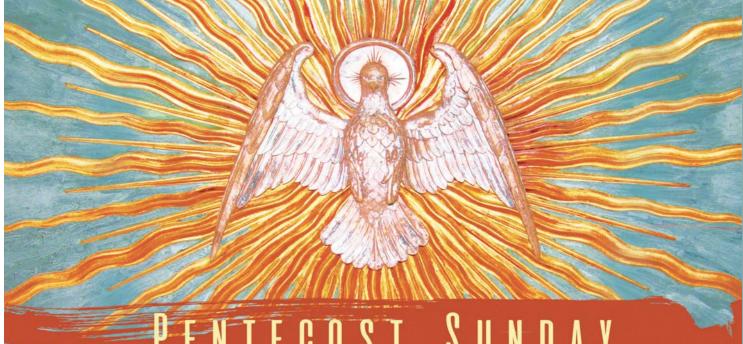
St. Francis of Assisi Parish

May 20, 2018



ENTECOST SUNDAY

"But when he comes, the Spirit of truth, he will guide you to all truth. He will not speak on his own, but he will speak what he hears, and will declare to you the things that are coming." - Jn 16:13

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

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

50 Week Club: Bill & Kathy Sullivan 508-493-9064

or508-674-8511

Parish Staff

Pastor: Rev. Michael A. Ciryak Maintenance: Tony Roderigues

Faith Formation/Office:

Finance/Office/Notary: Fran Kelley

Music Director: Ada Simpson

Cantors: Allison Messier and Mike Moniz

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

St. Francis of Assisi Parish

Swansea, MA



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!

Saint Francis of Assisi Memorial Fund

In making funeral arrangements, you may wish to consider enrolling the deceased in the Saint Francis of Assisi Memorial Fund. Relatives and friends who donate to the fund in memory of the deceased receive a thank you card from the parish, and another card is sent notifying the bereaved of the gift. The gifts are charitable contributions and may be a supplement or a substitute for flowers. Those whose names are enrolled in the Saint Francis of Assisi Memorial Fund are remembered in the Masses and prayers of the parish. A special Mass is celebrated once a year for all the souls enrolled. All the monies of this Fund are used to purchase materials needed to make our church more inspiring and beautiful for community prayer and celebrations of the sacraments.

Thank you for considering this beautiful tribute.



Sat., May 19 - Pentecost

4:00 p.m. Robert Turcotte by Joe & Diane Gauvin

Sun., May 20 - Pentecost

8:00 a.m. Elena Colucciello, Consolata Colucciello & Angelo Colucciello by family

9:30 a.m. John Reis by children, grandchildren and Ellie

11:00 a.m. Deceased loved ones of the First Holy Communion children and their families.

Mon., May 21 - St. Christopher Magallanes, Priest & Companion Martyrs

9:00 a.m.

Tues., May 22 - St. Rita of Cascia, Religious

9:00 a.m. Virginia E. Harrington by Margaret Kolakowski

Wed., May 23

9:00 a.m. Joseph & Jean Ciryak

Thurs., May 24

9:00 a.m.

Sat., May 26 - The Feast of the Most Holy Trinity 4:00 p.m. George & Irene Fairhurst by family

Sun., May 27 - The Feast of the Most Holy Trinity

8:00 a.m. Biagio Del Toro by family

9:30 a.m.

11:00 a.m. Conrad P. Fortier by Mary Callahan

LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK "Lord, send out your Spirit and renew the face of the earth!" We only know that the wind exists because of what it does. A gentle breeze felt on our face or watching a tree swaying or swirling snowflakes all prove the existence of "something" causing these things to happen. But, apart from its effects, we cannot see the origin or substance of wind. The Holy Spirit is the wind of God. Watching an early Church emerge, people coming to believe, disciples of Jesus change the way they live and conduct their affairs-all give witness to the presence of the Holy Spirit. Observing the courage and conviction of those who have found faith, working for justice, feeding the poor, seeing how wounds are healed-all point to something greater than ourselves working and living among us. How do our lives give witness to the Spirit?

