



**The Parish Family of
Saint Anthony of Padua**
celebrates

The Jubilee Year of St. Francis of Assisi



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



14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



*"Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I
will give you rest." - Mt 11:28*

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:
pastorofstanthonyp@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	CLOSED during July and August

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 5, 2026



From the desk of Fr. Cyril Offiong, SDV

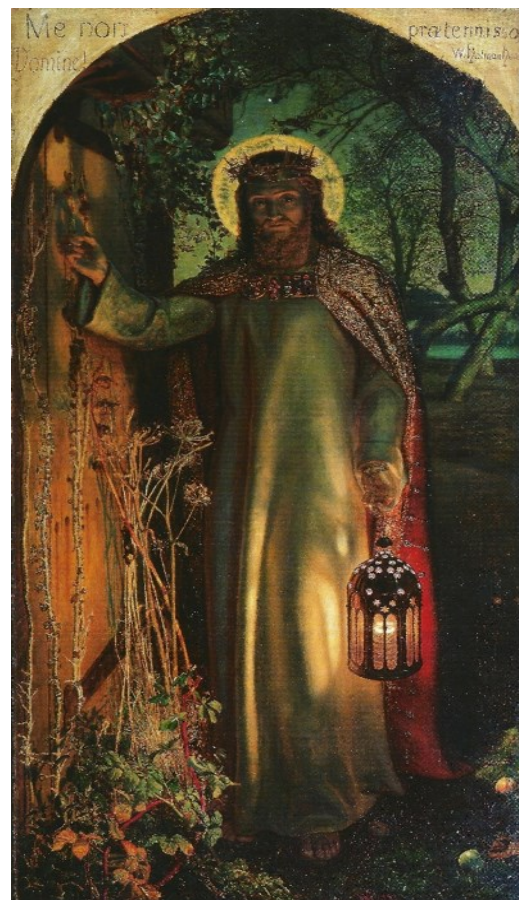
OPEN THE DOOR TO CHRIST

Dear brothers and sisters,

As you know, I was blessed to be on my annual retreat together with my fellow Vocationist priests and brothers. A retreat is a grace-filled time to step away from regular activities, enter more deeply into prayer, and allow the Lord to renew the soul. It is not a withdrawal out of fear or weakness, but a return to the source of our strength. Our Lord Jesus Himself often invited His disciples to take this time of spiritual rest. “Come away by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while” (Mark 6:31). During those days of prayer and reflection, I remembered all of you and prayed for our parish family.

Our retreat master used the painting of William Holman Hunt, “The Light of the World,” as a point of reference. In the painting, Christ our Lord stands before a long-unopened door, overgrown with ivy and weeds, holding a lantern and preparing to knock. The painting is inspired by the words of our Lord Jesus in the Book of Revelation: “Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will enter his house and dine with him, and he with me” (Revelation 3:20).

This image speaks beautifully to the Christian life. Our Lord does not force His way into our hearts. He knocks gently and patiently. He brings light, not to condemn us, but to heal us and show us the path back to Him. The door in the painting has no handle on the outside, reminding us that it must be opened from within. The Lord offers His grace, His mercy, and His love, but He waits for our response. He respects our freedom, even when He knows how much we need Him.



Our retreat master invited us priests to ask whether we have truly opened the door of our hearts to Christ. That question touched me deeply. As priests, we preach Christ, celebrate the sacraments, and speak about God's love, but we too must continually allow the Lord to enter our own hearts. Before we can bring Christ to others, we must first welcome Him more deeply into ourselves. This mission is not only priests and religious; in different ways, it is the call of every Christian. That is why, at the end of the retreat, I felt a strong desire to share this painting and reflection with you, because the Lord is knocking at the door of each one of our hearts.

Each of us has places within us that need the light of Christ: fear, pain, resentment, anxiety, disappointment, a wounded relationship, a family burden, or a part of life we have kept closed off from God. The good news is that dear Lord Jesus still comes. He still knocks. He does not turn away from our darkness; He enters it with love. We are all invited to listen for His gentle knock and ask Him for the courage to open the door, even if only a little, so that He may bring healing, peace, and new life. Amen.

