



Mt. Hope Catholic Community

Saint Francis of Assisi / Saint Dominic

Pastor: Rev. Philip N. Hamel

Deacon: Rev. Dr. Gary M. John



St. Francis of Assisi Parish Address:

Church: 530 Gardners Neck Road, Swansea, MA 02777

Office/Rctory: Direct all correspondence to:

270 Ocean Grove Avenue

Swansea, MA 02777

Office hours: Monday– Thursday 9:30 a.m. — 4 p.m.

BY TELEPHONE ONLY. Closed on Friday.

St. Francis of Assisi Contact Info:

Parish Office: 508-673-2808

Parish fax: 508-672-6241

Email: stfrancisswansea@comcast.net

Website: www.stfrancisswansea.com

St. Francis of Assisi Liturgical Celebrations

Sundays: 11 a.m.

Weekdays: Private Mass - No Congregation

PREVIOUS MASS SCHEDULE SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Only Mass St. Francis of Assisi 11 a.m. Sunday –Reservations Required—call/email Rectory no later than Thursday at noon for reservations.

Parish Staff

Property Manager: Tony Roderigues

Office Manager/Bulletin: Colleen Fontaine

Finance Manager/Office/Notary: Fran Kelley

Music Director: Ada Simpson

Faith Formation Director Gr. 5-7: Deb Fontaine

Tel: 508-674-0024

Email: religiouseducation@stfrancisswansea.com

Confirmation 1 & 2 Directors: Joy & Joe Vivieros

Tel: 508-674-0024 Email: joyann56@comcast.net



St. Dominic's Parish Address:

1277 G.A.R. Highway, Swansea, MA 02777

St. Dominic's Contact Info:

Parish Office: 508-675-7206 Mon.-Thurs. 9am-2pm

Parish fax: 508-672-4716

Email: saintdominicparish@comcast.net

Website: www.stdominicswansea.org

FACEBOOK ONLINE:

<https://www.facebook.com/St-Dominic-Parish-Swansea-19302610775744/>

PARISH BULLETIN ONLINE:

<https://www.parishesonline.com/find/st-dominic-/bulletin>

St. Dominic's Liturgical Celebration:

Sunday: 9:30 a.m.

Weekdays: Private Mass - No Congregation

PREVIOUS MASS SCHEDULE SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Masses at St. Dominic's are on Sunday at 9:30am—Reservations Required—call/email the Rectory no later than Thursday at noon for reservations.

Parish Staff:

Property Manager: Peter Urban

Office Manager/Bulletin: Louise Guglielmo

Music Director: Ada Simpson

Faith Formation Director Gr. 1-4: Barbara Domingue

Tel: 508-675-7002

Email: stdominic1277@gmail.com

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

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!



Mass Intentions for the Week

St. Francis of Assisi

Sun. November 22

11:00 a.m. *Richard Roderigues* by Tony & Judy
Pearl Gray by Wayne & Marita
Diane St. Laurent by Fran & Mike Kelley
Gale Dutra by Claire Purdy

Tues. November 24

8:00 a.m. *Dina & Henry Ripanti* by Brother, Joe

Thurs. November 26-Thanksgiving

9:00 a.m.

Sun. November 29

11:00 a.m. *Anthony S. Santoro, Sr.* by Robert & Alice Blasi
Diane St. Laurent by Colleen
Joseph Fonseca by Wife



Mass Intentions for the Week

St. Dominic

Sun. November 22

9:30 a.m. *James P. Fox (Birth)* by Pat Fox
Roberto Andrade by Cidalisa Andrade
Ronald Manchester (8th Anniv.) by his wife
Roger Menard by Joanne Menard
David Guglielmo by Louise
Miranda, Oliveira, Castelo Branco families

Mon. November 23

8:00 a.m.

Wed. November 25

8:00 a.m.

Sun. November 29

9:30 a.m. *Jose, Tony & Domingas Batista*
Maria dos Reis & Family
Jose Bernardo
Jose & Maria Pimentel
All Souls in Purgatory
Lewis & Katherine Caouette
All deceased members of the Knights of Columbus Council #3669

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 at St. Francis of Assisi

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.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King Of The Universe

Living the Paschal Mystery

It is a bold thing to identify with Christ. From the Sermon on the Mount with the Beatitudes, to this concluding teaching of Jesus on judgment, being a follower of Christ is not for the faint of heart. Self-sacrifice, love of the other, and service are central to the identity of a Christian. How mortally it is, then, to call oneself Christian, to claim the role of disciple, without performing the actions required by one. It would be better not to claim the title at all.

