

St. Anthony of Padua Parish

WILMINGTON, DELAWARE



February 22, 2026

Pastor

Rev. Vincent A. Kumar, OSFS

In Residence

Bro. Joseph G. Schodowski, OSFS



Masses

Sunday9:00, 11:00 am & 5:00 pm
Monday - Friday6:45 am
Saturday 5:00 pm
Holidays & Holy Days.....Consult the bulletin

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday4:00 - 4:45 pm
Any time by appointment at the rectory.

For guidance with respect to Baptisms and weddings, please contact the rectory at 302-421-3700 / parish@stanthonynet.org.

PLEASE NOTE: Weddings must be booked at least one year in advance of planned wedding date.

Contacts

Rectory302-421-3700; Fax 302-421-3705
901 N. DuPont St., Wilmington, DE 19805

St. Anthony Grade School..... 302-421-3743
9th & Scott Sts., Wilmington, DE 19805
Judith Jakotowicz White, *Principal*

Padua Academy.....302-421-3739
905 N. Broom St., Wilmington, DE 19806
Dr. Mary McClory, *Principal*

Coordinator of Liturgy & Music
Stephen Adams.....302-421-3700

Registration: New parishioners are requested to contact the rectory and schedule an appointment with the Parish Secretary.

Italian Festival

festival@stanthonynet.org

Knights of Columbus-St. Pius X Council

Felix Spitelle, Grand Knight
302-743-8748

St. Anthony's Lodge / Buck Serio Hall Rental

1812 Howland Street
Wilmington, DE 19805
Phone: 302-661-0101
Email: StAlodge@outlook.com

Blessed Virgin Mary Sodality
President, Mary Kate Hollingsworth
302-244-2375

Fournier Lounge Event Rental Info
Noelle Baich
Events Manager
1816 Howland St,
Wilmington, DE 19805
www.fournierhall.com
Cell: 302-362-6876
Find us on Facebook and Instagram
at: **Fournier Hall**

WE'RE ON THE WEB...

St. Anthony's-on-the-Web: www.sapde.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/stanthonyswilm
Instagram: www.instagram.com/stanthonyswilmde

St. Anthony of Padua Grade School: www.sapgs.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/stanthonysgs
Instagram: www.instagram.com/sapgs.de

Padua Academy Website: www.paduaacademy.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/paduaacademy

St. Anthony's Italian Festival: www.sapde.org/italianfestival
Facebook: www.facebook.com/stanthonysfestival



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

FEBRUARY 22, 2026



Monday, 6:45 AM	2/23 RALPH SIANNI	WIFE, SONS, HALLIE
Tuesday, 6:45 AM	2/24	
Wednesday, 6:45 AM	2/25 SOULS IN PURGATORY	DONOR
Thursday, 6:45 AM	2/26 ROSE PERROTTI	JOE
Friday, 6:45 AM	2/27	
Saturday, 5:00 PM	2/28 NANCY BESTWICK	AL
Sunday, 9:00 AM 11:00 AM	3/1 STANLEY F. PLASTEK	FAMILY



Next Sunday's Readings

1st Reading:

Genesis 12:1-4a

Responsorial Psalm:

Psalms 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22

2nd Reading:

2 Timothy 1:8b-10

Gospel:

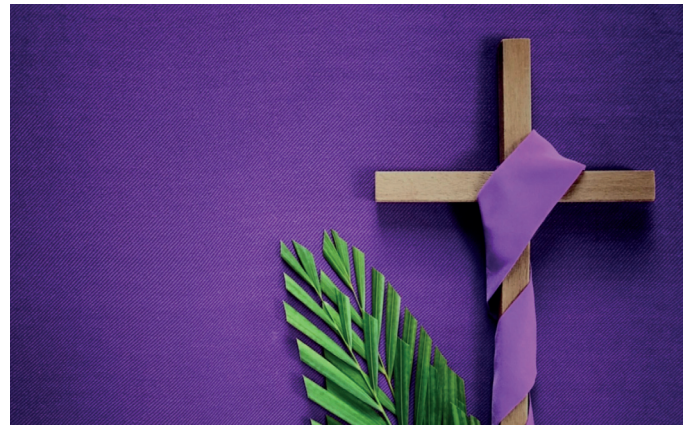
Matthew 17:1-9

Holiday Masses

Please note that Masses on federal holidays (usually occurring on Mondays) will no longer be celebrated at 8:00 AM, but rather at the usual 6:45 AM daily Mass time.

