



# The Parish Family of Saint Anthony of Padua



Parish Office: 436 Port Reading Avenue, Port Reading, New Jersey 07064  
Phone: 732-634-1403 • [www.saintanthonypadua.org](http://www.saintanthonypadua.org)

Fr. Cyril Offiong, SDV, Administrator

MSGR. PAFNOUTI WASSEF, PAROCHIAL VICAR

MICHAEL BRUCATO, DEACON JOEY PERLAS, DEACON PETER BARCELLONA, DEACON



## THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. - Mt 2:10-11a

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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We're on FACEBOOK, come and check us out!

Pastor: EMAIL: [pastorofstanthonypr@gmail.com](mailto:pastorofstanthonypr@gmail.com)  
Office / Food Pantry: [info.stanthony1@gmail.com](mailto:info.stanthony1@gmail.com)  
Religious Education: [religioused.stanthony1@gmail.com](mailto:religioused.stanthony1@gmail.com)  
Bulletin: [bulletin.stanthony@gmail.com](mailto:bulletin.stanthony@gmail.com)

### Parish Office Hours

Monday	8:30AM - 3:00PM
Tuesday	8:30AM - 3:00PM
Wednesday	8:30AM - 3:00PM
Thursday	8:30AM - 3:00PM
Office is CLOSED on Fridays	



*From the desk of Fr. Cyril Offiong, SDV*

### **They went back through a different way!**

Dear brothers and sisters,

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord. Epiphany is from the Greek word *Epiphaneia* which means revelation or manifestation. **In the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ (Christmas), God our loving Father reveals Himself in a concrete and physical way.** This is a reminder that for us Christians, God is not a distant or impersonal being. God is near to us, in our hearts, in our minds, on our lips and beside us walking the journey life. God revealed His Son to the shepherds in the fields, to the Three Wise Men from the east and later on in the Baptism of our Lord Jesus in the River Jordan by John the Baptist. In each of these events, God made it clear that He is not only Lord of the Universe, He is also actively present in our world. Our response to these manifestations of God is a total and complete surrender to God who desires to dwell in us. Epiphany is not just another feast of Christmas. It reveals Christ to the world as “God from God” and “Light from Light.” As we hear in the story of the Magi from the East, our Lord Jesus is revealed as the Light of Salvation and the Lord of all nations. Just like these three strange figures, we are called to run towards the Lord. As the Magi said, “we have seen His star, and have come to adore Him.” The Eucharist is the greatest star of God for us Christians. In it, we see not just a symbol, but God Himself. In Eucharistic Adoration, we encounter the very person of God. When we spend time with Him, we are like the Magi, who left everything and traveled in search of the newborn King.

The Epiphany Liturgy also suggests some other important guides that lead us to the kingdom of heaven. The gospel of the feast of the Epiphany says that our Lord Jesus is found, “with Mary his Mother.” Our Lady continues to be the star that guides us to Christ the Light. She is the “Star of the Sea” (Stella Maris) who guides us unfailingly in darkness, in turbulent times, and stormy seas. Let us confidently turn to our Blessed Mother who will always lead us to her son, Christ Jesus our Lord. The star guiding the Magi was not always visible to them, leaving some darkness and confusion. At such a time, they consulted Sacred Scripture, through Herod’s advisors. The Word of God sheds light on God’s will and plan for us. The star reappeared, leading them to Bethlehem and to Christ. When we lose our way or when we are distracted from the path of God, Sacred Scriptures guides us back to God’s plans. Through it, God speaks, leads, consoles, and guides us. As a New Year resolution, we can try to read the Word of God daily, even for a few minutes. This will certainly change our lives.

The Magi, themselves, teach us an important lesson on spiritual encounter. Through the guidance of Scripture and the light of the star, the Magi were led to the great encounter with the Christ Child. Likewise, through our Baptism and reception of the Holy Eucharist, we encounter Christ in a deep and personal way. The gospel tells us that the Magi did not return by the same way but they went back through a different way. This “different way” is a lesson on spiritual renewal and transformation. Having encountered Christ as we do, whenever we receive the Sacraments, especially Confession and Eucharist, we cannot and should not return back through the same old way. Something must and should change in our lives, which makes us go back through a “different way.” Spiritual renewal is a daily and constant journey for us. Like the Magi, we fall on our knees before Christ, especially before his Eucharistic Presence, where heaven and earth meet.

