

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.

Catholics and their family members who are struggling with same-sex attraction can find help through **COURAGE** (www.couragec.org/). Help is available online at their website or by phone (404)931-1836 or (404) 747-8204. Local **COURAGE** Chapter for Diocese of Savannah is in Macon, GA. Website information is available in Spanish and Italian. Founded in 1980 at request of the late Terence Cardinal Cook, COURAGE received canonical status in the Catholic Church on November 28, 2016.

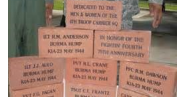
USHERS NEEDED! Men and women are needed to become active members of our Parish to help with the Collection and the Reception of Holy Communion. See John Lukens for the 10:00 AM Mass and Deacon Steven for the 12:30 PM Mass.

THE SECOND SUNDAY of the month is **GIVING SUNDAY**. We take up a second collection that day and for the month of **January**, it is for **BLACK & INDIAN MIS-SIONS**. We also accept donations for St. Francis Center which is a Catholic Thrift Shop and Outreach Center run by St. John the Evangelist Church in Valdosta. Today they have several needs: personal hygiene items, non-perishable food items and snacks for the homeless, anything they can eat while walking that doesn't need to be heated up. Packs of crackers are always good.

BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS
On the first Sundays of the month, there will be a special blessing for anyone who will celebrate a birthday or anniversary during that month. This information comes from your Registration Forms.

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

PRAYER GARDEN: We have a Prayer Garden with engraved bricks around the Statue of Our Lady. If you wish to order an engraved brick—either in honor of someone special to you or in memory of someone special who has passed away, you can come to the Parish Office, or you could fill out a sheet with the appropriate envelope that can be found on the table in the Narthax. The cost is \$100.00 each and we will take payments.



ABUSE HOTLINE NUMBER: To report sexual abuse of a minor by Diocese of Savannah employee or volunteer, call the abuse hotline number at 888-357-5330 or the Office for the Protection of Children and Young People, 912-201-4074. To read the diocesan policy on sexual abuse of minors, go to www.diosav.org/childyouthprotection

Protecting Our Youth: Diocesan policy requires all diocesan adult employees and volunteers attend VIRTUS (safe environment) awareness training, undergo a background check, and read and sign the diocesan code of conduct for working with minors prior to commencing their ministry.

Thank you for everyone who contributed for the flowers to be used in the Church for this Christmas Season. There was a generous donation made to St. Ann's in memory of Benito & Maria Martinez.



Special Thanks to the **Knights of Columbus, Council 4913 in Valdosta** for the most generous donation they made for the support and use by St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church.



A BIG THANK YOU goes to all who donated items and/or their time for the silent auction at the Christmas Dinner. Special thanks is given to the Child Advocacy Center for their donation. A total of \$1,102 was raised for the Church Building Fund. We appreciate everyone's participation.

PRAYER FOR THE GRACE FROM ALL THE WORLD'S MASSES
Eternal Father, we humbly offer Thee our poor presence, and that of the whole of humanity, from the beginning to the end of the world at all the Masses that ever have or ever will be prayed. We offer Thee all the pains, sufferings, prayers, sacrifices, joys, and relaxations of our lives, in union with those of our Lord Jesus here on earth. May the Most Precious Blood of Christ, all His Blood, Wounds, and Agony save us., through the Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Mary.
Amen
(This prayer should be recited daily and be made known.)



Saint Anthony of Padua Catholic Church
2530 Garner Road
Ray City, Georgia 31645
Telephone: 229-455-5554



St. Ann Catholic Church
9007 US Hwy 82
Alapaha, GA 31622

Rev. Joey Buencamino, *Parochial Administrator*
Deacons: Ray Brown & Steven Mancuso

January 5, 2025

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: Monday thru Thursday: 9:30 AM Mass . There will be Adoration available each day the Church is open until 3 :00 PM. On First Friday there will be Adoration from 5:00 — 6:30 PM followed by a Healing Mass at 7:00 PM.
Sunday: 9:00 Am (St. Ann's) , 10:30 AM in English & 12:30 PM in Spanish at St. Anthony of Padua

Office Hours: Mon — thru—Thurs
9:00 am—3:00 pm
church@anthonyofpaduaga.org



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

First Friday of the Month 5:00 — 6:30 PM
Followed by a Healing Mass at 7:00 PM
Every day the Office is open 10:00 AM — 3:00 PM

Reconciliation

Sundays between 10:30 AM & 12:30 PM Masses
Or by appointment

RCIA

Classes began on September 15th.
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

Classes began in September.
Classes are 11:45 AM —12:45 PM
Contact Deacon Steven Mancuso for more information.

Adult Education

Sunday: 11:45 AM—12:45 PM in Conference Room
We will study the Book of the Prophets.

