

Happy Easter



Saint Anthony of Padua

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

Pastoral Staff

Fr. Juan Ramirez, Pastor
frjuan@stanthonyfitchburg.net

Deacon Mark Carrier

Deacon Salvatore Tantillo

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

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, April 15th

Vigil: Sunday of Divine Mercy

4:00 PM Joe Marabello & Lawrence Badagliacca
by the Marabello & Badagliacca Families

Sunday, April 16th

Sunday of Divine Mercy

8:00 AM Molly & Rose DiConza

by Bonnie Guertin

Paula Gaudet (3rd Anniversary)

by her husband Bob

10:30 AM Kevin Wilson (20th Anniversary)

by Sue Wilson-Marro & Family

Raymond & Mary Descoteaux

by their Family

11:45 AM BAPTISM: Zola Alexandra Whittle

12:30 PM Parishioners

Monday, April 17th

8:00 AM Dr. Mark Rollo

by his Family

Tuesday, April 18th

8:00 AM Frank Catalfamo

by Louise DiPalma

10:00 AM Funeral – Chris Bellabarba

7:00 PM St. Anthony Novena – Fr. Juan Ramirez

Wednesday, April 19th

8:00 AM Sr. Giannina Saura, MPV

by a former student

Thursday, April 20th

8:00 AM James G. DiConza (15th Anniversary)

by his daughter Suzanne & son-in law Jared

Friday, April 21st

St. Anselm, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

8:00 AM NO MASS

Saturday, April 22nd

Vigil: Third Sunday of Easter

4:00 PM Donald Cormier (78th Birthday)

by his Lorraine & children Patrick & Jennifer

Emanuel & Louise Pagnotta

by their daughters

Sunday, April 23rd

Third Sunday of Easter

8:00 AM Open Intention

by

10:30 AM Joseph Altieri, III (Birthday)

by his sister Jo-Ann Altieri

11:45 AM BAPTISM: Lydia Deneen Herget

12:30 PM Parishioners



St. Anthony Candle Intention:

IMO Chris Bellabarba

by a friend

April 15 - 16, 2023

Divine Mercy Sunday

"Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.'" (John 20:19) Are you good at making people feel welcome? When you meet someone new, like a new neighbor, a new work colleague or a new parishioner, do you make them feel at home? When we make people feel welcome, we make them feel like they are included instead of being excluded. We are made for relationships – with God and each other. When you see yourself as a beloved son or daughter of God, you tend to see others the same way, too – just as God, Our Father, sees us.

READ AND PREPARE

Next Week's Scripture readings

First Reading Acts 2:14, 22-23

Second Reading 1 Peter 1:17-21

Gospel Luke 24:13-35

PARISH CALENDAR, NEWS EVENTS

In observance of Patriot's Day, the church office will be closed on Monday.

LAST CALL FOR RICE BOWLS! – If you took a Rice Bowl home, please return it this week. All money collected goes to the Catholic Relief Services (CRS). Do NOT put the "bowls" in the collection basket, please bring them to the sacristy or to the office. If you are writing a check, please place it in a marked envelope. Thank you!

ST. ANTHONY NOVENA BEGINS TUESDAY, APRIL 18

All novena nights begin at 7pm on Tuesday evenings here at St. Anthony Church. Novena prayers, sermon, and Benediction with veneration of the relic of St. Anthony of Padua. Spread the word! Come and bring a friend. List of preachers is as follows:

April 18	Fr. Juan Ramirez St. Anthony Parish, Fitchburg
April 25	Fr. Julio Granados St. John's Clinton
May 2	Fr. Cleber DiPaula Holy Family, Worcester
May 9	Fr. Richard Lewandowski Retired
May 16	Fr. Daniel Mulcahy St. Brigid, Millbury
May 23	Fr. Javier Julio St. Louis, Webster
May 30	Fr. Enoch Kyeremateng Chaplain, African Ministry
June 15	Deacon Salvatore Tantillo St. Anthony Parish, Fitchburg
June 13	St. Anthony Mass



Please pray for the eternal rest of
Chris Bellabarba
May God grant her family comfort.

