

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

December 13, 2020

Third Sunday of Advent

Issue No. 217



St. Anthony Catholic Church
1000 6th Street
Charleston, WV 25302
www.stanthonywv.com

Facebook
www.facebook.com/stanthonywestvirginia

General Directory

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Fr. Charles Anemelu

(Priest in Residence)

Deacon David Wuletich

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Phone: 304-345-9567

Office

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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 by appointment. Our Lady of the Hills by appointment.



Our Lady of the Hills Catholic Church
100 Jackson Drive
Elkview, WV 25071
www.ourladyofthehills.com

Facebook
www.facebook.com/ourladyofthehillswv

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT: GAUDETE (JOYFUL) SUNDAY

“The awareness that in difficulties we can always turn to the Lord, and that he never rejects our invocations, is a great reason for joy. Shout with joy, rejoice, rejoice: this is the invitation of this Sunday. No worries, no fear, will ever take away the serenity that does not come from human things, from human consolations, no, the serenity that comes from God, from knowing that God lovingly guides our life, and always does. It is at the Annunciation, that in a remote village in Galilee, in the heart of a young woman unknown to the world, God ignites the spark of happiness for the whole world. The same message the Angel Gabriel gave to Mary on that day is also addressed to the entire Church, he stated: ‘Rejoice, full of grace, the Lord is with you.’

So, how does one welcome the Lord’s invitation to joy? By asking, like the people who listened to the preaching of John the Baptist: ‘what must we do?’ This question is the first step in the conversion that we are invited to take in this Advent time. Each of us asks ourselves: what should I do? May the Virgin Mary help us to open our hearts to the God who is coming, because he floods our whole life with joy.”

~ Pope Francis

WHAT IS SPECIAL ABOUT THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT?

For much of the Church’s history, this Sunday had a special name: “Gaudete” Sunday. The traditions surrounding this Sunday go back as far as the fourth or fifth century, as does the season of Advent itself. Advent, our preparation for Christmas, was originally a forty-day penitential season like Lent. In fact, since it used to begin on November 12 (just after the Memorial of St. Martin of Tours), it was called “St. Martin’s Lent.” “Gaudete Sunday” was the Advent counterpart to “Laetare Sunday,” which marks the midpoint in Lent.

On Gaudete Sunday, the season of Advent shifts its focus. For the first two weeks of Advent, the focus can be summed up in the phrase, “The Lord is coming.” But beginning with Gaudete Sunday, the summary might be, “The Lord is near.” This shift is marked by a lighter mood and a heightened sense of joyous anticipation. Liturgically, the colors lighten as well. The priest usually wears rose-colored vestments, a hue seen only

(continued on page 4)

Mass Schedule December 12 — 20

| | |
|--|---|
| Saturday 12/12: <small>3rd Sunday of Advent</small> | SA Mass 5:30 p.m. People of the Parish |
| Sunday 12/13: <small>3rd Sunday of Advent</small> | OLH Mass 8:30 a.m. †Holy Souls in Purgatory (prayer gift) SA Mass 10:30 a.m. †Alfred & Ann Romagnoli |
| Wednesday 12/16: | SA Mass 9:00 a.m. |
| Thursday 12/17: | SA Mass 9:00 a.m. †Holy Souls in Purgatory (prayer gift) |
| Friday 12/18: | SA Mass 9:00 a.m. †Reparation to Divine Justice (prayer gift) |
| Saturday 12/19: <small>4th Sunday of Advent</small> | SA Mass 5:30 p.m. †Charles W. Bee |
| Sunday 12/20: <small>4th Sunday of Advent</small> | OLH Mass 8:30 a.m. †Holy Souls in Purgatory (prayer gift) SA Mass 10:30 a.m. People of the Parish |

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!



