



Saint Anthony Church

15 Church Street

White River Jct. Vermont 05001

Second Sunday of Advent – December 6, 2020

Father Charles R. Danielson, Pastor

Deacon John P. Guarino

Bishop of Burlington: Most Rev. Christopher J. Coyne

Parish Office

Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
11:00 AM – 4:30 PM
Closed on Wednesday

Secretary: Ms. Joanne Collins
Telephone: 802-295-2225, ext. 3
E-mail: stanthonychurch@vermontcatholic.org
Website: <https://stanthony.vermontcatholic.org>

Mass Schedule

Weekend: Saturday 4:00 PM
Sunday 8:30 AM

Weekday: Monday & Friday 9:00 AM

Holy Days: Consult the parish bulletin

Rectory Chapel

Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Religious Education

Coordinator: Mrs. Julie Hamilton, 295-3989, juliehamilton130@comcast.net

Sacraments

Reconciliation: By appointment only. Please call Father Danielson to schedule.

Baptism: Parents must contact the rectory to get the necessary forms at least one month in advance.

Marriage: Couples must contact the parish at least six months in advance.

Mass Intentions

Bishop Christopher J. Coyne reminds us that the obligation to attend Sunday Mass remains lifted until further notice. We join Bishop Coyne in asking those with a cough or fever of any sort and anyone feeling sick to not come to the church for a visit or to attend liturgy. Those who are at a higher risk from COVID-19 or those caring for the sick are asked to stay home.

Saturday, December 5 4:00 P.M. Gene Dyke by Tim & Nancy Dyke
Sunday, December 6 8:30 A.M. The People of Saint Anthony Parish

Immaculate Conception No Daily Mass
Monday, December 7 5:00 P.M. Gene Dyke by Tim & Nancy Dyke

Friday, December 11 9:00 A.M. Marilyn Holm by Knights of Columbus, Michaud Council 2025

Saturday, December 12 4:00 P.M. Christian and Keanan Thompson by Chris Thompson
Sunday, December 13 8:30 A.M. The People of Saint Anthony Parish



Catherine McKenney
Frank Klymn
Richard Avicolli
John Patterson

Please also remember others who are in need of our prayers.

Names will be published in our bulletin for one month. If you would like to renew your prayer request after one month, please contact the parish office.

Sanctuary Lamps
will burn for:

"Aunt" Maggie Scelza
& Ernie C. Gour



Sacrificial Giving Report

To meet our expenses we need:	\$ 3,700.00
Offertory collection Nov. 21-22:	\$ 3,599.00
Offertory collection Nov. 28-29:	\$ 3,844.00
Human Development:	\$ 665.00

**Thank You for Your Support
of Saint Anthony Church!**

Bless You: Saint Anthony Parish thanks those of you who have continued to mail their donations and offertory envelopes. We *truly appreciate your support* during this difficult time. Although we are trying our best to minimize expenses, we still have bills to pay. We understand that many of you, *our people*, are experiencing financial hardship, and we pray for you. Through prayer and trust in the Lord, we will get through this together.

Confessions: Due to the confined space of the confessional at St. Anthony Church, the Sacrament of Reconciliation continues to be offered by appointment only. Please call Fr. Rick to make an appointment.

*We pray for one another and for all who are being impacted
in any way by the Covid-19 pandemic.*

Message from Fr. Rick:

Second Sunday of Advent

= December 6, 2020 =

“O come, O come Emmanuel!”

Perhaps no emotion expresses the very spirit of this blessed Season of Advent more than “Yearning, longing” “Waiting.”

The Gospel for this Second Sunday of Advent introduces us to the figure of St. John the Baptist a startling, even bizarre figure not only because of his clothing and his diet but even more so for his message: “Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his path” The crowds who flocked to see and hear this man and to receive Baptism at his hands are drawn to hear him. Why?

Not just for his appearance but certainly for his message compelling, urgent they too must have felt it, this yearning this longing For what? For who?

For fulfillment.

For this curious figure offered a promise, a promise Israel had longed for for a very long time and now it was so very near indeed right at hand even if unrecognized until John pointed Him out.

“Behold, the Lamb of God ... !”

As we move into these uncertain winter months, I want you to know that we at Saint Anthony are here for you. We miss you. We invite you to come back to Mass if you have been away, even if it is one of our weekday Masses with fewer people present. I am also available to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation or the Anointing of the Sick. For Catholics, the Sacraments are instituted by Christ to give us grace. Pope Francis reminds us that Communion is not a reward for good behavior but medicine for the sick. We all need Christ’s help during these difficult times. Take time out each day for your own prayer. Pray as a family before meals. Watch Mass online or on TV if you don’t feel safe coming to Mass, and join in the online offerings that our parish and diocese offer. I am here for you and pray daily for you. This is my duty and blessing for me as a parish priest.

