

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH | DECEMBER 24, 2023

An illustration of the Nativity scene. In the foreground, the infant Jesus lies in a manger, wrapped in white swaddling clothes. To the right, the Virgin Mary kneels in prayer, wearing a blue mantle over a white gown. Behind her stands Joseph, also kneeling, wearing a white robe with a green sash and holding a white shepherd's staff. The background features a dark blue night sky with a bright yellow star and several smaller white stars. The overall style is flat and modern.

MERRY
CHRISTMAS!

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday 4:00 pm
Sunday 10:00 am

WEEKDAYS

Monday & Tuesday:
8:30 am

HOLY DAY MASSES

Consult the bulletin

OFFICE HOURS

1305 E. Erie Ave.
Lorain, OH 44052
Phone: 440-288-0106
Fax: 440-288-0143
www.stanthonylorain.org

MONDAY – FRIDAY
9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

ADORATION CHAPEL

Monday - Friday:
8:00 am - 3:00 pm

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION (PSR)

Monday 6:15-7:30 pm
psr@stanthonylorain.com

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

440-288-2155

www.stanthonylorain.org

Julio Alarcon, Principal
alarconj@stanthonylorain.com

©LPi

MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

Today the world celebrates one of the most important Holy Days and Holidays of the year. For weeks everyone has been looking forward to this day with all kinds of emotions ranging from high expectations to deep depression. Even our church schedule is crowded with liturgies and celebrations of all kinds; but rather than commenting on the individual readings for this great day, which everyone should already know, I would like to offer the following:

"Are you ready for Christmas?" is an often heard greeting these days and many of us will immediately think about the gifts we have yet to buy, or the cards we should have sent and didn't or the invitations that we had to turn down because of other conflicts; but are you really ready for the visit of the Christ Child?

Remember:

"C" is for Christ!

Without Him there would be no reason to celebrate.

"H" is for Holy!

Are we prepared to meet and greet the Holy One of God?

"R" is for Royalty!

After all, He is the "King of kings and the Lord of lords."

"I" is for Incarnation!

God's becoming Man to show us the way back home.

"S" is for Savior!

The gift He holds out to us is Eternal Salvation.

"T" is for Time!

Have you taken the time to see what Gift Jesus wants from you?

"M" is for Mary!

How could we celebrate a divine birth without a holy Mother?

"A" is for Adoration!

Taking time during this season to worship the Son of God.

"S" is for Sacred!

Let's keep this day holy, sacred, and sane.

Remember, God's gift to you is your life, your very being. Your gift to Him is what you do with it. Just something to think about during your Prayer Time this week!

Merry Christmas, Everyone!

~Rev. Edward J. Smith

2

DECEMBER 24, 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

Father Ken Katricak, OSB,
Priest in Residence

Deacon Paul Helse

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

Diana Lesiecki, Business Manager
lesieckid@stanthonylorain.com

Kathleen Obermiller, Bulletin Editor & PCL
obermillerk@stanthonylorain.com

John Kowalski, Music Minister
churchmusic@stanthonylorain.com

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

Lectors - Nadya Cole
nadyacole@gmail.com

Altar Servers - Alan Brailer
altarservers@stanthonylorain.com

Extraordinary Ministries of Holy Communion- Marybeth Brailer
ajmeakm@gmail.com

Ushers - Fran Stack
fstack@roadrunner.com

SUNDAY READINGS

FIRST READING: “Your house and your kingdom shall endure forever before me; your throne shall stand firm forever.” (2 Sm 28:16)

PSALM: For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord. (Ps 89)

SECOND READING: The revelation of the mystery kept secret for long ages but now manifested through the prophetic writings and, according to the command of the eternal God, made known to all nations to bring about the obedience of faith. (Rom 16:25-26)

GOSPEL: “Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus.” (Lk 1:31)



READINGS FOR THE WEEK DECEMBER 24, 2023

Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38

Monday: *Vigil:* Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25

Night: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96: 1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13/Ti 2:11-14/
Lk 2:1-14 Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3: 4-7/Lk 2:15-20 *Day:* Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6/
Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-1

Tuesday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17/Mt 10:17-22

Wednesday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12/
Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Thursday: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7cd-8/
Mt 2:13-18

Friday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6/Lk 2:22-35

Saturday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Lk 2:36-40

Next Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6;
21:1-3/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 or Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9/
Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday - Dec. 24th - 4th Sunday of Advent

10:00 am - †Andrew Michalski (Birthday)

