



THE PARISH FAMILY OF SAINT ANTHONY OF PADUA

THE JUBILEE YEAR OF SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI



OCTOBER 11, 2026 | 28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

OUR PARISH CONTACTS

436 Port Reading Avenue
Port Reading, NJ 07064
732-634-1403

www.saintanthonypadua.org

Administrator | Father Cyril Offiong, SDV
email: pastorofstanthonypr@gmail.com

Pastor Emeritus Father Bill Smith, K.C.H.S.

Deacons | Peter Barcellona
| Michael Brucatto
| Joey Perlas

Administrative Assistant | Juliann Reveillac
email: info.stanthony1@gmail.com

Bulletin Coordinator
email: bulletin.stanthony@gmail.com

Maintenance & Custodian | Alfonso Lozano

Receptionist | Adrienne Simeone

Religious Education Coordinator
religioused.stanthony@gmail.com

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday - Friday | 7:30am (St. Anthony)
Saturday | 8:30am (OLMC)
| 4:00pm (St. Anthony)
Sunday | 8:30am, 11:30am (St. Anthony)
| 10:00am (OLMC)

CONFESSION

Saturday | 9:00am - 9:30am (OLMC)
Saturday | 3:00pm - 3:30pm (St. Anthony)
Other | By Appointment

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday | 8:00am - 3:00pm
Friday | 8:00am - 12:00pm
Closed for lunch | 12:30pm - 1:00pm



28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Come to the feast." - Mt 22:4bc

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

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OUR MISSION

The Parish Family of St. Anthony of Padua is a diverse community of faith formed in July 2012 when Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church, Woodbridge (est. 1920) and St. Anthony of Padua Church, Port Reading (est. 1904) merged. We proclaim the "Good News" of Jesus Christ and the beliefs of the Roman Catholic Church. We are committed to maintaining worship as a powerful experience of God's presence through word, sacrament, music, and community. We have a passion for social justice and our duties toward all people. We enrich the faith of those in need through a variety of ministries. We strive to be a beacon of faith, hope, and love while honoring God's presence in every person.

There are no Strangers at St. Anthony's - Only Friends We Haven't Met!



PRAYER AND READINGS

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MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday - October 10

8:30am | †Dr. Cezar Dan Malig (OLMC)
by Deacon Joey and Beth Perlas

4:00pm | †People of the Parish family

Sunday - October 11

8:30am | †Donald Anderson - Happy Birthday
by Douglas and Angela Anderson

10:00am | †Helen Dudash (OLMC)
by her loving family

11:30am | †Karen Kraph - loving mother-in-law
by Amy Kraph

Monday - October 12

8:30am | †John Pannone
by daughters,
Pat Russo and Lorri Casabianca

Tuesday - October 13

7:30am | †Richie Simeone
by wife, Adrienne

Wednesday - October 14 *Saint Callistus I, Pope*

7:30am | †Theresa "Terri" Seibert
by Adrienne Simeone

Thursday - October 15 *Saint Teresa of Jesus*

7:30am | †Stephen Filip Fedison - 29th anniversary
by Mom and his brothers

Friday - October 16 *Saint Hedwig*

7:30am | †Theresa "Terri" Seibert
by Amy Krapf

Saturday - October 17 *Saint Ignatius of Antioch*

8:30am | †Rey Passigna - Living Intention - (OLMC)
by Ray and Cherri Gumapac

4:00pm | †Steve Drakoulis
by wife, Linda and children

Sunday - October 18 *World Mission Sunday*

8:30am | †Annie Smith
by Patsy, Nina, and Marie DeLauro

10:00am | †People of the Parish family - (OLMC)

11:30am | †Jack Krapf
by wife, Amy Kraph



THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Sunday

Isaiah 25:6-10a
Psalms 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6
Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20
Matthew 22:1-14, or 22:1-10

