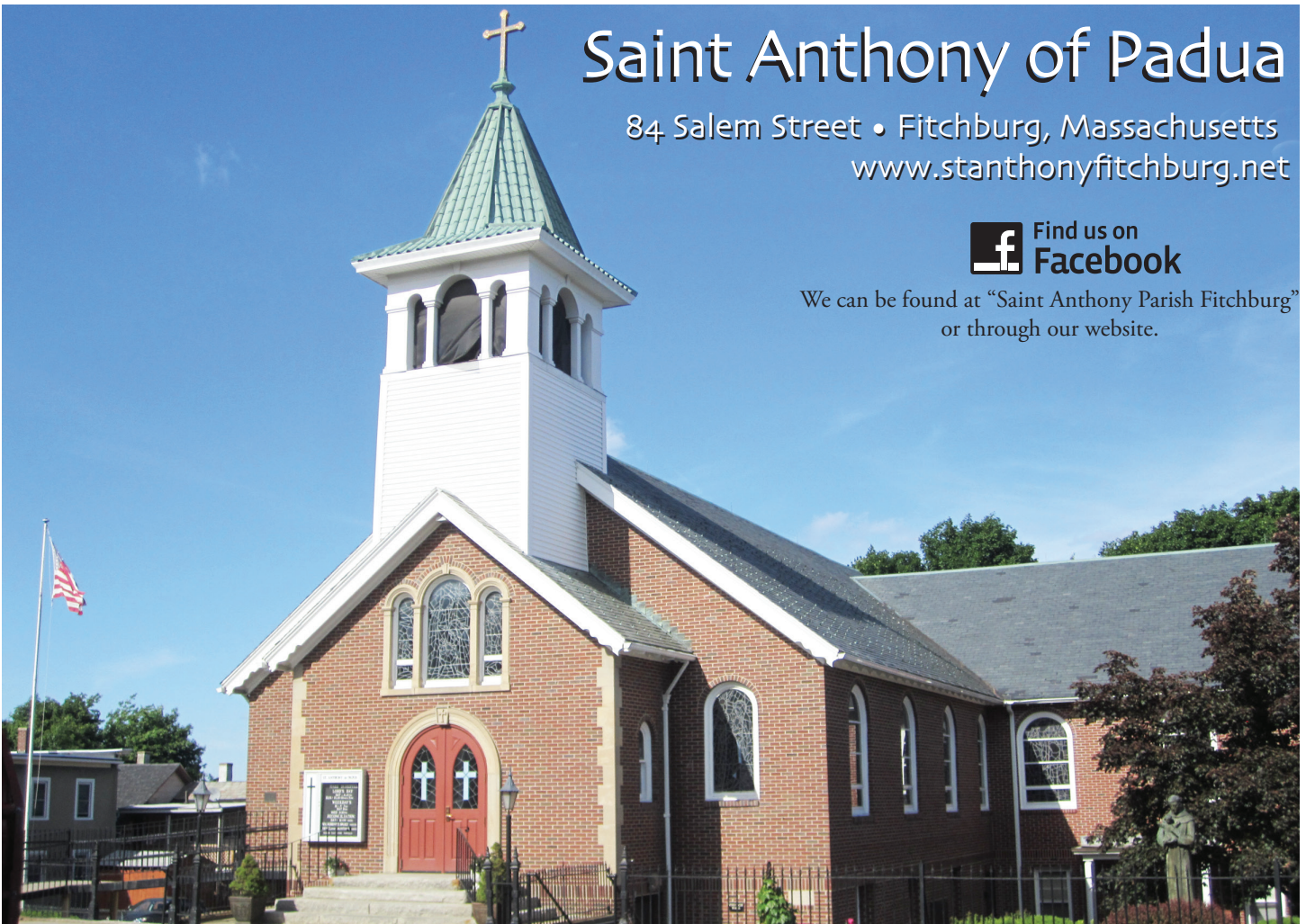




Saint Anthony of Padua

84 Salem Street • Fitchburg, Massachusetts
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
frjuanstanthony@gmail.com

Deacon Mark Carrier
deacon120801@gmail.com

Prayer Line Requests
church.officestanthony@gmail.com
978-342-4706

Parish Office

978-342-4706
978-342-8160 fax
church.officestanthony@gmail.com

Hours:
Monday – Wednesday 9-3
(closed Thursday & Friday)