As we continue journey through life, may we encounter the Lord, in the various ways that manifests Himself to us.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Whatever your present status in the Catholic Church, whatever your current family or marital situation, whatever your past or present religious affiliation, whatever your personal history, age, background, race, or color, you are invited, welcomed, accepted, loved, and respected at the Parish Family of Saint Anthony of Padua. There are no Strangers at Saint Anthony's - Only Friends We Haven't Met.



## Mass Intentions



at Saint Anthony of Padua Church

at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Worship Site

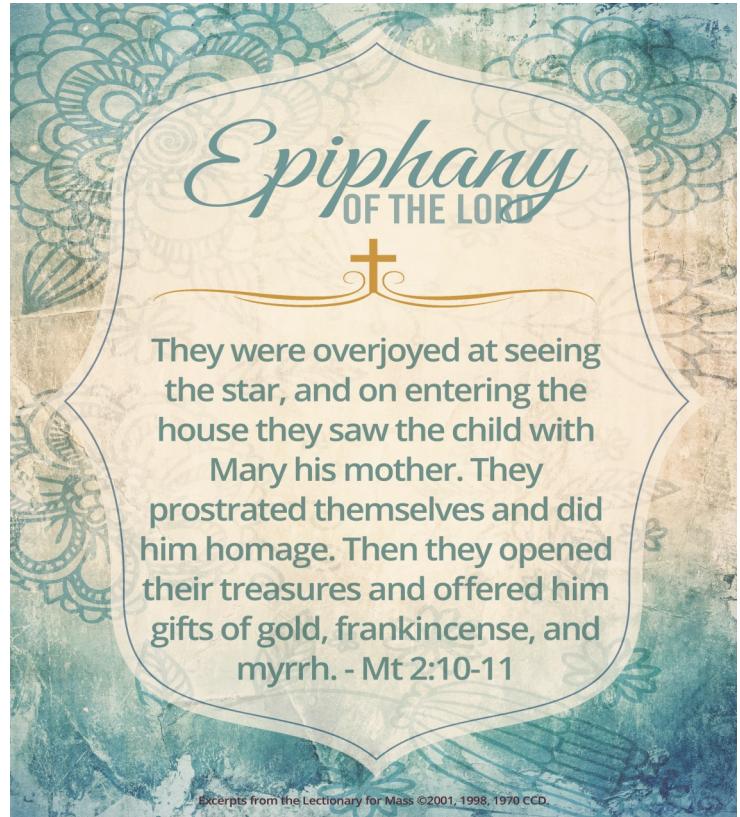
**Morning Prayer** - begins 20 minutes before weekday Mass

<b>Saturday</b> 4:00PM	<b>January 3</b> Linda Gonzalez Requested by Debbie and Stash Znamierowski and family
<b>Sunday</b> 8:30AM	<b>January 4</b> <i>The Epiphany of the Lord</i> People of the parish family
11:30AM	Susan Ringwood Requested by Joanne Kisielewski
<b>Monday</b> 7:30AM	<b>January 5</b> <i>Saint John Neumann</i> John Wukovets Requested by George Miller, Jr.
<b>Tuesday</b> 7:30AM	<b>January 6</b> <i>Saint Andre Bessette</i> Marie and John Santorelli Requested by sons, Robert and Scott
<b>Wednesday</b> 7:30AM	<b>January 7</b> <i>Saint Raymond of Peñafort</i> Purgatorial Mass Society
<b>Thursday</b> 7:30AM	<b>January 8</b> Pray for Vocations
<b>Friday</b> 7:30AM	<b>January 9</b> People of the parish family
<b>Saturday</b> 4:00PM	<b>January 10</b> Tyke GiMojica Requested by his loving family
<b>Sunday</b> 8:30AM	<b>January 11</b> <i>The Baptism of the Lord</i> People of the parish family
11:30AM	Attila Modeszto Requested by the Modeszto family

