



Saint Antoninus News

1500 Linneman Road

March 10, 2019

Cincinnati, Ohio 45238

Rev. Ronald Haft, *Pastor*, 922-5400 x1
 Deacon Robert Schroeder, *Pastoral Associate*, 922-2500 x2031
 Mrs. Becky Hileman, *Bookkeeper*, 922-5400 x4
 Ms. Lauren Ulmer, *Youth Minister/Communications & PR*, 922-2500 x2036
 Mrs. Beth Bollin, *Administrative Assistant*, 922-5400 x2
 Mrs. Shelly Kahny, *School Principal*, 922-2500 x2030
 Mrs. Erica Steinbeck, *School Office Manager*, 922-2500 x2000
 Ms. Peg Delaney, *Music Director*, 922-5400 x5
 After School Child Care Program, 922-2500 x2031

CONFESSIONS:

Saturday: 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. Thursday: 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Anytime upon request.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:

Thursday: 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. Friday after Mass to 10:00 p.m.

NEW PARISHIONERS:

Please register as soon as possible. Please register by calling 922-5400 x 2

MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturday Evening Mass: 4:30 p.m.
 Sunday Mass: 8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m.
 All Holy Days, Christmas and New Year: Special Schedule.
 Daily Mass: Monday through Saturday 8 a.m. Mass

BAPTISMS:

The first & third Sundays of the month.
 Call the Rectory for an appointment.

MARRIAGES:

The bride or groom must contact the pastor before a wedding date is set.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK:

Please call the rectory at 922-5400.

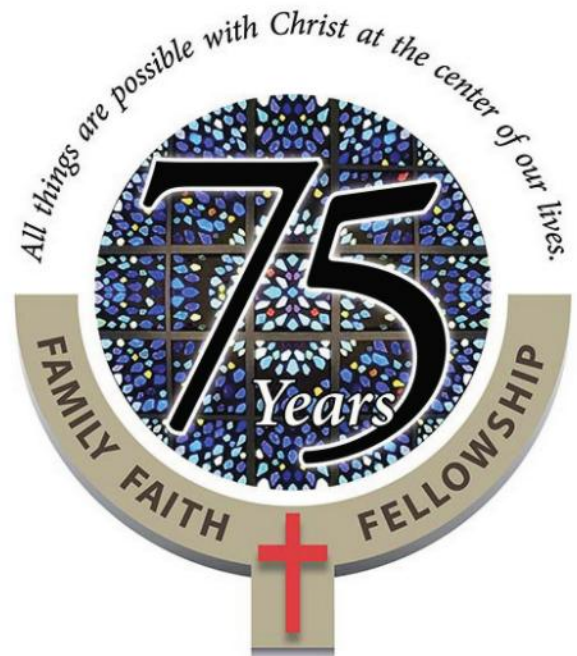
To plan a Funeral Mass please call 922-5400 x2 M-F 8a.m.-3p.m.

Rectory 922-5400 • Fax 451-5871 • School 922-2500 • www.saintantoninus.org

Parish Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., or by appointment.

PARISH ORGANIZATIONS AND CONTACTS

Adult Social Group:	
Edwin Brady	922-2971
Advancement Committee:	
Chairperson: Todd Beekley	602-9626
Athletic Club:	
President: Jason Corcoran	378-6644
Vice President: Brian Downey	675-6292
Gym Coord.: Steve Goetz	859-468-6864
Schott Field: Todd Allison	251-4940
Ms. Shannon F. Benvenuti, Business Manager	
Bereavement Ministry:	922-5400 ext. 1 or ext. 2
Bible Study: Mary Lynne FitzGerald	922-0902
Boy Scouts: Bonnie Hueneman	922-5292
Building & Grounds Commission:	
Chairman: Jim Landers	922-3714
Secretary: Vince Olding	922-1820
Cub Scouts: Andrew Bollin	535-8387
Finance Commission: Norb Guehle	451-1227
Girl Scouts: Melissa Tepe	284-5283
Greeters: Marianne Roedersheimer	922-1525
Holy Spirit Prayer Group: Carol Jacob	451-1344
Knights of Columbus: Bill Wergowske	922-6262
Any man at least 18 years of age and a practicing Catholic.	
Mothers Of Potential Saints (MOPS):	
Heather Flick	859-803-0429
Network of Care Phone Line	922-5400 ext. 8
Pastoral Council:	
Chairperson: Tom Burger	240-0737
Parent Teacher Organization:	
Co-Presidents: Becky Bill	265-8860
Cara Hester	515-9625
Co-Vice Presidents: Stephanie Duebber	515-9825
Danielle Goertemoeller	532-4104
Pro-Life, Pro-Family Commission:	
Dave Willig	451-6192
Joan Loebker	922-0348
Sacristan/Marthas Contact: Ginny Johnson	922-1527
School Advisory Council:	
President: Greg Lammers	257-8500
St. Vincent de Paul Help Line	332-4600
Traveling Chalice: Debbie Rolfes	922-2414
Robert Schroeder	922-2500 ext 2031
DRE	922-2500 ext 2031
Ministry for the Homebound:	922-2500 ext 2031
R.C.I.A.:	922-2500 ext 2031
Usher Coordinator:	922-2500 ext 2031
Virtus/Safe Environment:	922-2500 ext 2031
Welcome Committee: Judy Bonhaus	451-6718



