

Catholic Parishes of St. Anthony and Our Lady of the Hills

December 22, 2019

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Issue No. 166



St. Anthony Catholic Church
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www.stanthonywv.com

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General Directory

Administrator

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Fr. Charles Anemelu

(Priest in Residence)

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Our Lady of the Hills Catholic Church
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www.ourladyofthehills.com

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Office

1000 6th Street, Charleston, WV 25302

Email: secretary@stanthonywv.com Phone: 304-342-2716

Office Hours:

Monday-Tuesday-Thursday-Friday from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm; Closed Wednesday and holidays.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

St Anthony: Saturday 4:45 pm to 5:15 pm or other times by appointment. Our Lady of the Hills by appointment.

Christmas 2019

The Finance Council members, pastoral team and staff of both of our Parishes join me in wishing you every blessing this Christmas—in your homes, your families, your schools and places of work—and throughout the New Year. Mary Mother of God and St. Anthony, pray for us.

Father Tijo George, Administrator

GOOD NEWS OF GREAT JOY

As we celebrate the birth of our Lord, the introduction from Pope Saint John Paul II's Encyclical *Evangelium Vitae* provides a rich source of reflections on God's love for human life, which he created in his image and likeness:

“At the dawn of salvation, it is the birth of a child which is proclaimed as joyful news: ‘I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord’ (Lk. 2:10-11). The source of this ‘great joy’ is the birth of the Savior; but Christmas also reveals the full meaning of every human birth, and the joy which accompanies the birth of the Messiah is thus seen to be the foundation and fulfillment of joy at every child born into the world (cf. Jn. 16:21).”

It is amazing to contemplate that the eternal Son of God became man and experienced every stage and aspect of the human condition, except sin. He was conceived in the Virgin Mary and took the form of a human being, beginning life like every human being—as a single-celled embryo.

According to Scripture, after the Incarnation of our Lord, Mary went in haste to visit her cousin Elizabeth, who was six months pregnant with John the Baptist. Given that it would have taken two to three days for Mary to reach Elizabeth, it's possible that Jesus had not yet implanted in Mary's womb (implantation occurs 5-7 days after conception) when His presence caused John to stir in Elizabeth's womb: “For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the infant in my womb leaped for joy.” (Luke 1:44).

(continued on page 3)

Mass Schedule December 21 — 29

Saturday 12/21: 4th Sunday of Advent	SA Mass 5:30 p.m. People of the Parish
Sunday 12/22: 4th Sunday of Advent	OLH Mass 8:30 a.m. †Dodie Buhl SA Rosary 10:00 a.m.—Mass 10:30 a.m. †Stephen M. Bossie
Monday 12/23:	No Mass
Tuesday 12/24: The Nativity of the Lord	SA Mass 5:30 p.m. People of the Parish OLH Mass 8:00 p.m. †Edward Hacala
Wednesday 12/25: The Nativity of the Lord	SA Mass 10:30 a.m. †Holy Souls in Purgatory (prayer gift)
Thursday 12/26:	SA No Mass
Friday 12/27:	SA No Mass
Saturday 12/28: The Holy Family	SA Mass 5:30 p.m. People of the Parish
Sunday 12/29: The Holy Family	OLH Mass 8:30 a.m. †Katherine Vaughan SA Rosary 10:00 a.m.—Mass 10:30 a.m. †Reparation to Divine Justice (prayer gift)



Safe Environment—The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston is committed to the protection of its children and young people. The Diocese complies with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People* by maintaining an Office of Safe Environment. To report an incidence of suspected child sexual abuse, please contact your local law enforcement agency, or you may confidentially contact the West Virginia Bureau for Children and Families/Child Protective Services by calling the Child Abuse Hotline at 800.352.6513. To report suspected cases of sexual abuse by personnel of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to the Diocese, please contact one of the Bishop's designees at 888.434.6237 (toll free) or 304.233.0880: Sister Ellen Dunn, ext. 264; Mr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Mr. Tim Bishop, ext. 353; Fr. Dennis Schuelkens, ext. 270 or call the Office of Safe Environment at 304.230.1504. For more information on the Diocese's Office of Safe Environment, please go to www.dwc.org, then click the "Diocese" tab, then click "Office of Safe Environment" under the "Offices" menu. To learn more about the Catholic Church's efforts in preventing sexual abuse of children in the United States, please visit <http://www.usccb.org>. Under "Issues and Action," click "Child and Youth Protection" from the drop down menu.

Mass Intentions—If you would like to request a Mass intention, you can fill out a Mass intention envelope at the church or you can create an envelope with the following information: who the Mass intention is for and whether the person is living or deceased, the date you are requesting, your name and a telephone number where you can be reached during the day, and the amount you are offering. You may drop your Mass intention envelope in the collection basket or send it to the office. If the date you request is unavailable, your intention will be scheduled for the next open date available unless you request otherwise.

In accordance with the guidelines from the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, Mass stipends are deposited in a separate checking account. If you are writing a check, please make it payable to **St. Anthony Mass Account**.

The current suggested level of giving is \$20 for a weekend Mass or \$10 for a daily Mass. Any offering, however, is most welcome, and, if you do not have funds to offer, you are encouraged to request your Mass intention.

