

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH | DECEMBER 31, 2023

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

COVER US
WITH YOUR
MANTLE OF LOVE



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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

MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

In the Readings for the Sunday after Christmas, the Church celebrates the Feast of the Holy Family and family life. This is timely and appropriate because Christmas is, or should be, a family celebration. It began with the Virgin Mary and St. Joseph becoming parents, rounding out their household into a family. This is the perfect model for our family culture.

In the First Reading, from the Book of Sirach (3:2-14), Sirach, the sage, gives us his concept of the ideal family with all the responsibilities, as well as the honors and benefits that are bestowed on each member. In modern society, we tend to overlook the responsibility that each member of a family has to all the other members regardless of age. That is why we have so many families falling apart. They are not pulling together because parents are not teaching the importance of "family life" and children, as soon as they are able, break away to follow their own interests instead of the interests of the family. Parents should read and teach this passage of scripture to the children for the betterment of the entire family.

In the Responsorial Psalm (128:1-5), the psalmist picks up the same theme of family life and blesses those who "walk in the way of the Lord." This subject is so important to the Lord and to the people of the Old Testament that it is repeated in Proverbs (31:10-31).

The Second Reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Colossians (3:12-21). In this passage, Paul gives us his thoughts on the ideal family and Christian life in general. This is just as true and applicable today as it was then. However, many women get upset with a certain phrase within this beautiful section of Paul's Letter and dismiss the entire passage. Please take a moment to listen to what Paul is really saying: **If we are truly Christians, with Christ living within us, then authority over, or responsibility to, should be a matter of "Love" not only within families, but toward everyone.**

In the Gospel Reading from the Gospel of Luke (2:22-40). In this passage we have three separate stories surrounding the dedication of the Child Jesus to God in accordance with the Mosaic Law and culture. Although Jesus was God and Joseph and Mary knew He was special in the eyes of God they were obedient to the Law and custom of their time. Simeon and Anna the prophetess recognized that something was special about this child and his family and without hesitating they attributed that to the goodness of God. We, today, should learn a lesson from this passage and recognize how special this family is and accept them as a role model for our family.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

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DECEMBER 31, 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

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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 own issue shall be your heir." The Lord took Abram outside & said, "Look up at the sky and count the stars, if you can. Just so," he added, "shall your descendants be." (Gn 3:4-5)

PSALM: The Lord remembers his covenant for ever. (Ps 105)

SECOND READING: By faith he received power to generate, even though he was past the normal age - & Sarah herself was sterile. (Heb 11:11)

GOSPEL: The child grew & became strong, filled with wisdom; & the favor of God was upon him. (Lk 2:40)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass
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MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday - Dec. 31st - The Holy Family

10:00 am - †Jeanne Provenza

Requested by: Linda Mathewson & Cathy Sekletar

Monday - Jan. 1st - Mary, The Holy Mother of God,

New Year's Day, World Day of Peace

8:30 am - †Living & Deceased Members of the Marian Guild

Requested by: The Marian Guild

Tuesday - Jan. 2nd - Sts. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops & Doctors of the Church

8:30 am - †Al Schultz

Requested by: Loving Family

Saturday - Jan. 6th - St. André Bessette, Religious

4:00 pm - †Albert Jancsura

Requested by: Loving Family

Sunday - Jan. 7th - The Epiphany of the Lord

10:00 am - †Jeanne Provenza

Requested by: Jeff Williams



READINGS FOR THE WEEK DECEMBER 31, 2023

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

Monday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 (2a)/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Jn 1:19-28

Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:29-3:6/Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6/Jn 1:29-34

Thursday: 1 Jn 3:7-10/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9/Jn 1:35-42

Friday: 1 Jn 3:11-21/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Jn 1:43-51

Saturday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-38 or 3:23, 31-34, 36, 38

Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 (see 11)/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12



NEW YEAR DAY MASS Monday, January 1st @ 8:30 am



Liturgical Ministers

Saturday, January 6th at 4:00 pm

Lectors: Laura V.

