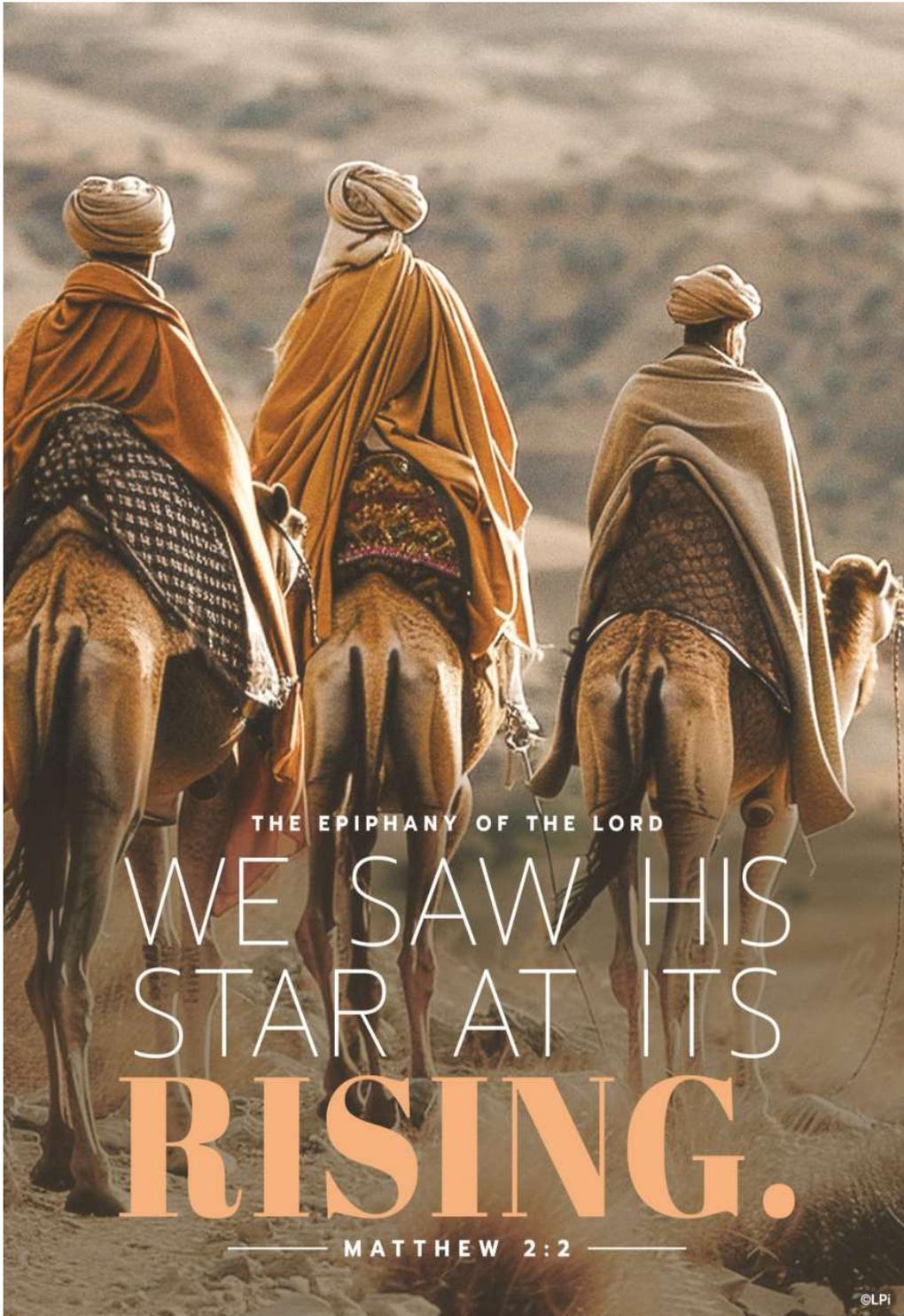


ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH | JANUARY 4, 2026



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

WE SAW HIS
STAR AT ITS
RISING.

