

# Saint Anthony of Padua

84 Salem Street • Fitchburg, Massachusetts  
[www.stanthonyfitchburg.net](http://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](mailto:deacon120801@gmail.com)

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[Saltantillo1@gmail.com](mailto:Saltantillo1@gmail.com)

**Prayer Line Requests**  
[prayers@stanthonyfitchburg.net](mailto:prayers@stanthonyfitchburg.net)  
 978-342-4706

## Parish Office

978-342-4706  
 978-342-8160 fax  
[church.office@stanthonyfitchburg.net](mailto:church.office@stanthonyfitchburg.net)

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

**Vicky Zarrella**, Office Manager  
[church.office@stanthonyfitchburg.net](mailto:church.office@stanthonyfitchburg.net)

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## WORSHIP & SACRAMENTS

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### 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.

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## MISSION STATEMENT

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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 18<sup>th</sup>

**Vigil: 33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Donald Cormier (4<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)

by wife Lorraine & children Patrick & Jenifer

Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup>

**33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:00 AM June Roy

by Ellen DiGeronimo

**69<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary of**

Larry & Pricilla LaBerge

10:30 AM Margaret Pancare

by the Pancare family

Paula Kraszyk

by the Panagiotidis family

12:00 PM Parishioners

Monday, November 20<sup>th</sup>

8:00 AM Cietta Babineau

by her sister-in-law

Mark Rollo

by his family

Tuesday, November 21<sup>st</sup>

*The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

8:00 AM Leo Roderick

by Kathy Catalfamo

Wednesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>

*St. Cecilia, Virgin & Martyr*

8:00 AM Special Intention

by a Devotee

Thursday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>

*St. Blessed Miguel Agustin Pro, Priest & Martyr*

**Thanksgiving Day**

8:00 AM Deceased of the Lomaglio & Leger Families

by their families

Friday, November 24<sup>th</sup>

*St. Andrew Dung-Lac Priest & Companions, Martyrs*

8:00 AM NO MASS

Saturday, November 25<sup>th</sup>

**Vigil: Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe**

4:00 PM Nancy Ray

by her mother & sisters

Louis G. Buratti, Sr. & son Lou, Jr.

by their family

Sunday, November 26<sup>th</sup>

**Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe**

8:00 AM Blair Babineau

by her daughter

**Deceased of the Blackwelder Family**

by their family

10:30 AM Bob Babeau

by Elena Valeri

Thomas & Rita Buckley

by their family

11:45 AM BAPTISM: Lucia Ann Hurget

12:30 PM Parishioners



**St. Anthony Candle Intention:**

Gary Sicard

by his wife & family

# November 18 - 19, 2023

## 33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

**"Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you have been faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities."** (MATTHEW 25:21) God calls us to nurture and develop the gifts He has given us and then generously return a portion with increase. He doesn't want us to waste or hoard the gifts He has given us. He expects us to grow our gifts, to use them wisely, and to be generous with them. Unfortunately, many of us are not generous in proportion to all that God has given us. God asks us to be generous with all our gifts, especially the one that means the most to you.

READ AND PREPARE

Next Week's Scripture readings

First Reading Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28

Gospel Matthew 25:31-46

## PARISH CALENDAR, NEWS EVENTS

The Church Office will be open Monday and Tuesday only this week. Happy Thanksgiving to all!

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

**Thanksgiving Collection** – If you would still like to help, please bring your donation to the office Monday – Tuesday this week. Thank you!



**Please plan to pick up your pies on Tuesday, November 21 from 12-4pm or Wednesday, November 22 from 10-2pm.** Please call Gail

Lassila 978-342-6910 or Patty Vacca-Martin 978-407-9385 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.**

**Campaign for Human Development** 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 **today** as a response to the Seventh Annual World Day of the Poor this 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](http://www.povertyusa.org).

**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."



Dear Friends,  
We're getting close to the end of this Church Year!

There are just two weeks left before another Advent begins - and what an exciting time this will be, with changes in the wording of our Mass for both priest and people! But we have some housekeeping to do before then and before God calls us to the final judgment - and our own particular judgment as well. How should we prepare? We find a good keyword in today's second reading from St. Paul's first letter to the Thessalonians when he speaks of the "Day of the Lord." The image is a bit frightening because we don't know when that day will come, or what it will really be like. We know that it will call us to an accounting for how we've lived out our promises, promises made in Confirmation, to love the Lord our God and our neighbor.

Will it be like that dream vision of St. John that was read to us on All Saints' Day? Now that was really exciting, with everyone washing their garments in the blood of the lamb, receiving the Seal of Salvation on their foreheads, and singing praises to the Lord of Lords! Will you and I be with those saints that come marching in?

As we read this, it's with a sense of relief that we still have time to set things in order! We still have time to alter our final accounting! No matter how young or how old we may be, the message is clear. Today is the first day of the rest of our lives, and every day from now on is meant to be active and productive - no slouching around. No resting on our laurels!

The focus for all our tomorrows is found in the Parable of the Talents in today's Gospel. While we may not know for certain whether we should identify with the person to whom the Master gave five talents, two talents, or one talent, we probably can make a good guess. It really doesn't matter, because the master's expectations for each of his servants were the same: make the best use of whatever talents I have given you. Just don't bury them! By thinking and praying and asking for advice, we'll come up with some good ideas on how to invest them. Every day is a day to labor for the truth, to give loving service to the poor, and to praise the Lord - through the Mass, through private prayer and private reflection, or perhaps with a friend.

Today may be the only day left for me to reconcile with someone whom I have offended, or who has offended me, to atone for some wrong, to go visit an elderly cousin, to play with my grandchildren. How precious are my talents and the time given me to use them! If I consider this day as my last day, then my talents will be used, and the benefits for me and others will multiply beyond belief. And it's all because I have developed the habit of taking each day as precious. This is the day the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it. With joy in the opportunities of today, we need never fear the final Day of the Lord.

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 with 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.



#### Holiday Concert performed by **The Montachusett Chorale.**

"Sounds of the Season", on Sunday, December 3rd at 2pm in Tata Auditorium at Leominster City Hall, 25 West St. The concert will benefit The Leominster Flood Relief Fund. Tickets are \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door and under 18 admitted free. Tickets are available in the Mayor's Office at Leominster City Hall or on Venmo under charities at: @The Montachusett Chorale.

Extra Weekday Masses in Advent - Advent begins on the weekend of December 2 & 3. Christ the King Parish, located at 1052 Pleasant Street in Worcester, continues its custom of celebrating an additional **weekday Mass at 5:30 pm**, Monday through Friday. All are welcome to join us. The first Mass will be Monday, Dec. 4. The last is on Friday, Dec. 22. Mass concludes at about 6:00 pm each night.

**ATTENTION** - We have been informed by Rollstone Bank that for two weeks in a row, they have received a \$100 bill that was in fact not real. They were in the November 5<sup>th</sup> regular collection and then this past weekend, November 12 in an envelope marked "Thanksgiving Collection". If this was you and you were unaware that the bills were fake, please notify any bank with any bills remaining and let them know how you received them. If it was done in error, please be cautious and careful. Thank you.

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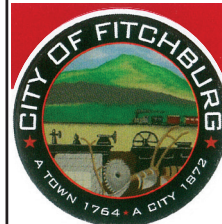
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*St. Anthony  
Pray for Us*

*"Do Unto Others..."*

Luke 6:31

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