

St. Anthony Catholic Church

825 Klevin Street, Anchorage, Alaska 99508-2656

Main Office — 907-333-5544
Email — Office@stanthonyak.org

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Website — www.stanthonyak.org

Third Sunday of Advent December 15, 2019

Our Mission:

To express faith in action,
welcome and celebrate diversity, and
be alive in prayer and worship!

All are welcome!



Mass Schedule

Monday-Friday—9:00 AM
Saturday—5:30 PM
Sunday—8:30 AM—10:30 AM—5:30 PM
Healing Mass—First Friday
Filipino Mass—Second Sunday—5:30 PM
Native Mass—Third Saturday—5:30 PM
Samoan Mass—Last Sunday—10:30 AM
Youth Mass—Fourth Saturday—5:30 PM

Adoration

Friday—7:00—8:00 PM

Reconciliation

Saturday—4:00—5:00 PM

Baptism

Baptism Parents' Class — First Sunday of each month
9:45 AM in the Parish Office Building

Marriage

Meet with Pastor at least six (6) months
prior to wedding

Funerals

Contact the Parish Office immediately
after a death

Office Hours

Monday — Friday 8:00 AM — 4:00 PM

Parish Staff

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Reflection for the Week

We are a little more than halfway to Christmas and it is now time to light the pink shepherd's candle for the Third Sunday of Advent. This candle has traditionally meant to remind us to have joy in anticipation for the coming of Jesus.

When I sat down to write this reflection, I could not help but think of some of the fond memories I have of my Grandfather. For most of my youth, I was raised by my Grandparents. Every morning before school, my Grandfather would barge into my room to wake me up by proclaiming, "This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad." Obviously, as a teenager at five o'clock in the morning, I was not too joyous and did not react positively. My typical response was roll over and mumble, "five more minutes." This likely would be the response of most teenagers and some adults for that matter. To this day, I have yet to meet someone as happy go lucky as my Grandfather. I still reflect on those particular memories and that Psalm he would recite, "This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad."

Living out this Psalm in our lives is much easier said than done. Joy can be hard to come by in certain circumstances. Death, illness, work/life stress, financial uncertainty and any other crosses we may bear can cause us to develop a negative attitude and outlook. These feelings can blind us to the point where we are unable to see who gave us this "day." Every encounter, every experience and every moment we have, that gift of eternal life, is by the virtue of our Creator. From birth to death and all the steps along the way, this journey prepares us for what is to come.

Instead of asking for five more minutes and procrastinating, let us wake up, reflect and realize who gave us this "day." In so doing, we will be healed and transformed through joy - joy for the coming of the Kingdom of God.

Submitted by Tanner Berube

Readings for Next Week's Mass

Fourth Sunday of Advent

FIRST READING

The Book of the Prophet Isaiah

Isaiah 7:10—14, (10A)

SECOND READING

Letter of St. Paul to the Romans

Romans 1:1—7

GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew

Matthew 1:18—24

Parish News and Events

Thank you for supporting the **Retirement Fund for Religious** in last week's collection! This year, our Parish raised \$1,075. Please continue to pray for those who have given their lives in service to the Church and know of their prayers for you.

Join us after both morning Masses **this Sunday, December 15**, for the **Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast! Harvey's secret-recipe pancakes and sausage**, lots of fun, and great fellowship. **This month's breakfast is generously sponsored by John Nicely in loving memory of his parents, Edward Lee and Adelina June Nicely and his brother Edward Wayne Nicely.**

Tony's Cache will be open Sunday, December 15, after all the Masses and **Saturday, December 21**, after the 5:30 PM Mass. *What a great opportunity to find that special gift that will be treasured for years!* Visit Mary in the Parish Hall to see the selection.

