

# HOLY APOSTLES CHURCH

WESTERN CRANSTON



FEBRUARY 22, 2026

**40  
Days**

Giving  
Fasting  
Praying  
Repenting  
Forgiving

## FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

## PARISH MINISTRIES & SERVICES

### Apostles of Mercy

Stephen Forleo -----401-885-1958

### CAL Basketball

Anthony Vescera -----401-580-0747  
hacalbball@gmail.com

### Men of St. Joseph

Steve Kogut -----401-580-2452  
James Chrones -----401-822-1595

### Prayer Network

Christine Dooley -----401-946-5586

### Trustees

Barbara Papitto -----401-828-5751  
Manuel Silva -----401-943-6719

## PARISH STAFF

**Michael Santilli** ----- *Pastoral Associate/  
Director of Religious Education & Youth  
Ministry / mjs@holyapostles.com*

**Erika Damiani-Millard** ----- *Coord. of Rel.  
Education Gr. 1-8/em@holyapostles.com*

**Matthew Gebhart** ----- *Bookkeeper  
mg@holyapostles.com*

**Christine Dooley** ----- *Administrative Coord.  
cad@holyapostles.com*

## MUSIC MINISTRY

**Mark Colozzi** ----- *Director  
chsebandz@gmail.com / 401-524-4364*

**Cookie Rodi** ----- *Director  
divarodi@hotmail.com / 401-323-6679*

**John Norigian** ----- *Organist  
johnnorigian@gmail.com / 401-215-8766*

### Parish Office Hours

Monday to Friday  
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Our Administrative Offices are located  
in the Community Life Center.

Phone --- 401-946-5586

Fax --- 401-946-5066

### Email Address

parishoffice@holyapostles.com

### Website

www.holyapostles.com

# HOLY APOSTLES CHURCH

800 PIPPIN ORCHARD ROAD  
CRANSTON, RI 02921

*Established July 25, 1991 + Church dedicated July 24, 1994*

*Community Life Center dedicated June 30, 2001*

### Reverend William J. Ledoux

*Pastor / wjl@holyapostles.com*

### Monsignor Albert A. Kenney

*In Residence*

### Monsignor Richard D. Sheahan

*Pastor Emeritus*

### Monsignor Paul D. Theroux

*Pastor Emeritus*

### Deacon Gregory P. Albanese

*DeaconGreg33@gmail.com*

## MASS SCHEDULE

### Saturday Vigil

5:00 PM

### Sunday

8:30 & 11:00 AM

### Weekday

Mon-Fri: 8:30 AM

**New Parishioners – Welcome to Holy Apostles!** For your convenience, registration forms are available on our website [www.holyapostles.com](http://www.holyapostles.com). Please fill the form out and return it to the parish office. Also, we encourage you to introduce yourself to Fr. Ledoux, our pastor.

## SACRAMENTS

### Baptism

Parents are asked to contact the Deacon early in the pregnancy. Parents are reminded that the selection of sponsors must be made according to regulations specified in Canon Law. Information regarding these regulations will be forwarded upon request.

### Marriage

Engaged couples are asked to make an appointment with Father at least one year in advance of their planned date of marriage. In addition, at least one of the individuals planning marriage must be a registered and active member of the parish.

### Penance

Saturdays from  
4:00 to 4:30 PM

### Sacrament of the Sick

Please call to receive  
this Sacrament of  
comfort & healing.

### Communion Calls

Please call the  
parish office to  
request a visit.



# From the Pastor

Dear Friends,

On Ash Wednesday, we began our Lenten Pilgrimage with Jesus as we prepare to celebrate Easter. However, we have some way to go with Jesus and each other before we can experience the joy and new life of Easter. Our gospel this Sunday sees Jesus being led into the desert. The gospel puts it rather more seriously than Jesus being led into the desert! It opens with the words; The Spirit drove Jesus into the wilderness (desert) and remained with him for forty days. Why was Jesus led or driven in to the desert?

The desert in Jewish history is very important. When God freed and saved the People of Israel from slavery in Egypt, they spent forty years in the desert. They wandered and sometimes got lost as they tried to find their way to the Promised Land. This was not an easy journey for them. At times they lost faith in each other and in God. They forgot the promise that God made with them; 'I will be your God and you will be my people.' As they made their way through the desert, many would have stopped travelling and settled near the closest oasis or watering hole. Some others would have joined other tribes and religions that they met on along the way. Famously, when they were at their lowest, they made a statue of a golden calf and began to worship it. They had forgotten where they had come from, what God had done for them and lost sight of where God was leading them.

It is no surprise that we begin Lent with Jesus in the desert. Like his ancestors, he too is tried, tested and tempted. However, Jesus refused to give up or give in so quickly or so easily. Although our gospel for this Sunday we read from the gospel of St. Matthew, it gives us more information about what might have happened to Jesus. He is tempted with the false gifts of power, prestige and wealth. His power and identity come from God. Jesus knows who he is, where he comes from and where he is going on his own journey. He leaves the desert with these powerful words which he offers us today; 'The time has come, the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe in the Good News.' What is this Good News that Jesus asks us to hear and

believe? It is the good news that each of us is created, loved and forgiven by God.

