



Mass Intentions

February 20 – 21, 2010 First Sunday of Lent

*Brothers and sisters: What does Scripture say?
"The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart."*

Saturday, February 20th

Vigil: First Sunday of Lent

4:00 PM **Pellegrino DePiano (Anniversary)**
Requested by the Pennetti family

Sunday, February 21st

First Sunday of Lent

8:00 AM **Dominic James Ingemi**
Requested by his wife & children

10:30 AM **Pellegrino DePiano**
Requested by the DiVito family

Monday, February 22nd

The Chair of St. Peter, apostle

7:00 AM **Intentions of the Holy Father**

5:30 PM **Vincent & Carmela Arena**
Requested by Grace & Mario Zarrella

Tuesday, February 23rd

St. Polycarp, bishop & martyr

7:00 AM **Robert & Dorothy Bruso**
Requested by their family

5:30 PM **Giuliano DiVito**
Requested by Joe & Maria Baldassarre

Wednesday, February 24th

7:00 AM **Catherine & Anthony Carbone & Family**
Requested by daughter Mary DiGeronimo

5:30 PM **Gerald Volpe**
Requested by MaryAnn Michaelian

Thursday, February 25th

7:00 AM **Mary Randall**
Requested by her family

5:30 PM **Flavio & Barbara DeBonis**
Requested by Nick & Frances Mercadante

Friday, February 26th

7:00 AM **Melvin & Robert Lewis**
Requested by their family

2:00 PM **School Mass**
5:30 PM **Leonard Pagnotto**
Requested by Leo & Theresa Valincort

Saturday, February 27th

8:00 AM **Elizabeth & Walter Driscoll**
Requested by their family

Vigil: Second Sunday of Lent

4:00 PM **Sr. Elisa Brasili, M.P.V.**
Requested by her family

Sunday, February 28th

Second Sunday of Lent

8:00 AM **Nicola Volpe (Anniversary)**
Requested by his family

10:30 AM **Deceased Members of the Loriot Family**
Requested by Claire Rollo

READ AND PREPARE

Next week's Scripture readings:

First Reading: Genesis 15:5 – 12, 17 – 18

Second Reading: Philippians 3:17 – 4:1

Gospel: Luke 9:28b – 36

February 14th Offerings

Needed to Meet Budget	\$4,889.00
Sunday Offerings	\$4,488.00
Children's Collection (\$9.00)	\$9.00
DEFICIT this week	\$392.00
TOTAL DEFICIT Year to Date	\$4,410.50

Hospitality committee meets on Wednesday, February 24th at 7:00 in the outer office area. All are welcome.

If anyone is willing to cook/bake for the socials on the weekend of February 24th & 25th please contact Amy at 978-502-5540 ASAP.

HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE

October 7-17, 2010

Join Father Bob on a eleven day pilgrimage to the Land of the Bible: Jerusalem – Bethlehem – Cana – Nazareth Mass celebrated every day at the holiest shrines in the Christian world. An informational meeting will be held on **Thursday, March 11th at 6:30 PM** in the church hall.

All Adults and High School Age Teenagers: you are invited to a Lenten program here at St. Anthony Church on **Wednesday, February 24th**, sponsored by Serra of Worcester North. A 5:30 PM Mass will be concelebrated by Fr. Bob and Msgr. John Doran. A lasagna dinner will follow in the hall. **Deadline for dinner tickets is Monday, February 22nd.**

St. Anthony School Registration for 2010 – 2011 has begun.

Anyone interested should call the school office at 978-345-7785 as soon as possible. Families interested in enrolling students from grades 1-8 should call to inquire about possible space and information regarding acceptance for those grades.

March 20, 2010 is fast approaching for the **10th Anniversary for the Diocesan Men's Conference** at the DCU Center in Worcester. All Parish men, as well as their sons, brothers, fathers and friends are invited to join us for this great celebration of the first ten years of the nation's first conference for Catholic men. Exciting speakers, men at prayer, lots of laughs. A day you won't forget! Once again Fran Pandiscio (978-348-1009) is our parish representative and **the parish will pay for half (\$20) of the registration fee if received BEFORE the March 1st deadline.** For more information please check out their web site at www.worcesterdiocese.com go to the "What's Happening" tab and click on Men's Conference or speak directly to Fran Pandiscio for a brochure. **Sign up early to take advantage of the parish offer to discount your registration by 50%!**

Church Contribution 2009 Tax Information

Call the office or email saintanthony@net1plus.com to get your church contribution report for the 2009 tax season we do not mail them unless you have specifically requested one from us.

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

Angelina Fiore & Rita Hagan

who died this past week. May their souls rest in peace.

Dear Friends,

At St. Anthony's Church as at every other Catholic Church in Fitchburg and around the world, people lined up to have ashes imposed on their foreheads to mark the beginning of Lent. Ashes are an ancient symbol of penitence. They signify that the person wearing ashes acknowledges their sins before God and seeks mercy, forgiveness and reconciliation. The ashes are only a *sign*. They are *not* the reality.