Sunday May 20, 2018



Our memorial candles burn in May in remembrance of:

Sanctuary Lamp:
Chad Gray by family

Altar Candles:

Richard Michael Dantino by wife

Tabernacle Candles:
George & Irene Fairhurst
by family

Crucifix Candles:

Vincent & Stella Penkala by daughter





Collected May 12th and 13th

Budget: \$3,427.00

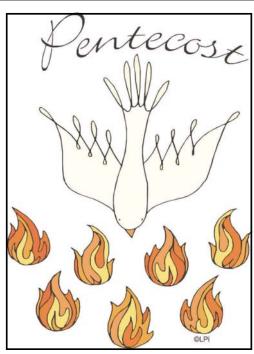
Diocesan Assessment: \$1,199.00

Collected for Ascension Thursday: \$500.00

Roses: \$.385.00

Next weekend, May 26th and 27th the second collection is for the repairs and restoration fund..





GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

May 20, 2018 Pentecost Sunday

Today we celebrate the "birthday of the Church!" Pentecost is described in the first reading from the Acts of the Apostles. But before the great driving wind and tongues of fire empowering the Disciples, the Holy Spirit had already arrived. The Gospel for today's Mass during the day is from John 20. Jesus appears to the fearful disciples after his resurrection. He first speaks a message of calm. "Peace be with you." The apostles "rejoiced when they saw the Lord." When the enthusiastic response settles down, Jesus "breathed on them and said to them 'Receive the Holy Spirit."

This action is Trinitarian, and it has happened before. If you turn your Bible back to the beginning, you'll read: "The Lord God formed man out of the clay of the ground and blew into his nostrils the breath of life, and so many became a living being" (Genesis 2:7). In the Garden of Eden, we see God's first, original covenant with man. The breath of life signifies that original indwelling of grace, the special state of likeness and friendship with God before the Fall. Here now, in this locked room, the Apostles receive the long-awaited promise: the very breath of God, new life, a new covenant.

In the pairing of these two readings-the Pentecost experience in Acts and the breath of Jesus in John's Gospel -we see that the coming of the Holy Spirit is not only an empowering, it is an indwelling. We have each received the breath

of grace in our baptism. It is confirmed, strengthened, and deepened in each reception of the sacraments. If we persevere in virtue, the Spirit of God is alive in us, inspiring our actions of love. This Pentecost Sunday, how is the breath of God alive in you?

There is no such thing as a gift too small! Every contribution to the Catholic Charities Appeal is greatly appreciated and is an affirmation of the programs that concretely express the belief in the inherent value of every human life and the dignity of every individual.

Please give as generously as you can to the 2018 Catholic Charities Appeal! Tens of thousands of people in southeastern Massachusetts, Cape Cod, and the Islands are ministered to by programs supported by the Appeal. 94 cents of every dollar donated goes directly to the agencies and apostolates funded by the Annual Appeal.



The Feast of Pentecost

May 20, 2018

Celebrate the Beauty of Every Child Prayer and Newborn/Toddler Campaign

Meeting the need for new clothing and items for babies and toddlers exists all year and can put a great strain on families. Parishes in the Diocese of Fall River will come together to bring relief to them through prayer and action. Our parish will participate in this campaign on the weekends of June 2 & 3 and June 9 & 10. Bins will be located at the entrances to church. The following NEW items are being collected: diapers (all sizes), wet wipes, bibs, teething rings, receiving blankets, onesies, sleepers, and outfits for infants and toddlers (through 5T). This project is sponsored by the Massachusetts Citizens for Life, St. Vincent de Paul Society, the Pro-Life Apostolate, Catholic Social Services and the Knights of Columbus. Any help you can give will be greatly appreciated. Items should NOT be wrapped. Start collecting now!



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.

50Week Club

WANTED: NEW MEMBERS!

Membership forms are located at the entrances to church, or just call Kathy Sullivan. This is our biggest (and most fun) fundraising event of the entire year! \$2.00 per week gives you a chance to win a weekly drawing of \$25.00!

Remember, you can't win if you don't join!

As we announced a few weeks ago, our 2017-2018 year was amazing! The profit from the club was given to the parish and totaled \$6,500.00! You can be part of the action!

