



# Mt. Hope Catholic Community

## Saint Francis of Assisi / Saint Dominic

**Pastor: Rev. Thomas Costa, Jr.**

**Deacon: Rev. Dr. Gary M. John**



Sunday  
December 26, 2021  
The Holy Family



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 and Thursday at 8:00 a.m.  
Reconciliation: Saturdays from 3:30-3:50pm prior to 4pm  
Mass. Please come to the Sacristy before Mass to request the Sacrament.

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

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

St. Dominic's Parish Address:

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

St. Dominic's Contact Info:

Parish Office: 508-675-7206  
Office Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 9am-2pm  
Parish fax: 508-672-4716  
Email: [saintdominicparish@comcast.net](mailto:saintdominicparish@comcast.net)  
Website: [www.stdominicswansea.org](http://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:

AT THE PRESENT TME, all Masses are being held in the Parish Hall.

Sunday: 7:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m.

Weekdays: Monday and Wednesday at 8:00 AM

Confession: 9-9:15am. Please come to the Sacristy before Mass and request the Sacrament.

Parish Staff:

Property Manager: Peter Urban  
Office Manager/Bulletin: Louise Guglielmo  
Music Director: Ada Simpson

Faith Formation Director Gr. 1-4: Barbara Domingue

Tel: 508-675-7206  
Email: [stdominic1277@gmail.com](mailto: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. December 25-Christmas Day**

8:00 a.m. At St. Dominic

10:00 a.m. At St. Francis of Assisi

(NO 4PM MASS AT ST. FRANCIS)

**Sun. December 26**

7:00 a.m. *Elsie A. Oliveira (26th Anni)*

by Linda LePage

9:30 a.m. *John & Lillian Carpenter* by Nancy

*Rose Fennessey (Anni.)* by Ann Fennessey

*George Terra* by his wife Helen

*Deacon Gene Orosz* by wife Marina

11:00 a.m. *Rev. Manuel Andrade* by Sister

*Joey Gonsalves III* by Parents

**Mon. December 27**

8:00 a.m. *Kathy Kissinger for health and healing*

**Tues. December 28**

8:00 a.m. *For My Children* by Mother, Alzira

*M/M Gill Santos* by Veronica

**Wed. December 29**

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

**Thurs. December 30**

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

\*\*\*\*\*

**Fri. December 31-Mary, Mother of God**

4:00 p.m. At St. Dominic

**Sat. January 1, 2022-Mary, Mother of God**

10:00 a.m. At St. Francis of Assisi

\*\*\*\*\*

**Sat. January 1, 2022-The Epiphany of the Lord**

4:00 p.m. At St. Francis of Assisi

**Sun. January 2, 2022**

7:00 a.m. At St. Dominic

9:30 a.m. At St. Dominic

11:00 a.m. At St. Francis of Assisi

\*\*\*\*\*

### 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:** at St. Francis of Assisi on Saturdays from 3:30-3:50PM and at St. Dominic's on Sunday from 9:00AM to 9:15AM. You can also call the office and make an appointment or see the Priest after morning Mass.

**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.

### The Holy Family

#### All in the Family

At first glance, we can often find the image of the Blessed Mother, St. Joseph and the Christ Child intimidating — who are we to aspire to that level of discipleship? How could we ever hope to conform ourselves to that mold? Sometimes, it can even be painful — perhaps we hail from a broken family or struggle with a broken relationship within our family, or perhaps we long to be a mother or a father ourselves and that state in life has eluded us.

But the image of the Holy Family is, in reality, a beautiful invitation to us all, no matter our vocation or our state in life, and the example of Mary, Joseph and Jesus is rich with the symbolism of stewardship.

You need not be a biological mother who has carried a child in her womb to be a mother in spirit. Who in your world needs you to love them with the heart of a mother?

The same goes for fatherhood. The Church and the world are crying out for the courageous witness of Christian men like St. Joseph. Who can you love with the steadfast, selfless protection of a father?

Who in your life needs you to love them with the faithful, unconditional love of a son? Who needs your gentle and constant love as a daughter?

We are the Body of Christ, friends. Those of us rejoicing in heaven, those of us suffering in purgatory, and those of us struggling here on earth. We are the great family. Let us love each other well.— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPI

### *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.



**First Friday Adoration & First Saturday Mass:**

We will have Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament after the 8am Mass on every first Friday of the month. Saturday mass will also be at 8am with the opportunity for confession afterwards.



