

Fr. Marcel L. Taillon, S.T.L. | Pastor

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Msgr. John C. Halloran | Pastor Emeritus

Deacon Joseph Clossick | joseph.clossick@bms.com

Mass Schedule

St. Thomas More Church

Vigil Mass - Saturday: 5:00 PM

Sunday Mass: 10:00 AM

Daily Mass - Monday - Saturday: 9:00 AM

Confession - Saturday: 4:00-4:45 PM

St. Veronica Chapel

Vigil Mass - Saturday: 4:00 PM Sunday Masses 8:30 AM 11:00 AM

Lent 2025

Fasting and Abstinence Reminder

Church law requires abstinence from meat (for those 14 and older) on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and all the Fridays of Lent. In addition, Ash Wednesday, and Good Friday are fast days: Those between the ages of 18 and 59 should eat less – no solid food between meals only one full meal and 2 smaller ones. (*One's health can excuse you from these rules*).



MARCH 16, 2025 - THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

Liturgical Life

CATHOLIC

Mini Reflection: It's always helpful to get the opinion of someone we trust when we're facing a situation that confuses or alarms us. But we all have a divine confidente that can help us sort through anything we're dealing with. Are we taking advantage of that?

The Divine Confidante

My husband pretty much knows that if he tells me something — anything — he's also telling my sister.

Most of us have that person that we run to when we have important information. I'm not even talking about gossip; I'm talking about stuff we just *have* to discuss. We joke that I don't really know how I feel about something until I've run it by my sister first.

There's not really anything wrong with that. When we're trying to figure out how to think about something that has happened or how to react to a certain situation, it's always helpful to get the opinion of someone we trust.

But what if we ran as quickly to discuss the situation with God as we did to discuss it with our "person?" Wouldn't that be ideal?

After witnessing the transfiguration — an event that had to have been as confusing as it was astounding — we hear that the disciples "fell silent and did not at that time tell anyone what they had seen."

When something profound, frightening, or confusing happens, our first confidente should be God. I'm reminded of Luke 2:19: "Mary kept all these things, pondering them in her heart." There is something to be said for taking a moment to keep that information sacred between ourselves and the One who can really help us confront it.

Sure, maybe we don't understand what just happened. Maybe we're scared by it. We don't really know how we feel about it. And that's totally okay. The divine confidente knows how to help us pray through that confusion, that fear.

If you're someone's "person" and they come to you wanting to talk, that's great. Talk it out. But remind them — and remind yourself — to pray about it as much as you talk about it.

Let the love of those things carry you through this Lent, and beyond.

- Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that? Catholic Life Explained

Question:

Can you recommend some good books for Lenten spiritual reading?

Answer:

On more than one occasion, a coach being interviewed about his team — successful or not — will be asked about the next step. The inevitable response includes something about getting back to basics. Reviewing the fundamentals of the sport strengthens performance and builds confidence.

The best Lenten reading takes us back to the fundamentals. If Lent is the time for the Church to be on retreat, then we should focus on the texts that help us deepen our understanding of our faith. Spend time reading one of the Gospels, and use a Scripture commentary to learn all you can about the passion of Jesus. Read about the lives of the saints, especially your patron saint and that of your parish. Perhaps there is some local candidate for sainthood. like Father Walter Ciszek, SJ, who wrote several faith-inspiring books. Finally, you can use the Catechism of the Catholic Church to learn more about the church's teachings and beliefs. The sections on prayer and the Mass are really great reflections. Focusing on the basics really helps us take another step forward in our faith. We have not only a better understanding of what we believe and practice, but also why we believe. With that belief comes the confidence we need to be better, more faithful witnesses to Christ.

Lent 2025

Pasta Dinner

pasta, meatballs, salad & zeppole

March 19th - St. Joseph's Day

TWO SEATINGS - choose one:

Lunch 12:00-2:00 PM or Dinner 6:00-8:00 PM

Adults \$15 - Children \$8 (under 12 - under 2 - no charge)

Tickets available now in parish office or on Faith Direct

THIS WEEK!

Seating is limited and **MUST** be purchased in advance.





Fr. David Grenier, OFM Commissariat of the Holy Land, for the U.S., Washington, D.C.

HOLY LAND TALK & VISUAL PRESENTATION

SUNDAY, APRIL 6 ~ 6:00 PM ~ St. Thomas More Parish hall **Join Fr. David Grenier for a virtual tour of the**

Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land in America in Washington, D.C. which includes many of the sights you might see if you visit the Holy Land.



