



The Parish Family of Saint Anthony of Padua



Parish Office: 436 Port Reading Avenue, Port Reading, New Jersey 07064
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Fr. Bill Smith, K.C.H.S., Pastor Emeritus
MSGR. PAFNOUTI WASSEF, PAROCHIAL VICAR
MICHAEL BRUCATO, DEACON JOEY PERLAS, DEACON PETER BARCELLONA, DEACON



17th Sunday

I N O R D I N A R Y T I M E

"And I tell you, ask and you will receive; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you." - Lk 11:9

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

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Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 27, 2025



From the desk of Fr. Cyril Offiong, SDV

THE FOUR LAST THINGS: DEATH, JUDGEMENT, HEAVEN, AND HELL

Dear brothers and sisters,

As we enjoy our summer break, rest, and relaxation (for those who can), allow me to reflect with you on Eschatology, a topic that many of us often find uncomfortable. It is a combination of two Greek words, *eschaton* (last, end, final) and *logy* (study of). Eschatology is, therefore, the study of the last things, the end of time and the ultimate reality. The Catechism of the Catholic Church speaks of the “**Four Last Things**” which are death (we will all die), judgment (we will give account to God), and we will either enter Heaven or Hell.

Death, the end of our earthly life, is an inescapable reality of every human being. Our Catholic faith encourages us to live daily with a “*memento mori*,” (remembrance of death). This is not meant to fill us with fear, but to make us ready for the Lord. Saint Francis of Assisi, in his Canticum of the Sun, embraced “Sister Death,” as an experience in our journey towards God. Death was not part of God’s original plan for humanity, but it entered into the human condition as a result of sin (cf. Romans 5:12). But through His death and resurrection, Christ our Lord, transformed death from a mere tragic end to a transition from the limitations of this earthly life into the fullness of life with God. In the litany of the saints, we ask God to deliver us from sudden and unforeseen death. In the Hail Mary, we ask our Blessed Mother to pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. We also entrust ourselves to Saint Joseph, the patron of a happy death. All of these truths do not deny or trivialize the pain and grief we all experience at the thought of losing our loved ones; but reflecting on them, puts death, grief, sorrow, and suffering in the context of hope. Our Lord Jesus Christ, who wept at the death of His friend Lazarus, also said, ‘I am the resurrection and the life’ (John 11:25). Meditating on our own mortality, prepares us to meet God with a pure heart and an open soul.

Judgment comes and after death the Catechism teaches that ‘each person receives their eternal retribution in their immortal soul at the very moment of death, in a **Particular Judgment** that refers their life to Christ’ (CCC 1022). It is at this moment that the entirety of one’s life, intentions, actions, omissions, and desires, will be revealed and weighed in the light of God’s justice and mercy. The Church also teaches us that at the end of time, there will be the **General Judgment** when Christ our Lord “will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and His kingdom will have no end.” Then, all will be revealed, and the full consequences of each individual’s life will be made manifest before all. Contrary to popular thinking, this judgment is not a mere calculation of our good deeds versus our bad deeds; rather, it is the loving and just gaze of Christ, who knows the depths of each heart. With judgment comes entrance into the blessedness of Heaven (immediately or through purification in Purgatory), or exclusion from the presence of God in Hell.

Heaven is the rest of those who have been justified by Christ. It is our experience of “**the Beatific Vision**” when we will see God face to face. It is not simply a place, but a state of perfect communion with God, the angels, and the saints. ‘This perfect life with the Most Holy Trinity – this communion of life and love with the Trinity, with the Virgin Mary, the angels and all the blessed – is called “heaven.” Heaven is the ultimate end and fulfillment of the deepest human longings, the state of supreme, definitive happiness’ (CCC 1024). Let us remember that Heaven is not earned by human effort alone. It is the gift of God’s mercy, received through grace, faith, and the sacraments.

