



## The Parish Family of Saint Anthony of Padua



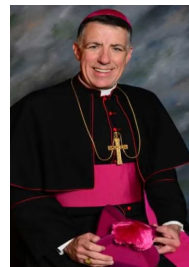
**Parish Office: 436 Port Reading Avenue, Port Reading, New Jersey 07064**  
**Phone: 732-634-1403 • [www.saintanthonypadua.org](http://www.saintanthonypadua.org)**

**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**



## The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

©LPI



*Thank you*  
*Bishop James Checchio*  
*for celebrating Mass at*  
*Saint Anthony*  
*of Padua Church*

*on Saturday, August 2*

### *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.saintanthonypadua.org](http://www.saintanthonypadua.org)  
Click on the YouTube link



**CONTACTS:** [www.saintanthonypadua.org](http://www.saintanthonypadua.org)  
**We're on FACEBOOK, come and check us out!**

**EMAIL:**  
**Pastor:** [pastorofstanthonypr@gmail.com](mailto:pastorofstanthonypr@gmail.com)  
**Office and Food Pantry:** [info.StAnthony1@gmail.com](mailto:info.StAnthony1@gmail.com)  
**Religious Education:** [religioused.StAnthony1@gmail.com](mailto:religioused.StAnthony1@gmail.com)  
**Bulletin:** [bulletin.stanthony@gmail.com](mailto:bulletin.stanthony@gmail.com)  
**Study Hall:** [studyhalloffice@gmail.com](mailto:studyhalloffice@gmail.com) or  
[studyhalldirector@gmail.com](mailto:studyhalldirector@gmail.com)

**Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**August 10, 2025**



*From the desk of Fr. Cyril Offiong, SDV*

## **SPIRITUAL BUT NOT RELIGIOUS: RELIGION OF RADICAL INDIVIDUALISM**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

During a conversation with a Catholic, who is no longer actively living the faith, I asked about his journey with the Lord. He told me, **“father, I consider myself to be a spiritual person, but I am not really religious.”** He told me that he believes in God, but he does engage in the day-to-day rituals or expectations of the communal and doctrinal life of the faith. Our postmodern society sees this as a more sophisticated way to express one’s spiritual life. But in actual fact, it betrays a deep lack of understanding of our life with God. Many of those who hold this view are often critical of the hypocrisy or scandal within the Church. The church does not shy away from the sins of its members or the failures of its leaders. The presence of sin does not disprove the Church’s divine origins. Rather, it shows the need for ongoing conversion, penitence, and reform. We have the common saying in Latin, *Ecclesia Semper Reformanda*, which means, the Church is always in need of reform or renewal. Spiritual but not religious is an excuse for the refusal to meet the demands of Christian discipleship. It is a symptom of the individualism that affects our modern society. We want to do things on our own terms, even our relationship with God.

**Spirituality**, (concerned with things of the spirit as opposed to material or physical things) and **Religion**, (the life, teachings, and action about God) are not mutually exclusive; they are distinct but not opposite realities. While I cannot speak about other religions, I can categorically say that the idea of spiritual but not religious, is an affront to the Christian life. Christianity, especially our Catholic Faith, is a relationship of communion with God and with our neighbors. This involves active participation in the Church, the community of believers. Spiritual but not religious is a late twentieth century invention which would have been a strange and laughable idea to the apostles, their successors and also to the saints who have gone before us in the faith. Authentic Christian spirituality involves a relationship with God nourished by prayer, strengthened by the sacraments and movement towards mission. **The Church is not just an institution. It is the Mystical Body of Christ.** Spiritual but not religious signals individual autonomy, but there is no solo Christian. Our Lord Jesus did not call people to be solitary seekers of “connection” with God. He gathered together a band of disciples and established a church; ‘and so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it’ (Matthew 16:18). The early Church “devoted themselves to the teaching of the apostles and to the communal life, to the breaking of the bread and to the prayers” (Acts 2:42). This communal dimension is not a mere addition; it is essential for growth in holiness. The Church offers guidance, correction, and encouragement towards a perfect life of discipleship. The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that “the desire for God is written in the human heart” (CCC 27) and God reveals Himself through creation, history, and, most fully, in Jesus Christ and the community of the Church. For us Catholics, the religious dimension expressed in liturgy, sacraments, doctrine, and communal life, is not an accidental or optional feature, but intrinsic to the way God has chosen to encounter humanity.

