

Sunday of the Divine Mercy

April 8, 2018

*The Second
Sunday of Easter*



JESUS I TRUST IN YOU



Parish Mission Statement: In the spirit of our patron, St. Francis of Assisi, we dedicate ourselves as living stones to building our parish family with Christ as our foundation. Enlivened by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves by sharing God's transforming love with our families, our community and our world.

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: Saturday from 3:15PM to 3:40PM or call the rectory for an appointment.

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.

WELCOME

If you are a new parishioner please introduce yourself to the pastor after Mass and call the parish office to register. Attend our monthly coffee & donut social to meet your new parish family. We are so pleased you're here!

Parish Staff

Pastor: **Rev. Michael A. Ciryak**

Maintenance: **Tony Roderigues**

Faith Formation/Office: **Christine Patota**

Finance/Office/Notary: **Fran Kelley**

Music Director: **Ada Simpson**

Cantors: **Allison Messier, Mike Moniz and**

Christine Patota

Youth Ministry: **Justin & Amanda La Croix**

Parish Council President: **Wayne Gray**

Parish Address:

Church: **530 Gardners Neck Road**

Office/Rectory:

270 Ocean Grove Avenue

Swansea, MA 02777

Office hours: **9:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. or by appointment**

Weekly Mass Intentions

Sat., April 7 - *Second Sunday of Easter/Divine Mercy Sunday*

4:00 p.m. **Donat Roussel** by the Mellon family
Steven James Barbary by mom, dad & the La Croix family

Sun., April 8 - *Second Sunday of Easter/Divine Mercy Sunday*

8:00 a.m. **Frances Mazurak**
9:30 a.m. **Janet Plichta & Lillian Marques**
11:00 a.m. **Conrad P. Fortier** by Kathy & Bill Sullivan

Mon., April 9 - *The Annunciation of the Lord*

9:00 a.m. **Ernest Rebello** by wife and children

Tues., April 10

9:00 a.m. **Leroy & Margaret Hoyt and Thomas & Margaret Flanigan** by Flanigan family

Wed., April 11 - *St. Stanislaus, Bishop and Martyr*

9:00 a.m. **Frank Mellon** by Ellie and family

Thurs., April 12

9:00 a.m. **David De Medeiros**
by grandmother, Rose Medeiros

Sat., April 14 - *The Third Sunday of Easter*

4:00 p.m. **Anne Durkin & Angela Souza** by Wayne & Marita Gray
Thomas & Blanche Lavoie by granddaughter Kimberly & Helen

Sun., April 15 - *The Third Sunday of Easter*

8:00 a.m.

9:30 a.m. **Frank Crook** by Kathy & Bill Sullivan
(Birthday Remembrance)

11:00 a.m. **Conrad P. Fortier** by Esther Minior
John & Joseph Gracia by daughter JoAnn & family

Liturgical Celebrations

Saturday Vigil: 4 p.m.

Sundays: 8, 9:30 & 11 a.m.

Monday – Thursday: 9 a.m.

Civic Holidays: 9 a.m. only

Contact:

Parish Office: **508-673-2808**

Parish fax: **508-672-6241**

Email: **stfrancisswansea@comcast.net**

Website: **www.stfrancisswansea.com**

Religious Education: **508-673-2808/508-674-0024**

Email: **religiouseducation@stfrancisswansea.com**

St. Vincent de Paul: **508-673-2808**

Youth Ministry: **508-673-2808**

50 Week Club: **Bill & Kathy Sullivan 508-493-9064 or 508-674-8511**

Our memorial candles burn in April in remembrance of:

Sanctuary Lamp:
Anne Durkin by Wayne & Marita Gray

Altar Candles:
Bryan Kelley by parents

Tabernacle Candles:
Special Intention by Dorvalino & Luisa Carreiro

Crucifix Candles:
Deceased members of the Lajoie family
by Joe & Anne Ripanti



**“Listening Sessions” with Bishop Edgar
NEW DATES ADDED!**

Come and share your hopes and dreams for our Church! Bishop Edgar is hosting a series of Listening Sessions at different parish locations as part of the strategic planning process here in the Fall River Diocese. Members of diocesan parishes are invited to attend one of them to offer their thoughts into that process. The schedule is as follows:

April 18 - St. Joan of Arc Parish, Orleans

April 20 - St. Julie Billiart Parish, Dartmouth

April 23 - Our Lady of Victory Parish, Centerville

May 4 - Our Lady of Guadalupe, N. B. (in Spanish)

May 9– St. Ann Parish, Raynham

May 11 - St. Mary’s Cathedral, Fall River (in Portugues)

All sessions will take place from 6:30 to 8 p.m. with the exception of the one in Centerville, which will begin at 7 p.m.