Hell is the state of definitive exclusion from communion with God. Throughout the ages, people have found it difficult to reconcile the reality of hell with the love of God and they ask, “how can a good God send people to hell.” Hell is not a punishment imposed arbitrarily by God, but the natural consequence of the soul’s definitive choice against love, truth, and goodness. The Church does not claim to know the identity or number of those who are in hell, but she holds forth the seriousness of our freedom and responsibility. The reality of Hell should not lead us to despair. Rather, it should awaken our conscience and move our souls toward conversion and trust in divine mercy. The Catechism says: ‘To die in mortal sin without repenting and accepting God’s merciful love means remaining separated from him forever by our own free choice’ (CCC 1033). In the scriptures hell is presented with the imagery of a burning fire, darkness, eternal thirst that cannot be quenched, and the utter emptiness and loss that comes from final separation from God, who alone is the source of all joy and peace.

Dear brothers and sisters, these are serious and hard realities to think about, and this is why we often push them aside. The Church, in her wisdom, encourages the faithful not to dwell morbidly on fear or judgment, but to live each day in the light of God’s mercy and love. The sacraments, especially the Eucharist and Confession (Reconciliation) are sources of strength and healing, which helps us to constantly turn to God.

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

Monday 7:30AM	July 28 In thanksgiving for Deacon Joey Perlas Requested by his loving family
Tuesday 7:30AM	July 29 <i>Saints Martha, Mary, and Lazarus</i> Judith A. Mrowicki Requested by Bill and Maureen Walliser
Wednesday 7:30AM	July 30 <i>Saint Peter Chrysologus</i> Roberta Nobes-Finch In memory of her 63 rd birthday Requested by her loving father, Bob and sister, Nancy
Thursday 7:30AM	July 31 <i>Saint Ignatius of Loyola</i> Theresa B. McGuinn Requested by Angie Cuntala and family
Friday 7:30AM	August 1 <i>Saint Alphonsus Liguori</i> Mary Romano Requested by Liz Early
Saturday 4:00PM	August 2 <i>Saint Eusebius</i> <i>Saint Peter Julian Eymard</i> The Napoli family Requested by Loretta Napoli
Sunday 8:30AM 11:30AM	August 3 People of the parish family Michael Barbato Requested by Danielle, Christian, and Ryan Miyagishima



at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Worship Site

Morning Prayer begins 20 minutes before Mass on Saturday

Saturday 8:30AM	August 2 <i>Saint Eusebius</i> <i>Saint Peter Julian Eymard</i> Deceased members of the former Altar Rosary Society
Sunday 10:00AM	August 3 Tom Hunchon Requested by Ray and Cherie Gumapac

July 27, 2025
Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

This Week's Scripture Readings

Sunday:	Genesis 18:20-32 Psalms 138:1-3, 6-8 Colossians 2:12-14 Luke 11:1-13
Monday:	Exodus 32:15-24, 30-34 Psalms 106:19-23 Matthew 13:31-35
Tuesday:	Exodus 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28 Psalms 103:6-13 John 11:19-27 or Luke 10:38-42
Wednesday:	Exodus 34:29-35 Psalms 99:5-7, 9 Matthew 13:44-46
Thursday:	Exodus 40:16-21, 34-38 Psalms 84:3-6a, 8a, 11 Matthew 13:47-53
Friday:	Leviticus 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37 Psalms 81:3-6, 10-11b Matthew 13:54-58
Saturday:	Leviticus 25:1, 8-17 Psalms 67:2-3, 5, 7-8 Matthew 14:1-12
Sunday:	Ecclesiastes 1:2, 2:21-23 Psalms 90:3-6, 12-14, 17 Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11 Luke 12:13-21



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	

LIVESTREAM EVENTS from SAINT ANTHONY OF PADUA PARISH

Weekend Mass Sunday: 11:30AM

Daily Mass Monday through Friday: 7:30AM

Visit www.saintanthonyofpadua.org

Click on the YouTube link



CONTACTS: www.saintanthonyofpadua.org
We're on FACEBOOK, come and check us out!

