm.

AN ADVENT THOUGHT

Advent is a time for rousing. We are shaken to the very depths, so that we may wake up to the truth of ourselves. The primary condition for a fruitful and rewarding Advent is renunciation, surrender. We must let go of all our mistaken dreams, our conceited poses and arrogant gestures, all the pretenses with which we hope to deceive ourselves and others. If we fail to do this, stark reality may take hold of us and rouse us forcibly in a way that will entail both anxiety and suffering. - Alfred Delp

ADVENT IS ABOUT WATCHING

They watch for Christ who are sensitive, eager, apprehensive in mind, who are awake, alive, quick-sighted, zealous in honoring him, who look for him in all that happens, and who would not be surprised, who would not be over-agitated or overwhelmed, if they found that he was coming at once...This then is to watch: to be detached from what is present, and to live in what is unseen; to live in the thought of Christ as he came once, and as he will come again; to desire his second coming, from our affectionate and grateful remembrance of his first. -Blessed John Henry Newman

FIRST FRIDAY DEVOTIONS will be held on Friday, December 2 at 6:30PM in St. Francis Church. From now on, one of our parish priests will be available during the First Friday Holy Hour to hear confessions from 6:30-7:15pm. *Simply use the door to the Reconciliation Room right by the elevator, so as to avoid walking through the sanctuary.* We hope that this additional time for the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be convenient for those who are unable to go on Saturdays. If you have never participated in devotions before, consider joining us for this special time of prayer to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Eucharistic Adoration, readings, prayers and hymns constitute the devotions, which conclude with Benediction. We hope you can join us!

FROM THE PASTOR...

This weekend we begin the season of **Advent**, a time of prayerful preparation for our celebration of Christmas. While this tends to be a very busy, hectic time of the year as we prepare for the holidays, Advent reminds us of the real meaning of Christmas – the birth of our Savior. Over the next four weeks we are invited to prepare spiritually for this great feast and to take time to reflect upon and appreciate the great gift of the Lord's presence in our life. To help us along the way, we have Advent booklets available, "*five minutes with the Word*". I hope that many of our parishioners will take a few minutes a day to prepare spiritually for Christmas – it will make our celebration all the richer.

On a practical note, parishioners who receive our **Sunday Offering envelopes** through the mail will soon notice something different. After careful comparison, we have switched the contract for our Sunday envelopes to *Our Sunday Visitor*, a name that may be familiar to you as the publisher of many Catholic periodicals and books. We have made this change for several reasons. The cost of the envelopes to the parish will be significantly less and as a result, your offering will be of greater benefit to our parish. Also, for our office staff, changes to the list and address changes will be done much more easily and quickly online. I think that you will also find the new envelopes themselves to be attractive and thought-provoking, providing scripture quotes to remind us of God's generosity to us as an incentive to return some of that goodness to God and His people.

The first mailing from *Our Sunday Visitor* will be the Christmas flyer and envelope that is being sent to all our parishioners. For those who receive envelopes regularly, the Christmas envelope will be a duplicate of the envelope you already received in your regular budget packet (we don't expect you to use both). Then, later in December, they will send out the regular packets for January and February. While we expect a seamless transition, as with any new program, there may be some glitches or confusion. If you experience any problems, please call the parish office and we will do our best to straighten it out. Also, if you presently do not receive offering envelopes but would like to contribute regularly in this way, please let us know and we will add you to the list.

While I am on the subject of weekly offerings, I would also mention that soon we will be offering the option of electronic fund transfer for your parish donations. Early in the New Year we will provide information about this program and make it available for those who wish to use it.

I am grateful to our many parishioners who use their offering envelopes regularly. We rely on these donations to support our various ministries and maintain our parish property. Your generosity is always greatly appreciated!

Msgr. Theroux



Religious Ed. Notes

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

Sunday, November 27

No classes

Monday, November 28

7-8:30pm Confirmation I and II

Wednesday, November 30

4-5:00pm GRADES 3-6 (FGC)

7-8:15pm GRADES 7 & 8 (FGC)



This Week

Sunday, November 27

NO Religious Ed. Classes

10am RCIA Rite of Acceptance Mass

5:30-7:00pm Praise Rehearsal (FGC)

7:00pm AA (HBH)

Monday, November 28

7-8:30pm Confirmation I & II (FGC)

Tuesday, November 29

7:00pm RCIA (MCCR)

7:00pm Choir Rehearsal (loft)

Wednesday, November 30

4-5:00pm Religious Ed Classes (FGC)

5-6:15pm Children's Choir (loft)

7-8:15pm Grade 7/8 (FGC)

Thursday, December 1

2pm Mass at Scallop Shell Nursing & Rehab

7pm Prayer Shawl Ministry (MCCR)

7pm Men of St. Joseph (Office Bldg.)

