



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

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

GRANDPARENTS' DAY

CELEBRATING GENERATIONS



LIVESTREAM EVENTS from SAINT ANTHONY OF PADUA PARISH

Weekend Mass Sunday: 11:30AM Daily Mass Monday through Friday: 7:30AM
Visit www.saintanthonypadua.org Click on the YouTube link



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

Pastor: pastorofstanthonypa@gmail.com
Office and Food Pantry: info.StAnthony1@gmail.com
Religious Education: religious.StAnthony1@gmail.com
Bulletin: bulletin.stanthony@gmail.com

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	

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 7, 2025



From the desk of Fr. Cyril Offiong, SDV

ORA ET LABORA: PRAY AND WORK

Dear brothers and sisters,

We are all still reflecting on the horrific and tragic shooting during a school opening Mass at the Church of the Annunciation in Minneapolis, MN. Words truly cannot express the sorrow of the surviving victims, their families, and the whole parish and school community. Both on the internet and in individual conversations, the most widely searched and asked question is **“if there is God and if God is good, knows all things and can do all things, how can He allow such evil to happen?”** This is “The Problem of Evil” (you can read my reflection on this topic in the bulletin of February 2, 2025, the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord). The truth, my dear friends, is that we will never fully comprehend this tragedy. Personally, I do not have a perfect answer to this. As we reflect on the pain and suffering of these families, we also think about the reality of **human free will**. The gunman chose to do this. This crime is on him. To this, people say, **“God could still have stopped him.”** Difficult as this may sound, God respects our free will even to this tragic point.

The problem of evil, especially when little children are involved, remains a profound challenge, even for faithful Christians. The Bible does not shy away from suffering. The story of Job stands as a response to this problem of evil (I invite you to consider reading the Book of Job. It is short and easy to read). Job, a righteous and upright man, loses his whole family and property but in his suffering and agony, he does not lose faith. The experience of Job shows that suffering is not necessarily a punishment for wrongdoing. God’s response to Job’s sufferings also reveals the fact that God’s will and plan are mysterious and sometimes beyond our human understanding. Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ Himself suffered greatly and, through His suffering, redeemed the world. Suffering is part of our Christian journey, but God does not abandon us in our pain. Our response as Christians is not to try to explain away suffering, but to stand with those who are hurting, offering comfort, presence, and the hope that God is still at work even in the darkest days. ‘The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit’ (Psalm 34:18). While we may struggle to make any sense of this painful situation, let us lift our hearts and minds to God in prayer.

We have also heard the voices of those who, in their disgust and anger, have rejected the call to prayer. They say that **“this is not a time for thoughts and prayers. This is a time for action.”** Our current political climate makes people, even those who profess the Christian faith, reject prayer as if it were opposed to action. But this is not a political issue. This is a spiritual issue. As Saint Paul says in his Letter to the Ephesians ‘our struggle is not with flesh and blood but with the principalities, with the powers, with the world rulers of this present darkness, with the evil spirits in the heavens’ (Ephesian 6:12). A lot of work still needs to be done, beginning with our individual families, with our local communities, and with our state and federal leaders. Mental illness, the proliferation of guns, radical individualism, and all other critical issues need to be addressed. However, this struggle will not be overcome solely by our human efforts and actions. We do not have to choose between prayer and action. Our Catholic Faith, as expressed in the Benedictine motto **“Ora et Labora,”** a Latin phrase which means **“Pray and Work,”** teaches us who believe in Christ to pray and work. In this difficult and painful time, we pray to surrender ourselves to God. We pray for peace and consolation for the victims and their families. We pray for wisdom, courage, and strength to take the actions necessary to address this tragedy. The Pastor of the Church and the principal of the school, in their response to this painful event, asked people to **‘please lift up these families and these children in prayer and surround them and each other with your love during this difficult time...In this time of darkness, let us commit to being the Light to our children, each other, and our community. We will rebuild our future filled with hope - together.’** This is the response of believers.

May we not be overcome by evil. Let us overcome evil with good.

Our Lady, comforter of the afflicted! Pray for us.

