

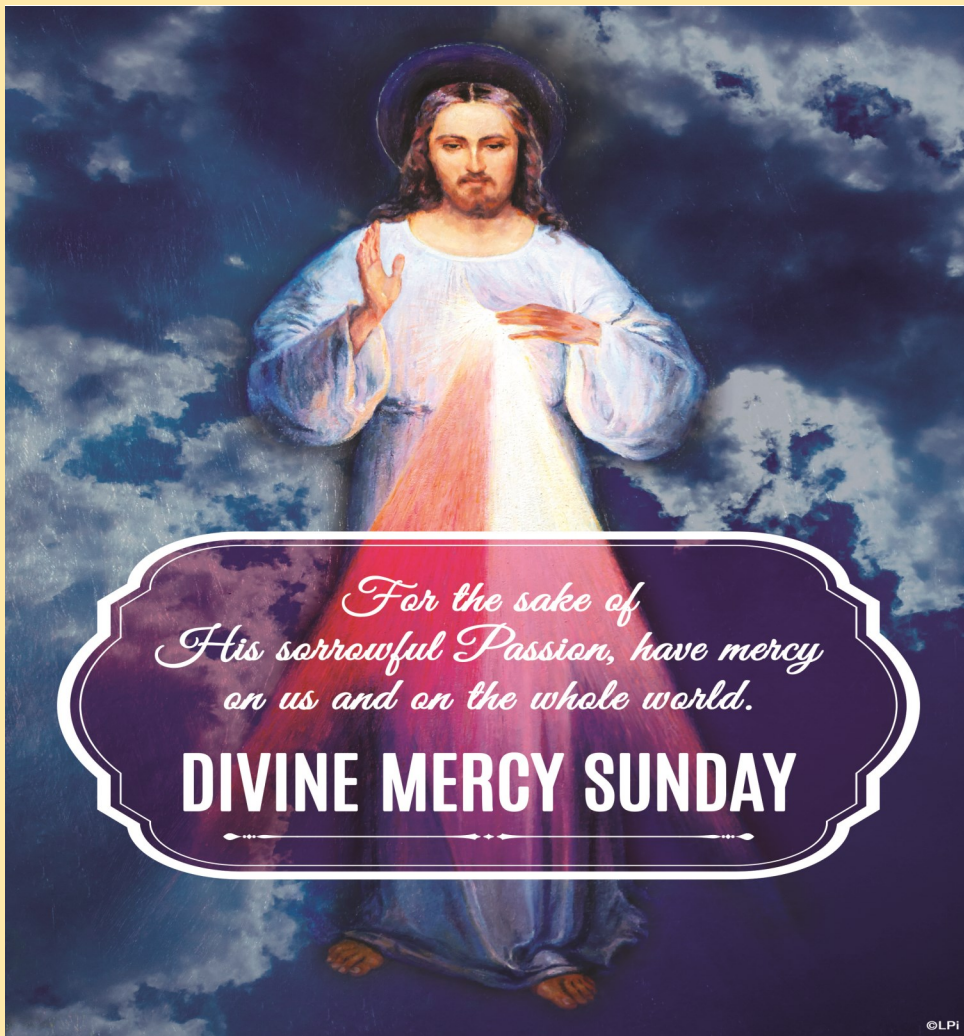


The Parish Family of Saint Anthony of Padua



Parish Office: 436 Port Reading Avenue, Port Reading, New Jersey 07064
Phone: 732-634-1403 • www.saintanthonypadua.org

Fr. Cyril Offiong, SDV, Administrator
Fr. Bill Smith, K.C.H.S., Pastor Emeritus
MSGR. PAFNOUTI WASSEF, PAROCHIAL VICAR
MICHAEL BRUCATO, DEACON JOEY PERLAS, DEACON PETER BARCELLONA, DEACON



*For the sake of
His sorrowful Passion, have mercy
on us and on the whole world.*

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY



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

Pastor: pastorofstanthonypr@gmail.com
Office / Food Pantry: info.stanthony1@gmail.com
Religious Education: religioused.stanthony1@gmail.com
Bulletin: bulletin.stanthony@gmail.com

Parish Office Hours

Monday	8:00AM - 3:00PM
Tuesday	8:00AM - 3:00PM
Wednesday	8:00AM - 3:00PM
Thursday	8:00AM - 3:00PM
Friday	8:00AM - 12:00PM (except July and August)

Divine Mercy Sunday

April 12, 2026



From the desk of Fr. Cyril Offiong, SDV

JESUS I TRUST IN YOU

'The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases, His mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is thy faithfulness' (Lamentations 3:22-23).

