

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.

Reactivation of Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. Due to Covid this ministry was put on hold but now we would like to reactivate it but only to bringing Communion to shut-ins or persons in Nursing Homes. Please call if you know of or are someone in either of these two categories. 229-455-5554

RAFFLES THIS MONTH include a Plate with the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe and a beautiful Nativity Set. Tickets are \$5.00 each or 3 for \$10.00

ADULT EDUCATION: Ann Lukens has been leading an informal study of the book of "Psalms" on Saturday following the 4:30 PM Mass. Books and notes were provided at no charge to attendees. If interested, please e-mail her at cowboynun@mchsi.com

Decorating the Church for Christmas, Sunday, December 18th, 10:00 AM.

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

Our Lady of Guadalupe (December 12) Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas, first appeared to Cuauhtlatzin (Juan Diego) on December 9, 1531 while he was on his way to a Eucharistic celebration in Tlatelolco, Mexico. The Virgin addressed him by his indigenous name, asking him to go to the palace of Archbishop Zumárraga to request that a shrine be erected there at the site of the apparition, in Tepeyac, so as to share her love and compassion for all believers. Juan Diego did so, but the archbishop did not believe him, demanding proof of his story and of the Lady's identity. He returned to Our Lady daily, and on December 12, he conveyed to her the archbishop's request for proof. She showed him Castilian roses blooming there through the stony ground despite the winter's cold. He picked the flowers and carried them in his tilma (mantle) to the archbishop. When he unfolded his tilma to present the roses, Mary's image was imprinted on the mantle! Her blue sash and the flower over her womb were traditional Aztec symbols of pregnancy and new life. But her features were those of a mestiza, indicating mixed Aztec-European heritage. Thus Our Lady of Guadalupe remains the enduring icon of unity-in-diversity, the fruit of our one baptism into Jesus, her Son. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

MASS—DECEMBER 11, 2022—5:00 PM

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 thee 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



Saint Anthony of Padua Catholic Church

2530 Garner Road

Ray City, Georgia 31645

Telephone: 229-455-5554

Deacon Steven Mancuso, Parochial Coordinator

Deacons: Ray Brown & Steven Mancuso

DECEMBER 10, 2022

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

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

St. Andrew Christmas Novena

Hail and blessed be the hour and moment in which the Son of God was born Of the most pure Virgin Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in the piercing cold. In that hour vouchsafe, I beseech Thee, O my God, to hear my prayer and grant my desires through the merits of Our Savior Jesus Christ, and of His blessed Mother. Amen

15 times a day until Christmas Eve

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.

Adult Education

"The Psalms"
Saturday, 5:40 to 6:25 PM
In the Conference Room

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Dec 10 4:30 PM Roger Johnson
6:30 PM For the People of the Parish

Ray O'Keefe, Eva de Angel, Victor Roberts, Joanna Padgett, Bill Schade, Joseph Paul Costantino, John Lukens, Wanda Martin, 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, Valerie Vargas, Renee Cassity, Robert Beier, Don Christiano, Manuel Arias, Brenda Diefanderfer, Sandy Chaput, 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, Pat Murphy, Skyler Deyarmin, Manuel Lopez and Myriam Santacruz.



Prayer Requests



Thomas Potter, Jose Guadalupe Leyva, Luis Aponte, Loretta Johnson, Alfonso Garduño, Joseph Ditto, Jessika McKeon, David McKeon, Jason Farrington, Karina Arteaga-Trejo, Nayeli Garcia, Catherine Knight, Audre' Knight, Trenton Wrice.

Juan Salazar, Sr., Alan Moore, 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

Dec 10 Giving Sunday—Retired Religious
Dec 10 Knights of Columbus Social , 7:00 PM
Dec 11 Latin Mass; 3:00 PM
Dec 11 Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass; 5:00 PM
Dec 12-16 Installation of Stained Glass in Church
Dec 24 Christmas Mass; 8:00 PM; Bilingual
Dec 25 Christmas Mass; 10:00 AM

GOOD NEWS

Good news is good news is . . . Today's messages from Isaiah (prophetic ancestor of John the Baptist and Jesus of Nazareth) and James (spiritual offspring of John and Jesus) both have messages that resonate across the five centuries that separate them: hope in the coming power and presence of God. Isaiah was attempting to comfort and encourage the people of Israel in geographic and spiritual exile. Their exile will end, Isaiah says, with God's presence shown forth through spectacular occurrences in nature. James likewise has a community in need of encouragement and hope, since they despair over the delayed parousia, the final coming of God in glory. In the meantime, James urges patient endurance. Until Jesus returns, they ought to persist without complaint, with the lives of the prophets as their guide. Then will come the time of sight, and healing, and life and . . . Good News for the poor!

PATIENCE . . . NOW!

A friend walked me through his newly planted garden to help me see how it would look in spring. He finally stopped and said, "You can't picture any of this, can you?" I couldn't until I saw it in full bloom the following springtime. Then I could understand why he planted the seeds where he had. Then I saw the beauty and bounty that his planting represented. "Tell John what you hear and see," Jesus says to John's disciples. The signs of the Messiah proclaimed by the prophets are beginning to bloom. Look and see! Hear the singing of those once mute and the rejoicing of the crowds who witness these works. The beauty and the bounty of our generous God are all around.

JUST IMAGINE

James wrote to a community experiencing hardship, like the exiled Israelites in today's first reading. Isaiah and James exhort people to trust that they will see God's presence in their midst once again, so be patient. That's easier said than done, isn't it? Saint Francis de Sales says to be patient with everyone, and most of all with ourselves. Patience means accepting suffering and delay without becoming angry or upset. Easier said than done. Praying for this virtue each day, sometimes often throughout the day, does help. Breathe in the Spirit of God and say, "Give me patience, Lord." Then exhale anger, upset, and impatience. Staring at a garden won't make a shoot spring up any faster; however, giving thanks for the seed, the water, the soil, and the Giver of all life can deepen our trust that the garden will grow. So be patient. Rejoice always. See and be the signs of God's beauty and bounty in our world today.

TODAY'S READINGS

Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10
Psalm 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10
James 5:7-10
Matthew 11:2-11

OFFERTORY — Week of December 3

Regular Offertory	\$ 3,370.00
Building Fund	\$ 2,093.00

ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL 2022

WE ARE ONE-HOLY-CATHOLIC-APOSTOLIC CHURCH

Our goal this year:

\$15,081.00

Week of December 3

Total ACA PAID TO DATE 12,380.50

BALANCE DUE \$ 2,700.50

Knights of Columbus



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

Next Meeting will be January 9th.

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 December 10th.

CATHOLIC PRAYER CORNER

Saint Teresa's Bookmark

Let nothing disturb you,

Let nothing frighten you,

All things are passing;

God only is changeless.

Patience gains all things.

Who has God wants nothing.

God alone suffices.

—Saint Teresa of Ávila

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

**For the happy repose of the soul
Of Father Christian LeFrois**

