

# Saint Anthony of Padua

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

**Deacon Mark Carrier**  
[deacon120801@gmail.com](mailto:deacon120801@gmail.com)

**Deacon Salvatore Tantillo**  
[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 25<sup>th</sup>

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

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

12:00 PM Parishioners

Monday, November 27<sup>th</sup>

8:00 AM Open Intention  
by

Tuesday, November 28<sup>th</sup>

8:00 AM Open Intention  
by

Wednesday, November 29<sup>th</sup>

8:00 AM Ralph DiGeronimo  
by his daughter Sarah

Thursday, November 30<sup>th</sup>

St. Andrew, Apostle

Thanksgiving Day

8:00 AM Open Intention  
by

Friday, December 1<sup>st</sup>

8:00 AM NO MASS

Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Vigil: First Sunday of Advent**

4:00 PM Guy & Nancy Badagliacca & son Paul  
by Badagliacca & Marabello families

Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>

**First Sunday of Advent**

8:00 AM Felipe Nogueira  
by his family  
Gail (Celuzza) Anderson (Month's Mind)  
by her cousin Rose Ann

10:30 AM Fr. Jerry Orsino  
by his friends

12:30 PM Parishioners



**St. Anthony Candle Intention:**

IMO Francesco Penetti

by his wife Connie & family

# November 25 - 26, 2023

## Jesus Christ, The King of the Universe

**"...whatever you did for one of the least of my brothers, you did for me."**  
(MATTHEW 25:40) Most of us are generous when it's convenient for us. We are generous when we have the time or the money. But, real generosity is the opposite of that. It means giving of one's time, money, compassion, forgiveness or mercy when it's not convenient to us, when it's not on our schedule, but on the other person's timeline.

READ AND PREPARE

**Next Week's Scripture readings**

First Reading Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7  
Second Reading 1 Corinthians 1:3-9  
Gospel Mark 13:33-37

## PARISH CALENDAR, NEWS EVENTS

**Lector Workbooks have arrived.** There are several copies remaining. If you have not done so, please pick up your copy in the sacristy after Mass today. The new book begins next week!



Annual Giving Tree to begin next weekend for **Catholic Charities** (100 children) and **ASNCM** or Aging Services of North Central Mass (30 elders) as well as 17 **Seminarians**. The Seminarian gift cards should be mailed back directly through the

envelope provided.

If you are not comfortable going to the store you can make a monetary donation for a child or elder and drop it off at Mass.

**Please include the "tag" with your gift/donation.** If you can help, we ask you to return your gifts for both agencies to the church or directly to the agencies **no later than Monday, December 11<sup>th</sup>**. Please call them if you want to drop off directly.

**Catholic Charities:** Catholic Charities of Worcester County, 196 Mechanic Street, Leominster, MA 01453 (978-840-0696).

**ASNCM,** 680 Mechanic Street, Leominster, MA 01453 (978-537-7411).

**Aging Services of North Central Mass** or **ASNCM**. provides quality services to individuals 60+ and those with disabilities. They are requesting only gift cards be purchased. If possible, from places like Walmart or Target where the recipients can purchase groceries or other goods in one place. They are not providing names this year.

**Thanksgiving Collection** – Through your generosity our St.



Anthony family was able to provide Catholic Charities with **\$2,398 in donations and \$585 in grocery gift cards**. The impact your donations had in providing healthy meals for

Thanksgiving was tremendous! On behalf of Catholic Charities, "God bless you in your generosity".



Dear Friends,

The whole idea of Christ as king seems less acceptable in many nations and countries today. A lot of this rejection of the image of Christ the King comes because of the rejection of kingship and kingdoms in general. On the other hand, it is difficult to find a common word that describes the people who lead the various countries. We would smile, I think if we had a Solemnity of Christ the Leader! Or a Solemnity of Christ the President!

What we are called to recognize in this solemnity is that whatever form leadership takes today, Jesus Christ is the ultimate of leadership and all true leadership must be based on Him in some way. We Christians are not advocating a return to kingship as the normal form of leadership.