ST. ANTONINUS PARISH

SINCE 1944

MONDAY, MARCH 11

8:00AM MASS Special Intentions of the Perrotta Family

TUESDAY, MARCH 12

8:00AM MASS Pat Gerdes—Anniv. Rem.—Family

7:00PM Mike Davis Lenten Concert

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13

8:00AM MASS Hazel Bianco—Family

THURSDAY, MARCH 14

8:00AM MASS Joe Fricke—Walt & Pat Anneken

FRIDAY, MARCH 15

8:00AM MASS Marceda "Marcie" Metz— Anniv. Rem.—Family

SATURDAY, MARCH 16

8:00AM MASS Intentions of Celebrant

4:00PM Rosary

4:30PM MASS Joe Dwyer—Bd. Rem.— John Keller

SUNDAY, MARCH 17

7:30AM Rosary

8:00AM MASS For the People of the Parish

9:30AM MASS Verna T. Smith—Bd. Rem.— Rosemary & Ken Burger

11:30AM MASS Deceased members of the Delaney Family



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

In Matthew 26:40, Jesus says to Peter [and to us], *"Could you not, then, watch one hour with me?"*

Please consider joining your fellow parishioners for 30 minutes, or even one hour, at Eucharistic Adoration in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel on Fridays from 9:00AM until the Adoration ends at 10:00PM. Fatima Holy Hour with Exposition on Thursday evenings from 7PM to 8PM in the church with an opportunity for confession.



CONFESSIONS

Thursday, March 7, 6:30 - 8:00PM
Saturday, March 9, 3:00PM - 4:00PM

LECTORS March 16 & 17, 2019

4:30PM	G. Willig	E. Willig
8:00AM	M. Braunstein	
9:30AM	M. Rehtin	B. Short
11:30AM	P. Autenrieb	

ROSARY

Saturdays after the 8 AM Mass and at 4:00PM.

Sundays at 7:30AM.

Monday thru Friday after the daily Mass.

Mondays 7:00PM Fatima Prayer Group in the Chapel.

Every evening at 7:30pm for the special Pro-Life intentions of Protection of our Unborn Children and the overturn of Roe v Wade.

Friday mornings at MaryAnn Baverman's home for Moms and grandmoms and young children. We extend an invitation to join our group for prayer on Friday mornings from **10AM to 11:00AM**. We will show you how to pray the rosary. Please call MaryAnn at 503-9537 for details.

St. Antoninus Prayer chain: To intercede for prayer requests, please go to www.saintantoninus.org/prayer-chain, or pick up a list in the back of the greeting room on the right side of the counter. Requests for prayers may be left there, or emailed to: https://saintantoninus.org/prayer-chain or you may mail requests to **St. Antoninus Prayer Chain, 1500 Linneman Rd., Cincinnati, OH 45238**.

Join us in the Chapel on Sundays at 10:45am to pray the Rosary of the Seven Sorrows of Mary as prescribed by Our Lady of Kibeho. All are invited to join us for this time of prayer and reflection.

SERVERS March 11-15, 2019

8:00AM Monday: Lily Kock, Lucy Guenther

8:00AM Tues., Wed., Thurs. & Fri.: Adult Servers



SERVERS March 16 & 17, 2019

4:30PM M. Autenrieb, C. Faeth, L. Torres

8:00AM Adult Server

9:30AM M. & M. Rehtin, J. Steinhaus

11:30AM G. Logan, D. Palicki, B. McDonald

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS March 16 & 17, 2019

4:30PM K. O'Connor, C. Niederhausen, J. Gerstner, M. & L. Rolfes

8:00AM N. & L. Guetle, L. & D. Reiring

9:30AM K. & R. Burger, A. & K. Hornsby, M.A.

