

ST. FLORENCE PARISH
47 BUTLER AVENUE, WAKEFIELD, MA 01880
PHONE: (781) 245-2711 FAX: (781) 245-4512
stflorenc@verizon.net



4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT

When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb." - Lk 1:41-42

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

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PASTORAL TEAM

Administrator: Rev. Thomas J. Reilly
frreillystflorenc@gmail.com

Deacon: Rev. Mr. Joseph A. Cooley
deacon.joe@housesofmercy.net

Parish Secretary: Josephine Olsen

Office Manager: Christine Breslow

RE Coordinator: Anne Dooley

Operations: 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-Thursday

The Holy Rosary: 8:25 AM Monday-Thursday

Adoration: 9:30 AM -2:00 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

Our Church is Open for Prayer:

Monday-Thursday	8:00 AM—5:00 PM
Friday	9:30 AM—5:00 PM
Saturday	9:30 AM—6:00 PM
Sunday	7:30 AM—6:00 PM

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

9:00 AM-1:00 PM Monday—Thursday

*On Tuesdays the church will close at 3:45 PM while
Religious Education Classes are in session.*

December 19, 2021

Evening of
*Healing & Intercessory
Prayer*

Tuesday, December 28, 2021

St. Florence Parish

47 Butler Avenue • Wakefield, MA

Celebrant: Fr. Reilly

6:00pm

Adoration, Rosary & Confession until 6:45 pm

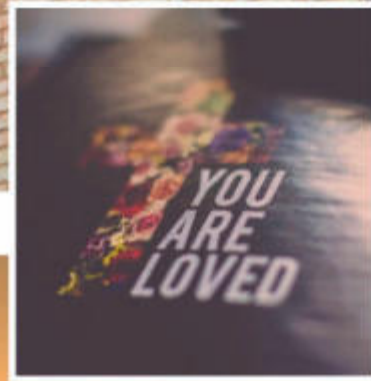
7:00pm

Holy Mass followed by Sacrament of the Sick

8:15pm

Opportunity for personal prayer

Please email your intentions to: stflorence@verizon.net



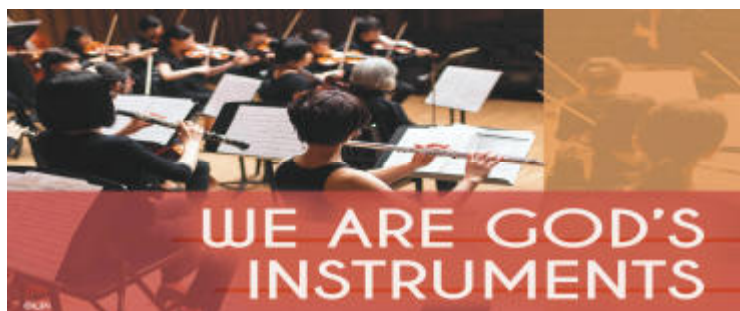
*“Jesus healed the centurion’s
servant from afar.”*

MT 8: 5-13

*“Jesus Christ is the same
yesterday, today and forever.”*

HEB 13: 8

For more information, please call the office at 781-245-2711



4th Sunday of Advent

St. Augustine tells us that a “Christian is a mind through which Christ thinks, a heart through which Christ loves, a voice through which Christ speaks and a hand through which Christ helps.” As we look around and out at the world, we do not have to search too far before we come face to face with inequity and injustice. There is so much unfairness, prejudice, anger, hatred, violence, and want. The stories of human heartache, people being hurt, deprived of life’s necessities, loneliness, and sickness are far too commonplace. For many of the world’s ills, the vices of greed, lust, pride, gluttony, and jealousy are clearly among the more significant root causes.

Why doesn’t God just step in and fix this mess? After all, God created this world, and one would hope that he would step up and take some measure of responsibility for it! Once we sit with this thinking for a while, we can begin to realize just how flawed it really is. God did take responsibility and God did fix the problem! God sent us Jesus Christ as the divine solution to the world’s ills. It is not God who has shirked responsibility, we have. We are the ones who continually fail to set our own personal needs, wants, and securities aside so that One more powerful than us can use us.