Fr. Daniel Firmin, Fr. Francois Pellissier, Fr. Michael Cerrone, Fr. Michael Kavanaugh, Fr. Brian LaBurt, Msgr. Chris Schreck, Fr. Stan Pieczara, Deacon Ray Brown, Ray O’Keefe, Eva de Angel, Jim Conrad, Kathy Giddens, Rosa Santacruz, Will Henkels, John Lukens, Jean Dingman, Daniel Burnett, Dr. Henry Richbourg, Andrea Emilia Bernabey, James Holton, Gerald Silva, Vera Kate Setser, Julia Santacruz, Lindy Reed, Valentina Rojas, Pam Coombs, Julianita Tejada, Joanna Padgett, Mandy Sirmans, Carol Buencamino, Tom Lostetter, Betty Brannon, Armando Sanchez, Gary Hogan, Ricardo Vargas, Antonio Tejada, David Sands, Shirley Logan, Nicholas Cantera, Bill & Araceli Schade, Joseph Costantino, Joann Dise, Mike Chammoun, Agustin Iglesias, Sharon Walter, David Sands, Tony Christiano, Esther Lopez, Jackie Shierling, Valerie Vargas, Renae Cassity, Robert Beier, Don Christiano, Manuel Arias, Brenda Diefanderfer, Erika Lloyd, Nayar Prado, Nina Waters, Lisa Salomon, Jeanne Han, Josefina Di Domenico, Steve Register, Grace Mack, Segrid Mack, Barkeia McBride, Mary Diefanderfer, Barry White, Manuel Garcia, Patricia Hunter, Skyler Deyarmin, Manuel Lopez and Myriam Santacruz.



Nancy Balleza, Elena D’Argenio,
Jaxon Hackett, Jacquelyn Knight,
Daisy Leyva Villaseca, Daisy Lazaro,
Jenno Markeus, Sabrina Policastro,
Mia Agudelo, Tashalia Tovar,
Maria Wrice Trejo.

Mark Menard, Richard Schultz, Rev. Dan O’Connell, RJ Henderson, Steve Rampey, Peggy Motz, Maryann Young, Andy Morrison, Fr. James Holloway, Lucio Sanchez Rangel, Pat Murphy, EW Wilkerson, David Hunter III, Paul Reed, Florinda Blas, Maria Auxiliadora Bastidas, John Kumpel, Tricia Johnson, Alfonso Santacruz, Eugene Molisee, Fr. Mike Ingram, Viviana Moreno Lopez, Homer Giddens, Regino Solorio, John Callaghan, Edgar Ocegüera, Joe Henkels, JP Hiler, “Nina” Chammoun, Linda Christiano, Cirilio Antonio Almarez, Michael Richbourg, Felipe Bautista, Ottis Miller, Fr. Harold Essling, Guillermo Santacruz, Joseph Garneski, Keith Sebring, Gene Shearl, Jorge Osorio, JR Cassity, Jesus Cordova Duarte, Bessy Garcia, Br. Walter Gluhm, Mary Carrell Morrison, Jose Llanos, Jose Mandragon Benitas, Alan Moore, Kathy Archer, Juan Salazar Mendez, Luke Adkins, Ann Richbourg, Phyllis Fletcher, Maria Dolores Segade, Roshell McCrae, Myriam Roa, Frank Zubricky, Paul Hamilton, and All the Faithful Departed.

In
loving
memory

The Epiphany of the Lord
Matthew 2:1-12

Have you ever wondered why the magi had gold, frankincense, and myrrh? Matthew’s Gospel tells us, “Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh” (Matt. 2:11). Why are these things their “treasures”? One possible answer is they were magicians and astrologers, and these three items were the tools of their questionable trade. In offering them to Christ, they demonstrate that they will cease using such items to predict or control life. They place this baby-king, the God of Israel, at the center of their lives, and not their own devices of control, manipulation and prediction.

Isn’t that what we need to do, too? Consider, for example, the magical power of money, symbolized by the magi’s gold. Seemingly whatever we ask of money, it does. It wields a god-like power over the world. It can predict the future by guaranteeing better outcomes for us — which is why it is such a tempting alternative to trusting in God. The problem is such absolute trust in money enslaves us to the economic forces that make money so powerful. In paying homage to Jesus with “gold” (i.e., tithing), we participate in his authority over (and therefore freedom from) the magical sway of money.

What things in your life do you use to predict or control your future? What in your life seems to give you power over the world? Those are your treasures. Are you tired of feeling enslaved to them? Find a way to open them and give them to Christ, and you will be freer.

— Father John Muir

©LPi

TRAVELING

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA,
THE MIRACLE WORKER

We will pray as a family to St. Anthony of Padua in our homes for any special intentions we might have. This week St. Anthony will travel to Enigma to the home of Norma Bautista.



As you know, you are not always able to get a Mass on a date you would like. Did you know that Sanctuary Candles burn for a week and you can usually get the date you wish. Cost is \$15.00. Envelopes available on the table in the Narthax.

OFFERTORY — Week of December 29

Regular Offertory \$ 1,718.00
Building Fund \$ 285.00

St. Ann’s Offertory \$ 482.00

ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL 2024

WE ARE ONE-HOLY-CATHOLIC-APOSTOLIC CHURCH

ST. ANTHONY’S GOAL THIS YEAR: \$10,761.00
Total ACA PAID TO DATE \$11,060.00
Congratulations!!

ST. ANN’S GOAL THIS YEAR: \$ 3,010.00
Total ACA PAID TO DATE \$ 3,010.00
Congratulations!!

Knights of Columbus

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



Next Meeting will be
January 12th

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 18th

UPCOMING EVENTS

Happy New Year

Jan 11 Parish Pastoral Council Meeting: 10:00 AM
Jan 12 Knights of Columbus: 11:45 AM
Jan 18 Rosary Makers: 11:30 AM



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

For the health of Lisa Felts Day