Eucharistic Ministers: Joanne C., Carol B., Pam W.

Sunday, January 7th at 10:00 am

Lectors: Rose J.

Eucharistic Ministers: Anna A., Anna S.

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THE HOLY FAMILY



OFFERTORY REPORT

AMOUNT BUDGETED WEEKLY..... \$6,240.00
 SUNDAY COLLECTION (12/10/2023) \$5,179.00
 7/1/2023 TO DATE +/- BUDGET..... - (\$3,580.53)



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.



PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR

God of all time, help us enter the New Year quietly, thoughtful of who we are to ourselves and to others, mindful that our steps make an impact and our words carry power. May we walk gently. May we speak only after we have listened well.

Creator of all life, help us enter the New Year reverently, aware that you have endowed every creature and plant, every person and habitat with beauty and purpose. May we regard the world with tenderness. May we honor rather than destroy.

Lover of all souls, help us enter the New Year joyfully, willing to laugh and dance and dream, remembering our many gifts with thanks and looking forward to blessings yet to come. May we welcome your lavish love. May we cast off the small, vindictive god our fears have made.

May the grace and peace of Christ bless us now and in the days ahead. 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 |
| Frank Murphy | 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.

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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

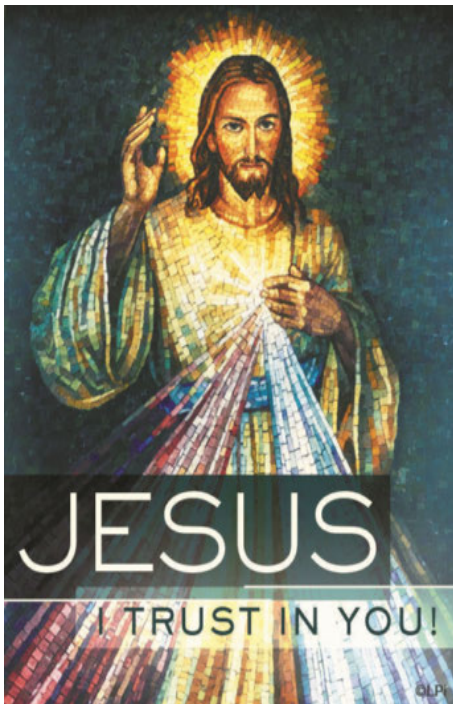
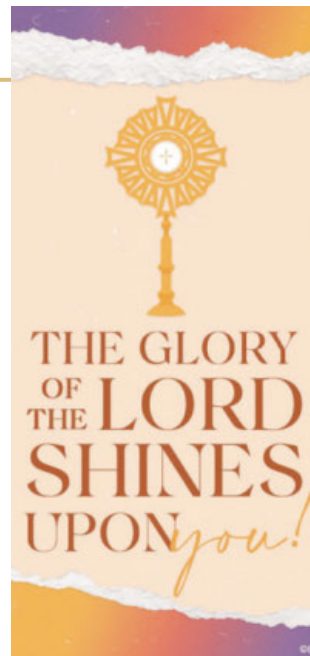
“[Today] I (St. Paul of the Cross) was in particular uplifting of soul especially at Holy Communion; I wanted to go and die a martyr’s death in a place where the adorable mystery of the Most Blessed Sacrament is denied . . . I had the desire for the conversion of heretics . . . And I offered a special prayer for that at Holy Communion.”

~Fr. Edmund, CP

St. John, Apostle and Evangelist rested his head upon the bosom of Jesus at the Last Supper. Let us rest upon the Sacred Heart of Jesus during our Holy Hours of Eucharistic Adoration and listen and learn from Him. **His feast day is December 27th and is the Patron of Theologians.**

“You, Christ’s first fruits, a flock of tender sacrificial victims, now play with your palms and crowns right up by the very altar.” ~Hymn for the Feast of the Holy Innocents

“So Holy Communion is a delight to your Infant Savior because He loves you immeasurably. He tells You in His heart-to-heart interview that He has become a little Infant, so that you may love Him with a human love without fear.” ~St. Katherine Drexel



DIVINE MERCY MEDITATION - PART 1: WITH A PERFECT SOUL

Soul: My Lord and Master, I desire to converse with You.

