

*"Behold, the virgin shall be with child and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel . . ." ~ Matthew 1:23*



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**Saint Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic Church**  
**596 Jefferson Blvd., Warwick, Rhode Island 02886**

*A faith community since 1900 A faithful parish since 1943*

**Rectory Phone:** 401-737-5191  
**Rectory Fax:** 401-737-1159  
**Rectory Email:** [stfrancis737@cox.net](mailto:stfrancis737@cox.net)  
**Parish Web Site:** [www.stfranciswarwick.com](http://www.stfranciswarwick.com)

**Father Pierre J. Plante** pastor  
**Father John A. Kiley** pastor emeritus  
**Kathleen McKeon** trustee  
**Robert Gauthier** trustee  
**Charles Sewall** auditor  
**Kenneth Mallette** auditor  
**Sheila Ehrens** council president  
**Cheryl Pertuso** parish secretary  
**John Pare** parish music director

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM**

Grades 1-6 -- Tuesdays at 3:30pm at St. Francis School  
Grades 7-10 -- Sundays at **9:15am** at St. Francis School

**Sisters of St. Joseph**, Sr. Joan Hawkins, SSJ  
249 Chestnut Street, Warwick, RI 02888 401-781-2464

**Our Mission:** Saint Francis of Assisi Parish, Warwick, RI, is a Roman Catholic worshipping community, rooted in the Eucharist, committed to prayer, to religious education, to Christian family life, to welcoming the stranger, to aiding the disadvantaged and supporting the universal Church.

**Mass & Services Schedule**

**Saturday:** 8am & 4pm  
**Sunday:** 8am & 10:30am  
**Monday through Friday:** 8am  
**Holy Days** except Christmas & New Years 8am, 12:05 & 5:15pm  
**First Fridays:** (except July & August) 8am & 12:05pm  
**Lenten Weekdays:** 8am & 12:05pm  
(except Wednesdays)

**Morning Prayer** daily at 7:20am

**Rosary** daily at 7:40am

**Novena to Our Lady of the Sacred Heart**

*Tuesdays during the 8am Mass*

**Little Office of Ste. Ann**

*Thursdays after the second Sunday at 7am*

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**

*First Friday (except July/August) from 12:45pm until 9pm*

**First Saturday Devotions** *monthly at 7:30am*

**Lenten Stations** *Fridays at 7pm*

**Masses, Baptisms, Marriages, Home & Hospital Visits** *may be arranged at the rectory.*

**Prayer Line for personal intentions:**

*Call Gloria (737-1141)*

**Confession** *daily at 7:40am before morning Mass and Saturday at 3:30pm before the vigil Mass.*

**OUR CHURCH IS OPEN DAILY  
FOR PRIVATE ADORATION AND PRAYER**



**Tuesday, December 31:** there will be no 8:00am Mass on Tuesday morning. There will be a 4:00pm Vigil Mass for the Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God.

**Wednesday, January 1:** Masses will be at 8:00am and 10:30am.

**Women's Club:** The first meeting of the new year will be on Thursday, January 9th at 6:30pm in the school library.

*Happy New Year to all of our Parishioners of St. Francis Parish. Thank you for all of your spiritual and financial support throughout the 2013 season.*

*St. Francis Parish Community always rises to the occasion when there is a specific need.*

*Also, this will be the last bulletin printed by Pilot Publishing Co. We have been using them for the past five years. Beginning on January 5, 2014, we will be using a different format and company for our bulletin. We hope you will like it.*

# MASS SCHEDULE

December 28	Saturday	4:00pm	8th Anniversary for David Pepin requested by wife Avis & family.
December 29	Sunday	8:00am	Special Remembrance for Patrick Silvia requested by his family.
December 29	Sunday	10:30am	Birthday Remembrance for Isabelle Tombello requested by her family.
December 30	Monday	8:00am	People of the Parish
December 31	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>4:00pm</b>	<b>Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God Vigil.</b>
January 01	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>8:00am</b>	<b>Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God.</b>
January 01	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>10:30am</b>	<b>Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God.</b>
January 02	Thursday	8:00am	Memorial Mass for Patricia Miga requested by Mickey McGuire.
January 03	Friday	8:00am	<b>First Friday.</b> Memorial Mass for Rosemary Lusignan requested by Michaela Murphy.
January 03	Friday	12:05pm	<b>First Friday.</b>
January 04	Saturday	8:00am	Our Lady of the Rosary requested by Carmen & Victor Feroce.
January 04	Saturday	4:00pm	10th Anniversary for James Winn requested by wife Gerry.
January 05	Sunday	8:00am	
January 05	Sunday	10:30am	

