

## **UPCOMING EVENTS IN OUR PARISH**

### **Tuesday, December 10th**

No Bible Study

### **Friday, December 13th**

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

### **Monday, December 16th**

Blood Drive—1 to 7 pm (Padua Hall)

Adoration and Confessions—6 to 8 pm

### **Tuesday, December 17th**

Bible Study—10:30 am

Healing Mass—7 pm

### **Wednesday, December 18th**

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

## **MASS INTENTIONS DECEMBER 9—15**

12/09	8:00 am	<b>Anna Green (D)</b> r/b Marie Heaton
12/10	8:00 am	<b>Msgr. James Lockman (D)</b>
12/11	8:00 am	<b>June Kretzing (L)</b>
12/12	8:00 am	<b>David Gormley, Sr. (D)</b> r/b Gormley Family
12/13	8:00 am	<b>Betty Theurer (D)</b> r/b Ladies of Charity
	11:00 am	<b>Carol Ewing (D)</b> r/b Pat Friel
12/14	9:00 am	<b>Stephen E. &amp; Scott G. Pettko (D)</b> r/b Doris Pettko
	4:30 pm	<b>Burt Shaffner (D)</b> r/b Pat Friel
12/15	8:15 am	<b>Anna Hartman (D)</b> r/b Bob Hartman
	11:15 am	<b>Parishioners</b>

### **"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.

### **The Ladies of Charity deeply appreciate your longtime support of our Food Pantry here at St. Anthony's.**

For many, many years you have helped us with regular donations of food and funds and the thousands of pounds of groceries you have donated to us. With this bulletin notice, we hope to begin reporting to you each month about the number of families we have been able to assist because of your generosity and compassion. You demonstrate what it means to live Jesus' call to "love one another as I have love you." For November:

**7 Pantry openings (includes visits to North Beach Senior Center — 265 families served —697 people served — 9,703.6 lbs. of food distributed.**

**In addition we served the following for Thanksgiving: 211 families served — 578 people served — 7,190 lbs. of food distributed.**

## **FROM THE PASTORS DESK**

### **Fascinating Saints**

Dear Brothers and sisters of St. Anthony's,

We have begun our Advent journey. It is a short walk through the next few weeks of December, but one filled with beauty and wonder. As I said before, this liturgical season is my favorite one. All the other seasons have their unique characteristics but there has always been something about Advent that I loved. Perhaps it is connected to the solstice that occurs on the 22nd of December when the days begin to grow longer, but at any rate, it is a very wonderful time of the year.

Always on the second Sunday of advent we are introduced to one of the most fascinating saints that fills our Church calendar; John the Baptist. St. Luke goes into the mysterious birth of the saint, but St. Matthew gives us other details about his life. Matthew tells us he appears in the desert of Judea; the barren region west of the Dead Sea, extending up to the Jordan valley. In this desolate place, John calls people to repent of their sins and to have a change of heart. The word "Metanoia" is Greek for a radical conversion of heart, mind and soul. This really is the heart of the season of Advent. We are called to be challenged by the Old Testament prophets in whose footsteps John the Baptist is walking.

The effects of original sin are deep and profound. They deeply scar us and tempt us into being a person filled with arrogance and pride. John's cry of repentance must echo in our hearts and minds. He challenges us to set things straight and make right and to clear a way for our God to come and manifest His presence. This requires us to renounce our egotistical pride.

During this time of year, it is easy to overindulge and to splurge our need for being important. John, the man of the desert, does a good job of popping that balloon of egotistical pride that basks in pleasure. John proclaims the "Kingdom of heaven" is at hand. Only the Gospel of Matthew tells us of this bold proclamation. The fact that the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand must have been a shock to the people of John's day, as it should be in ours. Heaven is to be grasped every day of the year, but especially in this Advent season. If you can pray to lay hold of this treasure, oh how you would see all things differently in your day to day activities. To be acutely aware that each day you are living in God's kingdom, and that you are that Kingdom to all you meet, would make a significant impact on your life.

These are some thoughts that Advent invites us to ponder. Jesus is the Light of the World, and your life has been enlightened by His presence. John the Baptist was, and is, a powerful force of good during this time. May we accept his challenge and put away the deeds of darkness and live in the light of the Lord.

Peace, In Christ Jesus, Fr. Stack

*"Prepare the Way of the Lord."*

## **FAITH FORMATION**

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.

**Middle School Youth Group meets this Friday night, December 13th.** All 6th—8th graders are encouraged to come and celebrate the Advent Season.

### **Life Teen**

**Life Teen will meet in two weeks on Saturday, December 21st at the 4:30 Mass** followed by a Christmas Feast. Along with good food and fun, we will be having a baby shower for Our Blessed Mother so please bring a small baby gift for Baby Jesus. (We will donate these gifts to our local pro-life crisis pregnancy center, Birthright of Prince Frederick). We will then go spread Christ's love through music and song as we bring the Christmas message of hope, peace and joy to the town of North Beach! Please DRESS WARM, as we will be outside for a good part of the night.

**Looking for a place to donate this Christmas?** How about helping to send one of our youth to Summer Camp? Cost for one youth is \$600/week and Life Teen's Camp CoveCrest gives our teens an incredible opportunity to experience our Catholic Faith in a fun and powerful way. It is led by young, dynamic Catholic Missionaries, Priests, and Religious. They offer high adventure rope courses, white water rafting, as well as daily Mass, Confessions and Adoration. Contact Mary Beth Woodburn at 443-646-5724 or go to LifeTeen.com if you have questions. Thank you in advance for investing in our youth and for your generosity!

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

### **December 12— Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe**

**WATCH:** Guadalupe: The Miracle and the Message

**WATCH:** 1531: A Story that is Not Finished Yet

### **December 14—Feast Day of Saint John of the Cross**

**WATCH:** No Greater Love, A Unique Portrait of the Carmelite Nuns

### **December 22—The Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**STUDY:** YDisciple: Advent Session 4-The Gift

**LISTEN:** Come, Lord Jesus

### **December 25-The Nativity of the Lord**

**WATCH:** The Story of the Nativity

**LISTEN:** The School of Nazareth, Blessings of Christmas, The Story of Christmas.

**KIDS:** Kristoph and the First Christmas Tree, Brother Francis: O' Holy Night

### **December 27—St. John the Apostle**

**LISTEN:** The Treasure of Our Soul-Apostles Creed

**LISTEN:** The Gospel of John

## **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, Jace 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.

### **Renew your Marian Consecration December 12th, the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe.**

The renewal will be held in the Religious Education Building at 7 pm on Thursday, December 12th followed by the showing of the movie OCEAN OF MERCY (60 minutes). This movie is about the lives of Saints Maximilian Kolbe, Faustina and Pope John Paul II. All parishioners are welcome, even if not renewing the consecration, but space is limited. Children are welcome. Contact Deacon Ed at 410-474-1204 or [febakerjr@aol.com](mailto:febakerjr@aol.com).

### **Visit us on Facebook @stanthonycal**

#### **Weekly Offerings and Donations**

November 23 / 24—\$7,901.75

Thanksgiving Day—\$353.00

November 30 / December 1—\$7,458.10

Faith Direct November — \$10,960.00

### **Next Weeks Readings: The Third Sunday of Advent: December 15th, 2019**

**First Reading: Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10**

**Second Reading: James 5:7-10**

**Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11**



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