Requested by: Richard & Stephanie Michalski

Sunday - Dec. 24th - Nativity of the Lord at the Vigil/

Christmas Eve

4:00 pm - †For the Living & Deceased Members of the Garcia & Lesiecki Families

Requested by: Diana Lesiecki

Monday - Dec. 25th - The Nativity of the Lord /

Christmas Day

10:00 am - †Living & Deceased of the Parish

Tuesday - Dec. 26th - St. Stephen, First Martyr

8:30 am - †Strauser Family

Requested by: Friends

Saturday - Dec. 30th - Sunday Vigil Mass

4:00 pm - †Deceased Members of the James & Florence Wharton Family

Requested by: John Kowalski

Sunday - Dec. 31st - The Holy Family

10:00 am - †Jeanne Provenza

Requested by: Linda Mathewson & Cathy Sekletar



CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Holy Day - Nativity of the Lord:

Sunday, December 24th @ 4:00 pm

Monday, December 25th @ 10:00 am



**JOIN US IN SINGING
CHRISTMAS HYMNS
BEFORE MASS**

AT

3:35 pm on Christmas Eve

&

9:35 am on Christmas Day.

3

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

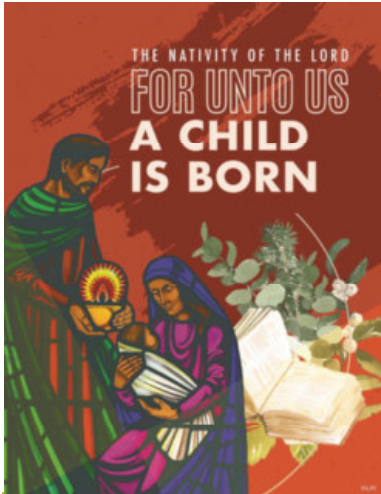


OFFERTORY REPORT

AMOUNT BUDGETED WEEKLY..... \$6,240.00
 SUNDAY COLLECTION (12/3/2023)..... \$9,046.00
 7/1/2023 TO DATE +/- BUDGET..... - (\$3,096.53)

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.



4TH WEEK OF ADVENT- DECEMBER 24TH

Scripture Reflection:

"And the angel said to them, "Be not afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord." Luke 2:10-11

Advent Wreath Prayer:

Dear Jesus, may the light of your love always shine in our hearts. As Christmas draws closer, we marvel at your great love for us. Let your love transform every aspect of our lives and touch everyone we encounter. Our hearts are open to you, Jesus. 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

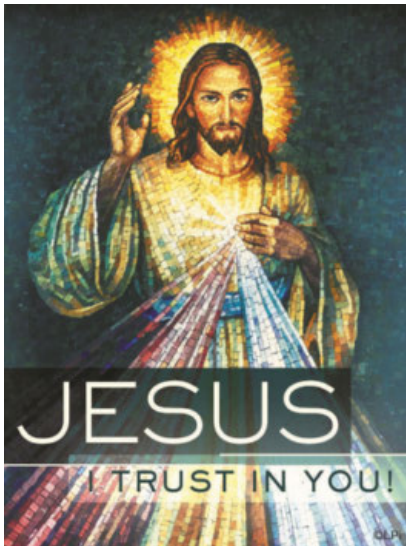
O Come Let Us Adore Him, Our Eucharistic Savior

“Make merry therefore on this beautiful day on which the sun of the Eucharistic is Rising. Let your gratitude never separate the crib from the altar; the Word made Flesh for the God-Man made Bread of Life in the Most Blessed Sacrament.” ~St. Peter Julian Eymard

I will praise God with the heart of the Angels.

*“Venerable Bruno [Lanteri] writes, ‘At the Gloria, I will seek the sentiments and the heart of the Angels.’ When we pray the words, ‘Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to people of goodwill. We praise You, we bless You, We adore You, we glorify You’ and the whole of this prayer of praise. Venerable Bruno invites us to do so with the sentiments and heart of the angels on the night when Christ was born in Bethlehem (Luke 2:13-14). God has taken flesh and lies in a manger. The angel proclaims ‘Good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Messiah and Lord’ (Luke 2:10-11). As the shepherds gaze in wonder, a multitude of angels fills the heavens and sings God’s praise . . . Our Gloria in the Mass praises God with their same words. With that appreciation of God’s work did the angels sing these words that night? With what understanding of the magnitude of the gift? With what joy? With what delight? With what desire to praise God for the immensity of His Love? **When you pray the Gloria at Mass, Venerable Bruno tells us, ask for the same sentiments. Ask for a heart like theirs, eager to proclaim God’s praises.**”*

~A Biblical Way of Praying the Mass, Fr. Timothy Gallagher, OMV



DIVINE MERCY MEDITATION - IN THE SMALLEST THINGS

At the chapter, Mother [Borgia] stressed a life of faith and fidelity in small things. Half way through the chapter, I heard these words: **I desire that you would all have more faith at the present time. How great is My joy at the faithfulness of My spouse in the smallest things.** Then I looked at the crucifix and saw that Jesus’ head was turned towards the refectory, and His lips were moving (*Diary*, 352).