**PRAY FOR OUR SICK:**

Lynette Lopes, Jacqueline Bert, John Joseph, Diane Pike, David DeAngelis, Erin Schmidt, Jennifer Desjardins, Antoinetta Miccolis, Betty Angeloro, Michaela Murphy, Stephen Edelstein, Kaylee Robinson, Elaine Flynn, Richard Punzi, Anne Rowley, Joan Gorton, Dorothy Roppe, Elizabeth Iacovino, Jane Natale, William Martin, John Mulhern, Barbara Mulhern, John & Stella Midura, Carol Brown, Jessica Quinn, Bart Scire.

**PRAY FOR OUR DEAD:** Frances McKeon, Barbara Collupy, Mary DiMillio, Fr. William Murphy, Fred Dailey, Philip Butler, Joseph & Bernice Miga, Alfred & Ann Arsenault, Americo Barreiro

**IN HARM'S WAY:** Brian Haley, Joseph Reilly, Phillip DiMillio, Matthew Dubois, Paul Chappelle, Alyson Gillissie, S. Msgt. William A. Potenza \*( If you have not contacted the rectory within tree months, please do so, so we can compile the correct address of all loved ones.)

*During this time of crises, the parish will pray for any parishioner who is active in the Armed Services.  
Submit names: 737-5191*

*Scripture for the week of December 29, 2013*

- 29 SUN** Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Mt 2:13-15, 19-23
- 30 Mon** 1 Jn 2:12-17/Lk 2:36-40
- 31 Tue** 1 Jn 2:18-21/Jn 1:1-18
- 1 Wed** Nm 6:22-27/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21
- 2 Thu** 1 Jn 2:22-28/Jn 1:19-28
- 3 Fri** 1 Jn 2:29-3:6/Jn 1:29-34
- 4 Sat** 1 Jn 3:7-10/Jn 1:35-42
- 5 SUN** Is 60:1-6/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

**TABERNACLE LAMP:** In Memory of Augustino Giuffre requested by his family.  
**MARIAN LAMP:** 13th Anniversary Remembrance for Norma Foss requested by John & Marie Pastina.  
**MARIAN ICON LAMP:** In Memory of the Souls in Purgatory.  
**PARISH BULLETIN :** In Memory of our Armed Forces serving overseas.

*The parish bulletin and the sanctuary lamps may be dedicated on the anniversary of a death or as a birthday remembrance by calling the rectory at 737-5191. A \$10 offering will reserve the lamps or bulletin for the week.*

<b>Counting our Blessings</b>	<b>Thank You</b>
<b>Sunday, December 22</b>	<b>TBA</b>
<b>Christmas Day Collection</b>	<b>TBA</b>



## ***Feast of the Holy Family***

Some of the most humorous moments on the show, “Everyone Loves Raymond,” were those that reminded viewers of their own families. It was easy to laugh at the flaws and antics of the characters because in them we recognized a bit of ourselves. Faced with the same kinds of situations, we know just how everyone would react—with the same silliness, or comic expression, or choice of words. It’s always easier to laugh at ourselves when we know that everyone else is just like us.

In the Holy Family we also recognize a bit of ourselves. Our size and circumstances vary, but beyond the superficial differences, we are the same. The virtues of God’s chosen ones that St. Paul describes to the Colossians are at the core of what it means to be a family. Clothed in mercy, kindness and patience, we bear with one another, forgive one another and love one another, so that as one holy family we help each other grow in faith, hope and love.

Family gives us roots, identity, a place to grow up and a place to call home. We find the support and safety and freedom to be ourselves, to develop our strengths and correct our faults. More importantly, we share the incredible gifts of life and grace with each other. We honor those we love and become the people God calls us to be. We learn and practice the miraculous virtues of God’s chosen ones, because that is who He calls us to be.

