



St. Anthony of Padua

Catholic Church



Welcoming all as we welcome Christ!
Celebrating 138 years of Faith

COURAGEOUSLY
Living the Gospel

JESUS

“Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus.”

LUKE 1:31

DEC 20, 2020

For ever I
will sing the
goodness of
the Lord.
(Ps 89)

**St. Anthony of Padua
Parish Office**

32852 Rhode Island Avenue
San Antonio, Florida 33576
352-588-3081
reception@saopccfl.org

Office Hours

Monday thru Thursday
9 am —3 pm
Office closed for lunch from
12 Noon—1 pm
Friday: 9 am —Noon

**St. Anthony Catholic
School**

12155 Joe Herrmann Drive
Post Office Box 847
San Antonio, Florida 33576

Phone: 352-588-3041
Shannon Hall, Principal

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA

A EUCHARISTIC COMMUNITY THAT IS ROOTED IN THE BENEDICTINE TRADITION OF WELCOME ALL AS YOU WELCOME CHRIST!

Clergy

Fr. Garry Welsh, Pastor
frgarry@saopccfl.org
Fr. Henry Riffle, Pastor Emeritus
Fr. Clement Rees, O.S.B., Associate
Fr. Andrew Siasa, ALCP/OSS

Mass Times

St. Anthony Parish Church

(effective August 31, 2020)
Monday thru Friday: 7:30 am
Saturday: 8 am

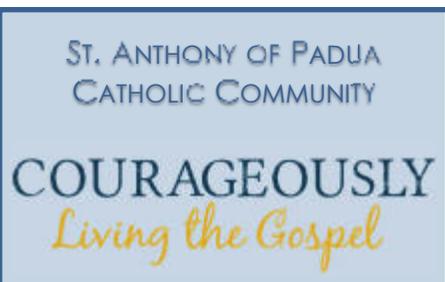
St. Anthony Parish Center

Saturday Vigil:
Saturday, 5:30 pm
Sunday Masses: 8 am & 10 am
10 am is Live Streamed

Reconciliation (Confession)

Saturday, after 8 am mass or by appointment

Schedule is temporary due to pandemic. You are advised to check our website and sign up for Parish App for up-to-date info.



Sacraments

Baptism

To schedule a Baptism, email reception@saopccfl.org or visit our website at www.saopccfl.org for registration and forms. You may also call the Parish Office at 352-588-3081 with questions or for more information.

First Penance & First Communion

Children in First Penance sacramental preparation should have had at least one year of faith formation immediately prior to their enrollment and be in the first grade. To register, go to www.saopccfl.org/faith-formation.

Confirmation

Preparation is typically a two-year program with students enrolling in 7th grade and receiving the sacrament in 8th grade. To register, go to www.saopccfl.org/confirmation-prep.

RCIA

Are you thinking of joining the Catholic Church or want to learn more about the core teachings of the Faith? We have an ongoing program here at St. Anthony. Visit www.saopccfl.org/RCIA and submit the inquiry form.

Marriage

Couples planning to be married should contact the Parish Office at least six months prior to their wedding date to begin preparations. Visit www.saopccfl.org and complete the online Marital Inventory Form. Upon receipt the Sacramental Admin will contact you.

Anointing of the Sick

If you or a loved one are going to the hospital, please call the office prior to entering for anointing. If you have an emergency after hours, please call 352-588-3081.



Welcome to St. Anthony of Padua Church, the second oldest Catholic parish on Florida's west coast. Established in 1883, we are a community with a great history but also a great future!

As a Parish Community, we strive to bring the love and mercy of our living God to all people. We offer the Spirit of welcome and hospitality that comes from St. Benedict with the love of Creation that comes from St. Francis to all those who seek the living God, who calls us and heals us of all that is broken within us.

Whether you are a parishioner whose family has worshiped here for many generations, new to our community or a visitor to our Church, we welcome you and are happy that you have joined with us today to celebrate the Liturgy. If we can be of any assistance to you, please let us know.