Attention current members: If you did not receive a call from a club representative asking what you’d like to eat at the banquet, please call the rectory or Kathy and Bill Sullivan. The banquet is fast approaching!

**Congratulations to:
Matthew Talbot
Winner for April 8, 2018**

**50
Week
Club**



Collected March 24th & March 25th

Budget: \$3,566.00
Repairs & Restoration Fund: \$2,174.00
Easter Flowers: \$307.00

Collected March 30th (Good Friday)

Church in the Holy Land: \$675.00

Collected Easter Sunday

Budget: \$4,363.00
Retired & Infirm Priests: \$2,278.00

*The second collection this weekend, 4/7 & 4/8 is for the diocesan assessment. Please be generous.
The second collection next weekend, 4/14 & 4/15 is for the repairs and restoration fund.*

Thank you for your continuous support.



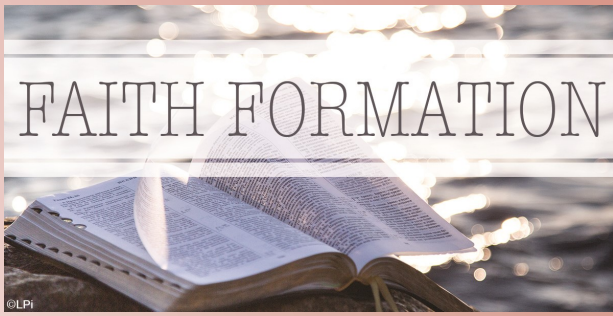
Thank you to all who donated towards the beautification of our church during the Easter Season. Money collected for “Easter Flowers” is also used to purchase incense, candles, and other items used to help us celebrate the liturgies during Holy Week, the Triduum and Easter. There are four framed lists of the loved ones who are being prayed for and remembered located in the front of the ambo

in church. In addition to those names, the following people are remembered: The Bushell & Griffin Families, Mary Martin, Sadie Flores, John & Gary Simbro and Maria & Manuel Correia.

St. Vincent de Paul Society

If you are in need of assistance with rent, utilities or groceries, please call the rectory and you will be put in touch with a member of the St. Vincent de Paul Society. They are eager to help anyone who is in need. Your confidentiality is always a priority.





Sat., April 7 - The **Sacrament of Confirmation** will be celebrated at the 4:00 p.m. Mass.

Sun., April 8 - Grades 6 & 7 class after the 9:30 a.m. Mass until 11:30 a.m. The **First Holy Communion retreat day** will take place following the 11:00 a.m. Mass until about 3:00 p.m. At least one parent is required to stay for the retreat day with their child.

Tues., April 10 - Grades 3, 4 & 5 from 4:30 - 5:30 p.m.
***This is their last class of the year.**

Thurs., April 12 - Grades 1 & 2 from 4:30 - 5:30 p.m.

Thurs., April 26 - Grades 1 & 2 from 4:30 - 5:30 p.m.

Sun., April 29 - Grades 6 & 7 class after the 9:30 a.m. Mass until 11:30 a.m.

Thurs., May 3 - Grades 1 & 2 from 4:30 - 5:30 p.m.

Sun., May 6 - Grades 6 & 7 class after the 9:30 a.m. Mass until 11:30 a.m. (Last class)

Thurs., May 10 - Grades 1 & 2 from 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. This is the last class of the year.

Thurs., May 17 - Mandatory First Holy Communion Rehearsal from 4:30 - 6:00 p.m.

Sun., May 20 - First Holy Communion at 11:00 a.m. Mass. Children should arrive no later than 10:15 a.m. in the church hall.

