

ST. FLORENCE PARISH
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THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

“From this day all generations will call me blessed:
the Almighty has done great things for me and holy is his Name.
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones,
and has lifted up the lowly.”
- Lk 1:48b-49, 52

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

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PASTORAL TEAM

Administrator: Rev. Thomas J. Reilly
Deacon: Joseph A. Cooley

Office Manager: Christine Breslow

Religious Education

Coordinator: Anne Dooley

Maintenance: Joseph DiMauro

Music Director: Phyllis Bunnell

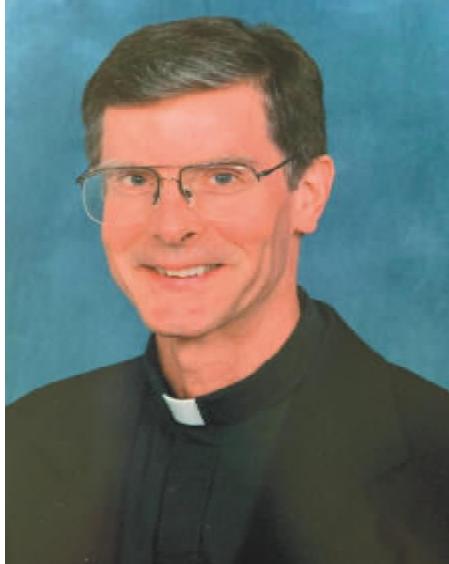
Cantors:
Alison Creedon
Cory D'Arco
Julie Kron
Kellie Leavitt
Michelle Manzi-Grasso

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekend:	4:30 PM Saturday
	8:00 AM & 11:00 AM Sunday
Weekday:	9:00 AM Monday-Thursdays
	The Holy Rosary
	8:25 AM Monday-Thursdays
Eucharistic	
Adoration	10:00 AM -12:00 PM
	Monday & Thursday
Confessions:	3:15-4:00 PM Saturday
Holy Days:	9:00 AM
Baptisms:	2nd Sunday/Month 12:30 PM
Marriage:	Contact Pastor 6 months prior
Scripture Study:	10:00–11:00 AM Thursday

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

9:00 AM-1:00 PM Monday—Thursday



From Father Tom

Dear Friends in Christ,

I am delighted that Deacon Joe Cooley will be joining our parish staff. He is married to Ceci, who helps him with his ministry of healing and deliverance. In short, Deacon Joe has a wonderful gift for teaching people how to deepen their friendship with The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. He is passionate about teaching people how to find freedom, joy, and peace in Jesus. Jesus says: "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life" (Jn 14:6). He works closely with our Faith Formation Coordinator, Anne Dooley, in the Houses of Mercy. There is a team of people working with Deacon Joe at the Houses of Mercy, which was founded by him. You will love Deacon Joe and his wife Ceci, Anne Dooley, and our staff!

Sr. Brige McKenna, O.S.C., will be giving our 3 day parish mission next month. She is highly gifted in The Holy Spirit. Fr. Pablo is part of her team. When I was praying with Sr. Brige in Dublin in 2010, she confirmed that I have a gift of healing. She prayed that Cardinal O'Malley would find a way to use that gift. This past June, the Cardinal and Bishop Mark O'Connell, sent me to St. Florence to establish a Center for Healing. "Jesus Christ Is the same yesterday, today and forever" (Hebrews 13:8). Sr. Brige is delighted that this Center for Healing is being blessed!

Since arriving here, three people who knew Monsignor Conte well told me that he said how St. Florence would become a Center for Healing. Monsignor Conte worked at the Vatican and spent 30 summers at St. Florence. He was a very holy priest who went home to God in February, 2017. He had 2 doctorates. I am glad he is watching over our parish and the healing ministry. I shared all of this with the Cardinal, Bishop Mark, and Sr. Brige. They are delighted!

It is wonderful to work at St. Florence with our great staff, parishioners, and healing team. Our next monthly healing service is Tuesday, August 24th. See our bulletin for details.

You are remembered in my Masses and prayers. Please pray for all of us.

In Christ,

Fr. Tom





The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

They are courageous, wise women who ground us, focus us, and inspire us. They are the good mothers who walk with us and light our way. They teach us life lessons and help us heal and navigate through challenges and difficulties. We need people to point the way. Sometimes, these wise ladies are not our biological mothers but women in our lives, who through their strong and faithful presence, anchor us and remind us that we are loved. We need these women. Human beings do their best when they have cheerleaders in their lives. They show us that even when facing despair there is always a brighter tomorrow.

