

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH | DECEMBER 15, 2024

Third Sunday of ADVENT



©LPI

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
www.StAnthonyLorain.org

Julio Alarcon, Principal

WEBSITE: WWW.STANTHONYLORAIN.ORG/OUR-PARISH

MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

There is a popular old secular Christmas song that begins with, "It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas, everywhere you go." Of course, this is referring to the decorations being displayed everywhere along with preparations for the "big day." Today is something like that. We are being told to "rejoice" because "the Holy One of Israel is among you." For us today, if we have been preparing as the readings for last Sunday asked us to do, then we can and should rejoice because the Christ Child of Bethlehem is near.

The First Reading is taken from the Book of the Prophet Zephaniah (3:14-18a). Although Zephaniah's prophesy came at a time of religious degradation and apostasy among the Jewish people of his time, the Prophet is trying to encourage the few faithful by reminding them that God has not forgotten them and, indeed, He is in their midst as a mighty savior. For those who are prepared, God will rejoice over them with gladness and renew in them His love.

The Responsorial Psalm is from the Prophet Isaiah (12:2-6). This passage comes right after the Prophet's prophesy of the coming of the Messiah, and it exhorts the Jews to rejoice and be thankful because of the many blessings given to the people from God. It also stirs up great anticipation at the coming of the Savior and ends with the exclamation about God's constant watch over His people by saying, "Great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel."

The Second Reading is taken from St. Paul's First Letter to the Philippians (4:4-7). This portion of the Letter comes toward the end where Paul is exhorting the Philippians to rejoice because of their love and kindness to him and to each other. His message is one of assurance that if they are prepared for the coming of the Lord, then they should have no anxiety; but if they still have needs, to bring them to God in prayer, and they shall have peace that surpasses all understanding.

The Gospel Reading is taken from the Gospel of Luke (3:10-18). It tells of John the Baptist's teaching by sharing earthly possessions with those less fortunate. The people were drawn to the Baptist because they were in need of direction they could understand and identify with. They were also drawn to him because they thought he might be the Messiah. He then goes on to describe this Great One in terms they understood.

Today, we can have too much information which we call "information overload." We have the tendency to gloss over words that we have heard often. We don't take the time to let what we hear with our ears settle into our heart. How unfortunate! We are now more than half way through Advent. Most of our shopping is done, greeting cards have been sent and received, the dinner menu has been established; but where is your heart? So, the above readings challenge us to take some time for prayer during this busy season. Find a quiet place and a time when you won't be disturbed and sit there and ask the good Lord to come into your heart. When done seriously, with meaning and conviction, you will soon realize that "the Holy One of Israel is truly within YOU."

Something to think about during your prayer time this week.

Rev. Edward J. Smith **2**

DECEMBER 15, 2024 | 3RD SUNDAY 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 the Office.

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

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

Father Thomas Sanders, OSB,
Weekend Associate

Father Ken Katricak, OSB,
Priest in Residence

Deacon Paul Heise

Kim Kuhn, Secretary

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 - Fran Stack

SUNDAY READINGS

FIRST READING: The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a mighty savior; he will rejoice over you with gladness. (*Zep 3:17*)

PSALM: Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel. (*Is 12:6*)

SECOND READING: The Lord is near. Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. (*Phil 4:5-6*)

GOSPEL: The crowds asked John the Baptist, "What should we do?" (*Lk 3:10*)

*Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass
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READINGS FOR THE WEEK DECEMBER 15, 2024

Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a/Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 (6)/Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18

Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9/Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday: Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17/Mt 1:1-17

Wednesday: Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19/Mt 1:18-25

Thursday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17/Lk 1:5-25

Friday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 1:26-38

Saturday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21/Lk 1:39-45

Next Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 (4)/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45

