

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH | DECEMBER 8, 2024

Second Sunday of

ADVENT



CLPI

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
www.stanthonylorain.org

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

MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

All the readings for the Second Sunday of Advent have a hint of the past, while at the same time they are looking to the future. **Advent is a time when we should also be looking over our past, while preparing for the future — the future of the coming of the Christ Child at Christmas.** This should be a time of great joy in anticipation of this special event; while at the same time, we should be considering how well prepared we are in a spiritual way. *What will be our spiritual gift to the Christ Child at Christmas?*

In the First Reading, from the Book of Baruch (5:1-9), the writer, a companion of the Prophet Jeremiah during the Babylonian Exile, is exhorting the Jewish people to not be so gloomy; to get up and be joyful for their exile is about to come to an end. In doing so, he is preparing his people for the coming of something great — the coming of God's personal emissary to govern His people. Could the last line be a faint reference to the wise men being guided by the star: *"For God is leading Israel in joy by the light of His glory"?*

The Responsorial Psalm is (126:1-6). This is a song of the Jewish people as they reflect upon their ancestors, the exiles returning from fifty years of captivity. They recall how they were driven out of Israel by their captors in tears; but upon returning, their joy knew no bounds and they give praise to God for their good fortune.

The Second Reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Philippians (1:4-6, 8-11). Paul is addressing the Philippians, who were Greek converts to Christianity, and took to Christianity whole heartedly. Paul is urging them to continue on with how they started, even to the end. This last phrase is a veiled reference to the second coming of Christ, which at that time was thought to be soon. Today, we can take that as Paul's encouraging us to be prepared for the coming of Christ at Christmas.

The Gospel Reading is taken from the Gospel of Luke (3:1-6). Much like the First Reading, Luke's Gospel begins with marking a specific historical time period; but its main point is the preaching and message of John the Baptist, which is a quotation from the Prophet Isaiah about clearing a path for the king.

At the time of Isaiah, when a king would go out to visit his subjects, he would send slaves and servants ahead to make sure the roads were cleared of any obstacle that might prevent his safe and comfortable passage. John the Baptist uses this command to his people and to us to do the same in a spiritual sense; that is, to clear any obstacle or sin from our spiritual life so that the King of Kings can come into our hearts and homes at Christmas. *"Are you preparing your spiritual life, your heart and soul, to receive the King of Kings?"*

Something to think about during your prayer time this week.

Rev. Edward J. Smith

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DECEMBER 8, 2024

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 4th 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

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: "For God will show all the earth your splendor: you will be named by God forever the peace of justice, the glory of God's worship." (Bar 5:3-4)

PSALM: The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy. (Ps 126)

SECOND READING: So that you may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ. (Phil 1:10-11)

GOSPEL: "The winding roads shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God." (Lk 3:5-6)

*Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass
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READINGS FOR THE WEEK DECEMBER 8, 2024

Sunday: Bar 5:1-9/Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 (3)/Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6

Monday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday: Is 40:1-11/Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12, 13/Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday: Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10/Mt 11:28-30

Thursday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Jdt 13:18bcde, 19/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Friday: Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Mt 11:16-19

Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19/Mt 17:9a, 10-13

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

DECEMBER

Sunday - Dec 8th - 2nd Sunday of Advent

10:00 am - †Gilbert Amador

Requested by: Lydia Inchaurregui

Monday - Dec 9th - The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed

Virgin Mary

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

4:00 pm - †For the Living & Deceased Priests of the Parish

Tuesday - Dec 10th - Our Lady of Loreto

8:30 am - †Jesus & Theresa Gonzales

Requested by: Carol Gonzales

Saturday - Dec 14th - St. John of the Cross, Priest & Doctor of the Church

4:00 pm - †Steve J. Nemeth

Requested by: Steve & Edward Nemeth

Sunday - Dec 15th - 3rd Sunday of Advent

10:00 am - †Vera Schultz

Requested by: Anna Schultz

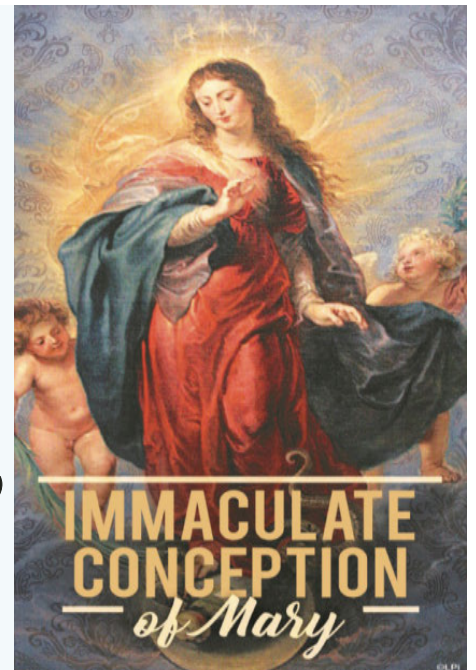
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION MASSES

