



# 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

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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, January 7<sup>th</sup>

**Vigil: Epiphany of the Lord**

4:00 PM **Salvatore Greco & Family**  
by Mary Altieri & Family  
**Joseph Altieri, Jr., & Family**  
by Mary Altieri & Family

Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup>

**Epiphany of the Lord**

8:00 AM **Michael Seretto**  
by his mother Helen

10:30 AM **Dominica (Buratti) Perla (4<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)**  
by her Family  
**Angelo Femino**  
by his wife Anna & Family

12:30 PM **All Parishioners**

Monday, January 9<sup>th</sup>

*The Baptism of the Lord*

8:00 AM **NO MASS**  
Fr. Juan Away

Tuesday, January 10<sup>th</sup>

8:00 AM **NO MASS**  
Fr. Juan Away

Wednesday, January 11<sup>th</sup>

8:00 AM **NO MASS**  
Fr. Juan Away

Thursday, January 12<sup>th</sup>

*St. Marguerite Bourgeoys*

8:00 AM **NO MASS**  
Fr. Juan Away

Friday, January 13<sup>th</sup>

*St. Hillary, Bishop & Doctor of the Church*

8:00 AM **NO MASS**

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 **Parishioners**



**St. Anthony Candle Intention:**  
**IMO Peter Michaelian**  
by his wife MaryAnn

# January 7 - 8, 2023

## Epiphany of the Lord

*"Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh."* (Matthew 2:11) The image of the Magi kneeling before the infant Jesus and opening their treasure chests for Him is an image that we should all try to follow each day. In gratitude for all that we have been given, we are called to generously share all of our gifts, not just the ones we pick and choose. God wants us to be generous with everything, but especially that one thing that means the most to you.

READ AND PREPARE

Next Week's Scripture readings

First Reading Isaiah 49:3, 5-6  
Second Reading 1 Corinthians 1:1-3  
Gospel John 1:29-34

## PARISH CALENDAR, NEWS EVENTS

**Statement from Bishop McManus on the death of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI December 31, 2022**

"The universal Church is profoundly saddened at the death of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, whose pontificate was an extraordinary gift to the Church and to the world. Ever the brilliant theologian and teacher, the late Pope Emeritus guided the Church through the rough seas of doubt, confusion and challenging ideologies, always presenting the tenets of our Catholic faith with wisdom and genuine pastoral concern. It is that same Catholic faith in the resurrection of Christ from the dead that gave our deceased Pope Emeritus and that gives us as well our only hope of future glory in heaven. I encourage all Catholics and all people of good will to pray for Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI in the coming days that he may be welcomed home to the new and eternal Jerusalem by the Risen Lord whom he loved and served so well. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen."

**\*\*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 ready! 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!

Dear Friends,

The visit of the Magi occurs directly before the story of the Holy Family's flight into Egypt. Matthew's Gospel tells a version of Jesus' birth that is different from the one in Luke. Of the actual birth of Jesus, Matthew tells us little more than, "When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod . . . " The story of the census is found only in Luke's Gospel, but we hear about the visit of the Magi only in Matthew's Gospel.

We know little about the Magi. They come from the East and journey to Bethlehem, following an astrological sign, so we believe them to be astrologers. We assume that there were three Magi based on the naming of their three gifts. The Gospel does not say how many Magi paid homage to Jesus. In Matthew's Gospel, they represent the Gentiles' search for a savior. Because the Magi represent the entire world, they also represent our search for Jesus.

We have come to consider the gifts they bring as a foreshadowing of Jesus' role in salvation. We believe the meaning of the gifts to be Christological. Gold is presented as representative of Jesus' kingship. Frankincense is a symbol of his divinity because priests burned the substance in the Temple. Myrrh, which was used to prepare the dead for burial, is offered in anticipation of Jesus' death.

The word Epiphany means "manifestation" or "showing forth." Historically several moments in Christ's early life and ministry have been celebrated as "epiphanies," including his birth in Bethlehem, the visit of the Magi, his baptism by John, and his first miracle at Cana.

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.

**Reflecting on My Experience at the Border** - Presentation Sister Yliana Hernandez, will share her experience of working with the Kino Border Initiative in Nogales, Sonora, Mexico, where she served from October 11 to November 11, 2022.

Sister was part of the first official cohort for the Catholic Sisters Walking with Migrants program. Come hear her tell of her experiences on **Saturday, January 14 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at Presentation Convent**, 99 Church Street, Leominster, Massachusetts. There is no charge to attend this event, but we request that you RSVP to 978-537-7108 or [presentationconvent99@yahoo.com](mailto:presentationconvent99@yahoo.com).

**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 Morning of Reflection** - All are invited to attend a Pro-Life Morning of Reflection and Enrichment on **Saturday, Jan. 14 from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm.** at the Cathedral of St. Paul, 38 High St., Worcester. The theme of the day is "The Holy Eucharist: Source of LIFE and LOVE" and will include presentations by Msgr. James Moroney on "This Holy and Living Sacrifice: Joining Our Lives to Christ", and Allison LeDoux on "Eucharist as Wellspring of the Pro-Life Mission". The day will include Mass and light lunch. There is no cost to attend but pre-registration is required. To register, send your name, parish, and email address to [aledoux@worcesterdiocese.org](mailto:aledoux@worcesterdiocese.org), or contact the Respect Life Office at 508-929-4311.

**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)!



Please pray for the soul of  
**Frank Catalfamo**  
May God grant his family comfort.



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St. Anthony of Padua Parish  
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**113<sup>th</sup>** Anniversary  
April 26, 1908 — April 26, 2021

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**St. Anthony  
Pray for Us**

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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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