MATTHEW 2:2

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday 4:00 pm
Sunday 10:00 am

WEEKDAYS

Monday & Tuesday:
8:30 am

HOLY DAY MASSES

Consult the bulletin

PARISH OFFICE

1305 E. Erie Ave.
Lorain, OH 44052
Phone: 440-288-0106
Fax: 440-288-0143
[ParishOffice@
StAnthonyLorain.com](mailto:ParishOffice@StAnthonyLorain.com)

MAILING ADDRESS

P.O. Box 2199
Sheffield Lake, OH 44054

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday:
9:00 am - 2:00 pm

ADORATION CHAPEL

Monday - Friday:
9:00 am - 2:00 pm

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION (PSR)

Monday 6:15-7:30 pm
October 21st to May 5th

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA SCHOOL

440-288-2155
StAnthonyLorain.org

Julio Alarcon, Principal

WEBSITE: WWW.STANTHONYLORAIN.ORG/OUR-PARISH

MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

**A parishioner at my first parish
once related this story to me...**

I was telling my new workplace friend about how awful my former boss had been, when she laughed and said, "So forget him. Why not just enjoy it here?" Then she went on to tell me a little story about herself:

I'm reminded of the time I moved a few years ago. I was making enough money to have a professional mover pack for me, and when he asked what I wanted him to pack, I just waved my arm and said, "Everything!"

So, when I got to my new place, I saw that he had taken me literally. Along with my furniture he had packed up all my trash bins; there I was in my beautiful new place with all my old garbage...including old newspapers, empty ketchup bottles, and grapefruit peels!

I will never forget that conversation...in fact, I tell it often...because I think it packs a big meaning. As we enter a new year, we must not make the mistake of dragging the worst of the old year along with us. If we should learn anything from the Gospel, it's that God is totally dedicated to offering us new life and redemption from our past mistakes. That's why Jesus suffered so horribly for us. He died so that our sins might be forgiven, and that our relationship with God might be restored. Therefore, as you bravely enter the year 2026, don't allow it to become like all the others. If there are changes that need to be made, then make them. If there are relationships to repair, repair them. Above all, do not enter into this New Year full of fear, because we are most especially a people of hope. As the great writer C.S. Lewis

once said, "Hope is the essential Christian virtue." Therefore, my hope and prayer for all of you is that 2026 will be a year full of blessing and grace for all of you

*Rev. Edward
J. Smith*



2

JANUARY 4, 2026 | THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

SACRAMENTAL CELEBRATIONS

CONFESSION

Saturday 3:00 pm or by appt.

BAPTISM

At least one parent must be a parishioner & actively attending Mass prior to calling.

*Baptisms will be held on the
4th Sunday of the month.*

MARRIAGE

At least one member of the couple must be a parishioner & actively attending Mass prior to calling. No date may be reserved until discussion with the pastor of the parish.

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

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Call the Parish Office

PASTORAL STAFF

440-288-0106

Rev. Edward J. Smith, Pastor

Father Thomas Sanders, OSB,
Weekend Associate

Father Ken Katricak, OSB,
Priest in Residence

Deacon Paul Heise

Diana Lesiecki, Business Manager

Kathleen Obermiller,
Bulletin Editor/PCL

John Kowalski, Music Minister

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

Altar Servers - Alan Brailer

Art & Environment - Linda Mathewson

**Extraordinary Ministers of
Holy Communion - Marybeth Brailer**

Lectors - Nadya Cole

Sacristans - Mike Darby

Ushers - Alan Brailer

PARISH COUNCIL

Carol Jancsura

Joe Smith

Amy Rottman

David Zientarski

SUNDAY READINGS

FIRST READING: Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you. (*Is 60:1*)

PSALM: Lord, every nation on earth will adore you. (*Ps 72*)

SECOND READING: It was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body. (*Eph 3:5-6*)

GOSPEL: "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." (*Mt 2:2*)

*Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass
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Sunday - January 4th - The Epiphany of the Lord

10:00 am - †Dante & Janet Mercurio
Requested by: Marilyn Mercurio

Monday - January 5th - St. John Neumann, Bishop

8:30 am - †All the Family Members of the St. Anthony Parish & School
Requested by: Hiliare Tavenner