Baverman, K. Hurley, K. McBride, T. Wissel, C. Nolan, E. Meyer, K. Meyer

11:30AM L. Jetter, J. Reinstatler, E. Klusman, N. Oehler, E. Willig, S. Morgan, T. Fleming, J. Ferguson, P. Hetzer, A. & B. Downey

COFFEE AND DONUTS will be served after all the Sunday morning Masses in the undercroft.

Addressing rumors we have heard:

There is not nor has there been any evidence of financial malfeasance.
The Church and School are not bankrupt nor are we heading that direction. The Parish has no outstanding debt.
The school tuition will not increase \$1,000 for next school year.
The quality of education is not to be impacted in any form or fashion.
The many aspects of our parish ministry that we all know and appreciate will not be marginalized.

What are the facts:

Sunday collections over the past 5 years have been consistently declining. We experienced a drop of 12% between fiscal years ending 2014 and 2018. This represents a loss of \$132,000 each year. And we anticipate the decline to continue at about a 3% rate.
Benefactor activity (Wills and Special Gifts) has decreased significantly.
Sunday Mass attendance has been consistently declining.
Unfortunately the Parish has drawn \$510,000 from cash reserves since 2015 and this is not good stewardship of parishioner donated funds nor is it sustainable long-term.
Dwindling volunteerism is causing burn-out and fatigue for those who do offer their time and talent.
School Expense Budget over the past 5 years has been increasing largely due to salary/benefit costs at 3-6% per year.
Active participation of our school families at Sunday Mass has declined to an estimated 20% participation level.
Tuition - cost to educate a single child at St. Antoninus now averages \$5,600.
Tuition - current school year is \$3,275 (without multi-student family discount); the average tuition including those receiving a multi-student discount is \$2,992. Our comparable peer schools are at \$3,700 while the Archdiocese average as last reported for 2017/18 was \$3,869. Clearly, our tuition has lagged substantially behind our peers.
Parish Subsidy of education is averaging near 40% (\$2,200 for every student 1st-8th)
Mass attendance of our school children has been consistently declining, yet the passing on of our Faith to our children is the overarching mission of parish subsidized Catholic education ministry.
Health Care Costs continue to increase- just announced last week, another 2% increase in cost to our parish.

Financial Plan including Rightsizing of Staff to move forward

As Fr Haft announced in August, the Business Manager and Facilities Manager positions were eliminated August 1, 2018. We have recently filled a newly designed combined position with a single manager to assume both roles. Shannon Benvenuti is scheduled to begin March 1, 2019.
Substantially all non-essential capital improvements and repairs have been put on hold until further notice.
All parish staff except for contracted faculty will face a significant reduction in compensation effective March 1, 2019.
All parish staff positions were evaluated and rightsizing was undertaken in order to better align staffing given our substantially reduced active parishioner base. This realignment has resulted in a substantial reduction of hours in 3 positions and is to be effective March 1, 2019
Capital Projects and Facilities Needs are being identified and will be built into a long-term capital budget to allow proper accumulation of necessary funds.

The 2019/2020 School budget is currently under review. Unfortunately, the necessary work on the budget deficit may impact teacher salaries. We do not know yet, the extent of the impact.
There is a need to substantially reduce the currently budgeted parish tuition subsidy amount of 34%. As we look to the future, a goal of "not-to-exceed 10%" is being considered.
School Tuition is tentatively set to increase to \$3,950 by school year 2021/2022 to be stepped in over a 3 year period beginning with 2019/20. Once at the peer comparable rate, annual CPI indexed increases should be anticipated.
The multi-student discount will be brought in line with our comparable peer group of schools. So as not to harm any family, as the restructured discount rates are being fully implemented, the financial impact will be addressed on a family by family basis with assistance offered where deemed appropriate.
Finally with regard to school. Our facility has comfortable capacity for 480 students. The current enrollment stands at 389. Fr Haft has offered a challenge to get this number to 450 for this upcoming school year. All parishioners can play an active role in this endeavor. Our kindergarten registration stands at 42, and we have room to enroll far greater numbers. Let us all market the wonderful merits of our well-kept secret. Open this dialogue with friends, neighbors and families - we would be happy to provide talking points if that may be of help.

Our Future is Bright

We truly thank all of our staff and volunteers for their efforts and energy in the offering of services to the Parish. It was and is with great difficulty that Fr. Haft and we on Finance Council arrived at the outlined plan. Any type of revenue enhancement through stewardship/appeals type effort is a much longer-term process before any measurable benefits can be fully realized. It is our hope and belief that through this difficult undertaking of strict financial discipline, the Parish will be in a better position to address the revenue side of our parish and school operations as well as and most importantly, revitalizing the level of participation in St Antoninus' offering of religious sacraments and Parish ministry.