God's mercy is unlimited and everlasting. God's forgiveness is always available for those who seek it. The sacrament of Reconciliation is our acceptance of the mercy and forgiveness of God in a tangible way. It is not enough to say that God is merciful and God forgives. You must take advantage of it. To say that your refrigerator is well stocked is not the same as saying you are not hungry. If you don't eat the food, pointing to a full refrigerator isn't going to take away your hunger.

This Lent, in every Catholic Church in the diocese, the lights will be on for you to come to receive the gift of God's reconciliation at a special time. Every church will be open every Tuesday night from 7 until 8:30. Confession is, of course, also available on Saturdays at noon and anytime by appointment. Come Home to God's Mercy is the theme.

Ashes are a powerful, easily identifiable sign of the repentance which is the central characteristic of Lent. But wearing ashes without seeking sacramental reconciliation is like wearing a sign that points to nothing.

Pace e Bene,

Please Continue to Help the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry

New items added to the food pantry wish list are: canned meat and fruit, canned vegetables; canned beans; corned beef hash; tuna; beef stew; jam & jelly; hamburger helper; rice and soup broth. The number of people in need is always increasing and many people rely on this weekly service that St. Francis provides. **Please try to bring one item a week.** Remember, only canned items – no fresh as it may spoil. Thank you!

Item of the Month – The Youth Group is accepting donations for Our Father's House and the Veterans' Homestead. **This month's item is men's deodorant.** Items can be placed in the marked boxes at the entrances of the church. Thank you for your support.

The Serra Club invites you to pray for the following priests and deacons during the week of: February 21st through February 28th: Rev. Edward Michalski; Rev. Thien Nguyen; Deacon Benjamin Nogueira; Rev. Dennis O'Brien; Rev. Emerito Ortiz; Rev. Brian O'Toole; Rev. Miguel Pagan.

Annual Lenten Fish Fry, held on the Fridays of Lent, will be at Madonna of the Holy Rosary Church, 118 Theresa Street, Fitchburg **beginning February 19th at 4:30 PM**. Baked or fried haddock, potato, macaroni & cheese, coleslaw, rolls/butter, corn or fish chowder will be offered. Desserts and drinks are additional. Everyone is invited to attend. Come early and enjoy one of the best values around. Orders to go are also available.

St. Anthony's Variety Show! Rehearsals are ongoing. And are being held weekly on **Tuesday, 6:00 PM (dance) and Wednesday, at 7:00 PM in the church hall** and continue every week until the show in April. For more information please call Joanne Pagnotta at 978-502-6993 or 978-345-7853. Come have some fun with us!

Young Adult Conference in March - If you are a senior in high school or single or a young adult, join us for a day of fellowship with your peers at the **First YOUNG ADULT CONFERENCE on March 6th** at Assumption College Hagan Center. This event is hosted by the Office for Youth Ministry. Walk-in registration is \$25 (\$20 if registered before March 1st) Opening remarks at 9:00 AM. Keynote: Fr. Robin Ryan, C.P. Director of *Catholics On Call* (www.catholicsoncall.org) at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago. Bishop McManus will be the principal celebrant for Mass. Young Adult panel presentation, Q/A, open discussion and lunch are included. Visit www.ymworcester.org for more information

Operation Rice Bowl – As we begin our Lenten journey with Catholic Relief Services' Operation Rice Bowl, let us pray and sacrifice so that through our faith life we can make a difference in the lives of our brothers and sisters in need. **Please be sure to take home a Rice Bowl.** Visit orb.crs.org for more information.

Catholic Charities Homecare Program is looking for aides to care for elders in their homes. Duties include light housekeeping, laundry, and shopping. Paid training, mileage reimbursement and a schedule to meet your needs. Please call Catholic Charities Homecare Program at 978-537-7438. EOE/AA

January "5/10" Club Winners

\$500	Manny Moitoso
\$100	Erin Slattery, Norene Smith, David Merrial
\$50	Marguerite Cormier, the Gendron Family, Jim Wironer, Tiffany Hoffman
\$25	Pat Greenling, Desiree Whitney

SAVE THE DATE! – The **St. Anthony Golf Outing** will take place on **Friday, June 25th at 1:00 PM** at the Townsend Ridge Country Club. Fun, food, drawings and prizes! More details will follow as the date nears but plan to be a part of this fun filled afternoon! Check out the photos from last years' event on our web site @ www.stanthonyfitchburg.net

Parishioner to Celebrate 100th Birthday! – **Rose DiPietro will turn 100 years old on March 9, 2010**, just two short weeks away. Be a part of this wonderful event by sending along well wishes to Rose at: Golden Living Center, 1199 John Fitch Hwy., Fitchburg, MA 01420. How nice it will be for her to know that her St. Anthony family is thinking of her on this very special occasion!

LOOKING FOR AN EVENING MASS DURING LENT?

Monday through Friday during Lent:
5:30 PM St. Anthony, Fitchburg
6:00 PM St. Joseph, Fitchburg

This week's St. Anthony Devotional Candle donated by:
Residents of the Gables for special intentions.