

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
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, January 13th

Vigil: 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 PM Dick McDonough
by his sister Carol
Ralph DiGeronimo
by his daughter Sarah

Sunday, January 14th

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM Mario, Grace & daughter Anne Zarrella
by their family
10:30 AM Mary Lanza and Theresa Leger
by Judy Allardice
Domenica (Buratti) Perla (6th Anniversary)
by her family
12:30 PM Parishioners
2:00 PM BABPTSM: Natalie Debra Cote & Bauer
Marcel Cote

Monday, January 15th

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday

8:00 AM NO MASS
Fr. Juan is away

Tuesday, January 16th

8:00 AM NO MASS
Fr. Juan is away

Wednesday, January 17th

St. Anthony, Abbot

8:00 AM NO MASS
Fr. Juan is away

Thursday, January 18th

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins

8:00 AM NO MASS
Fr. Juan is away

Friday, January 19th

8:00 AM NO MASS

Saturday, January 20th

Vigil: 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 PM Dottie Giadone-Poirier
& Rev. Raphael Posco
by Amy & Marty Walsh

Sunday, January 21st

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM Joseph M. & Rose G. Secino
by the Ernest Secino Trust
Felipe Nogueira
by the Nogueira family
10:30 AM Nancy Ray (6th Anniversary)
& Sr. Janet Badagliacca
by the Marabello & Badagliacca Families
9:00 PM Parishioners

January 13 - 14, 2024 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Jesus turned and saw them following him and said to them, 'What are you looking for?'" (John 1:38) When we recognize who we are, it's easier to find what we are looking for. Once we see ourselves, and others, as children of God, we spend less time looking for the material comforts of the world. Instead, our hearts long for something deeper that can only be filled by God. Ask God daily how He wants you to live the life He intended for you.

READ AND PREPARE

Next Week's Scripture readings

First Reading John 3:1-5, 10
Second Reading 1 Corinthians 7:29-31
Gospel Mark 1:14-20

PARISH CALENDAR, NEWS EVENTS

The office will be closed Monday, January 15th in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

****Father Juan is away on vacation 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.

February Prize-a-Day Cash Calendar Fun Fundraiser for the Parish

Help us with our heating/cooling bills by purchasing a \$20 Prize-a-Day Calendar and for less than \$1 a day you get 29 chances to win a cash prize including \$30, \$50, \$75, \$100 or \$150.

The best part is – if your name is picked, it will go BACK INTO the drawing up to two more times, so, multiple chances to win for less than \$1 a day!

We don't have a special collection for heating and air conditioning like most parishes. Please help us with this fun way to raise money to defray these costs.

The calendars are here! If you need additional calendars, kindly take them from the entrances of the church or call the office. Ask your friends, relatives, neighbors, and if you work, please, ask your co-workers! **Please return the entry with your \$20 promptly so you will not miss any days of the drawing.**

Winners for the week will be drawn every Monday and announced in the bulletin the following weekend.

You can submit your donation & ticket in a marked envelope via the collection baskets, the postal service or drop them in the secure mailbox just outside the church office door.

Give it a try and spread the word, it will be a tremendous help!

Tax Contribution Statements will be sent out beginning January 22nd for all who request them. If you contributed to Partners in Charity or Legacy of Hope, those statements will be sent directly from the Diocese at the end of January.



St. Anthony Candle Intention:



Dear Friends,

Although the liturgical season of Ordinary Time begins this week, today's reading continues with the celebration of the Baptism of the Lord, which concludes the Christmas season. Today's reading from the Gospel according to John immediately follows John the Baptist's testimony about Jesus and his identification of Jesus as the Lamb of God. Having been baptized by John, Jesus begins to gather followers. The first followers sought out Jesus because of the testimony and witness of John the Baptist. We are familiar with the title that John the Baptist uses for Jesus—the Lamb of God. We hear it weekly at the fraction rite during Mass. For those who heard John the Baptist, however, this title recalled key themes from the Old Testament. It alludes to the paschal lamb offered as a sacrifice when God freed the Israelites from slavery in Egypt, the event that is commemorated by the Jewish Passover celebration. The designation also recalls the prophet Isaiah's description of the suffering servant of Israel. In using this name for Jesus, John the Baptist predicts Jesus' passion and death and the new interpretation of Passover that will begin with Jesus' Last Supper.

We learn in today's reading how Jesus' first followers were gathered. The first two, Andrew and another man, were followers of John the Baptist. After hearing John's testimony, they became followers of Jesus. During their time with Jesus, the details of which are not specified, Andrew and the other follower came to believe that Jesus was the Messiah. Andrew then brings his brother, Simon, to Jesus. Immediately, Jesus gave Simon a new name, calling him *Peter*, which means "rock" in Greek. The renaming of Simon to Peter is reported in all four of the Gospels.

In the exchange between Andrew, the other disciple, and Jesus, we see an example of the usual pattern for first-century Jewish rabbinical schools. Jews sought out rabbis and established themselves as disciples of a particular rabbi. Jesus appears to have been unique in that he sought out individuals, inviting them to be his followers. In the passage that follows, John's Gospel tells us how Jesus took the initiative in calling Philip and Nathanael. Jesus asks Andrew and the other disciple, "What are you looking for?" This is a telling question, and one that we might often ask ourselves. John the Baptist testified to Jesus' identity, the Lamb of God, using the framework of the Old Testament. Andrew, Simon, and the other first disciples were looking for the Messiah, whom they also came to know as the Son of God. What do we look for and what do we find in Jesus?

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.

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.



Please pray for the soul of
Mary Romano
May God grant her family comfort.

Online Giving – As we begin a new year, did you know that you can set up your church donations for the coming year using our online donation site? We currently have 41 parishioners who contribute in this manner and another 12 that use their local bank (bill pay) to send their donations in.

Online you can select our weekly collection as well as building & maintenance (available for either weekly or monthly donations). All the diocesan collections are listed as well for you to decide if and when you would like to donate. Once set up, you can have peace of mind that you don't have to remember a checkbook or envelope while in church. You can always change or stop a payment at any time. If you haven't tried it out yet, log on to our website (listed on the front of this bulletin) and from there follow the easy prompts to see what it's all about. No commitment is necessary while you navigate through the site. Consider if this might be an option for you. If you have questions, please call the office during regular office hours or call the number listed on the site to get help. Thank you.

St. Anthony of Padua Church

PRIZE-A-DAY CASH CALENDAR

A Fun Fundraiser to help defray our heating and A/C costs.

FEBRUARY 2024

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---|--------------------|
| | | | | 1 \$30 | 2 \$50 | 3 \$75 |
| 4 \$75 | 5 \$30 | 6 \$50 | 7 \$30 | 8 \$50 | 9 \$30 | 10 \$100 |
| 11 \$100 | 12 \$30 | 13 \$50 | 14 \$30 | 15 \$50 | 16 \$30 | 17 \$75 |
| 18 \$100 | 19 \$30 | 20 \$50 | 21 \$30 | 22 \$50 | 23 \$30 | 24 \$100 |
| 25 \$75 | 26 \$50 | 27 \$50 | 28 \$100 | 29 \$150 | \$20/CALENDAR with 29 days = 29 chances to win (less than \$1/day!) | |

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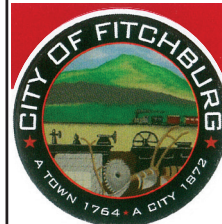
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*St. Anthony
Pray for Us*

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Anthony J. Mercadante, C.P.A.

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"Do Unto Others..."

Luke 6:31

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