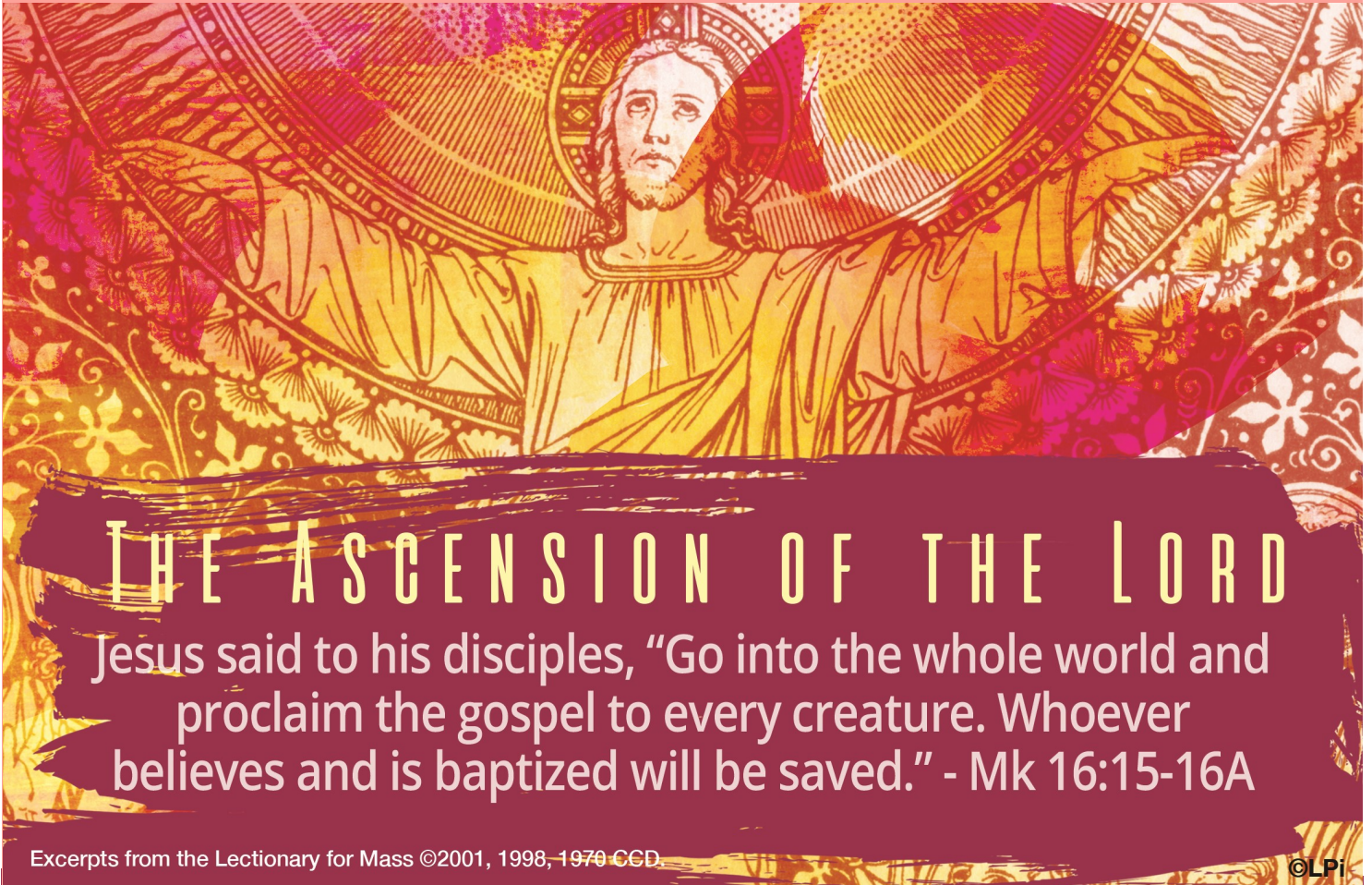


St. Francis of Assisi Parish

May 6, 2018

Sixth Sunday of Easter



THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

Jesus said to his disciples, "Go into the whole world and proclaim the gospel to every creature. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved." - Mk 16:15-16A

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

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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**
or **508-674-8511**

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 and Mike Moniz**

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

Parish Council President: **Wayne Gray**

Parish Address:

Church: **530 Gardners Neck Road**

Office/Rctory:

270 Ocean Grove Avenue

Swansea, MA 02777

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



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.