God bless,

Fr. Rick

Immaculate Conception of Mary: There will be no daily Mass on Monday at 9:00 a.m.. The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a holy day will be celebrated Monday, December 7 at 5:00 p.m.

Notice: A fraudulent e-mail purportedly from Rev. Charles R. Danielson has been circulating requesting urgent purchase of an item. Be assured that Fr. Rick would **never** contact you in this manner. You should DELETE any such email. If you have a question as to the legitimacy of any request from father, please call Fr. Rick or the rectory to check with us. Thank you.

Christmas Masses: The corona virus has affected all of us in many ways, including the way we attend Mass. Steps have been taken to insure our collective safety in accordance with the state and diocese requirements. That is, wearing masks, maintaining six foot distances, and hand sanitization.

Of great concern is how we will be able to maintain these safety measures for Christmas Masses when we typically have many more people attending. We struggled with this dilemma for several weeks wanting to be compassionate yet maintaining the safety of all. We decided the best way of resolving this is to have a reservation system, attendance by ticket only, with reserved seating. This applies to both the 4:00 Christmas Eve and 8:30 Christmas Day Masses.

After Mass today, downstairs in the church hall, there are two tables where you can sign up for Christmas Eve or Christmas Day Mass. As you enter the hall the sign up table on the left is for the pews to the left as you enter the church; the table on the right is for the pews to the right as you enter the church. While in line please wear your masks and maintain six feet distance. Seats are offered on a first come, first served basis, and will be assigned based on number of people in a group to maximize the amount of people who can attend Mass. We will ask for the name and contact information of each person, and a ticket with the seat location will be provided for each person. **Please be sure you bring your tickets to Christmas Mass as they will be required for admission.** Based on seat availability we will repeat this process after Mass next weekend. We all appreciate your understanding and cooperation as we strive to stay safe in these challenging times.



Christmas Flowers: Envelopes for Christmas flowers are available on the table as you leave the church. If you wish to make a donation in memory of a loved one, please complete an envelope and drop it into the basket as you leave the church or mail to the parish office. Our Christmas Masses will be offered for those in whose memory Christmas flower donations have been made.

Please Do Your Part: We are doing our best to keep conditions in the church safe for all who attend. Please sit *only* where pew seats are marked. If someone else is in that row and a six-foot distance cannot be maintained, ***please look for another seat.*** We appreciate everyone's cooperation.

Bishop's Annual Appeal: As of November 25th Saint Anthony Parish has reached 53% of our BAA pledge goal of \$36,876. with donations totaling \$19,592. We are grateful to those who have been able to participate. Read more at <https://www.vermontcatholic.org/donate/bishops-annual-appeal/gift-at-work/>.

Second Collection: Next weekend, December 12-13 we will accept contributions to the Retirement Fund for Religious. In good times and bad, senior Catholic sisters, brothers and religious order priests have dedicated themselves to service and acts of mercy. Today they pray for an aching world. Years of serving for little or no pay have left their religious communities without ample retirement savings. Your gift to this collection helps provide medications, nursing care and other necessities. Offerings for this national second collection may be mailed to the parish office or dropped into the basket as you leave the church. ***Please make checks payable to St. Anthony Church.***

Weekly Bulletin: Our bulletin is on our website <https://stanthony.vermontcatholic.org>. For those who do not have web access, or who prefer a printed version, you may pick up a bulletin outside the parish office in a plastic container on the small porch near the office door. Also in the box, we have *The Magnificat Advent Companion* and *Living Faith* booklets. Bring one to a friend or neighbor if you know someone who would like it. The box is being sanitized, and is replenished as needed.

Christ Our Hope: Building a Vibrant Church Campaign: During the season of Thanksgiving, we often take time to reflect on our many blessings. With the *Christ Our Hope* campaign, we are especially grateful for those who have given their time and talents to help. At Saint Anthony Parish, we would especially like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all who have contributed.

As of November 25, Saint Anthony Parish has reached 9% of our 3-year COH pledge goal with donations totaling \$22,787. Find out more at <https://christourhopevt.org>. Please return your completed pledge form or go online to christourhopevt.org/donate to make your gift. Watch Bishop Coyne's brief new video on the campaign by visiting <https://vimeo.com/vermontcatholic>.