On behalf of Father Haft and the Parish Finance Council,

Thank you for your continued generosity of time, talent and treasure and May God bless you and your families.

March 10th, 2019

Greetings in the name of the Lord:

Happy Lent! We have now entered into the Holy Season of Lent. The disciplines of Lent are meant to deepen our relationship with Jesus and help us to be less attached to the world, and more open to the will of Jesus. Often times we talk about what we are giving up for Lent. Instead, we need to focus on taking up a new discipline for Lent, and keeping this discipline beyond Lent. Here are some spiritual disciplines to consider. Go to daily Mass. Come to Eucharistic Adoration on Fridays for 30 minutes. Read from the Bible every day for 15 minutes. Pray the Rosary every day. Pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy every day. Go to the Stations of the Cross. Go to formed.org and make use of the many spiritual formation opportunities. Listen to Sacred Heart Radio. Go to confession more than once. And, do kind acts for the poor. By engaging in these disciplines you will naturally give up something while experiencing spiritual growth that will lead to a fruitful Lent.

Have a Happy Lent!

Yours in Christ:

Fr. Haft

MIKE DAVIS LENTEN CONCERT

St. Antoninus Church

7PM, Tuesday, March 12

No charge for admission.

Free will donations accepted.

The Light Is On For You - Instruments of the Lord's Peace

Are you searching for a pathway to peace with another person or for a situation close to your heart? Bring this need to prayer on **Tuesday, March 19**, from 6:00pm – 9:00pm when we will gather with Catholics all over the Archdiocese of Cincinnati to pray for and experience the peace and reconciliation that our Lord can give when we ask. Priests will be available for confession and to assist you to find your way back to Christ. Learn more at: www.EncounterPeace.org.



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incredible online gateway to the best Catholic content, all in one place! With FORMED, you can,

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Enrich your marriage with the award winning video series *Beloved: Finding Happiness in Marriage*

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FORMED provides amazing content 24/7 for you to grow in your faith. It's FREE and EASY to Register!

Go to <https://saintantoninus.formed.org/> Click "Register" and enter your name, email address, and desired password. You are now ready to access the inspiring and engaging content on FORMED! We recommend you start with **SYMBOLON, FORGIVEN or BELOVED**.

If you are asked to enter a parish code, use this: QGDR3N

BEST LENT EVER!

A 40-Day journey towards the best version of yourself! It's a free email program that will guide you on an incredible journey toward the-best-version-of-yourself. From now until Easter, you'll discover ways to transform your life. Go to this web site for information and sign up: <https://dynamiccatholic.com/best-lent-ever>

Please come to St. Antoninus Church on Thursday evening, April 4, 2019 for an evening of prayer, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and observance of the 100th anniversary of Francisco Marto's death. Francisco is one of the three children to whom Our Lady appeared in Fatima, Portugal in 1917. We will begin at 7:00pm with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament followed by the Rosary. Some of the prayers from Fatima will be recited starting at 8:00pm followed by the Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary and Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. We will close with Benediction with the Blessed Sacrament at 9:00pm.

amazon smile Shop for wedding and shower gifts, birthdays, etc. at <http://smile.amazon.com>, and Amazon donates to St. Antoninus Church. Thank you for your participation.



You may sign up at any time for OnLine Giving, even for a one time donation, to a particular fund. To start, go to the official Saint Antoninus Parish website at www.saintantoninus.org, click About Us, then click Giving, click on the Our Sunday Visitor button, then click the green Create New Account button. **If you want this service but do not have a computer, or if you have any questions, please call Beth at the rectory office at 922-5400, x 2.** ***NOTE: If your credit card company is changing, or your card expires, please update your account with your new credit card number, so your gift giving is not interrupted.***

If you have a problem texting your donation, please call OSV at 1-800-348-2886, ext. 2, then ext. 1. Or, call Beth at 922-5400, ext. 2.

YOUR KROGER REWARDS CARD

ORGANIZATION NUMBER HAS CHANGED TO NC077 Kroger has recently upgraded their system, and as a result Saint Antoninus Parish **Non-Profit Organization (NPO) has a new account number.** Kroger encourages you to link your rewards card to **NC077 Saint Antoninus Church.**

Thank you.

Kroger Community Rewards Staff

THANK YOU to Seven Hills Women's Health Centers for advertising in our bulletin.