Happy Easter to you dear brothers and sisters,

as we continue to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ from the dead, let us remember that **our lives are worth living because He lives.** The fifty days of the Easter Season will continue until Pentecost Sunday, when the Holy Spirit came down on the apostle. Let us, therefore, rejoice and be glad because, He who is our hope and our life, conquered sin and death, destroyed all darkness and sin and rose triumphantly from the dead.

Today, we celebrate what the Church calls the Octave (eight) day of Easter, also called Divine Mercy Sunday. After witnessing to the power of Christ our Lord over death, we acknowledge and testify to the mercy of God on us. **God's greatest desire is to forgive us and pour out His infinite mercy upon us so that we may be healed.** When our Lord Jesus appeared to St. Faustina Kowalska beginning in February 1931, one of His requests was that the Church establish this Feast of the Divine Mercy to remind the world of His mercy. In the year 2000, St. Pope John Paul II canonized St. Faustina and established the Second Sunday of Easter as Divine Mercy Sunday.

In my priestly ministry, I have encountered many people, including serious and faithful Catholics who find it difficult to approach or received God's mercy. **The truth is that God always forgives and welcomes us back. We are the ones who find it difficult to accept mercy from God.** Rather than hold on to our sins and guilt, we should approach God's mercy in the Sacrament of Confession, lay down our sins, receive God's mercy, and continue with our lives. We often think that God may not or will not forgive us. But this is a denial of God's very nature, for "God is love and mercy itself." The call to rediscover Divine Mercy is more than a spiritual practice. It is a response to the urgent needs of our modern society. In a culture where personal wounds are deep and family and societal divisions seem insurmountable; Divine Mercy draws us back to the heart of Christ's message.

Let us consider this message from the diary of St. Faustina 'all grace flows from mercy, and the last hour abounds with mercy for us. **Let no one doubt concerning the goodness of God; even if a person's sins were as dark as night, God's mercy is stronger than our misery.** One thing alone is necessary: that the sinner set ajar the door of his heart, be it ever so little, to let in a ray of God's merciful grace, and then God will do the rest. But poor is the soul who has shut the door on God's mercy, even at the last hour' (Article 1507). On this Divine Mercy Sunday, we turn our hearts and minds to the mercy of God. We must build up trust in God's mercy. Without trust, it is difficult to turn to God for mercy.

As an act of surrender to God's mercy, let us consider showing mercy to someone in our life who needs our mercy. It may be a family member with whom we are no longer on good terms, a neighbor who offended us, a coworker who persecuted us, or someone we swore never to forgive. Let us begin by praying for them. If we are committed to this prayer, in time, we will learn to soften our hearts and actually forgive. Our Lord Jesus taught us, **'be merciful, just as your Father is merciful' (Luke 6:36).** As we receive mercy from God, He calls us, in turn, to give this mercy to those who sin against 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.

Mass Intentions

at Saint Anthony of Padua Church

Morning Prayer - begins 20 minutes before weekday Mass

- Saturday April 11**
4:00PM Arlene F. Smith
Requested by Karen Brenner
- Sunday April 12** *Divine Mercy Sunday*
8:30AM People of the parish family
11:30AM Patricia Kurucz Nesti
Requested by her loving brother, Andy
- Monday April 13**
7:30AM In Thanksgiving to Saint Anthony
for helping me
Requested by Kathleen Gorman
- Tuesday April 14**
7:30AM Ginette Seide
Requested by Denyce Wilson
- Wednesday April 15**
7:30AM John Osag
Requested by his loving family
- Thursday April 16**
7:30AM Richie Simeone
Requested by his loving wife, Adrienne
- Friday April 17**
7:30AM Niza Bergel De Dios
Requested by Deacon Joey and Beth Perlas
- Saturday April 18**
4:00PM James P. Eppinger
Requested by Lew and Carol Huber
- Sunday April 19**
8:30AM People of the parish family
11:30AM Vincent R. Martino
on his anniversary in Heaven
Requested by his loving wife, Rose

at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Worship Site

Morning Prayer begins 20 minutes before Mass on Saturday

- Saturday April 11**
8:30AM Living and Deceased Rosarians
- Sunday April 12** *Divine Mercy Sunday*
10:00AM Virginia Donlon
Requested by Magdolna Mikos and family
- Saturday April 18**
8:30AM Jaime Araceli and Glenn Bernabe
Requested by the Bernabe family
- Sunday April 19**
10:00AM Niza Vergel De Dios
Requested by Liza Quiray

