

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA CATHOLIC CHURCH

2530 Garner Rd, Ray City Ga 31645

Phone (229)455-5554

church@anthonyofpaduaga.org

Pastoral Team

Reverend Juan Carlos Castillo
Parochial Administrator
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

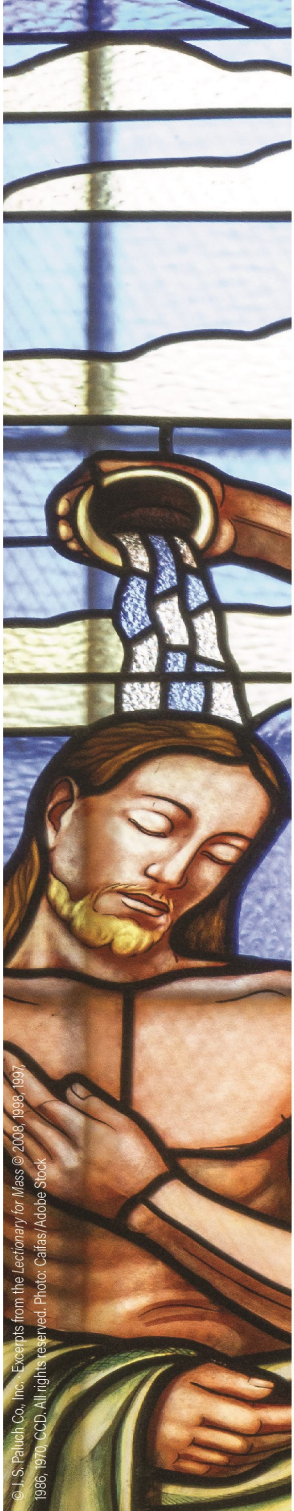
Monday-Thursday 9:30AM

Confessions Sundays

9:15am - 9:45am

11:45am - 12:15pm

or by appointment



A VOICE CAME
FROM HEAVEN,
“YOU ARE MY
BELOVED SON;
WITH YOU I AM
WELL PLEASED.”

LUKE 3:22

THE BAPTISM of THE LORD

JANUARY 9, 2022

A MODEL FOR OUR PRAYER LIFE

The Advent/Christmas cycle that began on November 28 ends with the Baptism of the Lord. We likely have an image in our minds (based on details from the Gospels and works of art) of what that scene looked like. We might wonder, “Who else was there and who wasn’t?” No disciples were present because Jesus had not yet begun his ministry. They would have to wait until the Transfiguration to hear a similar message. However, the three persons of the Blessed Trinity are accounted for: the Father (the voice from heaven), the Son Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. Interestingly, Luke alone notes that it was after Jesus had been baptized and while he was praying that the voice was heard. All of the Gospels show Jesus praying at turning points in his ministry; this is but the first example of Jesus’ need to root himself in prayer throughout his life—a model for us to follow.

ON THE CUSP OF A NEW CREATION

It was on the Fourth Sunday of Advent this past December that we first heard of the two cousins, John and Jesus, meeting. Then it was in the womb of their mothers, Elizabeth and Mary. Now the cousins meet again on the shore of the Jordan River. John is already well known—so much so that people had begun to wonder if he was the long-awaited Messiah. Jesus, on the other hand, is about to begin his ministry. One could say that Jesus entered the waters of the Jordan as a private person and came out of them as a public one. The voice from heaven left no doubt about that. As we come to the end of the Christmas season our readings echo Isaiah and Titus (see Advent and Christmas Day readings) and together with today’s Psalm 104 they point us to Pentecost. We are on the cusp of a new creation.

JOHN THE BAPTIST: PATRON SAINT OF LITURGICAL MINISTERS?

John the Baptist was what we might call today a “social influencer.” People paid attention to what he had to say. And what he said affected the choices people made. Yet today’s Gospel reminds us of John the Baptist’s ultimate goal: “One mightier than I is coming.” The Baptizer walks the fine line between drawing attention to himself with his fiery preaching and then re-directing that attention to Jesus, the “beloved Son.” John the Baptist could be considered the “patron saint” of those who minister as lectors, extraordinary ministers of the eucharist, cantors, greeters, acolytes, and musicians. Isn’t John’s teaching a good goal for a liturgical (or any!) minister? Rooted in the graces of their own baptism, ministers must be skilled and confident enough to draw people’s attention (or, at least, not turn them off!) and then gradually re-focus that attention on Jesus. It is a dynamic and awesome responsibility.

