

**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/](http://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 **December**, it is for **RELIGIOUS RETIREMENT & DIOCESE OF SAVANNAH CATHOLIC SCHOOLS**. 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](http://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.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!** Our Christmas Party will be held on Saturday, December 21, 2024 at 6:00 PM. We will have Turkey, Ham, Mashed Potatoes and a Vegetable. We ask you to buy your tickets so we have a headcount. We also ask you to bring a side dish or dessert to feed at least 6 people.

**A SUBSTANTIAL DONATION WAS RECEIVED FROM A GENEROUS PATRON. THANK YOU!**

**Mark your calendars!** The Advent Penance Service will be held at St. John the Evangelist Church, 800 Gornto Road, Valdosta on December 17, 2024 at 7:00 PM.

**St. Ann's Church, Alapaha December 18, 2024**

**5:00 PM** Confessions followed by Mass at 5:45 PM  
**6:15 PM** Christmas Play followed by Christmas Party at 6:45 PM.

**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**

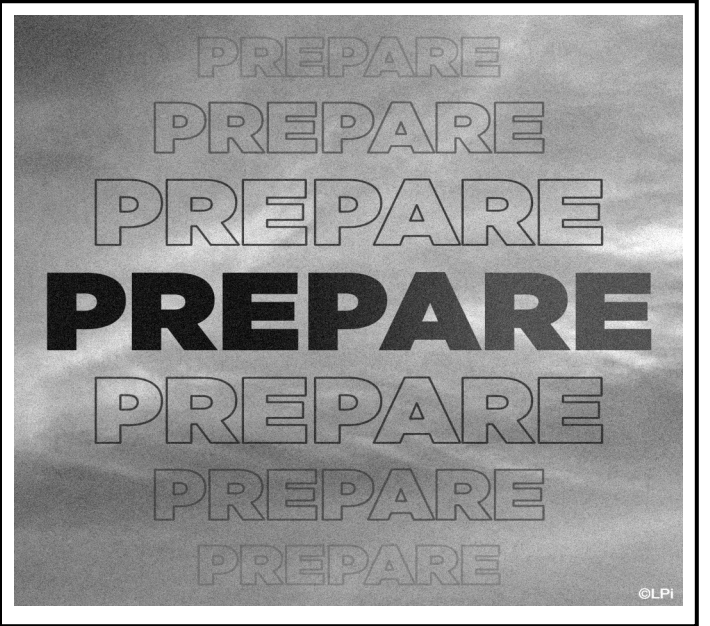
**Deacons: Ray Brown & Steven Mancuso**

**December 15, 2024**

**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, Will Henkels, Mark Meanard, Kathy Giddens, Rosa Santacruz, Will Henkels, Mark Menard, 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 Chamoun, 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.



Katelyn Allen, David Contreras, Maria Arambula, Karen Arredondo, Diego Concha, Jalane Farrington, Sarah Holland, Yasmin Juarez, Luna Juarez Vargas, Sean Knight, Angelica Mateo Sebastian, Jessika McKeon, Monica Moore, Pia Morales, Floressa Ruelas, Ausencia Oropeza Salas, David Stidham, Patricia Stidham, Jayla Bautista.

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 Ocegueda, 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*

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

On a bright Spring morning, a passerby once saw St. Francis of Assisi hoeing a row of beans and asked him, “What would you be doing right now if you knew this was the last day of your earthly life?” The Saint responded, “I’d keep hoeing this row of beans.” Preparing for this world to end — whether by our death or by Jesus’ glorious coming — invites us to live not in the past or the present, but deeply in the present moment.

This same point is on display in the simple advice given by the wild and eccentric John the Baptist. He speaks of the one who is to come who will baptize “with the Holy Spirit and fire” (Luke 3:16). Despite the bizarre awesomeness of this announcement, he tells his listeners to engage in the present moment with simple acts of justice and love as their preparation for Jesus’ coming, sharing their clothes and food, eliminating greedy and underhanded practices, being content with their wages. It’s so undramatic. But how many actually did it? We don’t know. How many of us will commit ourselves to these types of humble and demanding practices in our lives? That’s what we should be doing now in our present moment, not worrying about the future.

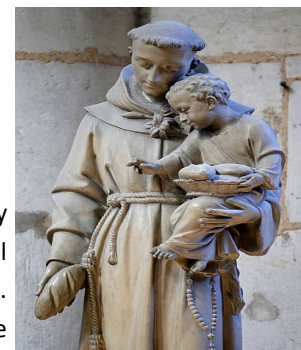
Advent challenge: Name one way you are doing the bare minimum towards others in your daily life. Or name something you are doing because you are not content with your financial situation. Pray: “Jesus, if it is your will, help me to stop doing these things this week. Help me prepare for your coming.” Then make the appropriate changes.

— Father John Muir

### 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 Valdosta to the home of Armando & Maria Sanchez.



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 08

Regular Offertory	\$ 3,438.00
Building Fund	\$ 3,085.00

St. Ann’s Offertory \$ 755.00

### 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

Dec 15	Decorating Church after 12:30 PM Mass
Dec 17	Penance Service, St. John’s : 7:00 PM
Dec 21	Christmas Party: 6:00 PM
Dec 24	Christmas Eve Mass at St. Ann’s: 6:00 PM
Dec 24	Christmas Eve Mass at St. Anthony: 8:00 PM
Dec 25	Mass at St. Anthony’s: 10:00 AM
Jan 1	Mass: 9:30 AM: St. Ann’s 6:00 PM



### MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Dec 15 9:00 AM (St. Ann’s) For the People of the Parish  
 10:30 AM S.I. Monica Moore  
 12:30 PM For the People of the Parish

Dec 16 9:30 AM + Andres Contreras (9th Anniv)  
 Dec 17 9:30 AM S. I. Monica Moore (Birthday)  
 Dec 18 9:30 AM S. I. Maryann Young  
 Dec 19 9:30 AM + Andres Arreaga

Dec 22 9:00 AM (St. Ann’s) For the People of the Parish  
 10:30 AM + K. Andy Morrison  
 12:30 PM For the People of the Parish

S.I. = Special Intention

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

For the health and healing of Bill Schade