St. Thomas More

Daily Mass: Monday - Saturday 9 AM

Rosary: Daily at 8:30 AM

Confessions: Saturdays from 4:00 - 4:45 PM

or by appointment

St. Veronica Chapel

Monday April 7th
Lenten Confession & Adoration
6:00 PM with 3 Priests

Parish CD/Pamphlet Book Rack

Some excellent CD's & pamphlets are available in the racks located at the entrance of both churches.

Children's books are also available.



Every Friday during Lent at St. Thomas More

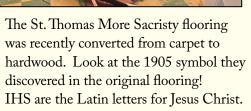
6:00 PM Mass followed by Stations of the Cross 6:30 PM

Operation Rice Bowl

Families are encouraged to eat a 'poverty meal' once a week and then place the money saved in a "Rice Bowl" as a contribution to the poor which is collected on Palm Sunday, April 13th.























Mass of Thanksgiving

with Fr. Alex Pandolfe
Thursday, March 20th, 9:00 AM

A native of Middletown, Connecticut, Fr. Alex has found a second home in Narragansett, spending many weeks of the summer from childhood to present, here with his family.

Immediately after attending the University of Connecticut, at which he first consciously heard a call to the priesthood, Fr. Alex began seminary formation at Mount St. Mary's

Seminary, in Emmitsburg, Maryland. After six years of formation, Fr. Alex was ordained to Jesus's priesthood on June 29th of this past year. Fr. Alex currently serves as parochial vicar at Blessed Sacrament Parish (St. Bernard's Church in Rockville, Connecticut and St. Matthew's Church in Tolland, Connecticut).

Men's Retreat "the truth will set you free" John 8:31-32 Knights of Columbus* Pope Pius XII Council 5295 May 9th & 10th, 2025

Join us for our annual men's retreat on beautiful Enders Island in Mystic CT. **Fr. Ryan Connors**, Rector of the Seminary Our Lady of Providence and Director of Pre-Ordination Formation for the Diocese of Providence, will lead us in prayer and reflection.

For additional details, visit:

www.popepiusxii.org/men-s-retreat

MASS intentions

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

SATURDAY, MARCH 15th

4 PM – for the soul of Jane Fair

5 PM – 2nd Anniversary ~ Jane McNaughton & for the deceased members of the McNaughton Family

SUNDAY, MARCH 16th

8:30 AM – for the parishioners of St. Thomas More

10 AM – for the soul of Victor Pirie

11 AM – 2nd Anniversary ~ Patrick Baxter

MONDAY, MARCH 17th

9 AM – for the souls of William & Madeline O'Brien

TUESDAY, MARCH 18th

9 AM – for the souls of Marion & Brian Gillcrist

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19th

9 AM – for the soul of Rita Travis

THURSDAY, MARCH 20th

9 AM – for the soul of Janet Schofield

FRIDAY, MARCH 21st

9 AM – for the souls of Willam, Barbara & Mark Gardner

6 PM – Special Intentions ~ Amy Knoblock (Living)

SATURDAY, MARCH 22nd

9 AM – for the soul of Geraldine Egan

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

SATURDAY, MARCH 22nd

4 PM – 4th Anniversary ~ Jack Sullivan

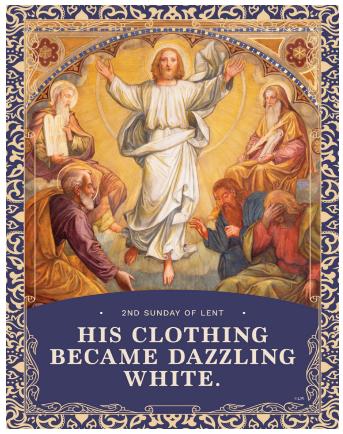
5 PM – for the soul of Richard J. Bourbonnais

SUNDAY, MARCH 23rd

8:30 AM – 2nd Anniversary ~ Kevin Mulholland

10 AM – for the soul of Amy Brennan

11 AM – for the parishioners of St. Thomas More



Gospel:

Jesus took Peter, John, and James and went up the mountain to pray.

While he was praying his face changed in appearance and his clothing became dazzling white.

(Lk 9:28b-29)



with Deacon Joe Clossick

March 20th ~ 4:00-5:30 PM

Meets on the first Thursday of every
month at St. Thomas More Parish Hall

Offering a faith-based, secure, and friendly setting to discuss individual experiences at various stages of battles with cancer. Open to any parishioner dealing with all types of cancer including:

pre-treatment, in-treatment, and post treatment survivors.

