



“Lent: Our 40 Days of Preparation”

By definition, the season of Lent is the time of preparation for Holy Week, leading up to Easter.

Lent owes much of its spirit to the forty days Jesus spent in the desert preparing for his ministry. We say he was tempted there, but a more accurate translation may be "tested." The Jewish view of the desert was an abode of demons, especially that part of the desert where winds would howl around tall, rough stones. In this place, Jesus was offered the opportunity to be the wrong kind of Messiah. He rejected each offering from the Devil.

When the Hebrews were led from Egypt to the Promised Land, they refused to go in because they did not trust God's promise. God led them into the desert for forty years, until they learned the trust they lacked. In this way, God's people were purified. In Noah's day, forty days of flooding washed away the evil that had infected the world.

This was not a permanent solution, just as Lent is not, unless we make it so.

As we make our way through our forty-day preparation for the celebration of Easter, may we focus on our sacrifices not as a burden but as a privilege. It is a chance to actively show our dedication to Christ and demonstrate how seriously we take our calling to be “in the world” and “not of the world.” “When you fast do not look gloomy,” Jesus tells us in the Gospel. Today's consumer society looks on fasting itself as

gloomy. Urging everyone to eat, drink, and buy more and more, our world today has made fasting unfashionable. Yet the Gospel message says that excessive worldly possessions can ruin human life. A materialistic spirit is a selfish spirit, and as the alarming numbers of people addicted to drugs and alcohol today prove, the taste for “too much” can destroy.

Food and drink, clothes and amusements - the “good things of life” - can quickly turn into our captors. In our materialistic, pleasure-oriented society, fasting is a way of keeping ourselves free. This Lent, recognizing the hold things have on us, let us try, with God's help, to keep them in their right place. Some reasonable abstaining from food, drink and entertainments can help us do that. May we have the courage to take this holy time seriously, rightly keeping our focus on God and the sacrifices Christ freely made for our salvation.

The Rev. Edward J. Smith

Ash Wednesday

Wednesday, February 14th



9:00 am - Mass

Noon - Ash Service

“Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.” Genesis 3:19

Automating Parish Giving Through ACH

It is very easy for parishioners to elect to give electronically, transmitting funds from their accounts to the church, using our ACH service.

What is ACH?

ACH is a paperless electronic transaction that goes through the ACH (Automated Clearing House) and transfers money from one bank to another on behalf of the entities involved. In this case, an electronic transaction between a Parishioner (Automated Giver) and St. Anthony of Padua.

What is an Automated Giver?

A parishioner, who through prayer and reflection, chooses an automated way to exercise good financial stewardship by having his/her regular weekly offering electronically delivered to the parish of St. Anthony's Church checking account.

What are the benefits of Automated Giving?

For those who embrace stewardship as a way of life, Automated Giving for the Sunday collections provides an opportunity to keep the church as a priority when it comes to sharing financial gifts (i.e. the Offertory).

The more parishioners that use Automated Giving, the more reliable a parish's revenue stream will be from the weekly Offertory.

Not everyone is able to attend Mass each week (for a variety of reasons), so Automated Giving ensures that the parish regularly receives the intended gift as planned by the parishioner.

How do I become an Automated Giver?

You will find the Automated Giver Authorization Form in this newsletter for your convenience. Please submit a completed form with a voided check, for routing purposes, to the parish office by way of the collection basket, mail or in person.

Other general information:

*All signed documents and records will be maintained in complete confidence at the Parish Office.

*To discontinue the Automated Giving program, a simple cancellation letter must be signed by the authorized parishioner.

*Stewardship commitment will automatically renew annually.

*Any additional questions can be answered by Diana at the Parish Office 288-0106 ext. 223.