Weekly Offertory

Due to the Presidents' Day holiday, collection figures for February 14th & 15th will be presented next weekend.



St. Matthew's Gospel provides details of the nature of the test that Jesus experienced in the desert: to be a different kind of Messiah, to find a quicker or more spectacular way to win people over, to employ a one-shot way of doing God's Will that would make everybody happy.

In other words, Jesus was tempted to be someone other than who God called him to be.

All of us are tempted to be someone other than who God calls us to be. Voices around us, voices within us attempt to convince us that we would be happier, healthier, more successful, powerful and persuasive if we were someone - anyone - other than who we are.

We are most like Jesus when we strive to be faithful to God's plan for us. We are most like Jesus when we are faithful to our unique role in God's plan of salvation for others. We are most like Jesus when we refuse the temptation to settle for less, to sell ourselves short, to look for a short cut. We flirt with the easier, the more convenient, or the more popular way of trying to do what is right, of trying to do what is good, of trying to do what is just.

St. Francis de Sales' advice is on point: "Don't sow your desires in some else's garden; cultivate your own as best you can. Don't try to be someone other than who you are; rather, desire to be thoroughly who you are."

With God's help, and the encouragement of others, let us be who we are...and be that well. In the midst of the challenges of life, let us be true to ourselves...and give glory and praise to the God who made us.

The Oblates

"Do not look forward to the changes and chances of this life with fear; rather, look upon them with strong hope that, as they arise, God, whose child you are, will deliver you from them."

St. Francis de Sales



In your charity, please pray for
all the deceased of St. Anthony's.

Your Prayers and Support Requested

Dina Casale	Buzzy Cooke	William Crook
Bruce DiBiasi	Ann Marie DiBiasi	Florence Dilks
Amber Dawn Ford	Jean Forlano	Mary Jo Ganey
Bill Giles	Mia Gravino	Irene Lawhorn
Paige Lucas	Edward Mackey	John McGee
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.



CATHOLIC FORUM HAS A NEW BROADCAST HOME!
Talk Radio for Catholic Life
relevant radio
640 AM
Tune in each Saturday afternoon at 1:30
FACEBOOK.COM/CATHOLICFORUM CDOW.ORG/CATHOLICFORUM
A PRODUCTION OF THE DIOCESE OF WILMINGTON

Listen to Catholic Forum each week. On the February 25th episode of Catholic Forum, Sheila McGirl, Director of Development for the Diocese of Wilmington joins the show to discuss Commitment Weekend for the 2026 Faith and Charity Appeal. 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.

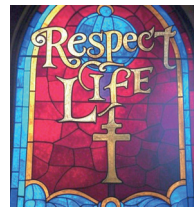
Easter Flowers Memorials



Once again, we are presenting our Easter Flowers program. This effort helps to fund the Easter Flower church decorations. As in years past, we ask \$15.00 per memorial. Send your memorials marked "Easter Flowers" to the rectory no later than **Friday, March 27th**. A booklet listing all the memorials will be available in church in the weeks following Easter.

Padua Academy's 2026 Spring Soirée

You're invited to celebrate the mission of Padua Academy on March 14 from 6-10pm at the Deerfield Golf Club! Stakeholders of Padua Academy will gather for our 2026 Spring Soirée: an evening of good company, good food and live music -- all in support of increased access to Catholic education. Support Padua's Endowment and the need-based tuition assistance it offers as we honor two exceptional stakeholders: alumna and legendary Philly journalist Pat Ciarrocchi, and bariatric surgeon and mentor Dr. Gail Wynn. Tickets and information can be found at <https://paduasoirée2026.givesmart.com>



"I think we have deluded ourselves into believing that people don't know that abortion is killing. So any pretense that abortion is not killing is a signal of our ambivalence, a signal that we cannot say yes, it kills a fetus."