The readings today immediately show us what true leadership is about. The true leader is the one who consistently seeks out those in his care and tries to do what will really help them. The Prophet Isaiah compares the people to a flock of sheep. Sheep are notoriously stupid and can also be very stubborn. We are kind of like that in our lives. Yet the Lord comes looking for us and never wants to lose us. A true leader looks after all of his flock.

The second reading, from the First Letter to the Corinthians, speaks clearly about the kingdom that the early Christians were expecting. It is clearly not a kingdom based here on earth but based on the life to come. True, the kingdoms of this earth, the countries of this earth, and the leadership of this earth, must eventually all come to Jesus and acknowledge Him. How that will happen, we have no idea. It must happen all the time, not just at the end of the world. Anything that pulls our societies away from the Lord truly destroys our humanity.

The Gospel tells us what the earthly kingdom is supposed to be like and how we are supposed to live this earthly life. It is always so very simple and yet it seems always to evade us: love one another by serving one another: when we see another person hungry and feed him; when we see someone thirsty and give them drink; when we see a stranger and welcome him; or someone naked and clothe them; when we see someone ill or in prison, and visit them. It is all so easy. Yet we don't live that way consistently.

May Christ be our king today and lead us to live as He lived and to love all peoples as He loves them.

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.

**NOTE OF THANKS** – “We thank you for your help in keeping our pantry well stocked. We will keep you in our prayers. Happy Thanksgiving.” St. Vincent de Paul Society, St. Francis of Assisi Pantry.



**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.

**March for Life Registration deadline approaching!** - There's still time to register for the bus trip to the **51<sup>st</sup> annual March for Life in Washington, DC** on Friday, Jan. 19, 2024! Buses will leave from St. Paul's Cathedral on Thursday, Jan. 18 following the Respect Life Mass at 7:30 p.m., and will travel to the Basilica of National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC in time for Friday morning Mass followed by the March for Life at noon. Buses will return to Worcester immediately following the March, arriving back at St. Paul at approximately 1:00 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 20. Cost is \$125 per seat. **Registration deadline is December 15.** Registrations will be accepted on a first-come-first-served basis. For more details and registration forms, visit [worcesterdiocese.org/respect-life](http://worcesterdiocese.org/respect-life) or call the Respect Life Office at 508-929-4311 or email [aledoux@worcesterdiocese.org](mailto:aledoux@worcesterdiocese.org). Can't attend this year but want to help? Consider making a donation that will help defray expenses for our students who want to attend but might otherwise find it difficult to do so. Thank you!

#### **Is this a real request for help?**

If you receive an email or text message from the pastor, bishop or other church official asking for donations, gift cards or other forms of financial assistance, **check with the parish to determine if it is legitimate.** Some of the latest email and text scams trying to collect your personal data can look too real! It's always worth a second look to protect yourself.

**FREE CHRISTMAS TREES FOR ALL VETERANS AND ACTIVE-DUTY SERVICE MEMBERS** – Cauley's Garden Center along with Operation Service [www.operationsservice.net](http://www.operationsservice.net) is providing trees to thank our service members for all they have done. **Starting November 24**, pick up your FREE tree at Cauley's Garden Center, 649 South St. **While supplies last.**

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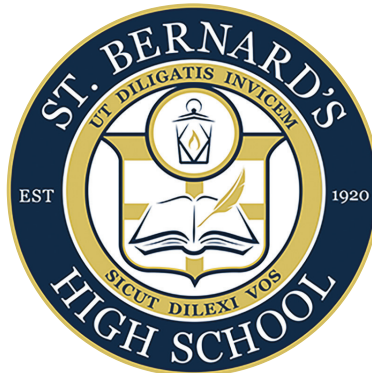
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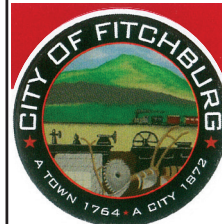
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*"Do Unto Others..."*

Luke 6:31

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