*The words of Jesus appear in boldface type

My Prayer Response:

Dearest Jesus, I desire to be more faithful to You even in the smallest things in my daily life. I desire and long to live in union with You and be the joy of Your Heart. Amen!

PRO-LIFE THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

If our greatest need had been for information,
God would have sent us an Educator.

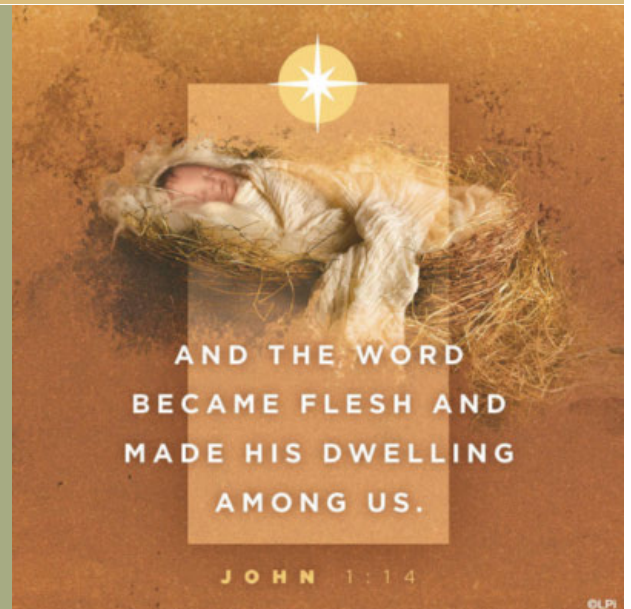
If our greatest need had been for technology,
God would have sent us a Scientist.

If our greatest need had been for money,
God would have sent us an Economist.

If our greatest need had been for pleasure,
God would have sent us an Entertainer.

**Our greatest need was forgiveness,
so God sent us a Savior!**

Merry Christmas!



CALLING ALL CHILDREN FOR CHRISTMAS EVE MASS - 12/24

We are asking all children of the parish and school to help us celebrate the birth of Jesus!

This Evening, Sunday, December 24th during the 4 pm Christmas Vigil Mass, we will have a procession with all our children. Please arrive at the main vestibule of the church by 3:50 pm to join us in the procession. All the children will process up the aisle with Fr. Ken to the Nativity Manger where Baby Jesus will be placed and the manger will be blessed. When the blessing is over, the children will return to their seats with their families to enjoy the Christmas Service.

THANK YOU FOR HELPING MAKE OUR CHRISTMAS VIGIL SO SPECIAL!

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

The School will be closed until Thursday, January 4th, 2024.

The Parish Office & Adoration Chapel will be closed on Monday, December 25th & Tuesday, December 26th for Christmas. Both will reopen on Wednesday, December 27th at regular hours.

The Parish Office & Adoration Chapel will be closed the first week of January (1/1/24-1/5/24) for the New Year. Everything will be open as normal on Monday, January 8, 2024.

MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR



CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

We wish you all a glad & peaceful Christmastide with all its memories sweet. May hope & love & joy be yours with kindly friends to greet. The echo of the angel's song, the star's clear guiding light, the **Christ Child** in your heart & home, to make this Christmas bright!

Merry Christmas to All!

**Fr. Smith, Fr. Thomas, Fr. Ken, Deacon Paul,
Mr. Alarcon & The entire Parish & School Staffs**

2023 MASS CONTRIBUTIONS

The cutoff date for 2023 Mass contributions is December 31, 2023. This year, December 31st is a Sunday. All Mass Contributions made the last weekend of the year will be recorded as a 2023 contribution. If you mail your envelopes, we will go by the postmark date. If you would like your contribution recorded in 2023, it must be post marked by December 31st or dropped off to the Parish Office. You can drop envelopes in the box at the side entrance of the Parish Office or the mail slot at the front door. Any questions, please give us a call.

Liturgical Ministers

Christmas Eve

Sunday, December 24th at 4:00 pm

Eucharistic Ministers: Genevieve Z., Joanne T.

Christmas Day

Monday, December 25th at 10:00 am

Eucharistic Ministers: Dan L., Karen L.

Saturday, December 30th at 4:00 pm

Eucharistic Ministers: Patty W., Patty R.

Sunday, December 31st at 10:00 am

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



MANY PRAYERS AND SYMPATHY

upon the death of **The Rev. Robert Pahler** on December 10, 2023.
Fr. Pahler was a priest in the Diocese of Cleveland for 66 years, .
May Fr. Pahler's soul and the souls of all the faithfully departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen

LIFE IS CHANGED, NOT ENDED.

