

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA CATHOLIC CHURCH

Monsignor Sal Pilato, Pastor

Father Julio Domenech, Associate Pastor
In Residence: Father Randy Campos
In Residence: Father Jonathon Meyer
Deacon Antonio Huerta

Parish Address & Office Hours

1050 West 163rd Street
Gardena, CA 90247

Monday - Friday: 9:00AM - 1:00PM
& 2:00PM - 9:00PM

Saturday & Sunday: 9:00AM - 3:00PM

Office: (310) 327-5830 **Fax:** (310) 327-6440

Web Address:

<http://saintanthonygardena.org/>

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil Mass: 5:30PM (English)

Sunday Masses: 7:30AM (English)
9:00AM (*En Español*)
11:00AM (English)
1:00PM (*En Español*)
5:30PM (English)

Weekday Masses: Monday - Friday
6:30AM & 8:00AM

Saturday Morning: 8:00AM only

1st Friday of the month:
7:00PM (Mass) Adoration until 10:00PM

1^{er} Viernes del Mes:
7:00PM (Misa) Adoración hasta las 10:00PM

Confessions: Saturday 4:00PM - 5:00PM

Prayer Services

Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Every Wednesday, 6:30PM in the Church

Rosario - Legión de María (En Español)
Cada Martes, 9:00AM en la Iglesia Antigua



DECEMBER 2, 2018

First Sunday of Advent

Parish Contacts

Faith Formation

Madonna Castro, *Director* (310) 323-0860

High School Confirmation Program

Leilani Alvarado, *Coordinator* (310) 327-3953

Office of Youth Ministry - LIFETEEN/EDGE

(310) 327-3953

St. Anthony Elementary School

Mrs. Angela Grey, *Principal* (310) 329-7170

St. Anthony Day Nursery

Sister Yadira Villalobos, M.C., *Director* (310) 329-8654

Baptism/Bautismo

Baptisms in English: Pre-Baptismal classes are held on the 1st Wednesday of each month. Parents and Godparents are required to attend. Baptisms are on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month. Stop by the rectory to Register.

Bautismos en Español: Clases pre-bautismales se ofrecen los primeros 3 lunes de cada mes. Es requisito que padres y padrinos asistan. Los Bautismos se celebran el 2^o y 4^o sábado de cada mes. Pasen a la rectoría para inscribirse.

Marriage/Arreglos para Boda

Engaged couples are strongly encouraged to contact the parish office for appointments and classes 6 months prior to proposed wedding date. Contact the parish office for details.

Parejas que desean casarse necesitan ponerse en contacto con la parroquia para empezar hacer arreglos por los menos seis meses antes de la fecha propuesta.

FROM THE PASTOR

NEW LITURGICAL YEAR - Following last Sunday's Solemnity of Christ the King which brought the Year of Grace 2018 to a close, today we begin the new liturgical year with the First Sunday of Advent. The Church tells us that "Advent has a two-fold character: as a season to prepare for Christmas when Christ's first coming to us is remembered, and as a season when that remembrance directs our mind and heart to await Christ's second coming at the end of time. Advent thus is a period of devout and joyful expectation."

ADVENT SEASON - The four-week season preceding the twelve days of Christmas is called Advent. Advent is another word for arrival or coming. During Advent we prepare for the arrival or coming of Jesus. We prepare for the first coming of Jesus at Bethlehem during the Christmas novena, December 17-25.

During the first half of Advent (December 2 - December 16) we prepare for the Second Coming of Jesus. This refers to the Lord's return at the end of the world. But for most of us, the Second Coming of Jesus will be at our death. We do not associate preparing for death with Christmas yet this is what we are called to do when we hear the Advent scripture passages of the prophet Isaiah, St. John the Baptist, and Jesus.

How do we prepare for the Second Coming? What gift do we prepare for the Infant King as we approach the celebration of his first coming? Amidst all the "ings" of this season - shopping, baking, decorating, gift wrapping, Christmas partying, card writing, visiting, caroling, drinking (egg nog), etc. - take time to prepare your gift for Jesus.

Some useful ideas:

- Extra time, every day to pray, meditate, contemplate and reflect.
- Fifteen minutes a day (minimum) with the Bible, specifically one of the four Gospels.
- Daily praying of the Rosary (especially as a family) and meditating on the biblical mysteries.
- Reflection on the direction of your life and your walk with the Lord with concrete action steps.
- A good Christmas Confession with the resolution to return to weekly Sunday worship.
- Keeping Jesus in our Christmas cards and decorations helps us to evangelize.

