

Saint Anthony of Padua Church

Fourth Sunday of Advent December 24, 2017

853 Third Avenue, Elizabeth, New Jersey 07202

Parish Phone: (908) 351-3300 Parish Fax: (908) 351-3609

Convent Phone: (908) 354-0825 School Phone (908) 352-7419

Web page: <http://www.stanthonyelizabeth.com>

Email: stanthonyofpaduaelizabeth@gmail.com

Pastoral Staff:

Rev. Oscar Martin Dominguez, Pastor
Rev. Juan Carlos Zapata, Parochial Vicar

Eucharist:

Daily: Chapel 8:30 am
Monday, Thursday: 7:00 pm (Spanish)
Saturday: 5:00 pm, 7:00 pm (Spanish)
Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:30 am, 12:00 noon (Spanish)

Next Holy Day of Obligation

December 25 - The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Thursday: Holy Hour following 7 pm Mass
Hora Santa después de la misa 7 pm

Office Hours:

Daily (Diario) 9:00 am - 8:00 pm
Saturday (Sábado) 10:00 - 12:00 noon

Baptism/Bautizos:

Baptisms in English are the first and third Saturday of each month. Arrangements should be made one month in advance. Parents should be registered parishioners.

Los Bautizos son el 2do y 4to sábado de cada mes. Deben de pasar por la oficina para coordinar la fecha por lo menos con un mes de anticipación. Deben de estar inscritos en la parroquia para solicitar un bautismo.

Marriage/Matrimonio:

Please arrange with the priest at least one year in advance. Por favor de separar fecha con el sacerdote y un año de anticipación.

Reconciliation/Reconciliación:

Every Saturday (Cada Sábado) 4:00 PM—5:00 PM

Religious Education/Catecismo:

English: Sunday at 9:00 am in the Grammar school
Español: Sábado a las 10:00 am se reúnen en la cafetería de la escuela.

Sponsorship/Godparent Certificates

You must be an **active parishioner** for at least 6 months to receive a Certificate of eligibility to be a sponsor or godparent.

Debe ser un **feligrés activo** durante al menos 6 meses para recibir un certificado de elegibilidad para ser un patrocinador o padrino.

Staff:

Ms. Rose Perone, Trustee & English Rel. Ed.
Mrs. Mary Wilk, Parish Secretary
Mrs. Teresa Marin, Spanish Rel. Ed.
Mr. Will Villanueva, Trustee
Mr. Edwin Lopez, Altar Servers



MISSION STATEMENT

St. Anthony of Padua Parish is committed to the Celebration of God's presence among His people through meaningful, well prepared liturgy, prayerful gatherings, evangelization and faith formation. We recognize and welcome the richness of our culturally and ethnically diverse community. We strive to nurture and develop these differences by encouraging all our brothers and sisters to share their gifts so we may strengthen our community and become one.

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR DECEMBER 23, 2017
TO DECEMBER 31, 2017**

SATURDAY (December 23) Advent Weekday

8:30 CARMELA MADORMA/Daughter Dolly
5:00 ADRIANA PALMISANO/Valatese Ladies Society
7:00 VARIOUS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY (December 24) Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:00 VINCENT MISHKINIS/Daughter
10:30 CARMELA & ROSALIA ARCIERI/
Mr. & Mrs. Biagio Arcieri,, Brothers & Family
12:00 VARIOUS INTENTIONS

CHRISTMAS EVE

4:00 PM VIGIL MASS
MIDNIGHT MASS

**MONDAY (December 25) NATIVITY OF THE LORD
CHRISTMAS**

10:30 FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
12:00 FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

TUESDAY (December 26) St Stephen

8:30 LINDA BERARDINO &
ANGELO NAZIANZENO/Mr. & Mrs. Frank Mazza

WEDNESDAY (December 27) St John

8:30 LUCIA & NERI PUZZOLO/Antonia Chillemi

THURSDAY (December 28) The Holy Innocents

8:30 SOULS IN PURGATORY/Jim & Cathy Leggett
7:00 VARIOUS INTENTIONS

FRIDAY (December 29) St Thomas

8:30 REV. VINCENT ZULIANI, SDB &
REV. PAT DIVER, SDB/Mr. & Mrs. Frank Mazza

**SATURDAY (December 30) Sixth Day within the
Octave of the Nativity of the Lord**

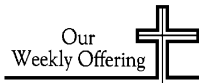
8:30 PASQUALE BERZITO/Bob, Marlene & Ashley
5:00 ANTONIO CHIRICHELLO/Wife & Children
7:00 VARIOUS INTENTIONS

**SUNDAY (December 31) The Holy Family of
Jesus, Mary and Joseph**

8:00 NICHOLAS CISTRELLI/Anthony & Mary Wilk
10:30 FILIPPA LISCIANDRA /Mr. & Mrs. Biagio
Arcieri & Family
12:00 VARIOUS INTENTIONS

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We remember those who have died in the peace of
Christ, especially: **Gerarda Petralia**



**OUR OFFERTORY
COLLECTION** is shown below.

We sincerely thank all those parishioners and friends who contributed to the parish.