Jesus needed his mother. She had to be that faithful anchor, that guiding presence, in his life. Jesus needed to be affirmed and encouraged just like any other human being and Mary had to be there, right by his side, doing precisely that. Even when her heart was pierced as he was nailed to a tree, she did not give up hope. Most certainly, she continued to wait, watch, hope, and love until he took his final breath. That's what mothers do. Even when their heart breaks, they persevere.

Today, our Blessed Mother is our cheerleader once again. Taken up to heaven in body and soul, she points to and directs us toward our final destiny. Life eternal waits! Any disappointment, fear, or anxiety can be set aside as she gently reassures us of God's love and promise. Always a mother filled with grace and hope, she calls us to reaffirm our faith in God and in the gifts we have each been given. We can persevere and do what we need to do to live life well, with faith, hope, and love as our guiding lights. Knowing who we are and who we will one day become helps us to better chart the course and direction of our earthly lives. Looking to the example of our Blessed Mother, we receive the assurance we need.



Confessions are heard on **Saturdays from 3:15 pm to 4:00 pm.** "Recognizing our need for true peace, both with others and within our own selves, let us confess those ways we have distanced ourselves from God."

August 15, 2021

Your Sacrificial Offering

Offertory— August 8, 2021: \$3,856.50

Parish Capital Fund: \$1,547.00



Saturday 4:30 pm	August 14th Carmela Perillo 25th Anniversary Mass requested by her children.
Sunday 8:00 am	August 15th Mass for the People of St. Florence
11:00 am	Dominic Marinello Birthday Remembrance requested by his family
Wednesday 9:00 am	August 18th Andrea Gerace Birthday Remembrance requested by her parents
Thursday 9:00 am	August 19th Arthur Rotondi 54th Wedding Anniversary requested by his wife
Saturday 4:30 pm	August 21st Rev. H. Joseph Murphy 8th Anniversary Mass requested by St. Florence Parish

The suggested offering for all published Mass Intentions is \$20.00.



Mass Intention Cards and Healing Cards are available at the Rectory during normal business hours. The suggested offering is \$10.00 per card.



MINISTRY NEWS

As a reminder, all of our volunteers need to complete a **CORI Form** each year. If you are recently returning to a Parish Ministry, please contact our Business Office to check on the status of your CORI. There may be some volunteers who need to renew this year. Thank you.



Before celebrating Daily Mass, please join us at **8:25 am Monday-Thursday** to pray **The Holy Rosary**.



St. Florence Parish will celebrate **Eucharistic Adoration Monday & Thursday from 10:00 am—12:00 noon**. We are looking for parishioners to volunteer on Tuesday and Wednesday for one or two hours a week to adore the Lord in His Eucharistic Presence. Please contact the office if you are available.



As a reminder, Sister Briege McKenna will be giving our parish mission on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, September 27th through the 29th. She will give a morning and evening presentation each of those days. She will be speaking at all the Masses on September 25th and 26th. We

know you will really appreciate her. She is a very holy Sister, friendly and gracious. She is also a friend of Father Reilly. She will be joined by missionary priest, Father Pablo. Below is some background information for both Sister Briege and Father Pablo.

SISTER BRIEGE MCKENNA, O.S.C., was born in Ireland and entered the Sisters of St. Clare at the age of fifteen. Following her final vows and after suffering for more than three years with rheumatoid arthritis, she was transferred to her community in Tampa, Florida with the hope that the Florida sunshine would relieve her suffering. At the age of twenty-four, she was miraculously and instantaneously healed during the celebration of the Eucharist and some time later received, in prayer, the gift of healing for which she has become so widely known. In 1974, again during prayer, she was given a deep spiritual insight into the mystery of the call to priesthood. Since then, bishops and priests in many parts of the world have invited her to speak and minister at their retreats and conferences. Her Book, "Miracles Do Happen" has been translated into many languages throughout the world. Since 1985 Sister Briege has been ministering to priests in collaboration with Father Kevin Scallon, C.M. She is the 1988 recipient of the Poverello Award from the Franciscan University and the 2009 recipient of the Award for Outstanding Catholic Leadership from the Catholic Leadership Institute.

