

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FEBRUARY 1, 2026



Monday, 6:45 AM	2/2		
Tuesday, 6:45 AM	2/3		
Wednesday, 6:45 AM	2/4	WILLIAM MCNEAL	FAMILY
Thursday, 6:45 AM	2/5		
Friday, 6:45 AM	2/6		
Saturday, 5:00 PM	2/7	JOSEPHINE BURTON	DAUGHTER
Sunday, 9:00 AM 11:00 AM	2/8	MARIANNA DI FRANCESCO FREILICH	BARRY FREILICH



Next Sunday's Readings

1st Reading:

Isaiah 58:7-10

Responsorial Psalm:

Psalms 112-4-5, 6-7, 8-9

2nd Reading:

1 Corinthians 2:1-5

Gospel:

Matthew 5:13-16

"God's Plan for Giving"

OFFERTORY COLLECTION FOR 01/18/26

TOTAL OFFERTORY COLLECTION:	\$ 7,272.75
Avg. Collection Last Fiscal Year:	\$ 8,155.95
Actual vs. Last F/Y:	-\$ 883.20
Percent Difference This Week:	- 10.8%
Total Difference Fiscal Year to Date:	+\$11,382.66

Thank you for your sacrifice of tithing!



We have just heard very familiar words from the mouth of Jesus.

We know that his words are instructive, they are also filled with joyful encouragement. Our God rewards those who struggle to be poor in spirit and humble, those who hunger and thirst to be holy, those who show mercy and work for peace, and especially those who suffer for their efforts to be holy.

When we try to follow the lead of grace and be like Jesus, we are blessed and have reason to be glad. We are promised the reward of heaven.

Paul's words to the Corinthians remind us of the great paradox of our existence. The lowly of the world are called by God to be his friends, brothers and sisters of His Son - not the wise and influential whom people of the world seek. Only the weak, the low-born, those who count for nothing are able to recognize the deeper realities of creation and give thanks for the wonderful mercy and love of God. They are overjoyed to let God be God. They are open to all that grace can do in their lives. They can take refuge in the Lord.

The prophet Zephaniah encourages us to continue to seek the Lord, observe his law, and seek justice and humility. When we live in this manner, then we are part of the faithful remnant whom God leaves in the midst of the world as a leaven.

As followers of de Sales, we have often heard the words of the Beatitudes. They are the foundation for "Live, Jesus!" May we find joy in hearing them again, and may they urge us on in our efforts to be humble and gentle as Jesus was.

The Oblates

"Let God be the air in which your heart breathes at ease."

St. Francis de Sales



In your charity, please pray for
Alvin B. Moore

and all the deceased of St. Anthony's.

Your Prayers and Support Requested

Dina Casale	Buzzy Cooke	William Crook
Bruce DiBiaso	Ann Marie DiBiaso	Florence Dilks
Amber Dawn Ford	Mary Jo Ganey	Bill Giles
Mia Gravino	Irene Lawhorn	Edward Mackey
Cindy O'Neil	Kelly Panella	Marlene Papillo
Fr. Francis J. Pileggi	Ann Marie Russo	Betty Rybinski
Rami Shehadeh	Alexandra Sparco	Starobynski Family
Robin Swanson	Angelo Tiberi	LuAnn Tiberi
Tobias Weaver	Barbara White	Rev. Mark J. Wrightson, OSFS

...and all the sick of St. Anthony's Parish.



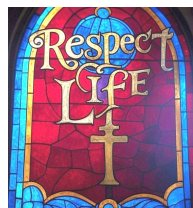
Listen to Catholic Forum each week. Tune-in this week to meet Catholic Forum's new host and Diocese of Wilmington's Communications Director, Hannah Dell. The Catholic Forum podcast on Apple, Spotify, iHeartRadio, Amazon Music podcasts and YouTube.com/DiocesefofWilm debuts every Wednesday at 12:00 p.m.; and on Relevant Radio 640 every Saturday afternoon at 1:30. More information is available at cdow.org/CatholicForum and FaceBook.com/CatholicForum.

Souper Bowl Food Collection

The Knights of St. Pius X Council will be conducting their annual Souper Bowl Campaign. All non-perishable food items will be accepted for donation at all Masses from the present up through Super Bowl Sunday, February 8. All donations can be placed in the large wicker basket in the back of church and will be delivered to the St. Patrick's Center Food Bank. Thank you for your continued generosity!

Sacred Heart Icon

The Knights of St. Pius X Council will be displaying a beautiful Icon of the Sacred Heart of Jesus beginning Saturday, January 17 thru Sunday, February 1. This Icon along with two others have been on display at all the parishes throughout the State sponsored by the Delaware State Council of the Knights of Columbus.



