



September 5, 2010

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple."

Mass Intentions

Saturday, September 4th

Vigil: 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 PM **Sylvia Pagnotto (15th Anniversary)**
Requested by Linda & Peter Allaire

6:00 PM **Liana Kolb**
Requested by Rose Anne Addoriso & Betty Maney

Sunday, September 5th

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM **Jeannette Mercadante (Anniversary)**
Requested by Nick & Frances Mercadante

10:30 AM **Peter & Stephen Celona**
Requested by Grace & Mario Zarrella

Monday, September 6th

Labor Day

7:00 AM **NO MASS**
Fr. Bob away

Tuesday, September 7th

7:00 AM **NO MASS**

Wednesday, September 8th

Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

5:30 PM **Adrien & Elodie Frechette**
Requested by their family

Thursday, September 9th

St. Peter Claver, priest

7:00 AM **Mary DiPasquale**
Requested by Jay

Friday, September 10th

7:00 AM **All Forgotten Souls**
Requested by a parishioner

2:00 PM **School Mass**

Saturday, September 11th

Vigil: 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 PM **Lillian Chausse**
Requested by Betty & Dennis Anderson

6:00 PM **Michael DiBenedetto**
Requested by his family

Sunday, September 12th

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM **John Pacetti (2nd Anniversary)**
Requested by his wife Ann & family

10:30 AM **Nabia M. & James T. Altieri**
Requested by their children

READ AND PREPARE

Next week's Scripture readings:

First Reading: Exodus 32:7 – 11, 13 – 14

Second Reading: 1 Timothy 1:12 – 17

Gospel: Luke 15:1 – 32

August 29th Offerings

Needed to Meet Budget	\$4,889.00
Sunday Offerings	\$4,197.00
Children's Collection (\$27.00)	\$27.00
DEFICIT this week	\$665.00
TOTAL DEFICIT FOR YEAR	\$10,537.00

Parish Council meets this **Wednesday, Sept. 8th @ 7:00 pm** in the church hall. All parishioners are welcome.

Hospitality Committee meets on **Wednesday, Sept. 8th @ 7:00 pm** in the outer office. New members are always welcome. Please note that for **this month only** the **hospitality socials after all Masses** will be held **next weekend, Sept. 11 – 12th**. If anyone would like to help with an appetizer or baked good please contact Amy Walsh @ 978-502-5540.

RCIA Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults is intended for adult Catholics who have not been confirmed and for anyone who is interested in knowing more about Catholic Christianity. We meet once a month in the rectory. **Our first meeting is Wednesday, September 15th at 7:00 pm.** Do you have Catholic family members or friends who have not been confirmed? Do you have non-Catholic family members or friends who may want to know more about the Catholic Church? Call the office or just drop in if you're interested.

THE FALL WILL BE HERE BEFORE YOU KNOW IT - We are looking for more Eucharistic ministers, more lectors, and more altar servers and will begin training **right after Labor Day**. Please consider one of these opportunities to become more actively involved in the life of our faith community by serving in one of the various ministries, either at the Mass or serving the homebound. When the invitation to serve is made, will you be ready to say "Yes"? Call the office if interested at 978-342-4706.

Red Sox Raffle Ticket - Montachusett Interfaith Hospitality Network (MIHN) will again be holding a raffle for tickets to a **Red Sox vs. Orioles game**. The prize includes **4 tickets** for the September 20th game as well as **\$100 spending money!** Tickets are \$5 each or a book of 5 for \$20. This is a very affordable way for you to enjoy Fenway Park! **If you wish to purchase tickets, call Kathy Cullinan at 978-342-3363. The drawing will be held on September 13th.** Why not take a chance? All proceeds will benefit MIHN in its ongoing mission to assist homeless families.

Regular Office Hours Have Returned

The office has returned to regular hours of 9:00 – 3:00 Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. **The office remains closed all day on Tuesday.** Remember, although we do not offer Tuesday morning Masses there are other churches in the city that do.

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:
Mary Ann Fuhs & Josephine Anzalone
May they rest in peace.

This week's St. Anthony Devotional Candle by:
Residents of the Gables for special intentions

Dear Friends,

The challenge of today's Gospel is softened somewhat by the second reading. Human emotion and the connections we have as family and friends is a good and beautiful thing if they do not stand in the way of our relationship with God. When we convince ourselves that what is wrong is right or at least okay simply because a loved one is doing it, we deny the primacy of God's law and set up family as a false god to be worshipped.