Monday

Galatians 4:22-24, 26-27,
31-5:1
Psalms 113:1b-2, 3-4, 5a, 6-7
Luke 11:29-32

Tuesday

Galatians 5:1-6
Psalms 119:41, 43, 44, 45,
47, 48
Luke 11:37-41

Wednesday

Galatians 5:18-25
Psalms 1:1-2, 3, 4, 6
Luke 11:42-46

Thursday

Ephesians 1:1-10
Psalms 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-
4, 5-6
Luke 11:47-54

Friday

Ephesians 1:11-14
Psalms 33:1-2, 4-5,
12-13
Luke 12:1-7

Saturday

Ephesians 1:15-23
Psalms 8:2-3ab, 4-5, 6-7
Luke 12:8-12

Next Sunday

Isaiah 45:1, 4-6
Psalms 96:1, 3, 4-5, 7-8,
9-10
1 Thessalonians 1:1-5b
Matthew 22:15-21



**This week's Altar flowers at
Saint Anthony of Padua**



**May God continue to bless
Father Cyril Offiong, SDV
as he celebrates his 10th Anniversary of
his Ordination to the Priesthood**



THE WEDDING BANQUET OF HEAVEN AND EARTH

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

These words from an entrance song for Mass, **“Come to the feast of heaven and earth. Come to the table of plenty,”** come to mind as I reflect on this Sunday’s Gospel. Our Lord Jesus teaches His disciples about the kingdom of God using a parable of a king who prepares a magnificent banquet for his son. **The King is God our Father, the Son is our Lord Jesus Christ, and those invited are the whole of Humanity.** Sacred Scripture often uses the metaphor of marriage to express God’s loving union with His people: “for as a young man marries a virgin, your Builder shall marry you; and as a bridegroom rejoices in his bride, so shall your God rejoice in you” (Isaiah 62:5).

The king’s joyful invitation is met with excuses: some guests are indifferent, some are distracted, and others are hostile. When the invited guests reject his invitation, the king opens the doors and invites all kinds of people to fill the banquet hall. God prepares His feast and invites us, but we must say yes.

It is fitting that this year’s theme for our parish’s Growing in Faith Together Faith Formation process is **“Our Family Journey with the Holy Mass.”** The wedding banquet symbolizes the Eucharistic Feast, where Christ the Bridegroom gives Himself completely to His Bride, the Church. Every Sunday, God invites our families to “come to the feast,” where heaven and earth enter into communion. Yet in our busy world, families can resemble the invited guests in this parable. We may allow distractions, fatigue, and competing priorities to make us treat Sunday Mass as optional. When I ask families why they were not at Mass, I often hear responses such as, “we were at Grandma’s this weekend. Johnny had baseball, Tricia had dance practice, or we were just tired.” These activities are not wrong; the issue is the priority we give them. Our Lord Jesus reminds us that the Divine Wedding Banquet is where we worship, honor, and glorify God and where He, in turn, nourishes and strengthens us.

One year, Nigeria’s Children’s Day fell on a Sunday. We wanted to enjoy the events, but we also did not want to miss Holy Mass, so my dad let us attend the celebrations and later took us to the cathedral for evening Mass. Through that simple action, my late father taught my younger brother and me that we could honor our Sunday obligation while fulfilling our other commitments.

The Church teaches that attending Mass on Sundays and Holy Days is an obligation of love that we have to God. **Therefore, by intentionally neglecting this obligation, we sin against God because we are refusing His invitation to communion with Him.**

Our Lord Jesus ends the parable with the king ordering that a guest without a **“Wedding Garment”** be thrown out. The wedding garment is a life shaped by God’s grace through holiness, kindness, forgiveness, prayer, service, and commitment to the Church’s mission. And so, the Church teaches that we must receive the Holy Eucharist properly disposed and in a state of grace. Our participation in the heavenly banquet must, therefore, be sincere, dignified and worthy of this great mystery:

May we never take God’s invitation for granted. Let every family place faithful participation in the Holy Mass above competing obligations. With the psalmist, let us say, “I rejoiced when they said to me, ‘Let us go to the house of the LORD’” (Psalm 122:1). When God calls us to His table, may our response always be, “Yes, Lord, we will come to the feast.”