Thank you for your prayers for me and for all our priests. We always need your prayers. I ask you to continue to pray for good and holy priests in the Church.

May our Lord Jesus Christ, the Light of the World, help us to hear His gentle knock and open the doors of our hearts to Him. May He shine His bright light on our lives and our families and bring us His healing love, renew our faith, and lead us closer to His lasting peace. Amen.

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 4:00PM	July 4 Deceased members of the Napoli family	<i>Independence Day</i>
Sunday 8:30AM	July 5 Theodore Surick Requested by Marie and Norman Steele	
11:30AM	People of the parish family	
Monday 7:30AM	July 6 Jeffrey Pagliuca We love you, miss you on the first anniversary of your passing. Requested by loving sister, Marie	<i>Saint Maria Goretti</i>
Tuesday 7:30AM	July 7 Angeline and Joseph F. Hayko on their Heavenly 70 th wedding anniversary Requested by daughter, Eileen and Stan Gurney	
Wednesday 7:30AM	July 8 Mary Carnevale (birthday) Requested by Frank and Ginny Clarke	
Thursday 7:30AM	July 9 James Szatkowski Requested by Arlene and Michael Carnevale	<i>Saint Augustine Zhao Rong</i>
Friday 7:30AM	July 10 Richie Simeone Requested by his loving wife, Adrienne	
Saturday 4:00PM	July 11 Verna, Victor, and Joseph Balint Requested son and brother, Tom Balint	<i>Saint Benedict</i>
Sunday 8:30AM	July 12 Jeffrey Pagliuca on the first anniversary of His passing Requested by his loving wife, Nancy	
11:30AM	People of the parish family	

at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Worship Site

Morning Prayer begins 20 minutes before Mass on Saturday

Saturday 8:30AM	July 4 Deceased members of the former Altar Rosary Society	<i>Independence Day</i>
Sunday 10:00AM	July 5 Deceased members of the Gumapac family Requested by Ray and Cheri Gumapac	
Saturday 8:30AM	July 11 Pelagio and Rosario Relampagos Requested by Jonathan and Ching Dizon	<i>Saint Benedict</i>
Sunday 10:00AM	July 12 Helen Dudash Requested by her children	

This Week's Scripture Readings

Sunday:	Zechariah 9:9-10 Psalms 145:1-2, 8-9, 10-11, 13-14 Romans 8:9, 11-13 Matthew 11:25-30
Monday:	Hosea 2:16, 17c-18, 21-22 Psalms 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 Matthew 9:18-26
Tuesday:	Hosea 8:4-7, 11-13 Psalms 115:3-4, 5-6, 7ab-8, 9-10 Matthew 9:32-38
Wednesday:	Hosea 10:1-3, 7-8, 12 Psalms 105:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 Matthew 10:1-7
Thursday:	Hosea 11:1-4, 8e-9 Psalms 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16 Matthew 10:7-15
Friday:	Hosea 14:2-10 Psalms 51:3-4, 8-9, 12-13, 14, 17 Matthew 10:16-23
Saturday:	Isaiah 6:1-8 Psalms 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5 Matthew 10:25-33
Sunday:	Isaiah 55:10-11 Psalms 65:10, 11, 12-13, 14 Romans 8:18-23 Matthew 13:1-23 or 13:1-9





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 Jeffrey Pagliuca
Requested by his loving sister, Marie

In loving memory of Joseph Paul Contala
14 years passed
Requested by sister Michele Contala

GOOD SHEPHERD

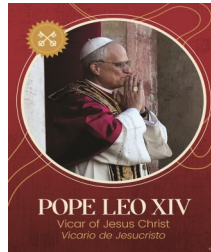
In loving memory of Gordon and Ann Ur,
John Patrick and Owen
Requested by their loving family

In loving memory of our brother, Jeff Pagliuca
on his 1st anniversary in Heaven
Requested by Holly and John

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



For respect for human life.

Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognizing it as a gift from God.

PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS

July 6	Reverend Eugeniusz Fasuga Monsignor Joseph Curry
July 7	Monsignor Raymond Cole Reverend Nalaka Silva
July 8	Monsignor Randall Vashon Reverend John Barbella
July 9	Reverend Joseph A. Krajewski Reverend Kenneth Kolibas
July 10	Reverend Yong Bum Lee Reverend Joseph Kabali
July 11	Reverend Jojappa Thippabathini Reverend Ariel Bautista, Jr.
July 12	Bishop Emeritus Paul G. Bootkoski

Stewardship

"Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for yourselves. For my yoke is easy, and my burden light..."
Matthew 11:28-29

Generosity is not a burden, but a liberating experience. It liberates because the generous person is walking in the yoke with Christ sharing gifts and challenges.

Stewardship: God's Plan for Giving

Due to early submission of this week's bulletin, June 28 donations will be posted at a later date.

Thank you for your continued support of the parish.



FAITH FORMATION UPDATE

Registration for NEW and returning families is underway for our Faith Formation programs, Growing in Faith Together - G.I.F.T., and Sacramental Preparation Programs - Level 1 Penance Level 2 Communion and Level 1 and Level 2 Confirmation

Information and registration is available in the parish office, information table in narthex, and can be downloaded from the parish website at

<http://www.saintanthonypadua.org>

Please note: registration forms are due back no later than August 3.

A late fee of \$25.00 will be incurred after that date.

Birthday Blessing for July



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.



Summer Service Project

Adopt a "backpack"



During the month of August the parish family is invited to participate in our annual **"Adopt a Backpack Project"**.

This program assists families in preparing their children with school supplies and backpacks as they begin a new school year in September.

The backpacks will be distributed to families of our parish community, Food Pantry, and to the St. Vincent DePaul Society.



Here is how you can help???

In order to get the items needed for each backpack, we are asking you

to purchase one of the suggested items:

Backpack, color (markers or pencils), construction paper, crayons (8 jumbo or 24 count), erasers, gift card (5 Below), glue sticks, highlighters, notebooks (one subject), pencils, pocket folders, ruler, soft pencil case.



This process should allow for a variety of items to fill the

backpacks. Monetary donations will be accepted to purchase these supplies.

Donations may be placed in the narthex from **Monday, July 27 to Sunday, August 16**

Thank you for your generosity and support of our

ADOPT A BACKPACK PROJECT!

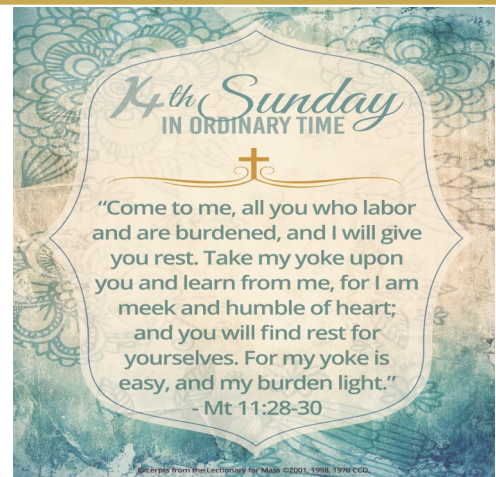
2026 Mass Book

As of June 29, the following days are open if you would like to request a Mass intention:

Thursday	August	6	7:30am
Friday	August	7	7:30am
Saturday	August	8	8:30am (OLMC)
Monday	August	17	7:30am
Tuesday	August	18	7:30am
Sunday	August	23	10:00am (OLMC)
Thursday	August	27	7:30am
Friday	August	28	7:30am
Sunday	August	30	10:00am (OLMC)
Monday	August	31	7:30am
Tuesday	September	1	7:30am
Friday	September	4	7:30am
Sunday	September	6	11:30am
Wednesday	September	9	7:30am



Contact the parish office at 732-634-1403



Congratulations - 2026 Graduates ***(Updated listing)***

Edward Mullen
Iselin Middle School
Son of Ashley and Edward Mullen
Grandson of Deacon Peter Barcellona
Grandson of Edward and Andrea Mullen

