



SAINT ANNA PARISH

Founded 1937

Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 21st and March 22nd

Fr. Carlos Ruiz, Pastor
fathercarlosruiz@gmail.com
Mrs. Beth Donlan, Administrative Assistant
Deacon James Graves
Deacon Paul Carrier

SAINT PEREGRINE

Pray For Us



Contact Us

Parish Office	978 537 5293	Parish Fax	978 537 2950	Respect for Life	978 534 4053
RCIA	978 297 1062	Parish Hall	978 537 2094	St. Anna Society	978 537 5293

Religious Ed, Lectors, Altar Servers: Beth Donlan stanna9@comcast.net

Extraordinary Ministers: Marian Priddy mpriddy@stannaleom.org

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Bulletin: Cristina Valeri cvaleri27@gmail.com

St. Matthew Society: Paul Schiavitti *RCIA Director:* Lorraine Carrier

St. Anna Catholic School

213 Lancaster Street Leominster, Massachusetts 01453

978 534-4770 www.stannaschool.org

Principal Mrs. Kelly Veilleux, Administrative Assistant Marian Priddy

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

From the Pastor's Desk

FR. CARLO'S PILL OF FAITH

1st Reading: First Book of Samuel 16:1-13

Psalm: 23

Second Reading: Ephesians 5:8-14

Gospel: John 9:1-41

This fourth Sunday of Lent, the readings present the story of two men who although different have something in common, God has chosen them. God wants them for a specific purpose, to manifest his love and his healing power.

In the first reading, David is chosen among all his brothers, the last, the youngest is God's favorite to become the leader, the King of the people of Israel. So, David is anointed and becomes one of the most famous kings in all of history.

In the Gospel, we see the story of a blind man who Jesus approaches, Jesus chooses him and cures his infirmity. Jesus gives him the capacity to see not just with his physical eyes, but also with the eyes of his heart.

"Then Samuel anointed David; and from that day on, the spirit of the Lord rushed upon him."

As David was, God has chosen us and has anointed all of us with oil of salvation, love, and sanctity. However, our human frailty, our mistakes, our weaknesses, doubts, and fears many times make us fail and cover our eyes so we cannot see the wonders and blessings of God within and around us.

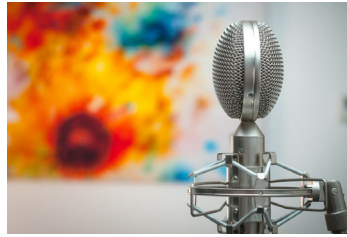
Then, we feel like the blind man in the Gospel, in darkness, and away of the light of our Father. Even though we are doing well we do not see fully who Jesus is. Sometimes we are darkened by our fears, our sins, our business, or the world. Can we see and experience our blessings?

Here is when Jesus our faithful friend, our divine physician comes to our rescue and touches us to open our eyes and enable us to contemplate him as he is, to enjoy what we see, creation, who we are, and what we love: our families and friends. Together we pray,

Good Jesus, you have chosen us and anointed us with your Holy Spirit, but we are fragile. We ask you please, come to our help and make us live as children of light, help us to see and enjoy what you have created for us, give us your light for light produces every kind of goodness, righteousness, healing, and truth. And, with my whole heart I say,

"I do believe, Lord!"

Parish News



In cooperation with Governor Baker's announcements, the Diocese of Worcester has issued the following:

OUR PARISH OFFICE is closed to the public. Parishioners can contact the office by phone or by email at any time.

SAINT ANNA SCHOOL is closed through April 7th.

RELIGIOUS ED PROGRAM is cancelled through April 7th.

ALL WEEKDAY AND WEEKEND MASSES are cancelled until further notice.

CONFESSIONS are by appointment only.

LENTEN MISSION is cancelled.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS on Fridays are cancelled.

ADORATION is postponed until further notice.

ST. ANNA GALA is postponed.

ST. ANNA SCHOOL SUPERMARKET SWEEPSTAKES is postponed

FUNERALS and other parish services or sacraments such as weddings or baptisms are limited to the immediate family no more than 15 or 20 people.