This Week's Scripture Readings

- Sunday: Acts 2:42-47
Psalms 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24
1 Peter 1:3-9
John 20:19-31
- Monday: Acts 4:23-31
Psalms 2:1-3, 4-7a, 7b-9
John 3:1-8
- Tuesday: Acts 4:32-37
Psalms 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5
John 3:7b-15
- Wednesday: Acts 5:17-26
Psalms 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9
John 3:16-21
- Thursday: Acts 5:27-33
Psalms 34:2, 9, 17-78, 19-20
John 3:31-36
- Friday: Acts 5:34-42
Psalms 27:1, 4, 13-14
John 6:1-15
- Saturday: Acts 6:1-7
Psalms 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19
John 6:16-21
- Sunday: Acts 2:14, 22-33
Psalms 16:1-2 and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11
1 Peter 1:17-21
Luke 24:13-35



2nd Sunday OF EASTER



"Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe." Thomas answered and said to him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."
- Jn 20:27b-29



**FAITH FORMATION
G.I.F.T. and Sacramental Preparation Programs**

Growing In Faith Together

Wednesday, April 15 at 6:00pm

Please return your Rice Bowl boxes, March home session, and March Mass reflection.

G.I.F.T. Mass Weekend

April 18 at 4:00pm

April 19 at 8:30am and 11:30am

Please sign in, fill out your prayer intention and pick up your Mass reflection sheet.

Level One First Penance and

Level 2 Communion

Monday, April 13 session at 6:20pm

Level One and Level Two Confirmation

Monday, April 20 at 6:30pm Session

2026 Mass Book

As of April 7, the following upcoming Masses are available if you would like to request a Mass intention:

Friday	May	15	7:30am
Saturday	May	23	8:30am OLMC
Tuesday	May	26	7:30am
Saturday	May	30	8:30am OLMC
Friday	June	5	7:30am
Monday	June	8	7:30am
Wednesday	June	10	7:30am
Thursday	June	11	7:30am
Saturday	June	13	8:30am OLMC
Sunday	June	14	10:00am OLMC
Monday	June	15	7:30am
Thursday	June	18	7:30am

Contact the parish office at 732-634-1403



Stewardship: God's Plan for Giving

Sunday, March 29, 2026

In-person donations.....	\$5,001.00
On-line donations.....	\$1,136.00
Total.....	\$6,137.00

Thank you for your continued support of the parish.

Sunday, April 5, 2026

In-person donations.....	\$4,658.00
On-line donations.....	\$1,488.00
Total.....	\$6,146.00

Thank you for your continued support of the parish.

**Rooted in
Gratitude.
Giving with
Grace.**

Support our ministries this fall through faithful generosity

This season is a time to reflect on the blessings we've received—and a time to give back in gratitude. Our community is a spiritual home where lives are enriched, faith is strengthened, and service to others flourishes. Your support helps make all of this possible.

Online Giving offers a simple, secure way to contribute from your phone, tablet, or computer. Whether you're making donations, payments, or pledges, your generosity helps us continue to grow and serve.

Set up your gift today or consider an additional gift via our Online Giving link on your smart device.

Visit our church website today to sign up and get started

ONLINE GIVING

How Does Online Giving Benefit Me and My Church?

Donor Benefits

- **Convenient** anytime, anywhere access through the internet.
- **Secure and Confidential.** Adheres to banking security standards.
- **Flexible.** Start, stop and change your contributions at any time.
- **Simple.** No need to contact your bank or the church office.
- Contribute using direct withdrawal (ACH) or credit cards.

Church Benefits

- **Stabilize Contributions.** Regularly scheduled gifts occur automatically. Allows church to effectively manage monthly expenses.
- **Direct Donations.** A simple way to contribute to individual events, holiday needs, classes, special donations, and more.
- **Secure and Confidential.** No need to store member account information.
- **Efficient.** Participation saves time and expense in bookkeeping.
- **Current.** A tool for people who prefer to use electronic services.



