



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



15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"The seed sown on rich soil is the one who hears the word
and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields a
hundred or sixty or thirtyfold." - Mt 13:23

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

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 12, 2026



From the desk of Fr. Cyril Offiong, SDV

GOD SOWS HIS SEEDS GENEROUSLY

'A Sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seed fell on the path... on rocky ground... among thorns... on rich soil (Matthew 13:3-8).'

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

On this 250th anniversary of our country, I hope you had a blessed Fourth of July weekend, filled with gratitude for our country and renewed prayer for peace, justice, human dignity, and religious freedom. As I shared in my homily last Sunday, I feel a deep sense of gratitude to God. We have so much to be thankful for: life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. We also have much work to do in addressing injustices, moral decline, and the threats to religious freedom, to mention a few. We pray that our nation will move forward in unity, prayer, and sincere dialogue with each other, regardless of political, religious, or social affiliation. May God bless these United States of America.

The Word of God on this Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time invites us to reflect on God's generous love in the Parable of the Sower. The seed is the Word of God, the Sower is God, and the soil is the human heart. I like to call this parable "the Generous Sower." In ancient Middle Eastern agricultural life, seeds were precious and costly, and farmers did not scatter them carelessly. They planted the seeds intentionally in a fertile soil. It is, therefore, striking that in the Gospel, the Sower scatters the seed broadly, allowing it to fall on many kinds of soil. In this image, our Lord Jesus shows us the love of God who desires to reach every heart with His grace. God does not ration His love and mercy, nor does He reserve His grace only for a few perfect people. By scattering the seed so generously, He reveals His desire to reach every heart. The different kinds of soil, the hardened path, the rocky ground, the thorny ground, and the fertile soil, show us the different ways our hearts can receive God's Word. At times we are open and receptive; at other times we may be hardened by suffering, shallow in our commitment, or crowded by anxiety, distraction, resentment, and worldly concerns.

There is a popular saying that **God wants us to come to Him just as we are**. This is true, but it is only half of the truth. The other half is that **God does not want us to remain just as we are**. After encountering the Lord, our hearts, like good and fertile soil, must be softened, prepared, and transformed so that we may bear fruit for the Kingdom of God. This parable also speaks to daily Christian family life. In our homes, faith is often planted in small ways: prayer before meals, a blessing at bedtime, patience in difficult conversations, forgiveness after misunderstandings, and kindness when the day has been long. A holy family life is not perfect; it is a daily willingness to let God's Word take root in us.

My dear friends, as we seek to grow and mature as faithful disciples of the Lord, we must always ask the questions, how prepared is my heart to receive God? What part of my heart needs to become good soil? What worry do I need to place in God's hands? Where is the Lord inviting me to bear fruit for my family, my neighbors, my parish, or someone who needs encouragement?

May we welcome God's Word with open and humble hearts. And may the Lord, who sows so generously and loves so patiently, bring forth in us a harvest of faith, hope, and love and multiply them into thirty, sixty, and a hundredfold.

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 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	
Monday 7:30AM	July 13 Kathleen Marek Requested by Arlene and Michael Szatkowski	<i>Saint Henry</i>
Tuesday 7:30AM	July 14 Stephen Terebetsky Requested by Frank and Grace Dispoto	<i>Saint Kateri Tekakwitha</i>
Wednesday 7:30AM	July 15 Charlotte Szabo Requested by Karen Brenner	<i>Saint Bonaventure</i>
Thursday 7:30AM	July 16 John Carpenito Requested by Lew and Carol Huber	<i>Our Lady of Mount Carmel</i>
Friday 7:30AM	July 17 Ernesto B. Torres, Sr. and Ernesto r. Torres, Jr. Requested Edwin Torres and family	
Saturday 4:00PM	July 18 Patricia Sierminski Requested by her loving husband, Ray and family	<i>Saint Camillus de Lellis</i>
Sunday 8:30AM	July 19 Donald and Doris Miller Requested by their family	
11:30AM	People of the parish family	

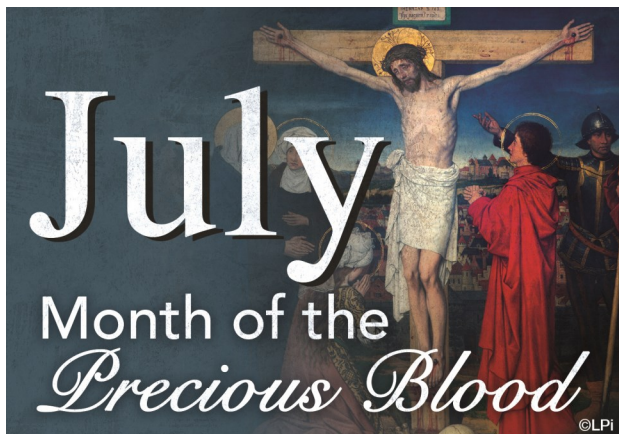
at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Worship Site