"A NIGHT IN PARIS"

Hosted by the St. Anthony School Endowment Committee

Saturday, March 3, 2018
At Chez Francois in Vermillion

Tickets are \$75 each

Each ticket is entered to win a 1-week vacation accommodation

Get tickets by calling 440-288-1752 ext. 223 or
email lesieckid@stanthonylorain.com



St. Anthony of Padua
(440) 288-1752 ext.223
Electronic Funds Stewardship
Debit Authorization

You have the opportunity to have your weekly church support transferred weekly electronically, direct from your bank to ours. We will do this draw and apply the funds as you have indicated below. For those of you who opt for this service, we hope you find it convenient, and an easy way to keep track of your donations. Follow the instructions below, filling in the necessary information. Return this form in a sealed envelope marked "ACH" to the Parish Office either in person, through the collection, or mail. Weekly, drop your envelope in the collection basket marking the "I/We donate electronically" option. You may continue to use the other holy day and special collection envelopes with regular cash or check donations, or provide a written request to do so through ACH. Call Diana in the Parish Office, (440-288-1752 ext. 223) if you have any questions. Thank you.

My Stewardship Commitment

I (We) hereby authorize St. Anthony of Padua to initiate a weekly debit entry to my (our) account indicated below and the financial institution named below, to debit the same to such account for Church Stewardship. I (We) acknowledge the origination of ACH transaction to my (our) account must comply with the provisions of US law.

Financial Institution Name

Address

City

State

Zip

Telephone Number

Bank Routing Number (**Should be 9 digits**)

Checking Account Number

or

Statement Savings Account Number

Amount to be debited (deducted) on the Monday of every week: _____ (*Weekly Giving*)

Note: If Monday is a holiday, the account will be charged on the next business day.

This authority is to remain in full force and effect until St. Anthony of Padua has received written notification from me (or either of us) of its termination in such time and manner as to afford St. Anthony of Padua Church and Financial Institution a reasonable opportunity to act on it.

Name on Account _____

E-mail address _____

Address _____

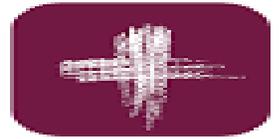
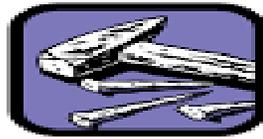
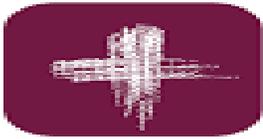
Telephone Number

Church Envelope Number

Signature: (**If a joint account, only one signature required**) Please include a voided blank check with application.

For help/questions/concerns contact Diana: lesieckid@stanthonylorain.com or 288-1752 ext. 223

Lent



It is time to prepare our hearts for our Risen Jesus. **The 40 days of Lent begins Ash Wednesday, February 14th** (*Happy Valentine's Day*). Don't miss out on the many events and opportunities we have this season to lead you in prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

The Weekly Lenten Stations of the Cross will begin Friday, February 16th at 1:15 pm with the school children.. Deacon Paul will also pray the Stations of the Cross three consecutive Fridays in March, March 9th, 16th & 23rd, at 7 pm leading up to a **Good Friday Stations of the Cross at Noon on Friday, March 30th**. Come prayerfully reflect on Jesus' journey and sacrifice throughout Lent. If you cannot make our weekly

Friday afternoon devotion, St. Teresa will offer the Stations on Wednesday evenings at 7 pm.

Our Pierogi Sales begin Ash Wednesday and continue Fridays during Lent. Come enjoy our favorite meatless dish all season long. Spread the word!

There will be two opportunities to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. We will have an **Evening of Confession with Bishop Gries on Wednesday, February 28th from 5-8 pm** and our **Communal Penance Service on Sunday, March 18th, at 2pm at St. Anthony's**. Come prepare your hearts with the gift of mercy and forgiveness from our God.

There will be a special event hosted by our amazing Marian Guild. *All parishioners are invited on Monday, March 19th at 6 pm to a Prayer Service in the Church with Deacon Paul* followed by a soup supper in the Social Hall. We will hear a wonderful Lenten Message from Deacon Paul. Mark your calendar **NOW** and plan to attend.

Keep an eye on the bulletin for these and many more events this Lenten Season. May your Lenten Journey of prayer, fasting and almsgiving bring you closer to the Risen Jesus.