Catholic Mass on TV: The obligation to attend Sunday Mass remains suspended, especially for those in a high-risk category. We encourage you to view celebration of Sunday Mass at 10:00 a.m., livestreamed on our website, or watch the following:

Sunday mornings at 6:00 a.m. on WCAX-TV, channel 3; **Sunday** mornings at 10:00 a.m. on WNNE-TV, channel 13 (or consult your local listings.)

Televised Masses may be found on The CatholicTV Network, cable channel 166 (or consult your local listings) **Sunday** at 10 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 7 p.m. and 11:30 p.m. Daily Mass is Monday through Friday at 9:30 a.m., with rebroadcasts at 7 and 11:30 p.m.

Televised Masses may also be found on EWTN, channel 38 (or consult local listings) **Sunday** 8:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon. Daily Mass is Monday through Saturday at 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Prayer for Making a Spiritual Communion: My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most holy Eucharist. I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

Haven: The Haven's Food Shelf is open to anyone in our community. Shop via curbside pick-up for a week's worth of groceries, once a month, for anyone. Visit uppervalleyhaven.org/foodshelffaq/ for more information. Curbside pick-up is available Monday-Friday 9 - 3 and Sunday 12-3 p.m.

Saint Anthony Parish has long supported the Haven by collecting food in the basket at the entrance of the church before and after Masses. ***We remain temporarily unable to continue collecting food or supplies for the Haven at the church.*** Please bring your donations directly to the Haven.

The **Most Needed Food Shelf Items** this week include pasta sauce, soup, canned fruit, sliced bread, peanut butter and pasta. Thank you!

We pray that you and your family stay safe and healthy.

We are happy to welcome you back to worship at Saint Anthony Church.

NEWS FROM The Inland See

December 5-11, 2020

FOR THE DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON

Update on *Christ Our Hope:* Building a Vibrant Church

The Christ Our Hope: Building a Vibrant Church campaign Virtual Giving Challenge Nov. 21-22 was a big success! We received 79 gifts/pledges totaling \$131,641 in two days. Thanks to matching gifts from Bishop Christopher Coyne and an anonymous donor, the 35 parishes listed in the sidebar will receive a \$1,000 match towards their goal.

We already have been blessed with the generosity of many, and we share our gratitude on behalf of the parishes, who benefit the most from this campaign.

There are 83 churches engaged in this campaign with goals ranging from increasing parish ministries that serve the poor, to capital needs to make the parish more welcoming and accessible (such as a handicap ramp or paving the parking lot) to supporting evangelization and religious education. Every parish is stepping up to make the campaign a success. None of this would be possible without the efforts of the parish campaign volunteers and the leadership of our pastors. To view your parish's progress visit: www.christourhopevt.org/parish.

As we approach the end of the year, we also ask that you prayerfully consider making a Bishop's Annual Appeal gift. Due to the pandemic, we are only at 76 percent of our goal, and the annual appeal supports many of our essential

ministries, including emergency aid to the poor, Catholic schools and religious education, vocations, Vermont Catholic magazine, lay and youth ministries and so much more.

When the pandemic closed our churches, the donations to the Bishop's Appeal allowed us to keep our vital ministries going in new and creative ways. We increased our communication by livestreaming almost 200 faith-engagement activities including weekly and Sunday Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, daily rosary, daily scripture reflections and many other faith-engagement opportunities. We continued to provide emergency aid to families — many impacted by Covid-19 — moved our Catholic education online and guided our parishes to safely open for the public celebration of the Mass when the stay-home-order was lifted.

To make a gift to the Bishop's Annual Appeal or Christ Our Hope campaign, visit: www.vermontcatholic.org/donate

As we prepare ourselves for the birth of our savior, let us rejoice: *Thanks be to God for His inexpressible gift!* —2 Corinthians 9:15

With gratitude,



Ellen Kane

Parishes receiving \$1,000 matching gift

Christ the King/St. Anthony Parish
St. Joseph Cathedral Parish
St. Mark Parish
Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish
Our Lady of Grace Parish
St. Pius X Parish
Holy Cross Parish
St. Ann Parish
Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Parish
St. Catherine of Siena Parish
St. John Vianney Parish
Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Williston
St. Francis Xavier Parish
Our Lady of the Valley Parish
St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Windsor
Christ Our Savior Parish
Sacred Heart-St. Francis de Sales Parish
St. Monica Parish
Mary Queen of All Saints Parish
St. Augustine Parish
St. John the Evangelist Parish
Our Lady of the Angels Parish
Our Lady of the Snows/St. Patrick Mission
St. Andrew Parish
Mater Dei Parish
Corpus Christi Parish
Our Lady of Good Help Parish
Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish
Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish
St. Stanislaus Kostka Parish
All Saints Parish
Ascension Mission
Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary/St. Louis Parish
St. Andre Bessette Parish
St. Patrick, Fairfield

