



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



19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Peter said to him in reply, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." Peter got out of the boat and began to walk on the water toward Jesus. - Mt 14:28-29

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:

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	CLOSED during July and August

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 9, 2026



From the desk of Fr. Cyril Offiong, SDV

THE CHURCH: THE BARQUE OF PETER

Dear brothers and sisters,

In this Sunday's Gospel, the disciples are tossed by wind and waves in the dark of night. Many Church Fathers saw this scene as a powerful image of the Church and of each of us. **The Church as a boat crossing the stormy waters of this world inspired countless church buildings.** If you ever travel along Interstate 95 between exits 14 and 15, look west and you will see the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark. Like many great churches, this magnificent Gothic basilica was built to resemble a ship carrying the People of God. This is why the Church is often called "**The Barque of Peter**" (a reference to the boat of St. Peter).

As we make our pilgrimage through life, we too are often pushed back by forces beyond our control. **In those very struggles, difficulties, and storms, our Lord Jesus comes to meet us, His friends.**

The disciples did not recognize Him initially. Seeing Him walk on the water, they are terrified and thought that they were seeing a ghost. But then He speaks the words every human heart longs to hear: **"Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid."** Notice that our Lord does not calm the storm immediately. He speaks into the storm. His presence comes before His solution. This is the story of every Christian. We too are tossed about by the waves of life. In moments of suffering, grief, and pain, even ordinary things can feel unfamiliar, and fear begins to take over.

St. Peter makes a bold attempt: me to come to you on the Lord Jesus invites him, and Peter a moment, faith carries him fixed on the Lord. But when he he begins to sink. We know with trust, move forward with pressures, uncertainties, and from God until we begin to sink.



"Lord, if it is you, command water" (Matthew 14:28). Our steps out of the boat. For forward as he keeps his eyes shifts his focus to the wind, this experience well: we begin confidence, and then life's anxieties take our focus away

The most important part of the story is what happens next: Jesus immediately stretches out His hand and catches Peter. He does not let him fall. He does not shame him. He lifts him. Then, as a good Master, He teaches Peter why he began to sink: "O you of little faith."

The heart of Christian discipleship is complete faith in God. Faith is not about never sinking or never struggling. It is about knowing the One who is always there to catch and lift us. It is about turning our focus back to Christ when fear distracts us. It is about stepping out of the boat—out of our comfort, routines, and self-reliance—and trusting that our Redeemer is already walking toward us. This spiritual principle is helpful; **"In stormy moments, do not focus on the problems; focus on Christ, the Lord of the storm."**

As summer begins to wind down and we prepare for new school, work, and social routines, we may be tempted to focus more on our problems than on the Lord who defends us. As a parish, I invite all of us to hear His words again: "Take courage." Whatever storms you may be facing—family burdens, health concerns, financial worries, spiritual dryness, broken relationships, a troubled child, a tense political climate, or any other challenge—let your focus be on Christ who is near to us.

This does not mean denying our problems or pretending they are not real. We do not deny them; rather, we hand them over to the One who can calm the storms of the sea: our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. He comes to us across the waves. **When our faith feels small, His hand is already extended to catch and lift us.**

May we encourage one another to keep our eyes fixed on our Lord Jesus, step forward in faith, and trust that He will lift us whenever we begin to sink.

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.

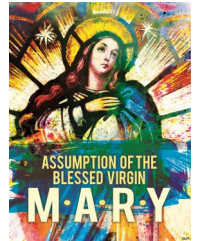
Mass Intentions

at Saint Anthony of Padua Church

Morning Prayer - begins 20 minutes before weekday Mass		
Saturday	August 8	<i>Saint Dominic</i>
4:00PM	William and Arlene Smith Requested by their loving daughters, Cheryl and Linda	
Sunday	August 9	
8:30AM	People of the parish family	
11:30AM	Adele Tortoriello Requested by Doris Lazur	
Monday	August 10	<i>Saint Lawrence</i>
7:30AM	Kathleen Marek Requested by Denise and Alan Marek	
Tuesday	August 11	<i>Saint Claire</i>
7:30AM	John and Elizabeth Bodak Requested by loving grandchildren	
Wednesday	August 12	<i>Saint Jane Frances de Chantal</i>
7:30AM	Vincent R. Martino (Happy Birthday) Requested by his loving wife, Rose	
Thursday	August 13	<i>Saint Pontian, Pope Saint Hippolytus</i>
7:30AM	Richie Simeone (on our 60 th wedding anniversary) Requested by his loving wife, Adrienne	
Friday	August 14	<i>Saint Maximilian Koble</i>
7:30AM	Maryellen Santorelli Requested by her husband, Robert	
Saturday	August 15	<i>Assumption of the Blessed Mother</i>
4:00PM	Patricia Kelly (16 th) and Tom Mulvaney (1 st) Requested by their loving sister, Judy Mulvaney	
Sunday	August 16	
8:30AM	Tyke G. Mojica Requested his loving 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	August 8	<i>Saint Dominic</i>
8:30AM	Eileen and George T. Miller, Sr. Requested by their son, George T. Miller, Jr.	
Sunday	August 9	
10:00AM	Frank Zuffanieri Requested by Lisa Quiray	
Saturday	August 15	
8:30AM	William Dudash on his 100 th birthday Requested by his loving family	
Sunday	August 16	
10:00AM	Frank Zuffanieri Requested by Jonathan and Ching Dizon	



