



# ST. JOSEPH

## GUARDIAN OF THE HOLY FAMILY

### PARISH

**DECEMBER 21, 2025: FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**



**ST. ANTHONY**



**ST. ELIZABETH SETON**



**ST. JOSEPH CHAPEL**



**ST. PATRICK**



**ST. THOMAS CHAPEL**

**Office Address: 167 East Falmouth Hwy., East Falmouth, MA 02536**

**Phone: 508-548-0108 | Web: [www.FalmouthCatholic.org](http://www.FalmouthCatholic.org)**

### WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

#### SATURDAY VIGIL

St. Anthony: 4:00 PM  
St. Elizabeth Seton: 4:00 PM  
St. Patrick: 7:00 PM Brazilian Mass

#### SUNDAY

St. Anthony: 8:00 AM, 11:00 AM  
St. Elizabeth Seton: 10:00 AM  
St. Patrick: 9:00 AM, 5:00 PM

### DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

#### St. Anthony

8:00 AM Monday - Friday

#### St. Elizabeth Seton

9:00 AM Tues, Wed, Thurs

#### St. Patrick

8:00 AM Saturday

As members of St. Joseph, Guardian of the Holy Family Parish, we strive to grow as disciples of Jesus Christ by encountering His presence in Word and Sacrament, and as His Body, the Church, to participate in Jesus' saving mission by actively sharing our faith and carrying His life and love out into the world.

## PARISH CLERGY



### Pastor

Rev. Msgr. Stephen J. Avila  
frsavila@diocese-fr.org

### Parochial Vicar

Rev. Bryan R. Bangs  
frbbangs@diocese-fr.org



Deacon James "Gus" Adams:  
gadams@falmouthcatholic.org

Deacon Peter M. Guresh:  
pguresh@falmouthcatholic.org

Deacon Paul Harney:  
pharney@falmouthcatholic.org

Deacon William W. Hays:  
whays@falmouthcatholic.org

Deacon Kaique Santos:  
ksantos@falmouthcatholic.org

## PARISH STAFF

Daniel M. Cunha,  
Director of Business & Operations:  
dcunha@falmouthcatholic.org - ext. 103

Michael J. Cadieux,  
Assistant Director of Operations  
mcadieux@falmouthcatholic.org - ext. 105  
For Facilities Emergencies Only: 508-415-5617

Maura Polles,  
Director of Faith Formation & Evangelization  
508-548-3515 - mpolles@falmouthcatholic.org

Thomas P. Palanza Jr., Pastoral Coordinator:  
tpalanzajr@falmouthcatholic.org - ext. 102

Jacqueline Hale, Youth Ministry:  
jhale@falmouthcatholic.org - ext. 104

Sr. Juleanne Burns, Ministry to the Sick:  
508-563-6079

Cindy LaRuffa, Bulletin & Funerals:  
bulletin@falmouthcatholic.org - ext. 115

Peg Frederick, Baptisms & General Inquiries:  
office@falmouthcatholic.org - 508-548-0108

Mary Voci, Registration & General Inquiries:  
office@falmouthcatholic.org - 508-563-7770

## ST. JOSEPH PARISH MUSIC MINISTRY DIRECTORS

Kathleen A. Kanaley,  
St. Anthony Church  
kkanaley@falmouthcatholic.org

Kari L. Fietek,  
St. Elizabeth & St. Joseph  
kfietek@falmouthcatholic.org

Barbara K. Leighton,  
St. Patrick & St. Thomas  
bleighton@falmouthcatholic.org

## CHURCH & CEMETERY LOCATIONS & CONFESSION & ADORATION TIMES

**St. Anthony of Padua Church**  
167 E. Falmouth Hwy., E. Falmouth  
Office Hours: 9am-3pm, Mon-Fri

**Confession:** Mon. 6-7 pm &  
Sat. 3-3:45 pm

**Eucharistic Adoration:**  
Mon. 6-7 pm (except Holidays)

**St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church**  
481 Quaker Rd., N. Falmouth  
(not a mailing address)

