

Saint Anthony of Padua

84 Salem Street • Fitchburg, Massachusetts
www.stanthonyfitchburg.net



Find us on
Facebook

We can be found at “Saint Anthony Parish Fitchburg”
or through our website.

Pastoral Staff

Fr. Juan Ramirez, Pastor
frjuan@stanthonyfitchburg.net

Deacon Mark Carrier
deacon120801@gmail.com

Deacon Salvatore Tantillo
Saltantillo1@gmail.com

Prayer Line Requests
prayers@stanthonyfitchburg.net
978-342-4706

Parish Office

978-342-4706
978-342-8160 fax
church.office@stanthonyfitchburg.net

Hours:
Monday – Wednesday 9-3
(closed Thursday & Friday)

Vicky Zarrella, Office Manager
church.office@stanthonyfitchburg.net

WORSHIP & SACRAMENTS

LORD'S DAY MASSES

Saturday Vigil 4:00 PM
Sunday 8:00 AM, 10:30 AM & 12:30 PM (African)

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday at 8:00 AM

HOLY DAY SCHEDULE

Vigil at 5:30 PM, 8:00 AM day of

RECONCILIATION

Saturday afternoon 3:00-3:30 PM, or by appointment.

BAPTISM OF INFANTS

All are welcome! Please call the church office to schedule an appointment.

SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION FOR ADULTS

RCIA welcomes all those interested in learning more about the Catholic Faith.
Please contact Fr. Juan with questions.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY Please contact us at least ONE YEAR in advance to begin preparation.

MISSION STATEMENT

As members of the Roman Catholic Church, we believe that God is alive and head of our parish family. We endeavor to be a welcoming, inclusive, charitable and socially responsible faith community. We offer our hearts, our gifts and our time, as we strive to give witness to Jesus' command to love one another. Through the example of our patron Saint Anthony of Padua, we desire to be peacemakers, living the gospel in word and action.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 30th

Vigil: Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

4:00 PM Ernest Secino
by the Ernest Secino Trust
Deceased of the Rollo Family
by their family

Sunday, December 31st

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

8:00 AM Paula Kraszyk
by the Panagiotidis family

10:30 AM Shirley & Roger Therrien
by Elena Valeri
Douglas and Mary Carr & Jane Mobley
by their families

12:30 PM Parishioners

Monday, January 1st

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

World Day of Prayer for Peace

8:00 AM NO MASS
Fr. Juan is away

Tuesday, January 2nd

St. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops & Doctors

8:00 AM NO MASS
Fr. Juan is away

Wednesday, January 3rd

The Most Holy Name of Jesus

8:00 AM NO MASS
Fr. Juan is away

Thursday, January 4th

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious

8:00 AM NO MASS
Fr. Juan is away

Friday, January 5th

St. John Neuman, Bishop

8:00 AM NO MASS

Saturday, January 6th

Vigil: The Epiphany of The Lord

4:00 PM Natalie Lombardy
by her cousins, Mary & Elena
Clemence Merlin
by Margaret

Sunday, January 7th

The Epiphany of The Lord

8:00 AM Felipe Nogueira
by his family

10:30 AM Mary Lanza and Theresa Leger
by Judy Allardice & family
Domenica (Buratti) Perla (Anniversary)
by her family

9:00 PM Parishioners

December 30 - 31, 2023

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

"...as the Lord has forgiven you, so you must forgive." (Colossians 3:13) Forgiving is one of the hardest things for people to do. We can't give what we don't have. We need to receive God's mercy and forgiveness first before we can give it to others. Go to the sacrament of Reconciliation and receive God's mercy and forgiveness. Then, share the gift of forgiveness with someone – a family member, a friend or a co-worker. Pick up the phone or text someone right now.

READ AND PREPARE

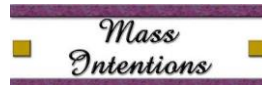
Next Week's Scripture readings

First Reading Isaiah 60:1-6
Second Reading Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6
Gospel Matthew 2:1-12 (20)

PARISH CALENDAR, NEWS EVENTS

Due to the New Year Holiday, the office is closed on Monday but will reopen for Tuesday & Wednesday, January 2nd & 3rd this week. Wishing you joy and peace in the New Year!

****Father Juan will be away on vacation from Monday, January 1st through Thursday, January 18th.** In Father's absence there will be no weekday Masses. Please plan accordingly for your morning Masses. Weekend Masses, Saturday & Sunday, will be celebrated as usual. Please keep Father in your prayers.



The Mass Intention Book is open for the months of January – June 2024.

