



Mass Intentions

Saturday March 21st

Vigil: Fourth Sunday of Lent

4:00 PM Deceased Members of the Marabello & Thibodeau Families
Requested by the Macchio family

Sunday, March 22nd

Fourth Sunday in Lent

8:00 AM Domenick & Jeannette Mercadante & son Vincent
Requested by their niece Connie & Tony Tessi

10:30 AM Danny Testa
Requested by Barbara Caravella

Monday, March 23rd

St. Toribio de Mogrovejo, bishop

7:00 AM Georgette Ouellette
Requested by Steve & June Allen

5:30 PM Dorothy Kelleher
Requested by her daughter Erin

Tuesday, March 24th

7:00 AM Robert S. Spencer (Anniversary)
Requested by his daughter

7:00 PM Jennie A. Champa
Requested by her family

Wednesday, March 25th

The Annunciation of the Lord

7:00 AM Florence Douvadjian
Requested by MaryAnn Michaelian

7:00 PM Flavio DeBonis
Requested by his family

Thursday, March 26th

7:00 AM Maria Boulanger
Requested by a friend

7:00 PM
Requested by

Friday, March 27th

7:00 AM Beverly Daukantas & Norman Allen
Requested by Steve & June Allen

5:30 PM Gloria LeClair
Requested by Elena Valeri

Saturday, March 28th

8:00 AM Vigil: Fifth Sunday of Lent

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

Sunday, March 29th

Fifth Sunday of Lent

8:00 AM Mary & James DiConza & son Nicholas
Requested by Connie & Tony Tessi

10:30 AM the Cali, Kearns & Sasseville Families
Requested by their families

This week's St. Anthony Devotional Candle is requested by residents at The Gables. Thank you.

March 21- 22, 2009

Fourth Sunday of Lent

"One thing I do know is that I was blind and now I see."

READ AND PREPARE

Next week's Scripture readings:

First Reading: Ezekiel 37:12 – 14

Second Reading: Romans 8:8 – 11

Gospel: John 11:1– 45

PREVIOUS WEEK OFFERINGS

Needed to Meet Budget	\$4,889.00
Sunday Offering	\$4,694.00
Children's Collection (\$14.75)	\$15.00
DEFICIT this week	\$180.00
DEFICIT Year to Date	\$4,282.50

This Week's Collection is for **The Catholic Relief Services** which combats poverty, displacement, human trafficking, unjust policies, the effects of natural disaster and emergencies, and hunger around the world. When you donate you give hope. Please be as generous as you can.

Hospitality Committee meets **Wednesday, March 25th** at 7:00 PM in the church office. Also, if anyone is willing to cook/bake for the weekend socials on March 28-29th please contact Amy Walsh at 978-502-5540 no later than Wednesday, March 25th.

City of Fitchburg Lenten Mission will be held here at **St. Anthony Parish on March 24, 25 & 26th**. Sister Hilda Ponte, MPV will be our Mission Preacher with a theme of *"With Listening Ears and Open Hearts"*. Mass and Mission will be at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday with confessions from 5:30 – 6:45 PM on Thursday. A reception will be held Thursday after Mass in the church hall. Please plan to attend. Invite your friends!

Movie Series: This week's movie is the Gregory Peck classic film "To Kill a Mockingbird". Bring a beverage and we'll supply the popcorn. **Friday @ 7:00 PM in the church hall.**

Adult Faith Enrichment continues through April 2nd each **Thursday at 7:00 PM in the church hall.** We're discussing John Allen's book "The Ten Things That Pope Benedict Wants You To Know."

IMPORTANT! Volunteers for the Ministry Fair Scheduled for Saturday, March 28th & Sunday, March 29th: Due to the Citywide Mission, the **informational flyer drop off** that was originally scheduled for Thursday, March 26th **has been changed to Saturday morning, March 28th between 10:00 – 11:00 AM.**

Clean Saturday – Please come to the church on **Saturday morning, April 4th, anytime from 9:00 – Noon** to help give the church a good spring cleaning! Bring your own pails, dusting cloths etc. Let's get the whole church – top to bottom – cleaned. Any amount of time will be appreciated. Please sign the sheets in the back of the church to indicate if and at what time you will be here.

Attention all Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors and Altar servers: Sign up sheets are in the sacristy for Holy Week and Easter Sunday services. Please sign up for the time(s) you would like to serve.

Dear Friends,

What is it that we don't see? In what ways are we blind?

Spring is a great time of the year to start looking. Every day, our landscape is changing around us. The snow pile at the end of the driveway is smaller when we get home from work than when we left in the morning. Beneath the debris of twigs and dead grass we can see the first green sprouts of springtime. There are more birds in the sky. Daylight lingers longer. Nature is calling us to wake up and see.