Vicky Zarrella, Office Manager

WORSHIP & SACRAMENTS

LORD'S DAY MASSES

Saturday Vigil 4:00 PM (livestream on FB)
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 anytime 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, April 12th

Vigil: Palm Sunday

4:00 PM Alphonse DiNardo (Anniversary)
by his wife Linda & family
Angelo Femino (100th Birthday remembrance)
by his wife Anna & family

Sunday, April 13th

Palm Sunday

8:00 AM Bernard & Rita (Fasano) Butler
by their daughter Jean Williams
Jane Austin
by Tony & Debbie Mercadante
10:30 AM Raymond & Mary Descoteaux
by their family
Tony Tessi
by the Salamone family
12:30 PM Parishioners

Monday, April 14th

8:00 AM Chris Bujold – for health & peace
by his mom Vicki & sister Jackie

Tuesday, April 15th

8:00 AM Jaclynn Bojold – arthritis/healing
by her mom Vicki

Wednesday, April 16th

8:00 AM Sister Giannina Saura, M.P.V.
by a former student

Holy Thursday, April 17th

8:00 AM NO MASS
by
7:00 PM THE LORD'S SUPPER

Good Friday, April 18th

Passion of the Lord

7:00 PM PASSION OF THE LORD

Saturday, April 19th

Vigil: EASTER SUNDAY

7:00 PM THE RESSURECTION OF THE LORD

Sunday, April 20th

EASTER SUNDAY

8:00 AM THE RESSURECTION OF THE LORD
10:30 AM THE RESSURECTION OF THE LORD

April 12 - 13, 2025

PALM SUNDAY

"...I tell you, Peter, before the cock crows this day, you will deny three times that you know me." (Luke 22:34) How many times have you heard someone make a disparaging comment about God or our Catholic faith? How did you react? Do you remain quiet so as not to cause disturbance? Or, because you don't want people to think negatively about you? Or, because you don't think you know enough about the Catholic faith? Pray for the courage to speak up and enter into a respectful conversation when the opportunity to talk about our faith arises. Joyfully share your faith with others.

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

Good Friday Walking Stations of the Cross As one family, the Catholic community invites you to share in the Lord's Walk to Calvary on **Friday, April 18, beginning at 11:00 AM.** Walk starts at Crocker Field, (across from Broad St.), Fitchburg and ends at St. Joseph Church, 49 Woodland St., Fitchburg. Please plan for your return to your vehicle at the end of the walk.



This will take the place of our Friday Stations of the Cross here at St. Anthony Parish



HOLY WEEK

Holy Thursday	Mass of the Lord's Supper	7:00 PM
Good Friday	Passion of the Lord	7:00 PM
Holy Saturday	Easter Vigil	7:00 PM
Easter Sunday	Resurrection of the Lord	8:00 & 10:30 AM

Lenten Series "Sacrament Formation" Concludes this Tuesday, April 15th @ 6:00 pm in the church hall. This theme is **Matrimony**.

April Collections

Easter Flowers – Any time during April
Holy Land (Good Friday) – April 18th
Easter – April 20th
Venerini Sisters Collection – April 27

Easter Pastry Pick-up! – For those who ordered pastry for Easter, please plan to **pick it up on Saturday, April 19, from 9-12 noon.** **Please go to the church office door.** Call or text Patty 978-407-9385 if you can't make this time. Thank you!



St. Anthony Candle Intention:
For the health of
Gloria Baquerizo
by Irene Rojas



RICE BOWLS – Please return them to the sacristy ASAP. Do not place them in the collection baskets. Thank you.

Dear Friends,

This Sunday, called Palm or Passion Sunday, is the first day of Holy Week. Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday are called the Triduum, three days highlighting the Church year. There are two Gospels proclaimed at today's Mass. The first Gospel, proclaimed before the procession with palms, tells of Jesus' triumphant entrance into Jerusalem. Riding on a borrowed colt, Jesus was hailed by the crowds as they shouted blessings and praise to God. This event is reported in each of the four Gospels.