**Confession:** Thur. 9:30-10:30am &  
Sat. 3-3:45 pm

**Eucharistic Adoration:**  
Thur. 9:30-10:30 am (w/ Divine Mercy)

**St. Patrick Church**  
511 Main St., Falmouth  
(not a mailing address)

**Confession:** 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of the Month,  
8:30-9:30am

**Eucharistic Adoration:**  
1<sup>st</sup> Fri. of the Month, 12-3 pm

**St. Anthony Cemetery:** 167 E. Falmouth Hwy. | **St. Joseph Cemetery :** 427 Gifford St.

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY - Helpline: 508-563-7775**

**Office:** St. Patrick Church Basement | **Thrift Shop:** 18 Davisville Rd., E. Falmouth, 508-540-0505

# MASS INTENTIONS: SAT. DEC 20 - SUN. DEC 28

## St. Anthony

Saturday, December 20th

4 pm: Lawrence Gluck

Sunday, December 21st

8 am: Lucille DeSouza

11 am: James Lavin, Owen Higgins, Maureen

O'Reilly, & Eileen O'Reilly

Monday, December 22nd

8 am: the Souls in Purgatory

Tuesday, December 23rd

8 am: Dorothy Faria

**Wednesday, December 24th Christmas Eve**

8 am: Patricia Flisak

4 pm: Our Parishioners & Their Loved Ones

**Thursday, December 25th Christmas Day**

Midnight: Our Parishioners & Their Loved Ones

11 am: Our Parishioners & Their Loved Ones

Friday, December 26th

8 am: Janet Worcester

Saturday, December 27th

4 pm: John & Johnny Rebelo & Family

Sunday, December 28th

8 am: Taylor McIntyre, Carmen Orman, & the DeGartez Family

11 am: The People of Our Parish

## St. Elizabeth

Saturday, December 20th

4 pm: The People of Our Parish

Sunday, December 21st

10 pm: Vera & Rico Soro

Tuesday, December 23rd

9 pm: James Quill

**Wednesday, December 24th Christmas Eve**

9:00 AM: Mary Macaуда

4 pm: Our Parishioners & Their Loved Ones

**Thursday, December 25th Christmas Day**

10:00 AM: Our Parishioners & Their Loved Ones

Saturday, December 27th

4 pm: the Knebel & Smith Families

Sunday, December 28th

10 pm: John J. Aziz

## St. Patrick

Sunday, December 21st

9 pm: Betty Whittington

5 pm: Christopher Dixon Sr. & Christopher Jr.

**Wednesday, December 24th Christmas Eve**

5:30 PM: Our Parishioners & Their Loved Ones

**Thursday, December 25th Christmas Day**

9:00 AM: Our Parishioners & Their Loved Ones

Saturday, December 27th

8 pm: Kurt Mueller

Sunday, December 28th

9 pm: For the Priests of the Fall River Diocese

5 pm: the Hopewood Family

## SAINT OF THE WEEK: ST. PETER CANISIUS



Peter Canisius (or Kanis; 1521-1597) was named a Doctor of the Church for his heroic defense of Catholicism through teaching, preaching, and writing catechisms. He was also one of the giants of the young Society of Jesus, serving as the first provincial of Germany. A man of great energy, he founded 18 colleges and authored 37 books; his catechisms went through 200 printings in his lifetime alone.

In 1549 Pope Paul III asked Peter to return to Germany to defend the Church against the attacks of reformers. Peter used a two fold method of teaching at the university and preaching so that he could explain the fundamental truths of Catholic teaching. He also founded seminaries and colleges. Canisius lived a full life and died peacefully at age 76 in Fribourg, Switzerland. His feast day is December 21. St. Peter, pray for us!

## THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21

9:45-10:45 AM: Faith Formation Grades 1-8  
St Anthony basement and Fatima Hall

11:00 AM-12:00 PM: Let There Be Light Adult group  
St Elizabeth Hall

6:15-7:30 PM: ANCHOR High School group  
St Anthony Fatima Hall

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 22

6:00 PM: Eucharistic Adoration and Confession  
St Anthony Church

6:00-8:00 PM: Lumen Young Adult Group  
St Anthony Church

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23

8:30 AM: Holy Souls Apostolate  
St. Anthony West Wing

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28

1:00 PM: Summa Society Meeting  
St Anthony Hall



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SCAN THE QR CODE  
TO VISIT OUR  
FACEBOOK PAGE

# Christmas Mass Schedule

## CHRISTMAS VIGIL MASSES: WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24

4:00 PM - St. Elizabeth

Christmas Pageant begins at 3:30 pm

4:00 PM - St. Anthony with Choir

5:30 PM - St. Patrick

Midnight - St. Anthony

## CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES: THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25

9:00 AM - St. Patrick

10:00 AM - St. Elizabeth

11:00 AM - St. Anthony



### WELCOME BACK, DEACON KAÍQUE!

This past Summer, we were happy to host Kaíque Santos as a seminarian in our parish. Originally from Brazil, Kaíque brings a lot of experience and skills to his ministry. On Saturday, December 13, Bishop Edgar ordained Kaíque as a transitional deacon (a deacon who intends to become a priest). Kaíque will be ordained a priest in the Spring of 2026. Bishop Edgar has assigned Kaíque to our parish during his time as a deacon. Welcome back, Deacon Kaíque!

### CALLED BY NAME:

### HELPING THE HOLY SPIRIT INCREASE PRIESTLY VOCATIONS

Do you know a young man who might be interested in or well suited for priesthood? Bishop Edgar would like your help to invite them to learn more about discerning a priestly vocation! You can submit names on our website or by using the QR code above to visit the Fall River Diocese Vocations website. You can also submit names using the paper cards in church and putting them in the drop boxes near the vocation chalices at each church.



## HARBOR, VOYAGE AND ANCHOR ARE MEETING THIS WEEKEND!

### NEXT FAITH FORMATION MEETINGS:

- + **Harbor (Grades 1-5): January 11**  
9:45 am - 10:45 am in Fatima Hall  
For Harbor questions email  
Maura Polles: [mpolles@falmouthcatholic.org](mailto:mpolles@falmouthcatholic.org)
- + **Voyage (Grades 6-8): January 11**  
from 9:45 am - 10:45 am  
in St. Anthony Basement
- + **Anchor (High School): January 11**  
6:15 pm - 7:30 pm in Fatima Hall  
For Voyage or Anchor questions email  
Jacqueline Hale: [jhale@falmouthcatholic.org](mailto:jhale@falmouthcatholic.org)

## COFFEE & CATHOLICISM

A gathering for parents to connect, learn, & drink coffee - all while your children are at Faith Formation!

**Sundays, 9:45-10:45 in the  
Admin. Office at St. Anthony**

Hosted by Deacon Gus & Lisa Adams

### ST. JOSEPH PARISH IN THE FALMOUTH CHRISTMAS PARADE!

Many thanks to all our young parishioners and their parents who were part of our float in the Falmouth Christmas Parade!



## SVDP FOOD PANTRY

Coffee, crackers (in stacks), baked beans, jelly, canned pasta.

## SVDP THRIFT SHOP

The SVDP Thrift Shop on Davisville Rd will close at 3pm on Saturday, December 20th and reopen on Wednesday, January 7th so our volunteers can spend the Christmas holidays with their families. We wish you a joyous Christmas and look forward to seeing you in the New Year!

## MEN'S CLUB RAFFLE WINNER

Week 22: John R Janerico

## BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please allow **at least 2 weeks** for announcements to appear in the Bulletin. Our due date changes, especially near the holidays. Thank you!