As we begin our own Lenten journey today, we need to recall and remember that we are not setting out on this journey on our own. God is with us walking by our side very step of way. When we are tempted, we need to follow the example of Jesus. He did not rely on his own strength. He turned to God and asked for help which he received. We will not be able to walk the Lenten journey on our own. We need to realize that like Jesus, we too need God's help, support, guidance and protection. Whenever we feel tired or ready to give up or give in, we need to turn to God for encouragement. We know that God will be with us during Lent as God was with Jesus when he was in the desert. God will never leave us alone.

Have a good week!

Fr. Ledoux

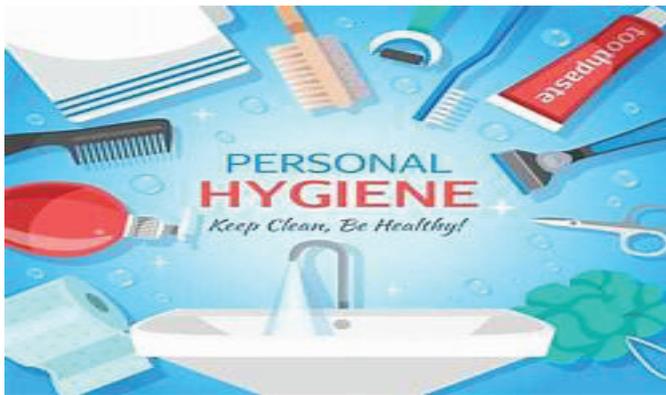


- **WEEKDAY MASS** ~ The Eucharist is at the very heart of our Catholic faith. What a wonderful way to journey through Lent. Mass is offered on **Monday - Friday at 8:30 AM.**
- **SACRAMENT OF PENANCE** ~ this season of repentance and renewal is a perfect time to receive the Sacrament of Penance. We offer the sacrament **every Saturday afternoon from 4:00 to 4:30pm.**
- **PRIVATE PRAYER before the BLESSED SACRAMENT** ~ Quiet time alone in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament is another way to get "in touch" with the spiritual side of our lives. The Community Life Center's main entrance is open for morning Mass and remains open until 4:00 pm.
- **STATIONS OF THE CROSS** ~ FRIDAYS: Feb. 27, March 13, 30 & 27 at 6:30pm.

*First Sunday of Lent ~ February 22, 2026*



The 2026 Catholic Charity Appeal has officially begun. This year's theme is "One Hope, One Faith". Our parish goal is **\$133,665**, with an overall diocesan goal of \$7.7 million. This weekend we have our direct appeal, but you don't have to wait. All donations, now or later, will be credited toward our parish goal. Please prayerfully consider a gift to the appeal as we strive for 100% parish participation. Visit [givecentral.org/2026CCA](http://givecentral.org/2026CCA) to make your difference today.



## Parish Lenten Collection

Sponsored by the Apostles of Mercy

Donations can be put in the boxes at the entrances of the Church.

**Homeless kits** (travel sized body wash, comb, toothpaste, toothbrush, body lotion, wet wipes in a clear gallon size bag.

**Family Size Personal Hygiene Products** – specifically bar soap, toothpaste, shampoo & conditioner

**Laundry detergent, dish soap & household cleansers**

## ITALIAN NIGHT –



**SATURDAY, MARCH 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:00PM**  
**\$25. Adults / \$10. Children 12 & under**

Tickets may be purchased after Mass starting the weekend of **February 28/March 1** or the parish office starting March 2<sup>nd</sup>.

This benefits our Teen Mission Program.



## Men of Saint Joseph International

The Holy Apostles Men of St. Joseph meet twice a month for fellowship and discussion. Men of all ages are invited to attend. For more information, please visit the RI Men of St Joseph website at: <https://www.mosji.org/>

**Next Meeting: February 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00PM**

**Save The Date!**

**Saturday May 2, 2026**

**St. Augustine Church**

### Catholic Men's Conference



**"Whoever believes in Me will do the works that I do" John 14:12**

Most Reverend Bruce Lewandowski, C.Ss.R.

Bishop of Providence

Reverend Christophe M Mahar

Pastor St. Augustine Church

Mr. Dennis Sousa

Director, Office of Family, Youth, & Young Adult Evangelization



Sponsored by the Men of Saint Joseph International

8:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Sponsored by The Men of Saint Joseph International

*First Sunday of Lent ~ February 22, 2026*

## **Catholic School (Grades K-8)**

### **Tuition Assistance**

In order to ensure objectivity, the Diocesan Catholic School Office's policy requires that parents complete a financial aid application form that may be obtained from the Catholic school the child attends or plans to attend next year. In addition, a written letter (no emails) requesting consideration for assistance must be submitted to Fr. Ledoux no later than April 30th. **Please mark your envelope with Tuition Assistance.**

**-Families requesting assistance must follow church law on fulfilling the "Sunday" obligation to attend Mass. It should also be by way of exception that a family attends Mass in a parish other than Holy Apostles.**

**-At least one parent must be involved in a parish program/ministry.**

**-Families must be regular contributors to the parish budget using the weekly envelopes or through Faith Direct.**

## **STEWARDSHIP**



**Time and Talent** - We wish to thank all those parishioners who are always so willing to pitch in and lend a helping hand. Their participation contributes to the vibrancy of our community.

