

# St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church

WELCOMING ALL PEOPLE TO WORSHIP GOD IN THE GENIUS OF AFRICAN AMERICAN CATHOLIC SPIRITUALITY

April 6, 2025



# FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

309 Gower Street Greenville, South Carolina 29611 Parish Office: 864-233-7717 www.stanthonysgvl.org

# **PARISH ORGANIZATIONS & MINISTRY DIRECTORY**

Fr. Emerson Rodriguez Delgado **Pastoral Administrator** erodriguez@charlestondiocese.org

Permanent Deacons Deacon Steve Olson Deacon Dexter Gourdin Deacon Phil Allen Deacon Winston Wright (Retired) Deacon Anthony Cassandra (Retired)

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864-201-2204
sapfamilies@gmail.com
ruth@robertson.is

# **PARISH INFORMATION**

### WELCOME TO ST. ANTHONY'S!

We welcome all new members and visitors to our parish. Please email Kyle Hall at

### kyle.hall@charlestondiocese.org. to register, or

you can also register online - scan the QR code below by opening your camera app



#### MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Evening: 5 PM Sunday: 8 AM, 10 AM and 12 PM (Noon)

### HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION MASS

11 AM & 6 PM

#### WEEKDAY MASS

Tuesday - Friday: 11 AM

#### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Wednesday: 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM Saturday: 4:00 - 4:45 PM Or by Appointment

#### HEARING ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

Please see an Usher before Mass

#### PARISH OFFICE

Physical Location: 204 Douthit St. Monday thru Thursday 9 AM - 4 PM Friday 9 AM - 12 PM Phone: (864) 233-7717 Website: www.stanthonysgvl.org

#### ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Phone: (864) 271-0167 Website: www.stanthonyschoolgvl.org

#### CHILD PROTECTION SERVICES

Diocesan Office: (843) 261-0430

#### **DO YOU NEED HELP?**

Financial Assistance: (864) 233-7717 ext. 0 Catholic Charities: (864) 331-2626

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

#### SATURDAY, 4/5

• 5 pm Norma Gonzalez 🚹

#### SUNDAY, 4/6

- 8 AM
- 10 AM
- 12 PM Cindy Smithers

#### TUESDAY, 4/8

• 11 AM

#### WEDNESDAY 4/9

• 11 AM

#### THURSDAY, 4/10

• 11 AM Billy Smithers

#### FRIDAY, 4/11

• 11 AM

#### SATURDAY, 4/12

• 5 PM Gina Jackson 🚹

#### **SUNDAY**, 4/13

- 8 AM
- 10 AM
- 12 PM

It is a wonderful Catholic tradition to request a Mass Intention for loved ones; living or deceased. In fact, asking for Mass intention for the deceased is not only Catholic tradition, it is biblical (2 Maccabees 12: 38-46).

Mass intention is also a wonderful gift for any special occasion: birthday, anniversary, in thanksgiving for a prayer answered, etc. Mass intention donations are \$10 each.

Please call the parish office to schedule a Mass Intention.

## **TOGETHER WE PRAY FOR** Individuals

Alice Rigler Ann Fournier Ann Moore Ann Nechodom Annette Martin Anthony Davis Bill Higgins Clarice Hanly Charlene Palmer Chester Williams David Burnett Dee Dee Dzikowicz Donna Neeley Donna Nickels Dorothy Baker Drew Butterfield

Lori McGinley Ellaniose Johnson Malik McCaulev Margaret Morris Marie Therese Isdiore Marilyn Daly Martha Cotel Mary Cormican Mary Curran Matthew Bryson Maureen Lukovic Megan Counihan Mary Ann Turner Melvin Armstrong Michael Davis Olivia Brown Rhonda Brown Richard Cortese

#### **Families**

Karen Randall & Family Scott Cely Family Michael & Ruth Walters Tessa & George Skoniecki Deacon Richard Murtaugh

Our Sick & Shut-Ins Clenty Fair

Nicole Campbell Little

## **HELP FOR THOSE IN NEED**

Dana Lacher

Duhe Family

If you are sick at home or in the hospital, have a member of your family notify the parish if you are not able to notify us yourself. We care about you and want to help you when you need help from your church family. If there is someone you would like to be added on the prayer list OR removed, please contact the Parish Office: 864-233-7717 ext 2. Thank you!

