

Did you know that we have an active Prayer-line? If you would like to be remembered in the prayers of many people, please call John Lukens, 229-561-0719. John sends out the prayer requests via text message daily.

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 questions about our engraved bricks, please feel free to contact the Parish Office.



MEMORARE
Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help or sought thy intercession was left unaided.
Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto thee, O Virgin of Virgins, my mother; to they do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me.
Amen

UNFAILING PRAYER TO ST. ANTHONY
O holy St. Anthony, gentlest of Saints, your love for God and Charity for his creatures, made you worthy, when on earth, to possess miraculous powers.
Miracles waited on your word, which you were ever ready to speak for those in trouble or anxiety. Encouraged by this thought, I implore you to obtain for me (your request).
The answer to my prayer may require a miracle; even so, you are the Saint of Miracles.
O gentle and loving St. Anthony, whose heart was ever full of human sympathy, whisper my petition into the ears of the Sweet Infant Jesus, Who loved to be folded in your arms; and the gratitude of my heart will ever be yours. Amen

OUR FASCINATING FAITH Calendars
Perhaps you noticed that this year we didn't celebrate the Baptism of the Lord on the Sunday after Epiphany (today), but instead on last Monday, the day after Epiphany. Why the shift? It all has to do with regional calendars. Within certain general boundaries, every national conference of bishops is able to set its own liturgical calendar according to how it is felt to benefit the people in that region most. So, for example, the Epiphany of the Lord is celebrated January 6 on the Church's universal calendar. But the bishops of the United States decided that, for the benefit of the faithful, it would be better for Epiphany to be celebrated on a Sunday every year. So here in the States we see Epiphany's date vary from January 2 to January 8. The biggest problem this presents is that the Baptism of the Lord, which is normally celebrated on the Sunday after the Epiphany, would push back the whole liturgical calendar by a week on the years when the Sunday celebration of the Epiphany falls on January 7 or 8, putting the U.S. out of sync with the rest of the Catholic world at least until Lent. To avoid that scenario, the U. S. bishops decreed that in those years the Baptism of the Lord would fall on the Monday after Epiphany, leaving the rest of the calendar intact.
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Saint Anthony of Padua Catholic Church
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Ray City, Georgia 31645
Telephone: 229-455-5554

Deacon Steven Mancuso, Parochial Coordinator

Deacons: Ray Brown & Steven Mancuso

JANUARY 14, 2023

Parish Mission Statement
“We are a bilingual community, who walk together to meet the Lord through the sacraments. We are guided by the Holy Spirit and by the Doctrine of the Church, towards the love of God the Father through Jesus, His only Son.”

Mass Schedule
Weekdays: Communion Service, Wednesday, 9:30 AM
Followed by Adoration until 12:00 PM
Saturday 4:30 PM, English, & 6:30 PM in Spanish
Latin Mass every 2nd Sunday at 3:00 PM

Office Hours: Mon — Wed—Thurs
9:00 am—3:00 pm
E-mail: church@anthonyofpaduaga.org

CATHOLIC PRAYER CORNER
Prayer to Begin the Day
Lord God, may everything we do begin with your inspiration and continue with your help, so that all of our work today will bring us closer you. Guide us in our work today, that we may do it not for ourselves alone, but for the common good of all.
We ask this in your name. Amen.
—Used with permission of Villanova University.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesday from 10:00 AM—12:00 PM
First Saturday of Month 3:15 PM - 4:15 PM
7:30 PM—8:30 PM

Reconciliation

Saturdays beginning at 3:30 PM
Between 4:30 & 6:30 PM Masses

RCIA

Classes will begin on September 17, 2022
September—May

Baptism

Speak with Priest or Deacon three months in anticipation of the proposed date. Copy of Birth Certificate is required.

Marriage

Arrangements should be made six months in advance.

Faith Formation

Registration: September 3 & 10 between Masses
Classes begin September 17th at 5:40 PM
Contact Deacon Steven Mancuso for more information.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Jan 14 4:30 PM + Deb Ruth
6:30 PM Por los Parroquianos

GOD KNOWS BEST

God's creative wisdom was at its best when making humans. There are four holes in the head for information to go in, and only one for it to go out. —Anonymous

Ray O'Keefe, Eva de Angel, Manuel Arias, Sr. Nuala Mulleady, Jean Dingman, Bill Schade, Alan Moore, Deb Ruth, Joseph Paul Costantino, Joann Dise, Wanda Martin, Giovanni Beltran, Mike Chammoun, Agustin Iglesias, Sharon Walter, Clemmons Family, Fr. Daniel Firmin, Liviana Sirmans, Leo Betlow, Jesus Cordova Duarte, David Sands, Tricia Johnson, Tony Christiano, Esther Lopez, Ann Carter, Jackie Shierling, Valerie Vargas, Renee Cassity, Robert Beier, Don Christiano, Brenda Diefanderfer, Michael Junai, Erika Lloyd, Nayar Prado, Shawn Costello, Nina Waters, Kathryn Giddens, Lisa Salomon, Jeanne Han, Josefina Di Domenico, Steve Register, Grace Make, Segrid Mack, Barkeia McBride, Mary Diefanderfer, Barry White, Manuel Garcia, Patricia Hunter, Tripp Lassefer, Pat Murphy, Skyler Deyarmin, Manuel Lopez and Myriam Santacruz.



Marcelo Quintana-Mata, Yina Green,
Maria Garcia, Lorena Ruiz, Angel Espinoza,
Charly Utera.