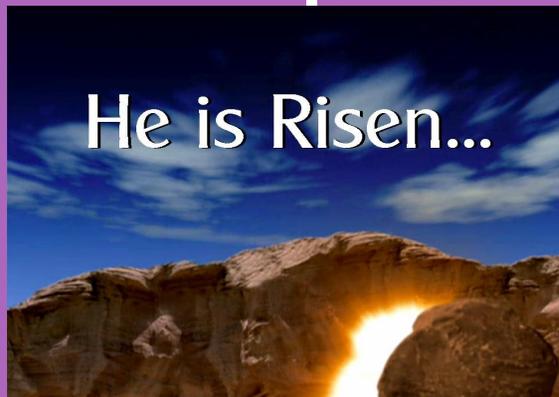
Holy Thursday

Thursday, March 29th
Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper
7:00 pm

Good Friday

Friday, March 30th
Stations of the Cross
Noon

The Lord's Passion
3:00 pm



Blessing of Food

Saturday, March 31st
Noon in Church

Easter Masses

Holy Saturday,
March 31st
7:30 pm Vigil

Resurrection Sunday,
April 1st
10:00 am

ST. ANTHONY

OF PADUA + LORAIN

PRE-ORDERING RECOMMENDED!
CALL 440.934.4482
OR ON FRIDAYS **440.288.1752**

HOORAY!

It's Pierogi Time!

Starting February 14th we will be selling our World Famous Potato with Cheese & Sauerkraut Pierogi.

SALE DATES

February 14th (Ash Wednesday), 16th, 23rd
March 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd & 30th

10AM - 6PM

Pre-order during week to Patty,
440-934-4482 or 440-288-1752 on Fridays

BAKED GOODS

will also be on sale!

COST

Pierogi

Frozen \$7/dz
Cooked \$8/dz

Cabbage & Noodles

Small \$3 Large \$6

Macaroni & Cheese

Small \$3 Large \$6

Pierogi To Go Dinner

6 pierogi, cabbage &
noodles and macaroni
& cheese \$10



School News

We want to thank all our parishioners for their constant support of our Parish School. We wouldn't be the amazing school we are without your support for our students and the many prayers. If you were at Mass on January 28th, we hope you enjoyed the personal thank you's from the students.

It is just a small token to express our gratitude. We would also like to congratulate, Mrs. Dineen Stack whom the students honored as our outstanding parishioner during Catholic School's Week Opening Mass on Monday, January 29th. Thank you Mrs. Stack for all you do.

We are now accepting student registration applications for the



Our top 10 students who participated in the 2018 St. Anthony Geography Bee. Congrats to our winner, Patrick!

2018-2019 school year. **Join us for one of our Open Houses on Sunday, February 18th & Sunday, April 8th from 11 am - 1 pm.** We invite all parishioners to visit us and bring your friends and family to see the "St. Anthony Difference".

We are always looking for new volunteers to help make our school an amazing place. We thank our wonderful Pierogi Volunteers for their hard work and dedication. We are in need of some lunch room volunteers. If you could give the children a bit of your time between 11 am - 1 pm any day Monday - Friday, we would appreciate it. Please call the school office at 440-288-2155.

We wish all our St. Anthony Family a Joyous Easter Season. May your home be blessed immensely by the Resurrection of Jesus, our Redeemer.

- Mr. Joseph M. Akasi

ALL PARISHIONERS ARE INVITED

"Lent: A Sacrifice"

Sponsored by the Marian Guild

**Monday, March 19th
6 pm**

The evening will begin in the Church with a Prayer Service.

A delicious Soup Supper will follow in the Social Hall with a Lenten Message from Deacon Paul.



*You can RSVP
by calling
Denise at
440-714-4761*



Help our St. Vincent de Paul Society!

The St. Vincent de Paul Society Parish Appeal for the month of March will focus on cleaning supplies to assist our clients with their "spring cleaning". In May, we are asking for a variety of condiments: ketchup, mustard, relish, BBQ sauce etc. to help our clients enjoy the summer holidays with a little something extra. We continue to thank God for you and your generosity and concern each and every month. We also thank our faithful SVDP volunteers who are dedicated to the welfare of our parishioners and neighbors.

It is not too late to JOIN 200 CLUB!

