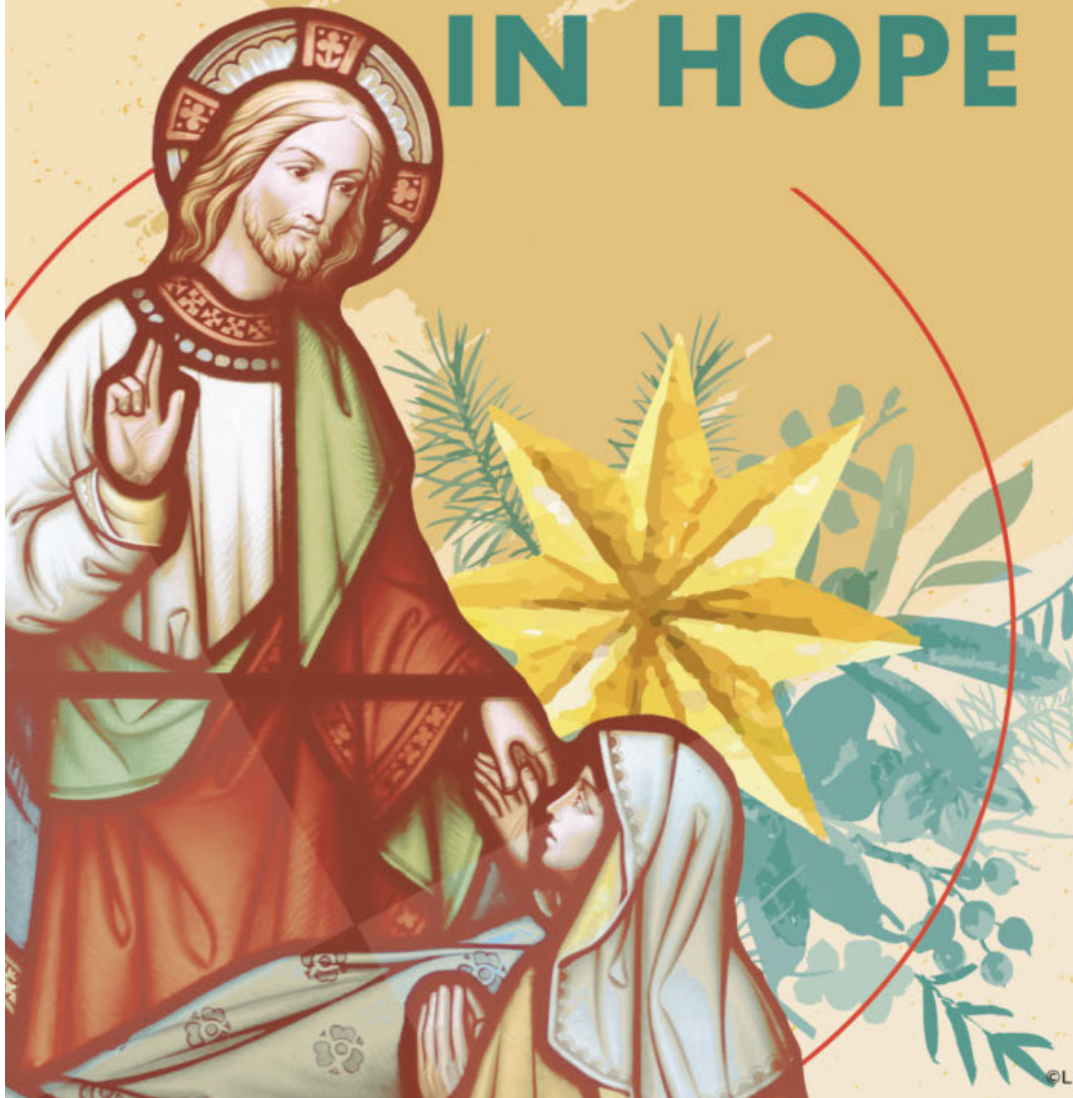


ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH | DECEMBER 3, 2023

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

WAIT
IN HOPE



MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 4:00 pm

Sunday: 10:00 am

WEEKDAYS

Monday & Tuesday:

8:30 am

HOLY DAY MASSES

Consult the bulletin

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Lorain, OH 44052

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Fax: 440-288-0143

www.stanthonylorain.org

Monday-Friday:

9:00 am - 3:00 pm

ADORATION CHAPEL

Monday-Friday:

8 am - 3 pm

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Mondays 6:15-7:30pm

psr@stanthonylorain.com

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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www.stanthonylorain.org

Julio Alarcon, Principal

alarconj@stanthonylorain.com

MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

This is the first Sunday of Advent. The purpose of Advent is to prepare us to celebrate Christ's coming at Christmas and to remind us that He is coming again at the end of time and to remind us He comes to us in time, all the time.