Be assured that the Lord will never be outdone in rewarding those who give even a glass of water in His Name.

	Weekly Offering	Shrine Collection
5:00 PM	377	67
7:00 PM	702	143
8:00 AM	415	51
10:30 AM	838	154
12:00 Noon	1,922	376
Mail	305	
Total	4,559	791

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH:

Carmen Alava	Angelo Meo
Louise Barile	Leonarda Merlo
Oran Bryant	James D. Milazzo
Karen Bulloch	Carmen Mistichelli
Caterina Campbell	Carlos Moran
Isaac Castañeda	Declan Rocco O'Connor
Orlando Chavez	Irene Patrone
Wayne Cook	Robergeau Paul
Mary Cusmano	Maria Perdomo
Leonor Sepulveda De Devia	Laura Philipone
Marianna Dubell	Frank Pierre
Maria Espinoza	Anne Piga
Mario Fronzoni	Raul Atilio Portillo
Joseph Gambino	Carmen Fojo Prieto
Denise Griest	Edith Quijada
Paulette Hall	Endy Quijada
Ann Harris	Oscar Eduardo Ramirez
Jared Leonardo Henao	Sergio Ricciardi
Jacob Hinman	Angel Rivera
Joshua Hinman	Isadora Rodriguez
Annette Irizarry Jacome	Magdalena Rodriguez
Joseph B. Jean-Mary	John Ruela
Michelle Johnson	Maria Saavedra
Lindsay LaMarre	Salvatore Saluccio
John Lapolla	Hugo Santa Maria
Theresa Lattanzio	Frank Tinnirella
Rosa Leon	Rosalie Tinnirella
Arlene Marsden	Angela Verlengeri
Bob Marsden	John Veltre
Elvin Martinez	

Celebrate the birth of Christ by participating in Mass and spending time with family and friends.



WEEKLY HOMILY / HOMILÍA SEMANAL

Fourth Sunday of Advent/Cuarto Domingo de Adviento

My dear brothers and sisters, this fourth and last Sunday of Advent, the Lord brings us a marvelous Word, a Word we have heard many times and still hearing it fills us with tenderness and affection towards our Mother the Blessed Virgin Mary. This is the Gospel of the Annunciation of the Angel Gabriel to Mary. Mary, the young woman of Nazareth, who receives with surprise this announcement, and is truly surprised to be elected by the Holy One, to be the mother of the Messiah, the Savior of the World. This is what the readings of this Sunday are about, in preparation of the feast of the Nativity, the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is the Election that God makes, as said by a wise professor I had in the seminary: “God does what he wants, because that’s why he is God...” God elects whomever he wants, like in the first reading of the book of Samuel. God elects David, not because he was the best, or the strongest, or the greatest of the sons of Jesse, but only because he was the last one, and like this knowledge that even though he was a disaster he was humble, as said in the scriptures, David a man in harmony with God’s heart. As a great sinner, but with humility to acknowledge his own sins and ask for forgiveness. Mary, conceived without sin, as we celebrated on the 8th of December, is elected for a very important mission which will contain much suffering from the beginning, to be the mother of God. We are all called to this by our Baptism to be mother of God, and so the promise that we received on the day of our baptism, may be fulfilled, that in us may be born Christ so that He may continue today in his Saving Mission. Now, Are we ready to accept this Challenge? Because the Lord does not judged by outward appearances, He Elects whomever He wants, but He always respects our freedom to say no, or to say this is too much for me. Therefore, beloved brothers and sisters, let us ask the Blessed Virgin Mary, to be able to say as she, although not understanding, but may your will be done. May God bless you always.