Treasure – **Thank you for your financial support.**

### ***Online Giving with Parish Soft Giving***

After the joyful summer months, the Fall season is a great time to streamline your giving and provide steady, consistent support that helps us be ready with programs, services, and ministries for our church families and for those in our community. Your recurring gifts will help strengthen our parish and sustain our ministries throughout the year, even if you need to miss a Sunday Mass.

It's easy to get started. Here are the ways to sign up:

- ❖ Call ParishSOFT Customer Service at 866-930-4774 option 6
- ❖ Log in to: [giving.parishsoft.com/giving/FD-18](http://giving.parishsoft.com/giving/FD-18)

*First Sunday of Lent ~ February 22, 2026*



**Sunday, March 15, 2026**

**2:00pm**

\*Rehearsal for Candidate and Sponsor will be Tuesday, March 10<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30pm

## **APOSTLES OF MERCY**

**Thank You!**

*Thanks to all for your ongoing weekly contributions of food items for our needy.*



We are continuing to collect diapers (all sizes) to share with families from St. Charles.

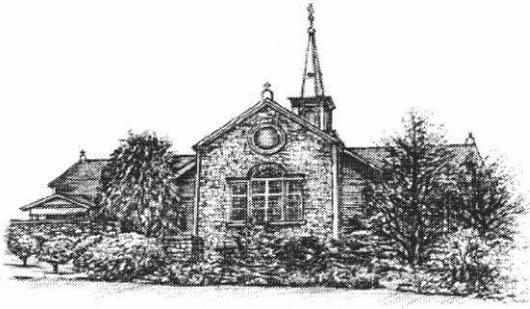
### **Prayer Network**

For Special Intentions of a serious nature, please call the parish.

### **Private Prayer**

The Church is open during the week for visits and private prayer. Quiet time with the Lord is time that will be graced and blessed by God. Please enter by the Community Life Center.

*Please support the businesses  
Who advertise in our weekly bulletin*



# MASS INTENTIONS

## 2027 MASS BOOK

### Please note when booking Masses:

One family may only book a maximum of **THREE** weekend Masses for the calendar year. This will give other families a greater opportunity to have their intention Masses on the weekend. Further, we are scheduling **TWO** daily Mass intentions per Mass to allow so many more intention Masses for the year. We hope with these increases, the opportunity to accommodate more families that want special intention Masses on weekends. Payment for the mass intention should be made at the time of scheduling.

Weekday Masses are \$15

Weekend Masses are \$30

Altar Bread /Sanctuary Lamps are \$20

Please pray for those serving our country



If you or someone you know has a loved one serving in our armed forces, please send their names with rank and branch of military to [cad@holypostles.com](mailto:cad@holypostles.com).

<b>Saturday</b>	<i>Vigil: 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent</i>	<b>February 21</b>
5:00 PM	<b>Mafalda Cascione</b> Requested by Family	
<b>Sunday</b>	<i>First Sunday of Lent</i>	<b>February 22</b>
8:30 AM	<b>Gloria Connolly (Birthday Rem.)</b> Requested by Lynne & Bud Craddock	
11:00 AM	<b>Mia Hanley (5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)</b> Requested by Family	
<p>✠ The <b>Sanctuary Candle</b> is offered this week in memory of <b>Eileen Pellegrino (Birthday Rem.)</b> requested by Family.</p> <p>✠ The <b>Altar Bread</b> is offered this week in memory of <b>Anthony (Month's Mind) &amp; Judith (3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary) Barile (Anniversary)</b> requested by Family.</p>		
<b>Monday</b>	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<b>February 23</b>
8:30 AM	<b>For the People</b>	
<b>Tuesday</b>	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<b>February 24</b>
8:30AM	<b>Susan Donat (Month's Mind)</b> Requested by Emilia Monteiro	
<b>Wednesday</b>	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<b>February 25</b>
8:30 AM	<b>Domenic Ferri (4<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)</b> Requested by Wife & Family	
<b>Thursday</b>	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<b>February 26</b>
8:30 AM	<b>Edward Nowak Sr.</b> Requested by Ed & Meredith Nowak & Family <b>David C. DePettillo</b> Requested by Wife, Jean	
<b>Friday</b>	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<b>February 27</b>
8:30AM	<b>Emilio &amp; Rose Delfino</b> Requested by Family <b>Walter Tassinari</b> Requested by Children	
<b>Saturday</b>	<i>Vigil: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent</i>	<b>February 28</b>
5:00 PM	<b>Desiree M. Marcello (13<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)</b> Requested by Family	
<b>Sunday</b>	<i>Second Sunday of Lent</i>	<b>March 1</b>
8:30 AM	<b>Gary Troiani (Birthday Rem.)</b> Requested by Troiani Family	
11:00 AM	<b>Charles &amp; Doris Stepinski (Anniversary)</b> Requested by Daughter, Susan Choquette	

*First Sunday of Lent ~ February 22, 2026*

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