

Saint Anthony of Padua

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



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

Pastoral Staff

Fr. Juan Ramirez, Pastor
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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, November 11th

Vigil: 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

David Wood
by Joan Horgan

Sunday, November 12th

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM **Domenica A. (Buratti) Perla**
by her Family
Marianne DiConza (2nd Anniversary)
by her daughter Suzanne & son-in-law Jared

10:30 AM **Margaret & Nicholas Pandiscio**
and their son Nicholas
by the Macchio Family
Lou Morizzo
by his wife Mary

12:00 PM **Parishioners**

Monday, November 13th

St. Francis Xavier Cabrini, Virgin

8:00 AM **Jaqueline Taylor**
by Joyce Moretto

Tuesday, November 14th

8:00 AM **Frank Catalfamo**
by Members of the Prayer Shawl Ministry

Wednesday, November 15th

St. Albert the Great, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

8:00 AM
by

Thursday, November 16th

St. Margaret of Scotland, St. Gertrude, Virgin

8:00 AM **Frank Catalfamo**
by Members of the Prayer Shawl Ministry

Friday, November 17th

St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Religious

8:00 AM **NO MASS**

Saturday, November 18th

Vigil: 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 PM **Donald Cormier (4th Anniversary)**
by wife Lorraine & children Patrick & Jenifer

Sunday, November 19th

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM **June Roy**
by Ellen DiGeronimo
69th Wedding Anniversary of
Larry & Pricilla LaBerge

10:30 AM **Margaret Pancare**
by the Pancare Family
Paula Kraszyk
by the Panagiotidis Family

12:30 PM **Parishioners**



St. Anthony Candle Intention:

Marianne DiConza
by her daughter Suzanne
& son-in law Jared

November 11 - 12, 2023

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Therefore, stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour." (Matthew 25:13) Many of us have put off doing something because we think we are too busy. We've all said, "I'll do it later when I have time." Unfortunately, too many of us apply this attitude to our Faith. Jesus' call is urgent, in the here and now, in your current circumstances. How is God calling you to use your gifts today? Don't delay. None of us is guaranteed tomorrow.

READ AND PREPARE

Next Week's Scripture readings

First Reading Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31
Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6
Gospel Matthew 25:14-30

PARISH CALENDAR, NEWS EVENTS

Lector Workbooks have arrived. Please pick up your copy in the sacristy after Mass today. Thank you.

Thanksgiving Collection - Last year we tried a new method of donating for the food baskets that Catholic Charities supplies to those in need around our communities. It worked great so they are asking us to continue in this way.



Catholic Charities is asking us to donate **\$20 Market Basket or Hannaford gift cards** (so families can purchase their own turkeys) **and/or cash** (in any amount), to supplement the purchase of food to round out the meals for baskets given to the families they serve.

We are taking up a special collection of cash/checks or \$20 gift cards **THIS weekend, November 11-12th**. 100% of all donations will go to Catholic Charities to help them in their efforts. We ask that you please give in relation to the gifts you have received. Place your cash/check donation in a marked envelope if you want it to be counted toward your charitable giving for the year. If you forgot your donation, please bring it to the office Monday - Wednesday this week. Thank you!



4th Annual Pie Fundraiser! St. Anthony Hospitality Committee is again offering a selection of boxed homemade pies for purchase just in time for Thanksgiving! Order one for you, a neighbor or friend.

Pie Choices include Apple, Dutch Apple, Blueberry, Pumpkin, Ricotta. Sugar free & gluten free are also available! **Cost:** \$20 each. **Deadline to order: Wednesday, November 15th!** To order call: Gail Lassila 978-342-6910 or Patty Vacca-Martin 978-407-9385. **Please plan to pick up your pies on Tuesday, November 21 from 12-4pm or Wednesday, November 22 from 10-2pm.** Please call the numbers listed to give an estimate of when you will arrive so they will have your pies waiting for a quick delivery! **All proceeds go directly to the church. Don't be left out. Plan accordingly to get your order placed before the November 15th deadline.**

Dear Friends,

In this week's Gospel, Jesus talks about what it means to be prepared to receive the Kingdom of Heaven.

This weekend's readings follow a series of warnings and predictions by Jesus about the coming of the Son of Man.

Jesus wants his disciples to understand that the exact day and time cannot be predicted. He teaches the disciples that they must remain vigilant so that they will not be caught unprepared.

When thinking about the parable of the wise and foolish virgins, it is important to consider the first-century wedding traditions of Palestine. Scholars tell us that it was the custom of the day for young maidens friends and family members of the bride to meet the bridegroom when he came to bring his bride to her new home.

