

# SAINT ANNA PARISH

199 Lancaster Street • Leominster, Massachusetts 01453 • 978-537-5293

Rev. Father Frederick D. Fraini, III, Pastor

## Weekly Schedule

*Daily Mass:* Monday-Friday, 7:30am

*Saturday Vigil:* 4pm

*Sunday Mass:* 8am, 10am, 11:30am

*School Mass:* Wednesday 9am (September-June)

*Adoration:* Tuesday 8am-12pm

*Confessions:* Saturday 2:45-3:45pm; or by appointment

*Brazilian & Portuguese Mass:* Sunday, 6:30pm

**New Members:** We warmly welcome new members to our parish family. To register, contact the parish office or visit our website at [www.stannaparish.org](http://www.stannaparish.org)

## Sacraments

**Baptisms:** are celebrated on the 3rd Sunday of the month with preparation classes for parents and God parents on the 1st Tuesday of the month.

**Marriage:** Contact the parish office 1 year before the date to make arrangements.

**Anointing of the Sick:** If you have family members who are seriously ill, anticipating surgery, or weakened because of prolonged illness or advanced age, contact the parish office for assistance.



## Staff

Mrs. Beth Donlan, Administrative Assistant

Deacon James Graves

Mrs. Mary Lou Petty, Religious Education Coordinator

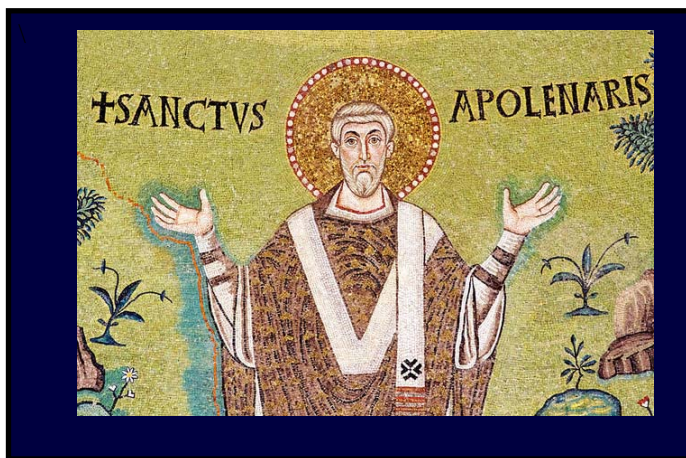
Mrs. Lorraine Carrier, RCIA Director

Mrs. Bobbie French, Principal, St. Anna School

Mrs. Marian Priddy, Secretary, St. Anna School

## Parish Contacts

Rectory / Fax	978-537-5293 / 978-537-2950
Religious Ed / St. Anna Society	978-537-5293
Church Hall	978-537-2094
Respect for Life	978-534-4053
RCIA	978-537-5293
Altar Servers	James.Graves@umassmemorial.org
Extraordinary Ministers	mpriddy@stannaleom.org
Parish Email	stannaparish@gmail.com
St. Matthew 25 Society	Paul Schiavitti
St. Anna School	978-534-4770
RCIA Director—Lorraine Carrier	978 297 1062



## Safety Environment Notice

Our parish follows the guidelines of the national charter for the protection of children & young people approved by the US Bishops and Dioceses of Worcester policies. Contact Judith Audette, Victim Services Coordinator, at 508-929-4363 (direct & confidential.) Claire Freda is St. Anna's Safety Environment Coordinator.

**MASS INTENTIONS****SATURDAY, JANUARY 6TH**

**4:00PM:** John Faiola (1<sup>st</sup> anniversary) by St. Anna Parish  
Doris Ciccone (month's mind) by St. Anna Parish  
Richard Serafini by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Fraticelli

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 7TH**

**8:00AM:** Rozy Bracani by a friend  
Grace DiNardo by husband and children  
Priscilla Angelini (month's mind) by St. Anna Parish

**10:00AM:** Ernest Lattanzio (1<sup>st</sup> anniversary) by St. Anna Parish  
Armand and Anna Millette by Millette Family  
Vincent Scaramuzzi by Virginia Cote and Stephen  
Henry Perla (1<sup>st</sup> anniversary) by St. Anna Parish

**11:30AM:** Henry Consalvo (1<sup>st</sup> anniversary) by St. Anna Parish  
Delia Amorosi (1<sup>st</sup> anniversary) by St. Anna Parish  
Beatrice Guglielmo (month's mind) by St. Anna Parish