FR. PABLO ESCRIVA DE ROMANI was ordained in Madrid 2009. He studied Theology in the Faculty of San Damaso in Madrid, Spain. He worked predominantly with the youth in the parish of St. Teresa of Jesus in Madrid for several years. After that period, he went to Ukraine as a missionary, working with Bishop Jan Sobilo in the Shrine of Merciful God the Father, giving retreats and helping people from the war zone, pro-life missions with doctors, and spiritual exercises for priests. Fr. Pablo has been ministering at retreats as a missionary in different countries, including France, Mexico, Italy, Poland, Belarus, Switzerland, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Ethiopia, Dominican Republic, USA, Belgium, Lebanon, Holy Land, Guatemala, Chile, Portugal, Puerto Rico, Ukraine, and Costa Rica. He is now working as a diocesan missionary from Madrid in Costa Rica, residing with Bishop Javier Roman in the Diocese of Limon and helping in the indigenous zone, working with youth and giving spiritual exercises to priests. He is now beginning to restore a retreat house to receive priests willing to have a missionary experience and renew their priesthood. Additionally, Fr. Pablo has joined Sr. Briege in ministering to priests and at parish missions.



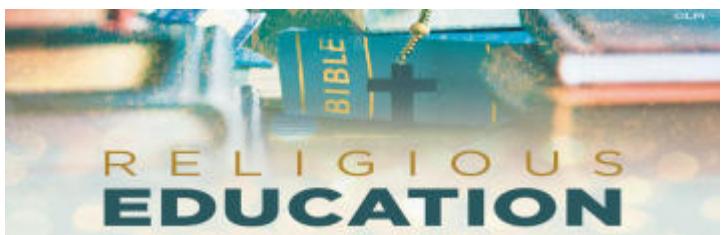
Evening of Healing & Intercessory Prayer

Tuesday, August 24, 2021

St. Florence Parish, Wakefield

Celebrant: Father Thomas Reilly

- 6:00 pm Adoration, Rosary & Confession until 6:45 pm
- 7:00 pm Holy Mass with Sacrament of the Sick
- 8:15 pm Opportunity for personal prayer



Registration for our **Religious Education Program** for the 2021-2022 school year is now open. St. Florence will again offer classes for Grades 1 through 10 starting this Fall.

As a reminder, if your child is entering the 10th Grade and is enrolled in a Catholic School, they will need to participate in our 10th Grade Program to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Please contact **Anne Dooley**, our Religious Education Coordinator, for a registration form or if you have any questions.



Happy August everyone! Please note, all **Summer Catch Up Religious Education Lessons** for all grades are **due by Monday, August 23rd**. If you have received a book and an alternative lesson plan in paper format, please drop off your completed binder and book by Monday, August 23rd, to the parish office. Thank you.



If you are interested in volunteering as a Catechist this Fall, please contact our office as soon as possible. We need to know who is available so we can plan our program accordingly. Thank you.



Due to the pandemic many of our families experienced financial challenges this past year. If you are interested in supporting our young families, we are accepting scholarship donations for our Fall Religious Education Program. Please contact the office for more information.



What lessons can we learn from the Assumption of Mary?

Growing in holiness is similar to training in a sport. We need someone to show us how we can live our faith well. Mary is a model of sanctity. She shows us how to be faithful to God's will, living each day with confidence in God's mercy and love. At the Nativity, in Jesus' public ministry, and at the Crucifixion, we see her steadfast trust. She allows the Lord to use her life to accomplish his plan for her and for all of us. In the Preface of the Mass for the Assumption of Mary, we pray: "For today the Virgin Mother of God was assumed into heaven as the beginning and image of your Church's coming to perfection and a sign of sure hope and comfort to your pilgrim people."

It is this image of holiness that we strive to imitate. In the office, at home, or in our community, we look for signs of God's grace that call us to an ever greater love of him and each other. A greater awareness of God is a sign of our conversion of heart that lives the lessons Mary teaches.



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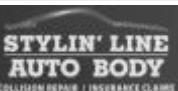


We continue to collect gift cards and nonperishable food items for the **Wakefield Interfaith Food Pantry**. Gift cards may be dropped in our offertory collection baskets in an envelope marked "Food Pantry" and food items can be left in the front lobby of the church. The overwhelming support from our parishioners has been greatly appreciated by our neighbors in need. Thank you.

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