



Mt. Hope Catholic Community

Saint Francis of Assisi / Saint Dominic

Pastor: Rev. Philip N. Hamel

Deacon: Rev. Dr. Gary M. John



Sunday
July 25, 2021
Seventeenth Sunday in
Ordinary Time



St. Francis of Assisi Parish Address:

Church: 530 Gardners Neck Road, Swansea, MA 02777
Office/Rectory: Direct all correspondence to:
270 Ocean Grove Avenue
Swansea, MA 02777
Office hours: Monday–Wednesday 9:30 a.m. — 4 p.m.
BY TELEPHONE ONLY. Closed on Thursday and 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:

Saturday: 4:00 p.m.
Sundays: 11 a.m.
Weekdays: Tuesday at 8:00 a.m. and Thursday at 8:00 a.m.

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-193026010775744>

PARISH BULLETIN ONLINE:

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

St. Dominic's Liturgical Celebration:

FOR THE MONTHS OF JULY AND AUGUST ALL MASSES
WILL BE HELD IN THE PARISH HALL
Sunday: 7:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m.
Weekdays: Monday and Wednesday at 8:00 AM

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 (this line does not have voice message.
Please call the Rectory line at 508-675-7206 to leave a mes-
sage for Barbara Domingue. Thank you.)

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

Mt. Hope Catholic Community

St. Dominic: Masses, Sun. 7:00 a.m. & 9:30 a.m. Week day, Mon. & Wed. at 8:00 a.m.

St. Francis of Assisi: Masses, Sat. 4:00 p.m. & Sun. 11:00 a.m. Weekday, Tues. & Thurs. 8:00 a.m.

Sat. July 24

4:00 p.m. *Gill Santos 50th Anniversary by Daughter Barbara Morrissey by Fran & Mike Kelley*

Sun. July 25

7:00 a.m.

9:30 a.m. *Paul Medeiros by Lorraine Medeiros Carlos Sandstrom (1st Anni) by his wife Hilda Sandstrom*

11:00 a.m. *Rita Crook Birthday Remembrance by Kathy & Bill Sullivan*

Joseph Azevedo Birthday Remembrance by Wife, Alzira

Anthony & Margaret Macedonio by Family Harry O'Driscoll by Friends

Mon. July 26

8:00 a.m. *For All Parishioners and Benefactors*

Tues. July 27

8:00 a.m.

Wed. July 28

8:00 a.m. *Honorina Alua*

Thurs. July 29

8:00 a.m. *Eugenio I. Rebelo by Alzira Azevedo*

Sat. July 31

4:00 p.m. *Oscar & Cecile Fontaine by Ron & Colleen Maryanne Falcone by Judy & Tony Roderigues George Lebreux by Wife, Anne*

Sun. August 1

7:00 a.m. *Mary Jane Hargreaves (Anniv.)*

9:30 a.m. *Gregory Martin by Mr. & Mrs. Henry Hedge*

11:00 a.m. *Deacon Robert Normandin by Family*

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.

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.

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The miracle of an abundance of food around the time of Passover comes to us twice this week, both in the Second Book of Kings and the Gospel of John. We will be reading from John for the next several weeks, celebrating the 'bread of life' discourse, for which this miracle sets the scene. John makes the mention of the time of year explicit, but the miracle of Elisha does it by saying that the loaves were of the first fruits of the barley harvest. Passover was, in part, a feast of the barley harvest. In this way John invokes the miracle of Elisha, who was the disciple and successor of Elijah, the prophet who was to return at the end of time. The miracle in the Gospel is therefore another sign of the arrival of the kingdom of God today, the end times. The psalm supports the image of God as the source of all the food we eat.

The second reading is Paul's call to unity for the Ephesians. While it is less well known than the passage in first Corinthians, it is a beautiful meditation on how unity and right living is required not as a something we need to live in order to gain God's favor, but something we live because we have already been loved and called by God. The gift of God's love fills our lives, and so we respond by living in God.

Reflection taken from Liturgy.com, OCP



Communion for the Homebound

IF YOU KNOW OF SOMEONE WHO IS HOMEBOUND AND WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE THE EUCHARIST, PLEASE HAVE THEM CONTACT EITHER ONE OF OUR PARISH RECTORIES, SO THAT WE MAY ARRANGE FOR A EUCHARISTIC MINISTER TO BRING THEM COMMUNION. GOD BLESS AND THANK YOU ALL FOR BEING PART OF OUR MINISTRY OF FAITH.

In Loving Memory

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

Sanctuary Lamp:
Vincent Penkala by Daughter,
Wanda



Altar Candles:
Armand & Lorraine Desrosiers by
Colleen & Ron

Tabernacle Candles:
Ferreira & Guay Families by Family

Crucifix Candles:
Edward & Cecile Lajoie by Anne Ripanti

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

Church Vigil Candle:
Paul Lenon, Jr. by Natalie Lenon

St. Dominic Candle:
Mary Hogan

Church Center Vigil Candle :
Claire Carty

50Week Club Weekly Winner



Congratulations to:

Carol A. Mello

Winner for July 18, 2021

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 2020-2021 profit from the club that was given to the parish totaled \$6000. You can be part of the action by joining today!