*January 7 & 8, 2022—First Friday & First Saturday will be celebrated at St. Francis of Assisi.*



*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.*

**Looking for a bible study?**



Ascension's Bible in a Year Podcast, hosted by Fr. Mike Schmitz, guides Catholics through the Bible in 365 daily episodes starting January 1st, 2022. Each 20-25 minute episode includes: two to three scripture readings a reflection from Fr. Mike Schmitz; and guided prayer to help you hear God's voice in his WORD. IT'S FREE--- Learn more and get the reading plan at [ascensionpress.com/bibleinayear](http://ascensionpress.com/bibleinayear) or text CACATHOLICBIBLE to 33-777

**All I want for Christmas – Part Two**

In last weekend's bulletin, I shared how I approached my Christmas wish list this year. Since Christmas is not just a day, but an entire season, I thought I'd share a few more thoughts about wish lists, and offer a challenge to anyone who's up for it.

As I noted last week, as I have gotten older my priorities have changed, and so has my Christmas wish list. Honestly, I wish I had more time to spend with the people that mean the most to me. I wish I worried less and trusted in God more. I wish I were more patient and less judgmental. I wish I laughed more, and loved more, and lived life more fully. Material things just don't seem to matter much to me anymore. Clearly, my Christmas wish list has become a list of intangibles.

Recently, I thought about the Church, and I wondered if anyone had created a Christmas wish list for their parish. I did a quick Internet search, and I must admit, I was a bit disappointed in the results. The wish list on any number of parish websites included things like telephones, microwaves, office equipment, sports items, musical instruments, furniture – and oh yes, money! In my brief and non-scientific research, I did not find one parish list that reached beyond the walls to address the needs of the community, the nation, or the world. Like many Christmas lists, there were a lot of tangibles, but not much in the way of a vision for the faith community. Wishing for things isn't bad in and of itself, but let's think outside of the (gift) box!

Yesterday, we celebrated the birth of Christ, and in a few short days we will welcome in the New Year – 2022! We are also beginning the first phase of the synodal process instituted by Pope Francis, which will help shape a new way for the Church to understand its ministry and mission of evangelization. With that in mind, I'd like to extend an invitation and a challenge. I invite you to make a wish list, not for yourself but for the Church. Contemplate your dreams and desires for your parish, your community, for your diocese, and for the Church both nationally and globally. Consider what changes or improvements you would like to see in the coming year or perhaps the next five or ten years. I challenge you to act on your dreams and desires for the Church and the world. And most importantly live your faith. Become the hands and feet of Christ. Go out and make a difference. Reach out to the poor and marginalized. Stand up for justice and peace. Speak up for those who have no voice. Be Christ's presence in the world. Merry Christmas!

*“Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love.” – St. Theresa of Calcutta (Mother Theresa)*

Ada L. Simpson – Director of Music Ministry



*Dear God,  
Though Christmas Day  
has passed, the reason  
we celebrate Christmas  
continues every day.  
Your gift of love, grace,  
and mercy to us is never  
ending. Thank you that  
we can count on that  
every day of our lives.  
Amen*

**Mt. Hope Catholic Community**  
**of St. Dominic and St. Francis**

**Grades 1-4**      **Class times - 10:30 until noon**

December 26-Sunday, No Classes (Christmas Break)

January 2-Sunday, No Classes (Christmas Break)

January 9-Sunday, Grades 1 & 2

January 16- Sunday, Grades 3 & 4

January 23-Sunday, Grades 1 & 2

January 30-Sunday, No Class—Family Liturgy 9:30 a.m.

**REMINDER: FIRST PENANCE WILL BE ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 8TH AT 10:00 AM**

*Thank you for your continued support and have a Blessed New Year!*



**Mt. Hope Catholic Community**  
**of St. Francis and St. Dominic**

**Faith Formation Program**

**Grades 5-7 Class Schedule**

**Class Time for Grades 5th –7th - 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m**

Dec. 26-Sunday, No Classes (Christmas Break)

Jan. 2-Sunday, No Classes (Christmas Break)

Jan. 9-Sunday, Faith Formation Classes (GR. 5 & 6)

Jan. 16-Sunday, No Classes

Jan. 23-Sunday, Faith Formation Classes (GR. 5 & 6)

Jan. 30-Sunday, Faith Formation Classes (GR. 7)



**Mt. Hope Catholic Community**  
**Confirmation 1 & 2 News**

**Classes are 6:00 - 7:30 pm in St. Francis Parish Hall**

Dec. 26th-Sunday, No Faith Formation Classes (Christmas Recess)

Jan. 2nd-Sunday, No Faith Formation Classes (Christmas Recess)

Jan. 9th-Sunday, Faith Formation Conf. 2 (GR. 9)

Jan. 16th-Sunday, Faith Formation Conf. 1 (GR. 8)

Jan. 23rd-Sunday, Faith Formation Conf. 2 (GR. 9)

Jan. 30th-Sunday, Faith Formation Conf. 1 (GR.8)



**POSTPONED**

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL #3669**  
**PORTUGUESE DINNER AND RAFFLE**

DUE TO RECENT UPTAKE OF COVID AND TO AID IN THE PREVENTION OF SPREADING, THE DINNER HAS BEEN POSTPONED. NO RESCHEDULE DATE HAS BEEN PLANNED YET.



