

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

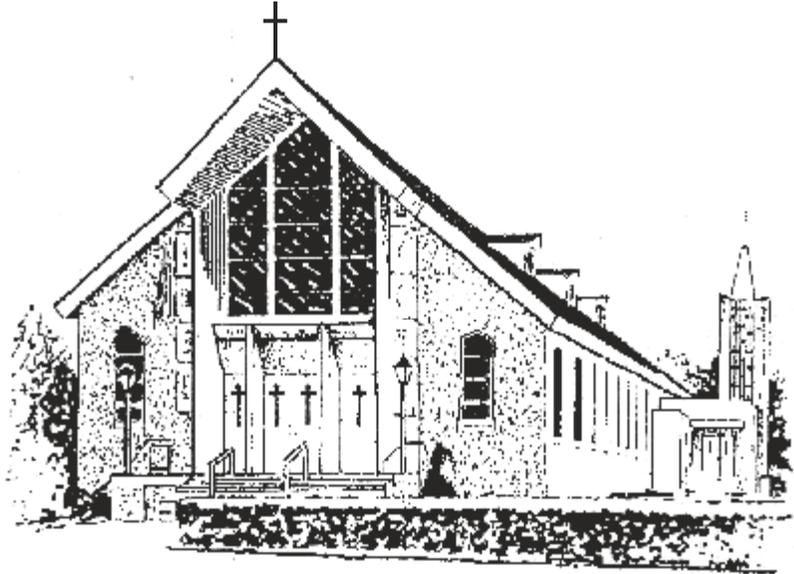
The Fairfield Jesuit Community
Sacramental and Liturgical Partners

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 ✿

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

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

March 28, 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.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.

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)

Palm Sunday, March 28, 2021:

10:00 - Michele Thomas requested by Nancy Sabol (originally scheduled for 3/28/20)

12:00 - John Geiger requested by Lindsay Clayton (originally scheduled for 3/29/20)

****See complete Holy Week Schedule on next page****

Easter Sunday, April 4, 2021:

10:00 - All Parishioners

12:00 - All Parishioners

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.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 **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

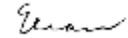
High School Youth Group Zoom meeting— April 12, at 7 p.m.

Topic: **What's the Real Story?**

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@stanthonyffd.org) with any questions or concerns.

Dear Parishioners,

As we approach Holy Week, we remember that last year we could not celebrate any of our Triduum services. In view of that void, this year's services take on even greater meaning. Please join us for the holiest week of the year. All services will be live-streamed, so if you aren't able to make a reservation, you can still join us. This is the week we look forward to all year, and the one that feeds us spiritually throughout the remainder of the year. May this be a rich and blessed week for you and for our parish!



HOLY WEEK SERVICES

(all services will be live-streamed)

Holy Thursday, April 1; Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:30 pm;

Good Friday, April 2; Good Friday Passion of the Lord Service at 3 pm;

Holy Saturday, April 3; The Great Vigil of Easter at 7:30 pm;

Easter Sunday, April 4; The Resurrection of the Lord Masses at 10 am and 12 pm.

Reservations are required for all services.

Palms will be available in the vestibule of the church for those who cannot join the Mass, from Palm Sunday through Wednesday of Holy Week. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be offered on Wednesday evening, March 24, at 7 pm, with individual confession.

The Blessing of the Food will take place on Holy Saturday, April 3, at 11 am in the church.

2021 Diocese of Bridgeport Annual Catholic Appeal—is now underway. Named "Arise," based on Lord's words to Lazarus, the bishop invites us all to "arise from the darkness" of the pandemic and "seek new life" in Christ. The appeal will provide funds for works of charity, formation in faith, education and catechesis. There are pamphlets explaining the appeal and how you can help on the table in the side vestibule of the church. **Our goal for 2021 is \$111,100.**, down from \$126,000., in 2020 and 140,000., in 2019. **We have an opportunity this year to help another parish in our diocese that is struggling because of the pandemic. Whatever amount we raise over our goal can be shared with a parish in desperate need of help.** Please prayerfully consider contributing to this worthy cause.

Missing Taizé? — Our parish has traditionally prayed Taizé each Friday evening during the Season of Lent. Good News!!!! Through the wonders of technology, Taizé is back! Log onto the parish website - www.stanthonyfld.org— and, you will find what you have been missing! Taizé will be posted each of the remaining weeks of Lent, on the home page of the website. Why not add this beautiful offering to your Lenten practice?

Merton Center—Every weekday the Merton Center distributes hundreds of meals-to-go (breakfast and lunch), and the food pantry is open every other Wednesday. To support this ministry our monthly food collection will extend from **Sunday, March 28 through Wednesday, March 31**. Staff has advised us that current needs continue to be bottled water, individual size apple sauce, snacks such as cereal/granola/power bars, rice krispie treats, small packets of cookies. Our parish collection point is the back porch of the rectory where baskets will be provided. Thank you, again, for your faithful generosity, especially during these most difficult times. You are making a concrete difference in peoples' lives!



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. Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88352931320>

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88352931320>

CARE FOR CREATION CORNER — Last week we started a new bulletin section called **Care for Creation Corner**. Each week an idea will be presented to help us think more about how we can care for our Earth as presented by Pope Francis in his document Laudato Si.

Who doesn't love seeing a beautiful garden full of colorful flowers of all shapes and sizes? Planning which flowers to grow is probably a gardener's favorite pastime in March. As you begin your planning, consider adding more plants native to Connecticut this year. Native plants are adapted to the local climate and soil conditions where they naturally occur. These important plant species provide nectar, pollen, and seeds that serve as food for native butterflies, insects, birds and other animals. Native plants are also advantageous, because they do not require fertilizers and require fewer pesticides than lawns. Native plants require less water than lawns and help prevent erosion, and they can significantly reduce water runoff and, consequently, flooding. They help reduce air pollution as they sequester, or remove, carbon from the air. And, native plants promote biodiversity and stewardship of our natural heritage. Ask your favorite garden center if they stock native plants. You can find out more about native Connecticut flowers by visiting: <https://www.ct-botanical-society.org/Gardens/view>

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