Luke's Gospel is the only one to report the exchange between Jesus and the Pharisees as Jesus enters Jerusalem. Jesus' response shows that this event, and those yet to come, are part of a divine plan. We hear this echoed again in Luke's description of the Last Supper when Jesus speaks of Judas' betrayal, saying that the Son of Man "goes as has been determined."

At the Liturgy of the Word on this Sunday, the events of Jesus' passion are proclaimed in their entirety. In Lectionary Cycle C, we read the passion of Jesus as found in the Gospel of Luke. We will hear these events proclaimed again during the Triduum when we read the passion of Jesus from the Gospel of John.

Throughout Luke's Gospel we see that Jesus' words and actions proclaim the Kingdom of God. This motif continues throughout Luke's passion narrative. Jesus appears to be in total command of events at the Passover meal as he hands over the kingdom to his disciples. He welcomes them to the Passover meal announcing that this will be his last until the Kingdom of God is fulfilled.

As throughout Luke's Gospel, however, the disciples show little understanding of this kingdom that Jesus often announces. Following the meal, the disciples argue about who is the greatest. Jesus takes the opportunity to distinguish the meaning of leadership in the Kingdom of God from the forms of leadership seen in the world.

Jesus initiates a conversation with Simon and predicts his denial. Jesus then instructs his disciples to prepare themselves for the events that will follow. His words reveal an awareness of the challenges that all of them will face in the days ahead. As the disciples and Jesus enter the Mount of Olives, Jesus indicates the importance of the disciples' time in prayer, telling them that through prayer, they will be able to face the challenges ahead.

As he prays, Jesus is tested. In the garden, an angel is sent to strengthen him and to prepare him for the events ahead. After this moment, Jesus is again in charge of the events and circumstances.

In Luke's Gospel, Jesus is portrayed as active and vocal throughout his passion. When one of the disciples strikes the high priest's servant, Jesus heals the man, an event reported only in the Gospel of Luke. Jesus stops the disciples' protest against his arrest by noting that this is the "time for the power of darkness." Jesus engages and responds when brought before the Sanhedrin; his words speak about the "power of God" that will bring about the reign of the Son of Man. When questioned by Pilate, Jesus responds with just one phrase; yet before Herod, Jesus refuses to speak.

When Luke describes the Way of the Cross and Jesus' crucifixion, he calls to our attention many events that are not reported in the other Gospels. Throughout his Gospel, Luke has paid heed to the women who accompanied Jesus. Now, on the road to Calvary, Jesus speaks to the women who walk with him. Only Luke reports Jesus' words of forgiveness spoken from the cross. Only Luke reports the dialogue between Jesus and the good thief. Finally, in contrast with the Gospels of Mark and Matthew, Luke reports no words of abandonment spoken by Jesus on the cross. Instead, Jesus, in full command until his death, commends his spirit to his Father and takes his final breath.

Throughout Holy Week, we will continue to reflect on the events of Jesus' passion and death. As we meditate on the cross, we ask again and anew what it means to make the statement of faith that Jesus, in his obedient suffering and dying, revealed himself to us as God's Son and brought to fulfillment the Kingdom of God.

Blessings,

Fr. Juan



Religious Venerini Sisters Annual Collection -We will have a second collection for the Venerini Sisters **April 27**. We could not talk about the history of our Church without giving enormous credit and appreciation to the Religious Venerini Sisters! We ask you to kindly

give what you can when the collection basket comes around. There are still members of the Venerini Sisters, working & living in Rutland & Worcester, names that you would surely recognize. Please help us to show our gratitude for their continued service and ministry. Thank you!

Annual St. Anthony Novena to begin on Tuesday, April 29th.

Saint Anthony's intercession is best known for helping find lost items. However, his intercession is also sought for many other causes. The novena can be prayed for any intention. Saint Anthony will listen! Spread the word and plan to join us.

Novena prayers, sermon and Benediction with veneration of the relic of Saint Anthony of Padua. **7:00 PM**. Nine Tuesday, nine preachers including, Deacon Sal Tantillo, Fr. Juan Ramirez, Fr. Javier Julio, Fr. Ronald Falco, Fr. James Mazzone, Deacon Mark Carrier, Fr. Jose Carvajal, Fr. Stephen Mullaney, Fr. Thiago Ibiapina.

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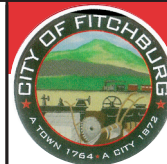
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