**Monday,
December 9th**

**8:30 am
(with the School Children)
&
4:00 pm**

*Eucharistic Ministers:
Hilaire T., & Pam W.*



Liturgical Ministers

Saturday, December 14th at 4:00 pm

Lectors: Marybeth B.

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

Server: Lucy K.

Sunday, December 15th at 10:00 am

Lectors: Celia F.

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

Server: Ellie O.

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2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

OFFERTORY REPORT

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

AMOUNT BUDGETED WEEKLY..... \$5,779.00
 SUNDAY COLLECTION (11/17/2024) \$5,426.00
 7/1/2024 TO DATE +/(-) BUDGET..... + \$1,747.25

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.



YEAR-END GIVING

This season of giving is a perfect time to express your gratitude for the blessings in your life by making a gift to our parish. As you plan your 2024 charitable contributions, please know that we gratefully accept gifts of cash & appreciated assets.



THE 2ND WEEK OF ADVENT - 12/8 LIGHTING THE 2ND PURPLE CANDLE

Scripture Reflection: *"And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to be delivered. And she gave birth to her first-born son and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn." Luke 2:4-7*

Advent Wreath Prayer: *Dear Jesus, you entered our world on Christmas as the Prince of Peace. This Advent, as we strive to become the-best-version-of-ourselves, fill us with a deep and abiding peace. Help us share that peace with everyone we encounter, especially those who need it most. 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

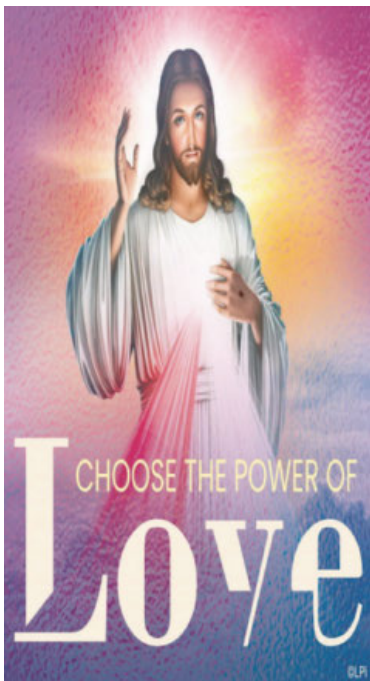
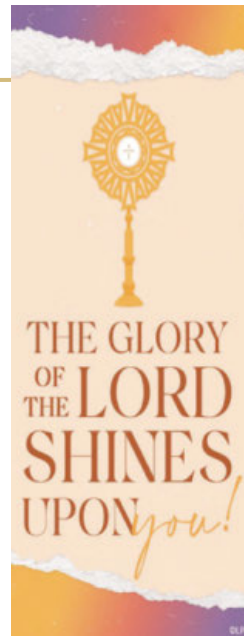
Feast of the Immaculate Conception: Dec. 9th - Blessed be her Holy & Immaculate Conception

“We must adore devoutly this God of ours hidden in the Eucharist; it is Jesus Himself born of the Virgin Mary.” ~St. Josemaria Escriva, ‘Christ is Passing By, 84’

“Every Mass brings us to the womb of Mary, the first tabernacle where Christ first became present in His Body and Blood. Christ spent the first nine months of His life in the womb of Mary and therefore, every tabernacle is a copy of that first tabernacle. If we want to be close to Jesus in His Body and Blood, to hide ourselves away in the tabernacle with Him, we must consecrate ourselves to Mary hiding ourselves away in her womb. Jesus remains there in all his hiddenness and littleness in that first tabernacle. Are we too big to fit, too full of ourselves, too busy with the things of the world?