DECEMBER

Sunday - Dec 15th - 3rd Sunday of Advent

10:00 am - †Vera Schultz

Requested by: Anna Schultz

Monday - Dec 16th - Advent Weekday Mass

8:30 am - †Olga Csillag

Requested by: Cheryl Van Wagnen

Tuesday - Dec 17th - Advent Weekday Mass

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

Requested by: Dan & Georgianna Concheck

Saturday - Dec 21st - St. Peter Canisius, Priest & Doctor of the Church

4:00 pm - †John Ploszaj

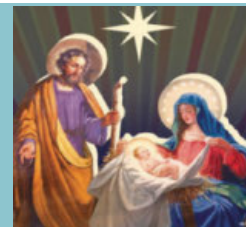
Requested by: Steve & Edward Nemeth

Sunday - Dec 22nd - 4th Sunday of Advent

10:00 am - †Joan Wolbom

Requested by: Marilyn Mercurio

4TH WEEK OF ADVENT & CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE



4th Sunday of Advent:

Saturday, December 21st at 4:00 pm

Sunday, December 22nd at 10:00 am

Christmas Holy Day - Nativity of the Lord:

Tuesday, December 24th at 4:00 pm

Wednesday, December 25th at 10:00 am



Liturgical Ministers

Saturday, December 21st at 4:00 pm

Lectors: Marybeth B.

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

Server: Lucy K.

Sunday, December 22nd at 10:00 am

Lectors: Celia F.

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

Christmas Eve - Tuesday, December 24th at 4:00 pm

Eucharistic Ministers: Pam W., Joann T.

Servers: Rose K., Jacob K., Ellie O.

Christmas Day - Wednesday, December 25th at 10:00 am

Eucharistic Ministers: Patty R., Anna S.

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OFFERTORY REPORT

FISCIAL YEAR (7/1/24-6/30/25)

AMOUNT BUDGETED WEEKLY..... \$5,779.00
 SUNDAY COLLECTION (11/24/2024) \$4,209.00
 7/1/2024 TO DATE +/- BUDGET..... + \$ 177.25

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.



2024 CONTRIBUTIONS

The cutoff date for 2024 Mass contributions is Tuesday, December 31, 2024.

All Mass Contributions made the last weekend, December 28th & 29th, will be recorded as a 2024 contribution.

If you mail your envelopes, we will go by the postmark date.

Any questions, please give us a call.



THE 3RD WEEK OF ADVENT - 12/15 LIGHTING THE PINK CANDLE

Scripture Reflection: "And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them." (Luke 2:20)

Advent Wreath Prayer: *Dear Jesus,* help us focus on you during this busy season. May we stay aware of the joy you bring into our lives. We want to find you in the everyday moments and come with hearts of gratitude to your manger on Christmas. **Amen.**



PRAYER REQUESTS

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Gloria Badillo	Janet Baxter	Joanne Bilancini	Tim "Swampy" Burton	Lynn Coscho	Ann DiFrancesco
Jerry Donovan	Denise Ellis	Deacon Jose Flores	Norma Jean Flores	Scott Friges	Virginia Glass
Barbara Glick	Joe Gluvna	Brian Grace	Dan George	Renee Golowenski	Carol Gonzales
D'Arie Gonzalez	Delores Gonzalez	Jose Gonzalez	Jose Gonzalez Jr.	Juan Gonzalez	Clara Hodorowski
Kevin Holley	Phyllis Holomuzki	Bob Humphrey	Jennifer Humphrey	Boston Lee Jackson	Iris Pearl Jackson
Al Jacobs	Devin Jarvis	Sylvia Johnston	Johnna Kuhar	Amanda Jacobs-Leadbetter	Deacon Luis Maldonado
Dean Martin III	Alan McCartney	Rita McConley	Sandra Merkly	Jen Mitterholzer	Frank Murphy
Mary Nazario	Luci Payne	Elizabeth Raddell	Emily Raddell	Joe Rizzo	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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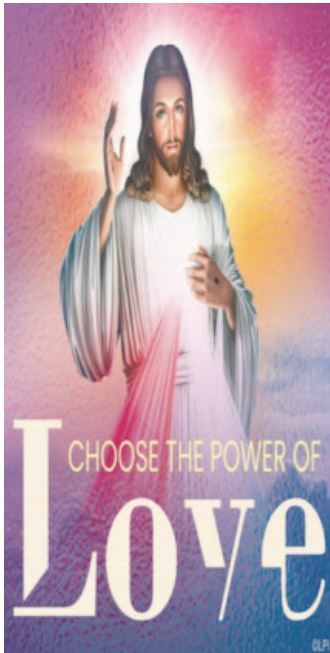
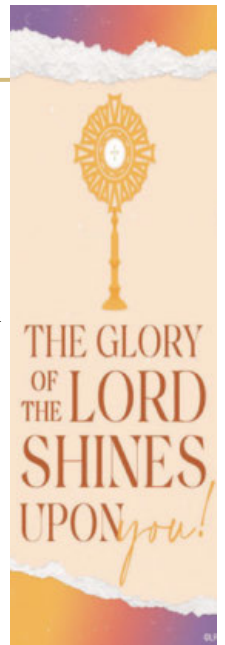
Call the "Prayer Line" for immediate prayer requests,