Jesus: **Speak, My beloved child, for I am always listening. I wait for you. What do you desire to say?**

Soul: Your response.

Jesus: **Your words please Me, and your thanksgiving opens up new treasures of graces. But, My child, we should talk in more detail about the things that lie in your heart. Let us talk confidentially and frankly, as two hearts that love one another do** (*Diary*, 1489).

Soul: Your response

**The words of Jesus appear in boldface type*

My Prayer Response:

My Lord Jesus, I want to love You more. I want to be faithful to Your will. I want to desire and long for You. I want to live the exhortation of St. Paul: “*Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in all things give thanks, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus regarding you all*” (1 Thess 5:16-18). Amen!



PRO-LIFE THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

Thank you to everyone who participated in the 2023 Fall Campaign of 40 Days for Life. **God poured blessings upon the campaign and we know 501 babies, mothers, fathers, and families were spared from abortion, 2 more abortion workers experienced conversion, and 3 more abortion facilities closed. Praise God! Cumulatively over the 16 years of 40 Days for Life, there have been 24,203 babies spared from abortion, 256 converted abortion workers, and 148 abortion facility closures. Praise God!** We look forward to praying with you from February 14th – March 24th in the 2024 Spring Campaign. God bless you and thank you. ~John Noall, campaign director - 40 DFL/Cleveland/Bedford Hts/Painesville

PASTOR'S COLUMN CONTINUED

Although Advent is primarily the time of soul-searching and preparation, of waiting and hoping, of examining our hearts and actions to see if they conform to what God expects of us is over, we should not stop the process at the end of Advent. Examining our lives as individuals and as a member of a family should be a daily event (as part of our Prayer Time) to see if we are in tune with what God wants from us. Why not consider, perhaps as a New Year's resolution, to have a weekly Family Prayer Meeting where at least one member of the family reads from the Bible and then all share their understanding of that passage. *Something to think about during your prayer time this week!*

~Rev. Edward J. Smith

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

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

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 8th, 2024.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

2023 MASS CONTRIBUTIONS

The cutoff date for 2023 Mass contributions is TODAY, December 31, 2023. All Mass Contributions made this weekend will be recorded as a 2023 contribution. If you mail your envelopes, we will go by the postmark date. Any questions, please give us a call.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Dear Parishioners,

The Marian Guild would like to thank you for supporting the 3rd Annual Holiday Bake Sale and Gift Basket Raffle! To those of you who donated an abundance of delicious cookies, candies & baked goods our deepest thanks! To all who helped make this a very successful event, especially the ladies on the committee whose "labor of love" does not go unnoticed, thank you very much. Congratulations to the winners of the Basket Raffle and the 50-50 Raffle.

**GOD BLESS YOU ALL & WE WISH YOU A BLESSED NEW YEAR
FROM THE MARIAN GUILD**



DONATIONS HAVE BEEN MADE

in memory of Rhett Golowenski
for *St. Vincent de Paul Society* by Dorothy Golowenski.

in memory of Marge Cetovich & Mary Ann Majjasie
for *Marian Guild* by Dorothy Diane Varga.

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 any of your contact information (address, email or phone number), please let us know so we have your correct information on file.

SAVE THE DATE!

Panther Pride Trivia & Raffle

Featuring Jeremy Moen, EC Class of 1994



Saturday January 20, 2024
St. Mary's Parish Hall, Elyria

Tickets include sit down dinner with unlimited beer, water & soda.

Events: Side Boards, 50/50 Raffle, 20+ \$200 Baskets, Heads/ Tails Raffle &
\$500 cash to winning Trivia table!



Mark your calendars.
 Tickets will be published soon!



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!

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