

Saint Anthony of Padua Church

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 23, 2018

853 Third Avenue, Elizabeth, New Jersey 07202

Parish Phone: (908) 351-3300 Parish Fax: (908) 351-3609

Convent Phone: (908) 354-0825 School Phone (908) 352-7419

Web page: <http://www.stanthonyelizabeth.com>

Email: stanthonyofpaduaelizabeth@gmail.com

Pastoral Staff:

Rev. Oscar Martin Dominguez, Pastor

Rev. Juan Carlos Zapata, Parochial Vicar

Eucharist:

Daily: Chapel 8:30 am

Monday, Thursday: 7:00 pm (Spanish)

Saturday: 5:00 pm, 7:00 pm (Spanish)

Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:30 am, 12:00 noon (Spanish)

Next Holy Day of Obligation

(All Sundays)

December 25 - Christmas Day

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Thursday: Holy Hour following 7 pm Mass

Hora Santa después de la misa 7 pm

Office Hours:

Daily (Diario) (M - F) 9:00 am - 8:00 pm

Baptism/Bautizos:

Baptisms in English are the first and third Saturday of each month. Arrangements should be made one month in advance. Parents should be registered parishioners.

Los Bautizos son el 2do y 4to sábado de cada mes. Deben de pasar por la oficina para coordinar la fecha por lo menos con un mes de anticipación. Deben de estar inscritos en la parroquia para solicitar un bautismo.

Marriage/Matrimonio:

Please arrange with the priest at least one year in advance. Por favor de separar fecha con el sacerdote y un año de anticipación.

Reconciliation/Reconciliación:

Every Saturday (Cada Sábado) 4:00 PM—5:00 PM

Religious Education/Catecismo:

English: Sunday at 9:00 am in the Grammar school

Español: Sábado a las 10:00 am se reúnen en la cafetería de la escuela.

Sponsorship/Godparent Certificates

You must be an **active parishioner** (registered) for at least 6 months to receive a Certificate of eligibility to be a sponsor or godparent.

Debe ser un **feligrés activo** durante al menos 6 meses para recibir un certificado de elegibilidad para ser un patrocinador o padrino.

Staff:

Ms. Rose Perone, Trustee & English Rel. Ed.

Mrs. Mary Wilk, Parish Secretary

Mrs. Teresa Marin, Spanish Rel. Ed.

Mr. Will Villanueva, Trustee

Mr. Edwin Lopez, Altar Servers



MISSION STATEMENT

St. Anthony of Padua Parish is committed to the Celebration of God's presence among His people through meaningful, well prepared liturgy, prayerful gatherings, evangelization and faith formation. We recognize and welcome the richness of our culturally and ethnically diverse community. We strive to nurture and develop these differences by encouraging all our brothers and sisters to share their gifts so we may strengthen our community and become one.

**Mass Intentions
December 22 - December 30**



SATURDAY (December 22) Late Advent Weekday

8:30 SUSAN STEPANEK/Mr. & Mrs. Frank Mazza
5:00 MARY & PIETRO PIGA/Children & Grandchildren
7:00 VARIOUS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY (December 23) Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:00 DOMENICA CARONIA/Children
10:30 CARMELA & ROSALIA/Mr. & Mrs. Biagio Arcieri & Family
12:00 VARIOUS INTENTIONS

MONDAY (December 24) Late Advent Weekday

8:30 MICHELE, MICHELINA & CARMINE VALIANTE/Family
4:00 PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
12:00 Midnight PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

TUESDAY (December 25) The Nativity of the Lord

10:30 PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
12:00 PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

WEDNESDAY (December 26) St. Stephen

8:30 LUCIA & NERI PUZZOLO/Antonia Chillemi

THURSDAY (December 27) St. John

8:30 LINDA MAZZA & ANGELO NAZIANZENO/
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Mazza
7:00 VARIOUS INTENTIONS

FRIDAY (December 28) The Holy Innocents

8:30 THE HOLY INNOCENTS

SATURDAY (December 29) Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

8:30 DORIS DERBI/Dorothy Nascondiglio
5:00 FR. VINCENT ZULIANI & FR. PATRICK DIVER/Mr. & Mrs. Frank Mazza
7:00 VARIOUS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY (December 30) The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

8:00 DE COSMO FAMILY/Family
10:30 JERRY BONAVIDACOLA/Renee & Chad Florentine
12:00 VARIOUS INTENTIONS

Our Weekly Offering



OUR OFFERTORY COLLECTION

is shown below. We sincerely thank all those parishioners and friends who contributed to the parish. Be assured that the Lord will never be outdone in rewarding those who give even a glass of water in His Name.