CHRIST OUR

Hope

BUILDING A VIBRANT CHURCH



Christ Our Hope Campaign Update

A portion of the funds raised through the *Christ Our Hope: Building a Vibrant Church* campaign supports these types of ministries through the faith formation fund established in the Vermont Catholic Community Foundation. This will ensure stable income for vital faith formation ministries, especially in times of crisis. To learn more about the campaign or make a gift online visit: www.christourhopevt.org.

31%

As of Nov. 25: \$3,090,228

Goal: \$10,000,000

Upcoming Events



12|07, 14, 21 MONDAYS

Pope Francis' *Fratelli Tutti* Study with Msgr. McDermott

via Zoom • 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Msgr. McDermott will host a three-part Zoom study which will focus on the major themes of the document. Participants are encouraged to read the document, or at least a summary of the document, prior to the meetings.

Register at: vermontcatholic.org/events/



12|08, 15, 22 TUESDAYS

Praying with the Scriptures in Advent

via Zoom • 7:30 - 8 pm

This Advent, prepare for the coming of Christ by praying with the Scriptures. Bring a prayerful end to your day as Michael Hagan guides you in reading, reflecting, responding, and resting with the previous Sunday's Gospel reading. This will be a Zoom webinar – participants will not be on camera/microphone but will be able to interact through chat.

Register at: vermontcatholic.org/events/



12|10 THURSDAY

Parent Cafe: Advent Special

via Zoom • 7:30 pm - 8:15 pm

Join other Catholic parents in our virtual café as we start with a fun game, have some laughs, and then discuss family Advent traditions. All parents welcome! Hosted by Terri McCormack and Michael Hagan.

Register at: vermontcatholic.org/events/

DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON CAREERS

Diocese: Accounting Assistant — AP/AR

*Rice Memorial High School,
S. Burlington: Bookkeeper, Part-time*

*St. Peter's Parish, Rutland:
Administrative Assistant, Part-Time*

*St. Joseph's Residential Care Home,
Burlington: Full-Time LPN or Med Tech
— \$1000 Sign-On Bonus*

*St. Joseph's Residential Care Home,
Burlington: Part-Time LPN or Med Tech*

*St. Joseph's Residential Care Home,
Burlington: Full-Time LNA or Caregiver
— \$500 Sign-On Bonus*

*St. Joseph's Residential Care Home,
Burlington: Part-Time LNA or Caregiver*

*For More Info:
vermontcatholic.org/careers*



ROMAN CATHOLIC
DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON

To see more events or to submit your event to the diocesan calendar:
vermontcatholic.org/events

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Catholic
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DEC. 6–12, 2020

**CHALLENGES
TO GROW
YOUR
MARRIAGE**

IT'S THE SECOND WEEK OF ADVENT

How are you doing on those activities to help out a neighbor by donating your time or material possessions? Pray together for your neighbors.

vermontcatholic.org/marriagechallenge

CHRIST OUR

Hope

2020 BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL



As we launch the Christ our Hope campaign, we ask that you first prayerfully consider your annual gift to the Bishop's Appeal which helps support statewide ministries today: bishopsappealvt.org. If you are able, we then ask that you prayerfully consider making a gift to our first-ever statewide campaign over a three-year period to ensure the vibrant future of our parishes, schools and ministries to the poor.

100%

2020 Bishop's Annual Appeal Goal: \$2,651,157

76%

As of November 25: **\$2,004,077**

Sunday, Dec 06, 2020

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Begin at the end

Beginnings are really the Act II of endings. That's why we hear so much Apocalypse in the early Advent readings. Something has to give way for the new thing to arrive. In order to move into the new house, you have to leave the old one. That goes for the life of the world to come, as well. So when John the Baptist summons us to prepare the Lord's way, he simultaneously obliges us to repent our former way. Consider what obstacles need to "pass away" to "make straight" the path of the Christ child's arrival into your heart.