Ruth Henderson Richard Palmer Sabrina Walker Sammy Huguet Sandra McNaughton Sharon Bryant Sharon Patton Sherri Hoffman Stephan Pleasant Steve Miller Stuart MacNaughton Tara Cleary Thelma Williams Tom James Tyler Korybski Wilbert Morgan Willie Davis

> Deacon Steve & Susan Olson Deacon Winston Wright Juan & Christina Francisco

Billy Mayes Ronnie Glenn Gregory Kuhn Hazel Hill Jen Duhe Jonathan Turner Joseph Neito Joyce Croce Julius Pinson Jr. Laura Drummond

Elaine Greggs

Eric Kuhn

Erica Hardy

Laurie Rappl

Lillie Davis Lori Cortese

Barb & Vern Prinzing Catherine & Michael Branca Doug, Debbie, & Barbara DeLeu

# **PARISH REGISTRATION & SACRAMENTS**

## **ACTIVE PARISHONER**

- Weekly attendance at Sunday Mass and on Holy Days of Obligation.
- Volunteer on regular basis (Time)
- Active involvement in a parish ministry/organization (**Talent**)
- Weekly or monthly use of parish envelopes or online giving (**Treasure**)

## PARISH REGISTRATION AND SACRAMENTS

Those seeking to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, First Holy Communion, Confirmation, and Matrimony **must be registered members** for <u>at least six months</u> prior to reception of these Sacraments. You must be a registered member of the parish to ask for Godparent or Sponsor's form of eligibility. **To register, please email Kyle Hall at kyle.hall@charlestondiocese.org**, or you can also <u>register</u> <u>online</u> - scan the QR code below by opening your camera app.



#### Infant Baptism Class for Parents

Parents must be registered and active member of St. Anthony's. Class is offered on the third Thursday of every month. Pre- registration is required. Please call the office to pre-register. Baptisms are not celebrated during the Season of Lent.

#### **First Holy Communion**

Preparation begins in the first grade and continues into second grade for a total of two years of preparation. Registration for Religious Education classes takes place in August. The first day of class is the third or fourth week in August.

#### Confirmation

Preparation begins in the eighth grade and continues into ninth grade for a total of two years of preparation. Registration for Religious Education classes takes place in August. The first day of class is the third or fourth week of August. Adults who have not been confirmed and would like to receive the Sacrament are asked to contact the parish office.

#### Marriage

You must be registered and active member at least six months prior to preparation of the Sacrament. Couples should call the parish office and speak to the priest/ Deacon for pre-nuptial inquiries. Then the couple will begin formal marriage preparations at least six months prior to the wedding date.

#### Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA)

This is a process through which non-baptized adults known as catechumens or baptized adults who wish to convert from other faith traditions enter in communion with the Catholic Church. Classes begins in September. If you wish to become a Catholic, please call the parish office.

## **BULLETIN CONTENT SUBMISSION**

Anyone parish group/organization wishing to submit items for publishing in the weekly bulletin should send the content to **Daffodil Behal** (sapgvlcomms@gmail.com) by end of day **Tuesday** for the coming weekend's bulletin. Submissions after the deadline will be included in the Sunday email.

# **STEWARDSHIP**

Stewardship is not only about the needs of church, rather it is about our desires to give back to God in thanksgiving; by sharing with others the blessings the Lord has bestowed on us. If you would be interested in joining our Stewardship Committee, **please contact Jay Pitts at 864-233-7717 ext. 4**.

# WEEKLY OFFERTORY PARTICIPATION Collections for March 29-30 Masses

Envelopes/Cash	\$15,620.50
Online Giving	\$12,949.80
Total	\$28,570.30

**<u>Giving Online</u>** makes it easier and more convenient to contribute to St. Anthony's Church. Scan the QR code to the right by opening your camera app to start giving online.



The true spirit of Stewardship is "Equal Sacrifice and not Equal Giving."

# **SPIRITUAL LIFE**

#### FROM THE DESK OF OUR PASTORAL ADMINISTRATOR

Fr. Emerson Rodriguez Delgado

This Sunday, we encounter a scene so dramatic it could easily go viral today: a woman caught in adultery is dragged before Jesus by an angry mob. Picture the chaos: shouting, accusations, a trembling woman engulfed in fear and shame, surrounded by faces filled with judgment and hands ready to cast stones. Phones would be out recording, the comments section already exploding. Sound familiar?

But this moment isn't about justice—it's a trap. The mob isn't interested in the law. They are using her as bait to corner Jesus. Will He enforce the Mosaic law, which demands her execution, or will he reject it and undermine His authority?

In the heat of this tension, Jesus performs an act of unexpected wisdom. He bends down and writes in the dust. Can you imagine the confused looks? The awkward silence? Then He speaks, "Let anyone among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." What must have gone through their minds at that moment? Did they reflect on their own failures? Their hypocrisy? Jesus shifts the spotlight from the woman to the consciences of her accusers. It's as if Jesus handed them mirrors and said, "Take a good, long look at yourself." One by one, they walk away. As St. Augustine put it best: "There remained only two: mercy and misery."