Congratulations to:
Cecilia Costa
Winner for May 20, 2018

Hymn Fest for Our Lady will be held on Sunday, May 20 at St. Mary's Cathedral in Fall River at 4:00 p.m. Come and enjoy honoring Our Blessed Mother in her month of May through her song! Traditional Catholic hymns, including such favorites as "Bring Flowers of the Rarest", "Mother at Your Feet is Kneeling," and "Tis the Month of our Mother" will be played on an extraordinary organ. Those attending will be led in singing the hymns by an outstanding vocalist. Prior to singing each hymn, a brief background and history and significance in Catholic devotional life will be presented.

MY BROTHER'S KEEPER is a Christian ministry in Dartmouth that delivers furniture free of charge to families in need. At each delivery they offer a crucifix as a gift along with the message, "We are just the delivery people. This is the man who sent you the furniture". They need volunteers to help in a variety of ways including administration, cleaning, sorting, sewing, and pickups & deliveries. All are welcome. Call 774-305-4577 or go to www.MyBrothersKeeper.org

Fall River Area Bereavement Support Groups start again on May 15th until June 19th from 7-9 PM, at the Office of Faith Formation. Contact Rose Mary Saraiva at 508 -678-2828 ext. 27 for more information.

St. John of God "Meals Ministry" takes place on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month. If you, or someone you know could benefit from *stretching your wallet* by attending their meal, you are most welcome. The meal is intended for those in need in the Swansea/Somerset area and also for the elderly who may not want to dine alone. If you want more information, call St. John of God Church at (508)678-5513.

EMMAUS RETREAT

Emmaus is a retreat for men and women (ages 20+) who seek to grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ, regardless of their present level of faith or practice. We want to invite you to join us on our next Emmaus weekend. You will be welcomed by a loving community, spend time in personal and communal prayer, and celebrate the sacraments. The next Emmaus is June 8th-10th at Cathedral Camp in East Freetown, MA. For more information or to apply online, email us at emmausretreats@gmail.com or visit our website: www.emmausretreats.com.

Be a Super Hero to A Homeless Child

Do you have 2 hours each week to play with young homeless children in one of Horizons for Homeless Children's shelter-based Playspaces in Fall River & New Bedford? Help a homeless child learn, play, and thrive. Upcoming volunteer training 6/7/18, 6-9p in West Bridgewater. For more info or other training dates visit www.horizonschildren.org or call 508 510-3250. Show off your super power giving back to children in your community.



St. John Neumann Parish 34th LAKESIDE Family festival Memorial Day weekend May 25-28, 2018

Friday May 25th: 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. Sat and Sun: Noon to 11 p.m. Monday May 28th: Noon to 5 p.m.

Rt. 18 – 157 Middleboro Rd. East Freetown, MA 02717

Come to the Festival for: HUGE Barn Sale
"Blessing of the Bikes" (on Saturday)
Classic Car Show (on Sunday)
Games –Fun– Food -Live Entertainment
Midway Ride FREE ADMISSION!

Need more info?Go to:

http://sinfreetown.org/lakeside-family-festival



May God Bless our First Communicants!

Elijah Adao

Ciera Araujo

Trevor Candido

Adam Correia

Adrian Dantino

Matthew DeCoste

Marissa Lema

Dylan Morris

Valentina Naumenko

Khloe Ponte

Gavin Sale

Austin Silva

Aubrey Tekippe

Samantha Wajda



2017-2018 Catechists





These members of our St. Francis community deserve so much thanks! These are OUR catechists, who tirelessly devote themselves to educating our young parishioners. Their commitment is beyond measure! Make it your business to THANK THEM! Grade 1: Sue & Barry Borden and Sarah Cabral. Grade 2: Karen LaCroix, Justin La Croix and Suzanne Correia. Grade 3: Kelly Plante and Annette Silva. Grade 4: Mary Anne Tuttle and Tyler Clark. Grade 5: Ann Keshura and Gilda Oliveira. Grade 6: Kathy Sullivan and Meg Sullivan. Grade 7: Al Sardinha.