**MONDAY, JANUARY 8TH**

**8:00AM:** Edmund Falvey by Fraini Family

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 9TH**

**7:30AM:** Richard Serafini by a friend

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10TH**

**7:30AM:** Joe B by a friend

**9:00AM:** School Mass

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 11TH**

**7:30AM:** Frankie Montagna by James Tellier

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 12TH**

**7:30AM:** Betty Fraini by the Fraini family

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 13TH**

**4:00PM:** Diana Carboni by her father  
John & Clara Reale by Dan and Maria Murray  
Rose and Charlie Dale by their family

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 14TH**

**8:00AM:** Thomas Flanagan by his family

**10:00AM:** James Carlin by Andy and Paula Shanley  
Doreen Karpinski (1<sup>st</sup> anniversary) by St. Anna Parish  
Olga Mowry (1<sup>st</sup> anniversary) by St. Anna Parish  
Lena Pandiscio (1<sup>st</sup> anniversary.) by St. Anna Parish

**11:30AM:** Ruth Somers (1<sup>st</sup> anniversary) by St. Anna Parish  
Agnes Minihan (1<sup>st</sup> anniversary) by St. Anna Parish  
Rena Bisceglia (1<sup>st</sup> anniversary) by St. Anna Parish

**THANK YOU— THANK YOU!**

Our parish Giving Tree was a tremendous success. This year, over 470 gifts were donated. The gifts were distributed to six area agencies. Hundreds of children enjoyed a brightened Christmas due to the kindness and generosity of our parishioners and friends. You truly exemplified the Christmas spirit of love for lovers. God bless all of you and your loved ones. A very special thank you to all the volunteers who helped us organize the gifts after masses and to those that helped us relocate the packages to the parish hall for distribution. To Everyone – *Mille Grazie!*

**ST. MATTHEW 25 SOCIETY MEETING**

The Saint Matthew 25 Society will meet on Tuesday, January 9<sup>th</sup> at 1pm in the rectory conference room. We look forward to carrying out our mission into 2018. Happy New Year!

**PARISH COLLECTIONS**

Thank you for your support of St. Anna Parish! On behalf of the staff at St. Anna, thank you for your generosity this Christmas.

**December 23-24th Collection**

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS	\$ 8,479
CANDLES, MASSES, MISC.	\$ 235
FUNERALS	\$ 300
RETIREMENT FOR RELIGIOUS	\$ 1,505
TUITION ASSISTANCE	\$ 3,062
<u>CHRISTMAS COLLECTION</u>	<u>\$ 4,713</u>
TOTAL	\$ 18,294

**December 30th-31st Collection**

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS	\$ 3,945
CANDLES, MASSES, MISC.	\$ 250
HOLY DAY COLLECTION	\$ 499
<u>CHRISTMAS COLLECTION</u>	<u>\$ 364</u>
TOTAL	\$ 5,058

**ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED**

If your son or daughter is interested in becoming an altar server, please contact Deacon Jim at James.Graves@umassmemorial.org or Beth in the rectory. Training will be provided. Thank you!

**NEW ORGAN—THANK YOU!**

We are very fortunate this Christmas Season. A generous benefactor has donated the funds necessary to purchase a new organ. It was truly appreciated!

**ST. BONIFACE - CRIBBAGE TOURNAMENT**

On Sunday, January 28<sup>th</sup> from 1pm—5pm at St. Boniface Parish Church Hall located at 817 Massachusetts Avenue, Lunenburg will host a Cribbage Tournament. Entry fee is \$10. The tournament is double elimination with prizes for 1st and 2nd places. For more information, contact Thomas Laford at kofc16480@gmail.com or (978) 430-7600

## WELCOME 2018 WITH FORGIVENESS

A friend said something to me that hurt very deeply. I was speechless. I could not believe he could say what he said and mean it. I had no response. My thought was, 'If I am your friend, how could you say such a terrible thing to me'. But instead I sat stunned, embarrassed, and just walked away.

Days and weeks passed and it still bothered me. I prayed about it a lot and I tried to forgive him, but I could never forget those words. As time went by, I tried not to dwell on it, but occasionally after my prayers at night, I would think about that day and couldn't clear it from my thoughts. Then, I had sleepless nights.

