

# St. Anthony of Padua Church

149 South Pine Creek Road, Fairfield, Connecticut 06824

Eleanor W. Sauers Ph.D.  
Parish Life Coordinator

Frank A. Macari  
Director of Music

Beth Paris  
Pastoral Minister

Anthony DeMartino  
Finance Committee Chair  
203-984-1934

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-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 27, 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](http://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 September 27 through October 3, 2020:

Theresa and John Primich and Vivienne Finn

**Previously scheduled for Sunday, September 27, 2020:**

10:00 - Mary Ellen McDonald requested by Joy Deignan

12:00 - Bobby D'Arcy requested by Nora and Keith Bradley

**Previously scheduled for Sunday, October 4, 2020:**

10:00 - Peter McMahan requested by Mary Ellen and Bill Higgins

12:00 - Patricia Rose Kadar requested by the family

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

Consult our parish website ([www.stanthonyffd.org](http://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](http://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 from Fairfield University is available to stream Monday through Friday; Sunday Masses are at 11 am. The link for all Masses: <https://Fairfield.zoom.us/j/91693638989> (Download the zoom application from the App Store first.)

Bishop Frank Caggiano celebrates Mass on Sundays, posted on the website at 8am, but available to be streamed at other times... <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)

As you can well imagine, the cost of operating a parish in these times has not decreased but rather has increased due to the safety protocols that have been put in place to protect us all. Please remember to support your parish to keep it alive and well for the day when we can all gather safely again.

**Thank you**—to the many parishioners who have been mailing or dropping off their envelopes to the rectory office.

**E-Giving**—Electronic Giving for supporting St. Anthony's is now being used by many parish families. 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 our 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,

In these uncertain times, we all need to find ways to keep ourselves centered and grounded. Prayer, whether our usual round or a new mode, is an excellent way to help us keep perspective. Many resources are offered on the internet to help us with our prayer lives, for instance, Fr. Jim Martin, S.J., offers a daily reflection, as does Richard Rohr and many others.

Retreats are the vehicle for many of us to recharge our spiritual batteries. Our friend Dan Schutte has just released a three day virtual retreat, pairing music and reflections, along with a zoom gathering at the end. The information is cited below. Knowing Dan, this will be a most worthwhile way to recharge and to re-center ourselves for the fall and winter to come. *Dan*



**Centering Prayer**—The Centering Prayer group will meet electronically! Please contact **Susan Lenahan at 203-858-8367** for details. Wednesdays, 9:00 –11:a.m. Newcomers are always welcome!

**Religious Education**—If you have a child to enroll in our religious education program this year, and you have not yet received a registration form by email, please contact the office. If you have a first grader, you would not have received a form by email, so please contact the office to register. Our program this year will be online, due to the restrictions mandated by the current pandemic.

**Cooks wanted!**—Our parish provides a monthly dinner for the guests of Operation Hope on the 4th Thursday of each month. We need volunteers to pitch in. JoAnn DeMaso has graciously led this effort, but she needs some helping hands. If you can help, please contact JoAnn at [jnd6@optonline.net](mailto:jnd6@optonline.net)

**Henri Nouwen** — “The question of receiving the love of Christ is really very important. I personally feel more and more that sometimes it is harder for us to fully receive love than to give it. I am more and more convinced that we will find the peace and joy of Christ when we let him truly enter into the deepest places of our heart, especially those places where we are afraid, insecure, and self-rejecting.”

**Youth Group**— “*Together we imagine a circle of compassion, with no one standing on the outside.*” (Peggy O’Neil, S.C.)

Youth Group this year will be a series of service projects focusing especially on our neighbors in the greater Bridgeport area. High school teens are invited to share, **with permission**, their parents’ email address for a schedule of Zoom planning meetings and discussions ([hhpaisan@optonline.net](mailto:hhpaisan@optonline.net)). We are kicking off this year with a wonderful idea from youth group member and project leader, May Brum:

**Books For Bridgeport Friends!**

Help support the Saint Anthony’s Youth Group’s newest initiative, a book drive for Bridgeport Public School students. Through the month of September please bring your gently used books for students in grades Pre-K-8th. Donation boxes will be provided and located on the enclosed back porch of the parish rectory. These donations will go to students who found themselves with no new books to read during quarantine, when schools and libraries were closed. Donations will be accepted through September 30. Thank you in advance for your support and participation! Email Beth Paris for info...[hhpaisan@optonline.net](mailto:hhpaisan@optonline.net)

**Annual Catholic Appeal**—You probably have received a letter from the diocese concerning the Annual Catholic Appeal (***Emergency Appeal***). This year’s goal is smaller, as was promised... \$126,000. (was \$140,000. in the past several years). We have already raised 58% of the goal, \$74,203., 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.

**Message from National Kidney Registry**—

Gerry Rhodes, a Bridgeport resident, is in need of a kidney transplant. If you are interested in learning about his story, kidney donation, or in being tested to see if you are eligible to donate, visit [www.NKR.ORG/MAR398](http://www.NKR.ORG/MAR398) or call The Center for Living Organ Donation at 860-696-2021 and mention his name. Some facts: surgery is done laparoscopically; recovery is usually two weeks; cost is covered; donors have a personal medical team.



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Psychotherapy Group of  
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140 Sherman St., 5th Fl.  
Fairfield, Connecticut 06824  
Telephone: (203) 883-0803  
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**Peter M. Ferrara, D.D.S.**  
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