



February 18, 2018

First Sunday of Lent

St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church



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Office Hours: Monday-Friday from 8:45am-2:45pm

Pastoral Staff

Fr. Fredy Angel

Pastor

Deacon Ray Brown

Mass Schedule Sunday

English 10:00am

Spanish 12:30am

Classes 11:15am

Monday-Wednesday 12:00pm

Communions

May 6, 2018

Confirmations

May 27, 2018

Confessions

Sundays 8:45-9:45 AM

Mon-Wed. by appointment

Adoration

March 3, 2018 from 5pm to midnight.

Rosary Ministry

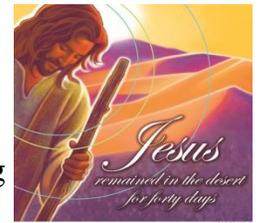
Our Rosary makers meet every 3rd Thursday of the month at 11:30am. For more information please contact Kathy Giddens at (229)482-2364

Knight of Columbus

Round table meeting 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7pm. Next: March 13, 2018

SEASON OF LENT

Today we begin the season of Lent. During Lent we prepare for our celebration of renewal in Holy Week when we recall Jesus' agonizing, lonely death and unexpected (to his disciples) resurrection. The reading from Genesis today reminds us of what it is like to lose almost everything and then to have it restored to us. Peter takes the flood that destroyed the earth and its creatures and transforms it into the baptism by water that saves each one of us. Mark tells us that even Jesus was given forty days to prepare, not in a flood but in a desert, for what was to be asked of him. So we begin this Sunday by being reminded of the importance of preparation and that it takes many forms. Whatever form our preparation takes, we must begin.



DRIVEN BY THE FLOOD INTO THE DESERT

The readings today begin with God's promise to Noah after the destruction of everything by rushing, flooding waters. That water is transformed into the life-giving water of our baptism. We expect, as we start this season of Lent, to be reminded of being stripped by the flood of everything; of being in the desert, with nothing, and tempted. What we may not expect is to be reminded of the abundance and extravagance of God's love and kindness, God's compassion and guidance. After the flood, the earth and its creatures are restored. After the desert, Jesus is ministered to and restored to life with a new understanding of what is essential. Jesus preaches that this is the time and the kingdom of God is at hand.



WE ARE NOT ALONE

We begin Lent with stark contrasts between life and death, good and evil, water and desert. God's response is equally strong. God's covenant is with everyone and everything. Nothing is outside the reach of God's love. God's covenant is limitless. We set out on our own journey of preparation today, but we are not alone. However, we choose to use this time to prepare ourselves for the death and resurrection that is to come, we are accompanied by the same Spirit that compelled Noah to build the Ark to preserve life on earth. We are accompanied by the same Spirit that drove Jesus into the desert to face temptation. It is that Spirit that makes our journey through Lent possible. Who could face such floods of temptation alone? No one, not even Jesus, as we will hear during Holy Week, faces death alone.



TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

The Holy Father usually marks the solemn opening of the Lenten fast with a procession and Mass on Ash Wednesday evening. He walks from the Benedictine monastery, San Anselmo, down the Aventine hill to the Dominican monastery of Santa Sabina. This very old tradition was revived by Pope John XXIII in the late 1950s. Have you ever wondered who gives the pope his ashes? It's the cardinal who has been given the "title" of the church of Santa Sabina. The pope's homily at this Mass states his theme for Lent. Santa Sabina dates from the fifth century and is one of the most beautiful churches in Rome. One of the panels on its main doors features the Crucifixion, a scene not normally depicted in art until much later. In the year 1219 the pope gave the church to Saint Dominic for his new religious order, the "Order of Preachers," commonly called the Dominicans, and it remains their world headquarters to this day. That pope, Honorius III, was a member of the Savelli family, and this church was their personal family chapel. Sabina was a wealthy Roman lady who became a Christian and was martyred, and whose home became a place of prayer. Later, the church built on that spot was dedicated to her memory.



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

Stations of The Cross

Every Friday at 7:00 PM Bilingual.



"Lent 101"

February 21 at 7:00 PM we will be having a Lent presentation directed by Mr. Steven Mancuso.



The Season of Lent

Teenagers Gathering

We will be hosting a teenagers gathering to speak openly about drugs and sex, which as we know is everywhere around our loved ones. It will be Saturday March 24 from 9 AM to 4 PM. Your \$10 donations will cover all day events.



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.



Adult Faith Formation Classes

We will be meeting in the Church Conference Room at 11:30am on Sundays. It is open to any adults interested in learning about the Church and our Catholic Faith. For further information, contact our office or Mrs. Lukens at 229-794-9140.

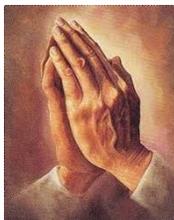


Let us pray for the health of:

Abbigail Christiano, Tripp Lasseter,
Fr. Marvin LeFrois & Nathan,
Mary Southerland, Reyna Soto

For the Eternal rest of:

All Souls



February 11, 2018

Blessed

Collections

Regular Collection	\$1561.50
Building Fund	\$3406.00