Collection amounts will be in a future bulletin.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH:

Carmen Alava
Karen Bulloch
Caterina Campbell
Isaac Castañeda
Orlando Chavez
Wayne Cook
Rosemary Coppola
Mary Cusmano
Leonor Sepulveda De Devia
Marianna Dubell
Maria Espinoza
Mario Fronzoni
Joseph Gambino
Denise Griest
Jared Leonardo Henao
Jacob Hinman
Joshua Hinman
Joseph B. Jean-Mary
Michelle Johnson
Lindsay LaMarre
John Lapolla
Theresa Lattanzio
Rosa Leon
Arlene Marsden
Bob Marsden
Elvin Martinez
Angelo Meo
Leonarda Merlo
Joseph Merlo Jr.
James D. Milazzo

Carmen Mistichelli
Carlos Moran
Rosemarie Newton
Declan Rocco O'Connor
Pietro Paolucci
Robergeau Paul
Maria Perdomo
Laura Philipone
Frank Pierre
Anne Piga
Jo Piga
Raul Atilio Portillo
Jose Luis Porto
Carmen Fojo Prieto
Edith Quijada
Endy Quijada
Oscar Eduardo Ramirez
Sergio Ricciardi
Angel Rivera
Isadora Rodriguez
Magdalena Rodriguez
John Ruela
Maria Saavedra
Salvatore Saluccio
Hugo Santa Maria
Frank Tinnirella
Rosalie Tinnirella
Angela Verlengeri
John Veltre
Rosalie Weseloski

PREGNANT WITH GOD

Advent, as a time of preparation for Christmas, echoes the pregnancy of Mary. Something is stirring within us, and we await the coming of Jesus. Although we the Church have observed Advent and Christmas many times, God is always offering something new to us. Like the angel asked Mary, God is always asking us to allow Christ to be born in and through us. Christ wishes to make himself at home within us, and increase his presence in our hearts.

Like pregnancy, at times God's activity within us can be disorienting and confusing. The story of Elizabeth and Mary reminds us that however uncertain we may be about what God is up to in our lives, we have cause to rejoice--because God is indeed good, and will truly bring blessing to us. And through the fruit of our own wombs, God will bring blessing to the world.

WEEKLY HOMILY / HOMILÍA SEMANAL

Fourth Sunday of Advent/Cuarto Domingo de Adviento

My dear brothers and sisters, this forth and last Sunday of Advent, the Lord brings us a marvelous Word, a Word we have heard many times and still hearing it fills us with tenderness and affection towards our Mother the Blessed Virgin Mary. This is the Gospel of the Annunciation of the Angel Gabriel to Mary. Mary, the young woman of Nazareth, who receives with surprise this announcement, and is truly surprised to be elected by the Holy One, to be the mother of the Messiah, the Savior of the World. This is what the readings of this Sunday are about, in preparation of the feast of the Nativity, the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is the Election that God makes, as said by a wise professor I had in the seminary: "God does what he wants, because that's why he is God..." God elects whom ever he wants, like in the first reading of the book of Samuel. God elects David, not because he was the best, or the strongest, or the greatest of the sons of Jesse, but only because he was the last one, and like this knowing that even though he was a disaster he was humble, as said in the scriptures, David a man in harmony with God's heart. As a great sinner, but with humility to acknowledge his own sins and ask for forgiveness. Mary, conceived without sin, as we celebrated on the 8th of December, is elected for a very important mission which will contain much suffering from the beginning, to be the mother of God. We are all called to this by our Baptism to be mother of God, and so the promise that we received on the day of our baptism, may be fulfilled, that in us may be born Christ so that He may continue today in his Saving Mission. Now, Are we ready to accept this Challenge? Because the Lord does not judged by outward appearances, He Elects whom ever He wants, but He always respects our freedom to say no, or to say this is too much for me. Therefore, beloved brothers and sisters, let us ask the Blessed Virgin Mary, to be able to say as she, although not understanding, but may your will be done. May God bless you always.

