

St. Anthony of Padua Church

149 South Pine Creek Road, Fairfield, Connecticut 06824

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The Fairfield Jesuit Community
Sacramental and Liturgical Part-
ners

Parish Office: (203) 259-0358
Office hours:

Monday & Wednesday 9-3
If you need to contact the office
at other times, please call and
leave a message or email:
office@stanthonyffd.org



☞ Sacramental Life ☞

Sacrament of Baptism

Please contact the parish office for an appointment as early as possible to arrange for pre-baptismal instruction and to set a date for the sacrament.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

By appointment.

Sacrament of Marriage

Arrangements must be made at least eight months in advance of the wedding date. Participation in Pre-Cana or Engaged Encounter is a requirement.

Care of the Sick

Please advise us of parishioners who are sick or in the hospital that we might keep them in our prayers, and if possible, visit them. The Sacrament of the Sick is offered to any who are seriously ill, preparing for surgery, or homebound. Anyone who is unable to celebrate Mass with us in church is urged to advise us that we might share Communion with them at home.

Join us in celebrating the Mass
on Sundays at
10:00am and 12:00pm

**RESERVATIONS ARE
REQUIRED.**

All are welcome.

During this time, the church is
open each day for private
prayer from 9 am until 2 pm.

We welcome new parishioners. Please introduce yourself after Mass and at your convenience you may register at the parish office. We invite you to become an active member of our parish community.

email: office@stanthonyffd.org

website: www.stanthonyffd.org

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 23, 2020

Due to the pandemic Mass will be celebrated only on Sundays until further notice. Two Masses will be celebrated (10:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon). Many precautions have been put into place so that a healthy environment is maintained.

If you haven't already, go to www.stanthonyffd.org and find Mass Protocols on page 2 under News.

It includes the list of accommodations for Mass attendance, and procedures for making reservations to attend Mass.

Previously scheduled intentions unable to be fulfilled due to our abbreviated Mass schedule will be rescheduled. Those include the following for August 22 through August 30, 2020:

Joan Fortuna, Bernard and Virginia Bensey, the deceased members of the Matis Family

Previously scheduled for Sunday, August 23, 2020:

10:00 - John P. Flanagan requested by his family

12:00 - Joan Fortuna requested by Valerie McGuire

Previously scheduled for Sunday, August 30, 2020:

10:00 - Lenahan and Davidson Families requested by the family

12:00 - Robert D'Arcy requested by Monica and Fredric Wheeler

Please remember them in your prayers. May they rest in peace.

Consult our parish website (www.stanthonyffd.org) and Facebook page often as we will post information as soon as we receive it from the diocese or when we need to make certain decisions. Please pray for the victims.

Masses online*

Please Note: The St. Anthony Sunday 10 a.m. Mass will be **live-streamed** to our website (www.stanthonyffd.org) and Face Book page every week. Tune in at 9:58 a.m. The Mass will be recorded so you can view it at another time.

The 12:10pm daily Mass of the Fairfield Jesuit Community is available to stream Monday through Friday; Saturday and Sunday Masses are at 11 am. The link for all Masses:

<https://Fairfield.zoom.us/j/448025617>

(Download the zoom application from the App Store first.)

Bishop Frank Caggiano celebrates Mass on Sundays, posted on the website at 8am. <https://www.bridgeportdiocese.org>.

Checkout the website of the diocese for more information on the bishop's and all available Masses: www.bridgeportdiocese.org

Thank you—to the many parishioners who have been mailing or dropping off their envelopes to the rectory office. We know that you will give as generously as you are able and we so appreciate your support! We look forward to worshipping together again as our community soon as is safely possible. Be well!

E-Giving—Electronic Giving for supporting St. Anthony's is now being used by many parish families. The word is that setting up an account is easier than expected, and that doing so connects these families to our St. Anthony community in support and prayer. Interested in contributing in this way? Go to **Give-central.org**, create your account, log in, and the rest is simple! **If you are an on-line contributor, please let us know if you would like to discontinue receiving envelopes. Thank you!**

Thank you, Michelle DeMartino, for facilitating this project. And **thank you** to the many parishioners who have taken advantage of this new way to contribute to your parish.

Please continue your generous support!

Prayer of Spiritual Communion—

When you are watching a Mass online and cannot receive the Eucharist in person, say this prayer:

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you are already there and unite myself wholly to you.

Never permit me to be separated from you.

Amen.

Dear Parishioners,

It's been two weeks since the tropical storm and Fairfield is still coping with the damage incurred. If you have come by the church you have seen the trees and limbs of trees that are scattered about the lawn and the parking lot. It is a mess! Thankfully, there was no serious damage...except for the statue of St. Francis and the memorial garden in which he stood. When I visited the church on that Tuesday evening, after the storm had passed, St. Francis' statue had lost its head! Gratefully, the head was located and once again sits atop the body of the statue.

The tree service, having to attend to more serious matters, has not yet come to the church but promises to do so later this week. The statue and the garden will be restored to their previous conditions, the debris will be removed and things will look somewhat "normal" again.

This storm, as with all crises that we endure, reminds us of the transitory nature of human life. Life is precious, and what we take for granted everyday can disappear in a flash. May this experience teach us to savor each moment and each person in our lives. May God bless you all and the parish community of St. Anthony!



Erin

WHY RESERVATIONS ARE NECESSARY TO ATTEND SUNDAY MASS—

If you would like to come to Mass on a Sunday, **PLEASE** call the office to reserve a space. If you come without a reservation and the church has reached capacity with those who have registered, we will be forced to ask you to come another time. **WE DO NOT WANT TO HAVE TO DO THIS.** That would be uncomfortable for you and for us. Checking in with the volunteers before Mass is necessary for contact tracing purposes should anyone who attended Mass become ill, in spite of our rigorous disinfecting.

Thank you for your cooperation!



Centering Prayer—The Centering Prayer group will meet electronically! Please contact **Susan Lenahan at 203-858-8367** for details. Centering Prayer is a simple and powerful way to access a deeper relationship with

God which expands one's receptivity to the presence and activity of God in one's life. Develop a contemplative meditation practice by exploring centering prayer with St. Anthony's Centering Prayer Group. Wednesdays, 9:00 –11: a.m. Newcomers are always welcome. So, please join us!

Scripture and the Sea—with Deacon Steven DeMartino, September 14 -16, 2020. Join Deacon Martino on a journey by and in the sea as together you reflect on how scripture references to water and the ocean can inspire our spiritual journey and challenge us to more fully embrace our baptismal call to be missionary disciples of Christ. Learn more at www.enders.is/seascripture

St. Edmund's Retreat
1 Enders Island, P.O.Box 399
Mystic, CT 06355
860-536-0565

Annual Catholic Appeal—You have probably received a letter from the diocese concerning the annual appeal. You may recall that we did not have a separate appeal last year as we were involved in the We Stand With Christ Capital Campaign. This year's goal is smaller, as was promised...\$126,000. (was \$140,000. in the past several years). We have already raised 50.90% of the goal, or \$64,138., thanks to the generosity of many parishioners. Thank you if you have made a gift. If you have not already done so, please prayerfully consider making a donation so we can close the gap!

Henri Nouwen: "The love of God is an unconditional love, and only that love can empower us to live together without violence. When we know that God loves us deeply and will always go on loving us, whoever we are and whatever we do, it becomes possible to expect no more of our fellow men and women than they are able to give, to forgive them generously when they have offended us, and always respond to their hostility with love. By doing so we make visible a new way of being human and a new way of responding to our world problems."

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