This Week's Scripture Readings

Sunday:	1 Kings 19:9a, 11-13a Psalms 85:9ab and 10, 11-112, 13-14 Romans 9:1-5 Matthew 14:22-33
Monday:	2 Corinthians 9:6-10 Psalms 112:1-2, 5-6, 7-8, 9 John 12:24-26
Tuesday:	Ezekiel 2:8-3:4 Psalms 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131 Matthew 18:1-5, 10, 12-14
Wednesday:	Ezekiel 9:1-7; 10:18-22 Psalms 113:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 Matthew 18:15-20
Thursday:	Ezekiel 12:1-12 Psalms 78:56-57, 58-59, 61-62 Matthew 18:21-19:1
Friday:	Ezekiel 16:1-15, 60, 63 or 16:59-63 Isaiah 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 Matthew 19:3-12
Saturday:	Revelation 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab Psalms 45:10, 11, 12, 16 1 Corinthians 15:20-27 Luke 1:39-56
Sunday:	Isaiah 56:1, 6-7 Psalms 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 Romans 11:13-15, 29-32 Matthew 15:21-28



*Banns of Marriage
is announced for the second time between*

*Vanessa Galvach and Robert Vanco who
intend to enter into the Covenant of Matrimony in
Saint Anthony of Padua Roman Catholic Church*

*Port Reading, NJ
on Thursday, August 20, 2026
Please keep them in your prayers.*



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 Regina Moeller
Requested by Marie Pagliuca

In loving memory of Nicholas Ambrose
Requested by Rosemarie Arway and
sons, George and Andrew

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

Stewardship: God's Plan for Giving

Sunday, August 2, 2026

In-person donations.....\$4,367.00
On-line donations.....\$1,560.00
Total.....\$5,927.00

Special Collection - July

Parish Debt Reduction\$1,566.00

Thank you for your continued support of the parish.

Stewardship

"After he had fed the people, Jesus made the disciples get into a boat and precede him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. After doing so, he went up to the mountain by himself to pray." Matthew 14:22-23

The psychologist Carl Jung once said, "Busyness is not of the devil, busyness is the devil!" Stewardship is not about increasing our activities, but about establishing priorities in how we utilize our gifts. One of those priorities is prayer. Do we take time out to be alone with God?



For evangelization in the city.

Let us pray that in large cities often marked by anonymity and loneliness we find new ways to proclaim the Gospel, discovering creative paths to build community.

PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS

August 10	Very Reverend Jonathan Toborowsky Reverend Marco Caceres
August 11	Reverend Cyril Offiong Reverend Louis Mattina
August 12	Reverend Larrydom Magdasoc Monsignor Seamus Brennan
August 13	Reverend John Pringle Reverend Thomas Naduviledathu
August 14	Reverend James Tucker Reverend James Considine
August 15	Our Holy Father



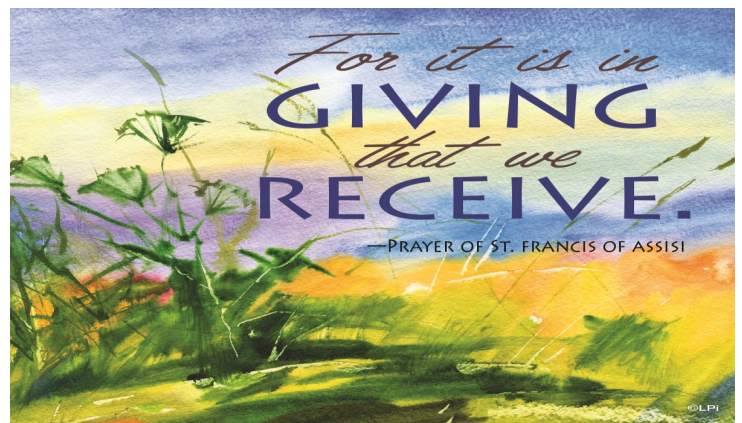
FAITH FORMATION UPDATE

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, or on the narthex information table, or it can be downloaded from the parish website at
<http://www.saintanthonypadua.org>

NOTE:

**Registration forms were due back by August 3.
A late fee of \$25.00 will now be incurred.**





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** (Assemble Thursday, August 20 at 9:30am)



Thank you for your generosity and support of our

ADOPT A BACKPACK PROJECT!