The spiritual but not religious attitude has led many people to a form of spiritual individualism that isolates them from God and the church. This is very evident in our own parish. Many parishioners have consciously or unconsciously bought into this ideology. Our families no longer faithfully attend Mass regularly or participate in the life of the Church. The man I spoke about earlier, told me, “father, I can worship God inside my own house.” I pray and hope that we all worship God and pray individually. But, without the checks and balances of tradition, doctrine, and community, one’s spiritual life becomes a projection of one’s own preferences and desires. Rather than worship the God who created us in His image and likeness, we turn God into our own image. Instead of being conformed to the image of Christ, we conform Christ to our own desires. Moreover, religious practice provides structure, discipline, and accountability. Over time, the consistent rhythm of Sunday Mass (and Holy Days), prayer, fasting, and liturgical seasons shapes the heart of a Christian and opens the soul to God’s grace. Frequent reception of the sacraments are not mere symbols or empty practices; they are the means of the graces which our Lord Jesus won for us to accompany us in our Christian journey.

Dear brothers and sisters, let us love God, strengthen our relationship with the Lord, participate, and build up the body of Christ and continue to learn from the Church as we walk in faith with each other towards the kingdom of 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 August 11** *Saint Clare*  
7:30AM Janice Ciardiello  
Requested by her loving husband, Sal

**Tuesday August 12** *Saint Jane Frances de Chantal*  
7:30AM Vincent R. Martino  
Happy Birthday in Heaven  
Requested by his loving wife, Rose

**Wednesday August 13** *Saint Pontian*  
7:30AM Leonardo Merlo  
*Saint Hippolytus*  
Requested by Carmella and Nick Iannitto

**Thursday August 14** *Saint Maximilian Kolbe*  
7:30AM MaryEllen Santorelli  
Requested by her husband, Robert

**Friday August 15** *The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary*



7:00AM Jeffrey Pagliuca  
Requested by the DeMarino family

12:15PM Geraldine A. Nobes  
Happy Birthday in Heaven  
Requested by Adrienne

7:00PM Carol Ann Baker  
Requested by Dolores Tulko

**Saturday August 16** *Saint Stephen of Hungary*  
4:00PM Richie Simeone  
Requested by his loving wife, Adrienne

**Sunday August 17**  
8:30AM People of the parish family  
11:30AM Burton Trebour  
Requested by Lori Healy and family

### at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Worship Site

**Morning Prayer** begins 20 minutes before Mass on Saturday

**Friday August 15** *The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary*  
8:30AM Helen Harangozo  
Requested by Katalin Grot

**Saturday August 16** *Saint Stephen of Hungary*  
8:30AM Anselma Parza  
Requested by Ray and Cherie Gumapac

**Sunday August 17**  
10:00AM Margaret Kopelock  
Requested by Anna, Magda, and Maria



**August 10, 2025**  
**Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

### This Week's Scripture Readings

**Sunday:** Wisdom 18:6-9  
Psalms 33:1, 12, 18-22  
Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-19  
or 11:1-2, 8-12  
Luke 12:32-48 or 12:35-40

**Monday:** Deuteronomy 10:12-22  
Psalms 147:12-15, 19-20  
Matthew 17:22-27

**Tuesday:** Deuteronomy 31:1-8  
(Psalms) Deuteronomy 32:3-4b, 7-9, 12  
Matthew 18:1-5, 10, 12-14

**Wednesday:** Deuteronomy 34:1-12  
Psalms 66:1-3a, 5, 8, 16-17  
Matthew 18:15-20

**Thursday:** Joshua 3:7-10a, 11, 13-17  
Psalms 114:1-6  
Matthew 18:21 - 19:1

**Friday:** Revelation 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab  
Psalms 45:10bc, 11-12ab, 16  
1 Corinthians 15:20-27  
Luke 1:39-56

**Saturday:** Joshua 24:14-29  
Psalms 16:1-2a, 5, 7-8, 11  
Matthew 19:13-15

**Sunday:** Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10  
Psalms 40:2-4, 18  
Hebrews 12:1-4  
Luke 12:49-53







## 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 Geraldine A. Nobes  
Happy Birthday in Heaven  
Requested by Adrienne

In loving memory of my son and brother, Paul D.  
Hickman on his 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary in Heaven  
Requested by his mom, Janet and sister, Kim

In loving memory of Donald Dooley  
Requested by Angela Matchko

### 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

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

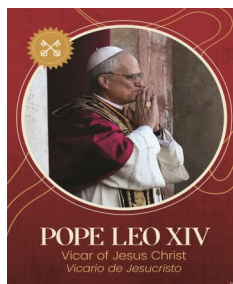


*The parish family of Saint Anthony of Padua  
welcomes*

*James Patrick Calabrese*

*who received the Sacrament of Baptism,  
a sacrament of promise and welcome on  
Sunday, August 3, 2025*

*We thank his parents, Christopher and Carly,  
for choosing life.*



## Pope's Intention for August:

For mutual coexistence. Let us pray that societies where coexistence seems more difficult might not succumb to the temptation of confrontation for ethnic, political, religious, or ideological reasons.

### PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS

August 11 Reverend Thomas Odorizzi  
Reverend Thomas Naduviledathu

August 12 Reverend Mark Kehow  
Monsignor Sylvester Cronin

August 13 Reverend Jason Pavich  
Monsignor Joseph Celano

August 14 Monsignor John Fell  
Reverend Pauly Thekkan

August 15 Our Holy Father

August 16 Very Reverend Thomas Walsh  
Reverend James De Fillipps

August 17 Reverend John Morley  
Reverend Ariel Bautista, Jr.



### 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,  
Justin Carpentieri, Alyssa Dohanyos,  
John Dohanyos, Mark Emanuele, Frank Fernandez,  
Larry Golden, Kim Hickman, Keeba Johnson,  
Lynn Killmurray, Jonathan Marcela,  
Carmen Margiotto, Heather Marrone Fabio,  
Robert Joseph Meade IV, David Russell,  
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.**

### Pray for Peace!

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



Vincent R. Martino, a life-long resident and parishioner of Saint Anthony of Padua, was honored posthumously with the naming of the newly constructed Port Reading park on July 23 by Woodbridge Township for his dedication to our local community.

Our second FALL Festival is being planned for Sunday, October 12 following the 11:15AM Mass. If you would like to help, share your talents, and volunteer for this festive event, please contact the parish office.

*Thank you to all who attended The Feast of Saint Justin Maria Russolillo, the founder of the Society of Divine Vocations is on Saturday, August 2 at the Shrine of Saint Justin in Branchville, N.J.*



## 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**

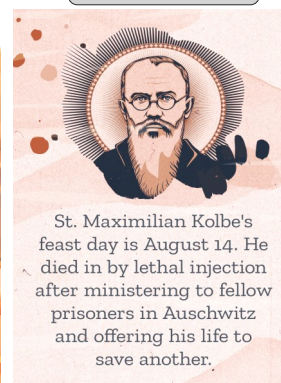
Thank you for your generosity and support of our **ADOPT A BACKPACK PROJECT!**

August 11



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

August 14



August 13

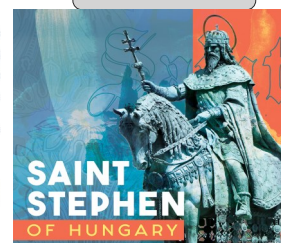


**AUGUST 15**

### **The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

*This feast day commemorates Mary's body and soul taken directly to heaven.*

August 16





## FOOD PANTRY MINISTRY

**The next Food Pantry Distribution is  
Wednesday, August 20**

### 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.

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

### *Stewardship: God's Plan for Giving*

**Sunday, August 3, 2025**

|                          |            |
|--------------------------|------------|
| In-person donations..... | \$4,296.00 |
| On-line donations.....   | \$1,378.00 |
| Total.....               | \$5,674.00 |

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

### *Stewardship*

*"For where your treasure is, there also will  
your heart be." Luke 12:34*

Jesus encourages us to build up our treasure in heaven. The world encourages us to build up our treasure in real estate, investments, and material goods. How much time are you investing in building up a worldly treasure? How much time are you investing in building up a heavenly treasure? To invest more in the things of heaven, you must let go of some of the things of this world.



**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](http://www.saintanthonypadua.org)**

**\*\*\*REGISTRATION**  
**is Pass DUE\*\*\***

**For the staff to prepare accordingly,**  
**please return your registration**  
**Immediately**

**Sessions begin on**  
**Wednesday, September 17**

## This Week at Saint Anthony of Padua

### Monday, August 11    **Back Pack/ School Supplies Drive**

|              |                  |                   |
|--------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Summer Break | 6:30AM           | Father Milos Hall |
| <b>Mass</b>  | <b>7:30AM</b>    | <b>Chapel</b>     |
| <b>BINGO</b> | <b>CANCELLED</b> |                   |

### Tuesday, August 12

|              |               |                   |
|--------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Summer Break | 6:30AM        | Father Milos Hall |
| <b>Mass</b>  | <b>7:30AM</b> | <b>Chapel</b>     |
| AA           | 7:30PM        | Father Milos Hall |

