

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH | NOVEMBER 30, 2025



1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"Be sure of this: if the master of the house had known the hour of night when the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake." - Mt 24:43

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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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

PARISH OFFICE

1305 E. Erie Ave.
Lorain, OH 44052
Phone: 440-288-0106
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[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

Today we begin the season of Advent, a time of preparation and remembrance. Our preparation is for the "King of Kings" that we celebrate today, hoping and expecting that He will come into our hearts and homes on Christmas day with all the peace and joy that only a loving God and Savior could bring. The remembrance is of the time He came to earth 2000 years ago as an infant to begin the Christian era with the divine gift of salvation which He holds out to all who are willing to commit themselves to His way of living.

In the First Reading from the Prophet Isaiah (2:1-5), we hear the prophet in the early part of the 8th century BC extolling the future blessings of greatness for Jerusalem which was about to be destroyed by the Assyrians. Jerusalem was looked upon by the Jews as the center of the world, and the Lord's seat of presence and power rested there. Now it was about to be destroyed, but a new day would come and it would again shine with eternal light. Isaiah's purpose was to get the people to prepare for that time now, to return to the Lord now, and not wait another minute. We must do the same and for the same reasons.

The Responsorial Psalm, (122:1- 9) takes up the same theme, but at a time much later when the Israelites were returning from their exile in Babylon. They finally got the message that Isaiah had preached earlier. They were now returning to Jerusalem and were realizing a dream that had eluded them for over 50 years.

The Second Reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Romans (13:11- 14). There we hear Paul exhort the early Christians to prepare for the coming of the Lord. This "Letter" was written during a very difficult time for the early Christians, much like the Jews of Isaiah's time. Conditions were much the same except that this time it was the Romans who were about to destroy Jerusalem. Paul counsels the Christians to be ready to suffer, if necessary, for their faith and their God.

In the Gospel Reading from the Gospel of Matthew (24:37- 44), we hear what is often referred to as the "little apocalypse" or Jesus' prediction of the destruction of Jerusalem 40 years later in 70 AD. Here, as in St. Paul's letter above, the early Christians are counseled to pray and prepare for what will seem to them to be the "end of the world." However, for those who are living according to the teachings of Jesus Christ, the end of this world is only the beginning of heaven.

The readings at the end of Ordinary Time (last Sunday) and the first part of Advent (today) are full of what appears to be gloom and doom; but they are only reminders that this life, this world, is only temporary and we should be looking to the future, to the New Jerusalem in heaven. That doesn't mean that we should not enjoy life here on earth, but it does mean that we should be prepared because "we know not the day or the hour." However, our preparation should take the form of an inventory of our spiritual walk with our God in Jesus Christ. "Are we walking in His footprints?"

Something to think about during your Prayer Time this week.

Rev. Edward J. Smith

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NOVEMBER 30, 2025 | 1ST WEEK OF ADVENT

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: O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD! (*Isa 2:5*)

PSALM: Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord. (*Ps 122*)

SECOND READING: You know the time; it is the hour now for you to awake from sleep. For our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. (*Rom 13:11*)

GOSPEL: "So too, you also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come." (*Mt 24:44*)

*Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass
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READINGS FOR THE WEEK NOVEMBER 30, 2025

Sunday: Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Rom 13:11-14/Mt 24:37-44

Monday: Is 4:2-6/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4c-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: Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Mt 9:27-31

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 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 (see 7)/Rom 15:4-9/Mt 3:1-12



ADVENT

HOPE. LOVE. JOY. PEACE.



Sunday - November 30th - 1st Sunday of Advent

10:00 am - †Grace Matesic
Requested by: Loving Family

Monday - December 1st - Advent Weekday

8:30 am - †Irene Long
Requested by: St. Anthony Parish Friends

Tuesday - December 2nd - Advent Weekday

8:30 am - †Officer Phil Wagner
Requested by: Mathewson Family

Saturday - December 6th - St. Nicholas, Bishop

4:00 pm - †John Ploszai
Requested by: Stephen & Ed Nemeth

Sunday - December 7th - 2nd Sunday of Advent

10:00 am - †Anthony M. Smith
Requested by: Joseph & Juanita Smith

PRAYER FOR ADVENT - ARISE!

Bless God's Holy Name! Prepare our hearts for Your coming, Lord. Awaken them from any places that have become sleepy or despondent. Inspire us with new visions. Be with us as we climb closer to You. Amen.

Calendar of EVENTS

November 29th & December 6th, 13th & 20th - Catholicism 101

Fr. Smith & Fr. Ken will offer a brief refresher on our faith entitled: *Catholicism 101*. They will be covering topics ranging from Jesus, the Church, & the Sacraments. The gatherings will take place from 2:00-3:00 pm, prior to Confessions, Saturdays of Advent in the Church Meeting Room.

December 7th - Marian Guild Christmas Luncheon at Lorain Senior Center. Doors open at 11 am.

