

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA CATHOLIC CHURCH

2530 Garner Rd, Ray City Ga 31645

Phone (229)455-5554

church@anthonyofpaduaga.org

Pastoral Team

Rev. Fr. Kevin O'Keefe
Pastor

Deacon Ray Brown
Deacon Steven Mancuso

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday
9:00AM - 3:00PM

FAITH FORMATION CLASSES

Sunday 11:15am to 12:15pm

Sunday Masses

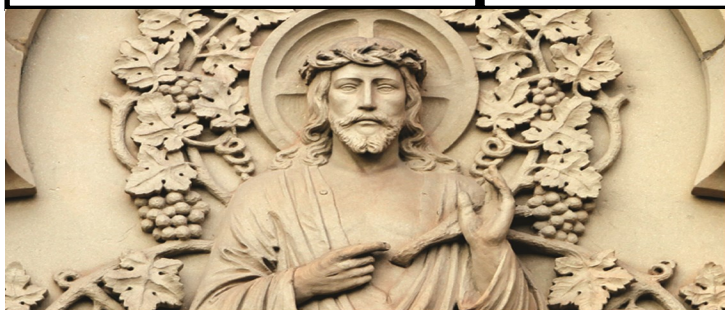
English: 8:15am - 10:00am
Spanish: 12:30PM

Daily Mass

Monday-Thursday 9:30AM

Confessions Sundays

9:15am - 9:45am
11:45am - 12:15pm
or by appointment



FIFTH SUNDAY OF Easter

MAY 2, 2021

I am the vine, you are the branches.
Whoever remains in me and I in them will bear much fruit,
because without me you can do nothing.

John 15:5

THE FRUIT OF FAITH

In today's Gospel, Jesus likens our relationship with him to a plant with many branches. We, the branches, are called to remain so close to Jesus that we bear fruit, loving one another as Christ loves us. Saul bore the fruit of his faith through powerful witness that drew others to Christ. And the branches that grew into the early Church were extraordinarily fruitful. What is the fruit of your faith in Jesus Christ?

VINES, BRANCHES, AND FRUIT

Few activities are as disappointing as cultivating garden plants, watering them, and ensuring that they receive sunlight and nutrients, only to receive one or two vegetables or flowers to show for all the effort. Jesus uses the metaphor of the vine and branches to describe how closely we are called to remain with him—so close that we bear the fruit of his life and love in the way we live. When we do this, Jesus says, we give glory to God the Father, which Jesus did perfectly through his life, passion, death, and resurrection. Like plants that rely on the sun and nutrients from the soil, we rely on the Lord Jesus through whom we can do all for which we are called. Without the Lord, we can do nothing.

LEARN FROM THE FIRST ONES

The story of the early Church that we hear from the Acts of the Apostles during the Easter season is instructive and inspiring. We learn how the community grew in their understanding of what it means to remain close to Jesus in the most challenging of situations. They lived in word and deed as Christ had taught and bore the fruit of their faith in their daily decisions, in small ways and in dramatic moments. Faced with Saul who had persecuted Christians and who presented himself as a disciple, Barnabas risked believing Saul's testimony. Through Barnabas, the community accepted Saul, with increasing numbers of people being led to belief in Christ as a result. We too are called to live in word and deed, taking to heart Christ's command to love one another, even when it is challenging to do so. We may find inspiration in the way the early believers drew consolation from the Holy Spirit, finding wisdom and strength to keep the commandments and do what pleases God.

TODAY'S READINGS

Acts 9:26-31

Psalm 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32

1 John 3:18-24

John 15:1-8

May 2, 2021

Fifth Sunday of Easter

FEAST OF FAITH

The Homily

The ambo, or pulpit, is a special place—it is the place for God's word. That is why it is not used for all the spoken words of the Mass, even important words like the collects and the blessing. The ambo is only used for the scripture readings, and for the homily and the prayer of the faithful.

The homily is part of the Liturgy of the Word. It flows from the readings we have just heard, and helps us to understand the way in which God is speaking to us today. The homily is not a lecture, a catechism lesson, or a speech. It is more like an exhortation; it has an urgency about it, for it calls us to find ourselves in the scripture, to live the faith we profess, to see our world by the light of the Gospel. The homily, in itself a response to God's word, demands a response from us. There are many styles of preaching and many ways to respond to the scriptures. But whether the homily is weak or strong, an open ear and an open heart can find in it an abundance of spiritual nourishment.

—Corinna Laughlin, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Please continue to support our Parish, sending your donation by mail, drop at the Church office or Online. Thank you for your support.

Let us pray for the health of:

Ray O' Keefe, Eva and Alfonso Angel, Tony Christiano, Nestor Beroch, Alan Moore, Don Christiano, Manuel Arias, Patricia & Shawn Costello, Michael Kunai, Erika Lloyd, Nayar Prado, Anna Marie Gould, Nina Waters, Phylli Fletcher, Eugene & Elsie Lamie, Beatriz Agudelo, Toni Leigl, Daniel Riddle, Lisa Salomon, Josefina Di Domenico, Wanda grandchildren, Debbie Hernandez, Raymond Moore, Angela Hood, Jeronimo Vivero, Jamie Felts, Andrew Morrison, Barry White, Miriam Santacruz, Patricia Hunter, Tripp Lasseter, Ruby GreenPat Murphy, Linnet Crump.

For the Eternal rest of:

Rufina Fernandez, Consuelo Borrero, Mary Malehorn, Angi Christiano, Tom Turner, Lois Adkins, Frank Hunter, Guillermina Sanchez, Rene Lopez, Kelle Jackson, Misty Lasseter, Stephanie Nelson, Kevin Ward, Juana Perez, Edgardo Arias, Eugene Faborito, Maria Gallegos, Judy Plantier, David Dennis, Shawn Murphy, Fran LaRock, Bill Raczkowski, Giovanni Foschi, Jim Murphy, Dennis David, Melisa Green, Estela de Santacruz. All faithful Departed

Adoration Of The Blessed Sacrament

First Saturday

7:00PM to 10:00PM

Wednesday 10AM - 12PM

Adoration
of the
Blessed Sacrament



STEADFAST IN FAITH

"You must, of course, continue faithful on a firm and sure foundation." Colossians 1:23



ACA
DIOCESE OF SAVANNAH
ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

THANK YOU FOR YOUR FAITHFUL GENEROSITY - DIOSAV.ORG/ACA



José Juarez
Alejandra Bautista
Maria Sanchez
Chad Woody
Karina Agudelo
Bryanna Alamilla

Donations for St. Francis Center:

Men's sneakers and dress shoes.
Men's shorts & clothes
Flip flops and sandals.
Sun block.
Long sleeves shirts.

Sr. Nuala is extremely grateful for your generosity.

Diocese of Savannah Annual Catholic Appeal

Our GOAL for the 2021 ACA \$11,497
As Today Collected \$ 7,826

\$ 3,671 to go!

Please bring your donation to St. Anthony of Padua

Rosary Ministry

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



THE LIGHT OF CHRIST SANCTUARY LIGHT



In reverence and petition
Pray this week for
this Special Intention:

The Davis Children
The Soul of Lucas Garduno
and the Baker Family



April 25, 2021

Collections

Regular Collection

\$3,465

Building Fund

\$1,655

Annual Catholic Appeal

\$60