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 my loving husband, Richie
Requested by his loving wife, Adrienne

In loving memory of my loving husband,
Harmon Bensco on 13 years in Heaven
Requested by his loving wife, Catherine
LaRocca Bensco

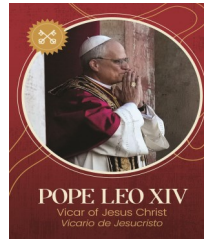
GOOD SHEPHERD

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 Carmen, Eleanor,
and Jeffrey Pagliuca
Requested by their loving family

In loving memory of William and Gertrude Leahy
Requested by Karen and Kevin Barnes



Pope Leo's Intention for April:

Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.

PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS

April 13	Reverend David Kosmoski Reverend Michael Salaric
April 14	Very Reverend Jonathan Toborowsky Reverend Marco Caceres
April 15	Reverend Cyril Offiong Reverend Louis Mattina
April 16	Reverend Larrydom Magdasoc Monsignor Seamus Brennan
April 17	Reverend John Pringle Reverend Thomas Naduviledathu
April 18	Reverend James Tucker Reverend James Considine
April 19	Reverend Jan Bernas Very Reverend Leonard Rusay

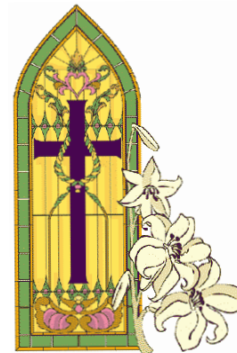
Celebration of Divine Mercy

The Second Sunday of Easter is also called Divine Mercy Sunday. The Church celebrates the Mercy of God that has been given to us through the suffering, death, and resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus.

Our Lord appeared to the Polish nun, Saint Faustina, and asked her to share with the whole church the devotion to His Divine Mercy.

To celebrate God's mercy, the blessed Sacrament will be exposed for adoration at 12:45pm.

At 3:00pm, the Hour of Mercy, we will pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet and end with Benediction.



Sincere thank you to everyone who helped with or participated in our Lenten activities and Holy Week, and Easter liturgies.

Without the time, talent, and dedication of many people, the activities during Lent, and leading up to Easter, would not have gone smoothly.

We are truly blessed to have a family-oriented and faithful parish community.



**10th Annual Divine Mercy
Family Healing Retreat**
Hope: The Answer to Suffering
April 18, 2026 8:00 a.m.-4:30p.m.

Our Lady of Fatima Church - Auditorium
501 New Market Rd. Piscataway, NJ 08854

Guest
Speakers:



Most Rev.
Efrén Esmilla



Very Rev.
Timothy Christy



Kathleen
McCarthy



Fr. Ignatius
Mary Okoroji, SDB

Retreat topics Include:

- Divine Mercy- the last hope for eternal salvation.
- Healing through Hope.
- Best means for spiritual cleansing & protecting our homes and families.
- Church hope filled teaching on suicide "Epiphany of Hope"
- The ABC's of Divine Mercy-Explaining the faith.
- Suffering & forgiveness-important parts of the healing process.



Suggested donation of \$45 in advance (children under 10-free)
\$50., at the door.

Light breakfast, lunch, and refreshments included

Registration deadline is March 30th

PLEASE REGISTER EARLY SEATS ARE LIMITED

Make checks payable to Our Lady of Fatima Church
501 New Market Rd. Piscataway NJ 08854.

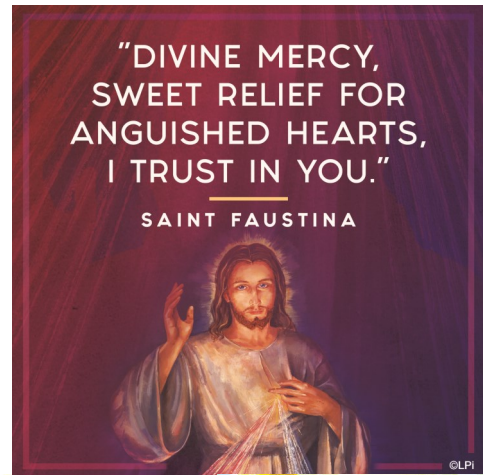
Include Name, address phone number, e-mail, # adults/children.
Website: olfparish.org/event



2026 Bishop's Annual Appeal
ONE IN CHRIST: Called to Love and Serve

Your gift to the Bishop's Annual Appeal supports the work of the Vicariate for Evangelization and Communication. Responsible for our website, social media platforms, videos, podcases, and written content about our Catholic faith, the Evangelization and Communication ministry is essential to how we expand our effort to share the Gospel message and make His love known to all. More and more, we have come to understand that these tools are necessary for reaching people where they live and work. A gift of any amount is important and greatly appreciated.