Faye Wattleton

Lenten Fish Fry at St. John the Beloved



LENTEN FISH FRY
Pre-pay Available at sjbkofcde.org, But Not Required
Bake Sale Too!
Fish Fry in a Bag, too!
February 20, March 6 and March 20. Go to SJBKofCde.org to per-order!
ST. JOHN THE BELOVED PARISH HALL
FEBRUARY 27 AND MARCH 13 & 27
5:00 - 7:00 P.M.
Baked or Fried Flounder Fillet, Baked Potato or Fries or Mac & Cheese, Cole Slaw, Green Beans, or Applesauce, & Roll
\$15/Adult, \$8/Child
No Reservations Required, Take-out Available
For More Information: Contact Joe Koskol at (302) 470-8172 or okumajoev@gmail.com or Bill Harris at (302) 998-7271 or SJBFishFry@gmail.com

The St. John the Beloved Knights of Columbus will be holding Lenten Fish Fry dinners on February 27, March 13, and March 27 at the Church Hall located on 907 Milltown Road, Wilmington 19808. Dinners will be served from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. and include a choice of fried or baked flounder along with two side dishes plus a dinner roll. Dinners are \$15 for adults and \$8 for children. Take-out is available. The council is also offering Fish Sandwich To-Go meals from 4:30 pm to 6:00 pm on February 20, March 6 and March 20. Each bag includes a breaded fish sandwich, a bag of potato chips, a cookie and a beverage. Meals are \$10 each. A pint of Vegetable Lentil soup is also available for \$5. Pre-orders only. See <https://sjbkofcde.org/fish/> for more details on both events.



Parish Calendar

Friday

5:00 PM, Wedding Rehearsal
7:30 PM, Via Crucis

Saturday

2:00 PM, Wedding



Monday, Feb. 23

through

Sunday, Mar. 1

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

Grade School Calendar

Friday

2:00 PM, Basket Raffle in
School Meeting Room



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE 2026

Sacrament of Penance

Saturday, March 28

4:00 to 4:45 PM

No Confessions on Holy Saturday, April 4

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

Saturday, March 28

Blessing of Palm and Procession
at 5:00 PM Mass

Sunday, March 29

Masses: 9:00, & 11:00 AM, 5:00 PM
9:00 Mass livestreamed

Holy Week: March 30, 31 & April 1

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

Daily Masses: 6:45 AM

Holy Thursday, April 2

Mass of the Lord's Supper: 7:00 PM
Adoration at the Altar of Repose until 10:00 PM
7:00 Mass livestreamed

Good Friday, April 3

Church open for prayer & reflection:
12:00 Noon through Lord's Passion
Liturgy of the Lord's Passion: 3:00 PM
3:00 Liturgy livestreamed

Holy Saturday, April 4

Solemn Easter Vigil: 7:30 PM
Livestreamed

Easter Sunday, April 5

Masses: 9:00, & 11:00 AM, 5:00 PM
9:00 Mass livestreamed.

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.**

Grade School Open House Rescheduled for Spring

We were really looking forward to welcoming families on January 25th, and then, due to the snowstorm, February 1st, but with roads still in poor condition & temperatures not rising above freezing, we have made the decision to reschedule our Open House for the spring. Instead, we are excited to invite families to "**Walk Through Wednesdays**" throughout February & March. Stop by for a drop-in tour from 3:00 – 6:00 PM to see the school and speak with our administration. Tours during the day may be scheduled at your convenience.



