



SAINT ANNA PARISH

Founded 1937

April 25th and April 26th
Third Sunday of Easter

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



Contact Us

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

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

Extraordinary Ministers: Marian Priddy mpriddy@stannaleom.org

Music Director Michael Hoffman mikejosephh@gmail.com

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



Fr. Carlos' Pill of Faith

Third Sunday of Easter

First Reading 2:14, 22-33

Psalm 16

Second Reading 1st Letter of Peter 1: 17-21

Gospel 24: 13-35

"Were not our hearts burning within us while he spoke to us on the way and opened the Scriptures to us?"

My brothers and sisters, the road to Emmaus is the summary of the salvific action of Jesus. Two of his friends are troubled, sad, without hope, away from the community. Risen Jesus comes to their encounter talks to their hearts and walks with them. Jesus becomes their companion in a difficult moment. Jesus becomes their friend on the journey of life. Then, He opens the Scriptures and fills their minds with wisdom, Jesus becomes a teacher of love, prayer, and healing. After a long journey, he waits to be invited to stay, now at home sharing as a family, Jesus breaks the bread becoming food for the spirit. Then the disciples full of joy without hesitation go back to the community and share their experience. This is a picture also, of our own Christian journey, Jesus comes to our encounter when we need him the most, when we are troubled, sad or in darkness.

As a teacher, Jesus reveals himself to us through his Word, he gently walks with us as a faithful companion. At the end of the day when we are tired, we need strength and peace, we invite him to stay with us and as a family he breaks the bread and becomes food for us. Jesus nourishes our bodies and souls with his own Body and Blood. Then, full of joy we are invited to proclaim to others the goodness and mercy of God.

This salvific journey-loving experience is Life! Alleluia, Alleluia.

Let us continue praying for one another and keeping safe. Remember that Saint Anna Parish is your home and here we are for whatever you need. God bless you all and your loved ones abundantly.

Parish News

ST. ANNA PARISH— MASSES ONLINE!

There are several ways to stay connected with Fr. Carlos and St. Anna Parish during this time.

St. Anna Channel You Tube: Subscribe at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMhGk1bMQl3jOOcyUIKy8Yw>

St. Anna Parish Facebook: Like us at <https://www.facebook.com/Stannaleominster/>

St. Anna Parish Website: Masses will be posted daily at www.stannaparish.org. In addition, direct links to You Tube & Facebook are provided on the homepage in the upper right hand corner next to the search icon.

ST. MATTHEW 25 FOOD PANTRY



The St. Matthew 25 Food Pantry has been open and helping those in need through these difficult weeks. Food donations are greatly needed at this time. Food items may be left at the Derwin Street entrance to the Church. Monetary donations can be also mailed to the Rectory -- Attention St. Matthew 25 Society. Thank you for your continued generosity and kindness.

PARTNERS IN CHARITY

Partners in Charity encompasses three specific areas in our Diocese: Charity, Education and Ministry. These vital ministries are staffed by people who act in the spirit of our 2020 patron ~ St. Oscar Romero. To make a donation online, visit www.partners-charity.net. Please make sure to specify St. Anna Parish so we receive the credit for the gift. Thank you!



PARISH COLLECTIONS

Thank you for your 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 and may be canceled at anytime. Visit www.stannaparish.org.

REGULAR COLLECTIONS	\$ 3,461.00
EASTER COLLECTION	\$ 205.00
DONATION	\$ 1,000.00
CANDLES, FUEL, FLOWERS	\$ 378.76
TOTAL	\$ 5,053.76





ST. MARK THE EVANGELIST **FEAST DAY—APRIL 25TH**

St. Mark the Evangelist, author of the Gospel Book of Mark, was one of Jesus's 12 disciples. He is the patron saint of many different things, including lions, lawyers, notaries, pharmacists, painters, secretaries, interpreters, prisoners and people dealing with insect bites. He lived in the Middle East during the 1st century, and we celebrate his feast day on April 25th.

After Jesus' ascension to Heaven, St. Peter and St. Mark travelled together to many places in the ancient world, ending up in Rome. Mark documented many of Peter's sermons delivered in speeches to the masses during their travels. Historians believe Mark used some of the content of Peter's speeches in the gospels he wrote.

In his Gospels, Mark describes St. John the Baptist's voice (which witnesses said sounded like a roaring lion) crying out in the wilderness to prepare the way for Jesus. Mark also delivered the Gospel message to the people with boldness, like a lion. The people then began associating Mark with lions. Mark is one of the four evangelists that the prophet Ezekiel saw in a miraculous vision of the future many years before Jesus came to Earth, Mark appeared in Ezekiel's vision as a lion.

Different miracles are also attributed to St. Mark. One that relates to Mark's patronage of lions happened when Mark and his father Aristopolus were walking near the Jordan River and encountered a male and female lion who eyed them and was about to attack. Mark prayed in Jesus' name that the lions wouldn't harm them, and immediately after his prayer, the lions fell down dead.

St. Mark traveled to Egypt and founded the Coptic Orthodox Church and became the first bishop of Alexandria, Egypt. He served and converted many people founding churches and the first Christian school. One day, Mark took a pair of his shoes to a cobbler named Anianus for repairs. As Anianus was sewing Mark's shoes, he cut his finger. Mark picked up a piece of clay, spit on it and applied the mixture to Anianus' finger while praying in Jesus' name for it to be healed. The wound healed completely.

Anianus asked Mark to tell him and his children about Jesus. After hearing the gospel message, Anianus and his children became Christians and ultimately, Anianus became a bishop in the Egyptian church.

In 68 AD, pagans, who persecuted Christians, captured, tortured, and imprisoned Mark. St. Mark reportedly saw visions of angels and heard the voice of Jesus speaking to him before he died. After his death, sailors stole relics from his body and took them to Venice, Italy. Christians honored Mark by building St. Mark's Basilica. People who have prayed to St. Mark since his death have reported receiving miraculous answers to their prayers, such as healing of illnesses and injuries.

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.*

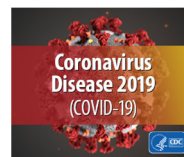
Bless all doctors and nurses, researchers and public servants; give us the wisdom to do what is right and the faith to endure this hour, that we might gather once again to praise your name in the heart of your Church, delivered from all distress and confident in your mercy.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen

ST. ANNA PARISH REMINDERS

- ⇒ The office is closed to the public. Please contact by calling the office or through email.
- ⇒ St. Anna School will not reopen for the remainder of the school per Governor Baker. Religious Ed classes will not resume either.
- ⇒ Adoration is postponed until further notice.
- ⇒ Confessions are by appointment only.
- ⇒ 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.
- ⇒ The parish is open for personal private prayer from **8am—3:00pm** every day. Please note the time change.

STAY INFORMED! **CITY OF LEOMINSTER**



The City of Leominster has all information up to date on its website regarding COVID-19. From the state of emergency, CDC updates, small business guidance and more visit leominster-ma.gov. In addition, Mayor Mazzarella host daily live updates on Facebook at which you can ask questions! Stay safe!