



St. Francis of Assisi Parish

63 Sheridan Street

Fitchburg, MA 01420

Tel. (978) 342 – 9651

Fax (978) 342 – 7936

pastor-@saintfrancis-fitchburg.com

Religious Education Center (978) 342 - 3521 Yesenia Quinones, CCD Coordinator

Rev. Emérito Ortiz, Pastor

Masses

Saturday Vigil: 4:00PM

Sunday: 9:00AM & 11:00AM (Spanish)

Weekdays: Monday & Wednesday (6:00PM-chapel)

Tuesday & Thursday 8:00AM (chapel);

Friday: 6:00PM (English-church)

***** Tuesday : 6:00PM (Spanish)***

Mass (Spanish) Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday (6:00AM – chapel)

Sacrament of Baptism:: Sunday: Baptism is celebrated the third Sunday of each month at 12:30PM

Instruction for parents and godparents are held by appointment with the pastor.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:: Saturday :: 3:00PM (church) or by appointment

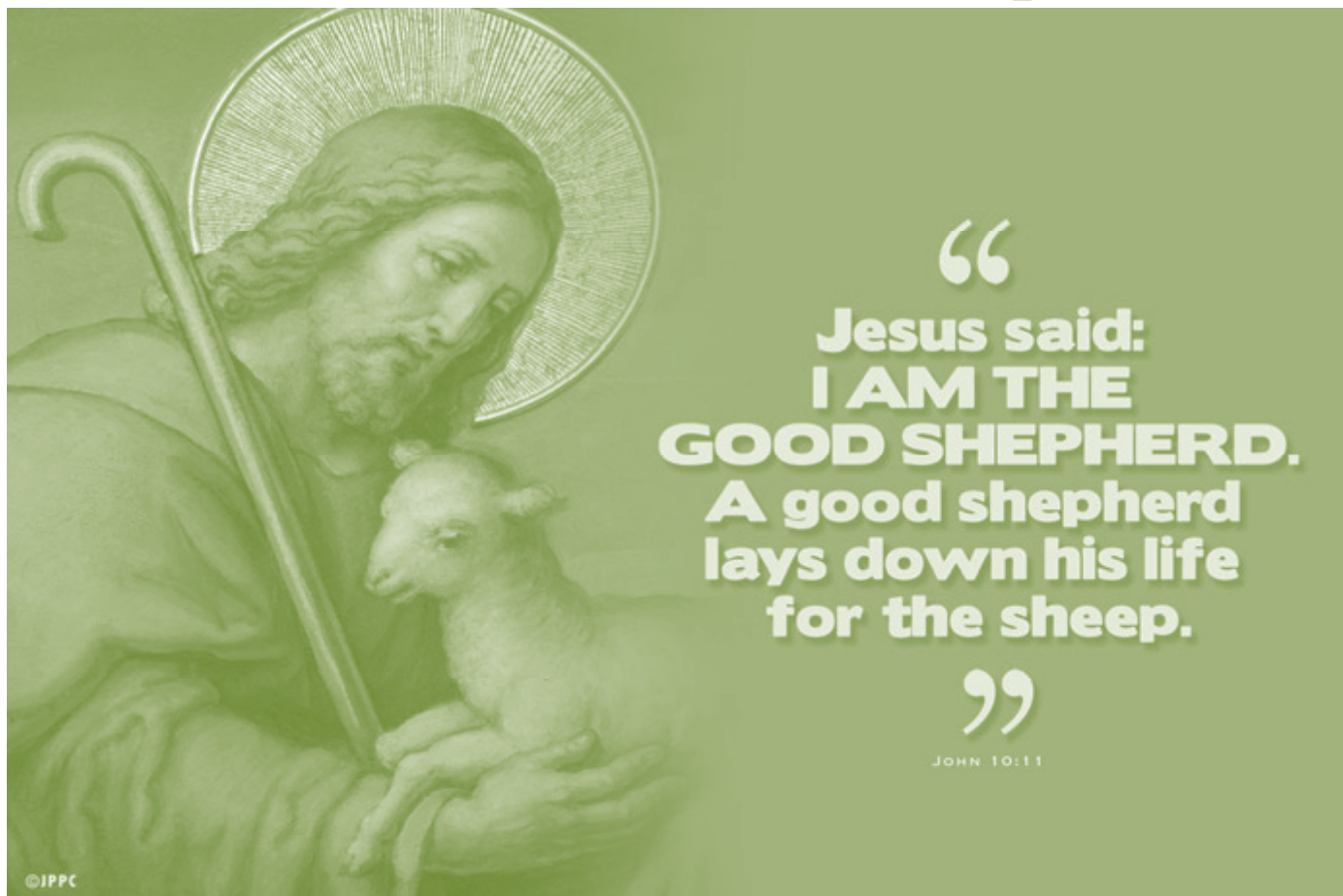
Sacrament of Marriage :: Arrangements should be made at least one year before the wedding.