7pm Couples in Recovery (HBH)

First Friday, December 2

6:30pm Holy Hour at St. Francis Church
w/ Confessions

First Saturday, December 3

8:00am 1st Saturday Mass (Church)

FIRST SATURDAY MASS

First Saturday Mass will be celebrated on Saturday, December 3rd at 8:00AM in St. Francis Church. Please join us as we honor our Blessed Mother, invoking her powerful intercession for the good of the Church, the world, and our parish family!

Don't forget to check out
St. Francis on the Web:

<http://stfranciswakefield.com>

or

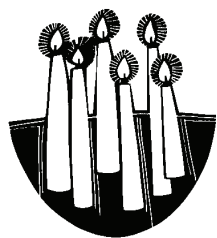
<http://facebook.com/>



AWAKE, MY SOUL! MORNING PRAYER DURING ADVENT

Every Wednesday during Advent, immediately following the 7:00AM Mass, beginning on Wednesday, November 30th, we will pray *Morning Prayer* in Saint Francis

Church. Morning Prayer is a simple liturgical celebration based on the praying of psalms. It is a brief service intended to lift up our hearts in gratitude to God at the beginning of the day, and to consecrate the work and activities of the day to his glory. The texts will be provided for you, all you need to do is stick around after the 7AM Mass on Wednesday's. What a great way to start the day! A "two-fer" special: Mass and Morning Prayer! *"In the morning, let me know your love..."*



WAIT THROUGH SONG: A TAIZE PRAYER SERVICE

Mark your calendar for a distinctive Advent prayer-experience! The Taize Community is an ecumenical fellowship in France that has become famous for their distinctive prayer services. Please join us as we bring a little bit of France to Wakefield! On

Sunday, December 11th, at 7:00PM, our choir will lead a Taize Prayer Service in Saint Francis Church. The service will be unlike anything you've experienced! Using light and darkness, gentle song and silence, we will lift up our hearts to God in contemplative prayer! Candles, sacred images, scripture, and repetitive, easily-singable songs will be a part of this special gathering! Take a seat in your favorite pew or get comfortable on the sanctuary floor! You won't want to miss this!



My soul in stillness waits... THE SEASON OF ADVENT

Be sure to check out our special Advent bulletin cover with the recurring theme this season, "My soul in stillness waits...". Make the next four weeks for you a special time of hopeful expectation as you wait for the coming of the savior. Why not plan on joining us for daily Mass at 7:00am during the season of Advent.



Remember a loved one,
support a hospice

LIGHT UP A LIFE

As Home & Hospice Care of Rhode Island marks its 32ND year of their "Light Up A Life" tradition they invite you to join them to become part of this special gathering. This tradition provides a number of meaningful ways to remember and honor loved ones during the holiday season. Please join them at 4:00 p.m., Sunday, December 4th. The memorial services will be held in the Father Greenan Parish Center and is free and open to the public with a reception and light refreshments to follow.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Mass Readings for every day of the month can be found online at: <http://www.usccb.org/nab/>

NEXT WEEKEND'S MASS READINGS

1st Reading: Is 40:1-5, 9-11

2nd Reading: 2 Pet 3:8-14

Gospel Reading: Mark 1:1-8

Women's Cancer Support Group

1st Wednesday of each month at 10:00AM

at **St. Mary, Star of the Sea Parish Hall**

864 Point Judith Road, Narragansett, RI

For more information call Marie Saccoccio at 789-7112

*Women supporting women who are dealing with
or who have survived cancer.*

"Sometimes you just need to talk to someone who's been through it."



FOOD & COMMODITY NEEDS FOR DECEMBER/JANUARY

Evaporated milk, potatoes, soup, spaghetti sauce, peanut butter, jelly, laundry detergent. Donations may be dropped off at the entrances of the church/chapel. They are taken weekly to the Jonnycake Center and/or Welcome House.

CALLING ALL HIGH- SCHOOLERS



The game table is in! Join us at the next youth group meeting on Sunday, December 4th from 7-9:00pm in the Upper Room of Fr. Greenan Parish Center. If you haven't been to the Upper Room to check out our space, stop on by! You'll love it!



JOY TO THE WORLD!

It's that time again! Time for our Children's Choir to begin rehearsals for Christmas Eve Mass!!

Calling all boys and girls ages 7-12!!

Rehearsals will be on Wednesdays, 5-6:15pm beginning Nov. 30th!!

This year our Christmas Eve Mass will be at 4:30pm!!

Make this the year you try choir! We need YOU to make our celebration truly joyful and glorious!! See YOU in the loft! Bring a friend!!

Questions?

Call me-Mimi Battey- 792-8301