PARISH LIFE

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VOTIVE CANDLES

BURN CONSTANTLY AS A FORM OF PRAYER AND ADORATION. THE CANDLES BURNING THIS WEEK ARE DEDICATED ...

GOOD SHEPHERD

In loving memory of Gordon and Ann Ur
and John Patrick and Owen
Requested by their loving family

In loving memory of my husband, Richie Simeone
Requested by his loving wife, Adrienne

CROSS OF SAN DOMIANO

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

In loving memory of Carmen, Eleanor,
and Jeffrey Pagliuca
Requested by their loving family

SANCTUARY LAMP



TABERNACLE

In loving memory of
Theresa "Terri" Seibert
Requested by Adrienne Simeone

God Bless Father Cyril on his 10th
anniversary to the priesthood
Requested by Stanley and Eileen Gurney

PRAY FOR PRIESTS

OCTOBER 11 Bishop James Checchio

OCTOBER 12 Reverend Louis F. Stingel
Reverend Vincent P. Chen

OCTOBER 13 Reverend Michael Gromadzki
Reverend Arlindo Da Silva

OCTOBER 14 Reverend Maurice Carlton
Reverend John Hillier

OCTOBER 15 Reverend Gerardo Paderon
Reverend John J. Morley

OCTOBER 16 Reverend John Gloss
Reverend J. Michael Venditti

OCTOBER 17 Reverend Czeslaw Zalubski
Reverend Joseph Illes



STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

"My God will fully supply whatever you need..."
Philippians 4:19

God really does provide for those who are grateful and generous. This is very difficult for people that don't live a stewardship lifestyle to believe. People are skeptical and say it's just coincidence if you are skeptical, try living a stewardship lifestyle for just one month - be generous with your gifts of time in prayer, talent in charitable works, and treasure, then see how God provides for your needs.

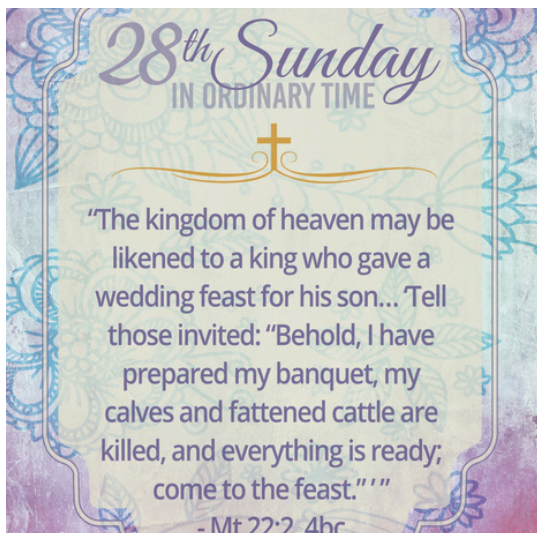
STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

WEEK OF OCTOBER 4, 2026

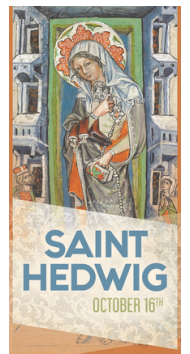
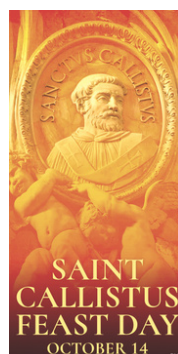
In-person donations	\$4,468
On-line donations	<u>\$1,680</u>
Weekly Total	\$5,048

DONATE ONLINE

Donating online is easy! Just aim your phone camera at the QR Code and follow the link. Thank you for being so supportive!



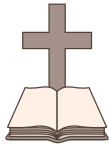
DID YOU KNOW THESE SAINTS ARE HONORED DURING THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 11?



