

UPCOMING EVENTS IN OUR PARISH

Sunday, February 16th
No Faith Formation Classes

Monday, February 17th
President's Day Holiday—Mass 10 am
Parish Office Closed
Red Cross Blood Drive—1 to 7 pm (Padua Hall)
NO Adoration or Confessions

Tuesday, February 18th
Bible Study - 10:30 am (Rectory)
Healing Mass—7 pm

Wednesday, February 19th
Young Family Bible Study—5:30 to 6:30 pm (REC)

Saturday, February 22nd
Men's Group—7:30 am

MASS INTENTIONS FEBRUARY 17-23

2/17	8:00 am	Nathan Cortes-Peck (D) r/b Hetmansky Family
2/18	8:00 am	Frances Dougherty (D) r/b Tittinger Family
	7:00 pm	Brandon Simonds (L)
2/19	8:00 am	Emma DiTulio (D) r/b Teresa & Victor Carromba
2/20	8:00 am	Patricia Lewis (D) r/b Woodburn Family
2/21	8:00 am	Stephen & Scott Pettko (D) r/b Doris Pettko
2/22	9:00 am	Laure Sola (D) r/b Beverly & Peter McCarri
	4:30 pm	Skip & Susan McMahon (L) r/b Danny & Denise Waters
2/23	8:15 am	Parishioners
	11:15 am	John Flynn (D) r/b George & Ann Klein

New Pamphlets: There are several new pamphlets which have been placed in the racks in the back of the church, **for everyone's use.** Father Stack and the Spiritual Life Committee hope the information contained in the pamphlets will be beneficial for you as you face the challenges of daily life. There are various subjects, but please note, at this time there are several titles which may be helpful to you during your Lenten Journey.

ST. ANTHONY'S IS SEEKING AN ORGANIST

The position would accompany three Masses per weekend (one Saturday evening and two on Sunday morning) and one choir rehearsal (Thursday evening) per week. In addition, the organist will accompany for Holy Day Masses and Special Masses as assigned. Requirements and qualifications are:

- Proficiency in organ and piano
- Must have basic knowledge of Roman Catholic Liturgy
- Must have (or be willing to complete) VIRTUS training and submit to a background check and fingerprinting.

Those interested should contact Liesl Schiavone, Director of Music, at 607-206-0314.

FROM THE PASTORS DESK

The Marion Icon

Dear Brothers and Sisters of St. Anthony's,

This past week we were fortunate to have the Icon of our Lady, Help of Persecuted Christians in our parish. First off, it is a very beautiful piece of artwork. It shows Mary with the Child Jesus and around her are the various Christians who have been, or are being, persecuted. I would like to thank our Knights of Columbus council for obtaining the icon to be displayed only this week in our parish. The Knights do great work for the Church at large and for our parish individually.

As I have said quite often at our parish, it is important to keep our fellow Catholic Christians in our prayers and in particular those who are living out their faith amidst severe persecution in places like China, the Middle East, and Nigeria. There are other places in the world that have seen persecution and we need to pray for their safety and well-being. It is our obligation to do so.

Years ago, I was struck by a homily of the late James Cardinal Hickey. The Cardinal had just come back from Rome from his ad limina visit to the Holy Father. There in Rome he met with other Bishops and Cardinals from the eastern European nations that were under the oppression of the communist Soviet Union. When freedom was finally granted to them, they asked the Cardinal if he and his church prayed for those Christians who were cut off from the rest of the world and were persecuted, or were they simply forgotten about? The Cardinal's homily struck a chord in me that I never forgot. Right then and there, I decided that a day cannot pass by that I don't pray for those in the Catholic Christian family who are denied basic human rights and are severely persecuted.

A picture came over the wire not too long ago of several Christians being beheaded by members of the Islamic caliphate. These are our brothers and sisters in the one faith given to us by Jesus. We need to always pray for them. Many times, at St. Anthony's I have said: "Here we are in this nice warm and comfortable church worshipping God freely and in peace. Let us remember that right now Christians in other parts of the world are gathering in hiding, in some cave or tunnel and in secret praying the same prayers we are, but in fear and trembling."

One day we will be with them in the Heavenly Kingdom and wouldn't it be wonderful if they came up to us to thank us for praying for them. They might say to us that it was because of your prayers my children were spared, or my husband or wife was not carried off in shackles. Persecution and martyrdom have always been a part of the Church's history, and that continues (and has even increased) today.

May the Good Lord spare these fellow Christians through the prayers we offer for their welfare.

Peace, In Christ Jesus, Fr. Stack

FAITH FORMATION

No Faith Formation classes this weekend, Feb 16th, in honor of Presidents Day weekend. Enjoy the time off with your family!