*Or can we let ourselves be hidden in love to find the Hidden Love who remains wrapped in love? Can we allow ourselves to be confined to God’s will as we dwell in the womb of Mary? Can we join our lives to the heart of Mary who was always freely confined to God’s will? Mary teaches us to make a home, a tabernacle, a womb in our hearts for Jesus to remain always. We make this home by uttering with her our **Yes** to God’s Will *fiat*”*

~The Fruit of Her Womb: 33 day Preparation for Total Consecration to Jesus; Fr. Boniface Hicks,



DIVINE MERCY MEDITATION - PART 4: A WHOLE-BURNT OFFERING

But there is time, so that I the Lord will fulfill all your wishes. I delight in you as in a living host; let nothing terrify you; I am with you (Diary, 923).

My daughter, too great are your demands. “Jesus, You know that for You it is easier to grant much rather than a little.” That is so, it is less difficult for Me to grant a soul much rather than a little, but every conversion of a sinful soul demands sacrifice. ... My dear daughter, I comply with your request (Diary, 961).

**The words of Jesus appear in boldface type*

My Prayer Response:

*Lord Jesus, may I learn to pray like St. Faustina who made demands of You that are **too great** (Diary, 961). St. Faustina asked that You grant the grace of conversion to as many souls as the number of stitches that she made on a particular day with the crochet hook. She said that it is all she could do under holy obedience in her sickness: simple stitching. And the Lord complied with her request! 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 & only then can we have peace in our hearts, in our families, & in the streets of America.

Think about this:

We are called to love. We practice it in turn by intervening to assist our brothers and sisters in need. Love, therefore, fuels the pro-life movement. Love demands that we act to save the babies and assist women to make life-giving choices. It also demands that we assist women who have had abortions to find forgiveness, healing, and peace.

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



MANY PRAYERS AND SYMPATHY

to Tom and the many family & friends upon the death of his mother,
Evolie Matotek on November 11, 2024.

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

LIFE IS CHANGED, NOT ENDED.



"LET'S GET ACQUAINTED" CARDS IN CHURCH 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

A MERRY
Choral Spectrum
CHRISTMAS

A FESTIVE AND HEARTWARMING EVENING OF CHRISTMAS MUSIC

Friday, December 13 at 7:30 PM
St. Peter Parish, Lorain
3655 Oberlin Avenue, Lorain, OH

Saturday, December 14 at 7:30 PM
Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, Oberlin
410 W. Lorain Street, Oberlin OH

Sunday, December 15 at 4:00 PM
St. Mary Parish, Sandusky
429 Central Avenue, Sandusky, OH

OPEN ADMISSION
-A freewill offering will be collected-

Choral Spectrum
Anthony Trifiletti, Artistic Director

MARIAN GUILD HOLIDAY BAKE SALE NEXT WEEKEND - 12/14 & 12/15

The Marian Guild will be sponsoring their annual Holiday Bake Sale and Gift Basket Raffle after Mass on Saturday, December 14th & Sunday, December 15th in the main vestibule of the church.

***If you would like to bake cookies for this event, we would greatly appreciate the donation! Please drop them off at the church on Friday, December 13th between 10 am and NOON. We will be glad to pick up if you are unable to bring them to the Church.

Call Linda, 440-667-9050 to schedule a pick up.***

As in the past there will be a tempting array of delicious homemade cookies and other small items for purchase, and of course, a 50/50 raffle.

And in keeping with our past reputation, we will have lots of gift baskets filled with a variety of items: seasonal, sports, home goods and fun and unique things, just in time for the gift giving season!

CATHOLIC CEMETERIES GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP - 12/15

You are not alone. Catholic Cemeteries Association walks with you along your grief journey. Please join us at our FREE monthly grief support meetings. Six convenient locations and a virtual meeting for those who cannot attend in person. Find strength, hope, and a voice for your grief. Our next meeting is Sunday, Decemeber 15th at 3pm for our in-person or 5pm via Zoom. For details, visit: <https://www.clecem.org/Information/Bereavement.aspx>.



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.

Giving Tree Donations

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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 many blessings during the holiday season, we remember those who are less fortunate!

The Little Trojans Pre-School class is 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 her 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: *diapers of any size, pull-ups (sizes 3T-5T), baby wipes, children's underwear & socks (all sizes), baby wash & shampoo, baby washcloths & towels, cotton sleepers (sizes 0-3 & 3-6 months), fleece sleepers (sizes 0-18 months), outfits for all seasons (sizes 12 months-5T), receiving blankets, baby fleece blankets, baby sleep sacks (0-6 months) and books.*

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 14th & 15th 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 than you for your generosity.
May God Bless our parish families of St. Anthony of Padua this Christmas Season!*

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