*~James Gaffney, © 2007 Karides Lic. to St. George Publishing*  
[jim@stgeorgepublishing.com](mailto:jim@stgeorgepublishing.com)



## ***Feast of the Holy Family***

Did you ever consider your family to be holy? You can stop smiling now! Not many people would consider their own family to be holy. With all the faults and foibles of daily living, holy is not a word most would use. But what does it mean to be holy? Doesn’t holiness mean we share in God’s life? Doesn’t it mean we do as Jesus did by teaching, forgiving, preaching and healing? Doesn’t holiness mean we struggle against the power of evil by doing good, choosing to follow God’s way even if we fail on occasion? Isn’t holiness the call of baptism and the goal of sacraments? Aren’t we holy when we love one another? Show good example? Help our neighbor? Keep a peaceful home? Share our resources? Care for the weak and the needy? Comfort those who feel a loss or who are lost? Offer a helping hand? Isn’t that what holiness is all about?

So, let’s repeat the question: did you ever consider your family to be holy? The answer is yes!

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**ST. PAUL CENTER  
FOR BIBLICAL THEOLOGY**

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*By Dr. Scott Hahn*

**Saving Family**

Feast of the Holy Family (Cycle A)

Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14

Psalm 128:1-2, 3, 4-5

Colossians 3:12-21

Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

Underlying the wisdom offered in today's Liturgy is the mystery of the family in God's divine plan.

The Lord has set father in honor over his children and mother in authority over her sons, we hear in today's First Reading. As we sing in today's Psalm, the blessings of the family flow from Zion, the heavenly mother of the royal people of God (see Isaiah 66:7, 10-13; Galatians 4:26).

And in the drama of today's Gospel, we see the nucleus of the new people of God - the Holy Family - facing persecution from those who would seek to destroy the child and His Kingdom.

Moses, called to save God's first born son, the people of Israel (see Exodus 4:22; Sirach 36:11), was also threatened at birth by a mad and jealous tyrant (see Exodus 1:15-16). And as Moses was saved by his mother and sister (see Exodus 2:1-10; 4:19), in God's plan Jesus too is rescued by His family.

As once God took the family of Jacob down to Egypt to make them the great nation Israel (see Genesis 46:2-4), God leads the Holy Family to Egypt to prepare the coming of the new Israel of God - the Church (see Galatians 6:16).

At the beginning of the world, God established the family in the "marriage" of Adam and Eve, the two becoming one body (see Genesis 2:22-24). Now in the new creation, Christ is made "one body" with His bride, the Church, as today's Epistle indicates (see Ephesians 5:21-32).

By this union we are made God's chosen ones, holy and beloved. And our families are to radiate the perfect love that binds us to Christ in the Church.

As we approach the altar on this feast, let us renew our commitment to our God-given duties as spouses, children and parents. Mindful of the promises of today's First Reading, let us offer our quiet performance of these duties for the atonement of our sins.

*A service of the St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology  
www.SalvationHistory.com*

## **News Around the Diocese**

**Annual Mass for Life: " An Invitation to Pray for Human Life": Saturday, January 18, 2014 at St. Paul's Church in Cranston. Bishop Tobin will be the main celebrant and Rev. George K. Nixon will be the homilist at the 9:00am Mass. Prior to the Mass, there will be a procession with the Missionary Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe to a peaceful and prayerful vigil at 8:00am at the Broad Street Clinic. The Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe will remain on the Altar during Mass and will be available for veneration at the reception immediately following the Mass. For more info and to rsvp, contact Carol Owens, Office of Family and Life Ministry at 421-7833 x 218.**

**Annual March for Life: "2014 March for Life: Office of Life and Family Ministry will be sponsoring a bus trip to Washington D.C. for the Annual March for Life on the 41st Anniversary of the Supreme Court decision to legalize abortion on Wednesday, January 22. The cost for the overnight ride is \$80.00 per person and will leave RI on Tuesday, January 21 at 7:30pm.**

**This year's trip will take us to the Armory for the Youth Rally and Mass for 6:30am. There will be confession, Rosary, popular Catholic recording artists, presentations and a Mass for Life. We will return from DC to Rhode Island on Thursday, January 23 at approximately 2:00am. For more info and to register call Carol Owens at 421-7833 x 218.**



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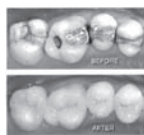
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