Please call the rectory and make an appointment.

Devotions:: Rosary each weekday morning immediately after Mass (chapel) (Tuesday & Thursday).

:: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament :: Saturday from 12:30PM to 3:45PM

St. Francis of Assisi Parish



63 Sheridan Street, Fitchburg, MA 01420

Telephone: 978-342-9651

Religious Education: 978-342-3521

Rev. Emerito Ortiz, Pastor

Fax: 978-342-7936

Parish Hall: 978-345-0723

Email: Pastor-@saintfrancis-Fitchburg.com

Masses

Saturday Vigil: 4:00PM

Sunday: 9:00AM & 11:00 AM (Spanish)

Weekends: Monday & Wednesday 6:00 PM (Chapel) English Mass

Tuesday & Thursday 8:00AM (Chapel) English Mass

Friday: 6:00 PM (Church) English Mass

Tuesday: 6:00PM (Church) Spanish Mass

Holy Days: 4:00PM (Vigil), 8:00 AM

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 3:00PM or by appointment

Sacrament of Baptism: Please call the rectory in advance. Instructions are held by appointment

Sacraments of Marriage: Arrangements should be made at least one year before the wedding.

Devotions: Rosary on Tuesday & Thursday morning immediately after Mass.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: from September to May from 12:30PM to 3:45PM

Welcome to NEW Parishioners: Please introduce yourself after Mass.

Mass Intentions



Saturday, April 21st

4:00PM † Romeo Bernard.....by Seniors
†Linda Sandberg.....by Aerial Sandberg & fam.

Sunday, APRIL 22nd Fourth Sunday of Easter

9:00AM †Helen L. Sheehan (92nd B'day- living)....by Janet Yost

11:00AM †Iris Oyola (B'day)...by Olga & Johana & fam
†Lidia Lebron (4th Ann)....by Dellanira & fam.

Monday, April 23rd

6:00PM †For all adorers at the Divine Mercy Chapel

Tuesday, April 24th

8:00AM † Francis Rivard (10th Ann)..... by the fam.

6:00PM †For all people

Wednesday, April 25th St. Mark

6:00PM †

Thursday, April 26th

8:00AM †

Friday, April 27th

6:00PM †Claudia ReganbyTom & Pat Krysiak

Saturday, April 28th

4:00PM †Romeo Bernard....by Members of St. Vincent de Paul

Sunday, APRIL 29th Fifth Sunday of Easter

9:00AM †In loving memory of Michael J. Sheehanby Janet Yost

11:00AM †

The Blessed Sacrament lamp is lit for in memory of Doris Legere.



A candle to Our Blessed Mother is lit for the health of Emilio Pedroza.

A candle to St. Francis of Assisi is lit for all souls in Purgatory.

Parish Support



April 14 /15

Offertory: \$2,035.0

Fuel: \$88.0

Partners in Charity: \$30.0

maintenance:\$23.0

Total: \$2,176.00

Remember when you leave this earth, you can take with you nothing that you have received, only what you have given St. Francis of Assisi

FIRST COMMUNION CALENDAR

- 1. Saturday, April 28th ...First Penance...12:00PM Pre & First Communion Classes
2. Sunday, April 29thFirst Communion Workshop from 9:00AM to 12:30PM
3. Saturday, May 12thFirst Communion Rehearsal 4:45PM.....church...followed by pot Luck Supper in the church hall
4. Sunday, May 13thFirst Communion Mass11:00AM
5. Sunday, May 20thlast day of CCD classes

Please, pray for our First Communion Class 2018 as well as for all children.

