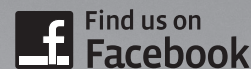


Saint Anthony of Padua

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



We can be found at "Saint Anthony Parish Fitchburg"
 or through our website.

Pastoral Staff

Fr. Juan Ramirez, Pastor
frijuan@stanthonyfitchburg.net

Deacon Salvatore Tantillo

Saltantillo1@gmail.com
 978-870-4167

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 28th

Vigil: 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 PM Gary Sicard
by his Family
Kathryn Hawkins (1st Anniversary)
by her husband & Family

Sunday, January 29th

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM Domenica (Buratti) Perla (5th Anniversary)
by her Family
10:30 AM Jessica McLaughlin
by Rossi & Jose
Sr. Janet Badagliacca &
Nancy Ray
by the Badagliacca & Marabello Families
12:30 PM All Parishioners

Monday, January 30th

8:00 AM Ellen Gifford
by her daughter Anne

Tuesday, January 31st

St. John Bosco, Priest
8:00 AM Open Intention
by

Wednesday, February 1st

8:00 AM Open Intention
by

Thursday, February 2nd

The Presentation of the Lord
8:00 AM Open Intention
by

Friday, February 3rd

St. Blaise, Bishop & Martyr; St. Ansgar, Bishop
8:00 AM NO MASS

Saturday, February 4th

Vigil: 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 PM Andrea Vacca-Brown (3rd Anniversary)
by her Family
Anne Zarrella
by Ed & Sue Cronin

Sunday, February 5th

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM Elaine Celona
by her husband Frank
10:30 AM John & Jack Jerszyk
by their family
Florence Zarrella
by her son Dominic
12:30 PM Parishioners



St. Anthony Candle Intention:

January 28 - 29, 2023

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."
(MATTHEW 5:3) The phrase "poor in spirit" can be confusing. Think of it in this sense – poor in spirit means depending on God's providence and not depending on our own self-reliance. Being detached from earthly things (power, money, and comfort) and being attached to heavenly things (charity, sacrifice, and mercy). Denying ourselves from satisfying our desires and helping others obtain their basic needs.

READ AND PREPARE

Next Week's Scripture readings

First Reading Isaiah 58:7-10
Second Reading 1 Corinthians 2:1-5
Gospel Matthew 5:13-16

PARISH CALENDAR, NEWS EVENTS

February Prize-a-Day Cash Calendar

Last chance to purchase your Calendar!
Afraid your ticket won't arrive in the mail on time? We have a secure mailbox to the left of the office door. Please feel free to use that for your return ticket(s).
If you need a calendar, please call the office on Monday morning and we will be happy to fill out a ticket over the phone for you.
This week only, the first drawing will take place on **Wednesday, February 1st**. Wednesday through Sunday names will be drawn. Winners will be listed in the bulletin.
Every Monday after this, the winners will be drawn for that week. Take a chance to win a cash prize and help us defray the cost of our heating bill at the same time!

Good luck to the 178 entries received as of this past Tuesday!
Thank you to all of you!

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FEBRUARY IS CATHOLIC PRESS MONTH

If your renewal is not received by the end of February, your name will be removed from the subscriber list.



Newly Baptized

Aila Rose Doyle

was welcomed into our Christian community through baptism.
May she, along with her parents, grow in faith,
love and service to Jesus Christ.

Dear Friends,

Today's reading is the beginning of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, which is found in Matthew's Gospel.

The form of the Beatitudes found here is not unique to Jesus. Beatitudes are found in the Old Testament, in the psalms, and in wisdom literature, for example. They are a way to teach about who will find favor with God.

We quickly note in this reading that the people whom Jesus calls "blessed" and "happy" are not people we think of as blessed or happy . . . the poor in spirit, the meek, the persecuted.

This Gospel is one of the reversals. Jesus' blueprint for happiness reflects little of what the world might call happiness.

"Blessed" is sometimes translated as *happy, fortunate, or favored*. In other words, Jesus is saying that divine favor is upon those who are poor, those who mourn, and those who are persecuted. This news might have been welcome—and surprising—to the crowds who heard Jesus that day.

The Beatitudes can be understood as a framework for Christian living. Our vocation as Christians is not to be first in this world, but rather to be first in the eyes of God. By referring to the good things that the faithful will experience, Matthew reminds us that those who act in the manner described in the Beatitudes will find their reward with God.

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!



Tax Contribution Statements have been mailed out to all who requested them thus far. If you would like one, please don't forget to call or email the office.

If you contributed to Partners in Charity or Legacy of Hope, those statements are being sent directly from the Diocese. If you do not receive one, please contact them directly at 508-929-4366.

Pro-Life Reflections in Leominster - Msgr. James P. Moroney will present a reflection on Proclaiming the Gospel of Life in a Post-Roe World, **Saturday, February 4, 10 am-noon** at St. Cecilia Parish, 180 Mechanic St., Leominster. It will be followed by an hour of adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in intercession for all life from birth to natural death.

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.

22nd Annual Catholic Men's Conference - Come and join us on **Saturday, March 25** at Assumption University, Worcester. For information check the new website: catholicmenworc.com. Looking forward to seeing you in person this year!

Why Catholics Believe in the True Presence of Christ in the Eucharist - (and why it's not such a crazy idea)

Join Annunciation Parish on Wednesday, **February 1st at 6:30 pm** for a presentation by Fr. Stephen Lundrigan on the biblical, historical and practical foundation of our belief in the True Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. We will be meeting in the Great Room in the Parish Center on the Holy Rosary Campus. The Parish Center is located at 142 Regan St. in Gardner. Parking is available behind Holy Rosary Church.

Amplify – Diocesan High School Youth Night in Fitchburg - Mark your calendars for the next Amplify night which will take place on **Saturday, February 11** at St. Bernard Parish at St. Camillus Church in Fitchburg! All high school youth are invited to join us for pizza, a trivia night (with prizes!), followed by some time of Eucharistic Adoration and confession! We will begin around 5:15 pm following the parish's 4:15 pm vigil Mass and conclude at 8 pm. **There is NO COST to attend.** However, to give us an estimated headcount for food, please sign up (group sign-up or individual) using the following link: neworchester.org/amplify-2-11 **Please sign up by February 9.**



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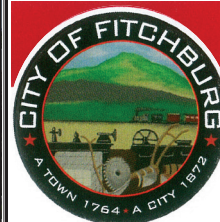
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"Do Unto Others..."

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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