

# ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA CATHOLIC CHURCH

2530 Garner Rd, Ray City Ga 31645

Phone (229)455-5554  
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First Sunday of

## Advent

December 2, 2018

Be vigilant at all times and pray that you have the strength  
to escape the tribulations that are imminent  
and to stand before the Son of Man.

Luke 21:36

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### Pastoral Team

Rev. Fr. Fredy Angel  
Pastor  
Deacon Ray Brown  
Deacon Steven Mancuso

**OFFICE HOURS:**  
Monday - Thursday  
9:00AM - 3:00PM

### Sunday Masses

English: 10:00AM  
Spanish: 11:30AM  
Daily Mass  
Monday-Wednesday: 9:30AM  
Confessions  
Sunday before Masses or by appointment

### WIDENING OUR VISION

In daily life, it's easy to simply focus on the here and now. Life can be complex and rapidly changing. It's often plenty for us just to get through the day. Yet it seems that in Luke's Gospel today, Jesus is asking his followers, and us too, to widen our focus and see a larger reality.

We are asked to observe not only the routines of daily life, not only the large forces of history acting upon us, but also God bringing forth the birth of a new creation. Jesus asks us to see beyond today's troubles and watch God stirring up hope. We are to more truly see persons in need, those who experience violence, loss, or injustice. We are asked to see beyond the superficial during the Christmas shopping season, and to see Christ as ultimate Gift and gift-giver.

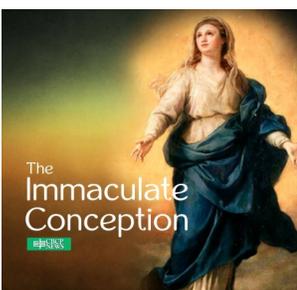
### WAITING WELL

Today we begin Lectionary Year C, when the Gospel readings are frequently from the Gospel of Luke. Luke wrote for a community that wrestled with questions about what had happened and what had not (yet) happened. Some in the community had anticipated the promised return of Jesus during their lifetimes. In today's Gospel, Jesus does not offer a timetable for his coming, but asks us to watch and wait. We can learn to wait faithfully, not knowing what will happen next, but living in trust. Advent is a time to learn again about waiting well.

Many of the events we most cherish in life involve waiting: the birth of a child, graduation, a new job, retirement. How we receive these events often depends on how well we have waited and prepared. Waiting well is not passive. We often work hard to prepare for life's big events, both externally and in our hearts. We ready ourselves but allow for surprises. Advent's preparation for Christmas mirrors our many waiting's, knowing that God may come into our lives by surprise, without a timetable.

Today's Readings: Jer 33:14-16; Ps 25:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14; 1 Thes 3:12 — 4:2; Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

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THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY  
BILINGUAL VIGIL MASS  
FRIDAY DECEMBER 7 AT 6:00PM

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE  
BILINGUAL MASS  
SUNDAY DECEMBER 9 AT 11:00AM  
MAÑANITAS WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 12 AT 5:00AM

SUNDAY SPANISH MASS IN DECEMBER WILL BE AT 11:30AM

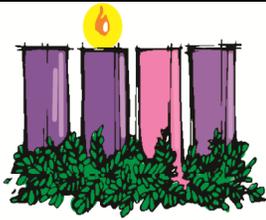


**TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITIONS**

Occasionally, someone raises a surprised complaint that while Christmas arrives on Santa’s sleigh at the Macy’s parade on Thanksgiving Day, the Church doesn’t catch on too fast. They may even say that Advent is a new-fangled idea. Not so. To trace its beginnings, we have to go back to the fourth or fifth century in France (then Gaul), when Epiphany was the favored day, next to Easter, for baptism. The old pagan structures of Rome were collapsing then, and many people sought to be baptized. Since adults always prepared for baptism by fasting, folks counted back a few weeks for a kind of retreat. Before too long, bishops were advising everyone to attend church frequently beginning on December 17. Soon, artists were imagining ways of expressing the Advent mystery, and in Italy this gave rise to beautiful mosaics of empty thrones awaiting the arrival of the Lord of all creation.

Advent as we know it develops on two separate tracks: the first having to do with our spiritual preparation for celebrating the Christmas feast, and the second having to do with the way this is organized and expressed in the liturgical readings and prayers every day of the season.

--James Field, Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch Co.



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**There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars.  
When these signs begin to happen, stand erect and  
raise your heads because your redemption is at hand  
Luke 21:25,28**



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**St. Anthony of Padua Prayer Garden**

Support us by ordering a memorial brick for our prayer garden. The cost is \$100 we do offer *payment plan*.

To order a brick or if you have any question about our engraved bricks, please feel free to contact the Parish Office.



**CHRISTMAS EVE MASS BILINGUAL  
DECEMBER 24 AT 6:00PM  
CHRISTMAS MASS ENGLISH  
DECEMBER 25 AT 10:00AM  
NEW YEAR'S EVE MASS BILINGUAL  
DECEMBER 31 AT 6:00PM**

**The Wine and Cheese tasting held November 11, 2018  
raised \$908 for the building fund.  
Lois Brown was the winner of the basket.  
Thank to all that assisted in this event**

**Adult Faith Formation Classes**

Meet every Sunday at 11:15 in church conference room. For more information please contact our office or Mrs. Lukens (229) 794-9140



**NO FAITH FORMATION CLASSES IN DECEMBER**

**Knights of Columbus**  
Round table meeting 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7pm.  
**NO MEETING IN DECEMBER**

**Registration**

We will be working on updating our Parish files and will ask that everyone fill a church registration form again. This will help fix all incorrect and missing information.

**Please Update!**



**November 25, 2018 Collections**

**Let us pray for the health of:**

Eva de Angel, Sara B,  
L C Martin, Phyllis Fletcher  
Maureen Remick, Raymond Moore



**For the Eternal rest of:**

Fr. Marvin LeFrois, Bill Register  
All Faithful Departed

<b>Regular Collection</b>	<b>\$ 1,185.56</b>
<b>Building Fund</b>	<b>\$ 2,050.00</b>
<b>Bishop Annual Appeal</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>