

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

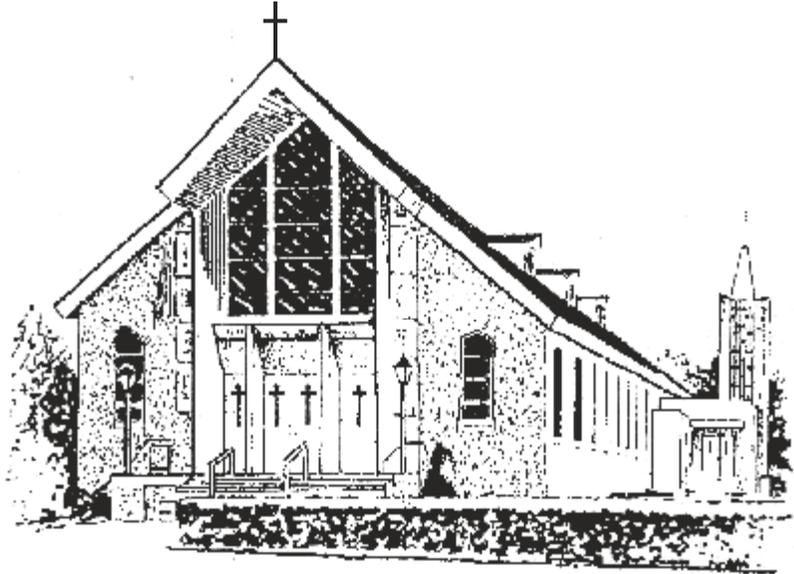
The Fairfield Jesuit Community
Sacramental and Liturgical Partners

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 ✠

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.

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.

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

First Sunday in Lent

February 21, 2021

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.stanthonyffld.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.

Intentions previously scheduled for this week and unable to be fulfilled due to our abbreviated Mass schedule will be rescheduled as unassigned Masses become available in the new year. (See note on page 3)

Sunday, February 21, 2021:

10:00 - Mick McCullough requested by Phyllis and Jim Fitzpatrick

12:00 - John and Tish Krzyzek requested by Barbara Krzyzek

Sunday, February 28, 2021:

10:00 - Joseph Melly requested by Maggie McCaffrey

12:00 - Joseph and Irene Filar requested by Barbara Krzyzek

Please remember them in your prayers.

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.

Please call and leave a message or email if you need to reach the office.

Masses online*

Please Note: The St. Anthony Sunday 10 a.m. Mass will be **live-streamed** to our website (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 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 **Givecentral.org**, create your account, log in, and the rest is simple!

The envelope system is an expense to the parish, so if you decide to use GiveCentral, please let us know so we can discontinue your envelopes.

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.

St. Anthony of Padua ZOOM Youth Group

High School Youth Group Zoom meeting— February 22, 2021, at 7 p.m.

Topic: **What Changed???**

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 (twice a month). Permission slips may be emailed to Beth Paris (hhpaisan@optonline.net). Please contact Beth or Eleanor Sauers (office@stanthonyffld.org) with any questions or concerns.

Dear Parishioners,

Pope Francis in his Lenten message this year refers to Lent as a “Time for Renewing Faith, Hope and Love.” We, as disciples of the Lord, are called to “share in his mission for the salvation of the world.” How to do this? The pope recommends that “during this season of conversion, let us renew our faith, draw from the living water of hope, and receive with open hearts the love of God.”

Fasting, prayer and giving alms are the traditional activities during Lent, and Pope Francis speaks about each. In denying ourselves by fasting, we stand in solidarity with the poor and rediscover that it is God who fulfills us. Through prayer we open ourselves to God’s truth and self, inviting God to “make his dwelling” within us and show us his great love. Alms giving is not simply sharing our resources with those less fortunate, but also can be construed as offering hope and forgiveness to others. By simply being kind to one another, being “willing to set everything else aside in order to show interest, to give the gift of a smile, to speak a word of encouragement, to listen amid general indifference,” can give comfort to another.