But here's what makes this moment even more powerful: Jesus doesn't just defend the woman. He doesn't reduce her to her worst mistake or allow her be a pawn in someone else's agenda. He speaks directly to her: "Neither do I condemn you. Go, and sin no more." This isn't a dismissal of sin; it's an invitation to renewal. Jesus acknowledges her sin but refuses to let it define her. Isn't that what we all long for? To be seen as more than our failures? To be forgiven? And to be given a chance to start anew?

This Gospel doesn't just tell a story; it holds up a mirror. How often do we, like the mob, pick up stones of judgment? Our words, our actions, our tweets, our "likes" or even our silence – how often de we use them to condemn? Social media has become an arena for public shaming and condemnation, often without a shred of mercy. How often do we participate – liking, sharing, commenting? How might we be contributing to a culture of blame rather than one of compassion?

But wait, there's more. This story exposes something even deeper: systemic sin. Where is the man in this "adultery situation"? It takes two to tango, right? The law demanded punishment for both (Lev 20:10), but the man is conveniently absent. This hypocrisy reflects systems of injustice and inequality existed then, and they persist now. Sound familiar? Double standards, unequal treatment, and dehumanization still plague our society.

This Gospel challenges us to ask: How are we complicit in systems or attitudes, that deny the dignity of others? And yet, here is the good news: Jesus' mercy isn't reserved for the woman alone. It's offered to her accusers, too. Jesus sees beyond our failures and offers us a way forward. Mercy isn't just a gift; it's a call to transformation. It calls us to drop our stones—those of judgment, resentment, self-righteousness—and instead, pick up humility, mercy, and forgiveness.

As Pope Francis reminds us in Fratelli Tutti, forgiveness does not only absolve individual wrongs but also dismantles systemic injustice. To forgive is to humanize. It restores dignity. It heals both the oppressed and the oppressor.

So, this Lent, let's take Jesus' challenge seriously. Let us strive to be people who listen more, judge less, and practice radical mercy. Let's be a community of St. Anthony that treats every person – regardless of gender, race, politics, or status as a child of God. Mercy transforms. Mercy unites. Judgment divides. Forgiveness heals. And, love? Oh, love changes everything.

Jesus calls us to a higher standard, my friends, He is saying: "Drop your stones and build something better than a cancel culture – build a culture of mercy." Let's create a world where every person is valued, forgiven, an given a chance to start anew. May His mercy inspire us to be agents of love, justice, and peace. Drop the stone. Amen.

#### PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

The men and women who serve in the armed forces do so with a sacrificial love for our country and the world. Lifting them up in prayer to our Lord must be our humble, and yet great support for them.

Lord, may your love encircle our military as they work across the world to install justice and peace for all. And be their hope through the difficulties and stress they face each day.



**STATIONS OF THE CROSS** Fridays during Lent at 6:00 PM inside the Church

# **PARISH REMINDER**



## Italian Night Dinner

Please join us on Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup> after the 5 PM Mass for Italian Dinner Night in the Social Hall. We look forward to seeing you there!

# And Because He Lives

A Play for St. Anthony of Padua -Directed by Stan Greggs

Please join us on Palm Sunday, **April 13<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM** in the Church for And Because He Lives play focusing on Jesus' miracles.

### WALK TO JERUSALEM

Please drop off the total number of steps you have taken each week in the lobby - we have a box located outside the Multipurpose Room. We will also be walking in the School Gym after each Mass. We greatly appreciate your participation! **For questions, please** call Mary McNicholas: 864-630-1081

# FORMATION

## **CCD Palm Sunday Passion Play**

Our children who participate in Religious Education/CCD will be **participating in the Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ at the 12:00 PM Mass in the Church on Palm Sunday.** Please join us for this very special reading of the Gospel during Mass.

## **VBS Volunteer Meeting**

For those that have signed up to volunteer for our Vacation Bible School this summer, please join us on Wednesday, April 9<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 PM in Classroom D for our meeting. Thank you!

# **Church Office Volunteer Meeting**

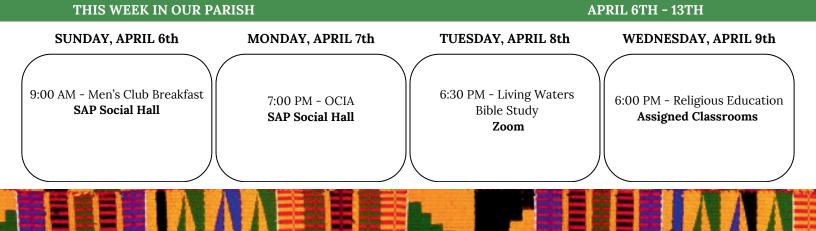
If you have recently signed up to be a volunteer in the Church Office, please attend the **volunteer meeting on Thursday, April 10 at 6pm in the Social Hall**. If you have any questions, please contact Kyle Hall at <u>kyle.hall@charlestondiocese.org</u>or call 864-233-7717 ext. 2.