Simbang Gabi at St. Anthony – The Simbang Gabi Mass and celebration at St. Anthony will be **next Sunday, December 22, 5:30 PM**. A potluck dinner will take place in the Parish Hall following the Mass. A complete schedule of all the Simbang Gabi Masses in the Archdiocese of Anchorage is available in the entryway. *All are welcome to share in this beautiful Filipino Christmas tradition!*

The Angel Tree is once again up in the entryway of the Church. Your gift helps support families and residents of **Clare House and Covenant House**. Please **bring your unwrapped gift** to the Church by **December 23**. Share the joy of our Lord's birth and help those who need it most. For details, contact Mary Snowball.

We are again selling **beautiful poinsettias from Bell's Nursery** to decorate the Altar at Christmas. They will be **on sale beginning this weekend** after all the Masses. The poinsettias are \$15 each. You have a choice of red, pink or white. If you purchase to donate for the altar decoration, we will deliver them to the Church. You can also buy for yourself or as a wonderful gift, you will need to pick them up yourself at Bell's on Specking Road. *See Mary Snowball for more details.*

Faith Formation Families—Please note! The **Faith Formation Children** of St. Anthony Parish practice their music, action songs, and plays for this year's **Christmas Program on Tuesdays at Faith Formation. Class Lessons will start at 6–7 PM, then Christmas Program Practice from 7–8 PM.** Any questions? Please contact Jill, 333-5287 or jpopoalii@stanthonyak.org.

Christmas Mass Times - On **Christmas Eve**, there will be **two (2) Masses** at St. Anthony. At **6 PM**, we will celebrate with the Family Mass and Children's Christmas Pageant. The traditional Christmas Vigil Mass will be at **9 PM**. *There is no Midnight Mass.* On **Christmas Day**, there will be **one (1) Mass** at **10 AM**. *There will be no daily Mass at 9 AM on Thursday December 26.* *We pray that all will have a Blessed and Happy Christmas Season!*

The **Combined St. Anthony Community Choir** will provide music for the **10 AM Mass on Christmas Day**. **All Singers and Musicians are invited to show up and "make joyful noise unto the Lord!"** For details, please contact Mary Jo. *Thank you!*

Lector Workbooks for the New Liturgical Year are available now. Current lectors can pick up their new book in the Sacristy. *Thank you for your service!*



The **St. Francis House Food Pantry** is in need of **travel size toothpaste, floss, toothbrushes and mouthwash**. *Did you know that there is a St. Francis House donation bin in the entryway of the Church?*

Helping Holidays, November 12—December 17. Helping Holidays is an opportunity for Community Members to give holiday gifts to specific families working with Catholic Social Services. The Family creates a wish list to help donors select Christmas Gifts Cards. If your organization/business/family would like to adopt a family this year, please visit our website <https://www.cssalaska.org/donate/ways-to-give/helping-holidays/>.

CAN YOU HELP? Clare House needs a variety of different donations – this week, they need **paper towels, gallon-size Ziploc bags, and Fabuloso or Pine Sol**. Clare House provides a safe home environment for women and children in crisis, keeping the families together. Our St. Anthony Youth are collecting items in a basket in the entryway or donations can be dropped off at the shelter located at 4110 Spenard Road. *Thank you in advance!*

Pregnancy and Adoption Support Services. If you'd like to help women and families struggling with an unplanned pregnancy, please consider donating **diapers and wipes. They really need DIAPERS and BABY WIPES!** They are always open to donations of anything pregnancy/baby related. Please drop off donations at the Main Center at 3710 East 20th, Avenue, Attn: Tami Jo Watson. *Thank you!*

Brother Francis Shelter – Brother Francis is **accepting donations of Christmas gifts for our homeless Brothers and Sisters**. We are especially hoping for **hand warmers, new socks, new underwear, jackets/coats, leggings, hats, gloves, headphones and candy canes**. Please drop off donations at Brother Francis Shelter, 1021 E 3rd Avenue. **Gift wrapping will be happening December 16—21 from 12—3 PM.** If this is something you may be interested in, please email Molly at mcornish@cssalaska.org *Thank YOU!*

