



North American Martyrs Church

March 26, 2023 | Fifth Sunday of Lent

PASTOR

Rev. Frederick D. Fraini, III

OFFICE STAFF

Susan Zammarelli, Secretary
Lisa Burkitt, Religious Ed. Director, Safe
Environment Coordinator

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 7 a.m. | Saturday 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. (Vigil) Sunday 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.



BAPTISMS: Please contact the parish office for assistance or visit <https://namartyrsauburn.org/baptism> for detailed information and to obtain the Godparent Baptismal Testimony Form.

MARRIAGE: Contact the parish office at least 1 year in advance of the wedding date to make arrangements.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK: If you have family members who are ill, anticipating surgery or weakened because of prolonged illness or advanced age, contact the parish office for assistance.

CONFESSIONS: Saturday 3 - 3:45p.m. or by appointment in the church.

COMMUNION CALLS: Parishioners who are sick or disabled may call the parish office to arrange for the Holy Eucharist to be brought to them at home.

8 Wyoma Dr. Auburn, MA 01501 | www.namartyrsauburn.org | 508 - 798- 8779

~Mass Intentions~

SATURDAY, MARCH 25TH - ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD

8:00a.m. Peter Siskos by Lindberg Family

4:30p.m. Thomas Vanaria by Byrne Family

SUNDAY, MARCH 26TH - FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

8:30a.m. Arthur and Rita Lindberg by Lindberg Family

10:30a.m. Dan Budzinski Fourth Year Anniversary by His Wife

MONDAY, MARCH 27TH - SAINT GREGORY OF NAREK

7:00a.m. Bruce Trainor Fifth Anniversary by His Wife Anne

TUESDAY, MARCH 28TH - SAINT CATHERINE OF BOLOGNA

7:00a.m. Barbara Vaitkunas by Bill Sipos

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29TH - SAINT LUDOVICO OF CASORIA

7:00a.m. Kathy Stasaitis by Bill Sipos

THURSDAY, MARCH 30TH - SAINT PETER REGALADO

7:00a.m. Kathy Stasaitis by Bill Sipos

FRIDAY, MARCH 31ST - SAINT STEPHEN OF MAR SABA

7:00a.m. Barbara Vaitkunas by Susan Zammarelli

SATURDAY, APRIL 1ST - SAINT HUGH OF GRENOBLE

8:00a.m. John and Jesse Galvin by the Krug Family

4:30p.m. Rose J. Dolan

SUNDAY, APRIL 2ND - PALM SUNDAY

8:30a.m. William J. VanWinkle by His Mother

10:30a.m. Barbara Faucher Twenty Fourth Anniversary by Her Mother

~Let Us Pray For~



Kayla Bowes, Michele Burke-Pellegrini, Louie Costagna, Frank Cole, Dean Michael Collins, Shirley Connor, Ted Cook, Christine Cote, Gail Craig, Patricia Darrah, Jacob DeCarolus, David DiGeronimo, Ellie Devereaux Kevin Dobson, Elaine Doherty, Sadie Dutton, Paul Dyke, David and Pat Faucher, Connie Flynn, Joan Fouhy, Bob Fuller, Suzanne Gird, Lori Girouard Therese Gosland, Deacon Jim Graves, Jim Groves, Ed Handlin, Mary Hannon, Robert Hehir, Ronald Jablanski, Elijah Johnson, Kim Johnson, Maureen Jones, Edward LaConto, Jean LaConto, Larry, Donna and Michael Langevin, Roger and Rosalie LaCroix, Alice Leduc, Peter Letourneau, Richard Levansavich, Sr., Audrey-Lynn Marron, Bill Martin, Michael McGrail, Fr. Anthony Mullaney, Max Mullen, Gary Nickerson, Mary Lou Paulli, Peggy Patenaude, Kaisse Pinard, John Power, Theresa Power, Anthony Real, Edward J. Rutkowski, Joseph Sbrogna, Raymond Scanlon, Scott Staruk, David Tatro, Bonnie Turner, Michael Young and Lucille Zammarelli. For all the men and women serving in our country's military.