Catholic ID

Remembering our church of St. Francis

Please, consider remembering your church of St. Francis when you are drafting your state plans.

Thanks!

ADORERS of the Blessed Sacrament for CHILDREN

On Saturday, April 28th from 1:00 to 2:00PM we are going to begin the Ministry of Adorers of the Blessed Sacrament for Children. It will be one hour of: singing, praying and a teaching about the real presence of the Lord in the Eucharist.

Children must accompanied by one/both parents.

You have been my guide since I was first formed . . . from my mother's womb you are my God Psalm 22:10

Share Your Table with Love

The needs for our St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry for the month of APRIL: beef stew, canned chicken, broth, tuna, Mac-Cheese, spaghetti sauce, Ramen soups, jam or jelly, baked beans, soups, THANK YOU for your donations. When I was hungry you gave

food ...



"I am the Good Shepherd"

Why did Jesus liken himself to a shepherd? Shepherds were a common sight when the Lord Jesus lived, and he knew that people would easily relate to them. Good Shepherds took great care in protecting and tending their flocks. Sometimes a sheep would wander off from the flock and become lost. A shepherd who took his job seriously would quickly search and call out for his lost sheep – and the sheep would respond to the voice of his shepherd, and only his voice. When the shepherd found the wayward animal, he would place it on his shoulders and carry it back to the flock.

One of the most prominent and tender images of the Lord Jesus is that of the Good Shepherd. Throughout Christianity the Lord Jesus has been portrayed in art, literature and music as the Shepherd. Alert and attentive, he carries the lost sheep upon his shoulders, bringing them home. This image of the Lord Jesus is based on the way he treated all people – he sought them out when they were lost in sin, he freed them from the power of evil, he healed them of their infirmities. Ultimately, the love of the Lord Jesus, the Good Shepherd, was so great that he gave his life for his sheep – for us.

In the Old Testament God was called a shepherd, and God's people the flock. For instance, in Psalm 23 (The Lord is my Shepherd) the psalmist sings that the shepherd leads him to *green pastures near refreshing waters*. The shepherd guards him in right paths and protects him from evil. God says, "I myself will pasture my sheep; I myself will give them rest. . . . The lost I will seek out, the strayed I will bring back, the injured I will bind up, the sick I will heal" (Ezekiel 34:15-16).

According to the Gospels, Jesus referred to himself as a shepherd. He said, "I am the Good Shepherd" (John 10:11). A shepherd knows his sheep well. There is a personal relationship between the Lord Jesus and his followers. Jesus knows each of us by name. On the other hand, we respond to his voice and do not follow the voice of strangers who may lead us to harm. The parable Jesus told about the lost sheep is a story about Jesus' concern and care for us, sinners. He is the loving shepherd who goes to great lengths to search for his lost sheep and when he finds it, carries it back on his shoulders rejoicing. When Jesus gave Peter the responsibility of leading his Church, he again used shepherd imagery. He told Peter, "Peter, do you love me.....Feed my lambs. . . . Tend my sheep. . . . Feed my sheep" (John 21:15-17).

Knowing about shepherds sheds light on the image of Jesus as our shepherd.



Sing & Praise



*The stone rejected by the builders,
has become the cornerstone!*



Hymns: Fifth SUNDAY of Easter

Processional: 399 "Alleluia, Alleluia"

Offertory: #389 "Alleluia, Alleluia, give thanks"

Communion # "I received the living bread"

Recessional #394 "At the lamb's high feast"

In Loving Remembrance

In your charity, please pray for the soul of Rev. Jim Hoey and for all the souls of the faithful departed. May they rest in peace. AMEN.

PARTNERS in CHARITY 2018



Thank YOU to those who have made a gift to the 2018 Partners in Charity Appeal.