This year we have the shortest Advent possible; the 4th week of Advent lasts only 24 hours! Yes, with Christmas on a Monday, all we get of the 4th week of Advent is from the Vigil of the 4th Sunday of Advent (4 pm Saturday, Dec 23) to the Vigil of Christmas (4 pm Sunday, Dec 24).

Because of the multitude of Masses, I want to share with you the schedule for the 4th Sunday of Advent and for Christmas.

For the 4th Sunday of Advent:

Saturday, December 23: 4:00 pm
Sunday, December 24: 10:00 am

For Christmas:

Sunday, December 24: 4:00 pm
Monday, December 25: 10:00 am

To fulfill the Sunday obligation and the Christmas Holy Day obligation, you need to attend two Masses, one for Sunday, and one for Christmas. The Code of Canon Law states: *Can. 1248 §1. A person who assists at a Mass celebrated anywhere in a Catholic rite either on the feast day itself or in the evening of the preceding day satisfies the obligation of participating in the Mass.*

This canon just speaks of attending a Mass to fulfill the obligation. For example, if you were attending a Confirmation Mass or Wedding Mass on a Sunday that fulfills your Sunday obligation, even though the reading and prayers might be different from the Sunday's reading and prayers.

Now for the confusing part. This year, you can fulfill the 4th Sunday of Advent (Saturday/Sunday) and Christmas (Sunday/Monday) obligation by attending:

**Mass on Saturday Evening and Mass on Sunday Evening, or
Mass on Saturday Evening and Mass on Monday Morning, or
Mass on Sunday Morning and Mass on Sunday Evening, or
Mass on Sunday Morning and Mass on Monday Morning**

What you cannot do is a twofer, where one Mass on Sunday evening fulfills both obligations.

I hope this helps you in your planning and preparation for Christmas.

~Rev. Edward J. Smith

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DECEMBER 3, 2023

SACRAMENTAL CELEBRATIONS

CONFESSION

Saturday 3:00 pm or by appt.

BAPTISM

At least one parent must be a parishioner & actively attend Mass prior to calling the Office.

*Baptisms will be held on the
3rd Sunday of the month*

MARRIAGE

At least one member of the couple must be a parishioner & actively attend Mass prior to calling.

Couples need to make arrangements
at least 6 months in advance.

No date may be reserved until discussion with the pastor of the parish.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Call the Parish Office

PASTORAL STAFF

440-288-0106

Rev. Edward J. Smith, Pastor • ext. 248

Father Thomas Sanders, OSB,
Weekend Associate

Deacon Paul Heise

Kim Kuhn, Parish Secretary • ext. 221
kuhnk@stanthonylorain.com

Diana Lesiecki, Business Manager
lesieckid@stanthonylorain.com

Kathleen Obermiller, Bulletin Editor
obermillerk@stanthonylorain.com

John Kowalski, Music Minister
churchmusic@stanthonylorain.com

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

Lectors • Nadya Cole
nadyacole243@gmail.com

Altar Servers • Alan Brailer
altarservers@stanthonylorain.com

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion • Marybeth Brailer
ajmeakm@gmail.com

Ushers • Fran Stack
fstack@roadrunner.com

SUNDAY READINGS

FIRST READING: Oh, that you would rend the heavens & come down, with the mountains quaking before you. (*Is 63:19*)

PSALM: Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face & we shall be saved. (*Ps 80*)

SECOND READING: The testimony to Christ was confirmed among you, so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ. (*1 Cor 1:6-7*)

GOSPEL: "Watch, therefore; you do not know when the lord of the house is coming." (*Mk 13:35*)

*Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass
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Sunday - Dec. 3rd - 1st Sunday of Advent

10:00 am - †Jeanne Provenza
Requested by: Nelson Donofrio

Monday - Dec. 4th - St. John Damascene, Priest & Doctor of the Church

8:30 am - †Edward Grochocki
Requested by: Edward Snyder

Tuesday - Dec. 5th - Weekday Mass

8:30 am - †Stephen Nemeth (son)
Requested by: Stephen Nemeth

Thursday - Dec. 7th - The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Vigil

4:00 pm - †Stephan Salada
Requested by: The Findish Family

Friday - Dec. 8th - The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary / School Mass

8:30 am - †Sheila Strauser
Requested by: The Findish Family

Saturday - Dec. 9th - St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin

4:00 pm - †Dan Terpone
Requested by: Family

Sunday - Dec. 10th - 2nd Sunday of Advent

10:00 am - †Mick Bainbridge
Requested by: Carol Bainbridge



READINGS FOR THE WEEK DECEMBER 3, 2023

Sunday: Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 (4)/1 Cor 1:3-9/Mk 13:33-37

Monday: Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Mt 15:29-37

Thursday: Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a/Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38

Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8

Next Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 (8)/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Vigil Mass: Thursday, December 7th at 4:00 pm

Holy Day Mass (with the School Children)
Friday, December 8th at 8:30 am



Thursday, December 7th at 4:00 pm
Eucharistic Ministers: Deacon Paul, Genevieve Z.

Saturday, December 9th at 4:00 pm
Lector: Marybeth B.

Eucharistic Ministers: Pam W., Patty R.

Sunday, December 10th at 10:00 am
Lector: Celia F.

Eucharistic Ministers: Hilaire T., Dan L., Karen L.

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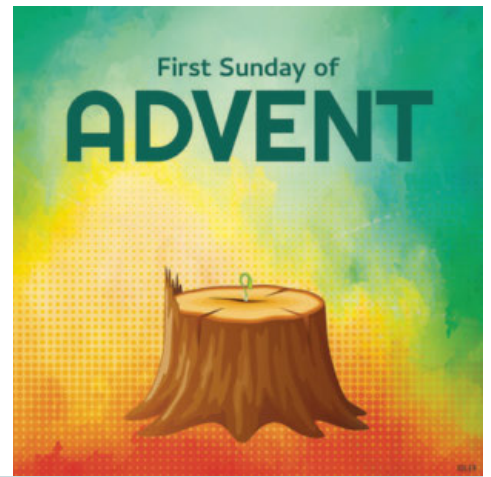
1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

OFFERTORY REPORT

Amount Budgeted Weekly..... \$6,240.00
 Sunday Collection (11/12/2023)..... \$6,640.00
 7/1/2023 to Date +/- Budget..... - (\$3,505.53)

MY GIFT TO GOD REFLECTS HIS GENEROSITY TO ME.

If you are unable to contribute, please submit your envelopes all the same as it is our most clear indication of active participation for Mass.



1ST WEEK OF ADVENT - DECEMBER 3RD

Scripture Reflection:

*"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined."
 Isaiah 9:2*

Advent Wreath Prayer:

Dear Jesus, you are the hope in our messy world. This Advent, help us slow down, listen to your voice, and focus on what's really important. We place our hope in you as we prepare our hearts to celebrate your birth on Christmas. **Amen.**



PRAYER REQUESTS

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Gloria Badillo	Janet Baxter	Joanne Bilancini	Maryann Boylan	Tim "Swampy" Burton	Lynn Coscho
Pat Costello II	Ann DiFrancesco	Jerry Donovan	Anna Mae Ebinger	Denise Ellis	Deacon Jose Flores
Norma Jean Flores	Scott Friges	Bea Giacobbe	Virginia Glass	Barbara Glick	Brian Grace
Dan George	Renee Golowenski	D'Arie Gonzalez	Delores Gonzalez	Jose Gonzalez	Jose Gonzalez Jr.
Juan Gonzalez	Vicky Herrmann	Clara Hodorowski	Kevin Holley	Phyllis Holomuzki	Jennifer Humphrey
Baby Jackson	Al Jacobs	Devin Jarvis	Sylvia Johnston	Johnna Kuhar	Deacon Luis Maldonado
Dean Martin III	Rita McConley	Dolores Melley	Sandra Merkly	Jen Mitterholzer	Ellen Morgan
Mary Nazario	Luci Payne	Elizabeth Raddell	Emily Raddell	Joe Rizzo	Amy Schmidt
Patricia Smith	Jack Tocchi	Audali Torres	Rosa Torres	Nanette Truffin	Peter Uies
Stacie Velasquez	Nick Vivens	Sherri Wedgeworth	Paul Winkler	Doris Zgola-Whitka	