The pope concludes his message with these words: “Dear brothers and sisters, every moment of our lives is a time for believing, hoping and loving. The call to experience Lent as a journey of conversion, prayer and sharing of our goods, helps us—as communities and as individuals—to revive the faith that comes from the living Christ, the hope inspired by the breath of the Holy Spirit and the love flowing from the merciful heart of the Father.

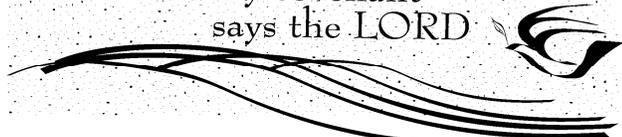
These are powerful words, and they can inspire us to do our part this Lent to renew our spirits and those of others in our path, as we work to prepare the way for the glorious celebration of the Resurrection!



Merton Collection—Demand for the Merton Center’s food resources continues unabated during the Covid-19 crisis. Since the dining hall continues to be closed, every weekday the Center distributes hundreds of meals-to-go (breakfast and lunch) and the food pantry is open every other Wednesday. Our monthly food collection will begin on Sunday, February 21 through Wednesday, February 24. Greatest needs are: bottled water, individual size apple sauce, snacks such as cereal/ granola/power bars, rise krispie treats, small packets of cookies, etc. Baskets will be available on the back porch of the rectory to receive your gifts. Thank you for your faithful generosity, especially at this time.

A Matter of Balance—Do you have concerns about falling? The popular program, **A Matter of Balance**, has developed a virtual translation that is being offered online. Classes will be offered on **Tuesdays**, February 16 through April 20, 10 am—12 pm. Zoom link will be provided after registration. The program is free, thanks to a grant from the SW Area Agency on Aging. Call 203-259-0358 for more information or to register.

I will recall my covenant
says the LORD



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Centering Prayer—The Centering Prayer group is meeting virtually!

Please contact **Susan Lenahan at 203-858-8367** for details. **Wednesdays**, 9:15 –11:15 a.m. Newcomers are welcome! 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. Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88352931320>

A Lenten Journey Through Mark’s Gospel—This liturgical year, known as Cycle B, is also referred to as the Year of Mark’s Gospel. Considering that, this Lent would be an appropriate time to walk through Mark’s Gospel to become more familiar with it, and to consider the import of Mark’s words in our lives. Zoom sessions will be held on **Thursdays**: Feb.25, March 4,11,18 and 25, from 7:30—8:45 pm. Parishioner Charlie Miller will facilitate. <https://Fairfield.zoom.us/j/94020421167>

Make a Virtual Lenten Retreat with Dan Schutte

Make a self-directed retreat during the season of Lent with music and video reflections.

The retreat includes:

Eighteen video reflections by Dan Schutte
Each reflection features a song for prayer
Downloadable retreat workbook/journal
Zoom conversation with Dan at end of retreat
Runs from Ash Wednesday to Holy Thursday

Give the gift of a retreat to a friend or family member.

For more information or to register go to:

<https://www.danschuttemusic.com/wordpressstore/lenten-retreat-individual/>

Awakening the Dreamer Workshop—

"Living our vocation to be protectors of God’s handiwork is essential to a life of virtue." Pope Francis

St. Anthony’s Social Justice Committee invites you to the **Awakening the Dreamer Workshop** presented via ZOOM over the course of three consecutive **Wednesday evenings** in Lent: **February 24, March 3, and March 10, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. each evening.** Members of the parish Social Justice Committee will lead us in an educational and spiritual experience that has inspired people in more than 100 countries and will help us to discover our role in creating a more sustainable future for our earth. This free presentation will plant the seeds for people to become more proactive in our care for creation. Join us in helping to create a community committed to a sustainable future. All are invited. For planning purposes, RSVP/Pre-registration is needed by Friday, February 12. To register email the parish at office@stanthonyfld.org with **Awakening in the subject line.**

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