### Wednesday, August 13

|              |               |                   |
|--------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Summer Break | 6:30AM        | Father Milos Hall |
| <b>Mass</b>  | <b>7:30AM</b> | <b>Chapel</b>     |

### Thursday, August 14

|              |               |                   |
|--------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Summer Break | 6:30AM        | Father Milos Hall |
| <b>Mass</b>  | <b>7:30AM</b> | <b>Chapel</b>     |
| AA           | 8:00PM        | Father Milos Hall |

### Friday, August 15                      **The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

|              |                |                   |
|--------------|----------------|-------------------|
| Summer Break | 6:30AM         | Father Milos Hall |
| <b>Mass</b>  | <b>7:00AM</b>  | <b>Church</b>     |
| <b>Mass</b>  | <b>12:15PM</b> | <b>Church</b>     |
| <b>Mass</b>  | <b>7:00PM</b>  | <b>Church</b>     |

### Saturday, August 16

|                   |               |                   |
|-------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| <b>Confession</b> | <b>3:00PM</b> | <b>Church</b>     |
| <b>Mass</b>       | <b>4:00PM</b> | <b>Church</b>     |
| NA                | 7:30PM        | Father Milos Hall |

### Sunday, August 17

|             |                |               |
|-------------|----------------|---------------|
| <b>Mass</b> | <b>8:30AM</b>  | <b>Church</b> |
| <b>Mass</b> | <b>11:30AM</b> | <b>Church</b> |



**Sunday, November 16**  
**Queen for a Day Tricky Tray Auction**

To help prepare for this fundraiser, if you find such items as baskets, home goods, or other items that you no longer have a use for, consider donating them to church. New items can be repurposed for church activities. Contact the parish office with questions 732-634-1403.



**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, August 11    **Back Pack/ School Supplies Drive**

|    |         |          |
|----|---------|----------|
| NA | 11:00AM | Basement |
|----|---------|----------|

### Tuesday, August 12

|    |         |          |
|----|---------|----------|
| NA | 11:00AM | Basement |
|----|---------|----------|

### Wednesday, August 13

|    |         |          |
|----|---------|----------|
| NA | 11:00AM | Basement |
|----|---------|----------|

### Thursday, August 14

|    |         |          |
|----|---------|----------|
| NA | 11:00AM | Basement |
|----|---------|----------|

### Friday, August 15                      **The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

|             |               |               |
|-------------|---------------|---------------|
| <b>Mass</b> | <b>8:30AM</b> | <b>Church</b> |
| NA          | 11:00AM       | Basement      |

### Saturday, August 16

|                   |               |               |
|-------------------|---------------|---------------|
| <b>Mass</b>       | <b>8:30AM</b> | <b>Church</b> |
| <b>Confession</b> | <b>9:00AM</b> | <b>Church</b> |

### Sunday, August 17

|             |                |               |
|-------------|----------------|---------------|
| <b>Mass</b> | <b>10:00AM</b> | <b>Church</b> |
|-------------|----------------|---------------|

## Liturgical Minister Schedule

*at Saint Anthony of Padua*

### EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

|          |           |         |                  |
|----------|-----------|---------|------------------|
| Saturday | August 16 | 4:00PM  | A. and F. Fowler |
|          |           |         | R. Masters       |
| Sunday   | August 17 | 8:30AM  | M. Martino       |
|          |           |         | C. and E. Weiman |
|          |           | 11:30AM | B. Cuzzo         |
|          |           |         | J. Mulvaney      |
|          |           |         | B. Sorbanelli    |

### READERS

|          |           |         |                      |
|----------|-----------|---------|----------------------|
| Saturday | August 16 | 4:00PM  | R. McNamara          |
| Sunday   | August 17 | 8:30AM  | G. and GC. Onukwugha |
|          |           | 11:30AM | M. Trebour           |

### SERVERS

|        |           |        |                  |
|--------|-----------|--------|------------------|
| Sunday | August 17 | 8:30AM | A. and A. Weiman |
|--------|-----------|--------|------------------|

*at Our Lady of Mount Carmel*

### READER

|        |           |         |          |
|--------|-----------|---------|----------|
| Sunday | August 17 | 10:00AM | C. Dizon |
|--------|-----------|---------|----------|

### 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](mailto:info.stanthony1@gmail.com)



*If you have a special intention and would like to donate a flower arrangement, contact the parish office for further information.*