

St. Anthony of Padua Church

149 South Pine Creek Road, Fairfield, Connecticut 06824

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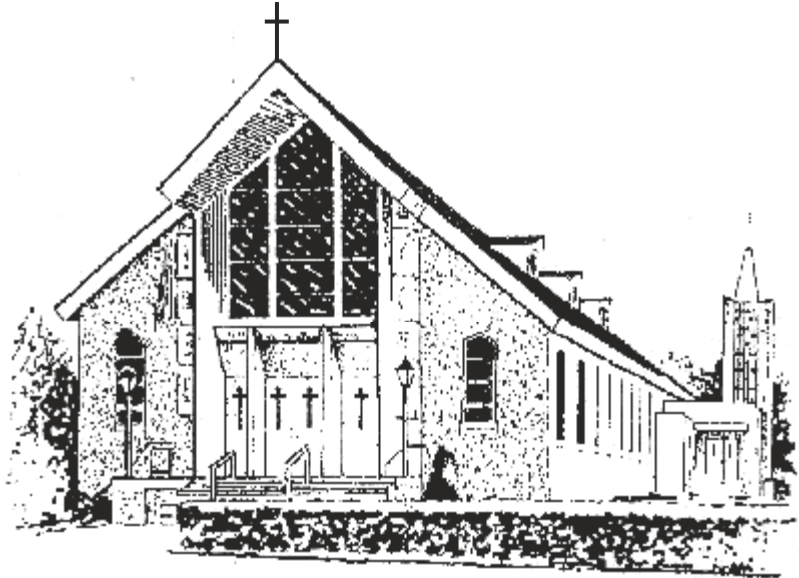
The Fairfield Jesuit Community
Sacramental and Liturgical Partners

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@stanthonyffld.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**

Please call no later than the
Wednesday before.

During this time, the church is
open daily for private prayer
from 9 am until 4 pm.
Sundays until 1 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@stanthonyffld.org

website: www.stanthonyffld.org

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 20, 2020

Due to the pandemic Mass will be celebrated only on Sundays (10:00 and 12:00) until further notice. 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.

You'll find 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 December 20 through December 26, 2020:

All Parishioners

Previously scheduled for Sunday, December 20, 2020:

10:00 - John P. Flanagan requested by his family
12:00 - John Kappel requested by Margaret Kappel

Previously scheduled for Sunday, December 27, 2020:

10:00 - Emily Cinotti requested by Joseph and Susan Gerics
12:00 - Patricia Rose Kadar requested by her family

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

The church (side entrance) will be open for private prayer daily from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. (1 p.m. on Sundays). The bulletin will be available on our parish website and in the church.

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 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 app 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 diocesan website for more info
www.bridgeportdiocese.org

Please remember to support your parish to keep it alive and well for the day when we can all gather safely again.

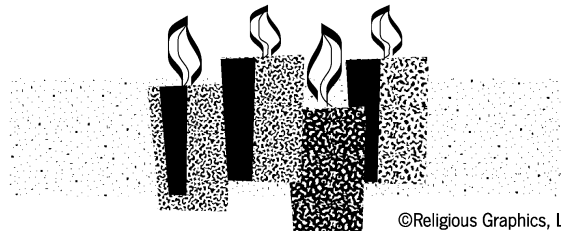
Thank you—to the many parishioners who have been mailing or dropping off their envelopes to the rectory office.

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. And please check the expiration date on your credit card.**
Thank you!

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,

I am writing this to you on December 10 for the December 20 bulletin. It is difficult to be timely when the deadline for publication is far ahead of the date you will read this. Such is the life of a bulletin editor!

I came across a lovely prayer that is appropriate for our times, and for this time of the year. It was sent by Catholic Relief Services, an organization that does terrific relief work in over 100 countries, including ours, without regard to race, religion or nationality.

A Family Blessing

Lord of all, bless our families.

Be they formed by blood or by circumstance,
make them holy.

May we find you in our relationships.

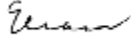
In our marriages, in our families, in our households,
in our communities, in our global humanity.

May we look across all that divides us and see family,
and embrace as a family does.

And love as a family ought to.

For where two or three gather in your name,
there are you.

Amen.



Our Masses for Christmas are:

**4:30 pm, Thursday, December 24,
Christmas Eve;**

**10 am and 12 noon, Friday,
December 25, Christmas Day.**

When the maximum number for the church is reached, the 4:30 and the 10 will be live-streamed to the parish hall, and the Eucharist will be distributed there as well.

St. Anthony of Padua ZOOM Youth Group

Our high school youth group will resume meeting on Zoom on January 11, 2021, at 7 pm.

High School teens need a permission slip signed by a parent/guardian (available on the back porch of the rectory) with an approved email address in order to attend the meetings. Permission slips may be emailed to Beth Paris (hnpaisan@optonline.net). If there are any questions or concerns, please contact Beth or Eleanor Sauers at office@stanthonyffld.org.

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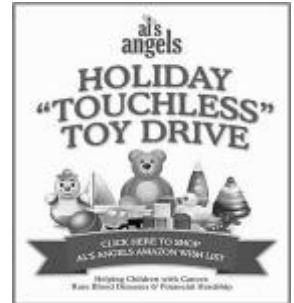


Centering Prayer—The Centering Prayer group is meeting virtually! Please contact **Susan Lenahan at 203-858-8367** for details. Wednesdays, 9:00–11:00 a.m. Newcomers are welcome!

Al's Angels Touchless Toy

Drive—This year the annual toy drive is “touchless” because of the pandemic. Although the link above is not active, you can participate by going to

[alsangels.org](https://www.alsangels.org) where you will find information about how to help.



Giving Tree—Our annual Giving Tree, sponsored by the St. Anthony Youth Group, is standing proudly on the deck, decorated with ornaments that specify a gift card that has been requested. **Gift cards valued at \$10** to Target, Walmart, Walgreen's, Dunkin Donuts, McDonald's and Subway will help the homeless and shelter-insecure stay fed and warm this winter. Take a candle from the tree and return the gift card to the purple box just inside the church. The church is open daily from 9:00-4:00. Thank you for supporting Sr. Eileen's Street Ministry with your always generous donations!



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...\$126,000. We have raised \$82,688., which is great (65.63%), but we need to close the gap! We will be responsible for the difference. This collection supports many ministries of the diocese, including food pantries and mental health programs, both of which are so necessary in these troubled times.. If you have not already done so, please prayerfully consider making a donation. Thank you if you have already contributed!

Apple Crumb Pies—The center for Food Equity and Economic Development (FEED) operates a professional kitchen under Chef Kashia Cave. The staff provides 500 meals every week to Bridgeport residents in need. To increase support for FEED's mission, the staff is making apple crumb pies available to the general public for \$10 each for the holidays. Orders can be submitted through New Year's Eve. Curbside pick up is at 1718 Capitol Avenue, Bridgeport, M-F, 8:45—4:45. Call 203-331-6182 or go to <https://feedbpt.smartonlineorder.com> to place orders.

Picnic, golf tournament? Those didn't happen this year but we have a different opportunity to raise funds for the parish. AR Workshop is offering *Do it Yourself* ornament kits with some of the proceeds benefiting the parish. This is a great idea for your family! See the flyer on our website! [ARWorkshopcom/fairfield](https://www.ARWorkshopcom/fairfield)

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Peter M. Ferrara, D.D.S.
is pleased to announce that
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has joined the dental practice.
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