



Mt. Hope Catholic Community

Saint Francis of Assisi / Saint Dominic

Sunday, October 11, 2020



28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Come to the feast."
- Mt 22:4bc

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

St. Francis of Assisi Liturgical Celebrations

Saturday: 5:30 p.m.

Sundays: 7, & 11 a.m.

Monday, Wednesday and Friday: 8 a.m.

ABOVE SCHEDULE SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Only Masses at St. Dominic's 9:30 a.m. & St. Francis 11 a.m. Sunday—Reservations Required—call/email appropriate Rectory no later than Thursday at noon for reservations.

St. Francis of Assisi Contact Info:

Parish Office: 508-673-2808

Parish fax: 508-672-6241

Email: stfranciswalsea@comcast.net

Website: www.stfranciswalsea.com

Religious Ed Grades 1-4: 508-675-7002

Email: stdominic1277@gmail.com

Religious Ed Grade 5-7: 508-674-0024

Email: religiouseducation@stfranciswalsea.com

Confirmation 1 & 2 Coordinator: 508-674-0024

Email: joyann56@comcast.net

St. Vincent de Paul: 508-673-2808

50 Week Club: Bill & Kathy Sullivan 508-493-9064 or 508-674-8511

Parish Staff

Pastor: Rev. Philip N. Hamel

Deacon: Rev. Mr. Gary M. John

Maintenance: Tony Roderigues

Faith Formation Coordinator: Deb Fontaine

Confirmation Coordinators: Joy & Joe Vivieros

Office Manager/Bulletin: Colleen Fontaine

Finance Manager/Office/Notary: Fran Kelley

Music Director: Ada Simpson

Cantors: Allison Messier and Mike Moniz

Parish Council President: Wayne Gray

Parish Address:

Church: 530 Gardners Neck Road

Office/Rectory:

270 Ocean Grove Avenue

Swansea, MA 02777

Office hours: Monday– Thursday 9:30 a.m. — 4 p.m.
BY TELEPHONE ONLY. Closed on Friday.

Facebook Group:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/StFrancisSwansea/>

<https://www.facebook.com/St-Francis-of-Assisi-Swansea-106809807662959>

Mt. Hope Catholic Community—St. Francis of Assisi, St. Dominic



Parish Mission Statement: In the spirit of our patron, St. Francis of Assisi, we dedicate ourselves as living stones to building our parish family with Christ as our foundation. Enlivened by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves by sharing God's transforming love with our families, our community and our world.

Mass Intentions for the Week

St. Francis of Assisi

Sat. October 10

5:30 p.m.

Sun. October 11

7:00 a.m.

11:00 a.m. **Rita & Frank Crook Anniversary** by Kathy & Bill Sullivan
Special Intentions by Charles & Dianne Doyle
Janice Higgins by Mary Anne Tuttle

Mon. October 12

8:00 a.m. **Joseph S. Azevedo** by Daughter

Wed. October 14

8:00 a.m. **Manuel DaCosta** by Sister

Fri. October 16

8:00 a.m. **Maria Jo Carvalho** by Sister-in-law

Sat. October 17

5:30 p.m.

Sun. October 18

7:00 a.m.

11:00 a.m. **Gilbert & Manuel Pacheco, David de Medeiros**
by Rose Pacheco
Alice Walsh 4th Anniversary by Family
George LeBreux by Fran & Mike Kelley

St. Dominic

Sat. October 10

4:00 p.m. **Mary Chaves (Birth.)**

Sun. October 11

9:30 a.m. **Roberto Andrade**
George & Ann Botelho

Mon. October 12

8:00 a.m.

Thurs. October 15

8:00 a.m. **Carl Lopes**

Sat. October 17

4:00 p.m. **Arthur LeMay (Birth.) & Dorothy LeMay**

Sun. October 18

9:30 a.m. **Cory Brescia**
Jose & Maria Pimentel
All Souls in Purgatory

Saint Francis of Assisi Memorial Fund

In making funeral arrangements, you may wish to consider enrolling the deceased in the Saint Francis of Assisi Memorial Fund. Relatives and friends who donate to the fund in memory of the deceased receive a thank you card from the parish, and another card is sent notifying the bereaved of the gift. The gifts are charitable contributions and may be a supplement or a substitute for flowers. Those whose names are enrolled in the Saint Francis of Assisi Memorial Fund are remembered in the Masses and prayers of the parish. A special Mass is celebrated once a year for all the souls enrolled. All the monies of this Fund are used to purchase materials needed to make our church more inspiring and beautiful for community prayer and celebrations of the sacraments.

Thank you for considering this beautiful tribute.

The Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Living the Paschal Mystery

In a story filled with such violence as we have today, it might be easy to forget we are dealing with a merciful God! God calls a people to himself and desires that they come to him. The destruction of the city of Jerusalem with its temple was interpreted at the time by Christians as God's judgment of Judah. A violent world saw stories of violence. Though we may wish to minimize the violence, unfortunately it has been part of human history from the beginning and continues to this day.

It might be difficult to strip away the violent imagery and focus instead on the kernel underneath it all. Matthew's church has the wisdom and experience of decades since the death and resurrection of Jesus. It has learned that there are some in the church who do not belong, as indicated in several parables. Sadly, our modern experience reflects this too. Simply being in the church does not make one holy, God's chosen, or a paragon of virtue. There are weeds within the wheat. Only God has the authority to definitively and eternally expel such a person. The sobering reminder that "many are invited but few are chosen" should cause us to pause, reflect, and reexamine our lives.

Living Liturgy 2020—Liturgical Press, Collegeville MN





In Loving Memory

Our memorial candles burn in October in remembrance of:

Sanctuary Lamp:
Robert Peloquin by Wife,
Wanda

Altar Candles:
Herman Costa by Grand-
daughter, Mary Anne

Tabernacle Candles:
William Bradshaw by Grand-
son

Crucifix Candles:
Bryan Kelley by Parents



Sacraments:

Baptism: Arrangements must be made in advance. Please call the Parish Office to arrange a date and supply pertinent information. Individual Baptismal preparation is required.

Sponsors: must receive from their respective Catholic pastors a "sponsor certificate," which is the signed word of one priest to another that the proposed godparent is a Confirmed, fully-practicing Catholic who is qualified to be a godparent by living in harmony with our faith.

Reconciliation: Saturday from 4:30M to 5:15PM

First Eucharist & Confirmation: Preparation – two years prior to receiving each Sacrament is mandatory as a registered student in the Faith Formation Program.

Matrimony: Couples are asked to consult with our priest at least six months in advance of the intended date to allow time for marriage preparation, including the Diocesan Program.

Ministry to the Sick: Please notify us if someone you know is homebound and would like to be added to our Communion call list, or would like to receive the Sacrament of the Sick.

Low gluten hosts available: Please let us know before Mass if you have a need to receive this type of host.

WELCOME

If you are a new parishioner please introduce yourself to the pastor after Mass and call the parish office to register. We are so pleased you're here!



Collected October 3rd and October 4th

Budget: \$2882.00

Repairs & Restorations: \$578.00

Cardinal Medeiros Residence: \$350.00

Next weekend October 17th and October 18th the second collection is for Propagation of Faith.

Thank you for your generosity!

Columbus Day Mass for Peace

For 40 years, the Fall River Diocese has had a Procession and Mass for Peace on the Columbus Day holiday. While it is not possible to have a procession this year in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic, Bishop Edgar M. da Cunha, S.D.V., **will celebrate a Mass for Peace at 6 p.m. on Columbus Day holiday, Monday, October 12, in St. Mary's Cathedral.** It will be preceded by a recitation of the Rosary beginning at 5:30 p.m. All guidelines in place for the safe celebration of Mass during the pandemic will be followed including occupancy limits within the Cathedral to provide for social distancing. **Anyone who wishes to attend the Mass must pre-register online at www.fallriverdiocese.org.** Seats will be allotted to those who register on a first-come, first-served basis, so sign up for Mass today.

While the number of those able to be present at the Mass will necessarily be limited, the Mass for Peace will be live streamed on the Diocese of Fall River Facebook page. All are encouraged to take part in the Mass virtually this year to join their prayers with those from across the Diocese for peace through the intercession of Our Lady of Fatima.



50Week Club

Wanted: New Members

With every new club we are looking for new members. This is our biggest fundraising event of the year! \$2.00 per week gives you a chance to win a weekly drawing of \$25.00! Remember, you can't win if you don't join!

We previously announced, that even under the circumstances we are currently enduring, the 2019-2020 profit from the club that was given to the parish totaled \$8500.00. You can be part of the action by joining today!

You can send your registration form directly to Kathy Sullivan, 639 Marvel St., Swansea, MA 02777 or mail them to the rectory. Contact Kathy & Bill Sullivan at 508-493-9064 for more information. **Please make all payment checks payable to: St. Francis of Assisi Parish**

50Week Club Weekly Winner

Congratulations to:

David Fontaine

Winner for October 4, 2020



The following children received First Communion this weekend, keep them in your prayers.