MINISTRY UPDATES

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FAITH FORMATION



G.I.F.T. AND SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION PROGRAMS

G.I.F.T

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24 AT 4:00PM AND SUNDAY,
OCTOBER 25 AT 8:30AM AND 11:30AM
(G.I.F.T. FAMILY MASS)**

LEVEL ONE AND LEVEL TWO CONFIRMATION

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19 AT 6:30PM

LEVEL ONE FIRST PENANCE

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 26 AT 6:20PM
(TOUR OF CHURCH - PARENT AND STUDENT)**

LEVEL ONE RITE OF COMMITMENT MASS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24 AT 4:00PM

LEVEL TWO FIRST COMMUNION

MONDAY, OCTOBER 26 AT 6:20PM



EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17 4:00PM

A. and F. Fowler, R. Masters

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18 8:30AM

S. Gadomski, C. and E. Weiman

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18 11:30AM

B. Cuzzo, G. Grispart, J. Kondrk



READERS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17 4:00PM

J. Schultz

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18 8:30AM

G. and G.C. Onukwugba

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18-OLMC 10:00AM

J. Dixon

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18 11:30AM

J. Ramos



ALTAR SERVERS

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18 8:30AM

A. and Al. Weiman

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18 11:30AM

A. Boelhower, F. Calabrese



FOOD PANTRY MINISTRY

FOOD PANTRY DISTRIBUTION

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21

In preparation for next month's Thanksgiving Food Distribution, the following seasonal items are suggested donations:

- Cake mix and cake icing
- Canned or packaged Sweet or White Potatoes
- Canned carrots, corn, mixed vegetables, peas, string beans
- Canned pumpkin
- Corn muffin mix
- Cranberry sauce
- Jello or pudding boxes
- Turkey gravy



ITEMS MOST NEEDED ARE:

Canned Fruit	Pork & Beans	Peanut Butter
Canned Meats	Rice	Pork & Beans
Canned Tuna	Tomato Sauce	Rice
Cereal	Pancake Mix	Tomato Sauce
Jelly	Pancake Syrup	

- Always accepted are toiletry and household items, such as: body wash, soap, toilet paper, toothpaste, dish detergent, laundry detergent, and paper towels.
- Monetary donations are gratefully accepted.

If you know someone who would like assistance, contact the parish office 732-634-1403 or email: info.StAnthony1@gmail.com

PRAY FOR

OUR SICK, HOMEBOUND, AND MILITARY PARISHIONERS
PRAY... FOR OUR PARISHIONERS RESIDING IN
NURSING HOMES AND CARE CENTERS, THE SICK
AND HOMEBOUND:



Cristino E. Abasolo III, Anonymous, Nancy C. Bunavage, John Campion, Justin Carpentieri, Allison Cohen, Steven DeNoyelles, Beth Dispoto, Alyssa Dohanyos, John Dohanyos, Mark Emanuele, Heather Marrone Fabio, Bob Glatt, Larry Golden, Kim Hickman, Keeba Johnson, Lynn Killmurray, Kathryn Korin, Alfred Leone, Jonathan Marcela, Heather Marrone Fabio, Robert Joseph Meade IV, Richard J. Palasits, Sr., 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

NEWS AND EVENTS

6

Be a Champion for Catholic Charities

As a CHAMPION for CATHOLIC CHARITIES, you are a champion in every sense of the word. Through your financial support, you provide a warm bed for someone who is homeless...food for a hungry child... emergency aid for a disaster victim...and help for a family in crisis; all of which truly makes you a champion in our eyes and in the eyes of those we serve. Please join our team today and become a CHAMPION for CATHOLIC CHARITIES by making a gift or purchasing a raffle ticket. Go to www.diometuchen.org/champions to make a gift or download a raffle form to purchase a ticket. Every gift, no matter the size, is important and greatly appreciated. Checks should be made payable to Champions for Catholic Charities and mailed to Champions for Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen, PO Box 191, Metuchen, NJ 08840-0191. Question may be directed to champions@diometuchen.org or by phone 732-562-2432.

