



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



5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

“In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If there were not, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you?” - Jn 14:2

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

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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)

Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 3, 2026



From the desk of Fr. Cyril Offiong, SDV

JESUS, THE WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE

Dear brothers and sisters,

last Sunday's Gospel ended with our Lord's declaration, **'I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly'** (John 10:10). In the Gospel for this Fifth Sunday of Easter, our Lord Jesus says, 'you have faith in God, have faith also in me' (John 14:1). **Faith is God's great gift** that shapes how we perceive the world. It is that trust that helps us to receive the abundant life that God wills for us, even when we cannot see the full picture. Some of us received this gift through our parents or grandparents. Others, through the witness of friends or the community. Still others, through personal study or understanding.

In the Gospel passage quoted above our Lord Jesus says, 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me' (John 14:6). People often wonder about the fate of the many people who do not believe in God, or whose hearts and minds have not been open to our Lord Jesus Christ and are not members of the Church, the Body of Christ, can they also get to the Father? It can be challenging to preach the Gospel to our modern culture, saturated with the ideology of relativism which holds that there are no objective truths, reality depends on each person's view, and everyone has his or her own truth. Many Christians, including some Catholics, believe this false ideology which says that there is no "one true religion," there are many paths to God, and all religions are the same. This falsehood weakens the evangelical spirit of the Church. If all religion validly lead people to God, why would anyone commit to make the name of Christ known, or preach the Gospel, or spread the faith?

The Church teaches that, **"extra ecclesiam, nulla salus" (outside the Church, there is no salvation)**. This might sound wrong to modern minds, trained to think in terms of inclusion, acceptance, and sameness. Does this mean that all non-Catholics or non-believers are going straight to Hell? Do all Catholics have a direct ticket to heaven? Of course not. How, then, should we understand this affirmation, often repeated by the Church Fathers? The Catechism of the Catholic Church says, 'it means that all salvation comes from Christ the head through the Church, which is His body: . . . the one Christ is the mediator and the way of salvation; He is present to us in His body which is the Church. He himself explicitly asserted the necessity of faith and baptism and thereby affirmed at the same time the necessity of the Church which men enter through baptism as through a door. **Hence they could not be saved who, knowing that the Catholic Church was founded as necessary by God through Christ, would refuse either to enter it or to remain in it**' (CCC 846–847).

The Church teaches that, those who, through no fault of theirs, do not know God or do not profess faith in Christ have a possibility of salvation if they search for God with a sincere heart and try to live a moral life according to their conscience. This is because, God has already written His laws in our nature; what we call Natural Law (See Vatican II document Lumen Gentium article 16). Their salvation is still possible through the grace and mercy of Christ.

Our Lord Jesus gave His apostles and all of us believers what the Church calls **the great commission**, 'go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you' (Matthew 28:19-20). This is the mission of every Christian. **If we believe that Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life, we will joyfully share this Goodnews with everyone and eagerly make the name of the Lord known to all people and help bring them into God's kingdom.**

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

Morning Prayer - begins 20 minutes before weekday Mass

- Saturday May 2** *Saint Athanasius*
4:00PM Sophie and Andrew Teleposky
Requested by daughter,
Rosemarie Arway and grandsons
- Sunday May 3** *Fifth Sunday of Easter*
8:30AM Henry and Theresa Pawlikowski
Requested by daughter, Deborah
11:30AM People of the parish family
- Monday May 4**
7:30AM Donald Wolfe
Requested by Denyce Wilson
- Tuesday May 5**
7:30AM Richie Simeone
Requested by his dear friend and pal,
Sal Ciardiello
- Wednesday May 6**
7:30AM Purgatorial Mass Society
- Thursday May 7**
7:30AM Eugene Sitarsky
Requested by Linda and Lou Iacovou
- Friday May 8**
7:30AM John T. Carpenito
Requested by Bert Viqueras and family
- Saturday May 9**
4:00PM Living and deceased mothers
- Sunday May 10**
8:30AM Living and deceased mothers
11:30AM Living and deceased mothers

at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Worship Site

Morning Prayer

begins 20 minutes before Mass on Saturday

- Saturday May 2** *Saint Athanasius*
8:30AM Deceased Members of the former
Altar Rosary Society
- Sunday May 3** *Fifth Sunday of Easter*
10:00AM Dominick Valenzano
on your first anniversary in Heaven
Requested by his loving wife, Margie and
Children, Dom Jr., Tracy, Tommy, and Carrie
- Saturday May 9**
8:30AM Imre Jim Herczeg, Jr.
Requested by his loving mother,
Maria and family
- Sunday May 10**
10:00AM Living and deceased mothers

