

# 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-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 30, 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.stanthonyffld.org](http://www.stanthonyffld.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 29 through September 6, 2020:

Bernard Bensey, Michael and Rose Matis, George and Anthony Zygmant, and Lily Dowd

**Previously scheduled for Sunday, August 30, 2020:**

10:00 - The Lenahan and Davidson Families, requested by their family

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

**Previously scheduled for Sunday, September 6, 2020:**

10:00 - Semion dela Rea, Jr. requested by the Erauda Family

12:00 - Anthony Incerto requested by his family

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

Consult our parish website ([www.stanthonyffld.org](http://www.stanthonyffld.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.stanthonyffld.org](http://www.stanthonyffld.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](http://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.

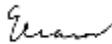
Dear Parishioners,

Sometimes, during what seems to be one very long day since the coronavirus overtook our lives, we all need to see a ray of hope. That is true especially when the darkness of sickness or death comes into our lives and we are plunged into sorrow.

I just heard from a former parishioner who moved out of state. She wrote asking for prayers for her family. Her granddaughter had just died, actually, had been murdered.

Although every death brings sadness, this kind of death brings its own horror, and with it, a darkness that can lead a person to despair. Thank God this woman has great faith and is praying her way through this tragedy. I have assured her of the prayers of our community, as she and her family do their best to cope with this sudden loss and its aftermath. Please join me, and the members of our community of faith, in praying for Samantha, her family, and for all who have needlessly lost their lives to violent acts that countermand God's desire for us to have life in abundance. I believe that God is mourning with this family, and I believe that our prayers can uphold them as they travel this unwanted journey.

Perhaps Henri Nouwen's words cited below can give us all hope that darkness and death do not have the last word. Love is stronger than death and transcends even death. Let love rule our lives...it is the strongest force in this world, and beyond.



**Henri Nouwen:** "It is central in the biblical tradition that God's love for God's people should not be forgotten. It should remain with us in the present. When everything is dark, when we are surrounded by despairing voices, when we do not see any exits, then we can find salvation in a remembered love, a love that is not simply a wistful recollection of a by-gone past, but a living force that sustains us in the present. Through memory, love transcends the limits of time and offers hope at any moment of our lives."

**Our Lady of Sorrow Icon Workshop**—Visit [www.enders.is/ourladyicon](http://www.enders.is/ourladyicon) or call 860-536-0565 for information on this participatory icon workshop planned for October 4 through October 9, 2020. The icon will be painted in classical traditional egg tempura medium. Byzantine, Romanesque, and contemporary methods will be applied in this week-long, intensive icon workshop. Ender's Island is located in Mystic, CT.



**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](http://www.enders.is/seascripture)

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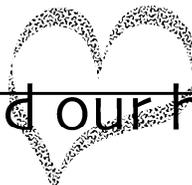
**WHY RESERVATIONS ARE NECESSARY TO ATTEND SUNDAY MASS**—

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!

**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 51.10% of the goal, or \$64,388., 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!

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