Many Hands, One Mission: A 50-Year Legacy

For 50 years, the Faith and Charity Catholic Appeal has united our Diocese in service, hope, and generosity. This anniversary year invites every parishioner to reflect on our shared legacy, and to join us in shaping the next 50 years of ministry, mercy, and mission.

Social and Community Care Services

For half a century, your heartfelt generosity has enabled Catholic Charities to bring Christ's compassion to the most vulnerable. Through your support of the Faith and Charity Catholic Appeal, families in crisis find stability, the hungry find nourishment, and the elderly and disabled find dignity and care.

Together, through many hands and one mission, we transform lives every day.

Evangelization and Faith Formation

For 50 years, the ministries supported by the Faith and Charity Appeal have carried the Gospel into homes, parishes, and communities across Delaware and Maryland's Eastern Shore. Your support strengthens lay leadership, enriches adult faith formation, and nurtures vibrant intercultural ministries that reflect the diversity of our Diocese.

Together, we continue the mission entrusted to us by Christ.

Youth, Young Adult, and Campus Ministries

For generations, the Faith and Charity Appeal has helped guide our young people into a deeper relationship with Christ. From youth ministry and young adult outreach to campus ministry at colleges throughout our Diocese, your gift forms the next generation of Catholic leaders.

Together, we hand on the legacy of faith to the Church of tomorrow.

Permanent Diaconate Formation

For 50 years, deacons have served as visible signs of Christ the Servant in our parishes, hospitals, schools, and communities. Your generosity supports their formation and ongoing ministry, ensuring that every parish has the blessing of their witness, compassion, and dedication.

Together, we strengthen the heart of parish life.

Catholic Education

Since the earliest days of the Appeal, Catholic schools have been at the core of our mission.

Your support helps sustain strong academics, character formation, and faith-centered learning for thousands of children.

Together, we ensure that Catholic education thrives for the next 50 years.

Office of Vocations

Throughout the fifty years of the Appeal we have supported the discernment and formation of countless priests and religious. Your gift helps young men answer God's call, sustains seminarians in their formation, and encourages a culture of vocations throughout our Diocese.

Together, we invest in the future shepherds of our Church.

Parish Incentives: Strengthening Our Local Mission

As we celebrate 50 years of shared mission, parishes that reach their goal will receive a portion of funds raised above their target to support local ministries and outreach.

Together, we build strong parishes, strong families, and a strong Church.

Our Parish Goal

Our goal here at St. Anthony of Padua Parish is \$41,000.00.

This historic 50th anniversary year invites all of us—every household, every family, every parishioner—to take our place in the legacy of the Faith and Charity Catholic Appeal.

During Appeal Weekend, please prayerfully make your sacrificial gift and join thousands across our Diocese in strengthening the ministries that sustain our faith, our communities, and our future.

Many hands. One mission. A 50-year legacy—now ours to continue.

SERPE'S BAKERY

Italian Pastries - Bread - Rolls

Wedding & Birthday Cakes

1411 Kirkwood Hwy., Elsmere

994-1868

*God
Bless
America*

RESIDENTIAL

COMMERCIAL

PAINT DOCTOR

INTERIOR

EXTERIOR



MAKING HOUSE CALLS FOR YOUR SICK WALLS

302.454.6400 • paintdoctorpainting.com

CATHOLIC CEMETERIES, INC.

ALL SAINTS CEMETERY

302-737-2524

*Serving our Catholic
Community Since 1876*

CATHEDRAL CEMETERY

302-656-3323

www.CDOW.org/CEMETERIES



**Monica Hill
REALTOR®**

RE/MAX Associates

3608 Silverside Road
Wilmington, DE 19810

Office 302-477-3900

Cell 302-563-5637

REALTOR® of the Year



Act now to
help end hunger.

In the United States,
1 in 9 people face hunger.

**FEEDING
AMERICA**
feedingamerica.org



Victor L. Gregory, Jr., D.M.D.

