



Mt. Hope Catholic Community

Saint Francis of Assisi / Saint Dominic

Pastor: Rev. Thomas Costa, Jr.

Deacon: Rev. Dr. Gary M. John



Sunday

January 23, 2022

The Third 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 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

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:

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/Finance: Louise Guglielmo

Music Director: Ada Simpson

Faith Formation Director Gr. 1-4: Barbara Domingue

Tel: 508-675-7206

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.
Weekday, 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. January 22

4:00 p.m. *Helen Janson by Marita & Wayne Gray*
Lorraine Fernandes by Family

Sun. January 23

7:00 a.m. *For All Parishioners*

9:30 a.m. *William P. Little, by wife Natalie*

11:00 a.m. *Domingos Soares by Wife & Sons*

Mon. January 24

8:00 a.m. *Elizabeth Bray by Ann Fennessey*

Tues. January 25

8:00 a.m. *Camille & Mariette Desrosiers by Niece*

Wed. January 26

8:00 a.m. *John Alves (Anniv.)*

Thurs. January 27

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

Sat. January 29

4:00 p.m. *Lucille Plante by Daughter, Pauline*
Maurice "Buddy" Durette 5th Anniv. by
Wife, Martha

Sun. January 30

7:00 a.m. *Jose & Maria Pimentel and*
Jose & Maria Bernardo by Laura Bernardo

9:30 a.m. *Horacio, Irma & Fernando DeBrum by*
Mr. Horacio DeBrum

11:00 a.m. *William Sullivan Anniversary by Kathy &*
Bill Sullivan

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 Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

In the first reading Ezra leads what seems like a normal liturgy. He stands at a podium and reads from the Torah. However, the Israelites in this story have just returned from the Babylonian exile to find Jerusalem destroyed. This isn't a normal Sabbath for them; this is a moment to take a deep breath after realizing the destruction that has happened in their homeland. Giving this moment even more weight is the fact that the audience is specifically mentioned, twice: men, women, and children old enough to understand. There's a universal aspect to this narrative, because the writer of this passage went out of the way to describe ages and genders in a scene in which Ezra's shell-shocked community comes together to pray.

Both the first reading and the gospel are moments when a community, gathered in prayer together, receives an unexpected message. In the gospel, Jesus outs himself as the Messiah. In the first reading, Ezra looks at his community of fellow refugees, who've finally returned home, and tells them to stop weeping and start celebrating.

Both of these cinematic scenes take place during a religious service. The primacy of delivery is given to this community event, a gathering of faithful. This is where key information is shared.

Reflection taken from Living Liturgy 2022 www.litpress.org



50 Week Club Valentine Fundraiser

Starting next week, you will see in church a Valentine board with smaller hearts on it, indicating a Gift Card that you can obtain for our 50 Week Club raffle. On the heart you can donate that gift card in memory of a loved one. All those names will be listed in the program that you will receive at the banquet, as well can be obtained at church in April. Flyers will be available soon with more information. Thank you for your generous support of the 50 Week Club, our biggest fundraiser would not be as successful as it is without you.

In Loving Memory

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

Sanctuary Lamp:
Rose & Dina Ripanti by Joe Ripanti



Altar Candles:
Dave Tuttle by Wife, Mary Anne

Tabernacle Candles:
Henry & Jimmy Ripanti by Joe Ripanti

Crucifix Candles:
Desiree Choquette by Priscilla & John Gonsalves

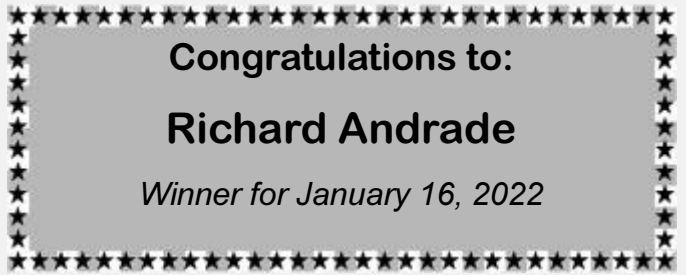
St. Dominic's memorial candles burn in January in remembrance of:

Church Vigil Candle: **John and Lillian Carpenter**

St. Dominic Candle: **All Deceased Parishioners**

Center Vigil Candle : **Manuel and Maria Souza**

50 Week Club Weekly Winner



ATTENTION ALL 50 WEEK CLUB MEMBERS

As our club is now in the final stages, and we are at the conclusion of our 2021/2022 club. Now is the time to take the opportunity to not only **catch up on payments or make additional payment**, to ensure that your club is current. **Payments should be made payable to: St. Francis of Assisi.** Some members have not paid anything, if you are not going to join, please let me know ASAP.

