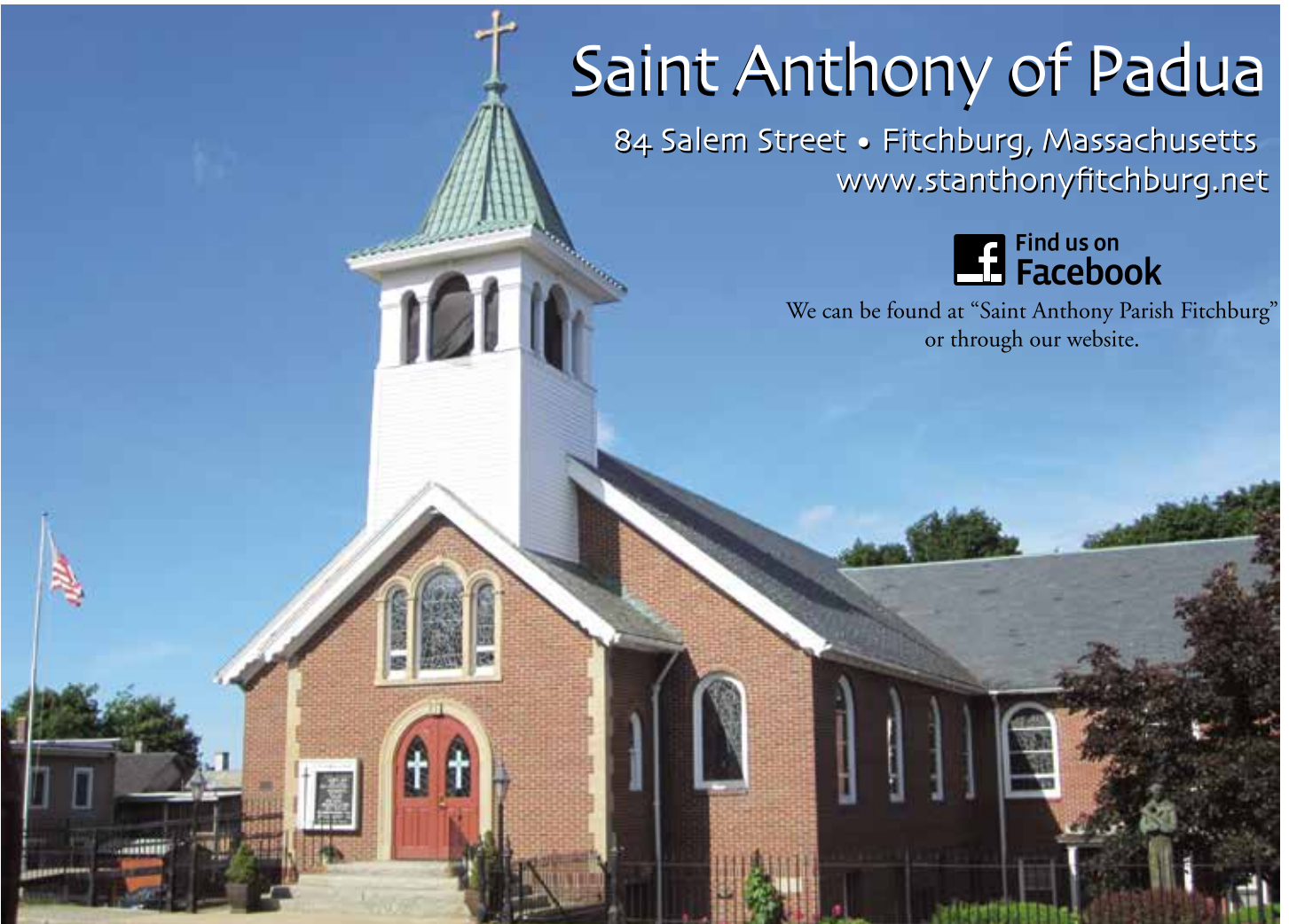


Saint Anthony of Padua

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
frjuan@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, March 4th

Vigil: Second Sunday of Lent

4:00 PM Craig Madigan
by MaryAnn Michaelian
MASS IN CHURCH HALL

Sunday, March 5th

Second Sunday of Lent

8:00 AM Marianne DiConza
by her daughter Suzanne & son-in-law Jared
(MASS IN CHURCH HALL)

10:30 AM In Thanksgiving to all past and current
Pastors & Associates of St. Anthony Parish
(MASS IN CHURCH HALL)

12:30 PM All Parishioners
(MASS IN CHURCH HALL)

Monday, March 6th

8:00 AM Rosina Amico
by her son Louis
(MASS IN CHURCH HALL)

Tuesday, March 7th

Saints Perpetua & Felicity, Martyrs

8:00 AM Frank Catalfamo
by Elena Valeri
(MASS IN CHURCH HALL)

Wednesday, March 8th

St. John of God, Religious

7:00 AM Open Intention
by
(MASS IN CHURCH HALL)

Thursday, March 9th

St. Frances of Rome, Religious

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

Friday, March 10th

8:00 AM NO MASS

Saturday, March 11th

Vigil: Third Sunday of Lent

4:00 PM Gillian Smith
by her parents
(MASS IN CHURCH HALL)

Sunday, March 12th

Third Sunday of Lent

8:00 AM Katy Downing – for health
by her friend Adriane McDonald
(MASS IN CHURCH HALL)

10:30 AM Michael Quinn
by his Children
(MASS IN CHURCH HALL)

12:30 PM Parishioners
(MASS IN CHURCH HALL)



St. Anthony Candle Intention:

We will not be accepting any intentions
until the church is back in full use.