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—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, Michael McCallister, Maya Clark, Robin Holly, Mike Layne, Michael Bee, William Ashworth, Terrie Rosenfeld, Anna Corbin

Our Lady of the Hills—Bert Zodorozny, Margaret Hancock, Violet Edwards, Marilyn Spencer, William Spencer, Katie Caroli, Jeanne Rollins, Steven Spencer, Doug Spencer, Harry Crede, Doug Rollins, Anna Corbin

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 for December 5 & 6, 2020

St. Anthony

| | |
|----------------|-------------|
| Offering | \$ 2,749.90 |
| Giving Tuesday | 300.00 |
| Other | 337.80 |

Attendance Saturday—14 Sunday—43

Our Lady of the Hills

| | |
|----------|-------------|
| Offering | \$ 1,124.50 |
| LERMA | 240.00 |
| Other | 360.00 |

Attendance Sunday—32

Thank you for your generosity! Please remember to continue to support your parish during this difficult time. May God bless you!

Healing Prayers Offered for Covid-19 Victims



If you have a family member/friend who has been infected by the Coronavirus, Fr. Tijo would like to pray for the infected person during the private daily Masses and Sunday Masses. A votive candle will also be lit for his/her healing. Please call the parish office or Fr. Tijo to have their names included in his prayers and a votive candle lit.



“Praying and loving, that is what it means to be watchful. When the Church worships God and serves our neighbor, it does not live in the night. However weak and weary, she journeys towards the Lord. Let us now call out to him. Come, Lord Jesus, we need you!”

~Pope Francis tweet on 11/29/20

Music for Liturgy

LITURGY



AND MUSIC

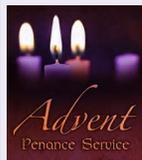
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|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| Entrance: | The Advent of Our King — #57 |
| Offertory: | My Soul Rejoices — #824 |
| Holy: | Mass of Healing |
| Communion: | Taste and See — #331 |
| Recessional: | O Come, O Come, Emmanuel — #38 |

LITURGY



AND MUSIC

Communal Penance Services



Our Lady of the Hills

Thursday, December 17

Mass 6:00 p.m.

Reconciliation 6:30 p.m.

St. Anthony

Friday, December 18

Reconciliation 6:00 p.m.



Christmas Mass Schedule



| | | |
|---------------|------------|-------|
| Christmas Eve | 5:30 p.m. | SA |
| Christmas Eve | 8:00 p.m. | OLH * |
| Christmas Eve | 10:30 p.m. | SA |
| Christmas Day | 10:30 a.m. | SA |

***OLH Reservation Required**—Contact Chuck Stodola by email: charlesstodola@msn.com or phone: 304-343-0631. You must leave your name, number attending, and if those attending can sit together.

Solemnity of Mary Mass Schedule



| | | |
|----------------|-----------|-----|
| New Year's Eve | 5:30 p.m. | SA |
| New Year's Day | 9:00 a.m. | OLH |

Happy Birthday, Father!

Father Tijo George is celebrating his birthday on Tuesday, December 15, 2020. Let us wish him God's blessings on his special day.



St. Anthony: Men's Socks & Gloves



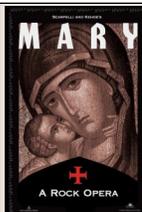
We are now collecting **men's socks and gloves** to be donated to the Veterans Center. Please donate only **new** socks and gloves. There are baskets located in the back of the church for your donation.



Parish Christmas Presents & 2021 Catholic Calendars—For Christmas, Father Tijo George invites each Parish Family to pick up “Remember When!,” a book written by Jeremiah Gagnon, an Our Lady of the Hills parishioner. Also, our 2021 Catholic calendars are now available. At St. Anthony, the books and calendars are located at the back of the church. At Our Lady of the Hills, the books and calendars are located in the gathering space. **Please only take one book and calendar per family.**

Retirement Fund for Religious: December 12 & 13—**Make a difference.** “Every dollar makes a difference in covering our expenses,” says a Trappist abbot. Hundreds of US religious communities struggle to provide for aging members because most senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests served for little pay. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps these communities bridge the gap, offering support for medications, nursing care, and other necessities. Please be generous.