TODAY’S READINGS

Isaiah 40:1–5, 9–11

Psalm 104:1b–2, 3–4, 24–25,
27–28, 29–30

Titus 2:11–14; 3:4–7

Luke 3:15–16, 21–22

The Baptism of the Lord

Almighty ever-living God,
 who, when Christ had been baptized in the River Jordan
 and as the Holy Spirit descended upon him,
 solemnly declared him your beloved Son,
 grant that your children by adoption,
 reborn of water and the Holy Spirit,
 may always be well pleasing to you.
 Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
 who lives and reigns with you
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 God, for ever and ever.



**Baptism
 of the Lord**

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Let us pray for the health of:

Ray O'Keefe, Eva de Angel, Tony Christiano, Nestor Beroch,
 Robert Beier, Monica Moore, Don Christiano, Manuel Arias, Fr. Rafael Estrada
 Linda Christiano, Michael Kunai, Erika Lloyd, Nayar Prado,
 Rosa Duarte, Pattie Costello, Kathryn Giddens, Nina Waters, Phylli Fletcer,
 Francis Zubricky, Beatriz Agudelo, Toni Leigl, Daniel Riddle, Lisa Salomon,
 Jeanne Han, Yina Green, Josefina Di Domenico, Valerie Vargas, Dennis Zubricky,
 Grace Mack, Segrid Mack, Barkeia McBride, Seminarian Francisco Gamboa,
 Shawn Costello, Barry White, Raymond Moore, Manuel Garcia, Myriam Santacruz
 Patricia Hunter, Tripp Lasseter, Ruby Green, Pat Murphy, Skyler Deyarmin.

For the Eternal rest of:

Rita Mayorga, Alice Essling, Sheila Maxwell, Saul Muñoz, Mary Malehorn,
 Angi Christiano, Brittany Felts, Tom Turner, Frank Hunter, Linnet Crump
 John Folsom, Lois Adkins, Rene Lopez, Eugene Faborito, Julisa Aguilar,
 Francisco Mayorga, Carroll Waters, Juana Perez, Edgardo Arias,
 Maria Gallegos, Judy Plantier, Shawn Murphy, Henry Mayorga
 Fran LaRock, Bill Raczkowski, Consuelo Borrero, Jim Murphy.
 Carolene Johnson, Melisa Green, Estela de Santacruz, Rufina Fernandez
 Kevin Ward, Louis Adkins, Baby Robert Wesley, All faithful Departed

**Adoration Of The
 Blessed Sacrament**
First Saturday
7:00PM to 10:00PM
Wednesday 10AM - 12PM



RCIA
 A JOURNEY IN FAITH
RCIA STUDENTS
 Sundays
 11:15am—12:15pm
 Conference Room

**FAITH
 FORMATION**
 Sundays
 11:15am—12:30pm



Maria Llanos
 Maria Trejo
 Elena D'Argenio
 Evan Miller
 Michael Garza



Our generous donations are important for the
 Church Building Fund

Church Cleaning
 Monday 10am after daily
 mass.
 All help is greatly
 appreciated



Thursday, January 13

No Daily Mass

Only Communion Service
9:30am

Knights of Columbus
 Round table meeting
 Parish Hall
 Second Sunday of the month.
Next Meeting February 13
at 11:15AM



Our Rosary makers meet
 every 3rd Saturday of the month
 at 11:30am.

For more information
 please contact
 Kathryn Giddens at
 (229)482-2364
Next Meeting January 15



**THE LIGHT OF CHRIST
 SANCTUARY LIGHT**



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

*thank
 you*

**January 2, 2022
 Collections**

Regular Collection

\$3,040

Building Fund

\$4,474

**Annual Catholic
 Appeal**

\$