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11; 2 Peter 3:8-14; Mark 1:1-8 (5). *"The heavens will pass away with a mighty roar, and the Earth and everything done on it will be found out."*

Monday, Dec 07, 2020

MEMORIAL OF AMBROSE, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

To the moon and beyond

You think you're busy? Ambrose, one of the four first doctors of the church, challenged emperors and combated heresies. He converted Saint Augustine and championed celibacy. He was a prolific theologian and contributed to the music of the church. He was so admired he was made a bishop by popular acclaim. Ambrose did a lot of different things—who of us could keep up?—but he had one vision that we can all get behind: that the church rise "like a growing moon" above fleeting worldliness.

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 35:1-10; Luke 5:17-26 (181). *"We have seen incredible things today."*

Tuesday, Dec 08, 2020

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (PATRONAL FEAST DAY OF THE USA)

Original grace

The Immaculate Conception is so key to Catholic consciousness, it's hard to believe it hasn't been around forever. The teaching—that Mary was born without original sin—was in fact opposed by scholarly saints like Anselm, Aquinas, Bernard, and Bonaventure. They insisted that, because sin entered the world through Adam and Eve, Mary would need salvation as much as the rest of us. But the Council of Trent concluded that Mary had been spared, and popular piety began to revere her Immaculate Conception. The significance? Perhaps, as theologian Elizabeth Johnson eloquently points out, it's that "grace is more original than sin."

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 3:9-15, 20; Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12; Luke 1:26-38 (689). *"Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you."*

Wednesday, Dec 09, 2020

MEMORIAL OF JUAN DIEGO CUAUHTLATOATZIN

Celebrate the messenger of love

Born in 1474 near modern-day Mexico City, Saint Juan Diego was named Cuauhtlatoatzin (Talking Eagle) and according to tradition lived among his Chichimeca people until the conquest of Mexico in 1521. At the age of 50, Juan Diego was baptized by Franciscan missionaries and began attending daily Mass. While he walked to Mass on December 9, 1531, the Blessed Mother appeared to him with a special request. So begins the story of Our Lady of Guadalupe, whose feast we celebrate in three days. Today, we honor Juan Diego, the first indigenous saint of the Americas, canonized in 2002, who spent the rest of his life as a

prayerful hermit tending the first shrine built to Guadalupe. On this Advent day, we pray for the grace to imitate his humility, trust, and faithfulness.

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 40:25-31; Matthew 11:28-30 (183). *"They that hope in the LORD will . . . soar as with eagles' wings."*

Thursday, Dec 10, 2020

ADVENT WEEKDAY

Walk the simple but elusive path to peace

As Christians await the Prince of Peace, today the world celebrates this year's Nobel Peace Prize awardee—the U.N. World Food Program—for their heroic efforts in war-torn lands in the midst of the pandemic. Human beings are prone to conflict, but the craving for peace and reconciliation runs deep across cultures and faiths. The perennial question is how to achieve it. Here's a simple but profound answer that has been put forth by the Catholic Campaign for Human Development for decades: "If you want peace, work for justice." Ask yourself what step toward justice you can take today.

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 41:13-20; Matthew 11:11-15 (184).

"Among those born of women there has been none greater than John the Baptist."

Friday, Dec 11, 2020

MEMORIAL OF DAMASUS I, POPE

Stormy weather

If we think we've got it tough—juggling the gift list, social schedule, family feuds, and ailing bank account—consider Damasus. He embodied the truism that faith is more a compass than an insurance policy. When he was elected pope, another faction chose someone else. What followed were violent battles, scandals, accusations, heresies, and troubled relations with the Eastern Church. While we might sing carols about the Prince of Peace, the hard reality of human life has, since the Incarnation, also involved moments of hurricane-force wind. Today, let's welcome whatever problem we're reluctant to engage, knowing it might be our teacher.

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 48:17-19; Matthew 11:16-19 (185). *"If you would hearken to my commandments, your prosperity would be like a river."*

Saturday, Dec 12, 2020

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

Celebrate the feast!

The apparition of the Blessed Virgin Mary on Mexico City's Tepeyac Hill in 1531 was a game changer. Images of the Virgin had typically carried a distinctly European flavor. The Virgin of Guadalupe, however, had indigenous features. She would become the first *Mestiza* image, for a people who comprise the racially and culturally diverse population of modern-day Mexico. Under her spiritual care and influence, a variety of peoples could unite at least in spirituality. For Mexican Americans, and Latinos everywhere, *la Fiesta de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe* is among the biggest religious celebrations of the year. Join the *fiesta*.

TODAY'S READINGS: Zechariah 2:14-17 or Revelation 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Luke 1:26-38 or Luke 1:39-47 (690A). *"My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord."*

Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time



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