December 8th - The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary



Holy Day of Obligation
Masses at 8:30 am & 4:00 pm
(No Vigil Mass Day Before)

December 13th & 14th - Marian Guild Annual Holiday Bake Sale and Christmas Market after Masses.

December 14th - Parish Events Team Meeting after Mass

Liturgical Ministers

Saturday, December 6th at 4:00 pm

Lectors: Marybeth B.
Eucharistic Ministers: Pam W., Patty R., Marybeth B.

Sunday, December 7th at 10:00 am

Lectors: Celia F.
Eucharistic Ministers: Hilaire T., Dan L., Karen L/

OFFERTORY REPORT

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

AMOUNT BUDGETED WEEKLY..... \$ 6,347.00
 SUNDAY COLLECTION (11/2/2025) \$ 5,622.00
 7/1/2025 TO DATE +/- NEW BUDGET..... - (\$19,064.12)

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.



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL NEWS

The St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. Anthony Church would like to thank all of our benefactors for their continued & constant support. We also would like to thank you for & ask you to continue to **drop off breakfast items for the Homeless Shelter.**

Many of the men who live in the shelter, do not have warm socks, hats, gloves, or scarves. If you would consider donating any of these items, we would really appreciate it & so would they. Just leave them in the SVDP boxes at all the church doors.

Thank you for letting us depend on you & your generosity. May God Bless You and keep you & your families warm and safe during these winter months and always!



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	Amanda Jacobs-Leadbetter	Dean Martin III	Alan McCartney
Rita McConley	Sandra Merkly	Jen Mitterholzer	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 Vrbanic	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

First Sunday of Advent: O Come Let U Adore Him in the Holy Eucharist

St. Andrew the Apostle - Feast Day: November 30th

It is said that God will answer the prayer of whoever recites the St. Andrew Christmas Novena **15 times a day from November 30, the Feast of St. Andrew, through Christmas Eve.** The Gospel of John tells us that St. Andrew was a disciple of John the Baptist who heard John call Jesus “*the Lamb of God.*” Andrew followed Jesus, curious about him, and realized that he was the Messiah, so he quickly found his brother, Peter, and the two became the first disciples. In praying this novena, Christians follow the example of Andrew’s prescient faithfulness throughout the season of Advent.

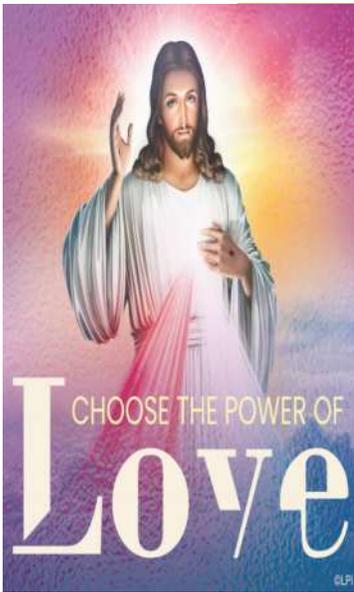
St. Andrew Novena:

“Hail and blessed be the hour and moment in which the Son of God was born of the most pure Virgin Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in the piercing cold. In that hour vouchsafe, I beseech Thee, O my God, to hear my prayer and grant my desires through the merits of Our Savior Jesus Christ, and of His blessed Mother. Amen.”



St. Nicholas, Bishop, Patron of Children & Russia, Myra, 4th Century - Feast Day: December 6th

St. Nicholas’ faith was so strong that after his Confirmation and reception of the Holy Eucharist, he wanted to give all in charity to make Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament loved and lead all souls to His Real Presence.



DIVINE MERCY MEDITATION - MISSION OF MERCY

My daughter, give Me souls. Know that it is your mission to win souls for Me by prayer and sacrifice, and by encouraging them to trust in My mercy (Diary, 1690).

**The words of Jesus appear in boldface type*

My Prayer Response:

Lord Jesus, help me to win souls for You by prayer and sacrifice.
Help me to encourage souls to trust in Your mercy.
Like St. Faustina, the great Apostle of Divine Mercy,
may I make this my mission in life.

Get daily meditations emailed to you at
forms.thedivinemercy.org/dmsignup/.

JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU!

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

Even though Roe v Wade is no longer a federal law, we still face abortions every day.

However, due to the individual states deciding their own abortion regulations, abortions have thankfully decreased somewhat. We must continue to work and pray diligently to end abortion in our nation and save God’s beautiful unborn babies.

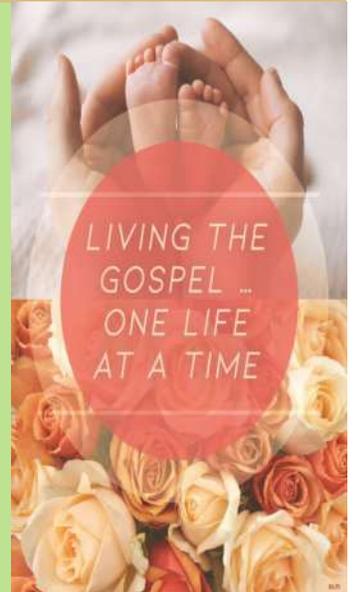
It is our hope that these quotes will inspire you to share them and to join pro-life.