There is such a thing as truth. There is a difference between what is right and what is wrong, and the one who decides that is God, not us. Submitting to the will of God is the first step in becoming a disciple of Jesus Christ. Imagining that we can somehow be faithful disciples when it isn't too inconvenient is a contemporary notion rooted in an erroneous understanding of human nature. For a person to be fulfilled does not mean that they have everything they want whenever they want it. That is the pathway to the broken families which surround us.

To be truly fulfilled as a person and as a Christian requires the willingness to accept the good with the bad, the restrain our passions when they are sinful and to restrain our desires when they go against the greater good and to choose what is right. The gift of free will gives us the ability to do what we know is right, even when it isn't what we want to do at a particular time. The ability to make intelligent choices is what defines us as humans. The ability to make virtuous choices is what defines us as Christians.

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: cereal, canned meat, Ramen Noodles, Pasta Roni, bathroom tissues, baked beans, tuna fish, and spaghetti sauce, peanut butter & jelly. **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 shaving lotion.** 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 include the following in your daily prayers and continue to pray for new vocations:

Fr. Timothy Brewer, Fr. Bob Brusco, Fr. James Caldarella, Fr. James Callahan, Deacon Mark Carrier, Deacon Roderick Cashes, Fr. William Champlin.

S.P.R.E.D. Special Religious Education – A program for children 6 years old and up as well as for adults with developmental disabilities, to help foster spiritual development. There will be an informational and organizational meeting on **Wednesday, September 8th at 7:00 pm** at Madonna of the Holy Rosary Education and Formation Center. Please drop by to see what this is all about.

Jeanne d'Arc Circle #44 Daughters of Isabella will meet on **Monday, Sept. 13th** at the Knights of Columbus, Electric Ave., Fitchburg, **at 1:00 pm**. Please note the time change is for this meeting only! Theresa Belli-Murchie & Frances Mercadante are the co-chairs for this meeting.

Area Parish Festivals & Bazaars

Our Lady of the Lake, 1400 Main Street, Leominster – Friday, September 10th from 5:00 – 10:00 pm and Saturday, September 11th from noon – 10:00 pm. A special free show by Animal Adventures at 3:00 pm and meet Blinkie the Clown from 1:00 – 4:00 pm on Saturday.

RECONCILIATION WEEKEND AT ST. JOSEPH'S – Father Bud Flaherty, a LaSalette Missionary, will be at all Masses at St. Joseph's Church on the **weekend of Sept. 18 – 19th**, preaching on the theme of reconciliation and God's forgiving love. Confessions will be available after all Masses: Saturday at 4 and Sunday at 7, 9, 11 and 5 pm.

The Montachusett Chorale presents an evening of Sundaes, Sweets and Swing with **'The Hot Fugue' on Saturday, September 18th** in the Veterans' Center, 100 West Street, Leominster. The proceeds will benefit the Veterans' Center. Ice cream sundaes & sweets served from 7 – 7:45 pm, show to start at 8:00 pm. Tickets are \$12 in advance only and can be purchased by calling Colonial Florists @ 978-534-9187 or the Veterans' Center @ 978-534-7538.

13th Annual Yard Sale for Franciscan Missionaries in Haiti will be on **September 25th from 9:00 – 3:00 pm**, 25 Pierce St., off Route 13, Leominster. Proceeds benefit the Nutrition Center for children with severe malnutrition and medical clinic. Sponsored by Catholic Financial Life, Council 93 of Fitchburg. Call Emery & Jeannita at 978-537-1907 for more information. Rain date 9/26.

New Parishioners – We are happy to welcome new members to our parish family. Please introduce yourself after Mass to Fr. Bob. We invite you to stop by the parish office to register or to take a blue registration form from the back of the church (one for each member of your family) and return it/them in the collection basket or to the church office. If you have access to a computer please visit our parish web site **www.stanthonyfitchburg.net** where you will find useful information as well as current events and Mass listings. Welcome!

Electronic Giving is Coming! To strengthen stewardship here in the parish we are introducing a new and easier way to support our parish...Electronic Giving. What is Electronic Giving? An alternate means of supporting the parish instead of envelopes. Instead of envelopes, an electronic giving program would allow parishioners to make automatic contributions directly from checking, saving, or credit card accounts. There would be NO cost to parishioners for participating in the program. We are currently in the process of implementing this program and would be interested in hearing from you if you would like to participate in such a program. Please contact the parish office at 978-342-4706 or check out our website (**www.stanthonyfitchburg.net**) and this bulletin in the coming weeks for more detailed information on electronic giving and how you can easily sign yourself up!

LA MADONNA DELLA CAVA committee would like everyone who submitted a petition to the Madonna to know that all petitions have been burned in a respectful manner. The contents of the petitions are confidential, known only to Our Blessed Mother and her son Our Lord.