As with many of Jesus' parables, several levels of interpretation are possible. In the Gospel last week, we heard Jesus warn against following the example of the Pharisees and scribes. If read in the context of early Christianity's struggle to define itself against Pharisaic Judaism, this parable is a continuing critique of Judaism. It suggests that the Jewish leaders were like the foolish virgins, unprepared to meet Jesus, the bridegroom of Israel.

In the chapter preceding this parable, however, Jesus warns about the destruction of Jerusalem, the tribulation of the end times, and the coming of the Son of Man. When read in this context, today's parable is a warning to the Christian community to remain vigilant and prepared to receive Jesus, the Son of Man who will return at the end of time. This interpretation is supported by the reference to the delay of the bridegroom. The Christian community for whom Matthew wrote this Gospel was coming to terms with the realization that the promise of Jesus' return would not be fulfilled within their lifetimes. The question remains for us to ask ourselves, Are we ready to receive Jesus? Will we be prepared to receive him?

Blessings,

Fr. Juan

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.



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

You may call in your requests. **It is not necessary for you to come to the office.** Any messages received will be returned promptly. Reminder: The office is closed on Thursday and Friday.

Local Christmas Fairs

HOLIDAY FAIR - St. Bernard's Elementary School, 245 Summer St., – **Saturday, November 18th from 8:00 to 3:00 PM.** Vendors, raffles, class baskets, baked goods, crafts and games for children...and Santa! Stop by and enjoy the fun!

St. Leo School Holiday Fair is on **Saturday, Nov. 18, from 10:00 to 3:00 pm** located at 120 Main St., Leominster. This year's fair will include many area Crafters, beautiful Baskets Raffles, Money Tree Raffle and Children's activities. Our Famous Potluck Booth will return along with a new Cookie and Baked Goodies Booth. The Ultimate Grille Food Truck will be serving delicious soups and hot sandwiches. Free door prize raffle to win \$200.00. All are welcome to join us.

Christmas Festival of Lights "Comfort My People" at the National Shrine of Our Lady of La Salette.

Come and experience the warmth of the Christmas season and admire the magical beauty of our grounds with more than 500,000 lights illuminating our 100-acre property. Other attractions on site:

Photos with St. Nicholas – Friday – Sunday: 5:00 -9:00 PM

Ride to Bethlehem, Hayride, and Carousel: Friday – Sunday:

International Creche Museum Monday – Friday 5:00 – 9:00 PM, Saturday & Sunday – 2:00 – 9:00 PM

Food Court/Cafeteria/Snack Bar – Monday – Friday 4:00 – 9:00 PM, Saturday & Sunday- 12 Noon – 9:00 PM

Religious Articles Store – Monday – Sunday 10:00 AM – 9:00 PM

Father Pat's Concerts – Every Friday, Saturday & Sunday: 3:00 & 7:00 PM

Shrine is located on 947 Park St., Attleboro, MA 508-222-5410
Go to Lasaletteattleboroshrine.org for more information on pricing and directions.

Campaign for Human Development - This year, seventy-five percent of the collection will stay here in our diocese. Each November the Bishop meets with parish and community groups which receive local grants from the previous year's collection. "It is always inspiring to see how these small grants blossom into effective programs to support the dignity of people who find themselves most often on the margins. Given our economy's high inflation rate, the need has increased dramatically in the many food pantries and emergency assistance programs in our parishes and Catholic agencies which receive support from our local CCHD funds."

Please help the efforts of CCHD to break the cycle of poverty. We are "working on the margins" in Central Massachusetts and across America. Support the CCHD Collection on **November 18 & 19** as a response to the Seventh Annual World Day of the Poor that Sunday as called for by our Holy Father. For more information about CCHD and the scope of poverty in America, please visit www.povertyusa.org.

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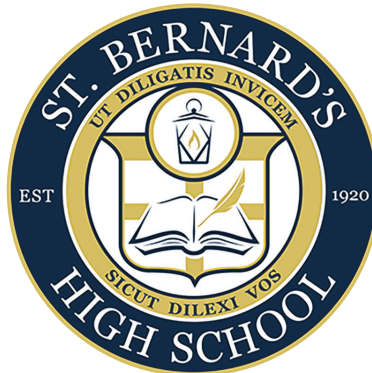
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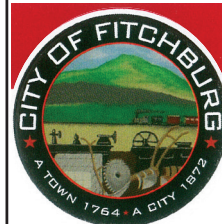
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*St. Anthony
Pray for Us*

"Do Unto Others..."

Luke 6:31

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