

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, April 22nd

Vigil: Third Sunday of Easter

4:00 PM Donald Cormier (78th Birthday)
by his Lorraine & children Patrick & Jennifer
Emanuel & Louise Pagnotta
by their daughters

Sunday, April 23rd

Third Sunday of Easter

8:00 AM Open Intention
by

10:30 AM Joseph Altieri, III (Birthday)
by his sister Jo-Ann Altieri

11:45 AM BAPTISM: Lydia Deneen Herget

12:30 PM Parishioners

Monday, April 24th

St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Priest & Martyr

8:00 AM Deceased of Marabello & Thibodeau Families
by the Macchio Family

Tuesday, April 25th

St. Mark, Evangelist

8:00 AM Mary Celona
by her Family

7:00 PM St. Anthony Novena – Fr. Julio Granados

Wednesday, April 26th

8:00 AM Open Intention
by

Thursday, April 27th

8:00 AM Open Intention
by

Friday, April 28th

St. Louis Grignon de Montfort, Priest

8:00 AM NO MASS

Saturday, April 29th

Vigil: Fourth Sunday of Easter

4:00 PM Edward DeCosta (1st Anniversary)
by Parry Martin

Sunday, April 30th

Fourth Sunday of Easter

8:00 AM Open Intention
by

10:30 AM Salvatore & Lorraine M. Infantino
Memorial of their Wedding Anniversary
by Sheila Graham
Angelo Femino
by his wife Ann & Family

12:30 PM Parishioners



St. Anthony Candle Intention:
IMO Ray Goguen
by a friend

April 22 - 23, 2023

Third Sunday of Easter

"Did not our hearts burn within us while He talked to us on the road, while He opened to us the scriptures?" (LUKE 24:32) How often do you take the time to discern what Jesus is calling you to do with your life? Are your prayers always petitions, asking Jesus to do things for you? If so, that's a one-sided relationship. Living our faith means developing a personal relationship with Jesus. Just like any friendship, there is give and take, each side listening to each other and helping each other out. Take time, in silence, to listen to what Jesus is asking of you today.

READ AND PREPARE

Next Week's Scripture readings

First Reading Acts 2:14a, 36-41
Second Reading 1 Peter 2:20b-25
Gospel John 10:1-10

PARISH CALENDAR, NEWS EVENTS

Venerini Sisters Annual Collection –We will have an in-pew second collection for the Venerini Sisters NEXT weekend. Some of you have already contributed to this collection via your envelopes and we thank you! For those who have not, 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. Please help us to show our gratitude for their continued service and ministry. Thank you!

ST. ANTHONY NOVENA HAS BEGUN

All novena nights begin at 7pm on Tuesday evenings here at St. Anthony Church. Novena prayers, sermon, and Benediction with veneration of the relic of St. Anthony of Padua. Spread the word! Come and bring a friend. List of preachers is as follows:

April 25 Fr. Julio Granados
St. John's Clinton
May 2 Fr. Cleber DiPaula
Holy Family, Worcester
May 9 Fr. Richard Lewandowski
Retired
May 16 Fr. Daniel Mulcahy
St. Brigid, Millbury
May 23 Fr. Javier Julio
St. Louis, Webster
May 30 Fr. Enoch Kyeremateng
Chaplain, African Ministry
June 15 Deacon Salvatore Tantillo
St. Anthony Parish, Fitchburg
June 13 St. Anthony Mass



Please pray for the eternal rest of
Joseph Sansossio
May God grant his family comfort.

Dear Friends,

On most Sundays during the Easter season in Cycle A, our Gospel is taken from the Gospel of John. This week's Gospel, however, is taken from the Gospel of Luke. As in last week's Gospel, today's Gospel shows us how the first community of disciples came to believe that Jesus had risen from the dead. In these stories, we gain insight into how the community of the Church came to be formed.

When we read today's Gospel, we may be surprised to learn that these friends of Jesus could walk and converse with him at some length yet not recognize him. Again, we discover that the risen Jesus is not always easily recognized. Cleopas and the other disciple walk with a person whom they believe to be a stranger; only later do they discover that the stranger is Jesus. We learn that the first community met and recognized Jesus in the breaking of the bread, just as we meet Jesus in the Eucharist.

We can imagine the feelings of the two disciples in today's reading. They are leaving their community in Jerusalem. Their friend Jesus has been crucified. Their hope is gone. They are trying to make sense of what has occurred so that they can put the experience behind them.

Jesus himself approaches the two men, but they take him for a stranger. Jesus asks them what they are discussing. He invites them to share their experience and interpretation of the events surrounding his crucifixion and death. When the two disciples have done so, Jesus offers his own interpretation of his crucifixion and resurrection, citing Jewish Scripture. In that encounter we find the model for our Liturgy of the Word—what we do each time we gather as a community for the Eucharist. We reflect upon our life experiences and interpret them in light of Scripture. We gather together to break open the Word of God.

In the next part of the story, we find a model for our Liturgy of the Eucharist. The disciples invite the stranger (Jesus) to stay with them. During the meal in which they share in the breaking of the bread, the disciples' eyes are opened; they recognize the stranger as Jesus. In the Eucharist, we share in the breaking of the bread and discover Jesus in our midst. Just as the disciples returned to Jerusalem to recount their experience to the other disciples, we too are sent from our Eucharistic gathering. Our experience of Jesus in the Eucharist compels us to share the story with others.

Blessings,
Fr. Juan

Personal Hygiene Collection for Catholic Charities is Ongoing.

Please bring one or two items and place them in the collection bins at the entrances of the church. Suggested Items Needed: Shampoo, conditioner, shaving cream, soap, body wash, small packs of tissues, deodorant (men & woman's), toothpaste, toothbrushes, mouthwash, hand sanitizer, lotion, toilet paper, diapers, baby wash, baby lotion.



Food Pantry Collection for St. Francis chapter of St. Vincent de Paul is ongoing. Please bring any nonperishable items when you can. If this is something that you have never done before, please strongly consider it. **Even one or two items a month makes a huge difference to the people the pantry serves.** The collection bin is

located at the entrance of the church. The Food Pantry is open every week to the public so there is always much needed.



Newly Baptized

**Keilani Kemuma Matara
&
Zola Alexandra Whittle**

were welcomed into our Christian community through baptism. May they, along with their parents, grow in faith, love and service to Jesus Christ.

Mark your calendars for the return of St. Anthony Fair/Festa Saturday, June 10th from 11AM – 6 PM. If you can help in any way, sign up sheets will be available after Mass, or you can contact Fr. Juan directly – email or phone. Please help us to make this a successful community event!

Partners in Charity in Pew Collection took place today. If you received a letter from Fr. Juan, please mail your donation directly to Worcester in the envelope provided. Or bring it with you to Mass. If you did not receive a letter, please prayerfully consider contributing to this annual appeal in any amount. Donation envelopes are in the pews. You can even make your gift from a Smartphone by texting DONATE to 84576! We receive a list from the Diocese weekly of all who have donated. As you may know, this appeal is a lifeline for more than two dozen agencies and ministries which provide charitable, pastoral and educational services that complement what we can provide at the parish level. There is the compassionate outreach of Catholic Charities, prayerful witness of our retired priests and the joy of new priestly vocations; and the many diocesan ministries and programs that heal, teach and care for others.

If you made a gift to the 2023 appeal, we thank you!