Tuesday - January 6th - St. André Bessette, Religious

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

Saturday - January 10th - The Baptism of the Lord Vigil Mass

4:00 pm - †Albert Jancsura
Requested by: Loving Family

Sunday - January 11th - The Baptism of the Lord

10:00 am - †Norma Michalski
Requested by: Norman Michalski



READINGS FOR THE WEEK JANUARY 4, 2026

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

Monday: 1 Jn 3:22-4:6/Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8/Mk 6:34-44

Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13/Mk 6:45-52

Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19-5:4/Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17/Lk 4:14-22a

Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Lk 5:12-16

Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a and 9b/Jn 3:22-30

Next Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10/Acts 10:34-38/Mt 3:13-17

EPIPHANY BLESSINGS!

Dear God,
It was You who inspired the Magi to follow the star to find You. Inspire us to seek You, as well. Bless our homes and families this season, make them places where we can encounter You through prayer and community. Amen.

Calendar of EVENTS

January 6th & 8th - Pierogi Production from 9am - 2 pm
Join us every Tuesday & Thursday through Lent!

February 14th - Save the Date! Join us for our **Reverse Raffle & Valentine Feast by Pogie** immediately following Mass in the Social Hall. **Tickets go on sale after all Masses beginning January 17th.** (*See page 7*)

Liturgical Ministers

Saturday, January 10th at 4:00 pm
Lectors: Laura V.
Eucharistic Ministers: Joanne C., Lynne K., Pam W.

Sunday, January 11th at 10:00 am
Lectors: Rose J.
Eucharistic Ministers: Anna S., Anna A.

OFFERTORY REPORT

NEW FISCAL YEAR & BUDGET (7/1/25-6/30/26)

AMOUNT BUDGETED WEEKLY..... \$ 6,347.00
 SUNDAY COLLECTION (12/7/2025) \$ 6,278.00
 7/1/2025 TO DATE +/- BUDGET..... - (\$25,835.12)



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 INTENTION OF THE HOLY FATHER

JANUARY 2026 - FOR PRAYER WITH THE WORD OF GOD

Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.
 Amen.

<https://popesprayerusa.net/popese-intentions/>



PRAYER REQUESTS

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Gloria Badillo	Scott Barnes	Janet Baxter	Tim "Swampy" Burton	Pete Cetovich	Lynn Coscho
Ann DiFrancesco	Jerry Donovan	Dominic Doré	Denise Ellis	Diane Fate	Leonard Findish
Deacon Jose Flores	Norma Jean Flores	Scott Friges	Virginia Glass	Barbara Glick	Joe Gluvna
Brian Grace	Dan George	Renee Golowenski	Carol Gonzales	Jillian Gonzalez	Clara Hodorowski
Kevin Holley	Phyllis Holomuzki	Bob Humphrey	Jennifer Humphrey	Boston Lee Jackson	Iris Pearl Jackson
Al Jacobs	Sylvia Johnston	Johnna Kuhar	Tina Lascko	Amanda Jacobs-Leadbetter	Dean Martin III
Alan McCartney	Rita McConley	Sandra Merkly	Father Christian Moore	Frank Murphy	Jim "Daddy-o" Naugle
Mary Nazario	Joan Paterniti	Raul, Maria & Leti Patino	Luci Payne	Elizabeth Raddell	Emily Raddell
Joe Rizzo	Judy Smith	Mother & Dad Spanos	Emily Stefan	Jace Tokarczyk	Nevaeh Torres
Peter Uies	Stacie Velasquez	Nick Vivens	Linda Vrbancic	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 or Terri, 440-320-3272**

