



# Saint Anthony of Padua

84 Salem Street • Fitchburg, Massachusetts  
[www.stanthonyfitchburg.net](http://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](mailto:frijuan@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 9-3  
*(closed Thursday & Friday)*

## Vicky Zarrella, Office Manager

[church.office@stanthonyfitchburg.net](mailto:church.office@stanthonyfitchburg.net)

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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, March 25<sup>th</sup>

**Vigil: Fifth Sunday of Lent**

4:00 PM Mike Orlando  
by a Friend  
(MASS IN CHURCH HALL)

Sunday, March 26<sup>th</sup>

**Fifth Sunday of Lent**

8:00 AM The Gawlik Family as they go through  
many difficulties  
by Salwek Gawlick  
(MASS IN CHURCH HALL)

10:30 AM Mary & John Manning  
by their Family  
Oreste & Carmela Guglielmi & Their Family  
by Mary Morizzo  
(MASS IN CHURCH HALL)

12:30 PM Parishioners  
(MASS IN CHURCH HALL)

Monday, March 27<sup>th</sup>

8:00 AM Open Intention  
by  
(MASS IN CHURCH HALL)

Tuesday, March 28<sup>th</sup>

8:00 AM Frank Catalfamo  
by Anthony & Joan Catalfamo  
(MASS IN CHURCH HALL)

Wednesday, March 29<sup>th</sup>

8:00 AM Sr. Vincent Rinaldi, MPV  
by a Former Student  
(MASS IN CHURCH HALL)

Thursday, March 30<sup>th</sup>

8:00 AM Pat Pietila  
by Joan Horgan  
(MASS IN CHURCH HALL)

Friday, March 31<sup>st</sup>

8:00 AM NO MASS

Saturday, April 1<sup>st</sup>

**Vigil: Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord**

4:00 PM David Altieri (Month's Mind)  
by his loving Family

Sunday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord**

8:00 AM Anne Zarrella  
by her Family

10:30 AM Peter A. Gravelle  
by Tim & Kayla Raheb  
Joe & Rita Morizzo  
by Mary, Elena & Willy

12:30 PM Parishioners

# March 25 - 26, 2023

## Fifth Sunday of Lent

**"Jesus said to her, 'Did I not tell you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?'" (JOHN 11:40)** Many of us say that we believe in God. We attend Sunday Mass and participate in parish events. But when life gets hard and the pressure is on, when things aren't going our way, do we really believe? Do we really put our trust in the Lord? When we live a life of gratitude, recognizing all that we have been given, we really do see that God is providing for our needs. Living a grateful and generous life allows us to see God's active presence in our daily lives and we become "partakers of the divine nature."

READ AND PREPARE

**Next Week's Scripture readings**

First Reading Acts 10:34a, 37-43  
Second Reading Colossians 3:1-4  
Gospel John 20:1-9

## PARISH CALENDAR, NEWS EVENTS

**ATTENTION:** ALL Masses will return to the church beginning on Saturday & Sunday, April 1-2 just in time for Palm Sunday!

Please let your friends and fellow parishioners know that we will be happy to have them join us again upstairs!

**Rice Bowls** – If you took a Rice Bowl home, please remember to return it Palm Sunday weekend. All money collected goes to the Catholic Relief Services (CRS). If you didn't take one, please consider giving to the diocesan Catholic Relief Collection today. Remember that a little goes a very long way to the poorest of the poor to insure their dignity.



**St. Anthony & Friends Choir Presents a Lenten Concert**

Tuesday, April 4 @ 7:00 pm in the church.

What a peaceful way to finish Lent and start Holy Week.

Light refreshments in the church hall to follow. No charge.

**Simple Supper** – All are invited to attend a Simple Supper here in the church hall, **Wednesday, April 5<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM**. The meal will consist of clam & corn chowder, salad & roll. There is no cost, but donations are gladly accepted.

<b>Holy Thursday</b>	Mass of the Lord's Supper	7:00 PM
<b>Good Friday</b>	Passion of the Lord	7:00 PM
<b>Holy Saturday</b>	Easter Vigil	7:00 PM
<b>Easter Sunday</b>	Resurrection of the Lord	10:30 AM



**St. Anthony Candle Intention:**

Dear Friends,

The context for the story of the raising of Lazarus is the Jewish leaders' growing animosity toward Jesus. Jesus has been in Jerusalem, taking part in the feast of the Dedication, which we have come to know as Hanukkah. The people have been pressing him to declare plainly whether he is the Messiah. Jesus tells them to look to his works, which testify to his coming from God. Many do not believe Jesus, however, and some try to stone him for blasphemy.