Mary had to set her needs aside in order for the Son of God to come into the world. Put simply, Mary listened and believed. Having opened herself to being an instrument of the Divine, God could use her as his mind, heart, voice, and hand. She became God’s vessel so that God’s greatness could reach the ends of the earth and peace could come upon the world. God’s fix for the world’s difficulties is you and me. We are the ones who confess that Jesus Christ came into the world as the Son of God, the Prince of Peace, and herald of justice. All we have to do is believe, as did Mary, that what has been spoken to us by the Lord will be fulfilled. Then, we can step aside and be the Christians we claim to be. What a difference it would make if every person who professed to be Christian truly understood that their one and only vocation is to be God’s instrument. What a beautiful, equitable, and just world it would be.



December 19, 2021

Your Sacrificial Offering

Offertory— December 12, 2021: \$3,596.50
 Parish Capital: \$2,305.00
 Grand Annual Campaign (to date): \$29,050.00



Saturday 4:30 pm	December 18th John Vozella Memorial Mass requested by his family
Sunday 8:00 am	December 19th James Buonopane 1st Anniversary Mass requested by his wife, Nancy
11:00 am	Palmira Santorelli 28th Anniversary Mass requested by her family
Tuesday 9:00 am	December 21st Memorial Mass for The Rotondi, DeMarchi, and Lucia Families requested by Karen Rotondi
Wednesday 9:00 am	December 22nd James M. Riley Memorial Mass
Thursday 9:00 am	December 23rd Viola Confalone Month’s Mind requested by her son, John
Friday 4:00 pm	December 24th Gertrude Roach 20th Anniversary Mass requested by her family
Saturday 9:00 am	December 25th Mass for the People of St. Florence



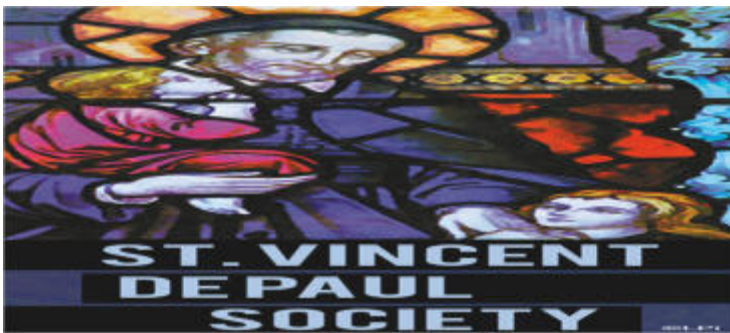
Dear Lord, Let us pray for the souls of **Franklin Nardone** and **Deborah Drebit** whose Funeral Masses were celebrated this past week. We the Parish of St. Florence offer our deepest condolences to their families and friends. May they rest in peace.



In the light of spiking numbers of new COVID cases and the likely increase in those numbers in the upcoming holiday season, Cardinal Seán is mandating that throughout the Archdiocese all people attending public Masses, including weddings and funerals, wear masks. This mandate takes effect the weekend of December 18 & 19, 2021, and expires on January 17, 2022. Mass celebrants, deacons, readers, servers, choir members, and instrumentalists, should all wear masks except when they are speaking. Children under the age of five are not required to wear masks. Children under the age of two should not wear masks. In addition, all churches must continue to provide a designated area in which social distancing is respected for those who want to use it.



We have launched our **Grand Annual Campaign at St. Florence**; an effort that our church has done successfully in prior years. This year the money will predominately be used to address our current financial deficit. Any additional funds will be used for making our church completely handicapped accessible and for any unexpected heating repair costs. The money we receive through this important effort is essential to meeting our financial needs. As such, we are asking people, through prayer, to discern what you can give. **Our goal is \$60,000.** We understand and recognize not everyone has the same ability to give. Our hope is those who can, will support our campaign with a donation of \$200—\$300. Please use the green Grand Annual Campaign envelopes located at the church entrances. Thank you.



