

The angels sang a message of

J·O·Y

Romans 15:12-13

DECEMBER 15, 2024



©JPPC

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PARISH DIRECTORY

927 Atwood Avenue Johnston, RI 02919

PARISH OFFICE

Office Hours: Monday ~ Thursday 9:00AM ~ 3:00PM
Closed on Friday's

Parish Website
churchofsaintrocco.org

Fr. Angelo N. Carusi, *Pastor*..... 942-5203
frcarusi@gmail.com

Rev. Mr. Robert P. Troia, *Deacon*..... 942-5203

Mrs. Stephanie Fava, *Secretary*..... 942-5203
churchofstrocco@gmail.com
Fax # 464-6422

Mr. Christopher A. Caramello, *Music Director*.....692-5270
musicaasanrocco@gmail.com

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Mrs. Megan Reitz *Director*.....944-6040

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Mrs. Melissa D'Amico, *Principal*
mdamico@stroccoschool.org

Mrs. Marcia Montecalvo, *Assistant Principal*
mmontecalvo@stroccoschool.org

PARISH MASS/CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Saturday Evening Mass: 5:00 PM
Sunday Masses: 8:00 AM (Bi-Lingual Italian/English)
10:00 AM, 12:00 Noon
Weekday Mass: 7:00 AM
Saturday Morning & Legal Holidays 8:00 AM
Confessions: Saturday 11:00 AM ~ 12:00 PM & 4:00 PM or
anytime by appointment; please call the Rectory Office.

ADORATION

Every Saturday morning from 8:30 AM to 12:00 Noon

NOVENA DEVOTIONS

Tuesday Evenings: 6:00 PM
Rosary and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament with Novena
Prayers to St. Rocco, St. Anthony and St. Jude.

LEGION OF MARY

Wednesday Evenings: 6:00 PM Rectory Office Conference Room

SICK PARISHONERS

Please notify the Rectory when a parishioner or family member is
confined at home, hospitalized or in a nursing home.

BAPTISMS

10:00 AM on the 1st Sunday of the month by previous appoint-
ment only. Sponsor certificates and birth certificates are required
before date is set for a Baptism. Parental attendance at Parish Bap-
tism Preparation Program is also required.

WEDDINGS Contact Rectory Office at least 1 year before.

Mass Intentions for the Week

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14

Vigil of the Third Sunday of Advent
5:00 pm ~ Irene & Rudolph L'Abbe & Marie & Julio Sabitoni (Memorial)
by nephew Anthony Miele
Rev. Richard Bucci (Memorial)
by Richard

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

The Third Sunday of Advent
8:00 am ~ Eduarda & Erasmo & Angelo Macera (Memorial)
by family
Domenico DeBellis (Memorial)
by family
10:00 am ~ Robert & David DiVozzi (Memorial)
by family
Deceased members of the DiVozzi Family (Memorial)
by family
12:00 pm ~ Antonio & Ida Maddalena (Memorial)
by family
Robert & Josephine Tasca (Memorial)
by family

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16

Advent Weekday
7:00 am ~ Parishioners of St. Rocco

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17

Late Advent Weekday/
7:00 am ~ Robert S. Curran (Memorial) by Gina Hand
6:00 pm ~ Novena

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18

Late Advent Weekday
7:00 am ~ Maria & Antonio Viveiros (Memorial)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19

Late Advent Weekday
7:00 am ~ Cheryl Chappell (Memorial) by Tom Curran

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20

Late Advent Weekday
7:00 am ~ Deceased members of the Ardente & Rizzi Family (Memorial)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21

Late Advent Weekday/St. Peter Canisius
8:00 am ~ Susan McCarthy (Memorial)
by Frances Zanni
8:30 ~ 12:00 pm Adoration

Vigil of the Fourth Sunday of Advent

5:00 pm ~ Richard Moschetti Sr. (3rd Anniversary Memorial)
by wife & family
Assunta Feole (2nd Anniversary Memorial)
by family