Tax Information - Attention: Any donations to the parish, including December weekly envelopes, that you want counted towards your 2023 contributions must be received by us **BEFORE or on January 2nd** Anything postmarked and received after January 3rd will be counted towards 2024. Thank you.



Collection Report for Months of September – November 2023

Sunday Offerings	\$52,729
Building & Maintenance	4,304
Religious Education	976
All Souls	789
*Other Income	2,285
TOTAL	\$61,083
**Expenses	60,843
Net Income	\$240

*Other Income = Gifts, Mass Stipends, Rental, Fairs, all other

**Expenses = Utilities, Repairs/Maintenance (including snow/grounds), Property & Health Insurances, Salaries, Church Supplies, Parish Administration, Religious Education, all other



St. Anthony Candle Intention:

IMO Frank Catalfamo

by a friend

Christmas 2023

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope." (Romans 15:13)

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

The Gospel accounts of Jesus' birth involve a disparate group of people---the sinless virgin, the upright Joseph, an indifferent innkeeper, Jewish shepherds, pagan magi, the ruthless Herod, incurious scribes, and murderous soldiers. Among this radically varied group, there was one thing in common. They were all---each one of them---loved by God. They were each the reason Christ was born. To each He would call. For each He died.

What was true that long ago night in Bethlehem remains true this day in our world. God loves each one of us. He loves those in the pews each week, twice a year or not at all. He loves those who have just come from the confessional and those who have not yet made it there. He loves those who acknowledge and worship Him and those who do not recognize Him and are far off.

Jesus Christ is the one savior of the world. He loves us all and He calls us all. As people whose freedom God respects, our response is critical. It determines if we find peace in this life and in the next. His peace is a gift. We do not earn it. We can only accept it. We accept it by believing in Him and what He has revealed, by striving to follow Him with our lives, and, by our repentance, accepting His freely offered, limitless mercy for our failures.

I pray that, whatever our situation and circumstance this Christmas, we may all be deeply moved by the wondrous love of God who so loved the world that He sent His Son as our Savior. May we turn anew to Jesus Christ, find a welcome place in His Church, and with it the joy, peace and hope God intends for us all.

With every prayerful best wish for a Merry Christmas, I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Robert J. McManus
Bishop of Worcester

Personal Hygiene Collection for Catholic Charities is Ongoing.

Please bring one or two items and place them in the collection bins at the entrances of the church. **Suggested Items Needed:** Shampoo, conditioner, shaving cream, soap, body wash, small packs of tissues, deodorant (men & woman's), toothpaste, toothbrushes, mouthwash, hand sanitizer, lotion, toilet paper, diapers, baby wash, baby lotion.



Food Pantry Collection for St. Francis chapter of St. Vincent de Paul is ongoing. Please bring any nonperishable items when you can. If this is something that you have never done before, please strongly consider it. The collection bin is located at the entrance of the church.

Snow Policy – For weekday Masses, (Monday – Thursday) if Fitchburg Public Schools are cancelled or delayed there will be NO Mass celebrated. This is done to keep all our parishioners safe and off the roads. Please check your local listings. If school is not in session – please use your judgement. Be Safe!

Parish Census: If you have moved recently or even in the last year or two, or the numbers of members in your family household has decreased due to children moving out or other reasons, please contact us via email or phone so that we can stay current with you and maintain our records. 😊 Have you been attending St. Anthony's but have not formally registered? Please consider registering so that you can be an "official" member of our family and included when any mailings go out. Registration cards are at the entrances of the church or, you can download one from our website.



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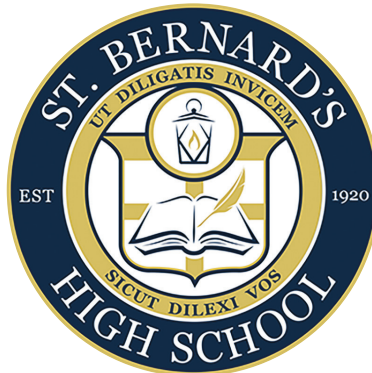
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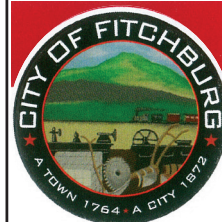
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St. Anthony of Padua Parish

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April 26, 1908 — April 26, 2023

**St. Anthony
Pray for Us**

MERCADANTE & MERCADANTE, PC

Certified Public Accountants

Anthony J. Mercadante, C.P.A.

29 Mechanic Street, P.O. Box 2125, Fitchburg, MA 01420
www.mercadante.com Tel: 978-342-0647

"Do Unto Others..."

Luke 6:31

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