Call the Parish Office if you would like to add someone to this list. Please notify us when to remove the name.

Call the "Prayer Line" for immediate prayer requests,

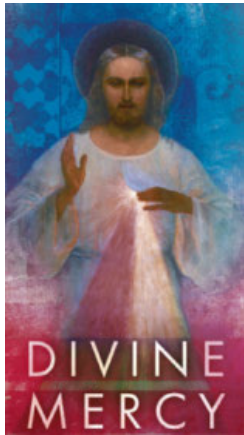
Linda: 440-667-9050 from 9 am - 3 pm or Terri, 440-320-3272 from 3 - 9 pm

ADORATION CHAPEL

"What shall we say of St. Francis Xavier (Jesuit Priest, Patron of Missionaries, Spain, 1506-1552, Feast Day December 3rd), who at times when distributing Holy Communion felt so carried away by the sense of adoration toward Our Lord who was in his hands that he got on his knees and in that position continued giving Holy Communion? Did that not present a witness of faith and love worthy of heaven?" ~Fr. Stefano Manelli

St. Nicholas (Bishop, Patron of Children and Russia, 4th Century, Myra) witnessed to the Real Presence of Christ and gave his life for others especially children in charity. It is still a practice to honor St. Nicholas' Feast Day on December 6th by putting shoes outside the bedroom doors at night and St. Nicholas will come while the children are sleeping to fill the shoes with little surprises, toys and treats.

"One day after he had celebrated Holy Mass, St. Ambrose (Bishop, Doctor, Patron of Candlemakers, 340-397, Italy) was approached by a woman afflicted with paralysis who wanted to kiss his hands. This woman had great faith in those hands that has consecrated the Eucharist; and she was cured at once."
~From *Jesus Our Eucharistic Love*, Fr. Stefano Manelli, O.F.M.



Divine Mercy Meditation - Suffering to Rescue Souls

My daughter, your struggle will last until death. Your last breath will mark its end. You shall conquer by meekness (*Diary, 1597*).

I have need of your sufferings to rescue souls (*Diary, 1612*).

**The words of Jesus appear in boldface type*

My Prayer Response:

Jesus, help me not to waste my sufferings, little or great, because You need my sufferings to rescue souls. Keep me meek before You as I suffer and pray for souls. **Amen.**

PRO-LIFE THOUGHT OF THE WEEK - FORGIVENESS AFTER AN ABORTION

All mothers of conscience will suffer feelings of guilt & remorse. There is only one permanent solution for a grieving mother: a solution based on reality, not on denial or pretense. **This solution is FORGIVENESS.**

Our merciful God loves us & wants to forgive us & help us find peace. However, **forgiveness is a gift that must be received to take effect.** Just like any other gift, we do not receive forgiveness until we choose to receive it. God does not want anyone going through life punishing themselves for having an abortion or being part of an abortion.

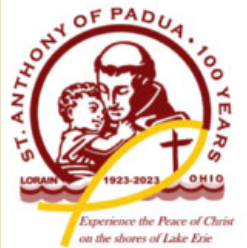
Women who have had an abortion can accept God's gift of forgiveness & if more help is needed, seek professional help. Attending a retreat like Rachel's Vineyard & Project Rachel (which are very active in our nation) can be very helpful.

Many women who have had abortions carry understandable bitterness toward men who used or abused them, toward parents & friends who were insensitive to their predicament, & towards those who misled or pressured them to abort. God wants women to take the forgiveness He has given them & extend it to others. This frees them from the awful burden of resentment & bitterness.

