

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

PARISH STAFF

Trustees

Dr. Ben Miller
Mr. Karl Aucoin

Pastoral Council

Mr. Tad Richard, Chairman

Parish Office Staff

Deacon Gary Gaudin
Mrs. Rhoda Huckaby

Parish Social & Community Ministry

Deacon Gary Gaudin, Director

Music

Mr. Rodney Sonnier, Director
Mrs. Laura Lombas, Organist

Faith Formation.....457-7505

Mrs. Angie Aguillard, Director
Mrs. Jennifer David, Assistant

Spiritual Direction

Mrs. Phyllis Pere

Custodial Technician

Mr. Henry Rozas

Rectory Housekeeper & Cook

Mrs. Jennifer O'Neill



ST. EDMUND CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Mrs. Laurie Doucet
Principal

Office: 351 W. Magnolia
Telephones: 457-2592 / 457-5988

St. Edmund Advisory Council

Dr. Jamie Thompson, Chairman

St. Edmund P.T.C.

Mrs. Kelly Manuel, President

St. Edmund Academic Booster Club

Mrs. Auburn Brown, President

MASS SCHEDULE:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday

6:15 a.m.

Tuesday & Thursday

12:00 p.m.

Saturday Vigil 4:00 pm

Sunday 7:00, 9:00, 11:00 am
& 6:00 pm (Life Teen Mass)

PASTOR:

Rev. Msgr. J. Robert Romero

PAROCHIAL VICAR:

Rev. Fr. Travis Abadie

DEACON:

Deacon Gary Gaudin

December 4, 2016

SECOND SUNDAY

of

Advent



John the Baptist appeared, preaching in the desert of Judea and saying,
"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!"

Matthew 3:1

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DEAR PARISHIONERS OF ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA CHURCH & ANNUNCIATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY CHURCH,

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is celebrated on Thursday, December 8, 2016. It is a holyday of obligation as this is the Patronal Feast Day of the

United States of America. Please see the schedule of masses for this holyday of obligation in the bulletin.

Mercy and Misery [Misericordia et Misera]

On November 20, 2016 Pope Francis dated an Apostolic Letter called in the English language **Mercy and Misery**. This letter encourages the faithful to continue the spirit of the Year of Mercy as we are still living in a “time of mercy.” One aspect Pope Francis mentions is a “culture of mercy.” He says in paragraph 20:

“We are called to promote a culture of mercy based on the rediscovery of encounter with others, a culture in which no one looks at another with indifference or turns away from the suffering of our brothers and sisters. The works of mercy are “handcrafted”, in the sense that none of them is alike. Our hands can craft them in a thousand different ways, and even though the one God inspires them, and they are all fashioned from the same “material”, mercy itself, each one takes on a different form.”

“The works of mercy affect a person’s entire life. For this reason, we can set in motion a real cultural revolution, beginning with simple gestures capable of reaching body and spirit, people’s very lives. This is a commitment that the Christian community should take up, in the knowledge that God’s word constantly calls us to leave behind the temptation to hide behind indifference and individualism in order to lead a comfortable life free of problems. Jesus tells his disciples: “The poor will always be with you” (Jn 12:8). There is no alibi to justify not engaging with the poor when Jesus has identified himself with each of them.”

“The culture of mercy is shaped in assiduous prayer, in docility to the working of the Holy Spirit, in knowledge of the lives of the saints and in being close to the poor. It urges us not to overlook situations that call for our involvement. The temptation to theorize “about” mercy can be overcome to the extent that our daily life becomes one of participation and sharing. Nor should we ever forget what the Apostle tells us about his meeting with Peter, James and John after his conversion. His words highlight an essential aspect of his own mission and of the Christian life as a whole: “They asked only one thing, that we remember the poor, which was actually what I was eager to do” (Gal 2:10). We cannot forget the poor: this is an injunction as relevant today as ever, and one that compels by its evangelical warrant.”

Gospel for the Second Sunday of Advent, Cycle A – Mathew 3:1-12

“Produce good fruit as evidence of your repentance.” John the Baptist does not mince words. He tells it like it is. When the hypocritical Pharisees and Sadducees show up piously for baptism, John calls them out, saying, *“You brood of vipers!”* Not welcoming words, to say the least. Then he tells them that being part of the religious club (i.e., children of Abraham) is not enough. No, *“every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.”*

It can be easy to join John in pointing fingers at those self-righteous religious leaders. But we are usually not so quick to point fingers at ourselves. On this Second Sunday of Advent, as we seek to prepare for the coming of Christ, we also need to hear John’s solemn warning. How are we like these Pharisees? How have we excused ourselves because we are part of the “club,” because we are baptized Christians, regular churchgoers, better than others, or whatever justification we use to declare ourselves in good shape? How have we failed to produce good fruit by being satisfied with a comfortable life and a routine practice of the faith? What do we need to change? Where do we need to grow? How do we need to reach out and serve others, to sacrifice sinful behaviors, to delve deeper into our love for the Lord?