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

Saturday 4:00PM	September 6 Carmen Pagliuca (Birthday) Requested by daughter, Marie	
Sunday 8:30AM	September 7 Mary Romano Requested by Laurie Tulko	<i>Grandparents Day</i>
11:30AM	Frank and Olga Iacovone Requested by the Kondrk and McQueeney families	
Monday 7:30AM	September 8 Janice Ciardiello Requested by her loving husband, Sal	<i>Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>
Tuesday 7:30AM	September 9 Cyril Legagneur (living intention) Requested by Marie Laforest	<i>Saint Peter Claver</i>
Wednesday 7:30AM	September 10 Renee Szatkowski Requested by Robin Bischoff	
Thursday 7:30AM	September 11 Jeffrey Pagliuca Requested by Pat Russo	<i>Patriot Day</i>
Friday 7:30AM	September 12 Louise Hamilton Requested by John and Holly Pagliuca	<i>The Most Holy Name of Mary</i>
Saturday 4:00PM	September 13 Louis N. Masters Requested by Loretta Napoli	<i>Saint John Chrysostom</i>
Sunday 8:30AM	September 14 Eleanor Pagliuca Requested by Deacon Joey and Beth Perlas	
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	September 6 Deceased members of the former Altar Rosary Society	
Sunday 10:00AM	September 7 People of the parish family	<i>Grandparents Day</i>
Saturday 8:30AM	September 13 Genaro Lansang Requested by Beth and Joey Perlas	
Sunday 10:00AM	September 14 John Moricz requested by his loving mother, Margaret	



September 7, 2025
Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

This Week's Scripture Readings

Sunday:	Wisdom 9:13-18b Psalms 90:3-6, 12-17 Philemon 9-10, 12-17 Luke 14:25-33
Monday:	Micah 5:1-4a or Romans 8:28-30 Psalms 13:6abc Matthew 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23
Tuesday:	Colossians 2:6-15 Psalms 145:1b-2, 8-11 Luke 6:12-19
Wednesday:	Colossians 3:1-11 Psalms 145:2-3, 10-13b Luke 6:20-26
Thursday:	Colossians 3:12-17 Psalms 150:1b-6 Luke 6:27-38
Friday:	1 Timothy 1:1-2, 12-14 Psalms 16:1b-2a, 5, 7-8, 11 Luke 6:39-42
Saturday:	1 Timothy 1:15-17 Psalms 113:1b-7 Luke 6:43-49
Sunday:	Numbers 21:4b-9 Psalms 78:1b-2, 34-38 Philippians 2:6-11 John 3:13-17





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 Brian Fee

Requested by John and Holly Pagliuca

In memory of our beloved grandparents,

Requested by Stanley and Eileen Gurney

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



In a short time summer will be ending,
Eucharistic Adoration will resume again each
Thursday, in the Chapel of Saint Anthony
beginning on September 11 at 2:30pm.

We need your help!

The Blessed Sacrament is required to be secure
when out of the tabernacle, therefore someone
must remain with the Blessed Sacrament at all
times. If you are available to help, coverage is
needed in 30 minute intervals from **2:30pm to
6:00pm.** Please contact Angela Fowler
at 732- 371-2862 if you can help.

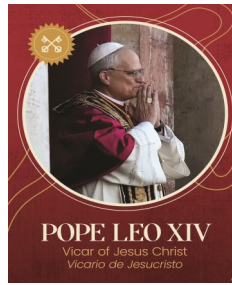
The Chapel is also open for private prayer time.

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



Pope's Intention for September:

For our relationship with all of
creation. Let us pray that, inspired
by Saint Francis, we might
experience our interdependence with
all creatures who are loved by God
and worthy of love and respect.

PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS

September 8 Reverend Roberto Coruna
Reverend Tholitho

September 9 Reverend Justin Akkara
Reverend Jan Bernas



September 10 Reverend Zeno Bochnak
Reverend Sebastian Kaithackal

September 11 Reverend Stanley Gromadzki
Reverend David E. Keyes

September 12 Reverend Krzysztof Kaczynski
Reverend Matthew Paratore

September 13 Monsignor Gregory Malovetz
Reverend Willliam Smith

September 14 Bishop Emeritus Paul G. Bootkoski

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 Champion,
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.**

The **Corona Self Help Center** is a free in-patient recovery home dedicated to helping young men overcome drug and alcohol addiction. They focus on the physical, mental, and spiritual well-being of individuals, with a vision to continuously improve the recovery process for those struggling with addiction.

On weekend of **September 13 and 14**, representatives will visit our parish, to share their mission - to prevent addiction and its severe consequences through testimonies. As a non-profit organization, the center has a fundraiser and sells T-shirts.