Into this scene of confrontation, Mary and Martha, the sisters of Lazarus, send word to Jesus that his friend is ill. Jesus is said to love Mary, Martha, and Lazarus, but he delays his journey for two days. The delay heightens the drama and shows Jesus' obedience to God, who is to be glorified through Lazarus's resurrection. When Jesus finally declares that he will journey to Bethany, his disciples fear for his life. Thomas declares that he and the other disciples should prepare to die with Jesus.

The scene described at Bethany is a sad one. Martha meets Jesus weeping and saying that if Jesus had been there, Lazarus would not have died. Yet she remains confident that God will do whatever Jesus asks. Martha affirms her belief that there will be a resurrection of the dead in the last days. Then Martha's sister, Mary, comes to Jesus with the same confidence, saying that Jesus could have cured Lazarus. Jesus asks to be brought to Lazarus's tomb where he prays and calls Lazarus out from the tomb. At this sign, many come to believe in Jesus, but others take the word of the miracle to the Jewish authorities, who begin their plans for Jesus' death.

Set against the backdrop of Jesus' impending death, many elements of the raising of Lazarus foreshadow the good news of Jesus' own Resurrection. Jesus, facing the conflict with the Jewish authorities, acts in complete obedience to God. In raising Lazarus, Jesus shows his power over death so that when Jesus dies, those who believe in him might remember that and take hope. Just as Jesus calls for the stone to be rolled away from Lazarus's tomb, so too will the disciples find the stone rolled away from Jesus' tomb.

The Gospel today calls us to reflect on Baptism as a dying and rising with Jesus. In Baptism we die to sin's power over us, rising as children of God. In Baptism, we join ourselves with Christ, who conquered death once and for all so that we who believe in him may have eternal life. With Martha and Mary, we are called to profess our belief that Jesus is indeed the Resurrection and the life.

Blessings,  
*Fr. Juan*

**Fish Fry in Fitchburg** - St. Joseph Parish at Madonna of the Holy Rosary Church, 118 Theresa St., will hold a Fish Fry weekly, **Fridays of Lent (Feb. 24- March 31) starting at 4:30 pm**, eat-in or take-out Dinner/\$12 and chowder or mac & cheese is \$5.

**Fish Fry in Gardner** - A Traditional Fish Fry will be held weekly on **Fridays from 5-7 pm at Holy Spirit in the Hall**. Eat in or take out. Meals will be \$12.50 for adults and \$ 6 for kids. Menu includes baked or fried fish, baked potato or French fries, clam chowder, dessert and a drink.

**Special Lenten Service at Immaculate Heart of Mary**, Spruce Street, Winchendon on **Wednesday evening, March 29<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30pm**. We will have Mass, Rosary, Adoration and Confessions. All are welcome to please join us for this Lenten service.

**Opportunity for a Pilgrimage to the Holy Land** - Fr. Nelson Rivera & Deacon Patrick Stewart (St. Denis, Douglas) Fr. Juan Herrera (St. Edward the Confessor, Westminster) and Fr. Javier Julio (St. Louis, Webster) are planning a pilgrimage to Holy Land & Jordan **November 5-18, 2023**. Fr. Nelson and Deacon Patrick are planning an INFORMATIONAL MEETING at St. Denis in Douglas on **Sunday, Mar. 19 at 11:30 AM**. Come and find out more and meet some of the people who will be joining us.



**Italian Pastry for Easter!** – Patty Vacca Martin, along with the members of the Hospitality Committee are taking orders for assorted Italian cookies, pies & cannoli. Some of the coolie choices include anise, lemon, pistachio, mostaccioli (dark chocolate with walnuts); filled: fig, raspberry, apricot; almond biscotti. Cannoli, cream puffs & Zeppole. Pies: ricotta & ham. Pizza Rustica (Italian Easter Pizza) & Pizzagaina (Italian Easter meat with ricotta cheese) any size! Easter egg baskets, individual or multiple. The choices are dizzying! **Deadline to order is Thursday, March 30**. Don't be left out, call Patty at 978-407-9385 to discuss selections and place your order. You can also see some selections on her FB page. Thank you for your continued support. All proceeds go to St. Anthony Church!





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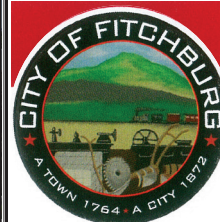
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Please contact Dave Poles at davidpoles137@  
yahoo.com or call at 617-981-1186.

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St. Anthony of Padua Parish  
Celebrating Our  
**115<sup>th</sup>** Anniversary  
April 26, 1908 – April 26, 2023



Stephen L. DiNatale  
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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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