Eddie Schmidt & Eric Gilles are continuing this 39 year tradition here at St. Anthony of Padua. **Thank you to Men's Club and all of the people who worked to keep 200 Club successful all of those years.** This is a fun way to raise some money that stays here on the St. Anthony campus. Tickets can still be purchased TODAY for only \$30. Membership includes a dinner on April 14th, and enters you into 43 drawings. You do not need to attend the dinner to be entered into these drawings; however, you will miss out on a good meal, bar, many raffles, drawings, and tips. Dinner tickets will also be available to gamble that evening, but will not include the 43 raffles. If you have or know a student at St. Anthony's, mention them when joining, and they will receive a prize. You can join by calling Eddie at 440-670-3779 or Eric at 440-320-7902. You can also send payment in an envelope clearly marked **200 CLUB** with your contact information into the school or parish offices or drop it in the collection basket at Mass. We hope to see everyone there!

200 Club Dinner April 14, 2018 Social Hall

Only 200 will be sold!

To join, drop an envelope marked **200 CLUB** in the Collection Basket on Sunday with your payment & contact information.

Don't miss out!

10th Annual Deacon Jim Debrason 4-Person Scramble Golf Outing

All proceeds go directly to St. Anthony of Padua Parish School

Saturday, May 19th Fox Creek Golf & Racquet Club

Registration begins at 7:15 am
Shotgun at 8:00 am

\$70 per person or \$280 per foursome

Includes 18 holes of golf, a cart, breakfast, snack & lunch

All reservations must be in by Wednesday,, May 3rd
Contact the School Office, 440-288-2155 for more info

ST. ANTHONY

OF PADUA ✝ LORAIN

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Lorain, OH 44052-2226

Phone: 440-288-0106
Fax: 440-288-0143

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Newsletter publications, email
obermillerk@stanthonylorain.com.*

We're on the Web!

www.stanthonylorain.org

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Mark Your Calendars!

Wednesday, February 14th

Ash Wednesday

9:00 am Mass
Noon Ash Service

First Lenten Pierogi Sale (10 am - 6 pm)

Friday, February 16th

**Beginning of weekly
Stations of the Cross**

1:15 pm
Beginning of Friday Pierogi Sales

Wednesday, February 28th

**Evening of Confession
with Bishop Gries**

5:00 - 8:00 pm

Saturday, March 3rd

**School Endowment Fundraiser
Chez Francois, Vermilion**
6:30 pm

Sunday, March 18th

Communal Penance Service
2:00 pm at St. Anthony's

Monday, March 19th

**Marian Guild "Lent: A Sacrifice"
Prayer Service & Soup Supper**
6:00 pm

Sunday, March 25th

Palm Sunday

Holy Thursday, March 29th

Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper
7:00 pm

Good Friday, March 30th

Stations of the Cross
Noon

The Lord's Passion
3:00 pm

Parish Office closes at Noon

Holy Saturday, March 31st

Food Blessings in the Church
Noon

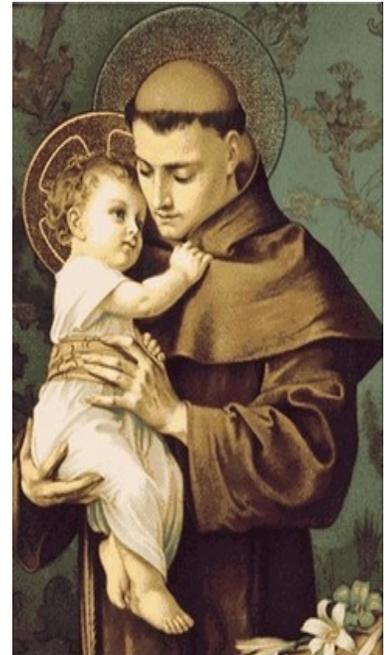
Easter Vigil Mass
7:30 pm

Easter Sunday, April 1st

**The Resurrection of the Lord
Easter Mass**
10:00 am

Easter Monday, April 2nd

Parish Office Closed!



If you would like to receive this newsletter via email instead of through the mail, please send your email address to obermillerk@stanthonylorain.com.