Mackenzie Wendel
Avenel Middle School
Daughter of Amy Barcellona
Granddaughter of Jay & Colleen Barcellona

Payton Wendel
School #9
Daughter of Amy Barcellona
Granddaughter of Jay & Colleen Barcellona





In our Diocese and Community

Natural Family Planning Webinar – July 21, 2026

During this year's NFP Week, the Office of Family Life invites all to join Dr. Monika Potocki from The Gianna Center for a special webinar, "What You Were Never Told About Fertility Care: Scientific and Ethical Approaches" on July 21st at 7:00 p.m. On Zoom. Cost is \$10 and registration is required. More information: <https://diometuchen.org/events/nfp-webinar-2026>

NJ Bishops' Mass for Life – October 8, 2026

Prayerfully begin the day before The NJ Rally & March for Life. Hosted by March for Life and New Jersey Right to Life. 151 N. Warren St, Trenton. The NJ Rally & March for Life will begin at 11am at the Statehouse Annex, a short walk from the Cathedral. More information: <https://diometuchen.org/events/nj-bishops-mass-for-life>

No Throwaway People – Faith, Race, and the Call to Justice (Zoom Series) - Oct. 11- Nov. 15, 2026

Join six Zoom sessions to discuss Sacred Scripture and Catholic Social Teaching around the issues of immigration, policing and racial equity. The series will conclude with an in-person gathering of prayer, fellowship, and lunch at the St. John Neumann Pastoral Center, Piscataway, NJ. More information: <https://diometuchen.org/black-catholic-history-month-event>

Feminine Genius Brunch – October 24, 2026

Inspired by the teachings of St. John Paul II, this event welcomes women of all ages to come reflect and share in the joy of the unique feminine genius that God has given women. Enjoy live harp music, a hot brunch, fellowship with other women, a guided meditation, and a presentation by Danielle Bean on "Discovering God's Purpose in the Different Seasons of a Woman's Life." Registration is \$35 per individual. More information: <https://diometuchen.org/events/feminine-genius-brunch>

Mount Saint Mary House of Prayer is hosting the following events, contact: www.msmhope.org or Nancy Elkin at 908-753-2091

Wednesday, July 7 from 7-7:30pm

VIRTUAL PRAYER FOR PEACE Join us on Zoom for 30 minutes of contemplative prayer as we pray for peace.

Tuesday, July 14 from 9:30-2pm

SACRED TIME, SACRED SPACE A personal, quiet day to enjoy God's presence. The day begins with communal prayer. Bring a bag lunch. In Person Program.

Wednesday, July 15 from 2-3pm

HOUSE OF PRAYER STITCHERS OF HOPE Join us as we stitch for hope and create blankets, hats, and more for our partners helping cancer patients, veterans, and young mothers with babies: Carol G. Simon Cancer Center, Lyons VA, and The Center for Great Expectations. This is a great way to use your creativity to help others in need and where our stitches are filled with hope and prayer. Hybrid.

Saturday, July 18 from 10am-2pm

PRAYING WITH ICONS presented by Sr. Antonia Cooper, OSF. You are invited into the mystical world of the "Prayer of Gazing" before an Icon. Participants are welcome to bring their personal Icon, or choose one provided. The day will begin with a short introduction into "how to see." Lunch will be provided. Hybrid.

Wednesday, July 22 from 7-8pm

EVENING PRAYER FOR THE ELIMINATION OF RACISM This evening, we gather in the love of God and neighbor to examine patterns of racism in our hearts, and our world systems. We beg for both forgiveness and conversion as we open our hearts and minds in communal prayer. Hybrid.

Tuesday, July 28 from 7-8:30pm

MAN TO MAN Men have unique roles in life...husbands, fathers, grandfathers, the single life, and religious life. We're pushed and pulled in a thousand directions by responsibilities, stress, loss, and by joys. Where can we find time to reflect on the loss and gain of our lives? For all men—young, old, and in between. Join our group over coffee or tea for life affirming discussions and prayer to find God in our lives and to make a difference in our own worlds. Hybrid.



worldwide

marriage encounter

A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend gives you the time and tools to enrich your marriage, deepen communication, and nourish the spirituality in your marriage.

