

Mass Intentions

May 1 – 2, 2010 Fifth Sunday of Easter

"I give you a new commandment: love one another."

READ AND PREPARE

Next week's Scripture readings:

First Reading: Acts 15:1 – 2, 22 – 29

Second Reading: Revelation 21:10 – 14, 22 – 23

Gospel: John 14:23 – 29

April 25th Offerings

Needed to Meet Budget	\$4,889.00
Sunday Offerings	\$4,661.00
Children's Collection (\$10.00)	\$10.00
DEFICIT this week	\$218.00
TOTAL DEFICIT Year to Date	\$1,871.00

The Dominican Sisters Bake Sale totaled \$632.50

SAVE THE DATE: Wednesday, May 12th at 7:00 in the church hall. Please plan to attend the combined annual meeting of the Parish Council and Finance Committee. Come to hear a summary of what has been done and some plans for the future. Parishioners are urged to attend. Be a part of the decision making process. Your suggestions are always welcome.

Attention all Senior Parishioners: We are once again holding our annual Mass and dinner to celebrate our seniors as well as honor our Venerini Sisters. **The annual St. Rosa Venerini Day will be held on Thursday, May 6th beginning with a Mass at 10:30 followed by dinner in the church hall.** All seniors including those homebound, along with their caregivers, are invited to attend and celebrate with us. **You must have pre-registered to attend the dinner.**

Partners in Charity Appeal is Nearing our Goal of 38,000! We had 24 donors this past week for a total of \$3,410 which brings **our grand total to \$30,022 from 173 donors.** Of those donors 3 are new this week. **We have 61 outstanding donors from last year.** If we can receive another 50-60 donations we can meet and surpass our goal! Remember, we are trying to supplement the anticipated drop in donations from the Fitchburg area. Last year we demonstrated how strong and vibrant a community we were by raising more than \$41,000. Let us not lower the bar on ourselves just because our goal remains the same. Many organizations depend on the generous contributions from ALL parishioners throughout the Diocese. They can not continue to do their good work without us. Send in your pledge today. If you are in need of a pledge card and envelope they are available at the entrances of the church.

SAINT ANTHONY NOVENA - Our annual St. Anthony Novena continues **Tuesday, May 4th at 7:00 PM** with Fr. Kenneth Cardinale followed by Fr. Michael Lavallee, Deacon Sal Tantillo, Fr. Edward Chalmers, Fr. Walter Riley and Bishop Daniel Reilly. **Our theme this year is: "Church as Community, Church as Communion."** This is the fourth week of our nine consecutive Tuesdays. Please join us even if you can not make all dates.

Annual Mother's Day Rose Drive - The annual Pro-Life Rose Drive will again be held during Mother's Day weekend, **May 8 and 9.** Proceeds will benefit Massachusetts Citizens for Life [MCFL]. The traditional silk roses in red, white, yellow, and pink will be available for sale after all Masses. Your participation is greatly appreciated. These organizations depend on donations in order to continue to meet the needs of mothers and their babies, and to help them choose life for their unborn child.

Saturday, May 1st

Vigil: Fifth Sunday of Easter

4:00 PM James DiNardo
Requested by his family

6:00 PM Sam Bodanza
Requested by the Boudreau family

Sunday, May 2nd

Fifth Sunday of Easter

8:00 AM Molly DiConza
Requested by Joseph & Phyllis DiConza

10:30 AM Dominic Dantini
Requested by his wife & children

Monday, May 3rd

Sts. Phillip & James, apostles

7:00 AM Virginia Anderson & Mary Patenaude
Requested by the Dwyer family

Tuesday, May 4th

7:00 AM Domenico Mercadante (Anniversary)
Requested by his family

7:00 PM St. Anthony Novena: Week 4
Preacher: Fr. Kenneth Cardinale
Pastor of Our Lady of Good Counsel,
West Boylston

Wednesday, May 5th

5:30 PM Maria & Luigi Brasili
Requested by their family

Thursday, May 6th

7:00 AM Carmella Berube
Requested by Fran & Annette Pandiscio

10:30 AM Venerini Day Mass

Friday, May 7th

7:00 AM Catherine Ruberti
Requested by husband Alexander &
daughter Elizabeth

Saturday, May 8th

Vigil: Sixth Sunday of Easter

4:00 PM Michael DiNardo
Requested by his family

6:00 PM Ella Carbone
Requested by Elena Valeri

Sunday, May 9th

Sixth Sunday of Easter

8:00 AM Bernard & Kathleen DiPasquale
Requested by Joseph & Phyllis DiConza

10:30 AM Claire E. Testagrossa
Requested by her children

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

Doris Meehan, Nicholas Stanchi

Raymond Lanzilotti & Pauline Leys

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

Dear Friends,

The month of May is Mary's month. It has been that way for centuries. Liturgically speaking, many have argued that Advent is more appropriately Mary's time, because the whole Church awaits with Mary the birth of her Son. That hasn't altered popular perceptions. Maybe it is the similarity between the name of the month (May) and her name (Mary). Maybe it's because Mother's Day falls on the second Sunday in May and Mary is our mother.