Linda: 440-667-9050 from 9 am - 3 pm or Terri, 440-320-3272 from 3 - 9 pm

ADORATION CHAPEL

“Encountering the True Presence of Jesus: The Transforming Power of the Eucharist”
by Bishop Andrew Cozzens

“Jesus becomes present, really present, Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity, all that is Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. He does this so that we can encounter Him and so that He can transform us thru this encounter. As the heart of our teaching on the Real Presence is this very simple but very important truth: the same Jesus who was in Bethlehem, who walked the Earth, who suffered and died on the cross, who rose from the dead and is now seated at the right hand of the Father, that same Jesus Christ is really, truly, substantially present in every Tabernacle and at every Mass. He is there so that you can receive Him in Holy Communion and become one with Him. He is there so that you can encounter Him, adore Him, and be changed into Him. From the beginning, the Church has taught that there is a personal presence of Jesus in the Eucharist; so much so that when we come before the Eucharist, we give Him the reverence due to God. This is a hallmark of our Catholic faith: Jesus becomes present sacramentally, a mystery still, but really and truly present. So when I pass before the Tabernacle, I bend my knee because I know that God is there. This is why Adoration can provide such powerful encounter with Jesus. Of course, the most powerful encounter is to receive Him in Communion. But when I come before Him in Adoration, it can also have a profound effect on me.”



DIVINE MERCY MEDITATION - PART 1: CONVENTS & CHURCHES

I will allow convents and churches to be destroyed.

I answered, “Jesus, but there are so many souls praising You in convents.”
The Lord answered, **That praise wounds My Heart, because love has been banished from convents. Souls without love and without devotion, souls full of egoism and self-love, souls full of pride and arrogance, souls full of deceit and hypocrisy, lukewarm souls who have just enough warmth to keep them alive: My Heart cannot bear this. All the graces that I pour out upon them flow off them as off the face of a rock. I cannot stand them, because they are neither good or bad. I called convents into being to sanctify the world through them. It is from them that a powerful flame of love and sacrifice should burst forth** (Diary, 1702).

**The words of Jesus appear in boldface type*

My Prayer Response:

Lord Jesus, in our day we see convents, rectories, and churches closed and destroyed. Help us to be enkindled by our first love! (see Rev 2:4). Amen.

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

PRO-LIFE THOUGHT OF THE WEEK FROM PROLIFECORNER.COM

Let us throw ourselves on the mercy of God, our Creator, & unceasingly ask Him for an end to abortion & euthanasia. Then and only then can we have peace in our hearts, in our families, and in the streets of America.

Think about this:

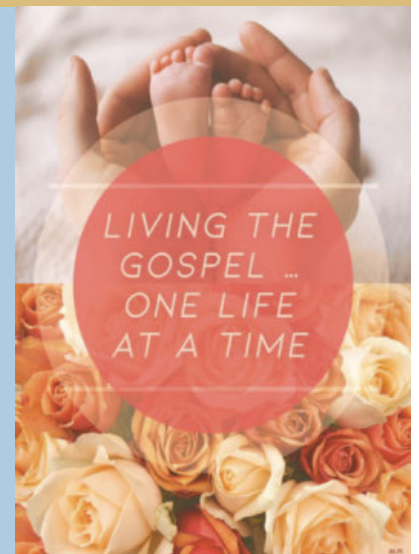
St. Teresa of Calcutta warned us that

“in time they will start killing grown-up people, disabled people and so on...

**If we can accept that a mother can kill even her own child,
how can we tell other people not to kill one another?”**

And now we are on the threshold of euthanasia.