Mass Intentions

All mass intentions scheduled over the next few weeks will be re-scheduled to a later date. Please contact the office to make arrangements. Thank you for your patience and understanding during this time. Let us all pray that this pandemic ends quickly.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!
PARISH COLLECTIONS

Thank you for your continued support! During this time, we encourage you to donate online. It is a simple easy process that can be set up for weekly or monthly donations. It can be canceled at anytime. Instruction can be found at www.stannaparish.org

REGULAR COLLECTIONS	\$ 2,018.00
CANDLES, MASSES, MISC.	\$ 168.00
TOTAL	\$ 2,186.00

If you'd prefer to contact the online donation company to learn more about the process, below is the contact information:

- *WeShare Donor Customer Service Phone Number:*
800-950-9952 (press #3 and then press #2)
- *WeShare Customer Service Email:*
weshare@4lpi.com
- *WeShare Donor FAQ:*
www.4lpi.com/my-account/donor-support/

2020 PARTNERS IN CHARITY APPEAL

Our *In Pew Commitment Weekend* for the 2020 Partners in Charity Appeal begins March 21st and March 22nd. Once a year, we commit ourselves to this ongoing work by supporting this life giving appeal. We reflect on God's great generosity, and respond with generous giving of our own.



With your support, faith in action is visible every day in the compassionate outreach of Catholic Charities, to the least among us; in the prayerful witness of our retired priests and the joy of new priestly vocations; to the many diocesan ministries and programs that heal, teach and care for others. Watch the Appeal Video at home this week at www.partners-charity.net Thank you!

ST. ANNA LENTEN FISH DINNERS

They will be held every Friday during Lent (**TAKE OUT ONLY!!!! NO DINING IN!!!!**) from 4pm—7pm in the Parish Hall with the exception of Good Friday.



ST. ANNA PARISH OPEN FOR PRAYER

The parish will be open for personal private prayer from 8am—3:30pm every day.

ST. ANNA BULLETIN—EMAIL

Our parish bulletin is loaded on Wednesdays on our website at www.stannaparish.org. In addition, you may subscribe to the bulletin. Visit parishesonline.com, locate St. Anna Parish with the search tool, and sign-up to automatically get an email when a new publication becomes available. The parish will have a few hard copies available as well.

ONLINE MASSES

Bishop McManus encourages all Catholics to continue to pray with the local Catholic community by VIR-TUAL and SPIRITUAL attendance at the Sunday Mass and Daily Mass which is carried on TV, EWTN, local channels. Saint Anna Parish website has stream on its home page or visit worcesterdioocese.org.



SIMPLE DAILY PRAYERS DURING LENT

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT, MARCH 22ND:

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

MARCH 23RD: Hear O Lord, and have pity on me; O Lord, be my helper. You changed my mourning into dancing; O Lord my God, forever I will give you thanks. (*Psalm 30:111-113*)

MARCH 24TH: God is our refuge and our strength, an ever present help in distress. Therefore we fear not, though the earth be shaken and mountains plunge into the depths of the sea. (*Psalm 26:2-3*)

MARCH 25TH: Can a mother forget her infant? be without tenderness for the child of her womb? Even should she forget, I will never forget you. (*Isaiah 49:15*)

MARCH 26TH: God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, so that everyone who believes in him might have eternal life. (*John 3:16*)

MARCH 27TH: The Lord is close to the brokenhearted; and those who are crushed in spirit he saves. Many are the troubles of the just man, but out of them all the Lord delivers him. (*Psalm 34:19-20*)

MARCH 28TH: Do me justice, O Lord, because I am just, and because of the innocence that is mine. Let the malice of the wicked come to an end, but sustain the just, O searcher of heart and soul, O just God. (*Psalm 7:9-10*)

PRAYER IN TIME OF PANDEMIC

O God, whose Only Begotten Son bore the weight of human suffering for our salvation, hear the prayers of your Church for our sick brothers and sisters and deliver us from this time of trial.

Open our ears and our hearts to the voice of your Son: *Be not afraid, for I am with you always.*

Bless all doctors and nurses, researchers and public servants;

give us the wisdom to do what is right and the faith to endure this hour,

that we might gather once again to praise your name in the heart of your Church, delivered from all distress and confident in your mercy.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen

SAINT PEREGRINE LAZIOSI

St. Peregrine Laziosi (Pellegrino Latiosi) (c. 1260 – 1 May 1345) is an Italian saint of the Servite Order (Friar Order Servants of Mary) and is the patron saint for persons suffering from cancer or other illness. At 60, he developed an infection in his right leg. His condition deteriorated to the point that the physician decided to amputate his leg. The night before the operation Peregrine spent time praying before a fresco of the Crucifixion in the chapter room. He fell into a deep sleep and saw Jesus descend from the cross to touch his leg. The following day, the doctor arrived to perform the amputation and finding no sign of the cancer, news spread of the miraculous cure throughout the town. The lesson of Peregrine's life is not that God worked a miracle, but that a faithful servant placed himself, unconditionally, in the hands of God. Peregrine's trust in God therefore serves as a model for those dealing with sickness. Let us pray to St. Peregrine for help with those suffering not only from cancer, but from the corona virus.