



# 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  
[frjuan@stanthonyfitchburg.net](mailto:frjuan@stanthonyfitchburg.net)

## Deacon Salvatore Tantillo

[Saltantillo1@gmail.com](mailto:Saltantillo1@gmail.com)  
978-870-4167

## 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 9-1  
(closed Thursday & Friday)

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

**Louie Bellabarba**, Custodian

## 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 14<sup>th</sup>

**Vigil: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

4:00 PM Pat DiNardo  
by his Family  
Connie & Harry Piccolomini  
by their Family

Sunday, January 15<sup>th</sup>

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:00 AM Rev. Raphael A. Posco (Anniversary)  
by Marty & Amy Walsh  
Jessica McLaughlin  
by Rossi & Jose  
10:30 AM Sandra Cote  
by Lorraine Cormier  
Angelo Femino  
by his wife Anna & Family  
12:30 PM All Parishioners

Monday, January 16<sup>th</sup>

*Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday*

8:00 AM NO MASS  
Fr. Juan Away

Tuesday, January 17<sup>th</sup>

*St. Anthony, Abbott*

8:00 AM NO MASS  
Fr. Juan Away

Wednesday, January 18<sup>th</sup>

8:00 AM NO MASS  
Fr. Juan Away

Thursday, January 19<sup>th</sup>

8:00 AM NO MASS  
Fr. Juan Away

Friday, January 20<sup>th</sup>

*St. Fabian, Pope & Martyr; St. Sebastian, Martyr*

8:00 AM NO MASS

Saturday, January 21<sup>st</sup>

**Vigil: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

4:00 PM Joseph M. & Rose G. Secino  
by the Ernest Secino Trust  
Grace (2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary) & Mario Zarrella  
by their Family

Sunday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>

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

8:00 AM In Thanksgiving  
by the Nogueira Family  
10:30 AM Jessica McLaughlin  
by Rossi & Jose  
11:45 AM BAPTISM: Aila Rose Doyle  
12:30 PM Parishioners



**St. Anthony Candle Intention:**  
IMO Gary Sicard  
by his wife Kathy

# January 14 - 15, 2023

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

**"Now the Lord has spoken who formed me as his servant from the womb..."** (Isaiah 49:5) God have given each of us different gifts. In order for God's plan to work, you have to do what God is calling you to do and I have to do what God is calling me to do. And guess what? God has given each of us a different plan! So, stop comparing yourself to others. Don't let envy and jealousy enter your life. Be thankful for the gifts God has given you and become the saint that God is calling you to be.

**READ AND PREPARE**

**Next Week's Scripture readings**

First Reading Isaiah 8:23-9, 3  
Second Reading 1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17  
Gospel Matthew 4:12-23

## PARISH CALENDAR, NEWS EVENTS

**\*\*Father Juan is away on vacation from Monday, January 2<sup>nd</sup> through Thursday, January 19<sup>th</sup>.** 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. The office will be open for regularly scheduled hours.

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

Help us with our heating bill by purchasing a \$20 Prize-a-Day Calendar and for less than \$1 a day you get 28 chances to win a cash prize including \$25, \$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 like most parishes. Please help us with this fun way to raise money to defray our heating costs.

The calendars are here! If there are none in the pews, please check the entrances of the church. Please consider taking one home. Ask your friends, relatives, neighbors, and if you work, please, your co-workers!

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. You will be helping us greatly!



Please pray for the soul of  
**Patricia (Pat) DiConza**  
May God grant her family comfort.

Dear Friends,

This Sunday we break from our reading of Matthew's Gospel (the primary Gospel for our current liturgical cycle, Cycle A) to read from John's Gospel. We heard Matthew's account of Jesus' baptism last Sunday, on the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. Today, we hear John the Baptist's testimony about Jesus as found in John's Gospel. John's Gospel differs from the other Gospels because John does not describe Jesus' baptism by John the Baptist. Instead, John the Baptist announces that he knows that Jesus is the Son of God.

In today's reading, John the Baptist sees Jesus approaching and cries out, giving witness about who Jesus is. In John's testimony he says that he saw the Spirit descend upon Jesus. By this sign, John the Baptist knew that Jesus was the one who is to come after him.

John the Baptist uses two titles for Jesus that are familiar to us. John calls Jesus the "Lamb of God" and the "Son of God." By using these titles, John the Baptist identifies Jesus' ultimate purpose: to redeem sinful humanity.

John the Baptist's testimony about Jesus clearly distinguishes John's baptism from the Baptism that Jesus will inaugurate. John baptizes with water; Jesus will baptize with the Holy Spirit. John also puts his practice of baptism in the context of Jesus' ministry. The purpose of John's baptism was to make Jesus known to Israel.

John the Baptist's sense of purpose is clearly identified in this reading: he baptized in order to prepare for and make known the ministry of the One who was to follow. John's witness is an excellent example of what it means to be a disciple. By our Baptism, we are called to make Jesus known to all the world by our words and by the witness of our lives.

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.

**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!

**Pro-Life Mass** - All are invited to attend the annual Mass for Life on **Thursday, Jan. 19 at 7:30 p.m.** at the Cathedral of St. Paul, 38 High St., Worcester. Fr. Richard Reidy will be the celebrant. Please join us to pray for and with our pilgrims who will be travelling to Washington, DC for the annual March for Life on Jan. 20, and to pray for an end to abortion and the conversion of our nation. All are welcome!

**Join the National Novena for Life!** - Join thousands of Catholics nationwide in the annual Respect Life novena, *9 Days for Life*, **Thursday, Jan. 19 – Friday, Jan. 27**. Get daily intentions, brief reflections, and more. Sign up at [www.9daysforlife.com](http://www.9daysforlife.com)!

**WANTED: Director of Digital Marketing & Communications**

Massachusetts Citizens for Life (MCFL) is looking for a Director of Digital Marketing & Communications. Reporting to the President, this part-time and remote role (20 hours/week during regular business hours) serves as a key member of MCFL's leadership team. Details and application instructions at [masscitizensforlife.org/employment](http://masscitizensforlife.org/employment).

**Men's Conference Kick-Off Breakfast** - The Worcester Diocesan Catholic Men's Conference will be holding a Kickoff Breakfast on **Saturday, January 28** at Christ the King Church, 1052 Pleasant St. Worcester, beginning with a Mass celebrated by Bishop McManus at 8:00 AM. Breakfast and a very brief overview of the 2023 Men's Conference will follow. All current Parish Contacts, or anyone who would like to volunteer as a Parish Contact this year, are encouraged to attend. Pre-registration is required. Please RSVP by email: [tjarvis1618@gmail.com](mailto:tjarvis1618@gmail.com)



**Tax Contribution Statements** will be sent out beginning January 23<sup>rd</sup> 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.



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Celebrating Our  
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**"Do Unto Others..."**  
Luke 6:31

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**"Praying Simply"**  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Matthew 6:10



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