You can contact Kathy & Bill Sullivan at 508-493-9064 for more information. Registration slip below. Please make all payment checks payable to: St. Francis of Assisi Parish

Parish Support

St. Francis Collections - July 17th and July 18th

Budget: \$1858.00

Repairs & Restorations: \$782.00

Donations: \$688.00

Next weekend, August 1st the second collection is for Peter's Pence.

St. Dominic Collections - July 18th

Budget: \$2531.00

Building & Maintenance: \$ 671.00

Next weekend's second collection is for Peter's Pence.

Thank you for your generosity and support!



Remembering Your Loved Ones

Mt. Hope Catholic Community of

St. Francis of Assisi & St. Dominic

2021 Mass Book

It is very easy to remember a loved one in our own personal way, but what better way than a Mass or Mass Card. Both are available at St. Francis of Assisi and St. Dominic's. All you need to do is contact the appropriate Rectory to schedule a Mass or acquire a Mass Card. Masses are now available in both churches for the 2021 Mass Book through December. Candles are also available at both churches. Candles are available at St. Francis of Assisi for the months of August, September and November.

Every attempt will be made to accommodate your requests for specific dates, but we cannot promise. Your understanding is appreciated. Please call the rectories during business hours.



MESSAGE FROM FR. HAMEL

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

This weekend in the second book of Kings, the prophet Elisha (uh-LEE-sha), not to be confused with his mentor the prophet Elijah (uh-LIE-jah), gives a preview of Jesus' multiplication of the loaves and fishes which we see this weekend in the gospel of St. John. In Elisha's case, there were twenty barley loaves put before the people to eat, and all those present, who were many, ate their fill and had plenty left over. Elisha puts these words forward as coming from the Lord: "For thus says the Lord, 'They shall eat and there shall be some left over.'" And obviously, there was!

Jesus, as a test to St. Philip, basically asks the same question that Elisha asked his disciple. In both cases, the question of feeding so many with so little is met with more than a healthy dose of skepticism! Physically, it is impossible to feed so many with so little! It cannot be done. It is impossible! Period! ... and yet we constantly see in the scriptures that with God, all things are possible, even those things that are beyond the ability of us mere mortals. The love of God and the power of God transcend time and space and the physical realities of this world since God is the creator of all things! Because we are a people of the New Covenant, we want to concern ourselves this weekend with the actions of Jesus.

Scripture scholars have not always agreed on just what transpired on the side of the mountain (actually a big hill) on the northern edge of the Sea of Galilee. Did loaves and fishes miraculously start to multiply as the gospel suggests? Some say yes, while others are not quite so quick to accept it. Because we know that Jesus is one with the Father and the Holy Spirit, it goes without question that a literal acceptance of the gospel narrative is a very real possibility. Jesus is the Christ, which means Jesus is God, and with God all things are possible.

The alternate scenario that some scholars put forward is a bit different. Other versions of this scene in the other gospels put the number of "men" somewhere in the vicinity of five hundred. Regardless of the exact number, the crowd that came to listen to Jesus was especially large. That we can safely conclude! Can we also conclude that all of them, who were familiar with the remoteness of the area and who were used to traveling distances of foot, were also all too stupid to bring anything along to eat? Who knows? But some scholars suspect that most of them DID have food with them but were reluctant to share it with others. But once they saw the example of Jesus and having just been listening to him teach the beatitudes, they not only opened their hearts to those around them, but also their lunch baskets! Were that the case, the miracle would be the healing of hearts that leads people to be generous. So, is this what actually happened? Who knows? We will find out when we get to heaven and probably not before. But in all honesty, it does not really matter.

Either of the above scenarios have a great deal to teach us, and it is probably for that reason that the questions have been raised in the minds of disciples. In the first, we recognize that all things are possible with God. The question that constantly faces us is: Do you believe? Do we as disciples really believe that God always hears and answers our prayer, even if the answer isn't what we asked for or even wanted? Do we trust that God loves us with a perfect love and because of that won't ever let sin prevail over us to such an extent that our salvation with be lost? Do we believe that Jesus has already prepared a place for us specifically as individuals and that we will in fact inherit that place in heaven when we die regardless of how much or how little we die with? If the answer to the above is a solid "yes, I believe" then it has to have a significant impact on the way that we live, the way that we pray, the way that we worship and the way that we view God's creation, especially his creation in the many and different people of the world. Because if we believe in God, then we believe that God is love and that we have no choice to make in living out our discipleship then to constantly strive to love God as perfectly as we can, and to reverence his work of creation in its almost infinite manifestations!

The second scenario of people who were hoping not to share, changing their minds, and sharing with those who might have had less or perhaps nothing at all, also teaches us a valuable lesson in discipleship.

