

UPCOMING EVENTS IN OUR PARISH

Tuesday, December 31

No Bible Study
Vigil Mass—4:30 pm
Parish Offices Closes at 12 pm

Wednesday, January 1st-The Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother Of God

Mass 10 am
Parish Offices Closed

Sunday, January 5th

Knights of Columbus Breakfast—8:30 to 11 am
Faith Formation Epiphany Party—10:15 am
Religious Goods Store open—8:30 to 11 am
Healing Mass—3 pm

Monday, January 6th

Adoration and Confessions— 6 to 8 pm

MASS INTENTIONS DECEMBER 30—JANUARY 5

12/30	8:00 am	Thomas Macken (D) r/b Macken Family
12/31	8:00 am	Buck Allen (D) r/b Pat Friel
	4:30 pm	Lillian, Stephen F. & Suzanne Pettko r/b Doris Pettko
1/01	10:00 am	Isabelle Romano (D) r/b Gay Family
1/02	8:00 am	Ernest Bernhardt (D) r/b John and Maria Lane
1/03	8:00 am	Sr. Ann Diehl C.S.J. r/b Laura Glasgow
	11:00 am	Barbara Ellen Luff (D) r/b Beth Donohue
1/04	9:00 am	Theresa Higdon (L) r/b Julie Farrell
	4:30 pm	Robert Randall Smith (D) r/b Judith McCarthy
1/05	8:15 am	Parishioners
	11:15 am	Catherine Hetmansky (L) r/b Hetmansky Family

“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.

Heart of Prague, Austria and Germany 10 day Tour

Join Jesus the Good Shepherd Church and a festival choir composed of singers from different churches in Calvert County. You do not have to be in the choir to come on the trip. You will visit churches and main attractions of Prague, Vienna, Salzburg and Munich. Many meals are included, private motor coach, and 3 and 4-star hotels. Package including airfare is \$3,795. Contact Katie Evans at 410-257-3810 ext. 1017 or music@ccjgs.org. For online brochure go to: <https://www.petersway.com/9630.html>.

FROM THE PASTORS DESK

The Feast of the Holy Family

Dear Brothers and Sisters of St. Anthony's,

Amid the Christmas season the Church celebrates some very touching and beautiful feasts. They are some of my favorite celebrations. On each of the Sundays that follow the Christmas event we are called to reflect on certain aspects of the meaning of the Birth of the Son of God. The Sunday that follows Christmas we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family. This is followed by the Feast of the Epiphany and finally the season of Christmas ends with the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. Each of these beautiful Feasts call us to reflect more deeply on the life of Jesus and how his life has impacted our own. These Feasts will be the subject of the next few weeks of my bulletin articles.

First let me say that I have received some good feedback regarding these bulletin articles. While I am not the greatest writer, I do enjoy trying to express my thoughts in a way that makes our bulletin a little different. I have Monsignor John Hogan to thank in terms of the whole idea of writing a pastor's column. Years ago, while stationed at Sacred Heart in Bowie he would write a column in the bulletin to touch parishioners in a different way. Most people in the communications field say that different people receive the message you are trying to communicate in different ways. So, the young mother at Mass who is trying to listen to the homily sometimes cannot because of the crying baby. The bulletin article gives her an opportunity to read it later when the baby is sleeping. That's just one instance among many. Now on to the Holy Family of Nazareth.

The Church calls our attention, on the Sunday after Christmas, to meditate on the meaning and purpose of family life. The Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph has profound implications in the way we view our families and where and why God has providentially placed us where we are in this life. It is not by happenstance that we are associated with those we call “Mom and Dad” and “Brothers and Sisters”. There is a divine purpose to it all. It can be difficult at times to see it this way. I remember years ago when I was deprived of having something I really wanted (or at least I thought I really wanted) by my Mom and Dad. I was so mad that I wanted to leave my family. I remember saying to my Dad: “I am fed up with you guys and this family. I am out of here!!!”. I didn't get very far. When it was time for dinner, I came home and my plate was on the table as usual. My parents knew “foolishness” when they saw it. They were always there for me. That was a good lesson I learned on the importance of family.