2026 Mass Book

As of August 4, the following days are open if you would like to request a Mass intention:

Thursday	August	27	7:30am
Friday	August	28	7:30am
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
Monday	September	14	7:30am
Thursday	September	17	7:30am
Monday	September	21	7:30am
Saturday	September	26	8:30am (OLMC)
Friday	October	9	7:30am
Monday	October	12	7:30am
Wednesday	October	14	7:30am
Friday	October	16	7:30am
Saturday	October	17	8:30am (OLMC)
Monday	October	19	7:30am
Friday	October	23	7:30am
Saturday	October	24	8:30am (OLMC)
Monday	October	26	7:30am



Contact the parish office at 732-634-1403

2026 MISSIONS APPEAL **CFIC CHILDREN'S MISSION IN CONGO**

Dear Brothers and sisters, every year, our Diocese assigns a Missionary Group to visit our parish and share with us the work of their mission. This helps us to understand and share in the missionary work of the Church.

On the weekend of August 22 & 23, **Fr. Benny Mekkatt, CFIC** will visit us. He is a missionary priest of the community of the **Sons of the Immaculate Conception (CFIC)**. They are a Religious Congregation of Pontifical right which aims to demonstrate Christ's love for humanity. They were founded in 1857 by Blessed Luigi Maria Monti in Rome, Italy. The CFIC Priests and brothers serve as doctors, nurses, pharmacists, physiotherapists, chaplains, teachers, and preachers, in 27 different countries in the world. The CFIC's Emmanuel Stabulum Delegation mission in the Congo promotes the charism of their founder, to care for the sick and suffering, and educates the young, abandoned, orphaned, and poor children.

Ongoing unrest in this region marked by civil war, deep poverty, and family breakdown has left countless children in urgent need, seeking refuge and hope in their schools and orphanages. Some have been displaced by conflict; while others carry the hidden pain of separation, abandonment, and broken homes. With limited resources, these missionaries struggle to meet the growing needs of those who depend on them each day.

As always, we will be invited to support this mission of mercy. Your generosity can place food before a hungry child, provide water to the thirsty, offer shelter to the homeless, and keep a vulnerable child in school. In doing so, you live out the words of our Lord "I was hungry and you gave me food..." Matthew 25:35-40.

A Second Collection will be taken on the weekend of August 22 & 23 to Benefit this Mission. Thank you.



In our Diocese and Community

Contact Mount Saint Mary House of Prayer at 908-753-2091 or their website at www.msmhope.org for more information.

Tuesday, August 18 from 9:30-3pm

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.

Tuesday, August 18 from 7-9pm

ABIDING WITH GOD THROUGHOUT THE DAY presented by Patrick R. Manning, Ph.D. More than a pious string of words, prayer is spending time with the One we love and who loves us. Join us for this evening retreat where we will explore, experience, and discuss together a variety of contemplative practices that deepen and extend our prayer throughout the whole day so we can enjoy God's love and peace whether we are at church, home, work, or on the go. Hybrid.

Wednesday, August 19 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.

*If today you hear his voice, harden not your heart
HEB3:15*

HOLY FAMILY PRAYER GROUP

CORDIALLY INVITES EVERYONE TO ATTEND

CATHOLIC LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR
(a Parish Renewal Weekend Experience)

Saturday September 12, 2026
Sunday September 13, 2026

Registration starts
Saturday, at 8:00AM
Our Lady of Peace
(Parish center)
25 Jackson Ave. Edison, NJ

Includes:

Baptism of the Holy Spirit
(A Renewal of the Sacraments of
Baptism and Confirmation)
Adoration of the Blessed
Sacrament
Faith Sharing
Confession

Celebration of the Eucharist
Celebrant and Spiritual Adviser:
Fr. Cyril Offiong, SDV

Conducted by: KFI-LSS ministry
Moderator: James Sadhoo
Music: People's Praise Band
(visit us at kfiministry.org)



CONTACT:

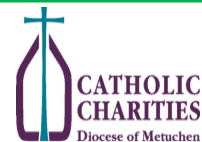
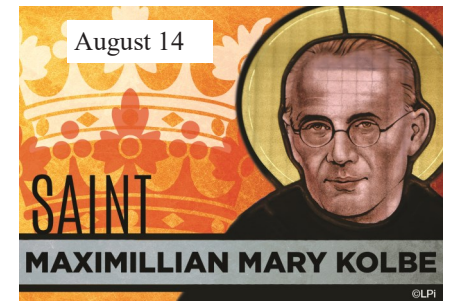
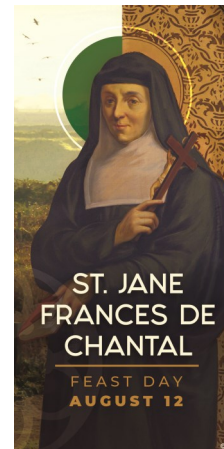
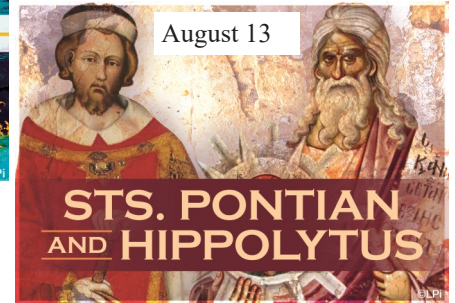
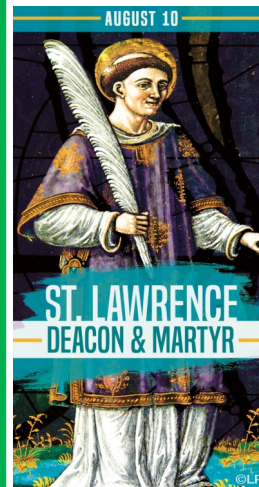
Cherie Gumapac
732-485-6006

Ching Mangalili
732-804-8055

Doris Flores
732-947-0960

**FREE REGISTRATION, FREE MEAL
BRING THE WHOLE FAMILY!**

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



Adolescent Substance Use Recovery Program Initiative (ASURI)

Middlesex, Union, Somerset, and Morris Counties

Outpatient & Intensive Outpatient Services for Adolescents

(13 to 18 years)

Mental Health and Substance Use Assessments
Recovery Support Services
Individual, Group, & Family Counselling
Psychoeducational Services
Transportation

Service Locations

Middlesex/Union Counties

288 Rues Lane East Brunswick, NJ Ph: (732) 257-6100 Fax: (732) 651-9834

This Week at Saint Anthony of Padua

Monday, August 10 **Backpack donations continue**

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

Tuesday, August 11

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

Wednesday, August 12

Mass	7:30AM	Chapel
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Thursday, August 13

Mass	7:30AM	Chapel
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Friday, August 14 **Parish Office Closed**

Mass	7:30AM	Chapel
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Saturday, August 15

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

Sunday, August 16

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

This Week at Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Saturday, August 15

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

Sunday, August 16

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, John Campion, Justin Carpentieri, Allison Cohen, Jean Dean, Steven DeNoyelles, Beth Disputo, 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.

Pray for Peace!

Liturgical Minister Schedule

at Saint Anthony of Padua

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

Saturday	August 15	4:00PM	J. Barcellona A. and F. Fowler
Sunday	August 16	8:30AM	A. and D. Anderson D. Mazzarella
		11:30AM	M. Amuzie G. Grispart L. Palasits

READERS

Saturday	August 15	4:00PM	J. Schultz
Sunday	August 16	8:30AM	C. Mazzarella
		11:30AM	C. Amuzie

SERVERS

Sunday	August 16	8:30AM	Q. Valdez
		11:30AM	F. Calabrese

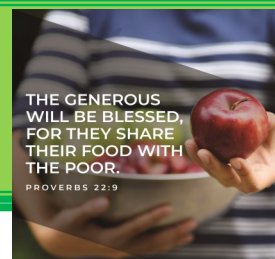
at Our Lady of Mount Carmel

READER

Sunday	August 16	10:00AM	V. Ruskai
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FOOD PANTRY MINISTRY

**Food Distribution is
Wednesday, August 19**



ITEMS MOST NEEDED:

CANNED CARROTS
CANNED CORN
CANNED FRUIT
CANNED GREEN BEANS
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



The Food Pantry Ministry staff **THANK YOU** -
the parishioners for all your food and monetary donations.
We are looking for **volunteers for the 3rd Wednesday of every month**
from 10am to 11am or from 10am to 12pm to assist our clients.
If you are interested, contact the parish office at 732-634-1403.