After accepting God's forgiveness, a wonderful way to heal & give something back (for a woman who has had an abortion) is to commit herself to the pro-life movement in defending life & reach out to other prospective mothers in crisis pregnancy situations. In this way, **God uses us to help others and share with them His love & guidance.**

HISTORY OF ST. ANTHONY CONTINUED

In November of 2000, Fr. Regis Schlagheck, asocial pastor, succeeded Fr. Christian who was assigned to St. Anthony Friary in Louisville, Kentucky. Fr. Regis was only pastor for a year after being appointed Guardian of the Basilica of Our Lady of Consolation in Carey, Ohio in September of 2001, at which time Fr. Joseph West was named pastor of St. Anthony's on September 11th.



BE THE LIGHT: SHARE YOUR BLESSINGS

This annual holiday program is meant to help our needy School Families & Active Parishioner Families. We are asking for monetary donations that can be used to purchase gift cards to help these needy families. **Donations can be made through the regular weekend collections on this weekend, December 2nd-3rd or mailed to the Parish Office.** Checks should include the memo line: *Be the Light*.

If you are a family that needs help, please call 440-288-1752 Ext. 247 and leave your name and phone number. You will be verified and then contacted. **The cut off date will be Tuesday, December 5th.**

**Thank you for considering a donation on behalf of our struggling brothers and sisters.
God Bless You!**

GIVING TREES - RETURN BY 12/9 & 12/10

The students of the St. Anthony of Padua Little Trojans Pre-School class are asking for your support in living in the way of St. Nicholas. As we count our many blessings during the holiday season, we remember those who are less fortunate. The Little Trojans Pre-School class is partnering with Birthright of Lorain for the Giving Tree Program. *Please choose an ornament from one of the Giving Trees located in the Church vestibules. DO NOT WRAP the gifts. Please use an open gift bag & attach the ornament tag, Please return gifts to the church by the weekend of December 9th & 10th and place them in front of the St. Anthony altar.* The gifts will be delivered to the Lorain County Birthright & will be received by those in need this Christmas Season.

The Little Trojans Pre-School students & Birthright sincerely thank you for your generosity.

MARIAN GUILD CHRISTMAS BRUNCH - 12/10

Remember, ALL the ladies of the parish are invited to the Christmas brunch on Sunday, December 10th after the 10 am Mass in the Lorain Senior Center on Garfield Blvd!!

We will be entertained by the famous "Frank and Dean" who will take us down memory lane singing songs from the Rat Pack, and other artists of that era! *They are terrific!*

Reservations are now being excepted.

Please RSVP to Terri George, 2220 E. Erie Ave., Lorain, OH 44052.

You can make your check out for **\$15 to the Marian Guild.**

MARIAN GUILD HOLIDAY BAKE SALE - 12/16 & 12/17

The Marian Guild's 3rd Annual Holiday Bake Sale and Basket Raffle will be held on the weekend of December 16th & 17th in the main vestibule of the church.

This year we will be having a special table for the children of the parish to purchase Christmas cookies! What a nice way to say thank you to grandma! Anyone in the parish who would like to donate homemade cookies for this event, please call Linda at 440-667-9050. We will arrange to have your cookies picked up if you were unable to drop them off that weekend.

MONTHLY HOLY HOUR FOR LIFE AT ST. TERESA - 12/19

All are invited to come pray before our Eucharistic Lord on **Tuesday, December 19th at 7:00 pm at St. Teresa of Avila Church.** The Holy Hour will include Scripture Reading, Litanies and the Most Holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

St. Anthony of Padua Organ Fund

The sound of a beautiful organ elevates worship at a Mass like nothing else. The current organ was installed in 1979 and is experiencing increasing deterioration and inconsistencies. We have started an organ fund to replace and install a new Italian made digital pipe organ with new amplifiers and speaker cabinets.

The new organ will provide the sounds of a variety of pipe organs from across Europe and even some orchestral sounds. It will render reliability and longevity for future generations.



If you would like to contribute to this endeavor, please drop-off your donation at the parish office during regular hours or place your financial gift in an envelope marked "ORGAN FUND" and put it in the weekend collection basket. All donors will be recognized on a plaque unless they wish to remain anonymous.

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