



March 27 – 28, 2010

Palm Sunday

The whole multitude of his disciples began to praise God aloud with joy for all the mighty deeds they had seen.

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

Mass Intentions

Saturday, March 27th

Vigil: Palm Sunday

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

Sunday, March 28th

Palm Sunday

8:00 AM **James G. DiConza**
Requested by his wife Marianne & family

10:30 AM **Louis Buratti, Jr.**
Requested by his family

Monday, March 29th

7:00 AM **Carmella Berube (Month's Mind)**
Requested by M/M Arthur Cox

5:30 PM **Oreste & Carmella Guglielmi**
Requested by their daughter

Tuesday, March 30th

7:00 AM **Peace in the Holy Land**

5:30 PM **Deceased of the DiNoto & Macchio Families**
Requested by Mary Macchio & family

Wednesday, March 31st

7:00 AM **Rosina Bizzotto**
Requested by her family

5:30 PM **Louis, Grace & Louie, Jr. Cioffi**
Requested by their family

Thursday, April 1st

HOLY THURSDAY

7:00 PM **Liturgy of the Lord's Super**

Friday, April 2nd

GOOD FRIDAY

7:00 PM **Liturgy of the Lord's Passion**

Saturday, April 3rd

EASTER VIGIL

7:30 PM **Liturgy of the Resurrection**

Sunday, April 4th

EASTER SUNDAY

8:00 AM **Liturgy of the Resurrection**

10:30 AM **Liturgy of the Resurrection**

March 21st Offerings

Needed to Meet Budget	\$4,889.00
Sunday Offerings	\$5,064.00
Children's Collection (\$25.40)	\$25.00
SURPLUS this week	\$200.00
TOTAL DEFICIT Year to Date	\$6,015.50

The Collection for Catholic Relief Services totaled \$1,281.00

The Annual Collection for the Holy Land sustains the ministries that are offered at all the Christian shrines that exist and operate within the Holy Land. For over 800 years these shrines have been entrusted to the care of the Franciscan Friars and Christians throughout the world continue to be grateful for the manner in which these shrines have been maintained and made accessible for all pilgrims. Please be generous in the collection on Good Friday and keep the people of the Holy Land in your prayers.

Our Partners in Charity Annual Appeal has begun. The Diocese has sent letters to each registered household. If you did not receive a letter and need a pledge card and envelope they are available at the entrances of the church. Prayerfully consider your pledge, that can be paid over 10 months, and deposit it into the weekly collection baskets or mail it to the office beginning immediately. **We will have our PLEDGE SUNDAY IN-PEW collection on the weekend of April 10-11th** at which time we will take time out for all attending Mass to fill out a donation card and place it in the collection basket that same day. If you can not pledge please consider a one time gift no matter what the amount. Again, please take some time to consider what you can donate and come prepared on Pledge Sunday! **Our goal this year is \$38,000.** Once again we ask your cooperation so that we may conduct this appeal in a timely manner. We here at St. Anthony's Parish have been blessed in so many ways. "Let us open our hearts...Our good God will open His!"

PUBLIC STATIONS OF THE CROSS - St. Anthony Parish joins with other churches in a public Stations of the Cross on **Good Friday beginning here at 12 noon.** Please be a part of this public witness to our faith in Jesus Christ. Walk all or part of the way or meet us at St. Francis Church where the walk will end.

Would you consider being a Greeter for Mass? The Hospitality Committee is looking for 5-7 greeters for the additional 5:30 PM Saturday Mass. If you think you might be interested give Amy (978-502-5540) a call and she can tell you what it entails.

SAVE THE DATE - The St. Anthony's Variety Show will take place on Saturday, April 24th and Sunday, April 25th at Fitchburg High School Auditorium. More information will follow as the date gets closer and the tickets become available. For information on being a sponsor for the show or placing an ad in the program booklet from family or business, please call Joanne Pagnotta at 978-502-6993 or 978-345-7853. Already have a sponsor form? Returns can be sent to the office or put in the weekly collection basket in clearly marked envelopes. **Deadline for submission is no later than Sunday, April 5th.**

This week's St. Anthony Devotional Candle donated by:
Rene Berube for a favor received

Dear Friends,

Palm Sunday has an inevitable air of celebration to it. The crowds sang Hosanna then, as we do today. The mistake is to jump from Palm Sunday to Easter without experiencing Holy Week as it unfolds.

Tuesday is the Chrism Mass. All of the priests of the diocese go to the Cathedral in Worcester to renew our vows before the Bishop. Parish representatives, in our case Fran and Annette Pandiscio, receive the holy oils which have been blessed by the Bishop for our use throughout the year.