Lent is a great time of the year to start looking. Have I been faithful to my Lenten resolutions? Have they brought me closer to God and to my neighbor? Will this Lent effect a real and permanent change in me and my attitudes, or is it just a forty day thing?

Now is a great time of the year to start looking. Who is it that I have been taking for granted? My spouse? My parents? My co-workers? My friends? Do I find myself more ready to really listen to those arrange me, or do I tune them out, convinced they have nothing new to say? And what about the inevitable and natural changes in our neighborhoods? Do I just complain that my old neighbors have moved away or do I introduce myself to my new neighbors? And what about new parishioners? Do we see them and offer them a handshake and a hello, or do we ignore their presence in our parish?

Now is a great time to look again and see our world with new eyes.

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 shampoo & conditioner.** Items can be placed in the marked boxes at the entrances of the church. Thank you for your support.

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 O's, jam or jelly, canned fruit, tuna, Hamburger Helper, baked beans. 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 March 22nd through March 28th: Rev. Emerito Ortiz; Deacon William Colon; Rev. Joseph Dolan; Deacon Benjamin Nogueira; Rev. Andre Dargis; Rev. Donald Baker; Deacon Paul Carrier.

Mass Citizens for Life will meet on **Tuesday, March 24th at the Golden Living Center, 1199 John Fitch Hwy., at 7:00 PM.** Anyone interested in helping to promote a change in people's views on preserving the dignity of human life from conception to natural death is invited to join us.

The Montachusett Chorale will present a Festival of Song in the Pilgrim Congregational Church, 26 West St., Leominster on **Sunday, March 22nd at 3:00 PM.** The chorale will be joined by four other area choirs. A free will offering will be taken for the Heating Assistance Program sponsored by the Mayor's Office. All are welcome.

During the Month of March the Youth Group and Women's Guild of **St. Camillus will be collecting items** to put in shoe boxes **to send to our men and women overseas**, including playing cards, gum, toothpaste/brush, Kleenex, disposable razors, stationary w/stamps, soap, deodorant, shampoo, batteries, phone cards, baby wipes, etc. and we need shoe boxes to send them in...**no candy.** Items can be left at the back of the church on the tables. For more information on these items, contact Kathy Jordan @ 978-874-5472.

The following is a complete list of events during Lent at area Catholic Churches in Fitchburg:

Additional Masses: Monday – Friday @ 12:30 in the Alumni Room in the Hammond Building at Fitchburg State College as well as here at St. Anthony's @ 5:30 PM.

Stations of the Cross on Fridays at St. Camillus Church @ 3:00 and also on Wednesday evenings @ 7:00 PM at Sacred Heart Church.

Outdoor Way of the Cross – A citywide Christian Witness on Good Friday @ 1:00 PM with procession route to be determined.

Faith Discussion Group – "What Pope Benedict Wants You to Know", here at St. Anthony's in the church hall Thursdays through April 2nd @ 7:00 PM.

Movie Series – Contemporary films with a message of faith for adults, here in the church hall Fridays through April 3rd @ 7:00 PM.

Citywide Lenten Mission with Sister Hilda Ponte, MPV as our Mission Preacher: here at St. Anthony's in the church on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, March 24 – 26th @ 7:00 PM.

World Famous Fish Dinners! – Every Friday in Lent at Madonna of the Holy Rosary Church beginning @ 4:30 PM. Dine in or take-out available.

Join us for a "Day at the Movies" – Sponsored by the Angels Among Us Relay for Life Team of St. Anthony School on **Saturday, March 28th** in the school cafeteria. All proceeds will benefit the American Cancer Society. Three different children's movies at three different times! Call the school at 978-345-7785 for age appropriate movie names & times. Movies are \$3 per child, \$5 per adult. Price includes popcorn and a drink. Bring extra money for the bake sale!

Last Call for 2008 Church Contribution Tax Information

April 15th is looming ahead. It's not too late! If you would like an Annual Tax Contribution Report for money given during the 2008 year you must call the office to request one ASAP.

Italy for the Gourmet Traveler – A scrumptious sampling of foods as authentic as those in various regions of Italy: Marche, Abruzzo, Sicilia, Calabria etc. will be presented by gastronomical Italian expert Fred Plotkin in his delightful raconteur style on **Friday, April 17, 2009 at 5:30 PM at The Fay Club, Fitchburg.** Tickets are \$25 and must be purchased in advance as seating is limited. Call Anna Mazzaferro for more information at 978-537-2172.