This Week's Scripture Readings

- Sunday: Acts 6:1-7
Psalms 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19
1 Peter 2:4-9
John 14:1-12
- Monday: Acts 14:5-18
Psalms 115:1-2, 3-4, 15-16
John 14:21-26
- Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28
Psalms 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21
John 14:27-31a
- Wednesday: Acts 15:1-6
Psalms 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5
John 15:1-8
- Thursday: Acts 15:7-21
Psalms 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10
John 15:9-11
- Friday: Acts 15:22-31
Psalms 57:8-9, 10, 12
John 15:12-17
- Saturday: Acts 16:1-10
Psalms 100:1b-2, 3, 5
John 15:18-21
- Sunday: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17
Psalms 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20
1 Peter 3:15-18
John 14:15-21



MAY
Month of the
Blessed Virgin
Mary

In honor of our Blessed Mother Mary, the May Crowning will be held on Sunday, May 10 at Our Lady of Mount Carmel at 10:00AM Mass and at Saint Anthony of Padua at 11:30AM Mass

Saint Anthony of Padua

Sunday, May 3, 2026



The Good Shepherd Feeds His Children

The Mass of First Holy Communion is always a joyful celebration. We rejoice in the fact that our Lord Jesus comes, sacramentally, into the lives of our children.

We give thanks to God for His communion with our little ones and we also celebrate our communion with each other as the Church, the Body of Christ. The older members of the community also remember our First Communion.

We rejoice with our children and their families.

Let us be united in prayer for these little ones, that the Lord Jesus will remain central in their lives and continue to use them for His glory. Amen.

Father Cyril



First Holy Communion Class 2026



*Lilliana Alvarez
Michael Alvarez, Jr.
Autumn Rose Brzezicki
Mia Grace Casey
Chase John Darpino
Cristiano Pasquale Giacobbe
Maverick Charles Jarema
Nathaniel Malaquias
Colton James Racanati
Zoë Carmen Claire Romero
Nikolai Sabulao
Reagan Nicole Seniakevgh
George Joseph Watkins*



Altar Flowers at Saint Anthony of Padua



*Congratulations to our
First Holy Communicants!*

*May God's Love and Blessings be with you
today and remain with you always!*

*Requested by
Saint Anthony's Faith Formation Program*

Altar Flowers at Saint Anthony of Padua



*God bless Chase
on his First Holy Communion*

*Love,
Grandmom and Grandpop Cuozzo*



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 Theresa McGuinn (1 year passing)
Requested by niece Michele Contala

Happy wedding anniversary in Heaven for our parents,
William and Arlene Smith
Requested by their loving daughters, Cheryl and Linda

GOOD SHEPHERD

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

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

CROSS OF SAN DOMIANO

In loving memory of Sabatino and Johanna Martino
Requested by son, Marty and Patricia Martino

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



During the month of May, in addition to altar flowers, donations are also accepted in honor of the Blessed Mother (church) and Mary, Mother of Comfort (narthex). If you have a special intention and would like to donate a flower arrangement, contact the parish office.



Rest in Peace

Remember in your prayers the soul of:
John T. Carpenito - March 29, 2026

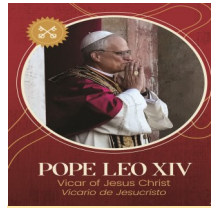
One Year Anniversary

Keep in your prayers the parishioners who died a year ago in 2025:
Dominick Valenzano - May 3
Marie Romano - May 9
Edith Curci - May 19



Purgatorial Mass Society

The souls of:	requested by:
Deborah Grispart	Gerry Grispart
John T. Carpenito	Saint Anthony of Padua parish family
Joseph A. DeMarino	Lorriane DeMarino and family
Alfred F. Russo	Pat Russo and family
Vincent R. Martino	Rose Martino
Ana V. Destin	Angelo and Anna Ramos and family
Antonio Ramos and	Ana V. Destin
	Angelo and Anna Ramos and family



That everyone might have food. Let us pray that everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food, and to ensure that everyone has access to quality food.

PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS

May 4	Reverend Piotr Grzeskiewicz Reverend Sean Kenney
May 5	Reverend Gilbert Z. Starcher Reverend Frank Fellrath
May 6	Reverend John Polyak Reverend Edmund Luciano III
May 7	Reverend Juan Carlos Gaviria Reverend A. Gregory Uhrig
May 8	Reverend Joseph Desmond Monsignor Joseph Celano
May 9	Reverend Paul Michalowski Reverend Abraham Lotha

Stewardship

"The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone." 1Peter 2:7

Every person has been given gifts from the Holy Spirit. These are called "charisms" and they are used to build God's Kingdom on earth. While many people are able to recognize their natural talents and abilities, they may be unsure of their charisms. If you know someone who is struggling for a direction in life, give them a little encouragement. Help them discern their charisms and how God is calling them to use them. Remember - no gift is too small or insignificant in God's /salvation plan.



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

Thank you to all who have given so generously to the 2026 Bishop's annual appeal. If you have not made a pledge, there is still time to participate. mail your gift to Diocese of Metuchen Bisop's Annual Appeal, PO Box 4000, Metuchen, NJ 08840-4000 or give online at <https://diometuchen.org/BAA>

Our goal is \$24,000. As of April 24, we have received a total donations \$19,159.50.



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

**Level One and Level Two Confirmation
Monday, May 4 at 6:30pm**

**G.I.F.T.
Wednesday, May 6 at 6:00pm**

**Level One First Penance
Monday, May 11 at 6:20pm**

**Level Two First Communion
Monday, May 11
Get-together the journey continues**

2026 Mass Book

As of April 28, the following upcoming Masses are available if you would like to request a Mass intention:

Tuesday	May	26	7:30am
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
Monday	June	15	7:30am
Tuesday	June	23	7:30am
Thursday	June	25	7:30am
Friday	June	26	7:30am
Saturday	June	28	8:30am OLMC

Contact the parish office at 732-634-1403



Birthday Blessing for May



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.

Stewardship: God's Plan for Giving

Sunday, April 26, 2026

In-person donations.....	\$3,145.00
On-line donations.....	\$1,293.00
Total.....	\$4,438.00

Thank you for your continued support of the parish.

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.

**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.



This Week at Saint Anthony of Padua

Monday, May 4

Mass	7:30AM	Chapel
Bingo	12:00PM	Father Milos Hall (Doors open at 10:30AM)
Food Pantry Sorting	2:30PM	Father Milos Hall
Level One and Two Confirmation	6:30PM	Church

Tuesday, May 5

Mass	7:30AM	Chapel
Youth Choir	4:30PM	Church
Adult Choir	6:30PM	Church

Wednesday, May 6

Mass	7:30AM	Chapel
G.I.F.T.	6:00PM	Church

Thursday, May 7

Mass	7:30AM	Church
Eucharist Adoration	2:30PM - 6:00PM	Chapel
Chaplet/Rosary	3:00PM	Chapel

Friday, May 8

Mass	7:30AM	Church
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Saturday, May 9

Confession	3:00PM	Church
Mass	4:00PM	Church

Sunday, May 10

Mass	8:30AM	Church
First Communion Mass	11:30AM	Church

This Week at Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Saturday, May 9

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

Sunday, May 10

Mass	10:00AM	Church
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FOOD PANTRY MINISTRY

The next Food Pantry Distribution May 20

ITEMS MOST NEEDED ARE:

Canned CARROTS	RICE
PEANUT BUTTER	JELLY
CANNED MEATS	PORK & BEAN
Canned FRUITS	TOMATO SAUCE
PANCAKE SYRUP	PANCAKE MIX

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

If you know someone who needs assistance, contact the parish office 732-634-1403 or email:

info.StAnthony1@gmail.com.

Liturgical Minister Schedule

at Saint Anthony of Padua

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

Saturday	May 9	4:00PM	M. Balint A. and F. Fowler
Sunday	May 10	8:30AM	A. and D. Anderson V. Clarke
		11:30AM	B. Cuzzo B. McCauley L. Palasits

READERS

Saturday	May 9	4:00PM	J. Schultz
Sunday	May 10	8:30AM	G. Onukwugha G.C. Onukwugha
		11:30AM	G. Grispart

SERVERS

Saturday	May 9	4:00PM	B. Banko
Sunday	May 10	8:30AM	Q. Valdez
		11:30AM	A. Boelhower

at Our Lady of Mount Carmel

READER

Sunday	May 10	10:00AM	C. Dizon
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The Rosary will be recited on
at Saint Anthony of Padua Worship Site

Friday, May 29 at 8:00AM



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, Jean Dean, 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.