Essential Matthean themes are expressed in this story: doing versus merely saying, is one. Doing the will of God-caring for the poor and for the stranger-is not merely about performing kind acts but is the basis of salvation, for Christians and non-Christians alike. As we live the paschal mystery, let us keep before us the awesome call and responsibility to express our faith in actions, not merely words.

Living Liturgy 2020 –Liturgical Press, Collegeville MN





In Loving Memory

St. Francis of Assisi memorial candles burn in November in remembrance of:

Sanctuary Lamp:
Anna & Leon Menard by Family

Altar Candles:
Pearl Gray by Wayne & Marita

Tabernacle Candles:
Robert Peloquin by Wife, Wanda

Crucifix Candles:
Herman & Mary Costa by Granddaughter, Mary Anne



St. Dominic's memorial candles burn in November in remembrance of:

David Guglielmo by Louise

50 Week Club Weekly Winner

Congratulations to:

Richard Andrade

Winner for November 15, 2020

Contact Info: Bill & Kathy Sullivan

Telephone: 508-493-9064 or 508-674-8511



SAINT DOMINIC PARISH
SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL

We will still be hosting the Annual Christmas Giving Tree Program here at St. Dominic's, however, due to the Covid-19 restrictions and regulations, we are presently working on the means, collection and donation of gifts. We will update this bulletin announcement next week and will have flyers up in the Church with all further information..

Thank you for your continued generous donation to this program for the needy families and children in our area. This year has been very difficult for many and reaching out to them is always a heartwarming blessing.



St. Francis Collected November 15th
Due to early transmission of the bulletin this report will be seen in the next bulletin.

St. Dominic Collected November 15th
Due to early transmission of the bulletin this report will be seen in the next bulletin.

Next weekend November 29th the second collection is for Repairs & Restorations.

Thank you for your generosity!

SAINT DOMINIC CHURCH
MONTHLY ORGANIZATION MEETINGS
SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL - Wednesday, December 9th
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS - Thursday, December 10th
WOMEN'S GUILD - Wednesday, December 16th
4th DEGREE K of C - Thursday, December 17th

St. Hope Catholic Community

Thanksgiving Mass Schedule



Thanksgiving Mass will be held at St. Francis of Assisi on Thursday, November 26, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

Reservations must be made to attend. Call St. Francis of Assisi at 508-673-2808.

The JANUARY SURPRISE CALENDAR RAFFLE offered by the 4th Degree KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS are available. Donation is \$10. Weekday prizes are \$25; Weekend prizes are \$50 and the Grand Prize is \$250. You may acquire them from any Member or at St. Dominic Church Rectory. Thank you for your support.

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

For the Feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, the church this year gives us a gospel passage from St. Matthew. The passage is the very familiar parable of the final judgement where the Son of Man returns in glory and separates the assembled nations, one from another, "as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats." Naturally, the good guys, the sheep, are on the right and the goats, or the bad guys, are on the left. The sheep/righteous go off eventually to eternal life and the goats / non-righteous go off to eternal punishment.

The criteria that Jesus uses for the judgement boils down to how well people have loved one another during the course of their lives, and hence how they have loved God. I was hungry and you fed ME; I was thirsty, and you gave ME a drink and so on. On the other hand, I was hungry, and you gave ME no food; I was thirsty, and you gave ME no drink, and so on. The lesson, which Jesus repeats so often in the gospels is that whatsoever you do for one of these least ones, you do for ME. And of course, the inverse is also true. Neglect of others is also neglect of Jesus.

While Jesus states clearly that the less than righteous will go off to eternal punishment, he does not explain just what eternal punishment is. Over the years, many have taken it to be everlasting pain and suffering in the fires of hell without the possibility of it being anything but eternal. However, if we understand God to be a God of mercy and compassion, then that particular scenario probably does not; hold much merit. Rather, my suspicion is that eternal or everlasting punishment is an eternity of a profound understanding of complete unworthiness while nonetheless being admitted into the presence of a God who is pure perfection. Trust me when I say that that would be a profound suffering. Nonetheless, we are called to do good, to love our God above all things and our neighbor as ourselves, and to avoid all situations of uncharity. By that, the righteous advance to eternal life and all that eternal life provides. Since the average person is neither perfectly good all the time nor perfectly bad all the time, then I suspect that we will all fall somewhere in between in terms of our level of suffering the full knowledge of our unworthiness in the presence of God, who we know to be perfect love.