St. Francis has raised \$6,050.00
(30.25%) to date. Your gift will help us

*in reaching our parish goal of \$20,000.00. We need the support of our all members and friends if we are to be successful in reaching our parish goal of \$20,000.00. If you have NOT yet completed your pledge, please prayerful do so, and return it to the parish office or put into the collection basket. 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 **Retired Priests** and the joy of **NEW** ordinations to the Priesthood. Please, make a commitment today to this wonderful **Work of Mercy Appeal**.*

PARTNERS in CHARITY 2018

St. Francis of Assisi GOAL is: \$20,000

We have raised \$6,050.00 (30.25%)

Faith in Action "Loving God by serving others"

Happening at St. Francis of Assisi

Sunday, April 22nd ..9:00PM....Mass... CCD classes resume
Monday, April 23rd 6:00PM Masschapel
Tuesday, April 24th h ...8:00AM....Mass....chapel
6:00PM....Mass (Spanish) Prayer Group...church
Wednesday, April 25th6:00PM....Mass + chapel
Thursday, April 26th8:00AM.... Mass...church
Friday, April 27th ...Food Pantry1:00PM
Saturday, April 28th12:30PMConfessions...church
4:00PM ...Masschurch

PRO LIFE

April 17th at 6:30pm, St. Cecilia Church in Parish Center
Guest Speaker: Michael Prunier, Exec. Director of
RENEW MA COALITION
"Getting plugged into the Massachusetts statewide pro-life
movement"
June 7th, at 6:30pm, St Cecilia Church in Parish Center
Guest Speaker: Dr. Rollo from Fitchburg
will speak on the "Prophetic Nature Of Pope Paul VI's
Humanae Vitae!" Marcie Allain, Chair, LRLC

ST. ANTHONY NOVENA

Tuesday, April 17th for Nine consecutive TUESDAY'S
All novena nights begin at 7PM on Tuesday evenings at St.
Anthony Church, 84 Salem Street, Fitchburg.
Novena prayers, sermon and Benediction with veneration of
the relic of St. Anthony of Padua. Spread the word! Come and
bring a friend. Current list of preachers can be found on our
website www.stanthonyfitchburg.net.

The Montachusett Chorale

will present its Spring Concert on Sunday, April 29 at 2:00
PM in the Tata Auditorium, Leominster City Hall, 25 West
St. The concert will benefit Ginny's Helping Hands,
Leominster.
Music performed will include patriotic songs, spirituals, a
tribute to our armed forces, songs from Broadway and the
Great American Songbook and present themes of race,
disparity of class, immigration and equality and justice for
women and minorities.
Tickets are \$12 in advance and \$15 at the door.
Under 18 are admitted free. Tickets are available at
Ginny's Helping Hands', 52 Mechanic St and in the
Mayor's Office.

"Yo soy el Buen Pastor"

¿Por qué Jesucristo se comparó a sí mismo con un pastor?
 Los pastores eran comunes cuando el Señor Jesucristo vivía, y él sabía que la gente se relacionaría fácilmente con ellos. Los buenos pastores tuvieron mucho cuidado al proteger y cuidar a sus rebaños. A veces, una oveja se alejaba del rebaño y se perdía. Un pastor que se tomó su trabajo en serio buscaría y llamaría rápidamente a su oveja perdida, y las ovejas responderían a la voz de su pastor, y solo a su voz. Cuando el pastor encuentre al animal caprichoso, lo colocará sobre sus hombros y lo llevará de vuelta al rebaño.



Una de las imágenes más prominentes y tiernas del Señor Jesucristo es la del Buen Pastor. A lo largo del cristianismo, el Señor Jesucristo ha sido retratado en el arte, la literatura y la música como el Buen Pastor. Alerta y atento, lleva a las ovejas perdidas sobre sus hombros, llevándolos a casa. Esta imagen del Señor Jesucristo se basa en la forma en que trató a todas las personas: las buscó cuando se perdieron en el pecado, las liberó del poder del mal, las sanó de sus debilidades. Finalmente, el amor del Señor Jesucristo, el Buen Pastor, fue tan grande que dio su vida por sus ovejas, por nosotros.

En el Antiguo Testamento, Dios fue llamado pastor y el pueblo de Dios el rebaño. Por ejemplo, en el Salmo 23 (El Señor es mi pastor), el salmista canta que el pastor lo conduce a verdes pastos cerca de aguas refrescantes. El pastor lo protege en los senderos correctos y lo protege del mal. Dios dice: "Yo mismo apacentaré mis ovejas; Yo mismo les daré descanso. . . . Buscaré a los perdidos, a los descarriados los traeré, los heridos los venceré, los enfermos los sanaré "(Ezequiel 34: 15-16).

