

St. Anthony Catholic Church
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www.saintanthonypadua.com

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE
St. Anthony-NT Saturday 7:30 PM
St. Anthony-M Sunday 8:30AM
St. Anthony-NT Sunday 11:00AM
Confession 15 minutes before Mass
Pastor Fr. Roger A. Synek

St. Anthony Catholic Church
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EPIPHANY OF THE LORD January 7, 2018

MASS TIME

Weekend Schedule (See Header)
WEEKDAY SCHEDULE

There will be no daily Mass from Tuesday, January 8 through Friday, January 12.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

There will be no Eucharistic Adoration this week, January 9, 2018

CCD CLASS-ST.ANTHONY NEW TOWN

Our next schedule class is **January 10, 2018**, beginning at 6:30pm

2017 CONTRIBUTION

As we approach the end of 2017 we ask that any contributions you'd like to count for 2017 be dated in 2017 and delivered to the parish by midnight December 31. For 2017 the Diocese will send out contribution documents for all its collections; separate from the report St. Anthony's will provide in January 2018 for use in preparing your taxes. Thanks you again for your financial support.

OLD CHRISTMAS CARDS

 Please bring in your gently used Christmas cards (can be the ones you received) with photos of the Nativity or the Holy Family on the front. We will use these as art pieces in the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd atriums. There will be a basket in the entry way to leave them in.



OUT OF THE OFFICE: Fr. Roger will be out of the office from Tuesday, January 8 - January 12. Please continue to pray for Fr. Roger and all priests that will be on retreat in the coming week. In case of a Sacramental Emergency please call Fr. Teji Thanipilly @ the following number. (701)220-3059.

CATHOLIC CALENDARS: Don't forget to pick up your 2018 calendar. They be found in the entry way of the church.

2018

LAST WILL & TESTAMENT: Please remember St. Anthony in your Last Will & Testament. This is a wonderful way to leave a legacy of faith and gratitude.

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS WILL BE TAKEN DOWN

Decorations will be taken down on Tuesday, Jan. 9th, starting at 5 pm, as we return to the celebration of Ordinary Time on our church calendar. Your help would be appreciated as we end the Christmas season.

VOCATIONS: "They offered Him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh." Is God calling you to give Him the gold of your freedom, the incense of your prayer, and the myrrh of your love through a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life? If Christ may be inviting you to faithful service as a priest or consecrated religious, call **Fr. Joshua Waltz • Vocation Director • 701-471-5758**

STEWARDSHIP: "...they fell down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh..." - MATTHEW 2:11 Notice the order of events in the Magi's visit. First, they knelt before Jesus and prayed to Him. Then they presented Him with their gifts. We, too, must take time to pray before we present our gifts to the Lord. We never know what God may be asking us to share!

SAVE THE DATE: St. Anthony of Mandaree will be hosting Catholic Congress this summer, June 2 & 3.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: Do not be afraid to be saints. Follow Jesus Christ who is the source of freedom and light. Be open to the Lord so that He may lighten all your ways. ~Saint Pope John Paul II

REFLECTION—FROM A LETTER BY SAINT TERESA OF CALCUTTA TO HER SISTERS, THE MISSIONARIES OF CHARITY

"My dearest Children - Jesus wants me to tell you again, how much is the love He has for each one of you - beyond all that you can imagine. I worry some of you still have not really met Jesus - one to one - you and Jesus alone. We may spend time in chapel - but have you seen with the eyes of your soul how He looks at you with love? Do you really know the living Jesus - not from books, but from being with Him in your heart? Have you heard the loving words He speaks to you? Ask for this grace, He is longing to give it. Never give up this daily intimate contact with Jesus as a real living Person - not just an idea. How can we last - even one day living our life without hearing Jesus say "I love you" - impossible. Our soul needs that as much as the body needs to breathe the air. If not, prayer is dead - meditation is only thinking. Jesus wants you each to hear Him - speaking in the silence of your heart."



PREFERENTIAL OPTION FOR THE POOR: "For he shall rescue the poor when he cries out, and the afflicted when he has no one to help him. He shall have pity for the lowly and the poor; the lives of the poor he shall save." (From the psalm at Mass for the Epiphany of the Lord, Psalm 72:12-13) Psalm 72 is a Prayer for a King. Let us pray this psalm in hope that our world leaders might imitate Pope Francis and also have a great care for the poor)

WELCOME TO ON LINE GIVING: Our parishes online giving system lets you make your one-time, weekly, or monthly donation using your debit card, credit card or bank account. It's easy to allocate different amounts for different collections, and view complete and accurate financial records anytime. If you would like to use On Line Giving to donate to the church please go to our website. www.saintanthonypadua.com

JANUARY 7TH-THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD: In the dioceses of the United States this feast is celebrated on the Sunday between January 2 and January 8. For many years in the English speaking world the feast of Epiphany has been overshadowed by that of Christmas. But unless we realize the significance of this great day, we see only one side of the mystery of the Incarnation. Now after contemplating the staggering fact that God has become a human child, we turn to look at this mystery from the opposite angle and realize that this seemingly helpless Child is, in fact, the omnipotent God, the King and Ruler of the universe. The feast of Christ's divinity completes the feast of His humanity. It fulfills all our Advent longing for the King "who is come with great power and majesty." We see that whereas Christmas is the family feast of Christianity, Epiphany is the great "world feast of the Catholic Church."

