

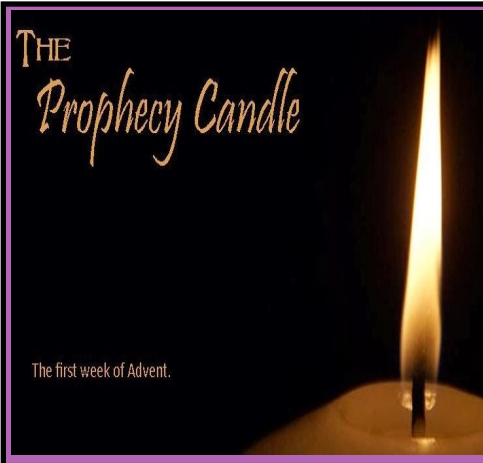


# SAINT ANNA PARISH

Founded 1937

First Sunday of Advent  
December 1st and December 2nd

Rev. Father Frederick D. Fraini, III Pastor  
Deacon James Graves  
Mrs. Beth Donlan, Administrative Assistant  
Mrs. Mary Lou Petty, Religious Ed Coordinator  
Mrs. Lorraine Carrier, RCIA Director



### Holy Sacrifice of the Mass

SATURDAY VIGIL: 4pm  
SUNDAY: 8am, 10am, 11:30am  
DAILY: Monday-Friday, 7:30am

SCHOOL MASS: Mondays 9am (September-June)  
BRAZILIAN / PORTUGUESE: Sunday 6:30pm

### Adoration

Tuesdays 8am – 12pm

### Confessions

SATURDAYS 2:45-3:45pm or by appointment

### Sacraments

**BAPTISMS:** Celebrated on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month with preparation classes for parents and God parents on the 1st Tuesday of the month. Contact Deacon Graves at james.graves@umassmemorial.org.

**MARRIAGE:** Contact the parish office at least 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.

### 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 |
| <i>Religious Ed</i>  | maryloupetty@yahoo.com | <i>Altar Servers</i>           | cvaleri27@gmail.com    |                         |              |
| <i>Lectors</i>       | stanna9@comcast.net    | <i>St. Matthew Society</i>     | Paul Schiavitti        |                         |              |
| <i>Bulletin</i>      | stannaparish@gmail.com | <i>Extraordinary Ministers</i> | mpriddy@stannaleom.org |                         |              |

*Office of Healing and Prevention* 508-929-4363

### St. Anna School

213 Lancaster Street Leominster, Massachusetts 01453  
978 534-4770 www.stannaschool.org  
Principal, Bobbie French 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 & 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

199 Lancaster Street \* Leominster, Massachusetts 01453 \* www.stannaparish.org



# Parish News...



## ADVENTUS

Derived from the Latin word *Adventus*, which means coming or arrival, Advent is a four week period of preparation which leads us to Christmas. The evergreen wreath (circle) represents that God has no

beginning and no end and His love for us is infinite. The three purple candles symbolize Hope, Love and Peace and the pink candle represents Joy. The white candle is the Candle of Christ.

The first candle is the *Prophet's Candle* or Candle of Hope. In the Old Testament, the people waited for the Messiah's arrival: "Therefore, the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel" (*Isaiah 7:14*) The prophecy was fulfilled in The Gospel of Matthew: "So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: "Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel" (*Matthew 1:22-25*) The first candle reminds us of the prophets who foretold of the coming Messiah.

The second candle is the *Bethlehem's Candle* or the Candle of Love which symbolizes the fulfillment of God's promise foretold by the prophets in the Old Testament. "But you, Bethlehem, though you are small, out of you will come the one who will be ruler over Israel" (*Micah 5:2*). The prophecy was fulfilled in the Gospel of Luke: "For unto you is born this day in the City of David, a Savior which is Christ the Lord" (*Luke 2:11*). The second candle reminds us of God's preparation for the coming of the Christ-child to be born in Bethlehem.

The third candle is the *Shepherd's Candle* or Candle of Joy which reminds us of the joy the world experienced when baby Jesus arrived. Humble shepherds were the first to hear the news of His birth and we rejoice today that God still uses ordinary people to spread the good news of Christ. "The shepherds said to one another, 'Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.'... When they had seen him, they spread the word about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them." (*Luke 2:15, 17-18*).

The fourth candle is the *Angel's Candle* or the Candle of Peace which represents the messengers who announced the Messiah's birth. The heavenly hosts celebrated the birth as they shared the news with shepherds: "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests" (*Luke 2:14*). The fourth candle reminds us of the angels and the message of peace joyfully proclaimed when baby Jesus was born.

The white candle, in the center of the wreath, is the *Candle of Christ*, which represents the eternal presence of Jesus Christ and reminds us that He is the light that guides us. This Advent—slow down, listen to God's voice, and focus on what is important—the Birth of Jesus Christ.