The Jesuit poet Gerard Manley Hopkins wrote that May is Mary's month because all of nature is bursting forth with buds, leaves, flowers, new life of all kinds.

The first readings at Mass throughout this time have to do with the foundation of the Church as recorded in the Acts of the Apostles. The Book of Acts tells us (Acts 1:14) that Mary was at the heart of the first apostolic community in Jerusalem. The Gospel readings focus on the faith and love which Jesus expects of His followers. Has anyone ever loved us as unconditionally as our mothers? Has anyone had faith in us the way our mothers do?

Liturgists to the contrary notwithstanding, *May is Mary's month*. There are so many reasons to honor our mother in heaven in May and throughout the year.

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 fruit, Hamburger Helper, tuna, macaroni & cheese, jam & jelly, juice, beef or vegetable broth and cereal. **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: May 2nd through May 8th: Deacon James Linderman, Fr. Jesus Martinez, Fr. James Mazzone, Bishop McManus, Deacon Paul Messo, and Fr. Edward Michalski.

Thank You to all who made the 1st Annual St. Anthony Variety Show a success. From the parishioners, school parents & children and many other members of the community who preformed in the show and behind the scenes to the many wonderful people who showed support by monetary means or simply by your presence in the audience. We are grateful for the opportunity given us. We hope to continue the show next year and perhaps gather more support not only in cast & crew but also people willing to come out and attend what we hope will be an entertaining time. If you attended the show and liked what you saw, pass it on! If you didn't attend but want a feel for what went on and who was in the show, please check out our parish web site at www.stanthonyfitchburg.net. See how many faces you can recognize!

ONE PITCH SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT - You're invited to be a part of the 1st Annual One Pitch Softball Tournament **on the weekend of May 8th & 9th at Coolidge Park.** Registration for a team is \$100.00 and this year's proceeds will go to St. Anthony School. Gather some men, women and young adults and come have some fun while supporting a good cause! For detailed information please call Sean Potter @ 978-235-6790.



Banns of Marriage I
Anthony Zarrella & Elizabeth Richardson

COLUMBAN SISTERS: in accordance with the Diocesan Missionary Cooperative Plan, the **Columban Sisters will visit our parish on the weekend of May 22nd & 23rd at all Masses.** They will speak on behalf of their missionary work in Asia and South America. Your prayers and financial assistance will enable the Sisters to continue to serve the poor among whom they live and work.

Guess Who's Having a Birthday? - Please join us on **Sunday May 23rd anytime between the hours of 2 - 4 PM in the church hall to celebrate Fr Bob's 60th birthday.** Please call Linda Allaire at 978-345-1669 if you can make a dessert and/or help out in some way. Due to this celebration we will not have the May socials following each Mass on the weekend of May 22/23rd.

Annual Women's Tea – Today's Women in Faith invite all women to their Annual Tea at St. Anthony Church Hall, Fitchburg on **Monday, May 24th at 6:30 PM.** Sr. Loretta Ciccarelli, M.P.V., will be the guest speaker with talks titled: "Mother and Child" and "Modern Day Pietas". Bring a teacup and a friend! To RSVP call the church office at 978-342-4706 during regular office hours, email Betty Anderson @ banderson@buynensco.com or June Allen @ Jallenskin@aol.com by Friday, May 21st.



On Monday, April 19th, Bishop Robert McManus confirmed the following young men and women of our parish, together with those of St. Joseph, Immaculate Conception, Madonna of the Holy Rosary and St. Francis of Assisi all at St. Francis of Assisi Church:

Mary Olga Adams
Ashley Marguerite Arsenault
Ariel Sophia Belli
Courtney Fay Brooks
Courtney Isaac Carriere
Tyler Vitus Collette
Maria Rose DiPasquale
Jacob Christopher Droogan

Rebecca Antoinette Fluet
Katlin Bridget McInnis
Jeffrey Massimiliano Merrill
Constance Clare Montesian
Nicholas Sebastian Primeau
James Thomas Seidl
Taylor Janet Seidl

May God continue to bestow His blessings on all of them.