John preaches today that God will *“gather his wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”* Advent is a gift from the Church — a time to renew our spiritual life by getting rid of the chaff in our souls and producing instead a fruitful harvest. Now is the time to do this work. As John tells us, *“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!”*

Questions for the Week

Matthew 3:1-12: Why do you think John the Baptist placed such a strong emphasis on repentance during his public ministry?



Isaiah 11:1-10: Seven hundred years before the birth of Jesus, the prophet Isaiah foretold of the coming Messiah who would rule with justice and faithfulness. What does this tell us about God’s timeline and God’s mercy?

Romans 15:4-9: Paul encouraged the Roman Christians to think in harmony and welcome one another for the glory of God. What actions do you do that glorify God?

Rev. Msgr. J. Robert Romero

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 4, 2016
Vol. 49, No. 49

STEWARDSHIP TO ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA CHURCH

November 20, 2016

Sunday's Offertory\$8,671.00
Mailed-In Offertory1,305.88
Total Offertory for the week\$9,976.88
Bishop's Services Appeal.....\$422.00

November 27, 2016

Sunday's Offertory\$8,134.00
Mailed-In Offertory470.00
Total Offertory for the week\$8,604.00
Thanksgiving Offertory.....\$544.00
Catholic Campaign for Human Development.....\$738.00

Weekly Average 2016 \$9,909.06
Children's Contribution\$6.00

Thank you for your generosity.
*Please remember St. Anthony Church
& St. Edmund School in your will.*

ST. ANTHONY PARISH ORGANIZATIONS / MINISTRIES AND CONTACT

ACTS Core Team Facilitator Mr. Kal Landry	Ministry to the Hospital Floyd & Frances Young
Altar Servers Rodney Sonnier	Ministry to Nursing Homes Dale Francois Tressella Melancon
Art & Environment Michael & Laura Lombas	Money Counters Bob Soileau Burke Sylvester
Catholic Daughters of the Americas Connie Thibodeaux	Northwest Vocation Club Lynn Venable
Choir Rodney Sonnier	Omega Group Celine Sittig
Come, Lord Jesus Michael Lombas	Perpetual Adoration Brenda Castro
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion Msgr. Robert Romero	Pro-Life Sarah Oliver
Food Bank Dcn. Gary Gaudin	R.C.I.A. Msgr. Robert Romero Fr. Travis Ababie Dcn. Gary Gaudin
Knights of Columbus Kal Landry, Grand Knight	S.G.S. (Still Going Strong) Tressella Melancon
Ladies Altar Society Maxine Moffitt	That Man Is You Charles Feucht
Lay Carmelites Debra Donnatta Brenda Castro	Ushers Rodney Sonnier
Lectors Rodney Sonnier	Women's Faith Sharing Angie Aguiard
Ministry to Homebound Genny Dischler	

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Monday, December 5

6:15 a.m.: Dr. Jack & Lois Miller; Martin Bordelon Jr., J.W. Zaunbrecher

Tuesday, December 6

12:00 p.m.: Rev. Edmund Daull (*Pastor*)

Wednesday, December 7

6:15 a.m.: Msgr. Alphonse Martel (*Pastor*); Adulas Thibodeaux

Thursday, December 8 -- Immaculate Conception

6:00 a.m.: Frankie LaFleur; Priests of Louisiana (*Liv.*); Shirley Janot; Pilar Parrie; J.W. Zaunbrecher

12:00 p.m.: Dcn. Gary & Linda Gaudin (*Liv.*); Wilda Hollier

6:00 p.m.:

Friday, December 9

6:15 a.m.: Hilda Maria Roche-Diaz; Vincent Sittig (*Liv.*)

Saturday, December 10

4:00 p.m.: Rev. Charles Clark (*Pastor*); Beth Sylvester; Newton Thibodeaux; Leonce Thibodeaux; George Sonnier; Jessie Comeaux family (*Liv. & Dec.*); Leon Stelly; Pris Ashford (*Liv. - Birthday*)