Según los Evangelios, Jesucristo se refirió a sí mismo como un pastor. Él dijo: "Yo soy el buen pastor" (Juan 10:11). Un pastor conoce bien a sus ovejas. Hay una relación personal entre el Señor Jesús y sus seguidores. Jesús conoce a cada uno de nosotros por su nombre. Por otro lado, respondemos a su voz y no seguimos la voz de extraños que pueden hacernos daño. La parábola que Jesucristo dijo acerca de la oveja perdida es una historia sobre la preocupación y el cuidado de Jesucristo por nosotros, pecadores. Él es el pastor amoroso que hace todo lo posible para buscar a su oveja perdida y, cuando la encuentra, la lleva a los hombros regocijándose. Cuando Jesucristo le dio a Pedro la responsabilidad de dirigir a su Iglesia, nuevamente usó imágenes de pastor. Él le dijo a Pedro: "Pedro, ¿me amas? Apacienta mis corderos. . . . Cuida mis ovejas. . . . Apacienta mis ovejas"(Juan 21: 15-17).

Conocer a los pastores arroja luz sobre la imagen de Jesucristo como nuestro pastor.



LA TIENDITA Abierta todos los Domingos después de la Misa. Rosarios, medallas, Libros, imágenes de los santos, la Virgen María, Jesucristo...Pregunte por Isabel.

Compañeros en la CARIDAD 2018
 GRACIAS a todas las familias que han donado a la Compañía de Compañeros en la Caridad.
Hemos recolectado \$6,050.00 (30.25%) de la meta de \$20,000.00
 Si usted ha recibido su sobre de la Oficina de Compañeros en la Caridad en el correo, usted puede traerlo y depositarlo en la canasta de los domingos. También usted puede enviar su donación por correo a la oficina de Compañeros en la Caridad a la dirección que está escrita en el sobre. Sobres adicionales para la Campaña Compañeros en la Caridad están en las mesas de servicio en la Iglesia. .



Compañeros en la CARIDAD 2018
 La meta de nuestra Parroquia es: \$20,000. Necesitamos que

todas las familias se comprometan a esta petición del Obispo Roberto McManus. Hemos recolectado \$6,050.00 de los \$20,000.00 que nos fueron asignados.
"Amando a Dios es sirviendo a los demás"

NUEVO HORARIO CIRCULO Oración
San Francisco de Asís

TODOS los Martes después de la SANTA MISA ... MISA..... 6:00PM
Rosario de la Divina Misericordia (cantado)
 CIRCULO de ORACION Les esperamos a todos!!

MISA de SANACION

La próxima Misa de SANACION será el **Martes 15 de MAYO a las 6:00PM** en la Iglesia
 Todos los **terceros MARTES de CADA MES**, tendremos la SANTA MISA de SANACION
 Invita tu familia y amigos, vecinos
 Es muy necesario **CREER** que el Señor nos sana de las enfermedades físicas, o emocionales o espirituales

Niños **ADORADORES** de la EUCARISTIA.
 Comenzando el **SABADO, 28 de ABRIL** de 1:00 a 2:00PM en la Iglesia. Tendremos canticos, oraciones y una corta enseñanza sobre la Santa Comunión.



LECTURAS BIBLICAS de la SEMANA

Lunes 23 /Abril	Monday, April 24
Hechos Apóstoles // Acts 11: 1 - 18	Salmo//Psalm 42
San Juan // John 10: 1 - 10	
Martes Pascua, 24 //Abril	Tuesday, April 24
Hechos // Acts 11: 19 - 26	Salmo//Psalm 87
San Juan // John 10: 22 - 30	
Miércoles 25 // Abril	Wednesday, April 25
1Pedro // 1 Peter 5: 5 - 14	Salmo//Psalm 89
San Marcos // Mark 16: 15 - 20	
Jueves, 26 // Abril	Thursday, April 26
Hechos // Acts 3: 13 - 25	Salmo//Psalm 89
San Juan // Juan 13: 16 - 20	
Viernes, 20 //Abril	Friday, April 20
Hechos // Acts 13: 26 - 33	Salmo//Psalm 2
San Juan//John 14: 1 - 6	
Sábado, 21 //Abril	Saturday, April 21
Hechos // Acts 13: 44 - 52	Salmo//Psalm 98
San Juan // John 14: 7 - 14	
Domingo 29 //ABRIL ...Quinto Domingo Pascua	
Fifth Sunday of Easter, APRIL 22nd	
Hechos // Acts 9: 26 - 31	
Salmo //Psalm 22	
1 Juan // 1 John 3: 18 - 24	
San Juan // John 15: 1 - 18	