Morning Prayer begins 20 minutes before Mass on Saturday

Saturday 8:30AM	July 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	
Saturday 8:30AM	July 18 Frank Zoffranierit Requested by Deacon Joey and Beth Perlas and family	<i>Saint Camillus de Lellis</i>
Sunday 10:00AM	July 19 Victor Rabago (Living Mass intention for good health) Requested by the Rabago family	

This Week's Scripture Readings

Sunday:	Isaiah 55:10-11 Psalms 65:10, 11, 12-13, 14 Romans 8:18-23 Matthew 13:1-23 or 13:1-9
Monday:	Isaiah 1:10-17 Psalms 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23 Matthew 10:34-11:1
Tuesday:	Isaiah 7:1-9 Psalms 48:2-3a, 3b-4, 5-6, 7-8 Matthew 11:20-24
Wednesday:	Isaiah 10:5-7, 13b-16 Psalms 94:5-6, 7-8, 9-10, 14-15 Matthew 11:25-27
Thursday:	Isaiah 26:7-9, 12, 16-19 Psalms 102:13-14ab, 15, 16-18, 19-21 Matthew 11:28-30
Friday:	Isaiah 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8 Isaiah 38:10, 11, 12abcd, 16 Matthew 12:1-8
Saturday:	Micah 2:1-5 Psalms 10:1-2, 3-4, 7-8, 14 Matthew 12:14-21
Sunday:	Wisdom 12:13, 16-19 Psalms 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16 Romans 8:26-27 Matthew 13:24-43 or 13:24-30





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 mother, Angelina LaRocca on her 28th anniversary in Heaven

Requested by her loving daughter, Catherine Bensco

In loving memory of John and Lucille Carpenito

Requested by Margaret Gill

GOOD SHEPHERD

In loving memory of Gordon and Ann Ur, John Patrick and Owen

Requested by their loving family

In loving memory of my husband, Richie

Requested by his loving wife, Adrienne

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



FAITH FORMATION UPDATE

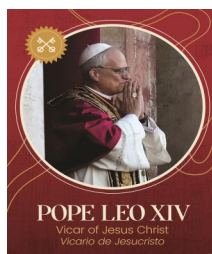
Registration for NEW and returning families is underway for our Faith Formation programs, Growing in Faith Together - G.I.F.T., and Sacramental Preparation Programs - Level 1 Penance Level 2 Communion and Level 1 and Level 2 Confirmation

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.



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 13	Reverend John Alvarado Reverend William Smith
July 14	All Priests
July 15	Reverend John Fredy Triana-Beltran Reverend David Skoblow
July 16	Reverend Damian Tomiczek Reverend Glenn Comandini
July 17	Reverend James McGuffey Reverend Mhonchan Ezung
July 18	Reverend Vincente Salas Reverend Timothy Eck
July 19	Reverend John Primich Reverend Luke Mary Fletcher

Stewardship

"For as the rain and snow come down from the heaven and do not return there till they have watered the earth, making it fertile and fruitful... so shall my word be that goes forth from my mouth. My word shall not return to me empty, but shall do my will, achieving the end for which I sent it." Isaiah 55:10-11

Stewardship is what we do with our lives after we say, "I believe." The word of god is only fulfilled when we act on it. Does our faith bear fruit in our gifts of time, talent, and treasure?

Stewardship: God's Plan for Giving

Sunday, June 28, 2026

In-person donations.....\$3,621.00
On-line donations.....\$1,443.00
Total.....\$5,064.00

Sunday, July 5, 2026

In-person donations.....\$3,518.00
On-line donations.....\$1,505.00
Total.....\$5,023.00

Special Collections - June

Father's Day Novena.....\$2,448.00
Parish Maintenance and Repair....\$1,801.00
Peter Pence.....\$1,252.00

Thank you for your continued support of the parish.



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 July 7, the following days are open if you would like to request a Mass intention:

Monday	August	17	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
Wednesday	September	9	7:30am
Thursday	September	10	7:30am
Friday	September	11	7:30am
Saturday	September	12	8:30am (OLMC)
Sunday	September	13	10:00am (OLMC)
Monday	September	14	7:30am
Thursday	September	17	7:30am
Saturday	September	19	8:30am (OLMC)
Sunday	September	20	10:00am (OLMC)
Monday	September	21	7:30am
Saturday	September	26	8:30am (OLMC)



Contact the parish office at 732-634-1403

ST. JAMES

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
AND CHILD CARE CENTER

341 Amboy Ave.,
Woodbridge, NJ 07095
732-634-0500
sj-school.org

WE ARE FAMILY!

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Focused on Excellence.
Guided by Service.

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8TH GRADE
Pre-Algebra Curriculum

NJ CLEAN COMMUNITIES
Grant Recipient

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for Multiple Children

THE MOST ACTIVE HOME SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
in NJ

OPEN ENROLLMENT

PREK TO 8TH GRADE
A Christ-centered education preparing students for high school and beyond.

