



Mass Intentions

Saturday February 21st

Vigil: Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 PM All Deceased of the Perla & DiNatale Families
Requested by the Macchio family

Sunday, February 22nd

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM John Fortunato
Requested by his family

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

Monday, February 23rd

St. Polycarp, bishop and martyr

7:00 AM Christine Kosakowski
Requested by her family

Tuesday, February 24th

7:00 AM Parishioners of St. Anthony Parish

Wednesday, February 25th

Ash Wednesday

7:00 AM Deceased Pastors of St. Anthony Parish
2:00 PM School Mass
5:30 PM John R. Pacetti
Requested by Maryann Michaelian

Thursday, February 26th

7:00 AM For the Sick
5:30 PM Danny Testa
Requested by Kathy DiRusso

Friday, February 27th

7:00 AM Doris Desjean
Requested by Phyllis & Doug Pirani
5:30 PM Lenora Andreucci
Requested by Anna Carbone & Linda Candelet

Saturday, February 28th

Vigil: First Sunday of Lent

8:00 AM Special Intention
4:00 PM George E. Mahoney
Requested by M/M Vincenzo Salamone

Sunday, March 1st

First Sunday of Lent

8:00 AM Jim Pandiscio
Requested by requested by his wife & children
10:30 AM Sr. Elisa Brasili, MPV
Requested by her family

February 21-22, 2009

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Who but God alone can forgive sins?"

READ AND PREPARE

Next week's Scripture readings:

First Reading: Genesis 9:8-15

Second Reading: 1 Peter 3:18 - 22

Gospel: Mark 1:12-15

PREVIOUS WEEK OFFERINGS

Needed to Meet Budget	\$4,889.00
Sunday Offering	\$4,052.00
Children's Collection (\$13.00)	\$13.00
DEFICIT this week	\$824.00
DEFICIT Year to Date	\$3,156.00

TWO OPPORTUNITIES THIS LENT FOR ADULTS TO GROW IN FAITH

Thursdays in Lent
7:00 PM in the Church Hall
Adult Discussion Group

"The Ten Things Pope Benedict Wants You to Know."

Each week we discuss two of the ten items that the Holy Father has written about, his message of hope for the Twenty First Century. We will be using an easy to read booklet produced for the purpose.

Fridays in Lent
7:00 PM in the Church Hall
Movie Series

We reprise last year's successful series of films, watching a different group of contemporary movies and reflecting on what they have to share as values for our lives. Plenty of popcorn, bring a drink. These films are for adult audiences.

Pasta Supper on Saturday, February 28th from 4:00 to 7:00 PM at the St. Anthony School cafeteria. Tickets are \$6 for adults and \$4 for seniors and children and can be purchased at the door. Proceeds from this event will go to the 8th grade students to help them finance their class trip.

This week's St. Anthony Devotional Candle is requested by Lucy DiVito. If you are interested in requesting an indoor candle we are asking for a donation of \$10 to help defray the cost. Place the money, along with your name and/or intention, in an envelope and place in the collection basket clearly marked DEVOTIONAL CANDLE. Your name and intention will be listed in the order it was received. Thank you.

2008 Church Contribution Tax Information

If you would like an Annual Contribution Report for money given during the 2008 year you must call the office to request one. You may call the office @ 978-342-4706 during regular office hours of 9:00 - 3:00 PM Monday through Friday with the exception of Tuesdays when the office is closed all day. Please do not call the rectory.

Dear Friends,

“Remember not the events of the past,” the Prophet Isaiah writes. That’s easier said than done!

How often do we go over in our minds, time and time again, past hurts and slights? How often do we call to mind the ways in which we have hurt the ones we love? Life can seem like an eternal rerun of mistakes, grudges and sins. It is God who wipes them away and gives us a clean slate, as Isaiah reminds us. So why do we keep digging up the past?

This week we begin our annual Lenten journey of faith. It is time to renew ourselves as the coming springtime will renew the earth. We can dwell forever on last December’s ice storm, or we can look forward to another glorious spring. We can focus on the sorrows of the past, inflicted on us by ourselves or others, or we can live in the freedom and hope which Christ brings.

It’s your Lent. It’s your choice.