Leah Beauregard

Jenna DeCoste

Macy Frissell

Sophia Martin

Sofia Parente

Celia Sudol

May God Bless them and their families!

Let Your Voice Be Heard – Again

“Say No to ROE

The state legislature has extended the session until January 5th, 2021. Please remind the members of the Joint Committee on Judiciary that you oppose the expansion of abortion in Massachusetts. Please call the Committee at 617-722-2396 and let them know you are **opposed** to H3320 and S1209 – the ROE legislation. Every telephone call helps! Remember these bills would remove:

The requirement that young girls obtain consent before an abortion

The requirement that efforts be made to save a living baby who survives abortion

The requirement that late term abortions be performed in hospitals

And the bills would allow abortion on demand for all nine months of pregnancy

For more information about how the ROE legislation would expand abortion in Massachusetts, visit www.macatholic.org.

2020 Respect Life Mass

October is Respect Life Month.

Every life is sacred, from the moment of conception until natural death. Every person is made in the image and likeness of God, and so each and every person has inherent dignity. Bishop da Cunha will celebrate a special Mass on Saturday, October 17, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. at St. Mary's Cathedral. In order to attend you must pre-register. For more information or to view the Mass on October 17 which will be live-streamed check the Facebook page: www.facebook.com/prolifeofficefallriver.



In observance of Columbus Day, the Mt. Hope Catholic Community parish offices will be closed on

Monday, October 12, 2020

MESSAGE FROM FR. HAMEL

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Our first reading from the Prophet Isaiah is one that is prescribed as a possible first reading at funeral Masses. In the passage that we have today, the prophet tells us that on God's holy mountain there is a veil that veils all people that God will destroy when he destroys even death itself. I have often preached on this reading telling those assembled that the veil that veils, all of us too often in regard to death, is a veil of ignorance. This particular veil, which is born of human emotion as well as the instinct to survive, is a veil that wants us to believe that death is the end, that the death of a loved one means that their life is completely and totally over, that they no longer exist and that we will never see them again or enjoy their friendship. It likewise would have us believe that this will similarly be our fate - complete annihilation; that nothing follows death. This particular veil too often causes doubt about any promise that God may have made to us in terms of salvation. It is a veil that tells us that the absolute worst has happened and that all is lost.

St. Paul, in his letter to the Thessalonians, reminds us that we are going to grieve when someone we care about dies, but that we should not grieve like those who have no hope. Paul knew that through the person of Jesus and the power of Jesus' death and resurrection this particular veil is destroyed for those who put their trust in the Lord. The power of faith and the grace that comes to us through grace has the power to destroy any instance of ignorance that would have us believe anything other than that our God has come to save us!

Isaiah does not talk about grief in our passage today because he is preaching to the people of Israel of a time to come where those present will be the ones being saved. He is speaking of those from whom the veil will be removed. He is speaking of those yet to come who will be present in the moment to enjoy the feast of rich food and choice wines. He is speaking of those for whom grief has no place as they are the beneficiaries of the promises of God - "let us rejoice and be glad that he has saved us!"

All of us have, at some point in our lives, experienced the death of someone particularly dear to us: a spouse; a child; a parent or grandparent; a sibling; a relative; a neighbor or close personal friend. These experiences hurt and can take an emotional toll on us. Because we are human, we cannot help but feel grief and an overwhelming sense of loss. Talk of a future happiness or of a place of beauty and peace can sometimes ring hollow to the ears of those who are grieving. Depending on the depth of the grieving, the promise of resurrection is not what they want to hear but rather a promise of restitution: "I simply wait behind me! If you cannot do that, then leave me alone!"

Even for those who believe, death is a particularly difficult area. No one is immune from the emotions of loss. However, a sense of loss and a lessening of an initial sense of despair come to us through our faith in Jesus who told us that he was going to prepare a place for us so that where he is, we also might be (one day). But that faith in Jesus is not automatic. Even those closest to Jesus entertained doubt while Jesus was still walking the earth. Martha, the sister of Lazarus, when asked by Jesus himself if she believed that he was "the resurrection and the life" answered "yes Lord. I have COME to believe." She CAME to believe. In other words, her faith in Jesus was not automatic even though she was witness to his many miracles. The same goes for the Apostle Thomas. When Jesus told the apostles that they knew where he was going, what was Thomas' response? "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus tells him "I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father but through me." It is our faith in Jesus and only our faith in Jesus that gives us the ability to hope in our salvation and find our way to the Father and his holy mountain!