~Diocesan Youth Retreat - Anna Maria~

High school youth and current 8th graders are invited to the Diocesan Youth Retreat on **May 19th-21st** at Anna Maria College! The theme is *Mysterium Fidei* (Mystery of Faith). Join for a relaxing and recharging weekend including games with prizes, music, guest speakers, breakout sessions, free time, and an experience into the ultimate mystery of Christ in the Sacraments through Eucharistic Adoration, Confession, and Mass. The retreat begins Friday evening and ends Sunday at Noon. **Cost is \$125/person. Deadline to register is April 25th.** To sign up or to get information, visit neworchester.org/diocesan-youth-retreat or contact Tim Messenger at 508-929-4360 or tmessenger@worcesterdiocese.org.

~Partners in Charity 2023~

North American Martyrs has a goal set by the Diocese of \$52,300 for this year. Please consider making a donation at <https://partners-charity.net/donate> or Scan the QR Code. Remember to specify North American Martyrs Parish to credit your gift to.



Bereavement Committee

North American Martyrs Bereavement Committee will offer services following funeral masses in the church hall. If you are able to volunteer to help with set-up, clean-up and/or baking, please contact Ann Marie Wisialko at (508) 832-3083

For those who wish to utilize the committee's service, they provide coffee and pastries only. Those who prefer something more formal or a meal are responsible for coordinating and paying for a caterer. If you have any questions please feel free to call Ann Marie Wisialko.

~Collections 3/19/2023~

Sunday Collections	\$ 3,671
Monthly Reno, Bulletin Ads, Misc	\$ 280
Funeral	\$ 900
Kateri's Kitchen, Coffee, Mass Intentions	\$ 340
Religious Education	\$ 360
St. Patrick's Day Lottery Raffle	\$ 920
Online Donations	\$ 234
Total	\$ 6,705

Tuesdays with Father Fred

Fr. Fraini continues his series on Tuesday to discuss some important considerations for us during the Holy season of Lent. We hope you to see you there!

Tuesday, March 28th @ 6:30p.m. Evening Two: "Spiritual Warfare" What does this phrase really mean for Catholics? What spiritual weapons do we have at our disposal that enable us to be victorious?

Tuesday, April 18th @ 6:30p.m. Evening Three: "The Paschal Mystery & The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass". Where do we see the Paschal Mystery within the confines of the Mass? Once we understand, we will fall deeper in love with what many otherwise take for granted.



Religious Ed 2023-2024 Registration

Religious Education Registration for 2023-2024 is now open! Please sign up for flocknotes to receive a 10% off coupon code if you register by April 2nd!

A late fee is charged for registrations or payments after June 15th. Class sizes are limited for grades 1-5. Once the classes are full, and you did not get your preferred class time, you may be added to a waiting list. Your registration form and payment must be received in order to secure your child's / children's spot.

For more information, contact Lisa at lburkitt@namartyrsauburn.org

~Religious Ed Class Schedule~

March 25th

Grades 1-5: 9:30am-10:15am & 11:30am-12:15pm

Grades 6-8: 5pm-6:30pm | Grades 9-10: 6:30pm-8pm

April 2nd

Grades 1-5 meets at 9:30am for our end-of-the-year celebration and Easter Egg Hunt! There is no 11:30am class.

Dear Parish Family,

Welcome to Spring! As we bid farewell to another New England winter, we can begin to look beyond the potholes left behind in our roadways from necessary plowing. Perhaps after last Tuesday's snowfall, we can begin to put away our shovels and snowblowers, continue to adjust to daylight savings time, and maybe, just maybe, not be visited with snow removal and heating invoices! Indeed, now is the time to hope for new signs of life and growth that always arrive with Spring! In a short time, grass seed will be spread on neighboring lawns. Corn seed will be spread on neighboring farmlands. Flower seed will be planted in gardens and window boxes. Springtime fosters the hope that seeds planted will produce luscious, beautifully manicured lawns, abundant, bountiful crops, and gorgeous, fragrant flowers!

I can hardly believe it is already the fifth Sunday of Lent! In just one week from now we will be celebrating Passion Palm Sunday! The holiest week of the liturgical year is rapidly approaching and with it, so many extraordinary things to celebrate! On Palm Sunday, the youth of our parish will participate in an Easter egg hunt on the parish grounds at 9:30a.m.! This wonderful fun filled event is being sponsored and funded by our own Confirmation candidates! On Tuesday of Holy Week, all the priests of the diocese of Worcester will gather at the Cathedral of Saint Paul to celebrate the Chrism Mass. During this celebration, Bishop McManus will consecrate and bless the oil of the sick, the oil of catechumens, and the holy chrism. After Mass, these oils will be distributed to delegated parishioners who will return the oils to their respective parishes. These newly consecrated oils will then be received into each parish during the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday evening! Also, during this solemn Mass, each priest will recommit himself to the service of Christ and His beautiful bride the Church. In essence, the priests are reminded during this Mass, that the Cross of Christ is non-negotiable!

