



Mass Intentions

Saturday January 24th

Vigil: Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 PM Deceased of the Bodanza & LaLancette Families
Requested by the Macchio family

Sunday, January 25th

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM Robert J. & Angela A. (Posco) Goodnow
Requested by their daughter Carol-Ann & family

10:30 AM Deceased Members of the Gendron Family
Requested by Grace & Mario Zarrella

Monday, January 26th

Sts. Timothy and Titus, bishops

7:00 AM NO MASS
Fr. Bob Away

Tuesday, January 27th

St. Angela Merici, virgin

7:00 AM NO MASS
Fr. Bob Away

Wednesday, January 28th

St. Thomas Aquinas, priest and doctor of the Church

5:30 PM NO MASS
Fr. Bob Away

Thursday, January 29th

7:00 AM NO MASS
Fr. Bob Away

Friday, January 30th

7:00 AM NO MASS
Fr. Bob Away

Saturday, January 31st

Vigil: Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 PM Nancy Flory (Anniversary)
Requested by Joe, Anita & children

Sunday, February 1st

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM Jimmy Pandiscio
Requested by Mike Dantini

10:30 AM Pete Celona (Anniversary)
Requested by his wife & children

January 24 - 25, 2009

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

"This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand."

READ AND PREPARE

Next week's Scripture readings:

First Reading: Deuteronomy 18:15 - 20

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 7:32 - 35

Gospel: Mark 1:21 - 28

PREVIOUS WEEK OFFERINGS

Needed to Meet Budget	\$4,889.00
Sunday Offering	\$3,040.50
Children's Collection (\$9.50)	\$9.50
DEFICIT this week	\$1,839.00
DEFICIT Year to Date	\$2,976.50

The Penance/First Reconciliation Service that was postponed due to a December snowstorm **has been re-scheduled for Tuesday evening, February 3rd at 6:30 PM in the Church.** This is a wonderful way to start the New Year. Please plan to attend.

SAVE THE DATE! - **St. Anthony Pot Luck Dinner** is scheduled for **February 21st** immediately after the 4:00 PM Mass. More information will follow. You do not need to be at Mass to attend!

DO YOU HAVE 4 WHEEL DRIVE? - Sometimes in the winter, it's difficult to get around. For our Venerini Sisters at Rosemont, traveling up and down Prospect St. hill can be a challenge, especially during bad weather. There are times when the Sisters have appointments that they cannot make because they have no transportation.

If you have a 4 wheel drive vehicle and are willing to help the Sisters with a ride from time to time, please call the church office at 978-342-4706 and leave your name and telephone number so we can create an on-call list of those willing and able to help our Sisters in this way.

ST. ANTHONY CANDLE - Since we have changed the location of the statue of our patron St. Anthony, we have added a vigil light to burn throughout the week in his honor. If you would like to make an offering to help defray the cost of the vigil light, please speak with Father Bob.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of:
Gilda Catalini

who died this past week. May her soul rest in peace.

Dear Friends,

This week, the Gospel reading tells us of the call of the first disciples according to Mark. As is characteristic of all of Mark's Gospels, there is a sense of immediacy to it. In John's account, which we read last week, the situation develops logically. Andrew is a disciple of John the Baptist. Upon John's recommendation, Andrew and a friend follow Jesus and spend a day with Him. After having been convinced of His wisdom, Andrew shares his news with his brother Simon Peter and his friends James and John. That makes sense to us.

In Mark's account, it seems as if Jesus just walked up to some strangers and said "Follow me," and they dropped what they were doing to follow. It doesn't seem very carefully planned. Remember, however, that Mark's Gospel was written with a sense of urgency throughout and there is no time to development nuances of character in his writing. Mark was afire with the desire to share the good news he had heard and seen. John, writing perhaps 60 years later, had more time to reflect on the experience of the first disciples, and to fill in the blanks, so to speak. Just because he was calmer in his writing style didn't mean that he didn't have the same ardent love for the Savior.

And so it is with us. We have different personalities and different ways of communicating. As Christians, that is not what is important. What is important is our willingness to share the good news, to be witnesses of Jesus Christ is our own unique and special way.

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.

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 January 25th through January 31st: Rev. James Caldarella; Rev. Thomas Garlick; Deacon Mark Carrier; Rev. Terence Kilcoyne; Deacon Roderick Cashes; Rev. Francis Goguen; Deacon Ronald Aubuchon.

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!

2008 Tax Information

Any parishioner who would like to receive an Annual Contribution Report for all money given during the 2008 year must call the office to request one. These reports will only be sent upon request. 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.

St. Joseph's Parish, Fitchburg would like to invite all to come and experience Ivan Dragicevic, from Medjugorje on **Monday, February 9th.** There will be a recitation of the rosary at 6:00 PM, Mass at 7:00 PM followed 8:00 PM by Ivan speaking about what Mary has said in her message.

Relay for Life – American Cancer Society – If you would like to join our Saint Anthony's "Angel Among Us" team and were unable to attend the meeting last Thursday, please contact Linda Sordoni at the school at 978-345-7785. We hope to see some new faces this year!

POSTCARD SIGNING DAY! **This weekend** our parish joined Catholics across the country in sending a message to Congress: Please oppose the "Freedom of Choice Act" (FOCA) and retain laws against government funding and promotion of abortion. If you missed the opportunity to sign postcards to your U.S. Representative and two U.S. Senators you may obtain the information needed by going to: www.usccb.org/prolife and www.nchla.org. Please plan to participate in this important event. Take the time to learn more about FOCA and how it affects all of us.

ST. ANTHONY SCHOOL REGISTRATION 2009-2010

Registration will begin for Pre-K 3, Pre-K 4 and Kindergarten on **Tuesday, February 10th.** Any parishioner interested should call the school office at 978-345-7785 prior to that date as registration will be open to the public beginning that day. Anyone interested in enrolling students for grades 1-7 should call to inquire about possible openings and information regarding acceptance for those grades. **OPEN HOUSE is scheduled for Thursday, January 29th from 10-2:00 PM.** All are welcome to come and see our school and meet our teachers!