Jesus, who is God, submitted himself to a human family. He obeyed Mary and Joseph and lived in a family that, I'm sure, had their problems and difficulties. But it was in the context of family life that he would grow and mature. Luke 2:52 tells us that Jesus grew in wisdom, age and grace before God and man. So, it is the plan of God that you and I live out the Gospel in the family we are in. God's graces are there in the family that you were born into and not in any other family.

As is my custom, myself and the Deacons will bless all of our families after the Mass here at St. Anthony's. I look forward to this every year. May the Lord bless you and keep you safe during this holy season of Christmas.

Peace, In Christ Jesus, Fr. Stack

FAITH FORMATION

Children's Adoration will be on Monday, January 6th from 6:00 to 6:30 pm. Children of all ages are encouraged to attend as we offer prayers and songs in this holy Christmas season, imitating those first adorers at the nativity of Our Lord.

"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

We resume Faith Formation classes on January 5th, the Feast of the Epiphany. We will be having our Christmas sing-along and Epiphany party in Padua Hall at 10:15 am and all are welcome! The Knights of Columbus will be serving up their famous breakfast so come and enjoy good food and the gift of our faith formation children. The winners of the "Keep Christ in Christmas" Poster contest will be announced!

LIFE TEEN

March For Life 2020!

Please join us on Friday, January 24th for the Youth Rally and Mass at the Capital one Arena in Washington DC! Doors open at 6:15 am so our bus will leave St. Anthony's at 5:30 am. **You need a ticket to attend, so please contact Mary Beth ASAP to reserve your seat on the bus.** Deadline to order tickets is January 11th. The Youth Rally and Mass for Life occurs each year in conjunction with the annual National March For Life held on (or near) the anniversary of the 1973 Roe v. Wade court decision making abortion legal in this country. This year, St Anthony's will be hosting two youth groups from Michigan, Our Lady of the Lakes and Brother Rice High Schools, and we will be helping welcome them to our parish after the March.

Our next Life Teen is scheduled for January 11th beginning with the 4:30 pm Mass, where we will welcome all of our Confirmation students and their sponsors in the Enrollment Ceremony. Sponsors are welcome to join us at the Life Night session immediately following Mass. We will have dinner, and play some interactive games, all while diving deeper into our beautiful Catholic Faith! Teens and sponsors, please plan to stay!

MARCH FOR LIFE 2020

St. Anthony's will have a bus going to the March for Life in Washington DC on Friday, January 24th. We need at least 50 people to sign up for the bus in order to secure it. We will leave from St. Anthony's at 7:00 am and return at 5:00 pm. The cost will be \$5 per person. We will attend the "Adult and Family Rally" followed by Mass at St. Matthews at 10:00 am, lunch at the Building Museum and then begin the March at 1:00 pm. Meeting back at Stanton Park at 4:00 pm to come home. **Please contact Denise Waters: dd_waters@comcast.net or 410-474-9393 if you would like to reserve your spot.**

The Men's Group will begin meeting again on January 4th, 2020 and will be meeting in Padua Hall on Saturday mornings at 7:30 am. Please contact Joe Bunn at 443-968-0914 if you have questions. All men are welcome.

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.

Visit us on Facebook @stanthonycal

FAITH DIRECT

Simple, Secure and Convenient.

St. Anthony's has electronic fund transfer for your offertory and donations.

Visit www.faithdirect.net to enroll, or pick up a form in the back of the church.

Our parish code is MD768

Offertory envelopes for 2020 are available outside of Padua Hall for those who receive them.

If you would like envelopes please contact the parish office.

Next Weeks Readings: The Epiphany of

The Lord: January 5, 2020

First Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

Second Reading: Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12



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