Parish Contact Information

Pat Whalen, Parish Manager

business@saopccfl.org

Denise McKenna, Parish Office Manager

adminassistant@saopccfl.org

Martha Minarczik, Coordinator of Sacraments

sacraments@saopccfl.org

Joanne Jacob, Parish Secretary

reception@saopccfl.org

Br. Stanislaw Sullivan, O.S.B.,

Director of Faith Formation

faithformation@saopccfl.org

Mary Boynton, Coordinator of Volunteers

volunteer@saopccfl.org

STEWARDSHIP

"As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace."

1 PETER 4:8—10



OUR PARISH NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT

We continue to be grateful for your generosity during this difficult time and consider your continued support a blessing. To stay on budget for this year, our average weekly income needs to be \$8,067.

We know that many people cannot yet attend mass in person and we want to remind you of the many ways you can still make your weekly offering. We encourage you to consider our convenient and secure Online Giving. You can use Online Giving for your regular offerings or to contribute to special funds. You can find the Online Giving link on www.saopccfl.org. You can also reach our Online Giving page through text. Just text the word GIVE to 352-306-8494. If it's your first time, you'll be prompted to click a link directing you to the online giving page to complete a one-time registration. And of course, you can mail in your offering or drop it off at the parish office.

Contact Denise McKenna at the parish office at 352-588-3081 if you need help or have questions.

2020 Annual Pastoral Appeal
Diocese of St. Petersburg

BE HIS SALT & LIGHT
Make your gift today!
See the Gospel Message in the Annual Pastoral Appeal
[Click here](#)

Goal	\$79,254.16
Contributions as of 12/01/2020	\$71,861.24
Balance	\$ 7,392.92

We understand that these past few months have been very difficult for many including our parish. By God's grace we will soon see an end to these difficult times.

Any contributions you can make to this year's campaign will be greatly appreciated. **Deadline for this year's contributions is January 31, 2021.**

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Weekend of December 26/27, 2020

2nd Collection Building our Future Building Fund*

Weekend of January 2/3, 2021

St. Vincent de Paul will have collection box in parish center

Weekend of January 9/10, 2021

2nd Collection Building our Future Building Fund*

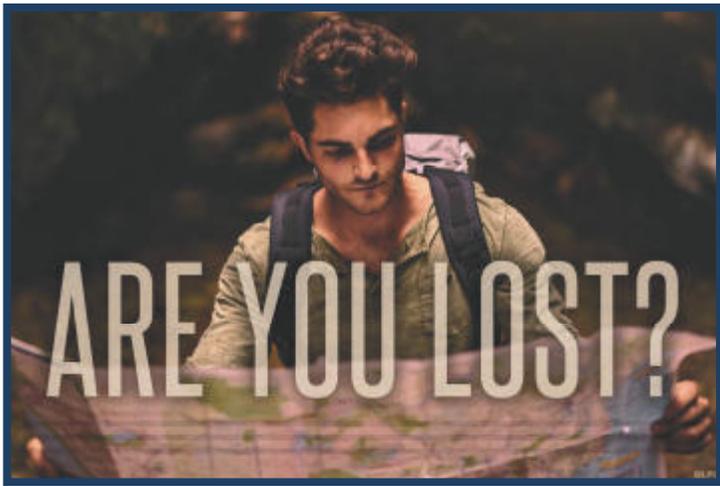
Weekend of January 23/24, 2021

2nd Collection Building our Future Building Fund*

*Envelopes for these special collections are in your envelope box. For those who use Online Giving, look for the option for payment on the site.

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DECEMBER 20, 2020
4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

In Blaise Pascal's work, *Pensees*, he says: "What else does this craving, and this helplessness, proclaim but that there was once in man a true happiness, of which all that now remains is the empty print and trace? This he tries in vain to fill with everything around him, seeking in things that are not there the help he cannot find in those that are, though none can help, since this infinite abyss can be filled only with an infinite and immutable object; in other words by God himself."