## REGISTER AS A PARISHIONER!

If you live in Falmouth, you are automatically a parishioner, BUT, we might not know it! Registering both confirms your commitment to the parish community and also allows us to better serve you! It also plays an important role in Diocesan pastoral planning. Not sure if you're registered, email the parish office: [office@falmouthcatholic.org](mailto:office@falmouthcatholic.org). Thank you!

## NOTARY SERVICES AVAILABLE

Daniel Cunha, our Director of Business and Operations, is a certified public notary and is happy to offer notary services free of charge to our parishioners or for a minimal fee for non-parishioners. Please contact Danny to schedule an appointment by phone 508-548-0108 ext. 103 or by email, [dcunha@falmouthcatholic.org](mailto:dcunha@falmouthcatholic.org)

## HERE TO HELP - SWOT MINISTRY

The St Joseph Men's Club offers parishioners assistance in accomplishing small tasks. The SWOT (Spiritual Workers Odd-Job Taskforce) Ministry is available to provide support for tasks such as moving seasonal furniture, replacing smoke detector batteries, etc. To see if SWOT can help you, call or email Joe Voci at (508)274-2267

# MINISTRIES & GROUPS

**Coffee and Conversation for Ladies:** First Tuesday of the Month, 9:45 St Elizabeth Church

**Cough Pillow Ministry:** Second Tuesday of the Month, 9AM at St Anthony Fatima Hall.

**Couples Club:** First Sunday of the Month, evenings (March-December) Time and location change monthly. Contact: Ann Marie Cunha at [Annmarie.cunha@gmail.com](mailto:Annmarie.cunha@gmail.com)

**Laudato si' Care For Creation Ministry:** help us treasure God's gift of creation! Contact Paul Skudder for info: [SkudderPaul@gmail.com](mailto:SkudderPaul@gmail.com)

**High School Youth Nights:** Sundays from 6:15--7:30pm at St Anthony Fatima Hall. Contact: Jaqueline Hale a [jhale@falmouthcatholic.org](mailto:jhale@falmouthcatholic.org)

**Knights of Columbus:** 1st Tuesdays of the month, 7pm. 3rd Tues. 6:30pm St Patrick Basement. Contact: Richard Castleberry at [constantineandgerry@comcast.net](mailto:constantineandgerry@comcast.net)

**Lumen:** Young Adult Group. Mondays 6PM for Adoration followed by 7pm Meeting in Fatima Hall

**Men's Club:** Communication and events announced through club emails and the bulletin. Contact Joe Amaral at [xcgav8r@juno.com](mailto:xcgav8r@juno.com)

**Millions of Monicas:** Prayer Group for mother's whose children have left the church. Third Wednesday of the Month 6PM. St Anthony Mary Lou: 508-454-0034

**Prayer Shawl Ministry:** 1st Thursday of the Month, 10-11am at St Anthony Fatima Hall, Sept-June. Contact Nancy Sharp at 508 548-7317.

**Saint Vincent de Paul Society:** 2nd Tuesday of the Month 3:00 PM, St Patrick large meeting hall. Contact Kevin MacDonald: [macdonajk@aol.com](mailto:macdonajk@aol.com)

**Seasons of Hope:** Sessions for those who mourn start several times/year on Saturday mornings. Contact: Donna at [seasonsofhope35@gmail.com](mailto:seasonsofhope35@gmail.com)

**Sisters in Spirit:** Events announced in bulletin. Contact: Carolyn Malchodi [mycapecodnana@hotmail.com](mailto:mycapecodnana@hotmail.com)

**That Man Is You:** Sat. 6-7:30 am St Anthony, Deacon Paul: [pharney@falmouthcatholic.org](mailto:pharney@falmouthcatholic.org)

# HOW-TO CATHOLIC

## LIVING AS A EUCHARISTIC CHURCH: WHAT IS MASS?

Have you ever thought how odd it is that the stuff that keeps us alive - our food - is actually dead? That's why we have to keep it in refrigerators! And not only do we eat dead food, but our consumerist culture has stripped away all the spiritually nourishing aspects of eating, the things that bring us joy: preparing something ourselves and enjoying it with others. This is what Jesus comes to save us from: from a world of dead food, of consumerism - of just keeping ourselves barely alive. The Incarnation of Jesus saves us from being an In-Car-Nation of eaters, surviving off the drive-thru!

Mass is the place where we experience Jesus saving us in real time. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, our altar is the Manger of the Nativity, the Table of the Last Supper, it is the Cross of Calvary and the Tomb of the Resurrection. The ambo is the burning bush for Moses, the silent whisper for Elijah, the angel that speaks to Mary and Joseph. Both in His Word and in His Food, God offers his very self to us - we receive the living God at Mass.

But we do not consume these things like we do our usual food. More is required of us at Mass than at the drive-thru. We do not come to Mass as consumers, but as COMMUNICANTS ready to sacrifice our mortal lives to God in order to receive his eternal life in exchange. Most clearly in Mary we see that the disciple of Jesus must offer God all their heart, mind, word, and actions. And that is what we do at Mass! We offer our hearts in our silent prayers and the sign of peace, we offer our minds by letting the readings instruct us, we offer our words in our singing and our Amens, we offer our actions in our standing, bowing, kneeling, and processing. Our participation in Mass teaches us how to offer up our whole lives to God, to be communicants, not just consumers.

**VISIT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE TO WATCH  
FR. BRYAN'S VIDEO EXPLANATION!**



## QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTIONS SUPPORTING THE MISSION OF OUR PARISH

As we approach the end of the calendar year, many parishioners begin to consider their charitable giving and year-end financial planning. If you are eligible and plan to make a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) from your IRA, we humbly ask you consider supporting our Parish.

A QCD can be a meaningful way to support the mission and ministries of the Church while potentially reducing your taxable income. Your generosity helps us continue serving our community, maintaining our sacred spaces, and fostering the spiritual life of our Parish family.

If you have questions about making a QCD gift to the Parish, please contact your financial advisor or the Parish Business Office. Thank you for your continued kindness and support. May God Bless you! — Fr. Steve

## VOCATION TO THE PERMANENT DIACONATE



Any men interested in considering this ordained ministry of service are asked to speak with one of our priests or deacons. Additional information and the preliminary application is found on the diaconate website [www.FallRiverDeacon.com](http://www.FallRiverDeacon.com)

## SUMMA SOCIETY

**NEXT MEETING: DEC. 28, 1 PM, ST. ANTHONY**



We will discuss the first course on the Aquinas 101 website, "Introduction to St. Thomas Aquinas" at our next meeting. You need to create an account to watch the videos, but the account is free! Sign up on the website:

Aquinas101.ThomisticInstitute.org - Contact Tom Palanza for details or with questions, tpalanzajr@falmouthcatholic.org

## CREATION CARE MINISTRY



Pope Leo addressed Catholic leaders at the COP30 climate talks in November saying, "As stewards of God's creation, we are called to act swiftly, with faith and prophecy, to protect the gift he entrusted to us." For more information

about our Creation Care Ministry, contact Dr. Paul Skudder, skudderpaul@gmail.com



Millions of Monicas meets at St Anthony Church on the Third Wednesday of the Month, from 6:00-7:00pm. Upcoming dates include: January 21 and February 18. Join with other women as we pray to grow in holiness & humility and for our children's faithful return to the Catholic Church. For more information, contact Mary Lou: 508-454-0034 Or visit [www.millionsofmonicas.com](http://www.millionsofmonicas.com)

## SEVEN SISTERS APOSTOLATE

The Seven Sisters Apostolate encourages prayer for our priests. If you are interested in being a part of this ministry, please contact our Anchoress, Deb Reichheld by email at [deb.reichheld@gmail.com](mailto:deb.reichheld@gmail.com) or at (603) 930-8331.