Mis queridos hermanos, en este cuarto y último domingo del adviento, el Señor nos trae una palabra maravillosa, una palabra que la hemos escuchado tantísimas veces y que siempre que la oímos nos llena de ternura y cariño hacia nuestra madre la Santísima Virgen María. Es el Evangelio de la Anunciación del Ángel Gabriel a María. María, esta jovencita de Nazaret, que recibe con sorpresa este anuncio, y que se sorprende muchísimo de ser la elegida por el Santo, para ser la madre del Mesías, del Salvador del mundo. De esto tratan las lecturas de este domingo, en preparación para la fiesta de la Navidad, del nacimiento de Nuestro Señor Jesucristo. De la Elección que hace Dios, como decía un profesor muy sabio que tuve en el seminario: "Dios Hace lo que le da la gana, por que para eso es Dios..." Dios elige a los que el quiere, como en la primera lectura del libro de Samuel. Dios eligió a David, no por que era el mejor, o el mas fuerte, o el mas maravilloso de los hijos de Jesse, sino por ser el ultimo, y así saber que aunque era un desastre era humilde, como dicen las escrituras, David un hombre de acuerdo al corazón de Dios. Un gran pecador, pero con la humildad para reconocer sus pecados y pedir perdón. María, concebida sin pecado, como celebramos el día ocho de Diciembre, es elegida para una misión muy importante que acarrea un sufrimiento grandísimo desde el principio, ser la madre de Dios. A esto estamos todos llamados por nuestro bautismo a ser madre de Dios, a que la promesa que se nos hizo el día de nuestro bautismo, se haga realidad, a que en nosotros nazca Cristo para que pueda seguir hoy su misión salvadora. Per, ¿Estamos dispuestos a aceptar este desafío ? Por que el Señor no se fija ni en apariencias ni es presencia, el Elige a quien quiere, pero siempre respeta nuestra libertad de decir no quiero, o esto es demasiado para mi. Así que, mis queridos hermanos, pidámosle a las Santísima Virgen María, el poder decir como ella, no entiendo, pero que se haga tu voluntad. Que Dios me los bendiga Siempre.



Readers & Lectors **Lectors for the Weekend of
December 29- 30**

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Saturday, December 29
 5:00 PM Mark Cosmas
 7:00 PM Marta Villanueva y Maria Duran
 (C: Teresa Marin)

Sunday, December 30
 8:00 AM Jennifer Markowycz
 10:30 AM Mark Moron
 12:00 Noon Norma Frutos y Jony Rodriguez
 (C: Teresa Marin)

Eucharistic Ministers **Eucharistic Ministers for the Weekend of
December 29 - 30**

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Saturday, December 29
 5:00 PM Frank Mazza
 7:00 PM Salomon y Reina Yanes

Sunday, December 30
 8:00 AM Mary Wilk
 10:30 AM Maria Agliata, Cristian Moron & Sebastian
 Gutierrez
 12:00 Noon Marisa Puello, Melida Canela y Ana Marte

Ministry to the Sick and Homebound

The parish family of St. Anthony's seeks to reach out and include the sick, the elderly, and the homebound in the life and prayers of our parish.

Please contact the parish office if someone wants to receive Communion or needs to see the priest for the sacraments of Confession and Anointing of the Sick.

RCIA

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is the process the Catholic Community provides to welcome adults who wish to become Catholic and to prepare adult Catholics to receive Confirmation (and when needed, First Eucharist.) Please contact the Parish for more information.



- *TUESDAY:** Novena to St. Anthony (After 8:30 AM Mass-Chapel)
- *THURSDAY:** Holy Hour after 7:00 PM Mass
- *FRIDAY:** 7:30 PM Spanish Prayer Group

FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS

Our Food Pantry is in need of food. Please drop off your food to help feed those in need of our parish in the baskets at the back of the church or at the rectory.

THE ADVENT WREATH
 4nd Candle- (Purple)
THE CANDLE OF LOVE

The angels announced the good news of a Savior. God sent his only Son to earth to save us, because he loves us! (John 3:16-17)




Wishing all Parishioners a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Our Christmas Schedule

Christmas Eve, Monday, December 24, 2018
4:00 p.m. Christmas Vigil Mass (English)

12:00 a.m. Midnight Mass of Christmas (Trilingual)

Church doors will open at 11:00 p.m.
CAROLING will begin at 11:30 p.m.