We have a difficult time accepting that fulfillment and happiness are not achieved by our own merits but through a relationship with God. We are hardwired for this relationship and it is in our DNA. The simple fact is that we come from God and are designed to return to God. If our beginning and our end define who we are, why would we not want to seek the One who can truly satisfy? The world does not realize that it is waiting. It is waiting for the birth of God in time, within one's soul and in eternity. We get so confused by seeking other momentary satisfactions that we misinterpret the hunger within. We crave God.

The union of God and humanity, revealed in Jesus Christ, is precisely what sets us on a straight path, orders our relationships, establishes proper focus and goals and tells us whose kingdom we really are meant to serve. We are so lost. God is with us. The prophet Nathan told this to King David, the angel said this to Mary and the birth of Christ brings this Good News to us. We do not need to be busily looking for more things but must learn to find contentment and blessing in the One Presence. This is the beautiful simple message of Advent!

If you are feeling unsettled, anxious, angry, disgruntled, disconnected, unhappy, worried, fearful, off center, becoming overly self-indulgent, unable to spend time alone and without distraction, then there's a good chance you are lost. Now is the time to allow God to find you! Ponder the holy simplicity of Mary's call to be the Mother of God. "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." When we are helpless and at home with our emptiness, God will fill us. Our Savior has come.

LET US PRAY

Names will remain on the Intercessory Prayer List for three weeks and will roll off. If you want the name put back on the list, call the office at 352-588-3081. Names on the Armed Forces Prayer List will remain until you tell us they are no longer on active duty.

INTERCESSORY PRAYER LIST

Tom Lachance, Marilyn Bogucki, Grace Miller, Richard Fenlock, Francis Greif, Donald "Ace" Antoine, Sandra Cody, Charlotte Bjornsen, Antonio Velez, Vittoria Whiteley, Jacqueline Santore, Rich McClelland, Ben Hemker, Mary Lachance, Jason Thackeray, Cindy Piscioniere, Kelly Jaje, Carolyn Doyle Smith, Bill Barthle, Charles Bassler, Coletta Walker, Debbie Vita, Mike Lodge, John Dolac, Mikey McKenna, Patricia Ryan

ARMED FORCES PRAYER LIST

Tech. Sgt. Justin Clark US Air Force	SSG Jacob Carroll US Army
Capt. Athina C. Teicher US Air Force	2nd Class Petty Officer P. Casey Whalen US Navy
2nd Lt. Shanon C. Teicher US Air Force	Cpl. Christian T. Kirk US Marine Corps
Chief Petty Officer Katy (Healy) Johnson US Coast Guard	SFC Michael T. King US Army
Lt. Geoffrey Cliff US Navy	Cadet Dennis A. Teicher US Military Academy, West Point
SPC Melissa Tipton US Army	SPC Tyler Miller US Army
2nd Class Petty Officer Brandon C. Miner US Navy	US Airman Ashton Sulick US Airforce
Lt. Col. Nicholas Popp US Air Force	CWO 2 Brian S. Curran US Navy
Major Ryan M. Sullivan US Army	2nd Lt. Jared Carlson US Army
Lt. Col. Matthew Wilcoxon US Air Force	



*Wishing you all the blessings of Christmas
today and throughout the New Year!
Fr. Garry & the staff at
St. Anthony of Padua*

MESSAGE FROM FR. GARRY



In the old Christmas song, "We wish you a Merry Christmas," they sing about *figgy pudding*. Have you ever stopped to ask, what is *figgy pudding*?

Apparently, we are not allowed to leave until we've got some. What if I don't like figgy pudding? What if it has a bad taste? What then? There really is

no answer to that one, but the point is this. We all have different traditions that we celebrate at Christmas, some going back in to memories of family gatherings, and maybe even some that we have developed as our own family has grown.