As twenty-first century Westerners who happen to live on the south coast of New England, most of us live lives that are for the most part at least halfway comfortable. While none of us has the wealth of the Queen of England, or Elon Musk, or some other fabulously wealthy individual, and none of us has the fortune of a "king's ransom" tucked away in a sub-basement of our homes, we have to admit that for us as Americans, life is pretty good. We have a roof over our head, we have food on the table, we have clothes on our backs, and if we are honest, we have luxuries that in some parts of the world are only attainable in people's dreams ... you know what I am talking about hopefully. We have clean water at our fingertips. We have edible food in abundance. We have centers of medicine within our areas. We have all types of electronics that make life easier. We have sanitation and cleaning facilities right within our own homes. We are mobile and have the means to travel distances short or long. Most of us also have some degree of "expendable" income for things that are not exactly life's necessities, but conveniences and pleasures that will not cause our deaths if we are deprived of them. So then, how does the second scenario of the loaves and fishes relate to us??? Do we hope not to be asked to share so that we can keep more for ourselves? Are we likely to hold off being generous so that we can first see what others are doing... you know... so that we do not have to overdo it with our "generosity"?

In St. Matthews gospel (Mt 10:7-15) Jesus sends the Apostles out to preach the Kingdom of God. He tells them that "without cost you have received; without cost you are to give." It is a tall order if we are to be honest. But if we honestly believe in God, and believe that he is involved in our lives, then we have to recognize that we would be nothing and we would have nothing if not for God. Why we have some and others have nothing is a mystery that will not be explained fully until we enter heaven. But despite our sometimes "faithless" belief that all that we have has more to do with us and our work than it does with God, the reality is that we would have nothing if not for God allowing it. And if we look at our lives from that perspective of discipleship, then the consequences demand the opening of a generous heart to give our very best first to God, and then not only of our surplus but of our means to those who have so little. So, this miracle of loaves and fishes really does have implications for our own lives, because if we really, really believe, then our lives have to give witness to it! And yes ... there is a cost. But if without cost we have received, then we are only giving back to God in others what was first given to us by a loving and generous God in whose image we and all others have been created.

Diocese of Fall River

Office of Safe Environment

Mt. Hope Catholic Community

St. Francis of Assisi & St. Dominic



Our Parishes are committed to providing a safe place for all the faithful. Therefore, we follow a strict policy of The Essential Three for all who minister, work or volunteer in our parish. We ask for your cooperation and support. The safety of our community depends on all of us doing our part. Please visit the Diocesan Safe Environment page for more information:

<https://www.fallriverdiocese.org/office-of-safe-environment/>

Victim Assistance

Anyone who has suffered abuse by a priest, or someone affiliated with the Diocese of Fall River, is urged to call Carolyn Shipp, Diocese Victim Assistance Coordinator, at 508-985-6508 or visit the Safe Environment page of our website (web information listed above). Be assured that your voice will be heard.

Quo Vadis Days

August 9th - August 13th, 2021



Quo Vadis Days offers young men ages 14-18 a time for recreation, fellowship, prayer, and sharing to explore what their vocation in life might be. It brings together priests, seminarians and young men from the Fall River Diocese for a variety of activities from prayer and discussion to mountain hiking and sports. Through it all, participants have an opportunity to deepen their faith, to learn about discerning a vocation and to enjoy the fraternity of the other participants. Quo Vadis Days is an initiative of the Vocation Office of the Fall River Diocese and has been offered over past summers. See the brochures at the doors of the church for details or contact Fr. Kevin Cook at frcook@fallrivervocations.org or by telephone 508-824-5707.

SAINT DOMINIC CHURCH REPAIRS

We have recently acquired a quote to have the Church trim repainted. We are so close to meeting our goal! Would you consider your donation to this fundraiser ? Thanks and God Bless!



**Congratulations to NASH CARTER MATOS
Son of Mr. & Mrs. Jacob Matos**

**Nash Carter was Baptized at St. Dominic's Church
on
Sunday, May 11, 2021**

May God Bless Nash and his family!



**Congratulations to BENTLEY THOMAS KENYON
Son of Mr. & Mrs. Sean Kenyon**

**Bentley Thomas was Baptized at St. Dominic's Church
on
Wednesday July 14, 2021**

May God Bless Bentley and his family!

SEPTEMBER SURPRISE CALENDAR FUNDRAISER! - sponsored by the 4th Degree Knights of Columbus! The Calendars are available beginning this weekend!!!! Please see one of the Knights at the entrance to St Dominic's this weekend. Donations are \$10 with 30 chances to win!!!!

SAINT DOMINIC PARISH PICNIC!!!

THE PARISH PICNIC will be held on Sunday, August 8th from NOON to 3PM. Hot dogs, Hamburgers, ice cream sundaes and beverages will be sold for 25¢ each! Following, there will be games for the children on the Parish Grounds and BINGO in the Hall for adults.

We would like to know approximately how many will be attend. Please complete the registration form and place it in an envelope & return it in the collection baskets at either church at Masses and/or the call St. Dominic rectory at 508-675-7206.

_____ **CLIP HERE** _____

REGISTRATION FOR PARISH PICNIC

of Adults attending _____

of Children attending _____

Number of Hot Dogs _____

Number of Hamburgers _____

Willing to Volunteer that day? _____

St. Francis of Assisi



As always, if you are in need of help with utilities, rent or groceries, we are here to help. Call the rectory and you will be put in touch with a member who would love to assist you.


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