During this Advent Season, besides daily Mass, we will be providing you with extra opportunities for prayer:

Dec. 3-11 – 7:00pm Mass, Rosary and Novena in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe (Spanish)

Fri., Dec. 7 – 7:00 pm First Friday Mass (bilingual) followed by Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament until 10:00pm

Sat., Dec. 8 – Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, Holy Day of Obligation special schedule

Wed., Dec. 12 – Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, special schedule

Thurs., Dec. 13 – St. Lucy – 6:00 pm Annual School Christmas Program

Dec. 16-24 – Christmas Novena: Las Posadas and Simbang Gabi, special schedule

Mon., Dec. 17 – 7:00 pm Parish Advent Penance Service

Sat., Dec. 22 – Confessions at 8:45 am and 4:00 pm

Dec. 24-25 – Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, special Mass schedule

May you and all your loved ones have a most blessed Advent and Christmas Seasons. You can be assured of a remembrance in my prayers and Masses especially on Christmas Day.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION & 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT – Dec. 8 is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, a holyday of obligation and the patronal feast of the United States of America. This year this beautiful feast falls on a Saturday. Since every Sunday is a holyday of obligation **it will be necessary to assist at the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass twice next weekend** – once for the Immaculate Conception and once for the 2nd Sunday of Advent.

Fulfilling the obligation for the Immaculate Conception means attending any of the Masses in the evening of Dec. 7 or all-day Dec. 8. Fulfilling the obligation for Sunday means attending any of the Masses on Saturday evening or all-day Sunday. (Going to Mass once on Saturday night does not count for both days.)

Our **Mass schedule** for the weekend is as follows:

Friday, Dec. 7 – Vigil of the Immaculate Conception

5:30pm English

7:00pm Bilingual followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament until 10:00pm

Saturday, Dec. 8 – Immaculate Conception

8:00am English

12:00pm English

5:30pm English

7:00pm Spanish followed by Novena in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Sunday, Dec. 9 – 2nd Sunday of Advent

7:30am English

9:00am Spanish

11:00am English

1:00pm Spanish

5:30pm English

7:00pm Spanish followed by Novena in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe

THE MOTIVE OF OUR GIVING – Continuing our Stewardship reflection:

A. We Should Give Thankfully - That is, we ought to do our giving in light of what the Lord has done for us. When we consider the fact that the Lord loved us and gave His life for us, then saved us by His grace when we simply asked, then the tithe seems awfully small. A thankful heart is a giving heart!

B. We Should Give Cheerfully - According to the Bible, God loves a cheerful giver, 2 Cor. 9:7. This word literally means, "hilarious." We should give, not because we feel obligated to give, but because it delights our hearts to be able to give unto the Lord!

C. We Should Give Liberally - This simply means that we are not to be stingy when it comes to giving to the Lord's work or His people. In truth, we can expect God to bless us in direct proportion to the level of our giving, Luke 6:38; 2 Cor. 9:6. Do not be guilty of being a skinflint when it comes to giving. The Lord will not bless your life! This is the only kind of liberal the Lord will use and bless!

D. We Should Give Sacrificially - In the gospel, Jesus was impressed, not by the amount of the widow's gift, but by the fact that she gave out of her need. The rich gave out of their surplus, she gave all she had. That got the Lord's attention! It still does! If you wait to start giving when you have plenty, you will face 2 problems:

-You'll never get to where you think you have plenty.

-When you do have extra, it will seem like too much to give. The best thing to do is to give everything you have to the Lord. When He already owns it all, then that little 10% won't matter too much.

Conclusion: When we come to the topic of money, there are always those who get a little touchy. Some people simply are not going to honor the Lord with their giving until they get right with God. Some will say, "Father, it's not about the money." In truth, that's what it is always about! Anyone who refuses to give the Lord what belongs to Him loves his money more than he loves God. What is God's word about your money? That your money belongs to Him and that you will give an account as to how you use His money.

CONFESSION - Frequent Confession is strongly recommended by the Church. We personally encounter Christ in all of the seven sacraments. Regular Confession also provides us with the graces and strength to avoid sin and vice and grow in virtue. Some Catholics miss out on the graces of frequent Confession but they at least go to Confession before Christmas and Easter.

Most parishes have extra scheduled times during these two seasons of the year. They also have a "penance service" with several priests available for Confession. Our parish Advent Penance Service will be held on Mon., Dec. 17, 7:00pm

VACATION RECTORY OFFICE HOURS

Dec. 25, 26, Dec. 31 (half day), Jan. 1: office closed

END OF YEAR CONTRIBUTION - Please consider a generous end of the year, tax-deductible contribution to St. Anthony Parish before December 31.