Saint Antoninus Parish barcode.

Hover your smart-phone over this code and it will take you to the parish website. Please let us know if you like this. Call 922-5400 x 2.

ST. ANTONINUS LOTTO winner is William Busch. Thank you for participating in the lotto.

PARISH CONTRIBUTIONS

Collections for week ending March 3, 2019

Sunday Collections	\$22,449.75
Maintenance	\$ 160.00
School Parish Support	\$ 212.00
Youth Ministry	\$ 35.00
Catholic Telegraph	\$ 74.00
Memorials	\$ 165.00
Ash Wednesday	\$ 175.00
Easter Flowers	\$ 10.00
St. Antoninus St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 275.00

Thank you for your continuing support of the parish and school. Please remember Saint Antoninus in your will. Gifts of stock can also be made to St. Antoninus Church. If you currently work for, or are retired from, a company that has a Matching Gift program, you can make your contributions to Parish School Support, and have those contributions matched by your company. If you have questions, please call Ms. Shannon Benvenuti at 922-5400 x 3.

TEXT TO GIVE

Your support during the winter months helps sustain our parish year-round. Parishioners and visitors can text a donation dollar amount to **513-952-8338**, and your transaction will be processed through the Online Giving account associated with the phone number above.

\$ amount, single space, then fund name. See examples:

100 sunday or 25.75 maintenance

If you do not include a fund name, the default fund is Sunday contributions. These fund names are not case sensitive.

Fund Names

Parish 75th Anniversary
Sunday contributions
Maintenance
School Parish Support
Arleene Vallejos Tuition Assistance
School Endowment Fund

Text to Give Fund Names

parishanniv
sunday
maintenance
schoolparish
avtap
endowment

St. Antoninus Conference of
St. Vincent de Paul Society
St. Antoninus School Youth Ministry
Fr. Donald McCarthy Memorial Stone
Dr. Albert C. Niedhamer Scholarship Fund

stvdpcnf
youthministry
dmcstone
Niedhamerfund



ROSARY GARDEN

For more information about memorial stones for purchase, please contact Norb Guetle at 451-1227.



TRAVELING CHALICE

Now, more than ever, PLEASE consider taking the Traveling Chalice into your home and pray, either as a family or alone, for the intentions of our Holy Church, for Vocations, Pope Francis, all Church leaders, our country, and for our persecuted brothers and sisters around the world. Call Debbie at 922-2414 to schedule the Traveling Chalice.

Thank you to Nick and Christina Autenrieb Family for taking the Traveling Chalice into their home.

FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR



If you wish to dedicate the placing of flowers for one week at the altar in memory of a loved one, or to honor a person or special occasion, please send

\$50 (check made out to Saint Antoninus Church, with Altar Flowers in the memo line) to the rectory office with your name, phone number and the week you would like to reserve. More than one family may reserve the same week. There will be no flower arrangements during the Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter seasons. If you have questions, call Beth Bollin, at 922-5400, x 2.



Join the Greeters Ministry and help make all those who enter the doors of St. Antoninus Church know that we are a welcoming, caring community. For

further details call Marianne Roedersheimer at 922-1525.

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY



In today's Gospel, Jesus overcomes the temptations to wealth, power and esteem. As we begin Lent, may we open our hearts to the grace of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. **Your gift in the St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box will help the poor to celebrate the grace of God's love this Easter.**

IN LOVING MEMORY

A special section on the back of the bulletin is available to list the name of your deceased loved one. The cost is **\$55.00** per name, and their name will remain in the bulletin for **one year**. This will help defray the cost of printing our bulletin for the entire year. If interested, please fill out the slip and include it with your check **made payable to Saint Antoninus Parish**, in an envelope marked **"In Loving Memory"**, drop it in the rectory mailbox OR mail it to the parish office: St. Antoninus Church, 1500 Linneman Rd., 45238.

"In Loving Memory" (Please print clearly)

Loved One's Name _____

Your Name _____

Your Phone Number _____

Your Billing Address: _____

The Cub Scouts need your help with their Spring Fundraiser.

They have partnered with Mulch Depot to raise money for their Pack. The Pack gets \$1 for every bag sold. Mulch Depot also includes bulk mulch (per scoop instead of per bag), and the Pack gets 10% of those purchases. Bulk orders can be in any quantity. Each scoop is 2/3 of a yard, or 18 cubic feet. It is the equivalent to roughly nine bags of mulch. Orders and money will be due before March 15. For additional information on this fundraiser, please contact Kim Hess at hessdkna@outlook.com.