ADORATION CHAPEL

“LORD, I’M WAITING FOR YOU” - AN EXCERPT BISHOP ROBERT BARRON

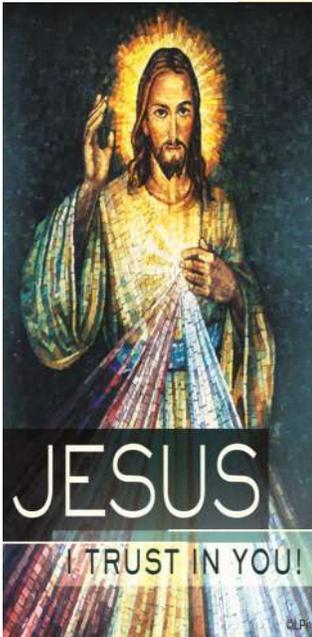
I strongly recommend the classically Catholic discipline of Eucharistic Adoration. To spend a half hour or an hour in the presence of the Lord is not to accomplish or achieve very much - it is not really “getting” anywhere - but it is a particularly rich form of spiritual waiting. As you keep vigil before the Blessed Sacrament, bring to Christ some problem or dilemma that you have been fretting over, and then say, “Lord, I’m waiting for you to solve this, to show me the way out, the way forward. I’ve been running, planning, worrying, but now I’m going to let you work.” Then ... watch attentively for signs.

Also, when you pray before the Eucharist, allow your desire for the things of God to intensify; allow your heart and soul to expand. Pray, “Lord, make me ready to receive the gifts you want to give,” or even, “Lord Jesus, surprise me.”



SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD - JANUARY 5TH:

“The nearest Bethlehem you have is the Adoration Chapel, where Jesus himself is hidden in the tabernacle or exposed, but always present for you, 24/7. Jesus in the Eucharist, the same child that the Magi from the East traveled for days & nights to adore, stays present for you and for me in the Blessed Sacrament of the altar. Jesus is present in the Eucharist. The most tangible manifestation we have today of Our Lord is in the Eucharist.” ~Maria Elisa Olivas



DIVINE MERCY MEDITATION - BE ALWAYS READY

Today I said to the Lord, “When will You take me to Yourself? I’ve been feeling so ill, and I’ve been waiting for Your coming with such longing!” Jesus answered me, **Be always ready; I will not leave you in this exile for long. My holy will must be fulfilled in you.**

O Lord, if Your holy will has not yet been entirely fulfilled in me, here I am, ready for everything that You want, O Lord! O my Jesus, there is only one thing which surprises me; namely, that You make so many secrets known to me; but that one secret — the hour of my death — You do not want to tell me. And the Lord answered me, **Be at peace; I will let you know, but not just now** (*Diary*, 1539).

**The words of Jesus appear in boldface type*

My Prayer Response:

Lord Jesus, prepare me for my own personal end times. May I fulfill Your will in my life & be at peace with Your perfect timing for my death & entrance into eternal life with You. Amen.

Get daily mediations emailed to you at
forms.thedivinemercy.org/dmdsignup/.

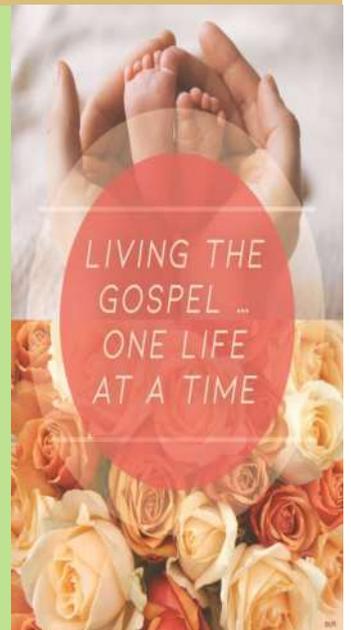
PRO-LIFE THOUGHT OF THE WEEK FROM [PROLIFECORNER.COM](https://www.prolifecorner.com)

The Pro-Life Corner started in 1985 & at that time we believed that soon the atrocity of abortion on demand would no longer exist in America. **We were so very wrong.** The sad reality is babies are still dying from abortions every day in our nation. Abortion is a popular & common form of birth control. Also the increased use of the “pill”, which is an abortifacient & causes thousands of abortions each day in America alone, is ending the lives of so many babies; the government sanctioned & taxpayer funding of Planned Parenthood is another part of this ongoing war on the unborn.

Think about this:

“I do not hesitate to proclaim before you & before the world that all human life - from the moment of conception & throughout all subsequent stages - is sacred, because human life is created in the image & likeness of God... and when God gives life, it is forever.”