Again this season, the **St. Vincent de Paul Society** is collecting McDonald's Gift Cards. These will be distributed to the homeless in Wakefield prior to Christmas. We ask that the cards be in either \$5 or \$10 denominations and the amount is shown clearly on the card. Gift cards may be dropped in our offertory collection baskets in an envelope marked "St. Vincent de Paul". Thank you for your support of this worthy project.

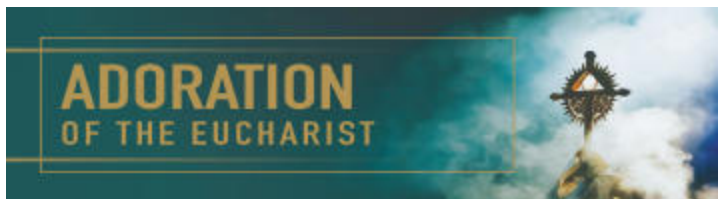


The season of giving is upon us and the **Wakefield Interfaith Food Pantry** has expressed their sincere thanks for the overwhelming support from our parishioners. We are collecting gift cards and nonperishable food items (stuffing, boxed rice, boxed potatoes, canned vegetables and fruit, cranberry sauce, quick bread mixes and canned white tuna in water). Gift cards may be dropped in our offertory collection baskets in an envelope marked "Food Pantry" and food items can be left in the red bin in the front lobby of the church. Thank you for your generosity and for your help to feed those in need.



Christmas Eve Masses (Friday) 4:00 pm
6:00 pm
Christmas Day Masses (Saturday) 9:00 am
11:00 am

Please note there will not be a 4:30 pm weekend vigil mass on Saturday, December 25th.



St. Florence Parish will now celebrate **Eucharistic Adoration Monday through Thursday from 9:30 AM—2:00 PM.**



Christmas Pageant 2021

The children of St. Florence performed a beautiful pageant which helped us to capture the spirit of the season! We extend our deepest gratitude to all those who made this event possible, especially Joe DiMauro for putting our stable together, and all of the volunteers who contributed time and talent on the day of the show. We were blessed to have a live Baby Jesus to complete The Holy Family. Stay tuned for more photos!



Grades 6—Confirmation will meet on the following dates (Sundays from 6:00 PM-8:00 PM). **Teaching Masses will take place at 6:00 PM—ALL ARE WELCOME!**

1/9/22	6:00 PM
1/23/22	6:00 PM
2/6/22	6:00 PM
2/13/22	6:00 PM
3/6/22	6:00 PM
4/3/22	6:00 PM
5/15/22	6:00 PM

Grades 3–5 Family Workshops will take place on the following dates:

1/22/22	5:30 PM—7:00 PM
2/5/22	5:30 PM—7:00 PM
3/5/22	5:30 PM—7:00 PM
4/2/22	5:30 PM—7:00 PM
5/8/22	May Procession & Crowning at 11:00 AM Mass

Please plan to join us! The first hour is devoted to a lesson and activity; during the final half hour we enjoy pizza and fellowship. Those who have not yet picked up a textbook for their child should contact the Religious Education Office at stflorencewakefield@gmail.com to arrange to meet staff to discuss the homeschooling portion of the year.

Other Important Dates:

Confirmation Sponsor Night Sunday, January 9th 6:00 PM-8:00 PM in the Church

Grade 3-5 Family Workshop Saturday, January 22nd 5:30 PM—7:00 PM in the Hall

Confirmation Retreat Friday, February 11th 5:30 PM-9:00 PM in the Church and Hall

First Reconciliation Saturday, February 12th 10:00 AM in the Church



This week we welcome and celebrate the newly baptized **Bianca Tamayo**, daughter of Anthony and Catherine Tamayo. God bless our new sister in Christ.



Confessions are heard on **Saturdays** from **3:15 PM** to **4:00 PM**.

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