Continue to pray to end abortion.

Think about this:

The legal system has become equally inconsistent on the subject of life’s sanctity. While the courts permit abortion on grounds that a fetus doesn’t qualify as a human because it can neither survive outside the womb nor enjoy the finer things in life, federal officials ruthlessly prosecute people who harm birds or even a bird egg. How sad!

Lord, let us not be cowards; give us the courage & wisdom necessary to stand up & fight the evil of abortion & euthanasia today. Amen!



Giving Tree Donations



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 blessings during the holiday season, we remember those who are less fortunate! This year, we are once again partnering with Birthright of Lorain for the Giving Tree Program. The students have decorated the Giving Trees with "angel ornaments" that list gift requests for underprivileged babies and children right here in Lorain.

Please consider choosing an ornament from one of the Giving Trees located in the Church vestibules of different price ranges to help a baby or child in need.

If you are not able to choose an angel ornament in person, there are some items that are always needed you can donate: Enfamil Formula (Infant or Gentlease), Burp cloths, Diapers (any size), Baby Wipes (50-100 count) Baby washcloths & towels, Cotton sleepers (0-3 months, 3-6 months), Baby sleep sacks (0-6 months), Receiving blankets, Fleece baby blankets

Please **DO NOT WRAP** the gifts. Instead use an open gift bag & attach the ornament tag. Gifts should be brought to the church by the weekend of December 13th & 14th and placed in front of the St. Anthony altar. These gifts will then 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.
May God Bless our parish families of St. Anthony of Padua this Christmas Season!*

ADVENT LESSONS: CATHOLICISM 101

During Saturdays of Advent, Fr. Smith & Fr. Ken will be offering a brief refresher on our faith entitled: Catholicism 101 - covering topics ranging from Jesus, the Church, and the Sacraments.

The gatherings will take place from 2:00 - 3:00 pm, prior to Confessions, on the Saturdays of Advent, November 29th, and December 6th, 13th & 20th in the Church Meeting Room.

All parishioners are welcome to attend beginning on November 29th.



MARIAN GUILD CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON - 12/7

The Marian Guild Christmas luncheon will be Sunday, December 7th, at the Lorain Senior Center on Garfield Blvd.

Linda Howell will entertain us again this year with her lovely, soulful voice & inspire us with a Christmas reflection.

Reservations for a delicious Italian luncheon will be taken by contacting Terri George at 440-320-3272.

Tickets are \$15. All ladies of the parish are most welcome to join us!

THEOLOGY ON THE ROCKS WEST - 12/8

For adults 40 & over, please join us on Monday, December 8th at Westside Irish American Club, 8559 Jennings Road, Olmsted Township. **Doors open at 6:30 pm** with the program beginning at 7 pm.

Dr. Jacqueline Philips-Sabol, Ph.D., Neuropsychologist & Faith Leader, Director of The Center for Spiritual Healing (Diocese of Erie), will speak on "*Your Brain on ~~Drugs~~ Prayer*".

Come learn through scientific data, videos & examples how the effects of prayer & faith have on our health, brain function & our lives. Cost is \$15.00 per person which includes light appetizers & refreshments. Cash Bar is also available. **Advance tickets recommended.** Register in advance:

www.theologyontherockswest.com. Hope you will join us for a theologically enriching evening!



MARIAN GUILD HOLIDAY BAKE SALE & CHRISTMAS MARKET - 12/13 & 12/14

On Saturday, December 13th & Sunday, December 14th after the Masses, we will be having our annual "*Holiday Bake Sale*" in the main vestibule of the church. We will also have a small "*Christmas Market*".

All items will be \$25 or less! If you are looking for a nice holiday centerpiece, fresh or artificial, a gift for a teacher or your secret Santa or something nice for yourself, you will find it at our Christmas Market!

Small gifts will be available for children to purchase as well.

We would greatly appreciate donations of baked goods for our Bake Sale!

The delicious treats can be dropped off on Friday, December 12th, at the church between 10 am and Noon. If you are unable to deliver your baked goods, call Linda at 449-667-9050 to make arrangements for pickup!

Thank you so much for your interest and support!



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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.

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A FESTIVE AND HEARTWARMING EVENING OF CHRISTMAS MUSIC

Friday, December 12 at 7:30 PM
St. Joseph Parish, Avon Lake

32929 Lake Road, Avon Lake, OH

Saturday, December 13 at 7:30 PM
St. Peter Parish, Lorain

3655 Oberlin Avenue, Lorain, OH

Sunday, December 14 at 4:00 PM
St. Mary Parish, Sandusky

429 Central Avenue, Sandusky, OH

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