Any donation would be greatly appreciated.

Do you know someone who has a problem with drugs AND WANTS TO STOP USING?
The Corona Self Help Center, Inc.
Drogadictos Anónimos

FREE SERVICES
 Not only does a drug addict destroy his life,
 He ignores it !
CALL US! WE ARE HERE TO HELP!
Group
Manhattan
 1810 Brooklyn Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11210
www.daamerica.org
1 (718) 507-7459

**** SAINT ANTHONY OF PADUA ****
Second FALL FESTIVAL

Save the date:
Sunday, October 12, 2025
to be held following the
11:30AM Mass in Father Milos Hall
and on Parish grounds

Many helpful hands and ideas are needed to plan this parish event!

A planning meeting is scheduled for
Wednesday, September 10
at 6:30PM in Father Milos Hall
Hope to see you there!

If you would like to help, share your talents, and volunteer for this festive event, then contact the parish office at
732-634-1403

Celebração de Ação de Graças pela Ordenação Sacerdotal do
PE. LAURO COLEN SEDLMAYER

Celebration of Thanksgiving for the Priestly Ordination of

Com grande alegria e gratidão a Deus, o Pe. Lauro Colen Sedlmayer convida para celebrar com ele os 40 anos de sacerdócio, marcados por dedicação, amor e serviço à missão recebida. Ele foi ordenado sacerdote na festa de São Miguel Arcanjo, padroeiro da sua ordenação Sacerdotal, 29 de Setembro de 1985.

LOCAL / Location:
Saint Anthony of Padua Church
 436 Port Reading Avenue
 Port Reading, NJ 07064

27 6PM
 Setembro / September 2025

JANTAR:
 SERVIDO LOGO APÓS A MISSA, SALÃO ANEXO A IGREJA
 PREPARADO PELO RESTAURANTE VALENÇA, ELIZABETH

BUFFER DINNER:
 SERVED IMMEDIATELY AFTER MASS IN THE HALL NEXT TO THE CHURCH
 PREPARED BY VALENÇA RESTAURANT, ELIZABETH

With great joy and gratitude to God, Father Lauro Colen Sedlmayer invites you to celebrate with him 40 years of priesthood, marked by dedication, love, and service to the mission entrusted to him. He was ordained a priest on the feast of Saint Michael the Archangel, the patron saint of his ordination, on September 29, 1985.

PREÇOS / PRICES
 Adultos / Adults: **\$75.00**
 Crianças / Children (6-12): **\$40.00**

DIOCESAN JUBILEE PILGRIMAGES

JUBILEE 2025

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2025
 Radio icon Kevin Matthews shares the inspiring story behind his book "Mary's Roadie" and how a broken statue of Mary changed his life.
Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi
 548 Main Street, Metuchen, NJ 08840
 7:00 PM: Praise and worship, Eucharistic Adoration, talk and book signing with Kevin Matthews

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2025
 108th Anniversary of the Fifth Apparition of Our Lady of Fatima
National Blue Army Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima
 674 Mountain View Road E, Asbury, NJ 08802
 12:30 PM: Talk by Kevin Matthews
 1:15 PM: Holy Mass with celebrant, Most Rev. James F. Checchio

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2025
 Diocesan Jubilee Pilgrimage to Washington, D.C.
Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception
 400 Michigan Avenue, Northeast, Washington, DC 20017
 with Most Rev. James F. Checchio, JCD, MBA
 Bishop of Diocese of Metuchen, NJ

SCAN FOR MORE INFO:

Call parish office at 732-634-1403 for tickets.

FOOD PANTRY MINISTRY

**The next Food Pantry Distribution is
Wednesday, September 17**

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 24 , 2025

In-person donations.....	\$3,365.00
On-line donations.....	\$1,150.00
Total.....	\$4,515.00

**Due to early submission of the bulletin
August 31, 2025 will be posted at a later date.**

Note: The Vocationist collection (in a blue envelope marked September 2025 in your packet). is scheduled for the weekend of September 20.

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

Stewardship

*"Everyone of you who does not renounce all
his possessions cannot be my disciple."
Luke 14:33*

When we first hear this statement, it seems that Jesus is making an unrealistic demand upon us. How can we renounce all of our possessions? We need them to live. However, what we must renounce is the belief that they belong to us. Everything that we have belongs to God alone. All of our resources are entrusted to us not only for our own use, but also so that we can help others. Once we renounce the idea that we possess or are entitled to anything, it is much easier to share the many gifts that God has given us. Then we truly are His Disciples.