March 4 - 5, 2023

Second Sunday of Lent

"Go forth from the land of your kinsfolk and from your father's house to a land that I will show you." (Genesis 12:1) God calls all of us to leave behind our old ways and to follow Him, placing our complete trust in Him. Some of the old ways that we struggle to leave behind might be materialism, selfishness and greed. Yet, God promises to show us a new land and a better way to live. Remember what St. Teresa of Calcutta said, "God does not call us to be successful, God calls us to be faithful."

READ AND PREPARE

Next Week's Scripture readings

First Reading Exodus 17:3-7
Second Reading Romans 5:1-2, 5-8
Gospel John 4:5-42

PARISH CALENDAR, NEWS EVENTS

The Hospitality Committee will meet on Monday, March 6th at 6:00 pm in the church hall. New members are always welcome!

Lenten News:

Due to the church painting, we will not be offering Stations of the Cross. Confessions will be heard every Saturday from 3-3:00 before the 4:00 Mass or anytime by appointment.

ATTENTION: Effective immediately, ALL Masses are now being held in the church hall until the painting is complete. Please tell friends or neighbors that may not have attended the last few weeks so that everyone is made aware. It is projected that the work will be complete before the end of March. Father will keep you updated on the progress.

The church hall has steps leading down into it and therefore is not handicapped accessible. We are sorry for any disruption this may cause you while painting is in progress.

ATTENTION! – As you now know, **you did not receive any February or March envelopes** due to our supplier's paper shortage. Please place your check/cash in a marked envelope. We are sorry for this inconvenience. Below is a list of the envelopes that would have been in your mail packet. We have been told that you should expect your April/May envelopes sometime after March 20th. Thank you for your understanding.

Last call for Catholic Free Press \$39

Remember that our subscriber list will be turned in to the Free Press this week. Please call the office immediately if you plan to resubscribe but have not sent in payment.

March Envelopes

4 Weekends
Building & Maintenance

Church in Latin America
Catholic Relief
Easter Flowers

March 5
March 26
March 26 or anytime in March

Dear Friends,

For the second Sunday of Lent, we move from Jesus' retreat to the desert to his Transfiguration. Each year on the first Sunday of Lent, our Gospel tells the story of Jesus' temptation in the desert. On the second Sunday of Lent each year, we hear the story of Jesus' Transfiguration.

The story of Jesus' Transfiguration is told in the three Synoptic Gospels: Matthew, Mark, and Luke. In each of those Gospels, the Transfiguration follows Jesus' first prediction of his death and his teaching about the costs of discipleship. Jesus' Transfiguration is a promise of Jesus' glory, his Resurrection.

On a mountain in today's reading, a voice affirms that Jesus is God's Son in words reminiscent of the voice at Jesus' baptism. In addition, the appearance of Moses and Elijah on the mountain connects this story with God's relationship with the people of Israel. Moses and Elijah represent the Law and the Prophets, respectively. Together with Jesus, they represent God's complete Word.

The Transfiguration occurs in the presence of just three of Jesus' disciples: Peter, James, and John. In Matthew's Gospel, those disciples are among the first whom Jesus calls. The three men are identified as an "inner circle" among Jesus' disciples when Jesus asks them to accompany him to the Garden of Gethsemane just before his arrest.

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.

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.

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.

ST BERNARD'S HIGH SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE will be held on **Saturday, March 11th from 10-12:00 noon.** If you are in the 8th grade or above, please plan to stop by to explore the many benefits of a Bernardian education! We are located at 45 Harvard St., Fitchburg. "Since 1920, St. Bernard's has prepared students to be life-long learners and leaders who embrace the world with courage, compassion, and a dedication to service." For more information, please call 978-342-3212

Chowder Fest in Leominster - Join us for our annual Chowder Fest on **Friday, March 10 from 5 - 7:30 pm at Our Lady of the Lake**, 1400 Main Street, Leominster. Menu includes Clam, Fish, or Corn Chowder, Macaroni & Cheese, corn bread, crackers, bread, water, soda, coffee, tea, and desserts. Tickets: Adults \$10, Children (6-12) \$5. Take out is available.

The Theology of Pope Francis - Fr. Thiago Ibiapina, the Associate Pastor of Annunciation Parish, has contributed to a collection of essays on the theology of Pope Francis, recently published in Brazil. On **Monday, March 13 at 6:30 pm**, the 10th anniversary of Pope Francis' election, Fr. Ibiapina will share reflections based on his article. This presentation will be held at Holy Rosary 135 Nichols St. in the church hall.

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!

February Prize-a-Day Cash Calendar

The last two lucky winners this week are:
February 27 Chester & Nancy Fantozzi \$25
February 28 Kristina Picariello \$150

Congratulations! You may pick up your prize money at the church office Monday - Wednesday 978-342-4706.

Thank you for your support of our Prize Calendar! We collected \$5,920 for 296 calendars sold! After the cash prizes were paid out, we realized \$4,420 in profit. Additionally, we received cash donations totaling \$1,625. We are blessed to have such a generous and committed community here. You truly care about your parish! Thank you so much for helping us to defray the rising cost of our heating bills.



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718 Main St., Ste. 304
Fitchburg, MA 01420
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sdinatale@fitchburgma.gov

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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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