***The schedule which was sent home to grades 3, 4 & 5 families incorrectly stated that the last class was on May 8th. The last class is actually April 10th. Sorry for the confusion.**

Pope John Paul II The Great Mercy Pope

Pope John Paul II, both in his teaching and personal life, strove to live and teach the message of Divine Mercy. As the great Mercy Pope, he wrote an encyclical on Divine Mercy:

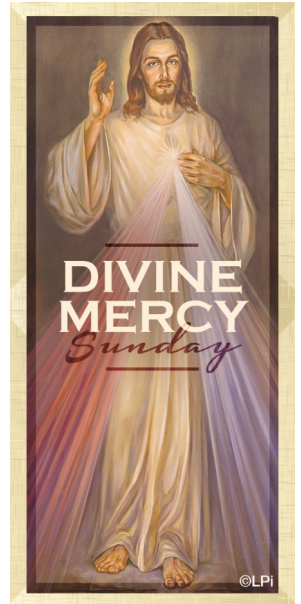
"The Message of Divine Mercy has always been near and dear to me... which I took with me to the See of Peter and which it in a sense forms the image of this Pontificate."

In his writings and homilies, he has described Divine Mercy as the answer to the world's problems and the message of the third millennium. He beatified and canonized Sr. Maria Faustina Kowalska, the nun associated with the message, and he did it in Rome and not in Poland to underscore that Divine Mercy is for the whole world.

Establishing Divine Mercy Sunday for the Entire Church

When Pope John Paul canonized Sr. Faustina (making her St. Faustina), he also, on the same day, surprised the entire world by establishing Divine Mercy Sunday (the feast day associated with the message) as a feast day for the entire Church. The feast day falls on the Second Sunday of the Easter season. On that day, Pope John Paul II declared, "This is the happiest day of my life."

Taken from <http://www.thedivinemercy.org/message/johnpaul/>



Worldwide Marriage Encounter

Are we like Thomas and doubt the power of God in our marriage? Learn the tools to put God in your Sacrament of Marriage by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next Weekends are Apr 21-22, 2018 in Brewster, MA and May 19-20, 2018 in Warner, NH. For more information, call Stephen & Michelle O'Leary at 800-710-9963 or visit them at <https://www.mema.org/>.

The Foundation to Advance Catholic Education

(FACE) and Diocese of Fall River Catholic Schools are excited to announce *The Catholic School's Hope and Opportunity Initiative*. This Initiative will provide 100 scholarships for up to \$2000 per student for the 2018-19 school year to new low-income K-8 students in Fall River, Taunton, and the Greater New Bedford Area Catholic Schools. If you, or someone you know, wants to send their child (ren) to a Catholic School please contact Sarah Heaton at (508)678-2828 or sheaton@CatholicSA.org.



All our parish youth, grades 6 through 12, are cordially invited to attend the youth group "meeting" on Sunday,

April 8th from 5:00 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. We would love to see this group grow and thrive and be a vital part of our parish community...but we need more young people to take the initiative and give it a shot!

WE NEED YOUNG PEOPLE!

Confirmation CELEBRATION



Amanda La Croix, who is one of our parish youth group leaders as well as wife and mother of some of our cutest parishioners, was welcomed into the fullness of the faith through Baptism, First Communion and Confirmation at the Easter Vigil. Melanie Mello received her First Holy Communion and Confirmation, at the Easter Vigil as well. She and Amanda have studied the faith, attended classes and shared in other events with our Confirmation II students this past year.

On Saturday April 7th fourteen of our young parishioners, and adult Jennifer Higgins, received the sacrament of Confirmation at the 4:00 p.m. Mass. We wish them sincere congratulations and pray that they continue to grow in their faith with the help of the Holy Spirit.



Congratulations to the Confirmation II Class of St. Francis of Assisi

Pictured above are the young men and women who attended the diocesan High School Convention on Sunday, March 18th at Bishop Connolly High School, and who recently received the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Left to right, front: Eliza Patota, Kiley Bouchard, McKayla Froment, Kristina Pham, Matthew Rebello, Amanda La Croix, Owen Morris, Melanie Mello and her fiancé Kevin.

Left to right, back: Trevor Golden, Benjamin Roseberry, Riley Machado, Owen Teasdale, Zachary Dennis, Logan Medeiros, Michael Cinquegrana and Tyler Gaspar.

Let us keep them in our prayers and welcome them with open arms. This wonderful group of young people have been a joy to encounter and we hope they continue to bless our parish.