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22

The Fourth Sunday of Advent
8:00 am ~ Virginia & Peter Tanzi Sr (Memorial)
by daughter & son in law
Helen Folcarelli (10th Anniversary Memorial)
by Linda & Donna Folcarelli
10:00 am ~ Carmela Bonelli Fava (5th Anniversary Memorial)
by sons & family
Deceased members of the Bonelli Family (Memorial)
by family
12:00 pm ~ Rocco & Filomena Altieri & Philip Seabolt (Memorial)
by daughter & wife
Hacop Gashian (Memorial)
by wife

From the Pastor's Desk:

Contrary to what we're seeing on television, it's not Christmas yet. No, the "12 Days of Christmas" are not the 12 days preceding Christmas. Christmas Day is the first day of Christmas and January 6th is the 12th day. It's frustrating to know the wrapping paper will hardly be crumpled up on Christmas night when all the Christmas movies and commercials will be gone. Shopping malls will have their decorations down and the Christmas music will stop on the radio – all this while Christmas is still going on!

Why does this happen? Many people can remember a time when Christmas lasted at least until New Year's for most people. We could blame it on the proverbial "people have lost the real meaning of Christmas" cliché. It could be we're all so busy being efficient that we move hastily from one thing to another; people won't slow down to really enjoy things. Many families take vacations so filled with activity that no one relaxes. We don't take time to visit people anymore. Why do we put so much time into the preparation and then rip everything down and pack it away so quickly? It doesn't make sense. But it also doesn't help us spiritually.

The event of Jesus' Nativity takes some time to digest. The full impact of what it means for God to become man – for the Savior of the world to be born in time – all this takes time and reflection so the full power of God's love for us becomes clear and we have an extended opportunity to thank and praise God for all He has done for us. Maybe this is the year to do things differently and establish new family traditions to make full use of the Christmas Season when it arrives.

Let's not get ahead of ourselves. We still have time in Advent and time to prepare. How will we use this time? One absolute necessity is to make a good Confession. What good does it do us for Santa Claus to find us to be good girls and boys but for Jesus not to find us holy and free from sin. John the Baptist has announced over and over again the need to repent and reform. For us as Catholics, we need to heed John's message and invite Jesus to do what He came to suffer and die to make possible: to forgive us our sins. Put this on your "must-do" list.

Make Advent a time of prayer. In the midst of shopping, baking and decorating make sure you pray. Thank God for the beauty of Christmas, for your family, all the people and things in your life and for your health. Thank Him for the gift of salvation His Son brings by His birth. And pray for all those people who are sick, alone, grieving, frustrated or without faith. So many people suffer in silence – we would never guess the crosses they carry. We have parishioners who no longer practice their Catholic faith. All these people can benefit from the gift of our prayers. This should be a time of excitement and expectation. But "preparation" implies something is happening to be lived. No one prepares for the birth of their child and then goes back to life as normal as soon as the baby is born. Prepare now to celebrate Christmas when it comes – every minute of it!

God Bless, *Fr. Carusi*

December 8, 2024

Weekly Collection

First Collection

Envelopes and Loose Collection

Total = \$5956.00



Parish Beautification/Retired Religious

Total: \$65.00/\$477.00



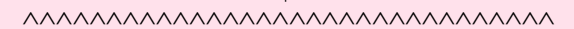
Parish Outreach

Total = \$82.00



Online Giving

Total = \$1413.50



Other Donations/Collections

\$201.00



Total number of envelopes used this week:

1st collection 250 2nd collection 75



MEMORIALS

December 16th-22nd

*Altar Bread & Wine ~ Altar Candles
~ Sanctuary Lamps ~*

Richard Mandarinini Jr



MASS BOOK FOR 2025

The Mass Book for 2025 is available during office hours Monday to Thursday (9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.) **Please**

note that all the weekend Masses for 2025 will have double intentions.