Jesus in St. Matthew's gospel this weekend gives us the parable of the wedding feast that the king gives for his son. Those who were invited were not interested, so orders were given to collect people from near and far to fill the banquet hall. But even with those collected or invited at the last minutes, one still was not bright enough to prepare himself to the feast with a wedding garment and all that it implied. The lesson that Jesus is giving us is that first of all, we are invited to the banquet. That is a given. The second is that we should be smart enough to prepare ourselves to enter.

The image of banquet is often used as an image of heaven. Banquets are joyous events and usually appeal to us on a number of levels. There is, as Isaiah speaks of the holy mountain scene, choice meats and fine wines, and let us be honest, most of us can usually go for a really good meal and something wonderful to drink! At banquets, we are celebrating something special, and at wedding banquets, a very happy occasion! And really! Who does not love love? And if it is the wedding of a relative or even a good, close personal friend, we are usually seated with people who we know and people whose company we enjoy! (Ok ... we sometimes get stuck ... but you get the point!) Banquets, like the one God intends to provide on his "holy mountain", that is heaven, is something that will be joyful! Something that we cannot help but enjoy! An experience that will see us surrounded by those we love! All great things to be anticipated!

So, we have been invited! There is already a place prepared for us and all those whom we love! The truth is that we should not begrudge God if he calls someone we care for very, very much to something so extraordinary if he calls them before he calls us. Why wouldn't we want someone we love tremendously to have something so incredibly beautiful and good? We should not be fearful of being called ourselves to something so extraordinary either when the time comes. Rather, we should be ready for it.

We have all heard the phrase that the two things that you cannot escape are taxes and death. Well honestly, some have managed to break the law and avoid paying taxes. If you are one of those, it might be a good time to come clean with Uncle Sam. As for death, not a single person, not even Jesus, has been able to do that. Death will come to us all someday. So heeding Jesus' guidance in the gospel, let us make sure that we wear our wedding robes (our souls) free from stains (sin) as best possible, and encourage those around us to do the same. If we do, then when the time for us comes, we will not be fearful for we will know that we are headed to something extraordinary. We will know that we will be seated with those we love and care for. We will know that what awaits us will be spectacular beyond our ability to imagine! Why? Because the view we will enjoy with our loved ones from the top of God's holy mountain will not only "take our breath away" but rather fill us with the life breath of God himself! (And God is beautiful in a way we cannot even begin to imagine!) So, let us get ourselves prepared for the banquet! It will be an eternally wonderful time!


MANUEL ROGERS & SONS
FUNERAL HOME, INC.
 1521 NORTH MAIN ST., FALL RIVER, MA
508-672-3101
info@rogersfuneral.com
 Visit Us at:
www.RogersFuneral.com

508-673-0781
www.hathawayfunerals.com
Serving the Community
 Since 1893

HATHAWAY
 FAMILY FUNERAL HOMES

Johnson's Roadside
Farm Market
Home-Grown Quality Fruits & Vegetables From Our Family Farm
Our Own Fresh Baked Goods
 445 Market St. (Rt. 136), N. Swansea
 508-379-0349
www.johnsonroadsidemarket.com



TONY PAVAO
General LANDSCAPING Inc
Gardening • Snow Plowing
Commercial • Residential
Lawn Care
 Swansea, MA • 508-864-8032


M. Sardinha & Sons
 Plumbing & Heating, Inc.
508-678-6512
 297 Plain Street, Fall River, MA
 Fully Licensed & Insured in MA & RI
 MA #8755, #12997
 RI #2107, #6450
www.msardinhaplumbingandheating.com


Quintal Burial Vault, Inc.
 3425 Sharps Lot Road
 Dighton, MA 02715
508-669-5717
 Fax: 508-669-1416

ADT-Monitored Home Security
 Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary
- Fire Safety
- Flood Detection
- Carbon Monoxide


 Authorized Provider | SafeStreets | 1-855-225-4251

Alicia Botelho REALTOR
 Free Market Analysis
 Call 774-704-6238 (c)
 Zillow ★★★★★
 "Highly Likely To Recommend"

KW ELITE
 KELLERWILLIAMS, REALTY
www.facebook.com/AliciaBRealEstate/

AVAILABLE FOR A LIMITED TIME

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS HERE

Contact **Karen Boyle** to place an ad today!
kboyle@4LPi.com or (800) 477-4574 x6463

ADT-Monitored Home Security
 Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary
- Fire Safety
- Flood Detection
- Carbon Monoxide


 Authorized Provider | SafeStreets | 1-855-225-4251

NEVER MISS A BULLETIN !

Sign up to have our weekly parish bulletin emailed to you at www.parishesonline.com



catholicmatch[®]
 Massachusetts

CatholicMatch.com/MA

SUPPORT THE ADVERTISERS THAT SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY

