

UPCOMING EVENTS IN OUR PARISH

Monday, December 2nd

Adoration and Confessions—6 to 8 pm

Tuesday, December 3rd

Bible Study—10:30 am (Rectory)

Wednesday, December 4th

Young Family Bible Study—5:30 pm (Rel. Ed. Center)

Saturday, December 7th

Life Teen—5:30 to 7:30 pm

Friday, December 13th

Middle School Youth Group—6:30 to 8:30 pm

MASS INTENTIONS DECEMBER 2—8

12/02	8:00 am	June Kretzing (L)
12/03	8:00 am	All Souls r/b Hon Wimbush
12/04	8:00 am	Penni Snow (D) r/b Pat Waak
12/05	8:00 am	Kurt Gilmer (D) r/b Ladies of Charity
12/06	8:00 am	Conrad Benetz (D) r/b Tittinger Family
12/07	9:00 am	John Waak (D) r/b Pat Waak
	4:30 pm	Sam Bradley, Sr. (D) r/b The Family
12/08	8:15 am	Geary Insley (D) r/b Knights of Columbus
	11:15 am	Parishioners

“AND I WILL GIVE THEM REST”

Pray for the repose of the souls of all deceased members and their families.

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

Please pray for all members of our parish community serving our country both here and overseas.

SOUTHERN ITALY AND MEDJUGORJE PILGRIMAGE—JULY 2020

On Thursday, December 19th, from 6:30 to 7:00 pm in the Religious Ed Center, a representative will be available at St. Anthony's to discuss a pilgrimage opportunity to Southern Italy and Medjugorje in July of 2020. The focus of the pilgrimage will be our Blessed Mother in Medjugorje and the home and mission of St. Padre Pio in Southern Italy. Children are welcome on this trip as well. Please call 443-624-7615 or email olivebranchtoursco@gmail.com for more information.

FROM THE PASTORS DESK

A Short But Beautiful Liturgical Season

Dear Brothers and Sisters of St. Anthony's,

By the time you lay your eyes on this article of mine, we will be amid one of my favorite liturgical seasons. The new Church year begins on the first Sunday of Advent and this year we will be following the Evangelist Matthew rather closely. Advent is a time of waiting and watching for the presence of the Lord as he reveals himself in our midst. This wonderful season tries to recapture the long time of waiting of the people of the Old Testament, namely, the people of Israel. The Prophets promised that a Messianic figure would appear to fulfill their hopes and dreams and to establish a Kingdom that would never end. This promise was fulfilled by the person of Jesus of Nazareth.

Jesus would have been schooled in the Old Testament law and Prophets. He knew at the core of His being that he was the fulfillment of the Messianic hopes of His people. The Gospel of St. Luke tells us that Jesus grew in wisdom, age and grace before God and man. (LK 2:52) So, Jesus, who was like us in all things but sin, developed and matured according to the natural way of acquiring knowledge and understanding. This is a part of the mystery of the Incarnation.

Writing this bulletin article brings me back to my days at the seminary, 1979 to 1986. In my last year at Mount Saint Mary's I decided to write my masters thesis on the Human Knowledge of Jesus. It was, and still is, a fascinating topic to me. Advent is a time to reflect on the life of Jesus and to appreciate what length God went to, to bring about our salvation. Jesus, the Incarnation of God, always knew who he was and why he was sent by the Father. This is the Divine nature at work in the person of Jesus of Nazareth. However, at the same time we must allow Jesus in his human nature to grow and come to a reflective understanding of Himself. It is the mystery of the God-Man.

Advent is an invitation, as it was in the time of Jesus. It is an invitation to enter more deeply into the life of Jesus Christ on Christmas day. As the Heavenly Father would not send the Son until all the preparations had been complete, so Jesus cannot come to us fully unless we make preparation. This is the work of Advent. Taking these three and a half weeks of Advent preparation seriously will pay off big dividends.

This time of year can be very noisy, try to spend time in quiet prayer and meditation of the first two chapters of the Gospel of St. Matthew and St. Luke. These are the Gospels that contain the “Infancy Narratives.” During Advent, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and confessions will be available Mondays, December 2nd, 16th and 23rd from 6 to 8 pm. Confessions will also be available Christmas Eve from 10 am to 12 pm and 1 pm to 2 pm along with the regularly scheduled confessions every Saturday from 3 to 4 pm.

May the Good Lord bless you during this holy time of year. I will be working on my Christmas letter with further reflections on the beauty of the Lord's incarnation.

Peace, In Christ Jesus, Fr. Stack

Visit us on Facebook @ stanthonycal

FAITH FORMATION

This Monday, December 2nd, we will have Children's Adoration in the church from 6:00 to 6:30 pm. Bring your children to sit at the feet of Our Lord during this holy season of Advent! Our prayer leaders teach our children to pray with their minds, bodies, and souls!

"This is the wonderful truth my dear friends: the Word, which became flesh two thousand years ago is present today in the Eucharist." St. John Paul II
Oh, Come! Let us Adore!

We will have an **Advent Prayer service on December 15th at 10:15 am in the church.** (This is a change from the original planned date of December 8th). All families and parishioners are welcome to attend!

It's getting to be that time of year! We are beginning to plan for our Christmas Pageant which will be at the beginning of the 4:30 pm Christmas Eve Mass. Please contact Mary Beth @ 443-646-5724 if your child is interested in being a part of this wonderful tradition. Practice times will be on Thursday's at 6 pm beginning December 5th.

Life Teen

Life Teen will meet next Saturday, December 7th, at the 4:30 pm Mass followed by dinner and our session on Advent. During this Life Night, the teens will examine how the hopeful anticipation of the season of Advent compares to their own feelings regarding their hopes and dreams for the future. They will be encouraged not to wish to speed time up or "fast forward" into their future, but to enjoy the time of anticipation as a gift from God that helps prepare for the coming of Christ.

HAVE YOU BEEN ENJOYING THE PARISH SUBSCRIPTION TO FORMED.ORG?

December 1st—First Sunday of Advent

STUDY: Lectio Mary, Episode 1: The New Eve

KIDS: Brother Francis Advent

LISTEN: Prepare the Way of the King

December 3rd—St. Francis Xavier

KIDS: Francis Xavier and the Samurai's Lost Treasure

LISTEN: Holiness is Always in Season

December 6th—Saint Nicholas

WATCH: Saint Nicholas; The Real Story

KIDS: Nicholas; The Boy Who Became Santa

December 7th—Saint Ambrose

WATCH: Restless Heart

LISTEN: The Restless Flame

December 9th—Feast of the Immaculate Conception

STUDY: Why Believe? Season 1, Episode 13-Mary Queen Mother

WATCH: Blessed Duns Scotus; Defender of the Immaculate Conception

Go to Formed.org to sign up with our zip code "20714" and click on St. Anthony's Catholic Church to create your account to explore thousands of Catholic resources. It's all free to you!

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Vicki Baxter, John Bell, Sam "Bo" Bradley, Florence, Dominic Brady, Jack Bragger, Jeff Carr, Jane Carrello, Bill Carroll, Mary Chin, Helga Cuevas, Luis Cuevas, Elaine Cunnane, Jean Davis, Sig Degitz, Gavin DiBitetto, Dominic Dilorio, Jo Finch, Anthony Fowler, Taylan Fowler, Aaron Fortney, Cathy Giancoli, Noah Christopher Haas, Anna Halterman, Marie Heaton, Maslynn Holmes, Cory Honoker, Carolyn Humerick, Roza Ivanac, Lindsey Jay, Kayla Johnston, Shirley Kallal, William Kallal, Richard Knupp, Brian Lloyd, Donna Lynch, Anne Marie Mako, Josephine Martin, Mark Mann, Catherine Mathiesen, Kelly McCarley, Josephine McWhorter, Jennifer Melanab, Margie Edwards Morgan, Sarah Olsen, Doris Pettko, Darley Phillips, Payton Phillips, Babies Ace and Troy Remer, Jonathan Rieger, Carolyn Ritch, Grayson David Rodriguez, Wayne Romanek, Geri Rosen, Kristy Salek, Infant Brandon Simonds, Jr., Richard Swann, Bunny Tate, Marc Timms, Carolyn Vargas, Susan Vilcheck, Pat Waak, Chelsea Whittington, Shannon Wink, Sue White.

Jesus the Divine Word Catholic Church will present Lessons and Carols Sunday, December 15th at 7 pm, 885 Cox Rd. Huntingtown, MD. Come and join in an Advent Celebration of Music and Scripture featuring the music of Jesus the Divine Word, Jesus the Good Shepherd, St. Anthony's, St. Peter's and Cardinal Hickey Academy.



Weekly Offerings and Donations

Not available due to early bulletin deadline.

Christmas Flower envelopes are located in the back of the church if you would like to contribute in honor of a deceased loved one.

Next Weeks Readings: The Second Sunday of Advent: December 8th, 2019

First Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10

Second Reading: Romans 15:4-9

Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12



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