ADVENT FEATURE

GAUDETE SUNDAY



The Third Sunday of Advent is called *Gaudete Sunday*, the day when we light the pink candle on the Advent wreath (hence the 'pink candle' Sunday). Rose vestments are worn to emphasize our joy that Christmas is near. *Gaudete* means "rejoice". This day reminds us of the joy that is to come, and serves, amid this season of penance, as a kind of 'break' when we recall the hope we have because of the coming of Our Lord Jesus.

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Saint Rocco Memorial Shrine

Renewals and new enrollments for the St. Rocco Memorial Shrine are still being accepted. The deadline for all enrollments is **Thursday, January 2nd**. The Memorial Shrine enrollments are \$30.00 for the year and Mass is celebrated for the members each month. Each member has a name plate on the plaque in the church vestibule.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

"As often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes"
(1 Corinthians 11:26).

So often we think of decisions and plans without truly seeking God's will. Spending time with Our Lord before the Blessed Sacrament allows us the time to see His will for our lives. Seeking Jesus is an ongoing adventure.

Adoration ~ Saturday's 8:30 AM ~ 12:00 Noon



Christmas & New Year's Mass Schedule 2024

Christmas Eve

Tuesday, December 24th

4:30 PM Christmas Carols

5:00 PM Vigil Mass

&

11:30 PM Christmas Carols

12:00 AM Midnight Mass

Christmas Day

Wednesday, December 25th

8:00 AM Bilingual (Italian/English) Mass

&

10:40 AM Christmas Carols

11:00 AM Mass

New Year's Eve & Day

Tuesday, December 31st

Vigil of the Feast of Mary, Mother of God

5:00 PM

Wednesday, January 1, 2025

Feast of Mary, Mother of God

8:00 AM & 11:00 AM

Daily Mass from December 26th ~ January 1st will be at 8:00 AM



Christmas Flowers Envelopes

The Christmas Flowers Envelope Intentions will be placed in a box on the Sacred Heart Altar and will be remembered at all Masses during the Christmas Season.



Saint Rocco Church Advent Giving Tree

**Sponsored by:
St. Rocco Church
Women's Guild**

The Advent Giving Tree, decorated with ornaments, will be set up in the church vestibule. These ornaments will list various needs of families within the parish and local communities. We ask you to select an ornament from the tree and return the gift, with the ornament attached.

We do realize that this year brings new challenges, with that being said, anyone wishing to donate may mail or drop off donations to the Rectory Office during normal business hours. Otherwise, gift certificates and monetary donations may be placed in the collection basket. Gifts may be placed in the appropriate decorated boxes labeled in the church vestibule. Please be sure to attach the ornament from the tree to your gift.

All returns may be brought before or after Masses on weekends up until December 14th & 15th.

Your caring, kindness and generosity during this Christmas season is greatly appreciated.

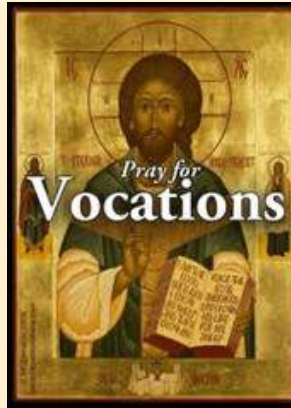
All donations to benefit:

St. Rocco Parish Families and Community. Donations will be given to individuals and families in the parish community that are need during this season of giving.

Scalabrini Lay Movement. A movement which serves migrants, spiritually, socially, judiciously, and financially and also offers a free health care clinic.

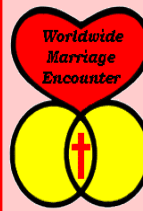
All utility and monetary donations should in the form of a check that is made payable to St. Rocco Church and disbursements will be made accordingly. Please memo "Giving Tree" on check.

Thank you for your Generosity
and
Prayerful Support!