PLEASE HELP US KEEP "UP-TO-DATE"

- **If you recently had a child**, & the baptism took place at another parish; please let us know so we can update our files.
- **If a child has moved out of your home**, & is living on his/her own; please let us know.
- **If you are a young adult 24 or older**, supporting yourself, living on your own or with your parents, you should be independently registered with our parish.
- **If your son or daughter has been married**, at a parish other than St. Anthony's, please also let us know.
- **If you have changed your address, email or phone number**, please let us know so have the correct information on file.

If you would like to submit an article for an upcoming Bulletin, **please send requests to obermillerk@stanthonylorain.com by Monday at 10 am.**

Bulletins are sent to print every Tuesday!

Matthew A. Stempowski, DDS Family and Cosmetic Dentistry

1936 Cooper Foster Park Rd. W
Lorain, Ohio 44053



Phone: (440) 233-4155
Fax: (440) 240-8715
www.navydds.com

Dr. William M. Schwartz Family Dentistry - Ins., Visa, M.C. Accepted Eve. & Sat. Hrs.

Call 934-4485 or 365-9872
5330 Meadow Lane Ct., Suite B
(North College Meadows)

Parishioner



DOVIN AND REBER JONES FUNERAL & CREMATION CENTER

1110 Cooper Foster Park Road
Amherst, Ohio 44001

440.985.2100

www.dovinreberjones.com

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!

WE'RE HIRING!

AD SALES EXECUTIVES

BE YOURSELF.
BRING YOUR PASSION.
WORK WITH PURPOSE.

- Paid training
- Some travel
- Work-life balance
- Full-Time with benefits
- Serve your community



Contact us at
careers@4lpi.com or
www.4lpi.com/careers

Place Your Ad Here and Support our Parish!

Instantly create and
purchase an ad with

AD CREATOR STUDIO



4lpi.com/adcreator



Raymond
PLUMBING HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING
Since 1957
Save on your Cooling Maintenance,
Call for details
www.raymondplumbing.com
1351 Broadway, Lorain • 440-244-5584

Your Community Bank
 3721 Oberlin Ave.
Lorain
440-282-6188
Member FDIC www.FFLorain.bank 

DISCOUNT drug mart
FOOD MARKET
AN EMPLOYEE OWNERSHIP COMPANY
The Stores That Save You the Runaround
2253 Colorado Ave. • Lorain, OH
440-288-0191

Muzik's Auto Care
TIRES • BATTERIES
BRAKES • EXHAUST
MINOR REPAIRS
704 West Erie Avenue
(440) 960-2000


440-244-1154
Contact us for all your automotive service needs.
Bring in this ad for 10% OFF any repairs over \$100.
jaxautomotive.com 

We Are Here For You
Burial Planning
Memorials
Grief Support

www.clecem.org
216-641-7575

Reidy-Scanlan-Giovanazzo
Funeral Home & Cremation Service
2150 Broadway • Lorain, OH
Traditional Funerals
Pre-Arranged Funerals • Cremation
Call for a Free Consultation
Vincent J. Giovannazzo
440-244-1961
www.rsgfuneralhome.com

THE STUMP GUY
FREE ESTIMATES • TREE TRIMMING
TREE REMOVAL • FULLY INSURED
Supporting Our Local Communities Since 2000
Ask about your winter price!
440-985-2676

 **MICHAEL D. TULLY, CO., L.P.A.**
ATTORNEY AT LAW
Serving the Residents of Lorain County Since 1980
PROBATE AND ESTATE ADMINISTRATION
6061 South Broadway, Lorain, OH 44053
(440) 233-8526 • www.miketully.com

Beginning our 2nd Century of Service

GLUVNA-SHIMO
HROMADA
Funeral Chapel
246-2118
www.gluvna.net

RAY GIDICH
HEATING & AIR
CONDITIONING, INC.
Residential & Commercial
440-245-1772
OH LIC #48775

Janasko Insurance Agency Inc.
562 Broadway, Lorain
440-245-6268
fax 440-246-6268
www.janaskoinsurance.com
 The Trusted Choice®

ADT-Monitored Home Security
Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

• Burglary • Flood Detection
• Fire Safety • Carbon Monoxide
 **SafeStreets** **833-287-3502**

Zelex Since 1951
FLOWER SHOP, INC.
Flowers, Plants, Garden Accessories
Fruit, Gourmet & Wine Baskets
2 Floors of Unique Gifts & Decor
1001 Reid Ave. (10th & Reid)
(440) 244-5259
www.zelexflowershop.com 

DM PLUMBING
HEATING
COOLING
Serving Lorain County for Over 50 Years
AMHERST ELYRIA
440-986-8507 440-323-6120

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!

WE APPRECIATE OUR ADVERTISERS!
They allow us to print this bulletin. Thank you!

catholicmatch®
Ohio 
CatholicMatch.com/OH

LET'S GROW YOUR BUSINESS
Place Your Ad Here and Support Our Parish!
CONTACT ME Michelle Weaver
mweaver@4LPi.com • (800) 477-4574 x6302