The goal of the support group will be to provide a friendly and familiar environment where parishioners can meet and be supported by others who are experiencing or have experienced, similar struggles.

For more info please contact joseph.clossick@bms.com

Happenings around the parish

Knights of Columbus

Interested in joining the Knight of Columbus? We are looking for new members. New candidates, please contact Bernie Casey at berniecaseyjr@gmail.com.



Men's Bible Study

Our parish has a very active group of men who meet each Saturday morning in the parish hall at 7:30 AM to discuss the Sunday scripture readings. This is very informal and all are invited and welcome to join.

Our Lady's Guild

Our Lady's Guild has meetings at 9:30AM on the second Wednesday of each month in the parish hall. On Mondays after the 9AM Mass they meet as an informal group to discuss, read and reflect on the gospels of the coming week and to share personal insights of those readings, with coffee & refreshments.

The rosary is prayed Mon. - Sat. at 8:30AM at St. Thomas More. All are welcome to join these activities. To learn more, call Diane at 996-3876 or visit our website.



Prayer Chain Ministry

If you know someone who would like or needs extra prayers, we are happy to help. Call Jean at 783-3403 to express your request. New volunteers are always welcome to join this necessary and important ministry.

Remember the Poor

The small donation boxes on the church walls labeled "Remember the Poor" goes to the Mother Teresa Fund, which helps with local rental assistance, utilities, food and prescriptions. Thank you for your generosity.

Rosary Repairs

Drop your broken beads in envelope provided in the box in the foyer at St. Thomas More with your name and contact info. You will be contacted when complete.

St. Vincent dePaul clothing bins

Weekly pick up of clothing & shoes. Bins located at the back of the St. Thomas More parking lot, inside the fence.

Faith Direct online giving is very easy. visit faithdirect.net enter our parish code: R1147 Easily change donations any time!



Religious Education

Grades 1-4

Sundays (10:00-10:50 AM) St. Veronica Chapel No Class on March 16 Classes on March 23 & 30

Confirmation Prep

No Class on March 16 Class on Sunday, March 30

Grades 5-8

Wednesdays (5:45-6:45 PM) St. Veronica Chapel Classes on March 12 & 26 No Class on St. Joseph's Day, March 19



"A society will be judged on the basis of how it treats its weakest members; and among the most vulnerable are surely the unborn and the dying."

ST. JOHN PAUL II

Weekly Parish Food Collection

Current Needs

- √ Natural Peanut Butter
- V Brown Rice
- V Low Sugar Jelly
- √ Canned Fruit in 100% Juice
- √ Baked/Black/Kidney Beans 🗸 Whole grain wheat flour
- Whole Grain Cereal/Crackers/Pasta & Jarred Pasta Sauce

Collection baskets are located at the entrance of both churches.



Rhode Island Blood Center

Every Donation Can Save Up To 3 Lives

Consider donating blood at any Rhode Island Blood Center donor center throughout the state. To register, visit www.ribc.org/locations or call 401-453-8383

When donating, please be sure to use parish Sponsor Code 0626.

Heavenly Father,

We come before You with gratitude for the many blessings You have poured upon the Diocese of Providence. As we await the appointment of a new bishop, we entrust this process to Your loving care and guidance. Send Your Holy Spirit to those involved in discerning and selecting our new shepherd. May they be filled with wisdom, insight, and fidelity to Your will. Bless the one You have chosen to lead us, that he may be a man of deep prayer, strong faith, and courageous love, devoted to serving You and the people of this diocese. Prepare his heart to embrace this mission with humility and joy and grant him the grace to guide us in truth and unity. May he be a faithful teacher, a compassionate pastor, and a courageous witness to the Gospel, drawing us closer to You in all that we do. We ask this through the intercession of Mary, Mother of the Church, and our patron saints, St. Thomas More and St. Veronica.

Amen.

May they guide and protect our diocese as we

await this important moment.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.