Mary Nell Eckl, Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, Alan Moore, Juan Salazar, Sr., Deb Ruth, Luke Adkins, Windy Wingate, John Lucian, Msgr. Daniel Loureiro Rosende, Geri Erickson, Ann Richbourg, B.G. Gerhard, Phyllis Fletcher, Maria Dolores Segade, Dick Ruth, Roshell McCrae, Beatriz Agudelo, Bubba Knight, Myriam Roa, Nestor Beroch, Frank Zubricky, Paul Hamilton, Sheila Maxwell, Saul Muñoz, Mary Malehorn, Angi Christiano, Brittany Felts, Frank Hunter, Linnet Crump, Lois Adkins, Rene Lopez, Eugene Faborito, Julisa Aguilar, Carroll Waters, Juana Perez, Edgardo Arias, Maria Gallegos, Judy Plantier, Shawn Murphy, Fran LaRock, Bill Raczkowski, Consuelo Borrero, Jim Murphy, Carolene Johnson, Melisa Green, Estela de Santacruz, Kevin Ward, Baby Robert Wesley, and All the Faithful Departed.

In
loving
memory

UPCOMING EVENTS

Jan 15 Martin Luther King Day, Office is closed.
Jan 18 Communion Service & Adoration, 9:30 AM
Jan 21 Rosary Makers Meeting, 11:30 AM
Jan 25 Communion Service & Adoration, 9:30 AM
Jan 28 Parish Pastoral Council, 3:00 PM

BAPTISM

As we the Church begin Ordinary Time, we reflect upon the Baptism of Jesus, and its significance in our own lives and communities. The Gospel of John does not narrate the Baptism like the other Gospels. Instead, John the Baptist gives testimony, emphasizing that Jesus has received the Holy Spirit. Jesus will go on to baptize with this same Spirit, as he did immediately after his resurrection (John 20). What might this mean for us, who share in this same Baptism? Today's reading from Isaiah suggests that we are to be a "light to the nations," a people proclaiming and sharing God's love. Paul's greeting to the church in Corinth reminds us that we are simultaneously God's sanctified people and yet continually called to become holy. Baptism begins our journey, where we know the Spirit dwells within, and the same Spirit summons us to full maturity in Christ.

LAMB OF GOD

In today's Gospel, John the Baptist names Jesus as the "Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world." This name "Lamb of God" is rich in meaning, and can be interpreted in various ways. From the Old Testament, it evokes the lamb of Passover, linked to God's rescue of the Hebrew people from Egypt. It is also an image of God's faithful servant, as in Isaiah 53 as a "lamb led to slaughter."

We can notice that here Jesus is the Lamb "of God." He is God's own Lamb, belonging to God. Jesus is not a cultic sacrifice to God, or a demand from God. John is presenting a traditional image in a new way. The Lamb "takes away" our sin, both exposing the reality of our sin to us (which we often hide from ourselves), and also forgiving us our sin. This same Lamb is filled with the Holy Spirit, and shares this Spirit to heal our troubled hearts.

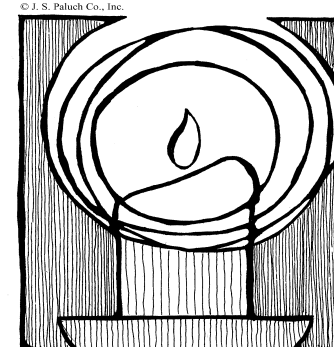
LIGHT TO THE NATIONS

Today's first reading is taken from the second of four "Servant Songs" in Isaiah. This Song was written around the time that the people of Israel were near release from their exile in Babylon. Israel, and also the author, had been traumatized by their separation from Jerusalem and their seeming abandonment by God.

At this time of great vulnerability and despair, God gives them consolation and affirmation. God gives the exiles a vote of confidence and an expansion of vision. God will heal their hearts, and give them new energy to be "a light to the nations." Their purpose is not just survival, but to be the means by which God will bring the whole world into communion and harmony with God. For us today, when sometimes our parishes and communities face challenges of shrinkage and survival, perhaps God may similarly energize us, and remind us of the dignity and breadth of our mission.

TODAY'S READINGS

Isaiah 49:3, 5-6
Psalm 40:2, 4, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10
1 Corinthians 1:1-3
John 1:29-34



On January 21, 2022 we will help Father Juan Carlos celebrate his Birthday with a cake between the Masses.



OFFERTORY — Week of January 7th

Regular Offertory	\$ 1,414.00
Building Fund	1,090.00

Giving Sunday	253.00
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ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL 2022

WE ARE ONE-HOLY-CATHOLIC-APOSTOLIC CHURCH

Our goal this year:
\$15,081.00

Week of November	
Total ACA PAID TO DATE	15,100.00
BALANCE DUE	\$ 0.00

Knights of Columbus

Roundtable meeting in the Parish Hall every Second Sunday of the month in the Parish Hall.

Next Meeting will be February 11th .



Rosary Makers

Our Rosary Makers meet every 3rd Saturday of the month at 11:30 AM. For more information, please contact Kathy Giddens at (229)482-2364.

Next Meeting will be January 21st.



GOLD & SILVER JUBILEE

Couples celebrating their 25th or 50th wedding anniversary in 2023 are invited to the GOLD & SILVER JUBILEE Anniversary Mass on February 11, 2023 at 10:00 AM at the Cathedral Basilica of St. John the Baptist, Savannah.

Please RSVP by January 25th: 912-201-4100 or diosav.org/gold-and-silver.



Sanctuary Light: In Reverence and Petition, Pray this week for this special intention:

For Favors Received