Each year for the past twenty something years, Fr. Dermot and I have always gotten together for Christmas. I traditionally cook, and we invite other priests who may not have family close by to join us. Each year we host the gathering at either his rectory or mine, taking turns to be the host. This year it is my turn. I am looking forward to being the host and I'm expecting about six other priests to join me for dinner. I have decided to put a twist on the traditional Christmas dinner by smoking the turkey. Hopefully it will turn out. If not, I have a back up plan. The rest of the dinner is going to consist of memories from my childhood Christmases. I have been able to locate some traditional Irish Christmas treats: a tin of biscuits, a selection of boxes of candy from home, mince pies and custard, and of course, I got a figgy pudding. Maybe because I am getting a little older or maybe because of COVID-19, but I feel a little more nostalgic this year, and I guess the traditions of my family Christmases bring me a certain comfort.

Traditions are important to us as humans. They connect us together; and in the Church, we too have traditions. These are the things we do that bind us together as God's family. One great tradition is visiting the crib on Christmas morning; reading the Nativity story together as a family; lighting a candle and placing it in your window to show the way to Mary and Joseph and to offer shelter to the stranger. Whatever your tradition is, I hope that in this time of uncertainty, it will help you enjoy the reality of what we celebrate—that God so loved the world that he sent his only Son to us. That's the mystery of the Incarnation. That's what we celebrate, that's our greatest tradition.

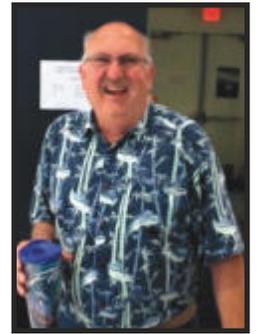
If you are traveling this Christmas season, please be safe. If you are visiting us here at St. Anthony's, you are most welcome. If you are visiting with family, we pray that you will have a blessed time together, and whatever your family tradition is I pray that it will bring you much joy this Christmas season.

On behalf of the priests and all the staff, may God Bless you all this Christmas time!

Fr. G.

A TRIBUTE TO PAT WHALEN. . . Shortly after coming here to the parish, I had to find a new parish manager. I wanted someone who knew the parish, the community and the history of the parish; someone who was invested in the place. I found that person in Pat Whalen! He took the job on with great gusto and we have worked side by side for these past number of years. We have, I believe, made a great team. I have loved working with Pat every day. We have become more than just boss and employee; we have become friends, and I don't use that term lightly. I have many acquaintances, but a very select few friends.

Earlier this year Pat let me know that he was going to retire at the end of the year. I was hoping that he would stay on until I was reassigned, but we all know he has earned his retirement, and as much as I would like him to stay on, the time has come for him to take a lesser role. I am going to miss working alongside him, asking his advice and seeking his input. He has always been a good listener and his advice has always proven to be spot on. I guess it's the wisdom of being such a great father, for you see in his children



the depths of Pat's faith and loyalty. I want to take this opportunity to thank him—although words will never express my gratitude to him for his service to our parish—all the little jobs he did that went

unnoticed by many but have helped to beautify and restore our parish facilities. We will truly miss him on our team. Thank you, Pat, for all that you have done for our parish, for the hours of dedicated service, for your love and devotion to St. Anthony's, and for your friendship. I hope that your retirement will be filled with joy, and as you transition to this new role, that you will feel the love and the prayers and the gratitude of all the parishioners of St. Anthony's. Thank you for your loyalty and support for me. You have touched my life and I am a better man and a better priest and certainly a better pastor for having known you and worked with you. I will miss our chats in the office, but I will still wonder what you were doing back there. Oh, yes! I know! You were helping me build a better parish. Thank you and God Bless!

Fr. G.



CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve

Thursday, December 24, 2020

NO MASS at 7:30 am

5:00 pm—Christmas Vigil, Parish Center (Live Streamed)

7:00 pm—Christmas Vigil, Parish Center

10:00 pm—Christmas Vigil, Parish Center

Christmas Day

Friday, December 25, 2020

8:00 am Mass, Parish Center

10:00 am Mass, Parish Center (Live Streamed)

Feast of the Holy Family

Regular Mass Schedule

Saturday, December 26, 2020—5:30 pm Vigil Mass

Sunday, December 27, 2020—8:00 am, 10:00 am

All masses in the Parish Center

New Year's Eve

Thursday, December 31, 2020

7:30 am—Mass, Church

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Thursday, December 31, 2020

7:00 pm—Vigil, Parish Center

Wednesday, January 1, 2020

7:30 am—Mass, Parish Center

7:00 pm—Mass, Parish Center



READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 20

Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 [2a]/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38