The St. Antoninus Parish 75th Jubilee Anniversary History Committee.

Any forms of memorabilia that you or your relatives may have. Dates and information would be appreciated.

MOST IMPORTANTLY WE ARE LOOKING FOR PERSONAL ORIGINAL PHOTOGRAPHS OF OUR (1944) 1st CHURCH BUILDING. ALSO PHOTOGRAPHS OF OUR (1949) 1st GRADE SCHOOL BUILDING. If you can be of assistance please call Sylvia C. Lonneman at 513-922-0105 or email slonneman@hotmail.com.

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD with Kathy O'Connor
First Sunday of Lent

Reading I: Deuteronomy 26:4-10: Our passage for the first Sunday in Lent comes from the book of Deuteronomy, which recounts the main events at the end of the forty years the Israelites spent wandering in the desert under the leadership of Moses. The verses in our passage examines the offering of the first fruits as an appropriate way for Israel to express gratitude for the great deeds performed by God, especially the wonders He worked in liberating the people from bondage and establishing them in the promised land. Verses 5-9 consists of a kind of historical-religious creed, a very important one, which takes in all the main features of Old Testament faith. It is a summary of the history of Israel, centered on its deliverance from Egypt and settlement in the promised land. The wandering Aramaean in verse five is Jacob. The prayer at the first fruits offering heightens the contrast between the poverty of the homeless, landless Aramaean and the prosperity of the rich landowner enjoying his freedom in the promised land.

Psalms 91:1-2, 10-11, 12-13, 14-15 (see 15b): In psalm 91, the psalmist tells us that a person protected by the Lord has no reason to fear evil. The person who seeks the Lord will receive divine help through His angels, to enable him or her to cope with any difficulty. The forcefulness with which this psalm describes the protection God gives to those who seek Him, can be seen from the fact, that the words of verses 11-12 are quoted by Satan, when he tempts Jesus by urging Him to throw Himself off the pinnacle of the temple (we will encounter this scene in the Gospel passage for this weekend). Jesus does not deny the truth of these words, but He corrects their misinterpretation, if they are used to tempt God. When assuring His disciples that nothing will be able to harm them, Jesus Himself uses words similar to those of verse 13. Verses 14-15 make it clear that God responds to the trust that man places in Him.

Reading II: Romans 10:8-13: In this passage, St. Paul tells us that the Word is near us. At least from the third century BC, we have documented evidence that out of respect, Jewish people did not utter the name “Yahweh”, but generally referred to God instead as Lord. The first Christians, by giving Jesus the title of “Lord”, were making a profession of faith in His divinity. St. Paul also is presenting the center of the Church’s faith: the decisive historical event of Jesus’ resurrection. Belief in Jesus is an internal choice we make; beliefs are not immediately visible to others. In order to live by faith, we must profess our faith aloud and by our actions. In other words, we are obligated to profess our faith, lest our silence would lead people to suppose that we did not believe, or that we did not hold our faith to be the true faith. Even worse, our bad example might cause others to fall away from the faith. But, as we heard in Psalm 91, God assists and protects those who seek Him. In all situations, God will help us to proclaim our faith boldly.

Gospel: Luke 4:1-13: After Jesus was baptized by John the Baptist, He was filled with the Holy Spirit and was led by the Spirit into the desert. Jesus is filled with and led by the Spirit. He will carry out His mission as the Son of God, with the power and promptings of the Spirit of God. The Spirit did not simply lead Jesus to the wilderness, but led Him throughout His time there. Throughout His forty days in the desert, He was tempted by Satan. Why does the Spirit lead Jesus to the desert? Just to be tempted or was that only one of the purposes for Jesus being in the desert? Jesus’ time in the desert or wilderness comes immediately after the Spirit descended upon Him, and God proclaimed Him to be His beloved Son, and immediately before He begins His public ministry. Jesus is a man of prayer, and so we would expect Him to spend time in prayer after experiencing a dramatic manifestation of His Father and of the Spirit in preparation for His mission. Yet, during this time when He was being led by the Spirit, He was also being tempted by Satan. Jesus’ faithfulness to His Father was being put to the test. *Continued on the next page...*

Continued from the previous page..