On Thursday we begin the Triduum, the three holiest days in the Church's year. Holy Thursday is the Liturgy of the Lord's Supper, followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 10:00 PM.

On Friday, we gather to walk the Stations of the Cross in the streets of our city, beginning at noon. Liturgy of the Lord's Passion with Veneration of the Cross begins at 7.

The Easter Vigil, the liturgy of all liturgies, the celebration of salvation history through the Resurrection of Christ Our Savior, begins after sundown at 7:30. Easter Sunday Masses, of course, are at the regular times of 8 and 10:30, but if you leave the church today and do not return until next Sunday, you will have missed the whole point. Between the minor celebration which is Palm Sunday and the major celebration of the glory of Easter, the complete range of the highs and lows which is the mystery of salvation is presented through the liturgies of Holy Week. Be a part of it. Don't miss out.

Peace and Good Will,

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

New items added to the food pantry wish list are: canned meat; canned pineapple; canned beans; corned beef hash; jam & jelly; Jello; peanut butter; spaghetti sauce. **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 items are toothpaste and toothbrushes.** 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: March 28th through April 3rd: Deacon William Colon; Deacon James Connor; Deacon James Couture; Deacon Richard Desjardin; Fr. Joseph Dolan; Fr. Gerald Dorais; Msgr. John Doran.

The 33rd Annual Spaghetti & Meatball Supper to Benefit Our Lady of the Holy Rosary School **Wednesday, March 31st, from 5 – 7:00 PM** in the lower church hall of Holy Rosary Church, Nichols St., Gardner. Tickets for adults are \$6, children - \$3. There will also be a **Spring Flea Market held in the church hall on Saturday, March 20th from 8 – 12 noon.**

Operation Rice Bowl – If you have been participating in the Rice Bowl program during Lent please continue through Easter Sunday. You may drop the bowl with the contents off at the church office or to the Sacristy before Masses. If you would rather count up the change and just include a check that is acceptable also. For those that want their donation to be recorded please be sure to put your name ON or IN the box. We would like to have all "bowls" returned to us no later than **Sunday, April 11th.** Thank you!

Want to experience a different culture in the comfort of your own home? The Fitchburg Sister City Committee Exchange Program (FSCCEP) is looking for three host families to open their homes to German exchange students for the 2010 Fall Semester. The boys are between the ages of 16 and 17 and will be in their junior year. They will be coming from the end of August to the middle of November in 2010 from our sister city, Kleve, Germany. If curious about this opportunity, please email fkexchange@hotmail.com or call 978-343-7673 and ask for Jenn or Geoff.

Is the Blessed Mother Calling You? Learn how to make rosaries. Call Rosemarie at 978-345-2602 for an appointment right here at St. Anthony Church in the office area. We are approaching the end of Lent. Now is the time to show your love for the Blessed Mother. Rosaries are so needed throughout the world. Won't you help?

Beginning Saturday April 10th, we will have an additional Vigil Mass at 5:30 PM. If you are interested in ministering at this Mass as Lector, Altar Server or Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, please call the office.

A Reminder for all who have already made Mass intentions or plan to for the remainder of the year: You may schedule a **TOTAL of four (4) Saturday or Sunday, Masses for the entire year.** Please be mindful of this and schedule accordingly. This additional 5:30 Mass time provides an opportunity for those members who have not been able to schedule any Masses on the weekends.

MARRIED COUPLES - Plants need fertilizer to grow healthy and strong and so too does your marriage. Make a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend and watch your love for each other grow. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends in New England are April 23-25, May 21-23 and June 11-13. For more information call Ralph & Jane Becker at 1-800-710-WWME or visit our webpage at www.wwmeMA.org

Help New Refugee Families Catholic Charities is seeking assistance for newly arrived refugee families. The most immediate need is for full, queen or twin-size beds with frames, box springs and mattresses, if possible, in good condition. Also very much needed is furniture of all kinds, in good solid condition, as well as bedding, towels, dishes, pans and other household items. If you have any of these to contribute please contact Kaska Yawo or Debra Spangler at 508-798-0191. Thank you so much!

HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE

October 7-17, 2010

Join Father Bob on an eleven day pilgrimage to the Land of the Bible: Jerusalem – Bethlehem – Cana – Nazareth and more. Check out the full itinerary at www.ProximoTravel.com (including costs) or call or email Fr. Bob at frbob@net1plus.com.