Our next Middle School Youth Group will meet Friday, February 28th. Please come for the first Soup Supper and Stations of the Cross, beginning at 5:30 pm. Then all 6th-8th graders are invited to join us in Padua Hall until 8:30 pm, where we will learn how to have the best Lent ever!

LIFE TEEN

Parents: Please be sure to go to our Sign-Up Genius to help provide food and pray in Adoration! Thank You!!

Our overnight HIGH SCHOOL RETREAT: Find Your Fire! The Holy Spirit Wants You! is next weekend from Friday, February 21st through Saturday, February 22nd, ending with the 4:30 Vigil Mass. Please dress for the weather as we are hoping to have some outside activities, as well as “church clothes” since we will be attending Mass. Also, please bring sleeping bag, pillow and whatever you need to be comfortable throughout the night. (Boys will stay in the Religious Ed Center and girls will stay in the Convent/Retreat House.) Our Life Teen Core Team is planning an awe-inspiring, fun retreat! **Please complete the Archdiocese of Washington Permission Form** (Found at stanthonycal.us under EDUCATION, then LIFE TEEN) and **return it with \$40 cash or check** (made payable to St. Anthony’s with “Retreat” in the memo) **by this Tuesday, February 18th.** Thank you!

FORMED Recommendations for February

February 20—Saints Francisco and Jacinta Marto

Study: Divine Mercy and the Second Greatest Story Ever Told, Episode 6-Fatima

Listen: Our Lady of Fatima

February 22—The Chair of Peter the Apostle

Lectio: Peter-The Primacy of the Church

Watch: Keys of the Kingdom—Understanding the Papacy

February 26—Ash Wednesday

Watch: Ready Reasons: What’s the Deal with Ashes on Ash Wednesday?

Read: Meditations for Lent

Sign up for **free** with our parish subscription: Go to **FORMED.ORG**, click “sign-up” and then “belong to Parish or Organization.” Put in our zip code, 20714 and then click on St. Anthony’s and enter your email. You will have free unlimited access to thousands of Catholic movies, Bible studies, podcasts etc.

The Hospitality and Spiritual Life Committees

invite you to join them on Sunday, **February 23, immediately after the 8:15 Mass** for food, drink and a video on **The Mystery of the Eucharist-God is With Us**, a program from FORMED. We will be presenting **Session 2: The Story of the Eucharist**. The video is 40 minutes long and will begin at 9:40 am. Please join us as we learn more about the Sacrament of the Eucharist while enjoying our usual refreshments and fellowship.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Vicki Baxter, John Bell, Sam “Bo” Bradley, Florence, Dominic Brady, Jack Bragger, Jeff Carr, Jane Carrello, Bill Carroll, Gail Carroll, Mary Chin, Helga Cuevas, Luis Cuevas, Elaine Cunnane, Jean Davis, Sig Degitz, Gavin DiBitetto, Dominic Di Iorio, Anthony Fowler, Jace Fowler, Taylan Fowler, Aaron Fortney, Cathy Giancoli, Anna Gorski, Noah Christopher Haas, Anna Halterman, Marie Heaton, Maslynn Holmes, Cory Honoker, Carolyn Humerick, Roza Ivanac, Lindsey Jay, Kayla Johnston, Shirley Kallal, William Kallal, Jim Kleinheinz, Richard Knupp, Brian Lloyd, Donna Lynch, Anne Marie Mako, Josephine Martin, Mark Mann, Kelly McCarley, Josephine McWhorter, Jennifer Melanab, Margie Edwards Morgan, Kylie Murphy, Sarah Olsen, 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., Matthew Skube, Richard Swann, Bunny Tate, David Thacker, Marc Timms, Carolyn Vargas, Susan Vilcheck, Pat Waak, Chelsea Whittington, Shannon Wink, Sue White.

CALLING ALL BAKERS!

On the weekend of Feb. 29/March 1, the Ladies of Charity will hold their spring Bake Sale. We are in need of donated baked goodies, and wanted to give you a couple weeks notice. We have found that items like brownies, fudge, scones, lemon bars, and cupcakes sell best. It also helps when these items are packaged in small servings (1-4) so the price is affordable for the buyers. Thank you for your help!

The 41st Annual Maryland March for Life is Monday, February 24,

beginning with a Youth Rally at 4:30 pm and Mass at 5:15 pm at St. Mary’s in Annapolis. If you would like to go we will meet at St. Anthony’s parking lot at 3:45 pm and carpool up together! We should return by 9:00 pm. Please contact **Denise Waters at 410-474-9393** or **dd_waters@comcast.net** for more information.

Offertory and Donations

February 8/9 — \$9,108.72

Faith Direct January—\$11,047.00

If you need a 2019 statement please email or call the parish secretary.



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