Mass Intentions for the Week

Sat., May 5 - Sixth Sunday of Easter

4:00 a.m. **Robert J. Peloquin** by daughter Sandra
William Macomber by his wife & family
Angela Daley Souza by Veronica & Elizabeth

Sun., May 6 - Sixth Sunday of Easter

8:00 a.m. **Virginia E. Harrington** by Diane Kolakowski

9:30 a.m. **Antone Rebello Jr.** by friends of Matthew

11:00 a.m. **Conrad P. Fortier** by Esther Minior

Mon., May 7

9:00 a.m. **Irene Mello & Alice Bernier** by daughter
6:30 p.m. **St. Vincent de Paul Mass - All are welcome**

Tues., May 8

9:00 a.m. **Theresa Santos** by daughter

Wed., May 9

9:00 a.m. **Rita T. Cyr** by Wanda
7:00 p.m. - *Vigil of the Ascension of the Lord*

Thurs., May 10 - The Ascension of the Lord

9:00 a.m. **All priests and religious who have served in the Fall River Diocese**

Sat., May 12 - The Seventh Sunday of Easter

4:00 p.m. **Alexandre & Juliette Raymond** by family
Chad Gray by dad and Marita

Sun., May 13 - The Seventh Sunday of Easter

8:00 a.m. **All Mother's Living and Deceased**

9:30 a.m. **All Mother's Living and Deceased**

11:00 a.m. **All Mother's Living and Deceased**

LOVE ONE ANOTHER

Cancer, diabetes, AIDS or heart disease will never destroy the human race, but the assumption we can solve problems by violence can easily ruin us. Jesus said, "Remain in my love. Keep my commands.... I tell you this that my joy might be in you and your joy might be complete." Violence and fear come from hate, but peace and joy come from love; they are fruits of God's Spirit. We do not fear even disease because of Christ. After all, what would we have to lose?

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In Loving Memory

Our memorial candles burn in May in remembrance of:

Sanctuary Lamp:
Chad Gray by Dad & Marita

Altar Candles:
Richard Michael Dantino
by wife

Tabernacle Candles:
George & Irene Fairhurst
by family

Crucifix Candles:
Vincent & Stella Penkala
by daughter



Collected April 28th and 29th

Budget: \$4,539.30
Repair & Restoration Fund: \$1,062.00
Diocesan Assessment: \$335.00

Next weekend, May 12th and 13th the second collection is for the diocesan assessment.

Your generous donations to our parish help to pay for the monthly expenditures associated with running a business. Just like your household budget, ours is sometimes stretched to the limits. Please remember to turn in your donations even when you may not be able to worship with us on the weekend. Without your help our parish cannot continue to flourish. Thank you!



**Church Grounds
Beautification
& Clean-up Crew!**

Thanks to those who have heeded the call for help and have started our yard work. Call Norma at 508-676-9033 and see if your talents and enthusiasm will be needed for the next phase of our beautification! Spring has indeed sprung!



During the month of May we honor the Blessed Mother in a special way. The two events listed below are just two examples of how we can celebrate her beautiful motherhood. Please plan on participating in the annual **"Rose Drive"**, sponsored by the Mass Citizens for Life, which will take place on Mother's Day weekend, **May 12th and 13th**. Your donations will help their important pro-life work. **"Crowning of the Blessed Mother"** will take place on **Sunday, May 27th** at the 9:30 a.m. Mass. We invite, in a special way, our second year faith formation students who will make their First Holy Communion the weekend before this, on Sunday, May 20th. We hope to see them for their "second" Communion, and to honor Mary in this special way.

Living the Fatima Message invites you to:

Joseph's Yes: the strength and joy of encountering Joseph with Jesus and Mary at Fatima--our Holy Family, **Saturday, May 12, 8am - 3pm, sponsored by Bishop Connolly High School**, 373 Elsbree St., Fall River, MA. Live Our Lady's "peace plan" through Mass, Living Rosary, Eucharistic Adoration, and Confession. Listen to reflections by religious and laity from around the diocese, have fun with your family in the children's activity room, and learn from keynote speaker, Mother Olga of the Sacred Heart, founder and mother servant of Daughters of Mary of Nazareth, Quincy. *Please bring your own brown bag lunch* and join us May 12 for any part, or for the entire program. Accessible facility. No charge. Free will donations graciously accepted. Free parking. Full schedule at fb.com/livingfatima - click events - or email livingfatima@gmail.com or call 781-521-3677.