Prayer List for the Sick & Homebound

St. Anthony—Mary Canterbury, Mary Hanson, David Dodd, Nazira Joseph, Zachariah Kushner, Christina Lopez, Senaida Garcia, Michael McCallister, Maya Clark, Daniel Bishop, Robin Holly, Mike Layne

Our Lady of the Hills—Bert Zodorozny, Margaret Hancock, Violet Edwards, Marilyn Spencer, William Spencer, Katie Caroli, Jeanne Rollins, Steven Spencer, Ann Duley, Jerry A. Legg, John Shamblin, Doug Spencer, Judy Nicholson

Please call Father Tijo George at 304-342-2716, ext. 406 if you would like a visit and to receive communion or a home blessing.

Stewardship Report—December 14 & 15, 2019

St. Anthony

Offering	\$ 2,039.50
Christmas Flowers	85.00
Other	115.51
Attendance Saturday—37	Sunday—67

Our Lady of the Hills

Offering	\$ 1,417.00
Retirement Fund for Religious	270.00
Other	283.00
Attendance Sunday—70	

Thank you for your generosity!

Music for Liturgy

LITURGY



AND MUSIC

Entrance:	Come, Lord! Maranatha (week 4 verses) — #65
Offertory:	My Souls Rejoices — #819
Holy:	Mass of Spirit and Grace — #922
Communion	Christ, Be Our Light — #587
Recessional	People, Look East — #40

LITURGY



AND MUSIC

Lorie's Music Notes

On this last Sunday before we celebrate the birth of Jesus, we light the 4th candle in the Advent Wreath - the Angle Candle, which represents the messengers who announced the birth of Jesus. We will sing the Week 4 verses of "Come, Lord! Maranatha," but the refrain is different this week: *Come now, Emmanuel!*

Bulletin & Mass Announcements—The deadline this week for bulletin announcements is Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. and for Mass announcements is Friday at 9:00 a.m. Thank you!!

St. Anthony Children's Live Nativity



If your children or grandchildren wish to participate in the Children's Live Nativity at the 5:30 pm Mass on Christmas Eve, please see or contact Jennifer Burdette at 304-553-6601.

GOOD NEWS OF GREAT JOY *(Continued from page 1)*

C. S. Lewis provides another source of reflection on the sanctity of all human life in *The Weight of Glory*: "The dullest and most uninteresting person you can talk to may one day be a creature which, if you saw it now, you would be strongly tempted to worship. ... There are no ordinary people. ... Next to the Blessed Sacrament itself, your neighbor is the holiest object presented to your senses."

With these thoughts in mind, I cannot imagine a better way to celebrate the birth of our Lord in a humble stable in Bethlehem, and to celebrate the gift of every human life, than to support a local pregnancy help center or maternity home. These centers do extraordinary work and truly represent the heart of the pro-life movement's goal of making abortion unthinkable.

Another way to make a difference is through our prayers and sacrifices. Taking place in January, 9 Days for Life (www.9daysforlife.com) is an annual period of prayer and action for life. Each day of the novena provides a different intercession, reflection, information item and suggested action. The novena is available in English and Spanish, and can be received in four ways: a free mobile app, text message, email, or social media.

May the good news of the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ bring great joy to all—comforting the afflicted, deepening respect for all human life, and strengthening us to share the Gospel of Life.

THE GENEROSITY OF OUR PARISHIONERS

Fr. Tijo George thanking you for the many beautiful and heartfelt good wishes, cards and thoughtful gifts over the holidays. Even if I cannot contact each parishioner personally, be assured of my gratitude and prayers.

Many thanks to the choir members that add much to our liturgies; the sacristans, the servers, the ushers, the lectors, the Eucharistic Ministers, those who decorated the Church very beautifully, those who donated flowers, and so many who worked with love and devotion to make our church and ceremonies beautiful and prayerful over the holidays. Thanks to your generosity.



St. Anne's Outreach Center

Thursday: 8:30 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

Our Lady of the Hills

Serving families and young expecting single mothers in Big Chimney, Clay, Clendenin, Elkview and Pinch areas.

Children—newborn to 4 yrs.

Visit us or call 304-965-7670

As of December 2019, St. Anne's has served 49 children.

Balance as of 12/31/18 \$ 2,741.00

Contributions Received 2,073.40

Less: Expenses (1,013.91)

Balance as of 11/30/19 \$ 3,800.49

Thank you for your generosity!



Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve 5:30 pm SA

Christmas Eve 8:00 pm OLH

Christmas Day 10:30 am SA



Solemnity of Mary Mass Schedule

New Year's Day 10:30 am SA



St. Anthony—Men's Socks & Gloves

Today is the last day to turn in men's socks and gloves to be donated to the Veterans Center. Please donate only new socks and gloves. There are baskets located in the back of the church for your donation.



St. Anthony Building Fund—There will be a second collection this weekend for the Building Fund.

Catholic Charities West Virginia: December 24 & 25—Support Catholic Charities WV today! Jesus is "Emmanuel—God With Us!" At Catholic Charities, we know that Jesus is present in our outreach centers, food pantries, and education centers. Will you help us serve "Jesus in disguise?" Donate during the second collection at any Christmas Mass or visit www.CatholicCharitiesWV.org. We're waiting in joyful hope: 3 Days Until Christmas!

Weekday Masses for Thursday, December 26, 2019 and Friday, December 27, 2019 are cancelled. The office will be closed Tuesday and Wednesday, December 24 and 25.

Father Tijo George's Vacation

Father Tijo will be leaving on Monday, December 30, 2019, to travel to India for his vacation. He will return on Monday, February 3, 2020. During this time, Father Charles Anemelu will cover the weekend Masses. There will not be any daily Masses. For Sacramental emergencies, please call the office at 304-342-2716. Let us pray for Father Tijo to have a safe and wonderful vacation.



PRAYER TO SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle.

Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the Devil.

May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou,

O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