I decided I would talk to him about it and tell him how much he hurt me. I gave great thought about what I would say so that I wouldn't hurt him in return. Ironically, since so much time had passed, I'm not even sure he would remember what he had said.

I prayed and asked God to give me the right words to say. I prayed to God that He would help. After praying and still struggling with what to say, I concluded that God wasn't listening to me. Then, it became clear. God had heard and He had answered my prayers.

The answer was to say NOTHING and JUST FORGIVE. We all do and say things at times that hurt someone. We may not even realize it. But, if we allow hurtful words to consume our thoughts, we suffer, not them. To my surprise, a sense of peace and calmness came over me.

We need to be forgiven and we also need to be able to forgive. Let us pray for those who hurt us and ask God to give us the Grace to forgive them. Forgiving them gives us relief from our hurt. When we can truly forgive, it allows healing to take place in our lives.

"You cannot afford to withhold forgiveness. Nothing will destroy your life more surely, for there is a great hidden grief in the denial of forgiveness. Your heart is so heavy from what you have not forgiven that you bear the offenses of another as if they were your own." ~ Glenda Green.

God knows — He has to forgive us more times than we care to remember.

## SNOWSHOE HIKE - DOYLE COMMUNITY PARK

Meet at the Doyle Community Park & Center at 10am on Saturday, January 27th at 10am! The North County Land Trust will lead this hike. They have a limited number of snowshoes to lend so register early! Explore this beautiful property in the winter along the trails owned by The Trustees of Reservations. Please call 978-534-7529 for more information!



## CHARTER TV3—MOVED

Charter TV3 moved to Channel 193 on cable boxes. If you no longer see the Daily Mass, Sunday Mass, Family Rosary or weekly specials on Channel 3 on your Charter cable box, go to Channel 193.

## CATHOLIC SWIMMER LEDECKY— AP FEMALE ATHLETE



The Associated Press named Katie Ledecy the Female Athlete of the Year on Dec. 26, after balloting by U.S. editors and news directors. Ledecy, a graduate of Little Flower School and Stone Ridge School of the Sacred Heart in Bethesda, MD, received 351 points in the vote, placing her ahead of tennis star Serena Williams. She was the eighth female swimmer to earn the honor and the first since Amy Van Dyken in 1996.

The vote reflected Ledecy's dominance in the July 2017 world championships in Budapest, Hungary, where she earned five gold medals and one silver medal. Ledecy first entered the world stage at 15 in the 2012 London Olympics, the summer after her freshman year at Stone Ridge. In that competition, she surprised people around the world by winning a gold medal in the women's 800-meter freestyle and finishing the race in record time. In 2016, Rio de Janeiro Olympics she won gold in the 200-, 400-, and 800-meter freestyle races, gold in the 4x200 freestyle relay, and silver in the 4x100 freestyle relay. Ledecy is known for setting lofty goals for herself and achieving them, working hard, taking part in grueling workout schedules.

Another part of her routine, she told the Catholic Standard archdiocesan newspaper prior to the 2016 Olympics, is praying before races. "I do say a prayer -- or two -- before any race," Ledecy said. "The Hail Mary is a beautiful prayer and I find that it calms me."

Now a sophomore at Stanford University, Ledecy also told the Catholic Standard that attending Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Washington helped make her the person she is today. "I received an excellent, faith-filled education at both schools. Having the opportunity to attend academically rigorous schools has facilitated my interest in the world and in serving others, and has enriched my life so that it is not solely focused on my swimming and athletics."

She said going to these schools was also important to her swimming because they challenged her and broadened her perspective and "allowed me to use my mind in ways that take me beyond just thinking about swim practices, swim meets and sports." In March 2017, Ledecy became the youngest-ever inductee in the Maryland Women's Hall of Fame, joining other esteemed women such as Harriet Tubman, Rachel Carson, Clara Barton, and St. Elizabeth Ann Seton.

Ledecy is preparing for this March, when she will compete in the NCAA championships with her Stanford teammates. After competing in the 2016 Olympics and before leaving for college, Ledecy visited her alma maters to answer students' questions and show them the medals that she had earned. With those school visits, she said she hoped to make an impact. During the Olympics, she said she was "just praying to do my very best to represent my country."

"I always just use my faith to think, 'I have been given this gift, and I want to use it to the best of my ability,'" she said, adding that she doesn't want it to end there. She hopes her accomplishments will "inspire somebody or make an impact of some sort beyond just getting a good time or getting a gold medal."