

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

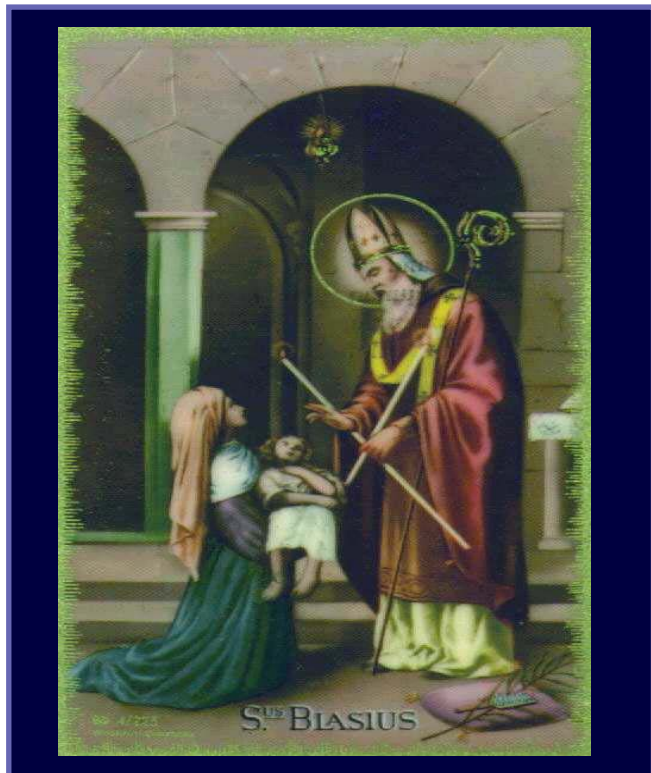
New Members: We warmly welcome new members to our parish family. To register, contact the parish office or visit our website at www.stannaparish.org

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, FEBRUARY 3RD**

4:00PM: Mary Cote (1st anniversary) by St. Anna Parish
Henry Cote by Virginia Cote

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4TH

8:00AM: Laura Cancellieri by Daniel and Donna Benoit
Roland Benoit by Daniel and Donna Benoit

10:00AM Italo and Cecile Gentile and family by family
Oville Doiron by his wife Francine and children
Ida Doiron by family

11:30AM: Leo Cote by Patti Lanza and Carol LeBlanc
Egidio and Teresa Marrone by son Chris
Edward Baker (month's mind) by St. Anna Parish

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5TH

7:30AM: Del, Garrett, and Matt Charette by Virginia Cote

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6TH

7:30AM: Rev. David C. Menegay by St. Anna Parish

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH

7:30AM: Rev. Richard Roger

9:00AM: School Mass

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH

7:30AM: Angelina Chiumento by family

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH

7:30AM: Catherine Owens by Fraini Family

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH

4:00PM: Mary Riggans (1st anniversary) by St. Anna Parish
Francis Robinson by family
Janet Tata (2nd anniversary) by her husband
Madeline Girouard by Fran

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11TH

8:00AM: Claire Filteau by Daniel and Donna Benoit
Joseph, Jr. and Marion Fusco by their niece
Ernest and Annie Iacaboni by Anthony and Carol Iacaboni

10:00AM: Janet Touchette (1st anniversary) by St. Anna Parish

Ricardo and Louise Cavaioli by daughters
Rigo and Rachel Montuori by family

11:30AM: Marie Elizabeth Boucher by Linda Boucher
Dianna Carboni by her father

**PARISH COLLECTIONS**

Thank you for your continued generosity and support of St. Anna Parish!

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS	\$ 4,807.00
CANDLES, MASSES, MISC.	\$ 481.00
CATHOLIC HOME MISSION APPEAL	\$ 776.00
TUITION ASSISTANCE	\$ 1,175.00
TOTAL	\$ 7,239.00

FEAST OF ST. BLAISE

The Feast of St. Blaise is Saturday, February 3rd. According to the *Acts*, while Blaise was being taken into custody, a distraught mother, whose only child was choking on a fishbone, threw herself at his feet and implored his intercession. Touched by her grief, Blaise offered up his prayers and the child was cured.



St. Blaise is invoked for protection against injuries and illnesses of the throat. For his feast day, his blessing is given with two candles which were blessed on the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord ("candlemas"). They are held in a crossed position by a priest either over the heads of the faithful or on their throats. At the same time the following blessing is recited: *"May Almighty God at the intercession of St. Blaise, Bishop and Martyr, preserve you from infections of the throat and from all other afflictions"*.