EMAIL:
Pastor: pastorofstanthonypr@gmail.com
Office and Food Pantry: info.StAnthony1@gmail.com
Religious Education: religiouseusebius.StAnthony1@gmail.com
Bulletin: bulletin.stanthony@gmail.com
Study Hall: studyhalloffice@gmail.com or studyhalldirector@gmail.com



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

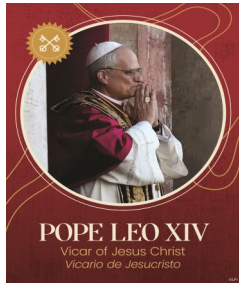
In loving memory of my daughter and sister,
 Roberta Nobes-Finch on her 63rd birthday
 Requested by her loving father, Bob, sister, Nancy,
 and godmother Adrienne

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



Pope's Intention for July:

For formation in discernment.
 Let us pray that we might again
 learn how to discern, to know how
 to choose paths of life and reject
 everything that leads us away from
 Christ and the Gospel.

PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS

- | | |
|----------|---|
| July 28 | Monsignor Edward Puleo
Reverend J. Philip Vadakkekara |
| July 29 | Reverend Joseph Kabali
Reverend Sean Winters |
| July 30 | Reverend Francis Hilton
Reverend Edmund Luciano III |
| July 31 | Reverend Monsignor William J. Fadrowski
Reverend John Polyak |
| August 1 | Reverend Thien Ban (Joseph) Ho
Reverend Michael Krull |
| August 2 | Very Reverend Jonathan Toborowsky
Reverend Juan Carlos Gaviria |
| August 3 | Bishop James Checchio |



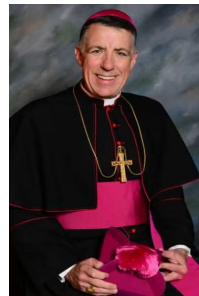
Second Banns of Marriage



The intent of Marriage
 has been announced between

C'asia Miles and Genaro Prencipe

to enter into the Covenant of Marriage at
 Saint Anthony of Padua Roman Catholic Church
 Port Reading, NJ
 on
 August 9, 2025



WELCOME

Bishop James Checchio
 to
Saint Anthony
of Padua Church

for Saturday, August 2
4:00PM Mass celebration

Pray ...

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



Cristino E. Abasolo III, Anonymous,
 John Carpenito, Lucille Carpenito, John Campion,
 Alyssa Dohanyos, John Dohanyos,
 Mark Emanuele, Frank Fernandez, Larry Golden,
 Kim Hickman, Keeba Johnson, Lynn Killmurray,
 Jonathan Marcela, Heather Marrone Fabio,
 Robert Joseph Meade IV, David Russell,
 Janet Strunak, Millie Sutphen, Maryann Vyszwaney,
 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.

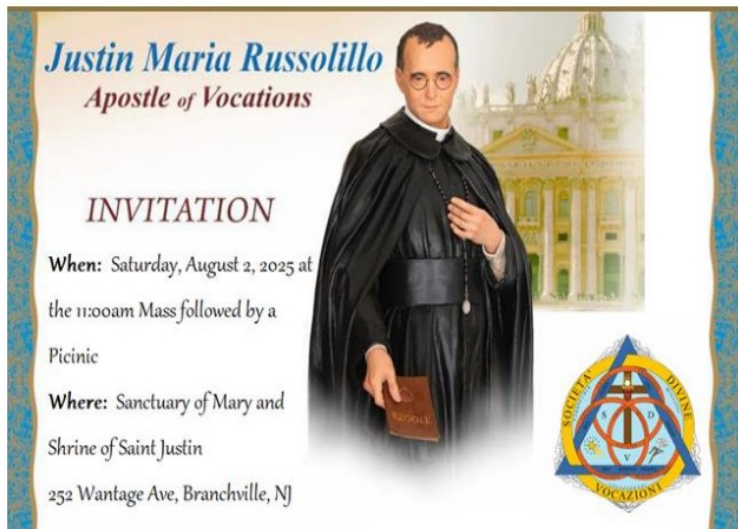
If you would like to add a loved one to the Pray list, contact the parish office.

Pray for Peace!