DAILY VISITS TO OUR LORD IN THE BLESSED SACRAMENT -

Before you begin your busy day, stop by and say a prayer or attend the 6:30 am or 8:00 am Mass. The church is opened most of the day from 5:30am until 9:00 pm on weekdays and until after the 5:30 pm Mass on weekends. The east door of the church is left open during the day outside of Mass times.

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE - The 87th Annual Archdiocesan Procession and Mass takes place on Sunday, December 9. Procession begins at 10:30am at the corner of Cesar Chavez and Ford Blvd. Mass will be celebrated at 1:00pm by Archbishop Gomez at East Los Angeles College Stadium, 1301 Cesar Chavez Avenue in Monterey Park.

WARNING - Not all churches that use the words "Catholic" or "Roman Catholic" in their title are in communion with the Holy Father or under the jurisdiction of the local Roman Catholic bishop. Though lawfully calling themselves "Catholic" under secular law, some of these churches have broken away from the Church because of disagreements over the teachings and reforms mandated by both the First and Second Vatican Councils. It is not lawful for Roman Catholics to receive sacraments in these churches, and one does not fulfill one's obligations by attending their services. Furthermore, the sacraments received would in most instances be invalid. Our Lady of Guadalupe, a chapel in Carson, falls within this category and is not a Roman Catholic Church. If you have reason to doubt the authenticity of any other church calling itself "Catholic", please contact the Archdiocesan Catholic Center at (213) 637-7000 for verification.

PRAYER REQUESTS

- For peace & justice throughout the world especially in the Middle East;
- For respect for life at all its stages and especially for an end to abortion;
- For the reunion of all Christians;
- For priestly and religious vocations among our students and grads;
- For all soldiers especially young people from Gardena and the South Bay;
- For the sick, for those who have died and all loved ones, alumni, and former staff of St. Anthony's Parish and Schools.

Keep them in your Special Prayers

Our brothers and sisters who are ill, especially: Laura Luke, Joshua Ibanez, Joyce Vanderhorst, Shonari Duncan, Cindy Besler, Darius Levi, Evandas Cheesebrough, Nathaniel Chadwick, Monica Chadwick, Robert Braico, Joyce Vanderhorst, Sue Leong Poi, Shanari Duncan, Anthony de la Torre, Michael Doerschel, Cheral Sherman, Miguel Castaneda, Harvey Yuen, Donna Hayden, Dirk Bates, Wyomia Mortise, Oscar Chacon, Irma Dueñas, Dustin Coelho, Wilbur Swint, Herman Valdez, Connie Lozano, Juan Luis Lopez, Sally Tongson, Brian Dinnoo & Family, Hugo Intriago, **And remember those who have recently been called from this life especially:** Vaughn Ritter

Mass Intentions

Monday, December 3

6:30AM Intentions of Alissa Dinnoo
8:00AM +Rosella Chaney+

Tuesday, December 4

6:30AM Our Lady of Guadalupe (Virginia Rios)
8:00AM +Dudley Simmons+

Wednesday, December 5

6:30AM +Marc David Guerreva+
8:00AM +George Brajnikoff+

Thursday, December 6

6:30AM +Father Peter McGee+
8:00AM +Ron Foley+

Friday, December 7

6:30AM +Katherine Grace Pagbilao+
8:00AM +German Peralta+
5:30PM La Nguyen (Birthday)
7:00PM Spanish Mass

Saturday, December 8

8:00AM +Modesto Revellame, Severino Evangelista & Mark Krosch+
12:00PM English Mass
5:30PM +Katherine Grace Pagbilao+
7:00PM Spanish Mass

Sunday, December 9

7:30AM The People of Saint Anthony's Parish
9:00AM Divine Mercy
11:00AM Living and Deceased Members of the I.C.F.
1:00PM All Souls in Purgatory
5:30PM +Frances Faith Indig+

Sunday Hospitality

Sunday, December 2: EDGE

will be selling coffee, donuts, and other food items after masses to raise funds for their program. *Your support is appreciated!*

ROSARY CRUSADE FOR PEACE



The Rosary will be held on Monday, December 3rd at 7pm at the home of Rosemary Haase (24739 Pennsylvania Ave. Lomita). For more information, please call (310) 891-3986.

HAWAIIAN HOLIDAY OPPORTUNITY DRAWING

It's that time again to purchase tickets for this annual St. Anthony of Padua School Fundraiser! Tickets are only \$1.00 each for a chance to win a trip for 2, for 8 days and 7 nights to beautiful Hawaii! Drawing will take place following the school's Christmas Program on 12/13/18. (Winner need not be present). Tickets are on sale in the school office or in the rectory. Many thanks for your support!



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