Our goal is \$24,000. As of April 2,
Total pledged and received was \$17,011.



Stewardship

"Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.'" John 20:19

Are you good at making people feel welcome? When you meet someone new, like a new neighbor, a new work colleague or a new parishioner, do you make them feel at home? Many of us can probably do a much better job at this. When we make people feel welcome, we make them feel like they are included instead of being excluded. We are made for relationships—with God and each other. A simple "hello" and a smile goes a long way.



Pray ...

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

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

This Week at Saint Anthony of Padua

Monday, April 13

Mass 7:30AM **Chapel**
Bingo 12:00PM Father Milos Hall
 (Doors open at 10:30AM)
 Level One First Penance and Level Two Communion
 6:20PM Church

Tuesday, April 14

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

Wednesday, April 15

Mass 7:30AM **Chapel**
Food Pantry Distribution 10:00AM Father Milos Hall
G.I.F.T. 6:00PM **Church**

Thursday, April 16

Mass 7:30AM **Church**

Friday, April 17

Mass 7:30AM **Church**

Saturday, April 18

Confession 3:00PM Church
Mass - G.I.F.T. 4:00PM **Church**

Sunday, April 19

Mass - G.I.F.T 8:30AM **Church**
Mass - G.I.F.T 11:30AM **Church**
Baptism 1:00PM Church

This Week at Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Saturday, April 18

Mass 8:30AM **Church**
Confession 9:00AM Church

Sunday, April 19

Mass 10:00AM **Church**



Birthday Blessing for **APRIL**

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 many continue to bless them abundantly in the years ahead.

CRS RICE BOWL

Happy Easter!

THANK YOU!

Together, we changed lives this Lent through CRS Rice Bowl **THANK YOU** for being a part of this effort! Please remember to turn in your CRS Rice Bowl in the narthex before Wednesday, April 15 or donate on-line at Visit crsricebowl.org/give.

Liturgical Minister Schedule

at Saint Anthony of Padua

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

Saturday	April 18	4:00PM	A. and F. Fowler M. Balint
Sunday	April 19	8:30AM	A. and D. Anderson D. Mazzarella
		11:30AM	M. Anuzie B. McCauley L. Palasits

READERS

Saturday	April 18	4:00PM	G.I.F.T.
Sunday	April 19	8:30AM	G.I.F.T.
		11:30AM	G.I.F.T.

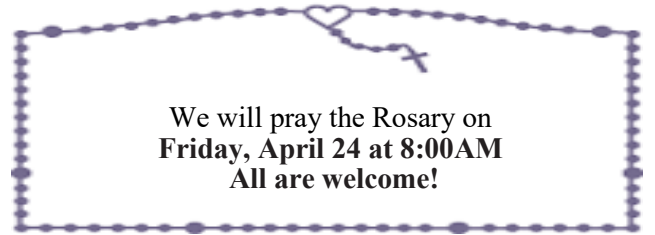
SERVERS

Saturday	April 18	4:00PM	B. Banko
Sunday	April 19	8:30AM	Q. Valdez
			C. and C. Onukwugha
		11:30AM	A. Boelhower F. Calabrese

at Our Lady of Mount Carmel

READER

Sunday	April 19	10:00AM	J. Dizon
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We will pray the Rosary on
Friday, April 24 at 8:00AM
 All are welcome!

FOOD PANTRY MINISTRY

**The next Food Pantry Distribution
 Wednesday, April 15**

ITEMS MOST NEEDED ARE:

Canned beans	Canned fruit
Canned potatoes	Cereal
Chili	Instant Potatoes
Jelly	Pancake mix
Pancake syrup	Pasta sauce
Peanut butter	Rice
Soup	Tuna fish

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 your continued generosity to
 Saint Anthony's Food Pantry.**