Prayer for Vocations

O God our provident Father through your Son you revealed to us the mysteries of the Kingdom; you will that all men and women be saved and come to the knowledge of your Truth. Send workers into your great harvest, grant that more men will serve your Church as priests for the Diocese of Providence, that the Gospel may be preached to every creature and your people, strengthened by the word of life and the sacraments may advance in the way of salvation and love. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen



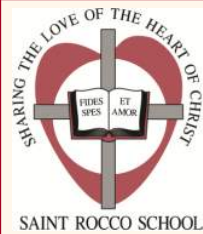
Worldwide Marriage Encounter

Isaiah 61:1-2a: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; He has sent me to bring good news to the afflicted, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, release to the prisoners; to announce a year of favor from the Lord." God can heal you and mend your heart. You can receive Good News and go out and share it with other couples. How? Check out a Worldwide Marriage Encounter (WWME.org). It can help you to grow in intimacy and grow in faith with one another. Some of the dates to sign up are: January 7-February 18, 2025, Virtual 3RE, NY, January 24-26, 2025 in North Easton, MA. Worldwide Marriage Encounter sponsors a variety of in-person and virtual marriage experiences, some on weekends and some on seven weekdays. Couples explore their relationship with each other, God, and the Church. Registration is limited; there is a \$100 application fee. For more information or to apply, call Matt & Julie King at 978-870-5646 or <https://wwmema.org/>.



Eternal Rest be given to:

Florence Fuoco– December 1st
Anthony Sauro– December 4th



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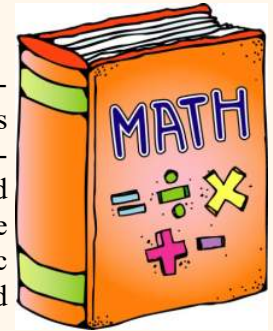
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Classroom News.. Mr. Tully.. Middle School Math

Middle School math students have barely digested their turkey dinner, but it is time for them to devour and digest an entire range of new mathematical concepts!

Sixth Grade: The early part of the first term started with a review of basic concepts learned in the years leading up to sixth grade and then shifted into topics that would prepare them for pre-algebra concepts such as observation of mathematical patterns, the study of exponents, and scientific notation. Product and quotient estimation provided them with a way to develop a mathematical sense of real-world applications without doing all the complicated math. Algebraic concepts became more prevalent in the curriculum as students were introduced to order of operations, translation, evaluation of algebraic expressions, and began their first work with equations. December will present challenges as they explore Number Theory. They will develop skills working with greatest common factors, least common multiples, and repeating & terminating decimals.



Seventh Grade continues development of the foundation that is begun in sixth grade. Beyond the basic mathematical operations of addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division the curriculum focuses more on the relationship of numbers to each other from a systemic perspective and introduces such concepts as negative integers and absolute value. Comparing and ordering integers prepares students for work with inequalities and the properties they possess. Seventh grade is currently involved in the study of Ratio and Proportion and then will move on to Data Analysis and Statistics.

Eighth Grade began the fall with a deep dive into Rational Numbers and Real Numbers. That was followed by an extensive review of Expressions and Equations. Currently they are studying Polynomials and Factoring. That will be followed by a consideration of Linear Functions and Inequalities. Later in the term they will deepen their work in Geometry with the study of two and three-dimensional figures. We also dedicated time to preparation for the upcoming Catholic High School Entrance Exam.

Supplemental Program: During the past several weeks, the **Grade 7** supplemental program has been exploring problem solving strategies. Computation is done both individually and collaboratively, reinforcing the learning styles of all students. **Grade 8** has spent several weeks reviewing and preparing for the upcoming Catholic High School Entrance Exam. Preparation is not only beneficial for test taking, but review of content and strategies strengthens the math foundation needed to successfully move forward. In addition to test preparation, we have also been studying various problem-solving strategies.



WELCOME VISITORS AND GUESTS

If you are a visitor to Saint Rocco Church, we welcome you into our parish community, if only for this one time. However, if you are interested in joining Saint Rocco Church or simply want to learn more about our parish, feel free to call our parish office at (401) 942-5203 and we will be happy to help you.



Memorials Available

In memory of a deceased loved one we have the Sanctuary Lamps, Altar Candles and Altar Bread and Wine. They are \$15.00 each for the week. Please call the Rectory office or stop by the office Monday through Thursday 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

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