Monday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21 [1a; 3a]/Lk 1:39-45

Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd]/Lk 1:46-56

Wednesday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14 [cf. Lk 21:28]/Lk 1:57-66

Thursday: Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29 [2]/Lk 1:67-79

Friday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 [2a]/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25. Night: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13 [Lk 2:11]/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14. Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20. Day: Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 [3c]/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or Jn 1:1-5, 9-14

Saturday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17 [6]/Mt 10:17-22



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Don't be left out!



LIVE WITH HOPE.
LIVE WITH FAITH.
LIVE WITH SPIRIT!



Kids Corner

READ THE
GOSPEL &
COLOR



Think of the people you trust. These are people you can count on, no matter what happens. Both Mary and Elizabeth were amazed to learn that they were pregnant. God had surprised each of them with a special miracle - a baby. God trusted them both to take care of their babies. Mary and Elizabeth trusted God to help them. You can trust God, too.

PRAYER

God, help me to trust you like Mary and Elizabeth did.

MISSION FOR THE WEEK

Name three reasons you can always trust God.

DECEMBER 20, 2020

SLP



Masses can be arranged to be celebrated for a special intention here at St. Anthony of Padua. These can be in thanksgiving, for the intentions of another person (such as on a birthday), or, as is most common, for the repose of the soul of someone who has died.

Mass St ipends are now \$15.

We are now accepting donations for the sanctuary candle and the hosts used during Mass.

Monthly Host Memorial: \$50.00
Bi-weekly Sanctuary Candle: \$25.00



If you would like to memorialize either one, please call the parish office at 352-588-3081 or stop in during regular office hours.

December

Sanctuary Candle

The Hartnett Family



MONDAY, DECEMBER 21, ST. PETER CANISIUS, PRIEST AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

7:30 am—Mass, Church

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22

7:30 am—Mass, Church, **Tania and Daniel Morel**

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23, ST. JOHN OF KANTY, PRIEST

7:30 am—Mass, Church, **Deceased Catholic Women's Club Members & Family †**

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24, CHRISTMAS EVE

7:30 am—No Mass

5:00 pm—Mass, Parish Center, **Chet Thayer †, Deceased members of the Cannon, Tousey and Keith Families †**

7:00 pm—Mass, Parish Center, **Mary Schrader †**

10:00 pm—Mass, Parish Center, **Bob Fontana †**

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25, THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

8:00 am—Mass, Parish Center, **Matt & Lucile Liewer, Mike Lodge, Mikey McKenna**

10:00 am—Mass, Parish Center, **The Conrad Family, Hodes Family, Poor Souls in Purgatory †**

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26, ST. STEPHEN, THE FIRST MARTYR

8:00 am—Mass, Church

5:30 pm—Vigil Mass, Parish Center, **Martha Kervin †, Thanksgiving for Blessings Schrader Family, John Zegzdryn †**

NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27, THE HOLY FAMILY

8:00 am—Mass, Parish Center, **Patty Schrader †, Susan Culkin †**

10:00 am—Mass, Parish Center, **People of the Parish**

ARE YOU REGISTERED?

It is easy to do. Simply go online at saopccfl.org and look for **Registration** under **Our Parish**. Fill out the form and submit. We ask that all families and adult members register with the Parish in order to enjoy the benefits of our Parish community.

MOVED OR CHANGED INFORMATION?

Please let us know of any changes to your address or contact information so we can keep our records up to date.

Bulletin Submissions

Deadline is Friday, 5 pm, 9 days before publication. Holiday issues have earlier deadlines. We reserve the right to edit. Submissions should be in original format (not PDF) and emailed to bulletin@saopccfl.org. Recent news, upcoming events, photos welcome.

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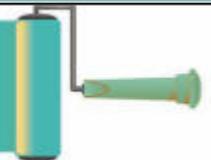
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