Also, as in the past we are asking for your continued generosity with donations of gift certificates of any denominations. Any business giving a gift certificate will be sent a special thank you along with a copy of our booklet to show how we advertised their business.

All gift certificate donations can be placed in an envelope with 50 Week Club noted and placed in the collection basket.

Without all the support we receive from you, for our major fundraiser we would not be as successful as we are.

You can contact Kathy & Bill Sullivan at 508-493-9064 for more information.

Please make all payment checks payable to: St. Francis of Assisi Parish

Parish Support

St. Francis Collections - January 15th and 16th

Budget: \$2383.00

Catholic Communication: \$601.00

Donation: \$2000.00

St. Dominic Collections - January 16th

Budget: \$ \$1,821.00

Catholic Communication: \$365.00

Next weekend, January 30th the second collection AT BOTH St. Dominic's and St. Francis is for Repairs & Restorations.

Thank you for your generosity and support!



Remembering Your Loved Ones

Mt. Hope Catholic Community of

St. Francis of Assisi & St. Dominic

2022 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 2022 Mass Book. Candles are also available at both St. Francis of Assisi and St. Dominic's.** 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.

Welcoming the Stranger

Once upon a time, I was the director of music ministry in a very large parish in northern New Jersey. The parish choir numbered in excess of thirty voices, and they were a very good group of singers. But like most groups, they were not without problems and a couple of difficult personalities. Anytime a new soprano would join, one of the male singers always commented how on the other sopranos would be sharpening their elbows. He said that in jest, but it wasn't too far from the truth. But it was a bass who caused an incident that I shall never forget.

Like so many choirs, our numbers were always thin in the tenor section. So, imagine my delight when a new parishioner, "Tim the Tenor", came to me and asked about joining the choir. He was a good singer, he read music, and was very enthusiastic about becoming a part of the parish music ministry. What could go wrong with this scenario? I was about to learn – plenty! I invited "Tim" to the next rehearsal, and the Sunday morning before that rehearsal I told the choir about our newest member. I reminded them that we should welcome him and make him feel at home.

The following Wednesday evening, Tim showed up at what was to be his first – and last – rehearsal. Tim was a slight man in his late 40's or early 50's; like many men of that age, he was balding. I introduced Tim to the group, and everyone greeted him warmly with words of welcome - everyone except for "Bill the Crabby Bass". When the "hello's" had faded away, Bill said loud enough for everyone to hear, "I thought all tenors had hair!" After an audible gasp, there was dead silence.

Bill went home to God several years ago, so I'm told. As for Tim the Tenor, I never saw him again. I never saw him at choir, and I never saw him in the parish. I called him several times and left messages of apology, but he never responded. I can't say as I blame him. He may not remember exactly what was said at that choir rehearsal and he probably doesn't even know who said it. But I guarantee the one thing he *does* remember is how he felt that evening, and how he was "welcomed" to the parish choir.

There's a takeaway here. We only get one chance at first impressions. How we treat people, how we welcome people to our parish family matters. How and if we recognize the face of Christ in every person, we meet will determine how that person perceives us as disciples of the Lord. A simple smile, a nod, and a "welcome to our parish family" doesn't require much effort but it can make a world of difference to a newcomer. The truth is, there are no strangers in our midst because we are all brothers and sisters in Christ. Our Christian witness is reflected in how we treat one another.

"By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." -John 13:35

Ada L. Simpson, Director of Music Ministry

Mt. Hope Catholic Community of St. Dominic & St. Francis

FAITH FORMATION PROGRAM FOR GRADES 1-4

With the variant spreading so rapidly & so many children & adults being affected, we will be canceling in-person classes for January & February for Grades 1-4.

So that our students can stay connected to us & not lose too many classes, we have created a packet pick-up schedule.

There will be 2 packet pick-ups.

Each packet will contain 2 lessons...these are the lessons they would have had in class.