The parable of the final judgement however does call us to an ongoing examination of conscience. Just how well do we love God and others??? How well do we love God in others??? Naturally, the answer is going to be different for each and every person created by God because we are all created uniquely to be ourselves, and only ourselves.

When Jesus has the Son of Man state that "I was hungry, and you fed ME" and down the line, he was talking both literally and figuratively. Since we are created body and soul, both our physical and spiritual selves need to be nourished and loved and cared for. So, the Son of Man is asking the assembled nations, and hence he asks us, what our level of care and concern is for those who are not ourselves. Do we only literally and figuratively feed and care for ourselves selfishly at the expense of all others, even our family members? Do we only literally and figuratively feed and care for our own personal family members and close personal friends to the exclusion of all others? Do we only literally and figuratively feed and care for those of our social class? ... our ethnic group? ... our skin tones. ... who share our political affiliations? ... who speaks our language? ... who look like us? ... who we perceive to share our level of intelligence? ... all at the expense of others? Let us be honest, it is human nature to seek out our own kind. But it is not acceptable for a disciple of the Risen Jesus to put limits on who we can or will chose to love. Just as Christ loves all people, the challenge of discipleship is for us to do the same.

St. Paul uses the analogy of the body to explain that none of us lives in isolation, even if there is some physical separation between people and peoples. Spiritually, all of us are incorporated into the Body of Christ and therefore are all parts of one body. Since we are all a part of Christ, then Jesus's words take on a stronger understanding ... I was hungry and you fed me, because when you fed her/him/them, because they ARE a part of the Body of Christ, you did in fact feed ME. And the inverse, when you failed to love and respect the dignity of her/him/ them you likewise failed ME. Jesus is the Christ! Jesus is God and one with the Father and the Holy Spirit. Therefore, the face of Jesus is everywhere, including the faces of those who are not us. If you love those who love you, Jesus asks, what merit is there? The pagan does as much! Since we are not pagans but followers of a Risen Savior, we are called to a greater and more expansive love.

Too many people, when examining their consciences use the 10 Commandments, which in and of itself is not a problem. But the commandments judge in the negative - Thou shall NOT. So, people often figure that if they in fact have NOT hurt anyone, then they are on solid ground. But when Jesus was asked about the commandments, he formed them in the positive. You SHALL love God with all your being, and likewise your neighbor as yourself. It is not enough to not hurt. It is likewise imperative to actively love. And you do not love simply by not doing anything to harm someone. You love by doing!

Considering that we are all going to have to stand before God to give an accounting of our lives, we need to be sure that we are living attitudes of love, constantly challenging ourselves to do good for others near and far, familiar and unfamiliar, attractive to us in any measure or unattractive. We do not want to be found, because of our poor training, our thoughtlessness, our stubbornness, or any other character flaw, to be lacking in our consideration, kindness, and charity in our dealing with others. Rather, we should strive to make charity and love not second nature, but first nature for us in all that we say and do. This way all of our actions show love of God and love of neighbor. And when the Son of Man comes in glory, and all his angels with him, we will get to be on his right and in the right and merit an esteemed place in eternal life!

Let us pray for these parishioners from the Mt. Hope Catholic Community of St. Francis of Assisi and St. Dominic's who have passed into eternal life during the past year, November 2019-October 2020. May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Billy E. Dolin

Anne Louise Attar

Edward Dymek

Edward Gendreau

Christopher R. Johnson

Annie M. Derrig

Ronald G. Levesque

Melissa A. Reis

Alan J. Vezina

Manuel H. Silveira

Anna L. Medeiros

Jeanne F. Brown

Normand Dupras

Lucy Howarth

Gerald Furtado

Donald Pratt

Joseph M. McDonald, Sr.

Walter Kraska

Maurice Vannier

George LeBreux

Diane St. Laurent

Jordan DeFarias

Aldea F. Deschenes

Ellen Furtado

John Silva

Delores Barboza

Mary Bird

Gerald Carpenter

Mary Abreu

Rosemary Gonsalves

Clara Medeiros

Morton Geary

Mary Chaves

Dolores Leeman

Chad Thiboutot

Ann Lenon

Carol Lewis

Leocardia Berube

Mary Grace Chaves

Gerald Furtado

Noelle Dumais

Geraldine Malone

Nancy Resendes

Wayne Faria

Dorothy Moreau

COMMEMORATION
OF ALL THE FAITHFUL
Departed

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