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS #3669**  
**CHRISTMAS SURPRISES CALENDAR FUNDRAISER**

Donations are \$10.

They are available from Knights and at St. Dominic Rectory. Drawings will be held daily during the month of January. Winning tickets go back in for future daily drawings. Grand prize on last drawing is \$250.

**MEAT PIE SUPPER**



The St. Dominic Women's Guild will be holding a meat pie supper and raffle on Saturday, February 12th at 5:30PM in the Church Hall. Tickets are available from guild members and at the Rectory.



THANK YOU TO EVERYONE FOR YOUR GENEROSITY AND SERVICE!! OUR CHURCH LOOKS BEAUTIFUL THIS CHRISTMAS AS DO OUR HEARTS AS WE ARE FILLED WITH JOY CELEBRATING JESUS' BIRTH !!



ON BEHALF OF THE SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY AND ALL THE CHILDREN, WE'D LIKE TO EXTEND OUR SINCERE GRATITUDE FOR YOUR GENEROSITY TO THE GIVING TREE CAMPAIGN. IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW IS IN NEED OF ASSISTANCE, PLEASE CALL THE RECTORY AT 508-675-7206.

**CELEBRATE YOUR WEDDING ANNIVERSARY IN A SPECIAL MASS AT THE CATHEDRAL FOR COUPLES OBSERVING SIGNIFICANT WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES( INCLUDING FIRST YEAR) THIS CELEBRATION WILL TAKE PLACE ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2022 AT 3pm AT THE CATHEDRAL IN FALL RIVER. CALL THE RECTORY FOR MORE INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION**

  
**MANUEL ROGERS FUNERAL HOME**  
 1521 NORTH MAIN ST., FALL RIVER, MA  
*Pre-Planning offers peace of mind for those we love the most*  
**508-672-3101**  
[info@rogersfuneral.com](mailto:info@rogersfuneral.com)  
[www.rogersfuneral.com](http://www.rogersfuneral.com)


**508-673-0781**  
[www.hathawayfunerals.com](http://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](http://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](http://www.msardinhaplumbingandheating.com)

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

Medicare Social Security Retirement Planning  
**got questions?**  
 We have answers!  
 Robert Dumais | 774-991-3369 | [www.LBAri.com](http://www.LBAri.com)  
*St. Dominic Parishioner for 50 Years*

**AVAILABLE FOR A LIMITED TIME**  
**ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS HERE**  
 Contact **Victoria Russo** to place an ad today!  
[vrusso@4LPi.com](mailto:vrusso@4LPi.com) or  
**(800) 477-4574 x6283**

**DUNKIN'**  
 328 Wilbur Ave.  
 Swansea  
**508-676-6621**  
 OPEN DAILY 5AM-7PM  
  
[dunkindonuts.com](http://dunkindonuts.com)

**FUEL OIL BURNER SERVICE**  
**Towne Heating Co., Inc.**  
**INSTALLATION AND ALTERATIONS**  
 EST. 1953 • PAUL DENIS  
 1162 G.A.R. HIGHWAY, RTE. 6  
 SWANSEA, MASS  
**508-672-6384**

**PROTECTING SENIORS NATIONWIDE MEDICAL ALERT SYSTEM**  
  
**\$29.95/MO** PLUS SPECIAL OFFER  
**BILLED QUARTERLY**  
**CALL NOW! 1.877.801.7772**  
**WWW.24-7MEDALARM.COM**

  
**SECURITY INC.**  
**FIRE & BURGLAR ALARM SYSTEMS**  
**1-800-337-9469**  
 HENRY C. SIDOK | REHOBOTH, MA

*Experience the Largest Religious Festival in the Azores!*  
**FESTAS DO SENHOR SANTO CRISTO DOS MILAGRES 2021**  
 São Miguel, Azores May 7-14, 2021  
  
**ATLANTIVACATIONS**  
 Tours Incorporated  
**RESERVE YOUR SEAT TODAY!**  
 401-610-3418  
[info@atlantivacations.com](mailto:info@atlantivacations.com)  
[www.atlantivacations.com](http://www.atlantivacations.com)  
 Roundtrip Airfare from Boston  
 6 nights stay in Ponta Delgada  
 Daily Breakfast  
 INCLAVES

**PROUDLY SERVING our community**  
  
**WARING-SULLIVAN**  
 HOME AT BIRCHCREST  
 189 GARDNERS NECK ROAD  
 SWANSEA, MA 02777  
 508-676-1933 [waring-sullivan.com](http://waring-sullivan.com)  
A Service Affiliate of AFS & Service Corp. Int'l, 206 Winter St., Fall River, MA 02720

**SUPPORT THE ADVERTISERS THAT SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY**  