Dear Friends,

The Gospels tell us that Jesus appeared to the disciples on several occasions after they discovered that his tomb was empty. Part of the mystery of Jesus' Resurrection is that he appeared to his disciples not as a spirit but in bodily form. The bodily form was not one that the disciples recognized though. In John's Gospel, Mary of Magdala does not recognize that the figure standing before her is Jesus until he speaks to her. In Luke's Gospel the disciples who meet Jesus on the road to Emmaus do not recognize him until he breaks bread with them. The resurrected Jesus had a physical presence, but the disciples couldn't recognize Jesus unless he allowed them to. His resurrected body, nonetheless, showed the marks of his crucifixion.

From readings such as today's Gospel, we also see that in his resurrected body, Jesus seems to be free of physical constraints. He appears to the disciples despite the fact that the doors were locked.

Jesus greets his disciples with the gift of peace and the gift of the Holy Spirit. In doing so, Jesus commissions his disciples to continue the work that he has begun: "As the Father has sent me, so I send you." During the meeting, Jesus also shows the integral connection between forgiveness of sins and the gift of the Holy Spirit.

The story of Thomas illustrates our Christian experience today: We are called to believe without seeing. In fact, all Christians after the first witnesses have been called to believe without seeing. Thomas's doubt is hardly surprising; the news of Jesus' appearance was incredible to the disciples who had seen him crucified and buried. Thomas's human nature compelled him to want hard evidence that the Jesus who appeared to the disciples after his death was indeed the same Jesus who had been crucified. Thomas is given the opportunity to act on that desire. He is our witness that Jesus is really risen.

Our faith is based on the witness of the Church that has preceded us, beginning with Thomas and the first disciples. Through Baptism we receive the same Holy Spirit that Jesus brought to the first disciples. We are among those who are "blessed" because we believe without having seen.

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. **Even one or two items a month makes a huge difference to the people the pantry serves.** The collection bin is

located at the entrance of the church. The Food Pantry is open every week to the public so there is always much needed.

Mark your calendars for the return of St. Anthony Fair/Festa

Saturday, June 10th from 11AM – 6 PM. If you can help in any way, sign up sheets will be available after Mass, or you can contact Fr. Juan directly – email or phone. Please help us to make this a successful community event!

Partners in Charity in Pew Collection will take place NEXT weekend. If you received a letter from Fr. Juan, please mail your donation directly to Worcester in the envelope provided. Or bring it with you to Mass. If you did not receive a letter, please prayerfully consider contributing to this annual appeal in any amount and come prepared next weekend. Donation envelopes will be in the pews. You can even make your gift from a Smartphone by texting DONATE to 84576! We receive a list from the Diocese weekly of all who have donated.

As you may know, this appeal is a lifeline for more than two dozen agencies and ministries which provide charitable, pastoral and educational services that complement what we can provide at the parish level. There is the compassionate outreach of Catholic Charities, prayerful witness of our retired priests and the joy of new priestly vocations; and the many diocesan ministries and programs that heal, teach and care for others.

If you have already made a gift to the 2023 appeal, we thank you!



TO OUR OLDEST PARISHIONER!

Bernard DiNatale will be 105 on April 24, 2023! Please join us in wishing him a Happy Birthday. Bernard, may you feel the Lord's loving presence every day! God Bless You!

If you'd like to send Bernard a card or note you can send it C/o Life Care Center, 370 West Street, Leominster, MA 01453



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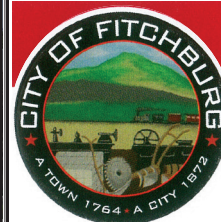
If you are a Catholic man interested in
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check us out!

Please contact Dave Poles at davidpoles137@
yahoo.com or call at 617-981-1186.

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St. Anthony of Padua Parish
Celebrating Our
115th Anniversary
April 26, 1908 – April 26, 2023



Stephen L. DiNatale
Mayor

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"Do Unto Others..."

Luke 6:31

"Praying Simply"
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

Matthew 6:10

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