# SEEK

## YOUNG ADULT CONFERENCE FUNDRAISING

For the second year, 7 of our parishioners will be attending SEEK, a conference for Catholic young adults held this year in Columbus, Ohio. The SEEK conference focuses on prayer, fellowship, and formation to help young Catholics live as missionary disciples. It is an incredible opportunity for the young adults in our parish to grow closer to Jesus and to learn how to share that love with others.



The group will be fundraising to help supplement the cost. They will be at Mass in the coming weeks with items for sale and to take prayer requests to offer during their trip. Please consider making a donation!



Donations can be made by cash, check (made out to "St. Joseph Parish" memo: SEEK), or on Venmo using the QR code to the left (comment, "SEEK"). More information can be found at our website:

[www.FalmouthCatholic.org/seek](http://www.FalmouthCatholic.org/seek)

# PRAYER REQUESTS

*Intercession - asking on behalf of another - has been characteristic of a heart attuned to God's mercy.  
Christian intercession participates in Christ's, as an expression of the communion of saints. - Catechism, 2635*

|                       |                      |                   |                         |
|-----------------------|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Antone Afonso         | Susan Cullen         | Mary Laves        | Bob Moura               |
| Natalia Amorim        | Dennis Destefano     | Cecelia Lajoie    | Betty O'Connor          |
| Jane Bailey           | Margaret Dixon       | Jane Lengyel      | Margery O'Keefe         |
| Eufenia Barboza       | Aimee Enos           | Ginny Lewis       | Georgette Ranauro       |
| Debra Beaulieu        | Anthony R Faria Jr   | Muriel Locklin    | Ann Roderick-Dumain     |
| Jonothan Benoit       | Nancy Fay            | Cera Lopes        | Kathleen Rumston        |
| Marjorie Benoit       | Richey Fields        | Geraldine Lopes   | Margi Ryder             |
| Martin Benoit         | James Fitzgerald     | Jean Lopes        | Gabriel Santos          |
| Faith Bocce           | Marie Lynn Gonsalzes | Ed Lucas          | Kayla Sharma            |
| Danielle Boddie       | Dorothy Goodrich     | John Mansfield    | Nancy Sharp             |
| Constance Brown       | Zach Graham          | Mildred McCallops | Anne Smith              |
| Gerry Castleberry     | Trinity LaBeet Green | Brendan McCarthy  | Eric Springer           |
| Sandy Chadwick        | Colleen Hamill       | Adele McConaghy   | John Sprissler          |
| Ryan Copeland         | Chris Hamsbauer      | James McDevitt    | Maryann Stavlo          |
| Dick Corey            | Lisa Hamsbauer       | Philip McDonald   | Patricia Stone          |
| Kim Costa             | Gregory Hazelton     | Baby Paul McGrath | John Sullivan           |
| Marianne Dealla Costa | Maryann Hazelton-    | Ken McIntyre      | John F Sullivan         |
| Steve Costa Jr        | Sharp                | Matthew Mennoma   | Lauren Carroll Sullivan |
| Sally Cronin          | Lillian Heffernan    | Robert Mitchell   | Billy Tobia             |
| Anne Crowell          | Anne Hevner          | Sharon Mitchell   | Tim Twomey              |
| Mary Crowell          | Thomas Hevner        | Thomas Mitchell   | Mike White              |
| Walter Crowell        | Dolores Howard       | Robert Morley     | Tara Willis             |
|                       | Grayson Jack         | Justine Morton    | Alice Zylinski          |

# PARISH SUPPORT

*Your generosity is not only supplying the needs of the holy ones  
but is also overflowing in many acts of thanksgiving to God. - 2 Corinthians 9:11*

## DONATE BY PHONE

Scan the QR code below  
to donate on Venmo!



## WEEKLY TOTALS

December 6 & 7

**First Collection:** \$12,355.00

**Second Collection:** \$5,541.00

*Church Maintenance*

## 2<sup>ND</sup> COLLECTION APPLICATION

December 20 & 21  
*Parish Assessment*

December 27 & 28  
*Energy*

**WeShare Online Giving:**  
November: \$27,202.00

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