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.



Faith Formation Schedule

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.

Congratulations to Elijah LaCroix, the parish recipient of the diocesan Pope St. Piux X Award for 2018. All parishioners are invited to witness Elijah accept this honor at St. Mary's Cathedral on Tuesday, May 8, at 7:00 p.m. This award is



given to youth who have demonstrated exemplary service and faithfulness in their parishes. Elijah is very deserving. Well done!



CATHOLIC CHARITIES
DIOCESE of FALL RIVER

**2018
Appeal**

You should have received information in the mail about our 2018 Catholic Charities Appeal. If you did not, it means you are not a registered parishioner. Please call the office to update our records. In the meantime, donation cards and pamphlets can be found at the entrances to church.

Each year Bishop da Cunha invites each of us to make a commitment to support the work of our diocesan apostolates and ministries that enhance our church by helping all of God's children build deeper and more meaningful relationships with Him.

This effort is a means by which we can all work together to care for the church and one another by sharing the gifts God has granted us. Our parish goal is 100% participation. We welcome you to join us in joyfully supporting the Appeal. Please take time this week to reflect and pray about the blessings you are called to share with your Catholic family.

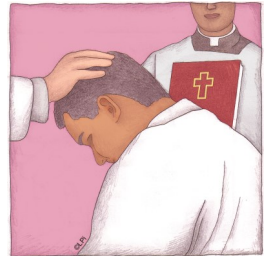
On Monday, May 7th you are invited to attend Mass at 6:30 p.m. here at St. Francis of Assisi, with members of the Fall River diocese St. Vincent de Paul Society members.



The Annual *Quo Vadis Vocations Retreat* will take place on Monday, July 9th through Friday, July 13th at the Betania II Retreat Center in Medway for young men aged 14-19 (those entering high school to those entering college) to seek to grow in their faith and fraternity, learning how to discern what is one of the most important things in their life: their vocation. Throughout the week there are times of prayer and sports, talks on living the faith and understanding the different vocations, Mass and Adoration, mountain hiking, and fraternity. It is a great chance for them to build friendships with others their ages who are living the faith, as well as to get to know the seminarians of the diocese. It is a wonderful time and the cost is only \$100. If any young man is interested please *Quo Vadis* email Fr. Kevin Cook, Director of Vocations at frcook@holymfamilytaunton.org

Save the dates:

This year the Diocese of Fall River is very blessed to have one young man being ordained to the transitional diaconate and three men to be ordained priests. Please plan on attending these great gifts of Holy Orders being given to them at the Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption in Fall River. Ryan Healy is to be ordained a Transitional Deacon on Saturday, May 19th at 11:00 a.m. Deacons Matthew Gill, Juan Carolos Munoz, and Daniel Nunes are to be ordained to the Priesthood on Saturday, June 9th at 11:00 a.m. If you can, please join us for these beautiful occasions, and keep them in your prayers.



MASS CITIZENS FOR LIFE

EVERYONE IS INVITED TO A SPECIAL TOWN HALL MEETING sponsored by Massachusetts Citizens for Life and local pro-lifers. The Town Hall, "MCFL on the Move," will take place on WEDNESDAY, MAY 16, 6:30 - 8 pm at Baptist Temple Church, 700 N. Eastern Ave, Fall River. Topics will include: Life is Winning, Death is Losing; Roe Will Go; Fake News is Failing; How to Achieve the Dream. Q&A period is included. All are welcome.

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.

"Celebrate the Beauty of Every Child" is an initiative by our bishop in response to his Pastoral letter, *Rebuilding Faith and Hope*. The St. Vincent de Paul Society and other diocesan groups are collaborating in this collection drive to meet the needs of area children and families. This collection will take place between Mother's day and Father's day. Start collecting now! Consider donating diapers, clothing and other necessities. Prayers are always needed too!

Sunday May 6, 2018

Sixth Sunday of Easter

**50 Week Club
Banquet
2018**



Raffle Winners

Luisa Carreiro \$1,000

Julie Mello \$500

Jeffrey Patota \$200

Lenny Silvia \$150

Vivian Talbot \$100

Pilson Champagne \$100

Tony Miranda \$50



**Thank you to Kathy &
Bill Sullivan and all those
who helped make this
event a huge success.**

**Isn't it time for YOU to
join?**