The Masses of Christmas Day
Tuesday, December 25, 2018
10:30 a.m. (English)
12:00 Noon (Spanish)

New Year's Eve Mass Schedule
Monday 5:00 p.m. (English)
7:00 p.m. (Spanish)

New Year's Day Mass Schedule
Tuesday, January 1, 2019
10:30 a.m. (English)
12:00 p.m. (Spanish)



There will be no classes Saturday 12/22, Sunday, 12/23 and Saturday 12/29, Sunday 12/30. Children must attend Mass.

CHRISTMAS DAY and NEW YEAR'S DAY ARE HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION CHILDREN MUST ATTEND MASS

Classes will resume on:
 Saturday, 1/5 and Sunday, 1/6, 2019

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading -- From Bethlehem-Ephrathah shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel (Micah 5:1-4a).

Psalms -- Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved (Psalm 80).

Second Reading -- We have been consecrated through the offering of the body of Christ once for all (Hebrews 10:5-10).

Gospel -- Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken by the Lord would be fulfilled (Luke 1:39-45).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass (c) 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

LECTURAS DE HOY

Primera lectura -- De ti, Belén, saldrá el que será el jefe de Israel (Miquea 5:1-4a).

Salmo -- Señor, muéstranos tu favor y sálvanos (Salmo 80 [79]).

Segunda lectura -- Aquí estoy, Dios mío, para hacer tu voluntad (Hebreos 10:5-10).

Evangelio -- Bendita eres entre las mujeres, y bendito es el fruto de tu vientre (Lucas 1:39-45).

Salmo responsorial: Leccionario I (c) 1976, Comisión Episcopal de Pastoral Litúrgica de la Conferencia del Episcopado Mexicano. Usado con permiso. Todos los derechos reservados.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:67-79

Tuesday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29;

Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25]

Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13;

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 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6;

Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]

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

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

Friday: 1 Jn 1:5 -- 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7b-8; Mt 2:13-18

Saturday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22-35

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28;

Ps 128:1-5 or Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10; Col 3:12-21

[12-17] or 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24; Lk 2:41-52



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TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

In ancient pagan Rome, these days in mid-December were a time for general slacking off at work and far too much rejoicing. The period of leisure after the harvest and a whole cluster of pagan festivals were a force for the church to reckon with. The Saturnalia, breaking out on December 17, was a time of high living and loose morals. Christians were advised by their bishops to drop out of the mayhem and do some serious fasting. A famous church council at Saragossa in Spain made a season of fasting mandatory from December 17 to December 23, exactly coinciding with the Saturnalia. The bishops at that time were perhaps less concerned with preparing for Christmas than with resisting the kind of loose living going on. Modern times have restored a bit of the Saturnalia spirit to our culture, so that a general period of partying with a vague connection to religion is now upon us. How does a Christian keep balance? The practice of charity by remembering the poor in our gift-giving, of hospitality in finding a place at our holiday tables for the poor and lonely, and of daily prayer in the home and at church are great helps. Although Advent is not a penitential season like Lent, it is a time for making room in our lives for what matters most. James Field, Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch Co.

TRADICIONES DE NUESTRA FE

Esta semana recordamos a los niños judíos que fueron asesinados por orden del Rey Herodes en Belén. Esa tragedia que ocurrió cuando el viejo y celoso rey se enteró del nacimiento de un nuevo rey de los judíos. Él mandó a matar a todo niño que tuviera menos de dos años. El llanto de las familias que perdieron sus pobres inocentes se ha convertido en risas en varios países latinoamericanos. El 28 de diciembre en muchas partes es conmemorado como el día de los inocentes que viene siendo el April Fools de Latinoamérica. En ese día se hacen bromas para burlarse de los amigos. Si la broma funciona al pobre que fue engañado se le llama inocente. La inocencia normalmente se atribuye a los niños o a los ingenuos, pero en si la inocencia es una virtud cristiana, de los que hemos sido perdonados por Cristo. Esta inocencia no es ingenuidad mas bien es la candidez, simplicidad y generosidad de una persona que conoce bien lo duro que es la vida y aún así mantiene la esperanza.

--Fray Gilberto Cavazos-Glz, OFM, Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.



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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