First pick-up will be January 23rd from 10:30am - noon.

The second pick-up will be February 13th from 10:30am - noon.

Hopefully, we will return to in-person classes on March 6th. This will allow for 3 additional classes for each grade. Grades 1&2: March 6th, 20th & April 3rd (last class)

Grades 3&4: March 13th & 27th & May 1st (last class).

Parents will be mailed this information and will continue to update them via email of any changes as time goes by.

While we hate having to return to packets during this time, the safety of our students & teachers is our primary concern and returning to in-person classes in March will be a real celebration!

**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.

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

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

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

Feb. 13-Sunday, Faith Formation Classes (GR. 7)

Feb. 20-Sunday, No Classes-Winter Break

Feb. 27-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

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

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

Feb. 6th-Sunday, Faith Formation Conf. 2 (GR. 9)

Feb. 13th-Sunday, Faith Formation Conf. 1 (GR. 8)

Feb. 20th-Sunday, No Faith Formation Classes (Winter Break)

Feb. 27th-Sunday, Faith Formation Conf. 2 (GR. 9)

REGISTRATIONS FOR GRADES 8 & 9 (CONF. 1 & 2) WILL TAKE PLACE EVERY SUNDAY EVENING DURING CLASS TIME FROM FEBRUARY 6 TO APRIL 10.



Synod Reflections

Parishes and other communities within the Diocese will be holding special listening sessions as part of the global preparations for the 2023 Synod: “For a Synodal Church: Communion + Participation + and Mission.” To help everyone to prepare to take part in a listening session or to take the online survey, the Synod Committee is happy to share with you weekly reflection questions for consideration.

This week’s reflection.

1. Reflecting on 16 months of the pandemic, how has participation in our parish been affected?
2. How can participation be strengthened moving forward into the future?
3. What are the means by which different voices can be heard in our parish?

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS WILL BE A DRIVE THROUGH DINNER.



**ST. DOMINIC WOMEN’S GUILD
MEAT PIE SUPPER
SATURDAY - FEBRUARY 12, 2022
TIME - 5:30PM**

**DONATION: \$10.00
TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE FROM GUILD MEMBERS OR AT ST. DOMINIC RECTORY**

4TH DEGREE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

CALENDAR RAFFLE WINNERS

FROM 1/1/22—1/10/22

1/18	#65	Rick Sardonis	\$25.00
1/19	#123	Lucille Aguiar	\$25.00
1/20	#76	Leonard Silvia	\$25.00
1/21	#136	Gil Travers	\$25.00
1/22	#138	Gil Travers	\$50.00
1/23	#18	Sue Grant	\$50.00
1/24	#7	Larry Machado	\$25.00



Relevant Radio

Relevant Radio operates a growing network of Catholic radio stations. The mission of this ministry is dedicated to spreading the knowledge, love, and practice of the Catholic faith by means of the radio. Programming content is primarily Catechetical, devotional, and inspirational in nature. WWDJ - AM 1150 - Boston, Providence,- 550AM WSJW, relevantradio.com



SAINT DOMINIC CHURCH

is seeking new members for a new committee called “Parish Life” The purpose of the committee is to oversee events and fundraising for the good of the parish community. Coming together with faith and enthusiasm to enliven our Catholic Community. Contact Bob Medeiros at (617) 997-6075.

Family Life Ministry - Calendar of Events - Save the Date

Saturday, March 12th –Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner-Take Out

Saturday, April 23rd –50 Week Club Banquet

Sunday, May 1st –May Breakfast

Saturday, June 18th –Barbeque Dinner

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CHAPTER #3669

are offering four—\$500 scholarships to students attending Catholic Schools in our area. There will be two scholarships awarded for grades K-8 and two scholarships for High School Students. You must be affiliated with St. Dominic Church or the Knights of Columbus to qualify. Applications must be received by July 31, 2022. You may pick up applications from one of the Knights of Columbus.



**Congratulations to Jacob Brady Blakey
son of Christian Borges and
Samantha Silveira Borges
Jacob was Baptized at St. Francis of Assisi on
Sunday, January 2, 2022
May God Bless Jacob and his family!**

Thank you to St. Francis of Assisi Family Life Ministry that donated \$2400 to our church from the proceeds of the December Calendar Raffle.




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