Sunday, December 11

Third Sunday of Advent

7:00 a.m.: St. Anthony Parishioners; Howard & Wilda Young; Vernell Soileau; Lanis & Myrtis Fuselier; Hilda Maria Roche-Diaz

9:00 a.m.: Carole Sue & Debbi Hargroder; Frankie LaFleur; M/M Johnny Godeaux; Loreta Godeaux; James & Ruth Marvin; Jeffery Babineaux; M/M Sidney Babineaux; Dean Godeaux family (*Liv.*); J.D. & John Marshall Arabie; Johnny & Ruth Manuel

11:00 a.m.: J.C. Labbie

6:00 p.m.:

PRIEST, EXTRAORDINARY LAY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION, LECTORS & ALTAR SERVERS

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, DECEMBER 8, 2016

6:00 a.m.	Fr. Abadie	Deacon Gary Gaudin Michelle LeJeune, William Parrie	Jude Huckaby	Kiley Tauzin, <i>2 Servers Needed</i>
12:00 p.m.	Fr. Abadie	Deacon Gary Gaudin, Glenda Young, Angie Aguiard	Craig Soileau	Elijah Dupre, <i>2 Servers Needed</i>
6:00 p.m.	Msgr. Romero	Kayla Fontenot, Alicia LaFleur, Maggie Parks	Tony LaFleur	Adelie Beaugh, Dominic Dupre <i>Server Needed</i>

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2016

4:00 p.m.	Fr. Abadie	Deacon Gary Gaudin, Janice Aguiard, Vergie Ardoin, Debbie DeRouen, Dr. Chip Hebert	Mark DeRouen	Christopher Fuselier, Andy Hebert, Clay Hebert, Gavin Oliver
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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2016

7:00 a.m.	Msgr. Romero	Michael Lombas, Kal Landry, Ken Richard	Tara LeBlanc	Payton Brown, Greta Miller, Joshua Landry, Justin Landry
9:00 a.m.	Fr. Abadie	Deacon Gary Gaudin, Mitch Fontenot, Doug Marcantel	Tad Richard	Alex Fontenot, Gabby Fontenot, Phillip Fontenot, Victoria Marcantel
11:00 a.m.	Fr. Abadie	Deacon Gary Gaudin, Jr. Bergeron, Samantha Bertrand, Donnie Darbonne, Barbara Thibodeaux	Tim Fontenot	Juliette & Robert Broussard, Anna Fruge Thurifer: Jacque Richard MC: Needed
6:00 p.m.	Fr. Abadie	Rickey Aguiard, Angel & Jeff McGee	Life Teen Member	Kylie Hebert, Kelli Richard, Aiden Veillon, Brooke Young

MINISTERS OF PRAYER



Please pray for: Lynn Landreneau, Brandon Butler, Jonah Thibodeaux, Judson Ardoin, Louis McGee Jr., J.B. Lejeune, Joan Burson, Paul Rozas, Frank Bergeron, Gayle Abshire, Charity Fontenot, Lillie Mae Aucoin, Gail Landreneau, David Frey, Mary Valerie LeJeune, Anita Masar, Darlene Faul, Emmitt Manuel, Liz Moreau, Cody Lalonde, Mary Lou Guillory, Russell Courville, Suzanne DeRouen, Elaine C. Guillory, Maril Fontenot, Diana Bertrand, Craig Durbin, David Stearns, Michael Folse, C.J. Godeaux, Karen LeJeune, Betty Durham, Jude Miller Sr., Suzanne Derouen, Elvin Morein, Rene Duplechain, Haley Dupre Touns, Dr. F.J. DeRouen, Linda Gaudin, Lenard Craig, Adam 'Brother' Johnson, Rena Mae Manuel, Dornetta Duplechain, Joseph Van Ortego, Madeline Montelaro, Judge Frank & Elaine McGee, Christine Duplechin, Amanda Prather, Leroy Vige, Troy Dupre.

Pray for our troops & peace in the world!

MEETINGS & EVENTS

Monday, December 5

Daily Mass -- 6:15 a.m.
Faith Formation (C.C.D.) Elem. Classes -- 3:30 p.m.
Faith Formation (C.C.D.) Jr. High Classes -- 6:00 p.m.
ACTS Core Team Meeting -- 6:00 p.m. Ministries Bldg.
C.D.A. -- 6:00 p.m. in Parish Hall.