*The Feast of Saint Justin Maria Russolillo,
the founder of the Society of Divine Vocations
is on Saturday, August 2*

*Father Cyril and the Vocationist Community
of Woodbridge invite parishioners to join
them for Mass at 11am
at the Shrine of Saint Justin
in Branchville, N.J.*

*Transportation is available for those who need
it. Call the parish office at 732-634-1403
by Monday, July 28 to reserve a seat.*



***On August 2 and 3, after all Masses,
the relic of Saint Justin
will be exposed for veneration.***



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.

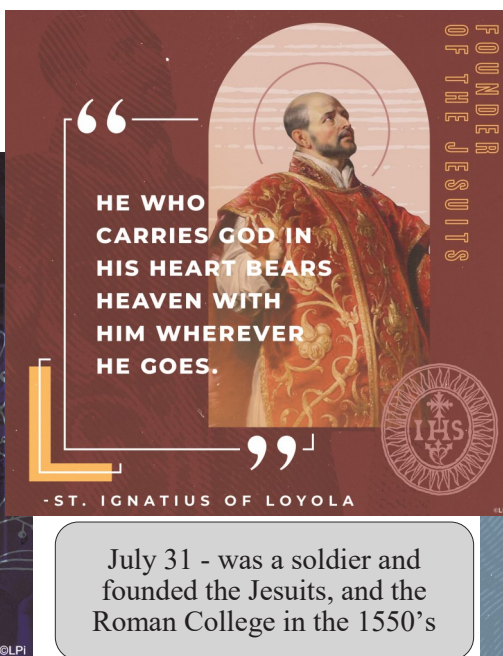
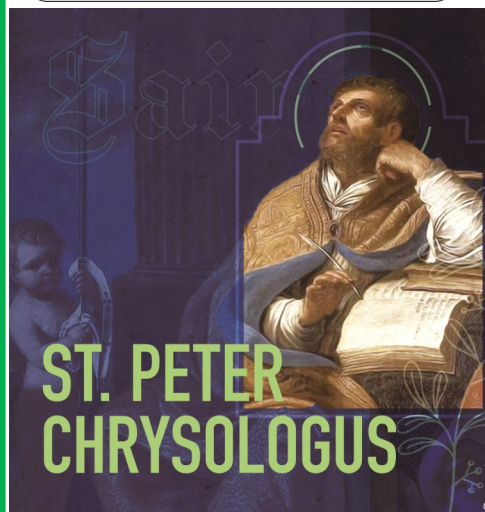


Donations may be placed in the narthex from
Monday, July 28 to Monday, August 18
Assembly on Thursday, August 21

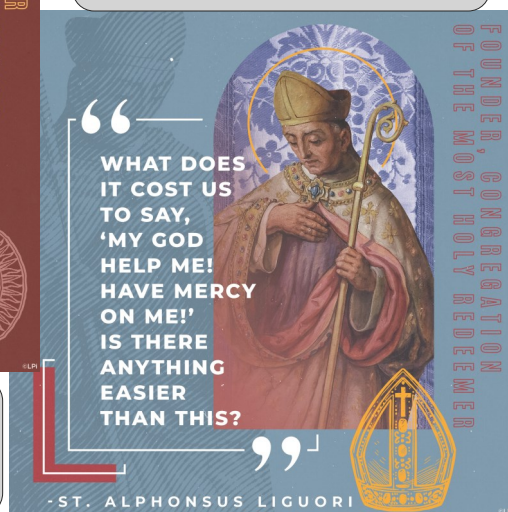
Thank you for your generosity and support of our
ADOPT A BACKPACK PROJECT!

Did you know these saints have a feast day this week?

July 30 - Peter is known for his exceptional preaching - "one with Golden tongued".



August 1 - founded the Redemptorists in 1732



FOOD PANTRY MINISTRY

**The next Food Pantry Collection is
August 2 and 3**

ITEMS MOST NEEDED ARE:

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

At the Food Distribution on Wednesday, July 16 we were able to assist 25 families (which included 59 people).