CHILD CARE CENTER
18 MONTHS TO 3 YEAR OLDS
Nurturing. Safe. Faith-filled.

OUR COURSE OF STUDY PROVIDES A STRONG EMPHASIS ON LITERACY WHILE MAINTAINING CORE CONTENT EXPOSURE WITH CHRISTIAN ALIGNMENT.

FAITH FORMATION
 ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE
 COMMUNITY AND SERVICE
 CATHOLIC TRADITION
 CHARACTER & LEADERSHIP

Forming Minds. Inspiring Hearts. Building Futures.



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>

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

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.

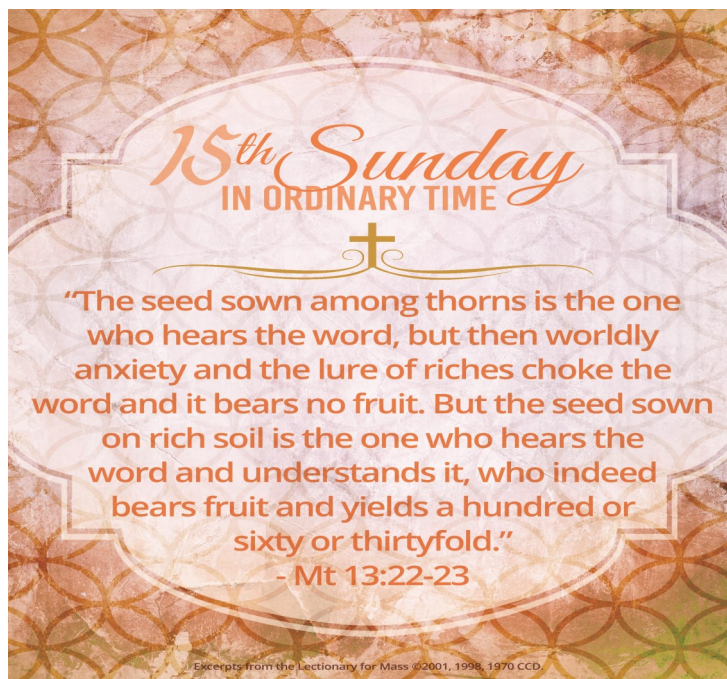
Saturday, July 18 from 10am-2pm

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.

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.



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!

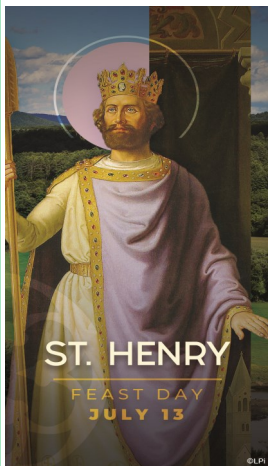


our love is
timeless

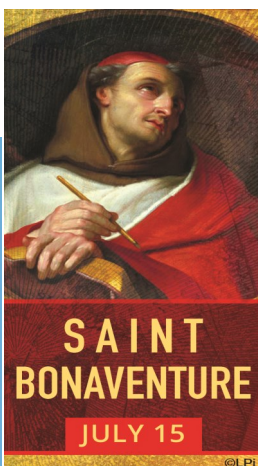
Call Tom & Ruth DeFalco:
732-904-9636 to apply
and learn more.
wwme.org



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



July 14



July 16



This Week at Saint Anthony of Padua

Monday, July 13

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

Tuesday, July 14

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

Wednesday, July 15 **Food Pantry Distribution**

Mass	7:30AM	Chapel
Food Pantry Distribution	10:00am -12:00pm	Father Milos Hall

Thursday, July 16

Mass	7:30AM	Church
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Friday, July 17 **Parish Office Closed**

Mass	7:30AM	Church
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Saturday, July 18

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

Sunday, July 19

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

This Week at Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Saturday, July 18

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

Sunday, July 19

Mass	10:00AM	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!

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 Campion, Justin Carpentieri, Allison Cohen, Jean Dean, Steven DeNoyelles, Beth Disposito, 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 18	4:00PM	A. and F. Fowler R. Masters
Sunday	July 19	8:30AM	A. and D. Anderson D. Mazzarella
		11:30AM	G. Grispart J. Kondrk B. McCauley

READERS

Saturday	July 18	4:00PM	T. Casey
Sunday	July 19	8:30AM	C. Mazzarella
		11:30AM	L. Casabianca

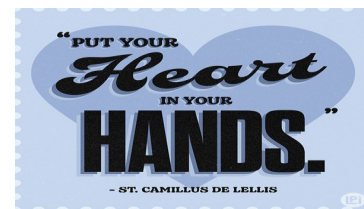
SERVERS

Sunday	July 19	8:30AM	C. C. and C. Onukwugha
		11:30AM	F. Calabrese

at Our Lady of Mount Carmel

READER

Sunday	July 19	10:00AM	M. Poos
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FOOD PANTRY MINISTRY

Food Distribution Wednesday July 15

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.