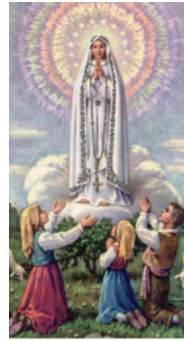


WALK FOR LIFE
TAKE A WALK, SAVE A LIFE!
OCTOBER 24, 2026
9:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.
MERRILL PARK, ISELIN
THE GAZEBO
KICK-OFF AT 9 A.M. SHARP
Calling all YOUTH GROUPS, CCD STUDENTS & FAMILIES!
DJ, breakfast food & refreshments
Register or Donate: LifeChoicesRC.com
Call or Text: (732) 516-0911
Life Choices (READING CENTER)



Father Cyril blessed parishioner's pets on Saturday, October 3 on the 800th birthday of St. Francis of Assisi

Our Lady of Fatima Candlelight Procession



All are invited to attend this annual event on Sunday, October 11, 2026 gathering at the Our Lady of Fatima Church, located at 501 New Market Road in Piscataway, NJ at 6:30 PM. There will be a program following the procession in the church. The procession begins at 7:00 PM. The Rosary will be recited in the Church for those unable to walk in the procession. Rosaries, candles, and handkerchiefs are available for a small donation. Please join us. For information call Roberta at 732-245-9124.

Silver and Gold Anniversary Celebration – October 18, 2026

Couples celebrating their 5th, 25th, 50th or 50+ wedding anniversaries are invited to attend this special prayer service. Registration is required. The event is free, though in the past jubilarian couples have given a free-will donation in support of the Office of Family Life. For more information, visit:

<https://diometuchen.org/silver-and-gold-anniversary-celebration>



Following Mass next weekend
October 17 - 18

This fundraisers will support our young parishioners who preparing to attend the

World Youth Day 2027, in Seoul

*"If you are able to bake a sweet treat, that's great.
If you can eat, then you should buy one!"*



WYD SEOUL 2027
CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR
Starring **RADIO CITY ROCKETTES**
VOCATIONIST WORLD YOUTH DAY
GROUP FUNDRAISING EVENT
RADIO CITY • NEW YORK
SUNDAY, NOV. 15 • 8PM (Bus Departs at 5PM)
THURSDAY, NOV. 19 • 7PM (Bus Departs at 4PM)
Trip cost: \$110 (includes show tickets, transportation and light snack)
For More Info & Reservations: vocationdirectorusa@gmail.com
• (401) 359-0574 • Bus Departs from St. James Church,

NEWS AND EVENTS

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THE WEEK AHEAD

NOTE: Mass schedule/intentions are found on page 2

Monday - October 12

12:00pm | Bingo | Father Milos Hall

Tuesday - October 13

4:30pm | Youth Choir | Church
6:30pm | Adult Choir | Church

Thursday - October 14

2:30pm - 6:00pm | Eucharist Adoration | Chapel
3:00pm | Chaplet/Rosary | Chapel

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FALL CLOTHING DRIVE

During this fundraiser, we are collecting:

- *Wearable and useable clothing for men, women, and children*
- *Shoes (place in separate bag)*
- *Clothing accessories: belts, hats, scarves, gloves, handbags*
- *Household items: linens, towels, blankets (no quilts), sheets*
- *Small toys, stuffed animals, bikes, strollers*

If you have any of these items you would like to donate, place **ALL ITEMS** in a tightly tied plastic garbage bag.

Drop-off at the Parish office (during office hours) or in the narthex. This campaign is offered from:

**Thursday, October 1
through
Wednesday, October 28**

Thank you for your continued support of our parish!

2026 MASS BOOK

**AS OF OCTOBER 6, THE FOLLOWING DAYS ARE OPEN
IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO REQUEST A MASS INTENTION:**

Friday	November	20	7:30am
Saturday	November	21	8:30am (OLMC)
Friday	November	27	8:30am
Friday	December	11	7:30am
Monday	December	28	7:30am
Wednesday	December	30	7:30am
Thursday	December	31	7:30am



Contact the parish office at 732-634-1403

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**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.



**ONE DAY ONLY - WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2026
SHOP 8AM - 11PM**

DONATE \$5 AND ENJOY:

Tickets are being sold after weekend Masses

**The Parish office will be CLOSED
on Monday, October 12**