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

Stewardship: God's Plan for Giving

Sunday, July 20, 2025

In-person donations.....	\$3,205.00
On-line donations.....	\$1,188.00
Total.....	\$4,393.00

*Thank you for your
continued support of the parish.*

Stewardship

"Ask and you will receive; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you." Luke 11:9

Jesus assures us that if we ask, God will take care of what we need. The problem is that our culture often confuses what we really need with what we simply want. The truth is that many of us need very little. However, we usually want so much more! Stewardship is simply being grateful for all that we are and all that we have been given, and generously sharing all of our God-given gifts with others. Gratitude and generosity are gifts that opens doors to new relationships with others and with God.



**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 for**

Level 1 Penance

Level 2 Communion

and

Level 1 and Level 2 Confirmation.

**Please note: Our G.I.F.T. sessions will be held on
Wednesday evenings from 6:00 to 7:30pm.**

**Our Sacramental Preparation programs will be
held on Monday evenings.**

***** Update *****

**Information and registration is
available in the parish office and can be
found on the parish website at
www.saintanthonypadua.org**

*****REGISTRATION is DUE*****
this Friday, AUGUST 1.

Sessions will begin on
Wednesday, September 17

This Week at Saint Anthony of Padua

Monday, July 28 **Back Pack/ School Supplies Drive**

Summer Break	6:30AM	Father Milos Hall
Mass	7:30AM	Chapel
BINGO	12:00PM	Father Milos Hall (Doors open at 10:30AM)

Tuesday, July 29

Summer Break	6:30AM	Father Milos Hall
Mass	7:30AM	Chapel
AA	7:30PM	Father Milos Hall

Wednesday, July 30

Summer Break	6:30AM	Father Milos Hall
Mass	7:30AM	Chapel

Thursday, July 31

Summer Break	6:30AM	Father Milos Hall
Mass	7:30AM	Chapel
AA	8:00PM	Father Milos Hall

Friday, August 1 **Faith Formation Registration Due**


Summer Break	6:30AM	Father Milos Hall
Mass	7:30AM	Chapel

Saturday, August 2

Confession	3:00PM	Church
Mass with Bishop Checchio	4:00PM	Church
NA	7:30PM	Father Milos Hall

Sunday, August 3

Mass	8:30AM	Church
Mass/Baptism	11:30AM	Church



will resume in September

Update your PARISH RECORDS

If your address, phone, or email have changed,
contact the parish office at 732-634-1403
or email info.stanthony1@gmail.com



SHOPRITE GIFT CARDS ... for our ongoing fundraiser

Please consider helping Saint Anthony's the next time you shop. For each gift card purchased, our parish receives 5% of the proceeds. Gift cards are available in a variety of denominations and can be purchased in the parish office.



Welcome summer!

To find a local Mass when you are travelling
search **MassTimes.org**



This Week at Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Monday, July 28 **Back Pack/ School Supplies Drive**

NA	11:00AM	Basement
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Tuesday, July 29

NA	11:00AM	Basement
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Wednesday, July 30

NA	11:00AM	Basement
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Thursday, July 31

NA	11:00AM	Basement
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Friday, August 1 **Faith Formation Registration Due**

NA	11:00AM	Basement
Holy Family Prayer Group	6:00PM	Church

Saturday, August 2

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

Sunday, August 3

Mass	10:00AM	Church
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Liturgical Minister Schedule

at Saint Anthony of Padua

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

Saturday	August 2	4:00PM	M. Balint R. Masters J. Mulvaney
Sunday	August 3	8:30AM	A. and D. Anderson M. Martino
		11:30AM	G. Grispart J. Kondrk B. Sorbanelli

READERS

Saturday	August 2	4:00PM	T. Casey
Sunday	August 3	8:30AM	G. Clarke
		11:30AM	L. Casabianca

SERVERS

Saturday	August 2	4:00PM	B. Banko
Sunday	August 3	8:30AM	C. C. C. Onukwugha
		11:30AM	A. Boelhower F. Calabrese

at Our Lady of Mount Carmel

READER

Sunday	August 3	10:00AM	M. Poos
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