The next Worldwide Marriage EncounterWeekends:
July 17-19, 2026 and October 9-11, 2026

Space is limited.
Apply now!



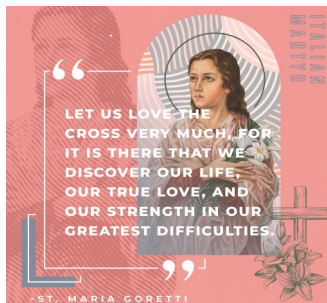
our love is
timeless

Call Tom & Ruth DeFalco:
732-904-9636 to apply
and learn more.

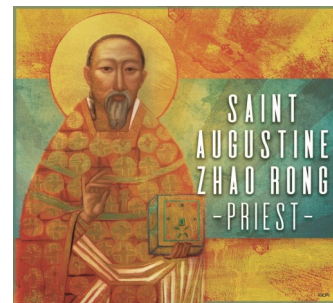
wwme.org



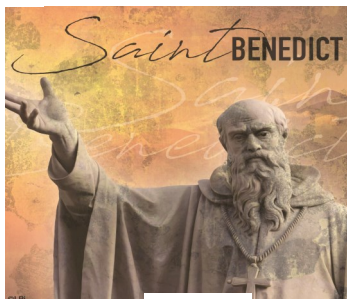
Did you know special days for this week are...



July 6



July 9



July 11

This Week at Saint Anthony of Padua

Monday, July 6

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

Tuesday, July 7

Mass	7:30AM	Chapel
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Wednesday, July 8

Mass	7:30AM	Chapel
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Thursday, July 9

Mass	7:30AM	Church
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Continuing with our past practice, we will not have Eucharist Adoration during July and August. Adoration will resume on September 10. Thank you all for your continuing devotion to our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. Have a wonderful summer!

Friday, July 10

Mass	7:30AM	Church
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Saturday, July 11 Food Pantry Collection

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

Sunday, July 12 Food Pantry Collection

Mass	8:30AM	Church
Mass	11:30AM	Church

This Week at Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Saturday, July 11

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

Sunday, July 12

Mass	10:00AM	Church
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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, Allison Cohen, Jean Dean, Steven DeNoyelles, Beth Dispoto, Alyssa Dohanyos, John Dohanyos, Mark Emanuele, Frank Fernandez, Bob Glatt, Larry Golden, Kim Hickman, Keeba Johnson, Lynn Killmurray, Kathryn Korin, Alfred Leone, Jonathan Marcela, Heather Marrone Fabio, Robert Joseph Meade IV, David Russell, Rami Shehadek, Janet Strunak, Millie Sutphen, Maryann Vyszwan, Matthew Woods, Donna Zeoli



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.

Liturgical Minister Schedule

at Saint Anthony of Padua

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

Saturday	July 11	4:00PM	M. Balint C. and R. Marney
Sunday	July 12	8:30AM	H. Pagliuca C. and E. Weiman
		11:30AM	B. Cuzzo G. Grispart B. Sorbanelli

READERS

Saturday	July 11	4:00PM	J. Schultz
Sunday	July 12	8:30AM	G. Onukwugha G. C. Onukwugha
		11:30AM	J. Baszak

SERVERS

Saturday	July 11	4:00PM	B. Banko
Sunday	July 12	8:30AM	A. and A. Weiman
		11:30AM	A. Boelhower

at Our Lady of Mount Carmel

READER

Sunday	July 12	10:00AM	E. Bonus
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FOOD PANTRY MINISTRY

Food Collection Weekend of July 11 and 12

ITEMS MOST NEEDED ARE:

CANNED CARROTS
CANNED CORN
CANNED GREEN BEANS
CANNED FRUIT
CANNED MEATS
CANNED MIXED VEGETABLES
CEREAL
JELLY
PANCAKE MIX
PANCAKE SYRUP
PEANUT BUTTER
PORK & BEANS
RICE
TOMATO SAUCE

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.