JANUARY 8TH: THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD: Today the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Baptism of Our Lord. This brings to an end the season of Christmas. The Church recalls Our Lord's second manifestation or epiphany which occurred on the occasion of His baptism in the Jordan. Jesus descended into the River to sanctify its waters and to give them the power to beget sons of God. The event takes on the importance of a second creation in which the entire Trinity intervenes. Many of the incidents which accompanied Christ's baptism are symbolical of what happened at our Baptism. At Christ's baptism the Holy Spirit descended upon Him; at our Baptism the Trinity took its abode in our soul. At His baptism Christ was proclaimed the "Beloved Son" of the Father; at our Baptism we become the adopted sons of God. At Christ's baptism the heavens were opened; at our Baptism heaven was opened to us. At His baptism Jesus prayed; after our Baptism we must pray to avoid actual sin.

EPIPHANY HOUSE BLESSING: A custom in homes of many countries is to inscribe above the front doors the letters C † M † B, placing a cross between each letter. This is done every year on Epiphany commemorating the Wiseman being led by the star to the manger. These letters originate from the Latin phrase "Christus Mansionem Benedicat" (Christ bless this home). This religious custom expresses the belief that the Lord remains with His people throughout the year. House. Please take a piece of Blessed Chalk home with you.

JANUARY – NATIONAL SLAVERY AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH: There are millions of slaves on the earth today, including millions of children who will never see the inside of a classroom. Plan to learn something this month about Modern Day Slavery. Visit: sistersagainstrafficking.org, website of U.S. Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking

EPIPHANY FAMILY ACTIVITIES

Choose one of the following activities as a way to further reflect on this Sunday readings

- ◆ Place the Magi into the crèche. Identify a gift you have to bring the Newborn King. Talk about the gift with family members and invite them to reflect on the gifts they wish to bring.
- ◆ Take a winter-night walk on a clear crisp evening. Find the North Star or any constellations you recognize. If you have any small children with you, remind them that the Wise Men followed the brightest star in the sky in order to find Baby Jesus. Help them find the brightest star in the night sky. Enjoy this facet of God's world.
- ◆ In an effort to follow the light of Christ, it sometimes helps to remove some of the clutter in our lives. Choose an evening or Saturday morning in which radio, television and computer are all turned off and your home becomes quiet. If you have children, explain to them the need to seek God in silence.
- ◆ The three kings gave gifts to Jesus, and we just received Christmas gifts. Go through your books and toys. Make a special Epiphany box for the poor and donate the box to a place in your community that helps those in need.

Our Sunday Visitor

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY: Arrangements must be made with the Pastor at least nine months in advance.

SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING: The sacrament is celebrated upon request prior to surgery or at the time of illness. Please notify the Parish office of the illness or hospitalization of a parishioner.

STEWARDSHIP SUMMARY: The three wise men who came from the East to pay homage to the infant Jesus brought Him rich gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh as part of their worship. What gifts have I brought to this celebration to offer to the newborn Savior?

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT: As we begin this new year, let us take time to plan and make stewardship of time and talent a part of our lifestyle and stewardship of treasure a part of our budget. St. Anthony will be faced with some major capital improvement to our buildings in the years ahead. You can help us to provide adequate facilities, in good repair, through a gift in your Will for this purpose.

MARRIAGE MOMENTS: Ways to Turn Your Beloved Off #7 - Let Lists Rule Your life. It's the season of New Year's Resolutions. This can be good, but it can also turn your focus away from your beloved to self-improvement. Today, make one specific resolution to deepen your love.

PARENTING POINTERS: Jan. 6 was the Feast of the Epiphany when Christians celebrate the 3 wise men's (foreigners) search for God. Legend has it that they followed a star. Gazing at stars can be a mystical experience. Look up at the sky with your child tonight. Hopefully you will see stars. Ponder the universe together. (Susan Vogt....www.SusanVogt.net)

SPANISH MASS: The January Spanish mass at Corpus Christi will be held on January 21st at 1:00 p.m. As always, all are welcome. If you know of anyone who would care to celebrate mass in Spanish please feel free to invite them

9 DAY FOR LIFE

The U.S. bishops annual 9 Days for Life takes place Thursday, January 18 –Friday, January 26. Pray for the respect and protection of all human life with new intentions, brief reflections, and more each day. Download the novena online or participate through Facebook, email, text message or an app. Join at www.9daysforlife.com!