Jesus rebuffs Satan's temptations by quoting scripture at him. Satan, whom we know to be both clever and cunning, quotes scripture (Psalm 91 to be precise) right back at Jesus! *Satan quotes this psalm to get Jesus to test God.* Jesus is having none of it! Psalm 91 is an invitation to trust God, not to test God. God has assured Jesus that He is His beloved Son and with this assurance, Jesus does not need to make God demonstrate His loving care for Him. To demand that God act to prove that He cares would be to doubt God's care. As the Son of God, Jesus will follow His Father's script, not try to impose one on Him. We have read of Jesus' time in the wilderness many times and this passage is familiar to us. There is another layer and meaning in this passage that we need to explore. This layer is also important for our very salvation. Jesus was tempted by Satan just as we are: the allure of power, fulfillment, and happiness; all empty promises. Adam and Eve caved in to the temptation. Original sin was born and with it came death. *Jesus resisted the temptation* and in so doing, He counterbalanced the wrong generated by Adam and Eve. Jesus is thus beginning our redemption which will be completed on the cross.

Reflection: By letting Himself be tempted, Jesus teaches us how Satan works and how to overcome him. Satan appeals to our selfish tendencies in order to draw us away from God. We all desire physical pleasure and comfort ("Tell this stone to turn into a loaf") but sometimes we need to subordinate that desire to a higher ideal ("Man does not live by bread alone"). Jesus was tempted and so He redeemed temptation. What a relief! From His example we now know that our own temptations can give glory to God. We know that feeling the attraction of evil and the tug of selfishness is not cause for despair; rather it provides an opportunity to exercise our love. Every time we resist temptation, we extend the kingdom of God, winning back territory from Satan. Jesus didn't come to exempt us from spiritual combat, but rather, to give us strength to fight valiantly for His cause. *He has become one of us, so as to make us just like Him.* Perhaps this week we might reflect on the following: 1) How have I experienced the promptings and power of the Holy Spirit in my life? 2) What does it mean for me that Jesus, even though led by the Spirit, was tempted? 3) To what extent do I rely on God for the things that are most important to me? 4) How am I tempted to compromise my allegiance to God? 5) Do I want God to act according to my script? Do I presume that God will rescue me from the consequences of my poor decisions or habits? *Lord, You know that sometimes I get tired of the battle and simply want to rest. I know You humbled Yourself every day conquering sin with grace, obedient to the Father despite discomfort, obstacles, and opposition. Teach me to persevere in my mission just as You did, and doing so you showed me that life on earth is not meant to be an easy journey but a mission. Thy will be done Lord; you can count on me.....*



SCHOOL

SPOTLIGHT

Join us next week for a hilariously enchanting show, *Shrek The Musical Jr.*! Students in the 3rd-8th

grades have been working very hard to put on four amazing shows for audiences. Show times are Thursday the 14th at 7 p.m., Friday the 15th at 7 p.m., and Saturday the 16th at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. Tickets may be purchased online at <https://www.saintantoninus.org/theatre> or at the box office before each show in the gym lobby.



HOLY SPIRIT PRAYER GROUP

In today's Gospel, Jesus overcomes the temptations to wealth, power and esteem. As we begin Lent, may we open our hearts to the grace of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. **Your gift in the St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box will help the poor to celebrate the grace of God's love this Easter.**

Volunteer needed!! Please consider being the chairperson for the St. Antoninus Festival Bid-n-Buy Booth!! If no one steps up to help...there will NOT BE A Bid-n-Buy Booth. This can be done by a team of friends or just one person. Again, if no one steps up, the direct effect will be higher costs of St. A sports such as pay to play fees and yearly dues! Please consider this volunteer position. If you have any questions, please contact Brian Downey (bdowney744@gmail.com).



The Troop 614 Fish Fry continues each Friday during Lent from 5:00-7:00PM in the Undercroft. Let the Troop make dinner for you! If you are in a hurry, consider using the convenient drive thru! You can even call your order in or text it to our Fish Fry Hotline at 513-703-0312! Come and support the Boy Scouts!

SAINT ANTONINUS PARISH ADULT SOCIAL GROUP

Luncheon will be on **Monday, March 11th**. Chapel service will be at 12:30PM. Lunch will be served at 1:00PM. Cost for lunch is \$12.00 per person. Please pay for your reservation by sending your check to the rectory office by March 6th. To RSVP call Bob Brown at 451-4842.

SAINT ANTONINUS WIDOWS GROUP

All widows of the parish are invited to a luncheon at Nick and Tom's, 5774 Bridgetown Road, at 12noon on **Tuesday, March 12th**. Meal is individual choice, individual payment. RSVP to Carol Niederhausen at 451-4491.

Thank you to all who have donated to the Catholic Ministries Appeal. Our 2019 parish goal is \$46,640. As of March 1, the amount pledged is \$12,393 which is 27% of our parish goal. Thank you for participating.