We must continue to pray constantly for an end to this evil & for an end to euthanasia & assisted suicide since they take so many lives each year. We must not get discouraged because strides have been made so we must keep on doing everything we can to help save lives.



ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA



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MANY PRAYERS AND SYMPATHY

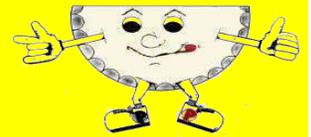
To Jerry, Alanna and his many family & friends,
upon the passing of **Jameson-John Jeremiah Donovan-Gossett**
on December 19, 2025.

*May Jameson-John's soul and the souls of all the faithfully departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen*

LIFE IS CHANGED, NOT ENDED.

PIEROGI PRODUCTION TIME!!

Pierogi production will begin this week on **Tuesday, 1/6 & Thursday, 1/8,**
from 9 am to 2 pm. Production will be every Tuesday and Thursday through Lent.



TIME TO SCHEDULE MORE MASS INTENTIONS

We will open Masses for April, May and June of 2026 on Wednesday, January 7th.
You can schedule by calling, **440-288-0106 ext. 221.** Please leave a message with your name, date of intention wanted, name of intention and your phone number. We will call you back when scheduling is complete.
Requests will be honored in the order we receive them.

For the rest of the 2026 requests, we will open the books:
Wednesday, 4/1 for July, August & September & **Wednesday, 7/1** for October, November & December

We still have some weekday masses available for January, February and March also!



Catholic Renewal Ministries Traveling Healing Mass

January 16th 2026

St. Julie Billiart Parish

Fr. Bob Franco, Celebrant

Praise & worship begins at 7:00
Liturgy begins at 7:30 p.m.



St. Julie Billiart Parish
5500 Lear Nagel Rd.
North Ridgeville, OH 44039

All are Welcome!

Healing prayer teams will be available after mass for individual prayer, and there will also be a social after mass.

Come, Sing and Praise God with Joy!

Contact CRM: 440-944-9445

Healing Prayer teams will be available after Mass for individual prayer.

crmweb.org

Monthly Grief Support Groups

We offer a comfortable, private, and encouraging environment where you are free to explore your grief and all you are feeling. Meetings are open discussion, surrounding a monthly topic or whatever is on your heart. Come and be in the presence of those who understand.

Our monthly grief support groups are offered in two formats: in-person and virtual.

- † In-person groups meet from 3 PM to 4 PM.
- † The virtual group meets from 5 PM to 6 PM, and you can register for the virtual session on our website

Your RSVP is greatly appreciated but not required. For more information or if you have questions, please contact Renee Weese at rweese@cleccm.org or 216-930-4866.



Locations

- Holy Cross Cemetery, Brookpark
- Holy Cross Cemetery, Akron
- St. Joseph Cemetery, Avon
- All Saints Cemetery, Northfield
- All Souls Cemetery, Chardon

2026 Schedule

January 18th	July 19th
February 15th	August 16th
March 15th	September 20th
April 19th	October 18th
May 17th	November 15th
June 28th	December 20th

www.cleccm.org
216.641.7575



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BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

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



You Are Cordially Invited To....

♥ A Reverse Raffle and Valentine Feast! ♥

50/50 Raffle, Door Prizes, Cupid & St. Valentine Stories with our own Deacon Paul!!

17 Saturday, February 14th, 2026

🕒 5:00pm-8:00pm

📍 St. Anthony Social Hall – Lorain, OH

🌟 Tickets 🌟

Adults: \$20

(\$18 if purchased before January 31st)

Children (12 & under): \$15

Ticket Includes:

Delicious Buffet Feast by Pogie's Catering
Dessert and Chocolate Fountain
Water, Coffee, Tea

1 drink ticket - (cash bar for beer, wine coolers and pop)
Entry into Door Prizes throughout Evening

Purchase tickets after masses beginning January 17th, through the Parish Office or through Venmo @StAnthony-Lorain noting "Pogie's Dinner" on or before February 6th

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