Here at North American Martyrs parish, we will celebrate the Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:00p.m. on Holy Thursday evening. Incidentally, this Mass begins our Sacred Triduum. Since we celebrate the commemoration of two of the greatest gifts the Church has ever received on this day, namely, the priesthood and the Eucharist, I will be privileged to distribute both the Blessed Sacrament and blessed palms to all of our homebound parishioners on Wednesday and Thursday. I know that Eagles Wings has been working hard to ensure a beautiful, spiritually uplifting celebration on this most solemn occasion, and as we know, they never disappoint!

On Good Friday, the second day of our Sacred Triduum, the young adults of our parish will present a magnificent portrayal of the Living Stations of the Cross at 3:00p.m. These remarkable young people have already begun rehearsing for this awe-inspiring devotion, and I am so proud to inform you that it was their idea to enact it! Imagine the magnitude of faith our young people possess to request that they be permitted to portray the greatest act of love that ever transpired!? We are so blessed to have such incredible, energetic, compassionate, dedicated, and faithful youth among us! Please make some time to come and pray with them, I guarantee we will all be made better because of it. They've already expressed their desire to make it even better than last year! I cannot wait!

In the evening of Good Friday, we will have a Good Friday service at 7:00p.m. Here we will meditate and reflect on the saddest day in human history, the day that Love Himself was nailed to a tree and died for us. We will have an opportunity to venerate the Cross as we reflect on our own individual sinfulness, and with that, the extraordinary mercy that God bestows upon us despite it. God's Mercy isn't fair, and on this day, we thank God that His Mercy isn't fair!

On the morning of Holy Saturday, the town of Auburn will stage its annual little league parade here in the parish parking lot. I always enjoy watching the town's youngest athletes beam with pride as they prepare for a wonderful season. At 7:20p.m. on Holy Saturday, we will have the celebration of our Easter Vigil Mass. I am painfully aware that many Catholics dread the Easter Vigil because of its reputation for longevity. However, I assure you it is one of the most spectacularly beautiful Masses of the entire liturgical year! Although this year we do not have anyone enrolled in RCIA, I know how much parishioners enjoyed our little celebration in the hall last year. Therefore, at the conclusion of our Easter Vigil Mass, I would like to cordially invite all present to join us in the parish hall immediately following Mass, for some light refreshments and to participate in Easter Joy!

Finally, on Easter Sunday our Masses will assume the normal Sunday schedule of 8:30a.m. and 10:30a.m.! As you can see, we have so much to look forward to in the upcoming weeks leading up to the Highest Feast of our Liturgical Year, Easter! Remember, there are still opportunities to make a good confession! Last Monday evening, I heard confessions for three hours! It was an awesome experience to witness so many faithful souls return to Christ's loving embrace, let yourself be one of them! Confession will be available on Monday, March 27th @ 6:30p.m., and during Holy Week on Monday, April 3rd @ 6:30p.m.! As we prepare to celebrate the Resurrection, rise up from the ashes of your own sinfulness, and be transfigured in the Sacrament!

God Love You, All!

Rev. Father Frederick D. Fraini, III

Holy Week Schedule April 6th to April 9th

Holy Thursday



Mass of the Lord's Supper
7:00p.m.

Good Friday



Living Stations of the Cross
3:00p.m.
Good Friday Service
7:00p.m.

Holy Saturday



Easter Vigil
7:20p.m.

Easter Sunday



Masses
8:30a.m.
10:30a.m.

Join us on **Sunday, April 2nd!** Our 10th-grade students will host an Easter Egg Hunt for all the children of the parish right after the 8:30a.m. Mass.

EASTER EGG HUNT!

Confessions

Mondays 6:30pm until ...
Saturdays 3pm -3:45pm

-Stations of the Cross-

Fridays 6:30pm



Tuesdays with the Saints!
March 28th,
11-Noon in the hall
Story time and crafts and more!





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