Each individual life is a special gift bestowed only once by God to each person and when it is lost it can never be replaced.

◆ New Date! ◆

St. Anthony of Padua Grade School Open House for Prospective Families

Come see what we are all about and consider joining our Preschool through 8th Grade family. Meet our dedicated staff!

Sunday, **Feb. 1st** from 12-3

1715 W. Ninth Street

Wilmington, DE 19805

You are welcome to join us for 11 AM Mass in our church!

Annual Wedding Anniversary Mass

Bishop William E. Koenig invites all married couples in the Diocese of Wilmington to the Annual Wedding Anniversary Mass on World Marriage Sunday, February 9, 2025, at 1:00pm at St. Margaret of Scotland Church in Newark, DE. Those celebrating significant anniversaries (5-year increments) - 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, or any anniversary beyond 50, will receive a special certificate from the Bishop. Reservations are needed, no matter what the anniversary year. Reservations are required by February 4, 2026.

Bishop Koenig will be available for photos with interested couples beginning at 12:00 pm and again after the Mass. If you would like to have a photo taken with Bishop Koenig, please arrive at 12:00 pm or plan to stay after Mass. Questions may be referred to the Office for Marriage and Family Life at 302-295-0657 or by emailing OMFL@cdow.org. Registration can be completed by using the following link – <https://cdowmarriagepreparation.wufoo.com/forms/qf0nytft11mq100/> or by going to the Diocesan Website - Ministries - Marriage and Family Life.

Parish Calendar

Sunday

2:00 PM, Via Crucis Practice



Monday, Feb. 2

through

Sunday, Feb. 8

(All events listed in the Parish Calendar are in church unless otherwise noted.)

Grade School Calendar

Friday

9:30 AM, Grade School Mass



Oblate Annual Appeal Sunday, February 15th

Dear Parishioners,

For the past 103 years, Oblates have been ministering at St. Anthony of Padua Parish, where we have shared the Spirituality of our patron, St. Francis de Sales. He is at the heart of our lives, our mission, and our ministries.



The Oblates share St. Francis' teachings as we minister in parishes, high schools, universities, and chaplaincies. Our community also has many aging and retired priests who have dedicated their lives to serving others. Now, almost 35% of our order is living in retirement, most of them at Annecy Hall in Childs,

MD. The health care and personal living costs for these men continue to rise.

You are invited to support the Oblates through the **Oblate Annual Appeal**. Your gift to this appeal assists the Oblates in supporting our ministries as well as seminarian formation: ~\$72,000/per man and our retired Oblates ~\$54,000/man. Please consider supporting my fellow Oblates brothers. Your participation in the **Oblate Annual Appeal** is vital to the continuation of our ministry.

Please use the yellow special collection envelope included with your January & February offertory envelopes and place it in the collection basket. Donations to the **Oblate Annual Appeal** are also accepted online. Go to <https://www.osvhub.com/sapde/giving/funds>. Scroll down until you see the giving portal for the Oblate Annual Appeal, then click on "Give Now."

Learn more about the Oblates at www.oblates.org or on Facebook and Instagram. On behalf of my Oblate brothers, thank you for your generosity.

Sincerely in St. Francis de Sales,

Father Vincent

Baptism Celebration Event

Parents and guardians of children Baptized in 2025 are invited to attend 11:00 Mass on Sunday, February 1st. After Mass, parents & guardians should go to the Ballad Room (school cafeteria) 10th Street entrance to attend the reception. Light refreshments will be served. RSVP to office@sapgs.org by January 26th.

LENTEN GUIDELINES

Penitential Fast and Abstinence

The current discipline of penance for the United States, in addition to the general character of the Lenten season may thus be summed up:

- **Ash Wednesday (Feb. 18th) and Good Friday (Apr. 3rd) are days of abstinence from meat and also days of fast**, that is, limited to a single full meal. With regard to Good Friday, the teaching of the Second Vatican Council should be recalled: "Let the paschal fast be kept sacred. Let it be celebrated everywhere on Good Friday and, where possible, prolonged throughout Holy Saturday, so that the joys of the Sunday of the Resurrection may be attained with uplifted and clear mind" (Constitution on the Liturgy, no. 110).
- The other **Fridays of the season of Lent are days of abstinence from meat**.
- **The Fridays of the year outside Lent remain days of penance**, but each individual may substitute for the traditional abstinence from meat some other practice of voluntary self-denial or personal penance: this may be physical mortification or temperance or acts of religion, charity, or Christian witness.
- **All those who are fourteen years old are bound to the law of abstinence. The law of fast binds all who are eighteen years old and not yet fifty-nine years old.**