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1ST

**4:00PM:** In prayerful thanksgiving for Paul Boisvert Franciscan Profession Third Order by Maria and George Owens

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2ND

**8:00AM:** Gilda, Jeanne and James Williams, III by James Williams and family

**10:00AM:** Paul DeLauretis (month's mind) by St. Anna Parish  
Beatrice Guglielmo (1<sup>st</sup> anniversary) by St. Anna Parish  
Decio DiGiannantonio by family

**11:30AM:** Domenico Andreani by Mr. and Mrs. Archie Carboni and Family  
Deceased members of the Marchetti family by Sharon Antocci  
Paul Lanciani, Sr. by wife and sons

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 3RD

**7:30AM:** Nellie Falvey by the Fraini Family

**9:00AM:** School Mass

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4TH

**7:30AM:** Edmund Falvey by the Fraini Family

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5TH

**7:30AM:** Luigi Barassi by Lisa DiNardo

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6TH

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

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7TH

**7:30AM:** Betty Fraini by Fraini Family

**7:00PM:** Vigil Mass—Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8TH

**4:00PM:** John and Clara Reale by Maria, Dan and Meghan  
Mario Ermini by his family  
Ronald Senay by Lou and Mary DeAmicis  
Luigi Barassi (month's mind) by St. Anna Parish

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9TH

**8:00AM:** Lillian Wingate by her family  
Francis Bangrazi by his niece

**10:00AM:** Doris Ciccone (1<sup>st</sup> anniversary) by St. Anna Parish  
Priscilla Angelini (1<sup>st</sup> anniversary) by St. Anna Parish

Sandro Clementi by his wife and children  
Jenna Catherine Normandin by Aunt Cathy  
Albert Brasili (8<sup>th</sup> anniversary) by family

**11:30AM:** Lisa Ann Frechette by Patti Lanza and Carol LeBlanc  
Robert J. Lanza by Patti Lanza and Carol LeBlanc  
Egidio and Teresa Marrone by son Chris  
Jose and Asuncion Yanez by family  
Dianna Carboni by her father



**ST. MARY CHURCH,  
25 NORTH RD, CHELMSFORD**

Fr. Fred will present an Advent Retreat at St. Mary Church. If you are unable to attend you may view Monday and Tuesday evenings presentation at 7pm via livestream at [www.saintjohnchelmsford.org](http://www.saintjohnchelmsford.org). Click on St Mary Church under LIVE VIEWS on left hand side of the home page.

**DAILY MASS**

When school is canceled or delayed, Daily Mass will not be held.

**MIDNIGHT MASS CHOIR**

Rehearsals for the Midnight Mass Choir are on Thursdays at 7pm. There is one scheduled for Sunday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 4pm. We welcome all singers ages 14 and older. All that is required is a love of singing. If you need more information, contact Mike Hoffmann at [mikejosephh@gmail.com](mailto:mikejosephh@gmail.com)

**SAINT MATTHEW 25—DONATIONS NEEDED**

Our pantry continues to be in need of the following items: canned soups, canned vegetables, baked beans, tuna, pasta, pasta sauce, and cereal. All food items that are donated are greatly appreciated. Thank you for your on-going support!

**PARISH CHRISTMAS PARTY**

The Parish Christmas Party is Saturday, December 8<sup>th</sup> in the rectory at 5pm. All are welcome to join the fun and festivities. If you are able to bring a dessert, please let the office know.

**PARISH COLLECTIONS**

Thank you for your support of St. Anna Parish!  
Please remember you can donate online!

**WEEKEND OF NOVEMBER 17TH-18TH**

|                                |                   |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| SUNDAY COLLECTION              | \$4,103.00        |
| FUNERALS                       | \$ 300.00         |
| CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT | \$ 819.00         |
| CANDLES, FUEL, MASSES          | \$ 155.00         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                   | <b>\$5,377.00</b> |

**WEEKEND OF NOVEMBER 24TH-25TH**

|                       |                    |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| SUNDAY COLLECTION     | \$3,774.00         |
| FUNERALS              | \$ 300.00          |
| TUITION ASSISTANCE    | \$1,262.00         |
| CANDLES, FUEL, MASSES | \$ 160.00          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>          | <b>\$ 5,496.00</b> |

**ST. ANNA PARISH GIVING TREE**

Our Christmas Giving Tree is up and filled with tags. New winter clothes and new toys are welcome. Please make sure all gifts are wrapped and the tags are securely attached to the gifts. All gifts must be returned under the tree no later than Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for your generosity!



**LEOMINSTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Visit the historic Drake House on Saturday, December 8<sup>th</sup> from 1pm-4pm. The house is a stop on the Underground Railroad, the site of one of the most important fugitive slave rescues. Activities include Tours; Holiday wreaths and greenery sale to benefit the Mayor's energy fund; Roasted chestnuts with Mayor Mazzarella; Free hot chocolate, coffee and cookies; and more.

**MONTACHUSETT CHORALE HOLIDAY CONCERT  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2ND AT 2PM**

The Montachusett Chorale presents its Holiday Concert on Sunday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 2pm in Tata Auditorium, Leominster City Hall. The concert benefits Karen's Closet, Leominster. Seasonal music, audience participation and traditional carols will be performed. Tickets are \$15. Under 18 are admitted for free



**ST. DENIS PARISH - ADULT PRAYER GROUP**

On Wednesday, December 19<sup>th</sup> from 6:30pm - 8pm there will be an Adult Prayer Group held at St. Denis Parish, 85 Main St, Ashburnham. The group is open to all men, women, youth, all denominations and will be held on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month. Need a mini retreat to get your bearings in this crazy world? Come check us out! We believe in a four phase experience. Music, Prayer, Bible study and discussion. Rediscover how God plays an active role in these trying times. For information call Andy at 978-827-6570 or [andrewwgage@yahoo.com](mailto:andrewwgage@yahoo.com).