PAGE 2 of 2

Your Trip Includes:

- Round-trip airfare
- Airport taxes and fuel surcharges
- 5 nights accommodation at centrally located first-class hotels as follows: (or similar)
 - o 4 nights: Nov 17-21: Hotel AC Claudio, Rome
 - o 1 night: Nov 21-22: Hotel Valle Rossa, San Giovanni Rotondo
- · Transfers as per itinerary
- Porterage at hotels of 1 large suitcase per person

- Breakfast daily, 5 Dinners
- Wine and mineral water with dinners
- Transportation by air-conditioned motor coach
- Whisper headsets
- Assistance of a professional local Christian guide
- Sightseeing and admissions fees as per itinerary
- Mass daily & Spiritual activities
- Flight bag & PDF digital confirmation of all travel documents

Sample Daily Itinerary

Day 1, Sun, Nov 16: Depart for Rome

Make your way to your local airport, where you will board your overnight flight(s). Your meals will be served on board.

Day 2, Mon, Nov 17: Arrival in Rome
Welcome to Rome, also known as "The Eternal City."
Upon landing at Rome airport, claim your baggage and proceed to the Arrivals Hall, where your tour guide and/or driver will greet you. Following check-in at the hotel, enjoy some free time to unpack, relax, or explore Rome on your own. Your tour escort may suggest places to visit. Later this afternoon, your group will meet in the hotel lobby for a meet-and-greet with meet in the hotel lobby for a meet-and-greet with fellow pilgrims and your priests. You will depart together for Mass, and following Mass, you will attend a welcome dinner. After dinner, you have to opportunity to join in a walk to St. Peter's Square for the Rosary (optional).

Day 3, Tue, Nov 18: Rome - Assisi- Rome
This morning, we will head to Assisi, the birthplace of
St. Francis. You will start your tour at the St. Francis
Basilica, visit the tomb of St. Francis, and view a series
of frescoes depicting his life, along with a few of the
saint's possessions. Followed by a visit to the Santuario
Della Spogliazione where Saint Carlo Acutis' tomb is
placed. From there, you will continue a walking tour placed. From there, you will continue a walking tour through this picturesque town, including the birthplace of St. Francis, and end with a tour of the Church that honors St. Clare, the foundress of the Poor Clare Sisters. After lunch, you will board the bus, which will take you outside of the walls of Assisi, to the Basilica of St. Mary of the Angels. This is where St. Francis spent most of his life. This Basilica is made up of two structures, both of which you will visit. The first structure is the "Porziuncola", where St. Francis founded his order of the Friars Minor (Franciscans). The second is the "Capella del Transito", which is the place of St. Francis' death. During your time here, you will have the opportunity to visit the beautiful Rose Garden where St. Francis and other friars lived, as well as the cave where the Saint retired to pray. Return to the hotel for dinner and an overnight.

Day 4, Wed, Nov 19: Rome: Papal Audience -Vatican Museum - Trevi Fountain

This morning, we will attend the Papal Audience in St. Peter's Square or at the Audience Hall. The Audience is celebrated each Wednesday by His Holiness, Pope Francis (pending the papal schedule). Next, you will visit the Vatican Museum, where you can see the Tapestry Gallery, Raphael Rooms, and Sistine Chapel. Next Trevi Fountain area for some free time. Dinner and overnight.

Day 5, Thu, Nov 20: St. Peter's Basilica - Basilica of St. John the Lateran - Holy Stairs - Basilica of St. Mary Major -Colosseum – Roman Forum

Today, we will tour St. Peter's Basilica, built on the site where St. Today, we will tour St. Peter's Basilica, built on the site where St. Peter the Apostle was martyred. Here, you'll be able to view Michelangelo's Pieta sculpture and pray at the tombs of Pope Benedict XVI and St. John Paul II. Then visit the oldest of the four major Basilicas in Rome, the Archbasilica of St. John the Lateran, the cathedral church, and the seat of the Bishop of Rome. Cross the street to the very steps that lead up to the praetorium of Pontius Pilate in Jerusalem which Jesus climbed on His way to trial during his Passion. The Holy Mass will be celebrated by our priests at the Basilica of St. Mary Major, dedicated to Our Blessed Mother. After lunch, visit the Colosseum, also known as the Flavian Amphitheater was built Colosseum, also known as the Flavian Amphitheater was built in the first century AD and was the largest amphitheater in the Roman Empire. Christians were often persecuted in the Roman Empire, and many of them were martyred in the Colosseum. Some of the most famous Christian martyrs who died in the Colosseum include Saint Ignatius of Antioch, Saint Polycarp, and Saint Perpetua and Saint Felicitas. The Colosseum is a reminder of the persecution that early Christians faced, and it is also a of the persecution that early Christians faced, and it is also a symbol of their faith and courage. The Roman Forum was the heart of ancient Rome, and it was the site of many important government buildings, temples, and shops. It was also the place where public meetings were held and where the laws were debated and passed. The Roman Forum was a bustling place. It was home to a wide variety of people, from wealthy aristocrats to poor laborers, and it was a place where people from all walks of life came together. Return to hotel for dinner and overnight.