Project Rachel Support Group. Suffering, sad or confused because of an abortion – you or a family member? Whether recently or long ago, consider grieving your loss through the Archdiocesan supported Project Rachel Healing Group. It is free and confidential. For further information or to participate, go to our website: projectrachelalaska.com or call our confidential phone line: 297-7781 or toll free 1-866-434-3344, outside the Anchorage

Retrouvaille offers a welcoming and loving space to couples who have been living with the misery of a failing marriage. Retrouvaille offers hope, hope that it is not too late, hope of a different and better marriage. Retrouvaille helps couples to show each other mercy through the opportunities it provides. To listen, to forgive, to be reconciled and to move into their futures believing that God loves them and with His help and their efforts, their marriages can be healed and restored. Retrouvaille provides help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises. The next Retrouvaille of Alaska Program begins with a weekend retreat on February 28—March 1, for confidential information or to register, call 863-8000 or email: anchorage@helpourmarriage.org, or visit the web site at www.HelpOurMarriage.org.

You are invited to visit the **Secular Order of Discalced Carmelites**. We practice contemplative prayer and study the impact it can have in our Catholic Faith. Our monthly meetings introduce the

categories of prayer as found in our Catholic Catechism. Additionally, we learn about Carmelite Saints, such as St. Therese the Little Flower and how we can apply her Little Way to our daily walk with God. For more info contact 602-2411 or 727-3372 or email carmel907@gci.net.

Join the Glory Bound Retreat December 2019! Return to St. Therese's Camp this December for three (3) days of fun, faith and friends. The Glory Bound Winter Retreat provides a great opportunity to reconnect with your faith and the camp community. Our staff leads three days chock-full of fun activities including sledding, playing on the frozen lake, snowball fights, music and more. We will also have Mass, confession, adoration, cabin talks and a variety of spiritually focused sessions. Separate high school and middle school sessions. **Kids in Grades 6—8: December 28—30. Cost: \$106. High Schoolers, Grades 9—12: December 30—January 1. Cost: \$118.** **Some Financial Aid is available.** Contact Director Rudy Poglitsch at campdirector@stthereseak.com or call 232-2066 with any questions. Register at www.stthereseak.com. *See you this December at camp!*

Did you know that St. Anthony has a Clare House Meals Ministry! One Saturday a month, a small group of dedicated St. Anthony volunteers lovingly provide a nourishing dinner meal for the 40—80 children and adult residents of Clare House and they have been quietly doing it for years. If you are interested in helping with this challenging and rewarding Ministry, please contact Alice Young or the Parish Office.

We need a Liturgical Renewal in our Parish. We are asking for your participation! With the coming of Advent and then moving quickly into the Lenten Season, a fresh approach to the Liturgy in our Parish means we need your input and participation! Please contact the Office if you are interested in joining this Ministry. It only requires a time commitment of about an hour every few weeks and as much creativity as you care to share! *Thank you!*

Let us all respect our beautiful Church. We are blessed by God with a wonderful place to gather and worship. We are all family at St. Anthony, Brothers and Sisters in Christ and the Church is our home. Sometimes, our younger members are tempted to eat or drink in the Sanctuary where we celebrate Mass and honor God. **This is not appropriate.** When this happens, bits of food and trash are left. This does not show the respect we owe our Creator. Please keep any food, drink and trash out of the Sanctuary. The Parish Hall is available and is the proper place for refreshments and snacks. *Your cooperation and assistance are greatly appreciated.*

Jesus said to them, “There is no need for them to go away; give them some food yourselves.” Matthew 14:16. Bread for the World is a collective Christian Voice urging our nation's decision makers to end hunger at home and abroad by praying and doing some action. Learn more at www.bread.org. Pick up a brochure in the entryway.

Question of the Week for KIDS

What good thing have you done so far during Advent to be like Jesus?

