



March 21, 2021 – Fifth Sunday of Lent

Welcome to the Nashoba Valley Catholic Collaborative

If you are visiting us for the first time, we wish to welcome you and your family and hope that you enjoy your visit with us. If you would like to join either St Mary's or St Anthony's Parishes (we are two separate entities) there are **Registration Forms on our website:** www.nashobacatholic.org/form/parish-registration. Don't have the internet or email? Call the office and we would be happy to mail a form to you!

WEEKEND MASS INTENTIONS

Sat, Mar 20, 4pm – Margaret J Kelley, r/b The Family
Sun, Mar 21, 8am – Ernie Blasetti, 2nd Ann., r/b Alice Langford
10:15am – Bertrand & Helena Cullen, r/b Arthur & Michelle Eddy
Sat, Mar 27, 4pm – Adriana & Kari Medina, r/b Isabel Chesak
Sun, Mar 28, 8am – Judy Pinard, r/b Maryann Madigan
10:15am – John Garlington, r/b Dolly, Cindy & Guy Gionet
*Palms will be distributed at the Masses on Palm Sunday by an Usher.
Please do not leave palms in the pews when you leave church.*
The next available Saturdays are in November 2021
The next available Sundays are in August 2021

Lenten Retreat

"Who Do You Say That I Am?"
Wednesday and Thursday, March 24 & 25
At 7PM
On Nashoba Catholic Facebook Page

Examination of Conscience
Tuesday, March 30 at 7pm
On Nashoba Catholic Facebook Page

Individual Confessions at St Anthony's Church
Wednesday, March 31 at 7pm

Dispensation from the Sunday Mass obligation remains in effect. Cardinal Sean strongly encourages people in vulnerable populations, especially the elderly and those with complicated physical conditions, to continue to watch from their homes (which you can do on our Nashoba Catholic Facebook page).

Please pray for these people who may be ill or have asked for prayers: Karen Butler, William Davis, Anne Fiesinger, Norman Gionet, Joanne Glaszcz, Bob Hammond, Br. Joachin, Alec Lawton, Betty LeBlanc, Dotty Marino, Mary Palmer, Donna Vaira.

We want to wish everyone born in March a very Happy Birthday! And all couples that were married in March a very Happy Anniversary!

Make Your Home a Holy Place!

Over the five weeks of Lent, we will be offering suggestions each week on how to make your home a holy place.

This week's suggestion is to Do an Act of Charity.

The March winners of St Mary's Fatima Club are: Michael Eldredge, \$100; Amy Finch & Betsy Diskin, \$75 each; Susan Copeland & Maureen Eldredge, \$50 each; and Shane Dolan & Elie Cormier, \$25 each. Congratulations!
The next drawing will be on Monday, April 19.

Holy Week Schedule

Thursday, April 1 @ 7pm – Mass @ St Anthony's
Friday, April 2 @ 3pm – Stations of the Cross (STA)
Friday, April 2 @ 7pm – Passion of the Lord (STA)
Saturday, April 3 @ 8:30pm – Easter Vigil (STA)
Sunday, April 4 @ 8am – Mass @ St Mary's
Sunday, April 4 @ 10:15am Mass @ St Anthony's

March 21, 2021 ~ Fifth Sunday of Lent – Jesus presents us with an amazing paradox in today's Gospel. It is only by death that new life comes; only by spending our life that we preserve it; and only by service comes greatness. This gospel way of life goes counter to all that the world preaches. It requires great courage to live by Jesus' word. As a follower of Jesus, take to heart both his teachings and his actions. What else needs to change in your life in order to live in imitation of Jesus? There is still time in the remaining days of Lent to beg Jesus for the courage to make that change. Act now!

2021 CATHOLIC APPEAL – Each parish has an Assessment Amount to reach.

This year, St Mary's Assessment is \$11,816.29. St. Anthony's Assessment is \$17,543.11.

As of March 15, St Mary's Gifts and Pledges = \$7385 and St Anthony's Gifts and Pledges = \$6,720.

Thank you for your generosity and support.



30 Pieces of Silver Tossed into the Temple! Fill a bag with 30 pieces of 'silver'(quarters). When it is full, please bring it to church *by Palm Sunday* and toss it in to the Temple! Whatever is collected will be split equally between our two parishes.