Day 6, Fri, Nov 21: Rome - Monte Cassino - San Giovanni Rotondo

This morning, you will board the bus and enjoy the scenic route to the Abbey of Monte Cassino, the principal monastery of the Benedictine Order, founded by St. Benedict around 530 A.D. Continue to San Giovanni Rotóndo, where St. Pio of Pietrelcina (St. Padre Pio) lived for many decades and where thousands of people have flocked to be closer to this great saint and Our Lord. Visit the Old Church of Our Lady of Grace, and see the confessional from where St. Pio spent innumerable hours listening to confessions. Dinner and overnight in San Giovanni Rotondo.

Day 7, Sat, Nov 22: Depart Home

Depart for Rome Airport for your trip back to the USA.

*206 Tours Disclaimer: Though every effort will be made to follow the itinerary, it should be considered as an indication, rather than a contract of places to be visited. Occasionally local religious holidays, national days, weather, traffic conditions and other events may necessitate changes in the sequence of visits or the missing of certain visits.

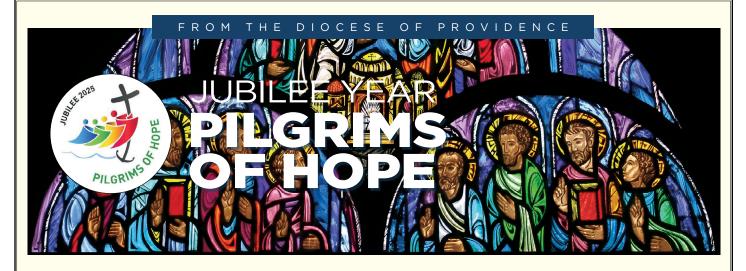
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WELCOME TO JUBILEE YEAR 2025!

"Hope does not disappoint"
- Romans 5:5

WHAT IS A JUBILEE YEAR?

A jubilee year is a time of joy, repentance, and forgiveness. As the etymology of the word denotes, every jubilee year calls for rejoicing, especially in the goodness of God. Just as a person might celebrate a milestone birthday with particular solemnity, so does the Church rejoice at appropriate moments in time. In the Catholic Church, ordinary jubilee years occur every quarter century. The Holy Father can also inaugurate an extraordinary jubilee year, which Pope Francis did in 2016 under the title the "Jubilee Year of Mercy."

In the papal bull, *Spes Non Confundit*, Pope Francis inaugurated the Jubilee Year of 2025, which he named the Jubilee of Hope.

During a jubilee year, Christians cooperate with the bounty of divine grace as they strive to enter through the door of salvation, which is Jesus Christ. During this time, the Church invites the faithful to benefit from her "treasury of grace," won by the merits of Christ. This principally occurs through conversion in the Sacrament of Penance and the remission of the temporal punishment due to sin through plenary indulgences, applied either for oneself or for others (such as deceased relatives or friends).

WHAT IS THE HISTORY OF THE JUBILEE YEAR?

In the Old Testament, the Jewish people celebrated a jubilee year every 50 years, as recounted in the Book of Leviticus (Lv 25:8-13). God intended the jubilee as a time to re-establish his chosen people's right relationship with Himself. The jubilee included the forgiveness of debts, the return of misappropriated land, liberty for captives, and a fallow period for agriculture.

In 1300, Pope Boniface VIII inaugurated the first jubilee year, or holy year, for the universal Church. The frequency of holy years changed over time: at first, they were celebrated every 100 years; later, in 1343 Pope Clement VI reduced the gap between jubilees to every 50 years, and in 1470 Pope Paul II established that jubilees would be celebrated every 25 years.

WHAT IS A HOLY DOOR?

In the Catholic tradition, the holy door represents the path to new and eternal life, which was opened to humanity by Jesus, who is himself the door to salvation. In 2025, Pope Francis will open five holy doors beginning with the holy door at the Basilica of St. Peter at the Vatican and concluding with the other papal basilicas in Rome and an Italian prison. Cathedrals will not have special holy doors as they did in 2016 during the Jubilee of Mercy. Nevertheless, diocesan cathedrals and other "jubilee sites" will serve as places of pilgrimage and pious visits for the faithful, who can gain the same plenary indulgences under the normal conditions.