FAITH FORMATION

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

PARENT MEETINGS:

Monday, September 15 in Church

at 6:00pm Level 1 First Penance

and Level 2 First Communion

at 7:00pm Level 2 Confirmation

at 7:30pm Level 1 Confirmation

A schedule of sessions will be distributed.

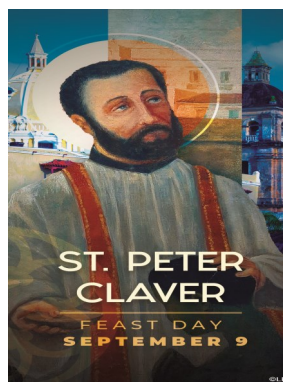
Growing In Faith Together

Wednesday, September 24 at 6:00pm

Birthday Blessing for September



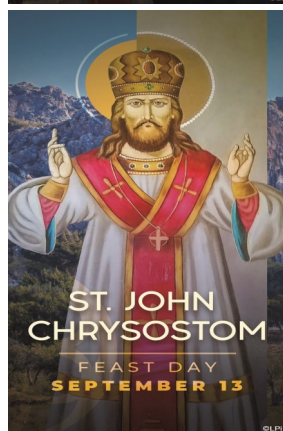
As a parish family we rejoice and celebrate the gifts of life and love that God has given to us all. We offer to all those celebrating their birthdays this month our best wishes and prayers that God many continue to bless them abundantly in the years ahead.



*Did you know these
religious figures have
a feast day this week?*



September 12



This Week at Saint Anthony of Padua

Monday, September 8

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

Tuesday, September 9

Mass	7:30AM	Chapel
AA	7:30PM	Father Milos Hall

Wednesday, September 10

Mass	7:30AM	Chapel
Fall Festival Planning Meeting		
	6:30PM	Father Milos Hall

Thursday, September 11

Mass	7:30AM	Chapel
Eucharistic Adoration	2:30PM	Chapel
Chaplet/Rosary	3:00PM	Chapel
AA	8:00PM	Father Milos Hall

Friday, September 12

Mass	7:30AM	Church
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Saturday, September 13

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

Sunday, September 14

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

This Week at Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Monday, September 8

NA	11:00AM	Basement
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Tuesday, September 9

NA	11:00AM	Basement
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Wednesday, September 10

NA	11:00AM	Basement
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Thursday, September 11

NA	11:00AM	Basement
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Friday, September 12

NA	11:00AM	Basement
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Saturday, September 13

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

Sunday, September 14

Mass	10:00AM	Church
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Liturgical Minister Schedule

at Saint Antony of Padua

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

Saturday	September 13	4:00PM	A. and F. Fowler R. Masters
Sunday	September 14	8:30AM	A. and D. Anderson H. Pagliuca
		11:30AM	B. Sorbanelli J. Mulvaney L. Palasits

READERS

Saturday	September 13	4:00PM	T. Casey
Sunday	September 14	8:30AM	D. Vitaliano
		11:30AM	G. Grispart

SERVERS

Saturday	September 13	4:00PM	B. Banko
Sunday	September 14	8:30AM	C. C. C. Onukwugha

at Our Lady of Mount Carmel

READER

Sunday	September 14	10:00AM	V. Ruskai
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Dearest St. Anthony Parishioners,

Thank you so much for your generosity and support of our annual Baby Bottle Blessings Campaign!
CHRIST is alive and present here!

Your beautiful hearts raised an amazing **\$2,012.32!**
YOUR generosity was overwhelming, and words cannot express our gratitude to you!

Your gifts enable us to continue serving mothers and families by providing the practical, emotional, and spiritual support they need when faced with a difficult or unplanned pregnancy or just needs a hand to help right now. Your **LIFE** affirming support gives families hope! **YOU** have always celebrated **LIFE** in a **BIG** way right alongside us! **GOD loves you sooo much!**

You are making a difference in the lives of many of God's people – born and unborn. You are helping to save lives and transform hearts right here in our own community. God bless you!

*Please know that you are in our daily prayers of Thanksgiving.
Your friends at,*

life choices
RESOURCE CENTER

LifeChoicesRC.com

If you require a letter for tax purposes, please call our office at 732-516-0911