For those of you who have not yet returned to Mass, we thank you for your continued support of our two parishes.

Weekly Offering

St Mary's, March 14 = \$2040.25 St Mary's Maintenance & Utilities = \$375.00

St Anthony's, March 14= \$3148.25

(We are two separate parishes and our finances are not combined.)

Upcoming Special Collection for Both Parishes, **Easter Sunday, April 4: The Clergy Trust.** It is an *independently managed trust* that provides ongoing care and support for the health, well-being, and retirement of 536 active and senior diocesan priests in good standing across greater Boston. For priests, being a servant of God is a daily calling that extends far beyond the walls of the Church, and impacts the lives of all people – regardless of their race or religion – throughout the entire community. All across the 144 cities that comprise the Archdiocese of Boston, our priests remain an integral presence at the center of extraordinary causes that enrich the lives of so many. **It's simple: healthier priests mean stronger communities.** Please consider supporting Clergy Trust, an independent organization that does so much for our incredible priests who do so much for us and our communities.

If anyone wants a statement of their donations for 2020, please call or email the office to request one, and it can be either emailed or US mailed to you.

If anyone would like to start contributing via our EFT program, the Authorization Form is on our website in pdf format. It is under the GIVING BUTTON at the top, right of our homepage. You will need to print it out and mail it to the Office.

NASHOBA CATHOLIC FAITH FORMATION

Marianne Cooper, Faith Formation Coordinator, 978-772-0727 faithformation@nashobacatholic.org

Our Faith Formation program is a family affair this year! We hope that you are enjoying the video lessons. Please go to our website www.nashobacatholic.org for detailed information on these video classes and the virtual retreat. **You should have received the video lesson about Lent. In this latest lesson, Father D also answers many questions that were posted by the students in the past 2 video-lessons. Please contact Marianne if you haven't received the email link.** Keep an eye out for the last video lesson, which will be available during Holy Week, to learn about Easter through Pentecost.

Calling all parishioners! Release your inner artist! **The Stained-Glass Project is almost completed!** Blank window-clings can be picked-up at St. Anthony's before and after Masses. See our website for ideas for your design.

Please return your completed artwork to St. Anthony's Church, the Collaborative Office, or to Marianne by this Monday, March 22. We will be putting them on the windows of the church this week.

Do you have any First Communion dresses, jackets, veils, ties, shoes or other sacramental apparel that is just sitting in your closet and you don't know what to do with them? Consider donating it to our newly created Sacramental Apparel closet. Items donated must be clean and in good condition. For more information, please contact Marianne.

Let's make our Easter Season colorful at St. Anthony's! As always, if you have any questions, contact Marianne.

St. Mary's THRIFT STORE is only open on Saturdays from 9am to 2:30pm. All COVID-19 protocols are in place, with a limited number of people allowed in the store at one time. Donations are accepted from 9-2 ONLY. No checks, credit or debit cards, or bills larger than \$20 are accepted. No exceptions!! **For the month of March, EVERYTHING IN THE STORE WILL BE 50% OFF! Plus, new, handmade Easter Baskets will be for sale.**

MISSION DAYS 2021 - Mission Days has been scheduled for July 13, 14 and 15. The event is subject to all of the safety protocols that will be in place at the time. We are hopeful that we can run this program in some form. At this point we are looking for the following:

1. Jobs - if you know anyone that needs outdoor work done to their home but cannot get it done due to hardship, please have them contact us at the email below.
2. Kids - if you are going into 7th grade through graduated senior and want an amazing experience, please send an email to Joe Leone.
3. Adults - we always need adults to help with the planning and execution of these days.

Please contact Joe Leone - ccoach11@gmail.com

PAROCHIAL SCHOOL TRUST SCHOLARSHIPS - The Parochial School Trust of the Archdiocese of Boston is providing approximately 100 scholarships, each worth \$1000, to families with a child planning to attend parochial school (grades 1 through 8) during the 2021-2022 school year. **Applications are due April 1, 2021.** If interested, Ayer residents should call St Anne's St. Vincent de Paul #978-320-4215; Shirley residents should call St Catherine's St. Vincent de Paul #978-320-4214, to commence the scholarship application process.