DECREE ON CHILD PROTECTION OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF CINCINNATI

VIRTUS MEETINGS WILL BE HELD IN THE HOLY FAMILY ROOM IN THE ST. ANTONINUS UNDERCROFT. Call Deacon Bob Schroeder at 922-2500 x2031. All employees and regular volunteers are required to attend one Virtus training meeting. You may attend here or at any other location within the Archdiocese. Pre-registration is required at www.virtus.org. Make sure that the "user's Location" you choose during registration is St. Antoninus—even if you attend Virtus at another location. Be sure to write down your Virtus User-ID and your Password. You will need to use them monthly. **EACH SESSION IS LIMITED TO 15 PARTICIPANTS.** Please register early to be assured of a spot in the session you wish to attend. **March 14, at 6:30PM; April 8, at 6:30PM; May 20, at 11:30AM.**

Parish Day of Reflection and Renewal

On **Saturday, March 30th, 2019**, Deacon Bob Schroeder and Scott Morgan will offer a morning of reflection and renewal on the Most Holy Eucharist. All parishioners are invited. We will begin with 8:00am Mass and will conclude by noon. Coffee, Juice and Donuts will be provided following Mass. You can RSVP by clicking the link on the St. Antoninus website or by contacting Dcn. Bob at 922-2500 x2031 or via email: schroeder@saintantoninus.org. Please **RSVP** by Monday, March 25th.

8:00am: Mass

8:30am: Coffee and Donuts in the Undercroft

9:00am: "I am the Bread of Life," presented by Dcn. Bob Schroeder

10:00am: Break

10:15am: "At the Lamb's High Feast: Gloria in excelsis Deo," presented by Scott Morgan

11:30am: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

12noon: Day of Reflection and Renewal Concludes.

The 2019 Panthers Lacrosse sign-ups are still open for the K-2nd grade. Season will start at the end of March and is accepting all Cincinnati area Kindergarteners to 2nd graders. The program focuses on teaching fundamentals and developing skills through practices and games and to just have fun. For info and signups visit www.cincypantherslacrosse.com. Please email pantherlax4u@gmail.com or call 513.941.0399 if you have a question.



We are encouraging everyone to join the "Rosary Challenge" by committing to pray the rosary daily in 2019 for Pro-Life intentions: Overturning Roe v Wade, the Protection of our Unborn Children, the End of Abortion in the USA, and the Healing of those involved in an abortion. Join us in this Crusade for Life, by praying to end abortion *"the greatest evil of our times"* (St. Mother Teresa) with the rosary a powerful *"weapon against evil"* (St. Padre Pio). Please let us know if you can join in this "Rosary Challenge" by email: davidwillig@gmail.com.

David Willig, Joan Loebker Co-Chairs

St. Antoninus Pro-Life/Pro-Family Commission

End Birth Day Abortion!

All are asked to pray for born-alive babies who are facing the danger of being killed outside the womb. And let us pray for the U.S. Congress to take decisive action on this issue. Lord have mercy on our country!

ST. JOHN PASSION PLAY NEEDS CAST MEMBERS

Please call Margie Freudiger at 746-1542 or 859-392-0129 to sign up. No experience is necessary. All types of parts are available. Practices are Sunday afternoons during Lent.



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Friends of Elder Travel tour: June 9 -20, 2019 Grand Circle Experience, seven National Parks of Southwest, Durango Silverton RR, Colorado

River smooth water float and more with Las Vegas arrival/departure, Mercedes Sprinter van for 12 for tour. Tour benefits Friends of Elder Travel Scholarship for Elder students. Call Norb Guetle, 451-1227.

The 22nd Annual St. Antoninus Athletic Club Golf Outing will be played **Friday, April 26, 2019** at Pebble Creek Golf Club. It will begin with lunch at 11:00 AM, shotgun start at 12:00, then dinner and awards following golf. This is one of three fundraisers to help support our children's athletic program. All skill levels are encouraged to attend as this is meant to be a fun day with friends on the course. The cost is \$125.00 per golfer and that includes lunch, golf, all side games, dinner, prizes and every golfer will receive a certificate for a FREE ROUND OF GOLF AT Pebble Creek G.C. Please contact Jon Schroeder to sign up or if you are interested in donating prizes, hole sponsorship, or being a corporate sponsor. If you do not have a completed foursome, we will find players for you. Please contact Jon Schroeder (513-703-6187, chicagoschroeder@hotmail.com) with any questions and come out to enjoy the day!



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