Catholic Charities West Virginia: December 24 & 25—**Support Catholic Charities West Virginia today!** Our readings remind us of our baptism, where we joined the body of Christ and began our mission of love. At Catholic Charities West Virginia, we love our neighbors through caring and compassionate services to people in need, supporting them as they make meaningful change. **Will you help us?** Donate at www.CatholicCharitiesWV.org, mail in a donation (2000 Main Street, Wheeling, WV 26003), text ‘Christmas’ to 304-245-6600 or donate during any Christmas Mass (please make checks donated at Mass payable to your parish). We’re waiting in joyful hope: 12 Days Until Christmas!



“Mary: A Rock Opera”

Mark Scarpelli and Dan Kehde's “Mary: A Rock Opera” follows the life of Mary, mother of Jesus, during the final 9 months before the birth of Christ. Because of COVID-19, they are unable to mount the usual production in 2020, but the Contemporary Youth Arts Company is keeping the tradition alive with a film adaptation that was shot under strict COVID protocols. To view the Mary video, please visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HSeIWjEJ3t8>.

WHAT IS SPECIAL ABOUT THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT? *(continued from page 1)*

on Gaudete Sunday and Laetare Sunday. On this day, we light the third candle of the Advent wreath, which is also rose-colored, or if you prefer, pink.

The word “Gaudete” is Latin for “Rejoice.” In times when the focus of our anticipation is often on the negative and fearful, this celebration is a reminder that God who loves us is still in charge and that we await his coming not with fear, but with tremendous joy.

AN ADVENT PRAYER

“Hope, O my soul, hope. You know neither the day nor the hour. Watch carefully, for everything passes quickly, even though your impatience makes doubtful what is certain, and turns a very short time into a long one. Dream that the more you struggle, the more you prove the love that you bear your God, and the more you will rejoice one day with your Beloved, in a happiness and rapture that can never end.”

(St. Teresa of Avila, ☩ 1582)

Why Are Votive Candles Used?

These are referred to as votive candles, and people purchase and light them to symbolize their prayers or devotion. The candle continues to burn for some hours or days (depending on the size) and thus signals the prayer and love of the person who lit it, long after they must go.

Biblically, the root of this practice is the notion of a “burnt offering.” In the Old Testament, things of value (usually sacrificed animals) would be burned and thereby offered to God. The smoke was a symbol of the sacrifice of praise ascending to God.

Catholics who light candles are making an offering to God of prayer and praise. The fire of the candle symbolizes ardent love.

The consuming of the candle symbolizes the oblation (offering) of something of value to God: our time, our praise, our resources and so forth. The lingering quality of the candle symbolizes the fact that our prayers, praise, and concerns continue in our heart even when we must leave the church. The flickering light also seems to say, “Remember me, Lord, remember my prayer and those for whom I pray.”

Electric votive candles do not as clearly show these symbols, but the idea is still the same.

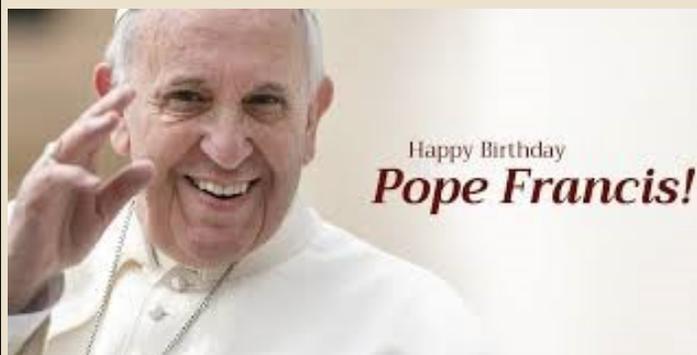
~ Msgr. Charles E. Pope

Breaking Bread 2021 Missals

Each family is invited to pick up a Breaking Bread 2021 Missal as your personal missal for your family to use at Mass. Please write your name on the cover. **Due to COVID-19, do not leave your personal missal in the church.** You are to carry the missal back and forth to Mass each week.



Pope Francis's Birthday
On Thursday, December 17,
Pope Francis
celebrates his 84th birthday!



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.