*Beginning February 6, 2026  
the parish office will be open  
from 8:00AM to 12:00PM  
on Fridays*

**Morning Prayer** begins 20 minutes before Mass on Saturday

<b>Saturday</b> 8:30AM	<b>January 3</b> Deceased members of the former Altar Rosary Society
<b>Sunday</b> 10:00AM	<b>January 4</b> <i>The Epiphany of the Lord</i> Eileen and George T. Miller Requested by son, George T. Miller, Jr.
<b>Saturday</b> 8:30AM	<b>January 10</b> People of the parish family
<b>Sunday</b> 10:00AM	<b>January 11</b> <i>The Baptism of the Lord</i> Ernesto and Leticia Torres Requested by Mina and Edwin Torres



Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

### This Week's Scripture Readings

Sunday: Isaiah 60:1-6  
Ephesians 3:2-3:5-6  
Matthew 2:1-12

Monday: 1 John 3:22-4:6  
Matthew 4:12-17, 23-25

Tuesday: 1 John 4:7-10  
Matthew 6:34-44

Wednesday: 1 John 4:11-18  
Matthew 6:45-52

Thursday: 1 John 4:19-5:4  
Luke 4:14-22

Friday: 1 John 5:5-13  
Luke 5:12-16

Saturday: 1 John 5:14-21  
John 3:22-30

Sunday: Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7  
Acts 10:34-38  
Matthew 3:13-17





## VOTIVE CANDLES

Votive candles burn constantly as a form of prayer and adoration. The candles burning this weekend are dedicated at Saint Anthony of Padua Church

## TABERNACLE

In loving memory of our parents in Heaven on their birthday - Michael and Clara Camilleri  
Love, their daughters, Mildred, Janet, and Mary Dee

## GOOD SHEPHERD

In loving memory of Gordon and Ann Ur,  
John Patrick and Owen  
Requested by their loving family

## CROSS OF SAN DOMIANO

In loving memory of my loving wife, Janice Ciardiello  
Requested by her loving husband, Sal

In loving memory of Carmen, Eleanor,  
and Jeffrey Pagliuca  
Requested by their loving family



## *Rest in Peace*

Remember in your prayers the souls of:

Dorothy D. Zullo - November 30  
Robert A. Daly - December 7  
Karen M. Lutz - December 12  
Arlene F. Smith—December 20

## *One Year Anniversary*

Keep in your prayers the  
parishioners who died a year ago in 2025:  
Judith C. Hupka - January 5  
Frederick F. Burns - January 15  
Eleanor Pagliuca - January 17  
Michael Barbato - January 30



## *Purgatorial Mass Society*

The souls of:

Irene Vernillo  
Enrique Illa  
Theodore Marsek  
Dorothy D. Zullo  
Robert A. Daly  
Tyke G. Mojica

Karen M. Lutz

Arlene F. Smith

requested by:

Carmen and Peggie Margiotta  
Tito Lourdes and Alicia  
Frank and Angela Fowler and Justin  
Saint Anthony of Padua parish family  
Saint Anthony of Padua parish family  
Wife, Ria and daughters,  
Alexa and Cassie  
Our Lady of Mount Carmel and  
Saint Anthony of Padua parish family  
Eileen and Stanley Gurney



*Pray ...*

for our parishioners residing in nursing homes and care centers, the sick and homebound, especially:

Cristino E. Abasolo III, Anonymous, Nancy C. Bunavage, John Carpenito, Lucille Carpenito, John Campion, Justin Carpentieri, Steven DeNoyelles, Beth Dispoto, Alyssa Dohanyos, John Dohanyos, Mark Emanuele, Frank Fernandez, Larry Golden, Kim Hickman, Keeba Johnson, Lynn Killmurray, Alfred Leone, James G. Lockheed, Jonathan Marcela, Heather Marrone Fabio, Robert Joseph Meade IV, David Russell, Janet Strunak, Millie Sutphen, Maryann Vyszwany, Matthew Woods



*Pray ...*

for all the brave military personnel, especially the men and women in uniform of our parish family who are serving our country at home or abroad. We also pray for their family members.