ATENCION: CLASES para
BAUTISMO Para Padres y Padrinos
SABADO, MAYO 5 // 2018 1:00PM (Centro)

CALENDARIO de la PRIMERA COMUNION

- Sábado, Abril 28 ...Primera Confesión Pecados ...12:00PM
 Clases de Pre & Primera Comunión
- Domingo, Abril 29taller Clase de Primera Comunion de 9:00AM to 12:30PM
- Sábado, Mayo 12Ensayo de Primera Comunión 4:45PM.....iglesia...y luego la comida de la clase de Primera Comunión ...hall
- Domingo, Mayo 13Misa de Primera Comunión 11:00AM
- Domingo, Mayo 20ultimo día de Catecismo

Por favor, oren por los niños de Primera Comunión así como por todos los niños de Catecismo

HORA SANTA.....Todos los Sábados a las 6:00PM en el Centro

CLASES BIBLIA
Todos los Miércoles a las 7:00PM... centro



Brandon
FUNERAL HOME
 978-343-4444
*Funeral Planning for
 Those You Love*

Lawrence P. Brandon - *Director*
 305 Wanoosnoc Rd.

LARGE PARKING AREA
 FULL HANDICAP ACCESSIBILITY



978-342-4712

RUEL
ELECTRIC
*Residential • Commercial
 Industrial*
 Master Lic. No. A15565
 339 Broad Street
 Fitchburg, MA
 1-800-696-7835
 978-342-5320

O.G. CROTEAU
Plumbing & Heating
 since 1957
 50 Years of Family Owned Business
(978) 342-3029
 381 Summer Street
 Fitchburg, MA



- Tacos Pastor
 - Sopa del Mar
 - Pescado Frito
 - Tacos de Pescado
 - Pollo Azado
 - Arros Camaron
 - Carne Azada
- 308 MASS. AVE. ▶ LUNENBURG, MA
 978-582-9701/9702
 978-582-9705 Fax
 www.IXTAPACANTINA.com

See what
color
 can do for you!

to advertise in color,
 please call us at
 John Patrick Publishing
800-333-3166

ROCKWELL
ROOFING, INC.
 44 Pond St., Leominster, MA
 978-537-7825 • F: 978-537-4132

Rosaries From Flowers
*"Handmade from the Flowers
 of your Loved One"*

841 MAIN STREET
 TEWKSBURY, MA 01876
 www.rosariesfromflowers.com
 (978) 851-9103

catholicmatch
 Massachusetts



CatholicMatch.com/
 dateMA

Wedding Invitations Holiday Cards

You're invited!

Log onto www.JPPC.net conveniently from your home or office.
 ONLINE CATALOG - ONLINE ORDERING - ONLINE PROOFING
 All Major Credit Cards Accepted FREE UPS GROUND SHIPPING!

DC
Funding

Commercial Rates are at an **All Time Low**.
 Contact us today to get a free analysis
 to see if we can help **Save you money**
 with your monthly payments on your
 commercial property. Multi-Family, Retail,
 Office Building, Apartment and Condos.
 Can close in as little as 45 days! Four
 season customer service is our top priority.

Call us today **215-586-1575** or **267-251-0341**
www.duqfunding.com
 3900 City Avenue, Suite 107 • Philadelphia, PA 19131



Make a Difference in Your Community
VOLUNTEER
 with the American Red Cross
 Join today at redcross.org/Volunteer

BUILD YOUR COMMUNITY!

SHOP LOCAL

*Patronize the Advertisers who
 make this bulletin possible!*



The Bridge *Your path from hospital to home*

Choosing a rehabilitation facility can be overwhelming
 But planning ahead can help you find the place that's right for you.
 A personalized tour of our facility will provide you the opportunity
 to meet our highly trained and compassionate staff and give you the
 peace of mind you need to begin your recovery.

The Highlands
 978.343.4411
 335 Nichols Road
 Fitchburg, MA
 TheHighlandsMA.com

Call today to schedule a private tour. Group tours available.