Pace e Bene,

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

9th Annual Diocesan Catholic Men’s Conference - All parish men are invited to the annual Conference, scheduled for Worcester’s DCU Center on **Saturday, March 28th**. Hear dynamic talks from outstanding Catholic leaders: Bill Wegner, Brian Brown, Msgr. Frank Lane, Joe Klecko and Guy Doud. For a Conference brochure see or call Fran Pandiscio at 978-348-1009 or go to www.firstmensconf.org for more information.

St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry Items

Please don’t forget about the pantry. Items needed are: bathroom tissue, cereal, canned vegetables, beef stew & canned soups, spaghetti sauce, jam or jelly, canned fruit, tuna, macaroni & cheese, Pasta Roni, canned meat. Many people rely on this weekly service that St. Francis provides. Continue to do what you can. Thank you!

The Serra Club of Worcester North invites you to join us in offering daily prayer for priests and seminarians of our Diocese. The names for the week of February 22nd through February 28th: Rev. John Welsh; Rev. John Hughes; Rev. Laurie Leger; Deacon James Couture; Rev. Thomas Egan; Rev. Thien Nguyen; Deacon John Aleskevich.

ST. ANTHONY SCHOOL REGISTRATION 2009-2010

Registration for grades pre-K 3 through grade 7 is now open. Any parishioner interested should call the school office at 978-345-7785 as soon as possible as registration is now open to the public.

The Gospel According to John – Performed by Leonardo Defillippis. Join in this wonderful Lenten program on **Friday, March 6th, from 7:30 – 9:30 PM at Fitchburg High School**, 140 Arn-How Farm Road. Admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for students and can be purchased by contacting Fran Pandiscio @ 978-348-1009 or at all I-C Federal Credit Union branch locations. A dramatic presentation of the entire Gospel brought to life in a gripping 110 minute one-man drama with a 15 minute intermission. Suitable for ages 7 and up. Families are encouraged to come. Sponsored by Serra of Worcester North.

Relay for Life – American Cancer Society – If you would like to join our Saint Anthony’s “Angels Among Us” team please attend our **meeting this Monday, February 23rd at 4:30 PM** at the school. Contact Linda Sordoni at the school at 978-345-7785 for more information. We hope to see some new faces this year!

ANGELS AMONG US FUNDRAISER TO BENEFIT THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY – On **Wednesday, February 25th (Ash Wednesday) 4:00 – 8:00 P.M.**, Il Ricordi Restaurant, 226 Westminster Street, West Fitchburg 978-345-4046, will donate 15% of all take out and dine in orders to our team! Just mention St. Anthony School and they’ll take care of the rest! Their menu includes pasta, pizza, fish and more. Please help our team with this important cause while enjoying a great meal!

Experience an “Encounter with Jesus” Music, Message and Adoration with Mark Mallett on Saturday, March 7th at St. Camillus Parish from 7:00 – 9:00 PM. A free will offering will be taken up in support of Mark’s ministry. Sit back, relax, and soak in power-packed Catholic truths, faith-building music and the healing power of Christ. Please join us.

Attention Children Envelope Users:

Please remember to include *your* adult envelope number on your *child’s* envelopes so that we may credit and money towards the family account. If no number is given we will treat it as loose change/anonymous.

Guidelines for Fast and Abstinence during Lent:
Abstinence from meat is to be observed by all Catholics fourteen (14) years of age and older on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and all the Fridays of Lent.
Fasting is to be observed by all Catholics who are eighteen (18) years of age but not yet fifty-nine (59) years of age on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Those who are bound to fast may take only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength according to one’s needs, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted. Catholics should not lightly excuse themselves from these prescribed Lenten penitential practices.

Mass for Life - Each year the Diocese of Worcester celebrates the special Mass for Life on or near the Feast of the Annunciation, at the Cathedral of St. Paul. This year’s Mass will take place on **Thursday, March 26th at 10:00 AM.** All the faithful are welcome to attend and to join with students from our Catholic Schools on this important feast day. At this time, the diocese presents the annual pro-life awards, given to individuals (both adults and youth) who have shown heroic witness to the intrinsic value of each human life.