*Pray for Peace!*

## Stewardship

*January 1, 2026 Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God*

*“And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart.” Luke 2:19*

After Jesus, we look to Mary as an ideal steward. Her entire life was lived in obedience to God's call. She heard God's message and immediately said "yes". Mary teaches us to live with joy and gratitude for the many blessings God has given us. Just as the moon reflects the light of the sun, Mary reflects the light of Christ. Like Mary, we are called to reflect Christ's light to the world. We do this through lives of gratitude and generosity.

## Stewardship

*January 4, 2026 Epiphany of the Lord*

*“Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.” Matthew 2:11*

The image of the Magi kneeling before the infant Jesus and opening their treasure chests for Him is an image that we should all try to follow each day. In gratitude for all that we have been given, we are called to generously share all our gifts, not just the ones we pick and choose. God wants us to be generous with everything, but especially that one thing that means the most to you.

## FOOD PANTRY MINISTRY

**FOOD COLLECTION is**  
January 3 and 4

### ITEMS MOST NEEDED ARE:

Canned fruit	Canned meat
Canned sweet potatoes	
Canned tuna	Canned vegetables
Cereal	Chili
Jelly	Mac and Cheese
Oatmeal	Pancake mix
Pancake syrup	Pasta sauce
Peanut butter	
Potatoes - instant, canned, fresh	
Rice	Tomato Sauce

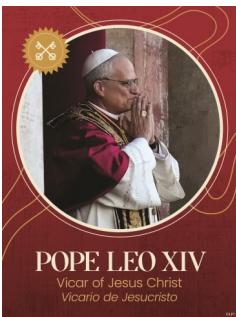
We will always accept toiletry and household items such as bodywash, soap, toilet paper, toothpaste, laundry detergent, and dish detergent.

**If you know someone who needs assistance, contact the parish office or email: info.StAnthony1@gmail.com.**

 *Thank you for making this year a nourishing one for so many people that our food pantry assists.*

*On Wednesday, December 17 we were able to serve 39 families which included 96 people.*

**Merry Christmas and God Bless!**



### Pope's Intention for January:

For prayer with the Word of God. Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.

### 2026 Mass Book

**Masses for 2026 are available for Saturday, Sunday, and weekdays. Contact the parish office at 732-634-1403. Currently there are Masses available for January, February, and Ash Wednesday.**



## FAITH FORMATION

### G.I.F.T. and Sacramental Preparation Programs for 2024-2025

\*\*\* REMINDER: \*\*\*

**Bulletins must be signed and placed in the yellow container after Mass!**

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**Level One and Level Two Communion**  
**Monday, January 5 at 6:20PM**

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**G.I.F.T. SESSION WEDNESDAY,**  
**JANUARY 7 at 6:00PM**  
**Please return your December**  
**Home Session and Lap blanket**

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**Level One and Level Two Confirmation**  
**Monday, January 12 at 6:30PM**

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**G.I.F.T. Mass Weekend**  
**January 24 at 4:00PM**  
**January 25 at 8:30AM and 11:30AM**

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**Level One and Level Two Communion**  
**Monday, January 26 at 6:20PM**

## PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS

January 5      Reverend Piotr Grzeskiewicz  
                  Reverend Sean Kenney

January 6      Reverend Gilbert Z. Starcher  
                  Reverend Frank Fellrath



January 7      Reverend John Polyak  
                  Reverend Edmund Luciano III

January 8      Reverend Juan Carlos Gaviria  
                  Reverend A. Gregory Uhrig

January 9      All Priests

January 10     Reverend Joseph Desmond  
                  Monsignor Joseph Celano

January 11     Bishop Emeritus Paul G. Bootkoski

## Breakfast with Santa - December 13, 2025



Thank you  
to all the participants and volunteers who made  
the **Breakfast with Santa** and the **Children's  
Christmas Pageant** extra special for the  
children and their families this holiday season.