Tuesday, December 6

Daily Mass -- 12:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 7

Daily Mass -- 6:15 a.m.
Women's ACTS Formation -- 6:00 p.m. in Parish Hall.
Men's ACTS Mission Formation -- 6:00 p.m. Eunice / KC Hall.
The Light is on for You -- 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. in Church.
R.C.I.A. -- 7:00 p.m. at St. Mathilda Church Hall.

Thursday, December 8 -- Immaculate Conception

Mass Schedule -- 6:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m.
St. Edmund All School Mass -- 8:00 a.m.

Friday, December 9

Daily Mass -- 6:15 a.m. / Nursing Home Masses -- 9:30 a.m.

Saturday, December 10

Confessions -- 3:00 p.m. / Anticipated Mass -- 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 11

Masses -- 7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Life Teen Mass -- 6:00 p.m.
Life Night -- 7:00 p.m.

MASS SCHEDULE FOR IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Immaculate
Conception

Holy Day of Obligation

**Thursday,
December 8**
6:00 a.m.
12:00 p.m.
6:00 p.m.



LITURGICAL DECORATIONS



In the coming weeks, you may wish to make a donation towards paying for Altar flowers and decorations for the church. Your donation (*in a separate envelope*) can be put into any collection basket or mailed to / dropped off at the Rectory. If you would like to make the donation in memory of a loved one (*living - or - deceased*), please write their names on the envelope. On the weekends of December 17/18 & 24/25 - a list of the donations will be published.

CHRISTMAS CHOIRS

The Children's Christmas Choir will be practicing to sing at the Children's Liturgy at the 6:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass. Any St. Anthony parishioner from the 2nd grade on up can sing in this choir. Rehearsals will continue on these dates: **Thursday: Dec. 15 & 22 at 5:30-6:15 p.m.**

Any St. Anthony parishioner interest in singing for the **10:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass** (*there will NOT be a Midnight Christmas Mass this year*) can join the choir. Rehearsals will continue on these dates: **Thursday: Dec. 15 & 22 at 6:30 p.m.** We need both **MALE & FEMALE** voices. For more information contact: Rodney Sonnier at 457-5285.



The Light is
ON for You.



Celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation

Advent Wednesdays 6:30-8:00 p.m.
November 30, December 7 & 14
St. Anthony of Padua Church

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PERPETUAL ADORATION

Adorers thank Jesus for the following favors:

- 1) For my husband's "yes" to you.
- 2) Successful knee replacement.

**Adorers needed for the following hours
starting at: Wed. 12 am; Thurs. 11 pm;
Fri. 3 pm, 6 pm; Sat. 12 pm**

**Prayer Partners Needed: Sun 12 am, 3 pm; Mon 8 am;
Wed 8 am, Noon; Thurs 11 am, 4 pm; Fri 7 am; Sat 3 pm, 4 pm**

To commit one hour - call Brenda Castro 457-7965.



SAMPLE ADVENT WORKS OF MERCY

SOURCE: Adapted from Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions
Choose one of the following acts of mercy as a way of accepting God's mercy.

- During the next week, spend an hour in prayer for those who are the victims of abuse or neglect. Read Matthew 25: 31-46.
- As a family, prepare a basket of food or toiletries and give it to a family in need.
- Skip a meal at your favorite restaurant. Use the money to purchase a Christmas gift for a person served by a parish organization or local charity.
- Identify a person whom you have offended since your last confession and pray for them each day for a week.
- Think of someone you have been especially uncharitable towards and send a Christmas card with a note of kindness attached to it.
- Work at the Food Bank or other food source (like Food Net) during Advent for a couple of hours.
- Participate in the Giving Tree Advent Program.
- Reflect on the Beatitudes find someone who meets one of those needs, such as one who mourns, and send them a note or visit them during Advent.
- Speak a word of affirmation to each member of your household this week. Make an effort to "help carry someone's burden" among your friends or family members.
- Offer to share something you have - or something you're doing - with someone who would appreciate it.
- Take a "prayer time" of ten minutes or so ... and ask God if there is something God would like to say to you ... and LISTEN.
- Call or write a note to someone who may be lonely or in need of "comfort and joy".
- Gather your family members for a reading of the "Christmas Story" from the Gospel of Matthew or Luke. Discuss what it means to them and to you.
- Include a weekday Mass in your plans during Advent.
- Every morning until Christmas, say a Hail Mary for peace.
- Reach out to a lonely person at school. Invite him or her to sit with you and your friends.
- Prayerfully pray Psalm 51.
- For one whole week, do the dishes or set the table without being asked.
- Give up some leisure time to help an elderly neighbor.