# Homebound Ministry Update

The Homebound Ministry is in need of additional Homebound Eucharistic Ministers. Homebound Eucharistic Ministers are responsible for taking the Eucharist to parishioners who are unable to attend Mass because of health-related issues. If anyone is interested in becoming a Homebound Eucharistic Minister, please contact Stephanie Rosso at 864-640-5071.

# Join us for our last Fish Fry on April 11th from 5-7 PM! ANNUAL FISH FRY!!!





# **MINISTRY LIFE**



# St Anthony of Padua Summer Retreat July 18-20, 2025

Time for fellowship, growth, and reflection in the beautiful, serene setting of central North Carolina. All parishioners, age 21 and over, are welcome! Guest of parishioners are also welcome. More details to come!



TRAVELING CARDS

**Sunday, April 27th at 2:00 PM in the Social Hall** If you like playing Spades this is for YOU.....

> All are welcome over age of 18 FUN, Food, Fellowship and PRIZES

The traveling cards event will support both ministries. The needs are postal stamps and yarn, especially white for baptism blankets.

Donation: \$7.00 For more info contact: Dee Martinez at 864-201-2204



**10TH ANNUAL** 

2025 KING LEGACY HBCU COLLEGE FAIR

SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 2025 2PM - 5PM FLUOR FIELD

#### APRIL 6TH - 13TH **THURSDAY, APRIL 10th** FRIDAY, APRIL 11th SATURDAY, APRIL 12th SUNDAY, APRIL 13th Palm Sunday 10:00 AM - Pickleball 5:00 PM - Last Fish Fry 9:15 AM Women's Bible Study School Gym **SAP Social Hall** 1:00 PM - Youth Ministry Meeting **SAP Social Hall** Social Hall 6:00 PM - Stations of the Cross 6:00 PM - Italian Night Dinner 5:00 PM - Easter Cantana Play Church Social Hall Direted by Stan Greggs Church

# **NEWS FROM OUR SCHOOL**



Congratulations to our 5th grader, Aiden, for **winning the state's free throw contest sponsored by the Knights of Columbus**!

# **Registration is Open**

Are you looking for a school for your child next year?

Is your child elementary school age?

Look no further than your very own parish school

Open Enrollment is active at St. Anthony's for the 2025-2026 school year

https://www.stanthonyschoolgvl.org

https://admissions-parent.renweb.com/home?districtCode=STA-SC&memberId=4363&path=%2Foa%2Findex.cfm

You can go to our school website for more information on the application process and fill out the application on the FACTS portal.

If you have any questions during this process please contact the school at 864-271-0167 or you can reach out to someone on the advancement and enrollment committee

### Scan QR code to apply on the FACTS portal



## **STEM Day Highlights** On March 31, St. Anthony's hosted STEM Day, an event aimed at

On March 31, St. Anthony's hosted STEM Day, an event aimed at sparking curiosity and fostering engagement in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics among students. The day featured interactive, hands-on activities and engaging demonstrations, providing participants with an enriching and educational experience.



### A and A/B Honor Roll Ceremony Held on March 31, the A and A/B Honor Roll Ceremony celebrated the exceptional

Held on March 31, the Å and A/B Honor Roll Ceremony celebrated the exceptional academic achievements of students from the third quarter, spanning grades First through Fifth. The ceremony also recognized outstanding contributions through the Student of the Quarter award and the Perfect Attendance awards.



## St. Anthony of Padua Catholic School Advisory Council Member Application

#### Dear Parishioners

With gratitude,

Deacon Dexter Gourdin

Your voice matters. The St. Anthony of Padua School Advisory Council is seeking dedicated parishioners to help shape the future of our school. By joining the council, you will have the unique opportunity to play a pivotal role in fostering a thriving environment where students grow in faith, excel academically, and serve with purpose.

As a School Advisory council member, your insights and expertise will directly influence decisions that guide our school's mission. This is more than just an opportunity to serve—it's a chance to make a lasting impact on the lives of students, the strength of our parish community, and the next generation of leaders.

We believe that each parishioner brings unique talents and perspectives. Your voice and experience could be the key to driving meaningful change. If you are passionate about shaping the future of our school, we warmly invite you to apply.

Please submit your application (scan the QR code below) to Deacon Dexter Gourdin, St. Anthony of Padua School Advisory Council President, via email at <u>dddmm22@gmail.com</u> by April 15, 2025. Together, we can build a brighter and stronger future for our students and community.

Thank you for considering this important calling.

President of St. Anthony of Padua School Advisory Council