Mis queridos hermanos, en este cuarto y último domingo del adviento, el Señor nos trae una palabra maravillosa, una palabra que la hemos escuchado tantísimas veces y que siempre que la oímos nos llena de ternura y cariño hacia nuestra madre la Santísima Virgen María. Es el Evangelio de la Anunciación del Ángel Gabriel a María. María, esta jovencita de Nazaret, que recibe con sorpresa este anuncio, y que se sorprende muchísimo de ser la elegida por el Santo, para ser la madre del Mesías, del Salvador del mundo. De esto tratan las lecturas de este domingo, en preparación para la fiesta de la Navidad, del nacimiento de Nuestro Señor Jesucristo. De la Elección que hace Dios, como decía un profesor muy sabio que tuve en el seminario: “Dios Hace lo que le da la gana, por que para eso es Dios...” Dios elige a los que el quiere, como en la primera lectura del libro de Samuel. Dios eligió a David, no por que era el mejor, o el mas fuerte, o el mas maravilloso de los hijos de Jesse, sino por ser el ultimo, y así saber que aunque era un desastre era humilde, como dicen las escrituras, David un hombre de acuerdo al corazón de Dios. Un gran pecador, pero con la humildad para reconocer sus pecados y pedir perdón. María, concebida sin pecado, como celebramos el día ocho de Diciembre, es elegida para una misión muy importante que acarrea un sufrimiento grandísimo desde el principio, ser la madre de Dios. A esto estamos todos llamados por nuestro bautismo a ser madre de Dios, a que la promesa que se nos hizo el día de nuestro bautismo, se haga realidad, a que en nosotros nazca Cristo para que pueda seguir hoy su misión salvadora. Per, ¿Estamos dispuestos a aceptar este desafío ? Por que el Señor no se fija ni en apariencias ni es presencia, el Elige a quien quiere, pero siempre respeta nuestra libertad de decir no quiero, o esto es demasiado para mi. Así que, mis queridos hermanos, pidámosle a las Santísima Virgen María, el poder decir como ella, no entiendo, pero que se haga tu voluntad. Que Dios me los bendiga Siempre.

Readers & Lectors Lectors for the Weekend of December 30 –31

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Saturday, December 30

5:00 PM Mark Cosmas
7:00 PM Will Villanueva y Martha Villanueva
(C: Javier Zapata)

Sunday, December 31

8:00 AM Jennifer Markowycz
10:30 AM Ashley Mora
12:00 Noon Jony Rodriguez y Sandra Bonilla
(C: Teresa Marin)



Eucharistic Ministers

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EMHC for the Weekend of December 30-31

Saturday, December 30

5:00 PM Frank Mazza
7:00 PM Peter Aleman, Bezy Aleman y Melida Canela

Sunday, December 31

8:00 AM Nick Cistrelli
10:30 AM Maria Agliata, Cristian Moron
12:00 Noon Mariza Puello, Bezy Aleman y Melida Canela

Ministry to the Sick and Homebound

The parish family of St. Anthony's seeks to reach out and include the sick, the elderly, and the homebound in the life and prayers of our parish.

Please contact the parish office if someone wants to receive Communion or needs to see the priest for the sacraments of Confession and Anointing of the Sick

RCIA

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is the process the Catholic Community provides to welcome adults who wish to become Catholic and to prepare adult Catholics to receive Confirmation (and when needed, First Eucharist.) Please contact the Parish for more information.



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***TUESDAY:** Novena to St. Anthony (After 8:30 AM Mass Chapel)

***THURSDAY:** Holy Hour after 7:00 PM Mass

***FRIDAY:** 7:30 PM Spanish Prayer Group

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading -- I will fix a place for my people. I will plant them so that they may dwell in their place without further disturbance (2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16).

Psalm -- For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord (Psalm 89).

Second Reading -- To the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, be glory forever and ever (Romans 16:25-27).

Gospel -- Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word (Luke 1:26-38).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass (c) 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

LECTURAS DE HOY

Primera lectura -- El Señor promete a David que su casa permanecerá para siempre (2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16).

Salmo -- Cantaré eternamente las misericordias del Señor (Salmo 89 [88]).

Segunda lectura -- Pablo ora para que Dios sea glorificado mediante Jesucristo (Romanos 16:25-27).

Evangelio -- El ángel Gabriel anuncia a María que ella concebirá al hijo de Dios (Lucas 1:26-38).

Salmo responsorial: Leccionario Hispanoamericano Dominical (c) 1970, Comisión Episcopal Española. Usado con permiso. Todos los derechos reservados.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27-29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25]

During the Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14

Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20

Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]

Tuesday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22

Wednesday: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Thursday: 1 Jn 1:5 -- 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7cd-8; Mt 2:13-18

Friday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22-35

Saturday: 1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-10; Lk 2:36-40

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3; Ps 128:1-5 or Ps 105:1-6, 8-9; Col 3:12-21 [12-17] or Hb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19; Lk 2:22-40 [22, 39-40]





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**THE ADVENT WREATH**

4th Candle- (purple)

THE CANDLE OF LOVE

The angels announced the good news of a Savior. God sent his only Son to earth to save us, because he loves us! (John 3:16-17)



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Christmas Eve

Sunday, December 24, 2017

4:00 p.m. Christmas Vigil Mass

(English)

12:00 a.m. Midnight Mass of

Christmas (Trilingual)

Church doors will open at 11:00 p.m.

CAROLING will begin at 11:30 p.m.**The Masses of Christmas Day**

Monday, December 25, 2017

10:30 a.m. (English)

12:00 Noon (Spanish)



There will be no English CCD December 24 and December 31. Classes will resume January 7. Please be sure to attend Mass.

Sharing God's Blessings Annual Appeal **Meeting Our Parish Goal**

Thank you for supporting the 2017 Annual Appeal. Our parish will receive a rebate if we exceed our goal by December 31st. If you have an outstanding balance on your pledge, kindly make sure to send your donation before the deadline. If you have not yet made your gift, please complete your gift envelope as soon as possible and either send it directly to the Archdiocese of Newark or turn it in to the parish. We are able to achieve our goal when everyone does their part.

For those who have supported this effort, **THANK YOU** for your generosity.

The Scholarship Fund for Inner-City Children – which provides partial tuition scholarships for low income students in grades K to 12 to attend Catholic schools – will hold its 15th annual High School Basketball Festival on Sunday, January 7, 2018 at Kean University in Union. This year's line-up includes the following games; Girls: Oak Knoll vs. Roselle Catholic, Boys: St. Peter's Prep vs. St. Joseph, Hudson Catholic vs. St. Benedict's Prep, Roselle Catholic vs. St. Mary the Assumption, Immaculate Conception vs. Trenton Catholic and Bergen Catholic vs. Union Catholic. For complete game times and information on ordering tickets, please visit www.sfchoops.com or call (973) 497-4278.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Children of the parish are somewhat focused on Santa Claus these days, who is keeping an eye on who's naughty and who's nice. Santa Claus, with his heavenly patron Saint Nicholas, has been more or less in charge of gift-giving to American children for a hundred years or so. In other places, perhaps more attentive to our Christian tradition, there are different gift-bearers. In Greece, Saint Basil delivers the presents on his feast day, December 31, and makes sure everyone is sprinkled with holy water. The Baby Jesus is in charge elsewhere, called the Christkind in Austria and Belgium, El Niño Jesús in Columbia, and Le Petit Jesus in France, where he shares his duties with Père Noël. In the Czech Republic almost everyone is atheist, but Ješek, the infant Jesus, brings gifts to one and all. In Poland the "Star Man" is said to bring the gifts, although often he turns out to be the village priest in disguise. Saint Nicholas, not his Americanized cousin, is the giver in Holland, where he wears a bishop's miter, and in Russia, where he wears a bishop's crown. Soviet Russia tried to dethrone Saint Nicholas and promote Grandfather Frost, but no one was much fooled by this attempt to squeeze religion out of Christ's birth. One country has a saintly woman in charge of the gifts, Saint Lucy, honored in Sweden on December 13, when children serve their parents breakfast in bed, and others awake to news that they have been nominated for a Nobel Prize. Some children have a second round of gifts on Epiphany, when the magi assume the gift-giving duties. In general, the gifts of Christmas are simple pleasures, not great heaps of treasures. Once upon a time, a new pair of socks or an orange was enough for us. No matter what gifts we receive, all of them are to point us to the true gift, and the true giver. --Rev. James Field, Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch Co.

TRADICIONES DE NUESTRA FE

De las muchas tradiciones latinoamericanas para celebrar el Adviento y la Navidad, las Posadas parecen ser lo mejor conocido en EE. UU. Tienen su origen en la última mitad del siglo XVIII cuando las estrepitosas Misas de Aguinaldo dejaron de ser celebradas en México. Para remplazar la festividad de esas Misas, los laicos decidieron celebrar en sus casas tomando lo que habían visto dramatizado en los templos, esto es, el recorrido de José y María mientras buscaban posada en Belén. Como las "Antífonas de la O" de la liturgia oficial cristiana, estas Posadas llegaron a ser celebradas nueve noches consecutivas.

200 años después, muchos latinos continúan celebrando las Posadas en EE. UU. Recuerdo como de niño cantábamos "En el nombre del cielo" recorriendo las calles del barrio hasta llegar a la casa donde nos abrirían con cantos, tamales, galletitas y chocolate. Ese recorrido de José y María lamentablemente sigue todos los días en los pasos temerosos y cansados de tantos inmigrantes en este país. Como la Sagrada Familia, otras familias latinoamericanas continúan buscando hospedaje con la esperanza de dar a luz una nueva vida para sus hijos e hijas --Fray Gilberto Cavazos-Glз, OFM, Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

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BULLETIN FOR SUNDAY:
December 24, 2017

TRANSMISSION TIME
Wednesday, 9 AM

NUMBER OF PAGES SENT
1 through 5 Plus Information Sheet (This page)

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