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



HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

School will be closed from Monday, December 23rd through Monday, January 6th, 2025.
Classes resume on Tuesday, January 7th, 2025.

The Parish Office & entire St. Anthony Campus will be closed beginning Tuesday, December 24th through Friday, December 27th for Christmas.
We will reopen on Monday, December 30th for regular hours, 9 am - 2 pm.

We will then be closed for the New Year from Tuesday, December 31st through Friday, January 3rd, 2025.
Everything will be open as normal on Monday, January 6th, 2025.

MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR



SCAN ME

“LET’S GET ACQUAINTED” CARDS IN PEWS

With the New Year approaching, we would like to take the opportunity to update your information in our systems. **We are asking for ALL parishioners and visitors to complete a “Let’s Get Acquainted” card in your pew.** If you know someone who is homebound or in a care facility, please fill out a card for them or take one to them so they can complete it. Once your card is complete, place it in one of the designated drop boxes located at all exit doors. **Thank you!**

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL NEWS

The St. Vincent de Paul Society thanks you for your continued support to the Saint Elizabeth Homeless Shelter. They have asked us to let you know that they are all stocked up with plenty of oatmeal to last them all winter!

Please do not bring any more oatmeal to the church donation bins, although we will still be collecting **cold cereal, breakfast bars and men’s socks for the winter.**

Thank You for your generosity & May God Bless you through this Holy Season. ~*St. Anthony Vincentians*

CATHOLIC CEMETERIES GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP - 12/15

You are not alone! Catholic Cemeteries Association walks with you along your grief journey.

Please join CCA at one of our free, monthly grief support groups either In-Person at 3 pm & Virtually at 5 pm via Zoom on the same day.

Find strength, hope and a voice for your grief.

Meetings are open discussion with a topic or whatever is in your heart.

The December Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, December 15th with the closest location at St. Joseph Cemetery in Avon at 32789 Detroit Rd.

The Topic will be *“The Gift of God’s Presence: You Never Walk Alone”*

Your RSVP is appreciated but not required. Please contact Rhonda at 216-930-4866 for more info or sign up for the virtual group at <https://bit.ly/ccavirtualgriefsupportgroup>.

Visit www.clecem.org for the most updated schedule of events with the CCA.



MONTHLY HOLY HOUR FOR LIFE AT ST. TERESA - 12/17

Join us at **St. Teresa of Avila Church on Tuesday, December 17th at 7 pm** as we pray that unborn lives are saved and all life will be considered valuable. *Our prayers make a difference!* The Holy Hour will include Scripture, Litanies & the Holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

If you have any questions, call the church office at 440-934-4227.

PAID SUMMER INTERNSHIP FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS!

The FEST is looking for **motivated college interns** for a paid internship this summer as we celebrate 25 years and plan & prepare for FEST 2025! If you are an event, marketing, communications, logistics, or theology major and interested in building your resume while getting hands-on, real-life experience creating an event for 40,000 people, apply today. Becca was a first-year intern this past summer and shared, *“This job taught me so many new communication skills, brought me closer to God, and it brought me to meet so many amazing people!”*

Send your resume to Caitlin at Caitlin@theFEST.us by **January 10th** to apply.

MAKE A DONATION TO ST. ANTHONY'S



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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.

ANGEL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Make sure to designate St. Anthony of Padua, Lorain for your Contribution.

3 STEPS TO SUPPORT OUR CATHOLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS IN 2025

- 1 **Review your tax liability from last year** (2023 1040 IT, line 8c) to help estimate the amount of your tax liability for this year.
- 2 **Make an ASF donation at:** www.catholiccommunity.org/angel
While your donation can be any amount, the scholarship tax credit is limited to \$750 per tax payer (\$1,500 for married filing jointly) and cannot exceed your state tax liability for 2024.
- 3 **Claim the scholarship tax credit on your 2024 Ohio income tax return**
You will receive a receipt for your Angel Scholarship donation that can be sent with your 2024 state tax return.

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DONATE BY APRIL 15, 2025 TO CLAIM A 2024 STATE TAX CREDIT

This information does not constitute legal or tax advice. Always consult with your tax professional for information on the impact of any charitable giving.

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