Fr. Fred will bless throats after all masses on February 3rd and February 4th.

ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED

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

**ST. ANNA SOCIETY MEETING**

The Society meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 6th at 7pm in the parish hall. All are invited.

FORTITUDE

The gift of fortitude is a supernatural impulse which gives strength to the soul, not only on exceptional occasions such as that of martyrdom, but also in normal difficulties: in the struggle to remain consistent with one's principles: in putting up with insults and unjust attacks: in courageous perseverance on the path of truth and uprightness, in spite of lack of understanding and hostility.

When, like Jesus in Gethsemane, we experience "the weakness of the flesh" (cf. Mt 26:41; Mk 14:38), or rather, of human nature subject to physical and psychological infirmities, we should ask the Holy Spirit for the gift of fortitude to remain firm and decisive on the path of goodness. Then we will be able to repeat with St Paul: "For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities; for when I am weak, then I am strong" (1 Cor 12:10). There are many of Christ's followers – pastors and faithful, priests, religious and laity, engaged in every area of apostolic and social work who in all times, including our own, have experienced and experience martyrdom of body and spirit, in intimate union with the Mother of Sorrows beside the Cross. All have been victorious thanks to this gift of the Spirit.

Let us ask Mary, whom we now greet as Queen of Heaven, to obtain for us the gift of fortitude in all the vicissitudes of life and at the hour of death.

~Pope John Paul II - Excerpt from a homily on May 14, 1989

St. Thomas Aquinas ranked fortitude as the third cardinal virtues, because it allows us to overcome fear and to remain steady in our will in the face of physical and spiritual obstacles. As Pope John Paul II stated fortitude is gift not only in martyrdom but also in normal difficulties. Prudence and justice are the virtues through which we decide what needs to be done; fortitude is the virtue that gives us the strength to do it despite insults, ridicule, and obstacles.

The virtue of fortitude is commonly called *courage*, but is different from what we think of as courage. Fortitude is always reasoned and rationale; the person exercising fortitude is willing to put themselves in danger if necessary, but they do not seek danger for danger's sake.

Fortitude gives us the strength to stand strong even if it goes against the masses and if it is in the absence of evidential proof. Fortitude is the virtue of the martyrs, those who are willing to give up their lives rather than renounce what they believe in. However, putting our lives in danger when it is not necessary is not fortitude but foolishness; acting rashly is not a virtue but a vice. But, when used rationally, fortitude gives us the strength to make sacrifices in order to stand up for what is right in this world and to save our souls.

Moral fortitude is not only having the courage to stand for what you believe in, but having the strength of character to believe in what you will stand for.



ST. BERNARD'S CCHS—SHADOW DAYS

St. Bernard's High School invites all students in Grades 8 - 12 to schedule a full or partial Shadow Day through February, 16th. Shadowing is a wonderful opportunity to experience firsthand what it's like to be a St. Bernard's student. You will attend classes, talk to current students and learn about the school. If you are interested, please contact Admission Coordinator, Julianne Richard, at jrichard@stbernardscchs.org. Come and explore what STB has to offer!

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

"Remember that my life is like the wind." Let us make the best of our time together with our spouses by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next Weekends are Mar 9-11, 2018 in Duxbury, MA and Apr 21-22, 2018 in Brewster, MA. For more information, call Stephen & Michelle O'Leary at [800-710-9963](tel:800-710-9963) or visit them at <https://wwmema.org/>

RESTAURANT WEEK



The City of Leominster's Office of Development will be featuring Leominster Restaurant Week once again! Local restaurants will have set menus for lunch or dinner beginning February 18th through February 24th. For a list of participating restaurants and other details, visit <https://www.facebook.com/events/337489513403272/>

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LEOMINSTER LIBRARY

GENEALOGY SATURDAY

CENTRAL MASS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

A member of the Central Massachusetts Genealogical Society will be available for drop-in assistance with your questions about researching your family history on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month. No appointment is required, but please sign in at the Information Desk on the 2nd floor before proceeding to the Library's Historical Room.

Central Massachusetts Genealogical Society was founded in 1993 in Gardner, MA. For more information about the Society, please visit cmgso.org/



THRIFT SHOP SALE IN WORCESTER

St. Stephen Thrift Store, 20 Hamilton St., Worcester is holding a WINTER STOCK BAG SALE through Saturday, Feb. 17th. Cost: \$5 per bag. Fill one of our large bags. (Some exclusions apply, see store for details) Store hours: Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday - 9 am-2:30 pm, Saturday - 8:30 am-4:00 pm.