Family & Cosmetic Dentistry

New Patients Welcome

Day and Evening Hours by Appointment

5301 Limestone Road, Suite 211 · Wilmington, DE 19808

Call: 302-239-1827 · 302-235-2655 Fax



**HUNTINGTON
BETTER GRADES
CENTER**

**Tutoring Programs for
ALL STUDENTS K-12**
Reading, Math, Science
and Homework

SAT • PSAT • HSPT Entrance Test
302-478-4343



Huntington
LEARNING CENTER®

**Grow Your Business.
Support Your Parish.**

Advertising in the church bulletin
connects your business
with a loyal local community.

Call Jerry Engel
410.707.1975

Melting Pot

warm more
than YOUR HEARTS
this season



Independence Mall
1601 Concord Pike, Suite 43-47
Wilmington, DE 19803
302.652.6358



**WREATHS
across
AMERICA**

★ KEEP MOVING FORWARD ★

To sponsor, volunteer or donate, visit

WREATHSACROSSAMERICA.ORG

TOMASETTI LAW, LLC

WILMINGTON, DE

302-995-2840

www.tlawde.com

**Real Estate
Wills & Estates
Elder Law**

CREMATION SERVICE OF DELAWARE

519 Philadelphia Pike
Wilmington, DE 19809

302-762-0334

Simple • Economical • Dignified



**PATTERSON
SCHWARTZ**
REAL ESTATE

COMMITTED TO
EXCEEDING
YOUR EXPECTATIONS!



MARGUERITE GIORGI ARGELANDER

REALTOR®, ABR

~ Licensed in DE & PA ~

C: 302-540-3426

O: 302-239-3000

margelander@psre.com



*God
Bless
America*



MAYSE
PAINTING & CONTRACTING

- Patio & Deck Building
- Interior & Exterior Painting
- Kitchen & Bath Renovations
- Landscaping & Hardscaping

302-388-1747

mpcpaints.com

Mention This Ad & Receive a
10% New Customer Discount

**Homewatch
CareGivers®**

Explore a Career
in Home Care

302-442-4260

homewatchcaregivers.com



104 West 25th

Wilmington, DE



Complete Auto Repair Service



TOYOTA

Our Specialty Since 1981



HONDA

HARVEYROADAUTOMOTIVE.COM • 302-654-7500

**Grow Your Business.
Support Your Parish.**

Advertising in the church bulletin
connects your business
with a loyal local community.

Call Jerry Engel

410.707.1975



DCRAC LAW



Wills and Estate Planning
Testamentos y planificación patrimonial

Jaclyn Quinn, Esq. • 302-298-3251 • www.dcrac.org



Newark
MANOR
Nursing Home

*"A Tradition of
Caring, Commitment
& Compassion"*

302-731-5576

NewarkManor.net

254 WEST MAIN STREET
NEWARK, DE 19711



**Senior Advisors
of Delaware, LLC**

**FREE ASSISTANCE FINDING
AFFORDABLE SENIOR LIVING**

- Independent Living 55+
- Assisted Living • Memory Care
- Benefits Assistance (Medicaid)
- Home Downsizing and Sale

Call a Certified Senior Advisor

1-800-564-0173 seniordelaware@aol.com

KRESTON WINE & SPIRITS

Delaware's Largest Selection...

Wines, Liquors, Cordials and Beers

Finest Imports and Rarities From The World Over

KrestonWines.com

302-652-3792

904 Concord Ave.

"Our desire is to be a blessing to those we serve."



Strano & Feeley

Family Funeral Home &
On-Site Crematory

302-731-5459

635 CHURCHMANS RD
NEWARK, DE 19702

info@stranofeeley.com

www.StranoFeeley.com

**Wilmington
Safety Supply**

3101 Lancaster Ave.

302-652-0522

Fax: 302-652-0522

WilmingtonSafety@netzero.net

**DOHERTY
FUNERAL HOMES**
WILMINGTON PIKE CREEK
EST 1896

**Chris Gillis
Funeral Director**

652-6811 • 999-8277

WWW.DOHERTYFH.COM