Liturgical Ministers — December 21/22

| Lectors | Eucharistic Ministers | Altar Servers |
|------------------------------------|--|--|
| Saturday — 5:30 PM | | |
| Alaska Native Community | Alaska Native Mass | Yvonne Lafaele Mary Lafaele Tanimu Mafuao Henryetta Talo |
| Sunday — 8:30 AM | | |
| Stephanie O' Connor | P. Kough T. VanGelderren M. Pili | Ken Young Kristopher Anaruk Samantha Anaruk James Anaruk Winter Anaruk |
| Sunday — 10:30 AM | | |
| Barbara Maafala | C. Lyons S. Foreman M. Roldan M. LaVine L. Zavala M. Armstrong L. Greybear | Mariah Afuvai Melesete Afuvai Rjandro Parungao Lyndon Savelio Kolio Savelio Nifae Valai |
| Sunday — 5:30 PM | | |
| Simbang Gabi Filipino Community | D. Hess A. Reidell A. Advincula | Angelie Corcino Sebastian Corcino Rochelle Cabutotan Chester Cabutotan Elizabeth Dasal Joaquin Leal |
| Home Eucharistic Ministry | Maria Darci Smith | Pat Petrivelli |

Week at a Glance

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|-----------|--|
| Monday | Samoan Community Youth Practice—7 PM |
| Tuesday | Creative Circle—9:30 AM |
| Wednesday | <u>BULLETIN DEADLINE—5 PM</u> Filipino Gospel Choir Practice—6 PM Samoan Choir Practice—7:30 PM |
| Thursday | Kateri Circle—11 AM |
| Friday | Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament—7 PM Youth Night—7 PM |
| Saturday | Samoan Divine Mercy Group—10 AM Samoan Choir Practice—12 Noon |

Parishioners with any concerns about child and vulnerable adult safety or who need information about Safe Environment Compliance at St. Anthony should contact our **Safe Environment Coordinator, Jill Popoalii, 333-5287** or via email at jjpopoalii@stanthonyak.org

Question of the Week

How do you prepare yourself to meet Christ in those around you?

Prayer List for Our Sick and Suffering

If you have a name you wish to be added to the listing, please contact the Parish Office or send it to the bulletin editor, sapbulletin@gmail.com.

Please Pray for our Sick and Suffering

| | |
|--|--|
| Pacita Agron Vic Algoso Audey Algoso Elena Aquino Wes Bergsrud Edward Berube Jose Blancas Kristin Bozarth Keith Brown Geneva Colon Gloria Congdon Ed Cordova Agnes Coyle Josie Duenas Robert Edwards Jim Egan Aundre Devone Elliot Ed Grantier Father John Hinsvark Frank Javier Jerome Karella Joshua Kutzgar Sam Kutzgar | Lucille LeViege & Family Joyce Lightner Teresita Lolesio Kendrick Matthews Duane Morfield Christopher Nickarz Nick Nickarz Dominador Ochoa Elmer Pagalilauan Angie Ribuffo Gabby Roberts Susan Elizabeth Singh Josephine Skeete Zavier Smith Rodel Soriano Onya Stein Elizabeth Varee Richard Varee Kareem Wagh Ann Whalen Chris White Cal Williams |
|--|--|

Collection from December 7/8

Regular Collection—\$6,166
Building and Maintenance—\$1,236
Online Giving—\$875
Immaculate Conception—\$997
Retirement Fund for Religious—\$1,075
Christmas—\$30
All Saints—\$8
#iGiveCatholic—\$25

St. Anthony Parishioners donated
398 pounds of food
to St. Francis House in **NOVEMBER**
Thank you for your generosity!

Are you new to Our Parish?

Do you have questions about our Faith Community?

Have you been attending St. Anthony and would like to register as a member of our Parish? Do you need to update your contact information? Call the Parish Office, 333-5544 or via email Office@stanthonyak.org.

Would you like to receive the bulletin by email? You may not be aware that the bulletin can be emailed directly to you or anyone with an interest every week. If you would like the current bulletin in your inbox on a weekly basis, please contact the Parish Office. We will gladly add you to our mailing list.

The St. Anthony Parish Hall and Conference Rooms are available for use for Parish and Archdiocesan Ministry events. Please contact the Parish Office for scheduling availability and details.