"We must fan the flame of hope that has been given us and help everyone to gain new strength and certainty by looking to the future with an open spirit, a trusting heart and far-sighted vision. The forthcoming Jubilee can contribute greatly to restoring a climate of hope and trust as a prelude to the renewal and rebirth that we so urgently desire..."

Pope Francis' letter announcing
 Jubilee 2025

READ MORE ONLINE: Scan the QR code



or go to provd.io/jubilee



WHAT IS AN INDULGENCE?

An indulgence is the remission of temporal punishment due to sin, which is won by the merits of Christ and dispensed through the treasury of grace, which is the Church. An indulgence is applied partially or fully for oneself or for another.

When a person celebrates the Sacrament of Penance, that person obtains forgiveness for his sins. This includes having contrition for one's sins, confessing those sins to a priest, receiving absolution, and promising to make satisfaction (through an assigned Penance). Although one's sin may be absolved and a person is free of eternal punishment, some effects of sin still remain. Those effects require additional satisfaction. Consider a helpful analog: in the natural order, if I steal my neighbor's bike, he might forgive me, which makes us friends again. But in order for our relationship to be fully restored, I need to return the bike to my friend. In the same way, we must return to God what belongs to him—right praise and worship, which we have sullied by our sins.

The Church therefore teaches that all who die in God's grace and friendship, but are still imperfectly purified—while assured of their eternal salvation—must undergo purification after death in order to achieve the holiness necessary to enter the joy of heaven. The Church calls this temporal punishment Purgatory. A partial indulgence remits some of the temporal punishment due to sin, whereas a plenary indulgence remits all of the temporal punishment due to sin.

An indulgence is a favor befitting the magnanimity and goodness of God who never ceases to pardon. We are not "owed" indulgences; they are gifts from the treasury of the Church for the benefit of the faithful.

HOW CAN I OBTAIN A PLENARY INDULGENCE?

Although several pious actions (such as praying before the Blessed Sacrament for thirty minutes or reciting the Holy Rosary in a church) render one disposed to receive a plenary indulgence during any time, there are several more opportunities to benefit from a plenary indulgence during the Jubilee Year of 2025.

In order to obtain a plenary indulgence, **one must perform some** "indulgenced action," such as a pious visit, pilgrimage, or work of mercy as determined by the Church (these actions are listed below), and also fulfill the following conditions:

- **1.** Receive Holy Communion
- 2. Receive the Sacrament of Penance before receiving Holy Communion (usually within 8 days), or after receiving Holy Communion (if one does not labor under mortal sin—again, usually within 8 days)
- **3.** Pray for the intentions of the Holy Father (typically, by saying an Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be, though any simple prayer suffices)
- **4.** Be properly disposed through detachment from all sin, both mortal and venial



Catholic Masses for Recovery

Masses for Recovery are an opportunity for people to come together in faith to seek God's loving kindness and grace, with special prayer intentions for those in recovery, or for those with drug and alcohol issues, or mental health distress.

2025 Schedule

St. Anthony Church

2836 E. Main Rd, Portsmouth, RI

Saturday, January 25, 2025...... 4:00 p.m. Saturday, April 26, 2025........4:00 p.m. Saturday, July 26, 2025...... 4:00 p.m. Saturday, October 25, 2025.......4:00 p.m.

The Hope & Cope Support Group

Do you have a family member or a friend who is dealing with drugs, alcohol, addictions, or mental Health distress? Are you wrestling with these issues yourself? With the Hope & Cope support group, you don't have to walk this road alone! The Hope & Cope Support Group is a faith-based, recovery group that meets to pray, reflect, and if desired, share their stories, feelings and experiences with the group, as well as discuss recovery resources, topics and insights.

2025 Schedule

St. Barnabas Church

1697 East Main Road, Portsmouth, in the Chapel Meeting Room (under the little Chapel **Sunday Evenings, 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

February 16, 2025
March 23, 2025
May 18, 2025
June 29, 2025
August 24, 2025
September 21, 2025
November 16, 2025,
December 21, 2025

For information regarding the Masses for Recovery or the Hope and Cope Support Group, contact: Deacon John Silvia 401-683-1343, ext. 208 / email: deaconjohn@jsilvia.com



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The Roman Catholic Diocese of Providence, Catholic Charities & Social Ministry

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Evan Holguin Assistant Director of Planned Giving



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