## Children's Christmas Pageant - December 19, 2025



## Liturgical Minister Schedule

### SAINT ANTHONY OF PADUA

Extraordinary Ministers, Readers, and Servers  
announcement schedule for  
Saturday, January 10, 2026 and  
Sunday, January 11, 2026  
will be communicated using email.

### Birthday Blessing for January



As a parish family we rejoice and celebrate the gifts of life and love that God has given to us all. We offer to all those celebrating their birthdays this month our best wishes and prayers that God may continue to bless them abundantly in the years ahead.

## Stewardship: God's Plan for Giving

### Sunday, December 14, 2025

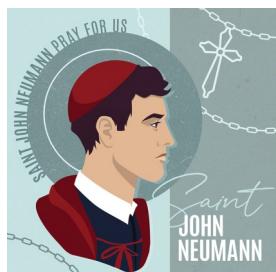
In-person donations.....	\$2,695.00
On-line donations.....	<u>\$1,305.50</u>
Total.....	\$4,000.50

### Sunday, December 21, 2025

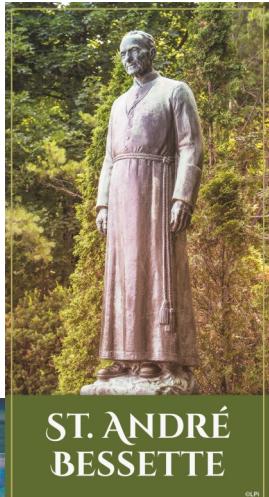
In-person donations.....	\$5,085.00
On-line donations.....	<u>\$1,203.00</u>
Total.....	\$6,288.00

We thank you for your continued support  
to the parish family.

*Did you know the feast days  
for this week are...*

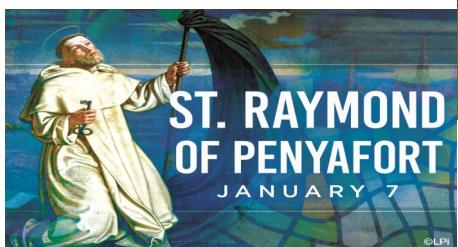


January 5



ST. ANDRÉ  
BESSETTE

January 6



## This Week at Saint Anthony of Padua

### Monday, January 5

Mass	7:30AM	Chapel
Bingo	12:00PM	Father Milos Hall
(Doors open at 10:30AM)		

### Tuesday, January 6

Mass	7:30AM	Chapel
Food Pantry Sorting	9:30AM	Father Milos Hall
AA	7:30PM	Father Milos Hall

### Wednesday, January 7

Mass	7:30AM	Church
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### Thursday, January 8

Mass	7:30AM	Church
AA	8:00PM	Father Milos Hall

### Friday, January 9

Mass	7:30AM	Church
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### Saturday, January 10

Confessions	3:00PM	Chapel
Mass	4:00PM	Church
NA	7:30PM	Father Milos Hall

### Sunday, January 11

Mass	8:30AM	Church
Coffee and Conversation following 8:30AM Mass		
Mass	11:30AM	Church

## This Week at Our Lady of Mount Carmel

### Monday, January 5

NA	11:00AM	Basement
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### Tuesday, January 6

NA	11:00AM	Basement
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### Wednesday, January 7

NA	11:00AM	Basement
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### Thursday, January 8

NA	11:00AM	Basement
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### Friday, January 9

NA	11:00AM	Basement
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### Saturday, January 10

Mass	8:30AM	Church
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### Sunday, January 11

Mass	10:00AM	Church
Reader: V. Ruskai		

### Counting Team—January 5

A. and F. Fowler

## ALL PARISHIONERS

are invited and encouraged  
to share



the second Sunday of the month,

**SUNDAY, January 11**  
(the date was incorrect in last week's bulletin)

in Father Milos Hall following the 8:30AM Mass