

Schedule of Masses

Saturday, April 13 <i>St. Martin I, Pope and Martyr</i> <i>Third Sunday of Easter (Vigil)</i>	9:00 AM (SA) 4:30 PM (AOOL)	NO MASS Grayson Bishop (Healing) Req. by Pat & Steve Penrod
Sunday, April 14 <i>Third Sunday of Easter</i>	9:00 AM (AOOL) 11:00 AM (SA)	Rita Holler † Req. by Patti & Roger Henry For the People
Tuesday, April 16	12:00 (N) (SA)	Andrew Wolfe † Req. by Judy Wolfe
Wednesday, April 17	8:00 AM (AOOL)	Ryder Houdersheldt (8th birthday) Req. by Wayne Houdersheldt
Thursday, April 18	6:30 PM (SA)	Bob Booth Req. by Lisa Jones
Friday, April 19	8:00 AM (AOOL)	Chuck Ebeling Req. by People of the Parish
Saturday, April 20 <i>Fourth Sunday of Easter (Vigil)</i>	9:00 AM (SA) 4:30 PM (AOOL)	NO MASS For the People
Sunday, April 21 <i>Fourth Sunday of Easter</i> <i>World Day of Prayer for Vocations</i>	9:00 AM (AOOL) 11:00 AM (SA)	Richard Rossell † Req. by Patti & Roger Henry Larry Wolfe † Req. by Marie Hare

Weekly Readings

Monday: Acts 6:8-15 / Jn 6:22-29
Tuesday: Acts 7:51-8:1a / Jn 6:30-35
Wednesday: Acts 8:1b-8 / Jn 6:35-40
Thursday: Acts 8:26-40 / Jn 6:44-51
Friday: Acts 9:1-20 / Jn 6:52-59
Saturday: Acts 9:31-42 / Jn 6:60-69
Sunday: Acts 4:8-12 / 1 Jn 3:1-2 / Jn 10:11-18

Why is the study of religion so important? Because such a study leads us to friendship with God now and forever, and there is nothing more valuable or more important than this. *"What does it profit a man if he gain the whole world, but suffer the loss of his own soul?" (Matthew 16:26). "You shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." (John 8:32).* ~~~ Rev. William J. Cogan "A Catechism for Adults", Revised Edition 2000 A.D.

Weekly Collections (April 7, 2024)

Attendance - Annunciation: 47 / 72 **Weekly:** \$ 2,384.00 **Poor Box:** \$ 135.00
Debt. Red. \$ 1,491.00
St. Anthony: - 37 **Weekly:** \$ 620.00 **Bldg. Fund** \$ 277.00

"Who is a Practical Catholic"

One who follows the commandments of God and the precepts of the Church.

Precepts:

- Attend Mass on Sundays and holy days •
- Confess your sins at least once a year •
- Receive Eucharistic Sacrament during Easter •
- Observe Church's days of fasting & abstinence •
- Provide for the needs of the church •



Prayer to Share the Life of Jesus

Loving Father, faith in Your Word
is the way to wisdom.

Help me to think about
Your Divine Plan that I may
grow in the truth.

Open my eyes to Your deeds,
my ears to the sound of Your call,
so that my every act may
help me share in the life of Jesus.

Give me the grace to live
the example of the love of Jesus,
which I celebrate in the Eucharist
and see in the Gospel.

Form in me the likeness of Your Son
and deepen His Life within me.

Amen



Franciscan Mission Associates
274-280 West Lincoln Avenue, P.O. Box 598
Mount Vernon, New York 10551-0598
www.franciscanmissionassoc.org

FORGIVENESS
is not always easy
but it is Necessary

Please Pray for: Pam Adams, Dena Albright, Alex Balice, Paul & Barb Biser, Grayson Bishop, Nathan Blubaugh, Stanley & Dora Boinovich, CeCe Bogard, Darlene Bridges, Cathy Case, Carla Clark, Julia Codire, Tina Cook, Robert Dayton, Nick Dearcangelis, Richard Delaney, Logan Duncan, Chuck Ebeling, Jenny Emerick, Father Bob, Jamie Fazzalore, Lily Fletcher, Patricia Folk, Aaron Glinke, Dawn Green, Dale Hankinson, Roy Harsh, Kathy Hayes, Lucy Haywood, Jim Hymes, Janet Jack, Marc Jedlowski, Kenneth Jenkins, Wanda Kirk, Doris Klipstein, Michael Knotts, Sami Knotts, Margritt Kramms, Stacy Kobe, Bob Lewis, Audrey Liller, Ed Lindner, Ty Linthicum, Catherine & Kierstin Lippold, Doug Long, Bob Maiers, Galen Markley, Jim Martin, Janice McBride, Tom McCoy, Greyson McCullough, Marty Medovic, Maddox Mervinsky, Jean Miller, Joey & Heather Miltenberger, Adrienne Monroe, Steve Morgan, Morris Neppl, Dottie Natolly, Jim Patterson, Colleen Patton, Steve Pelaez, George Perry, Heather Peters, Mary Susan Resser, Jude and Hunter Rice, Jeanie Rigney, Jacob Robey, Kira Robey, Bertha Romine, Malea Rugg, Cody & Jenny Saville, Debbie Seward, Samantha Shank, Dorothy Sheldon, Shawnee Simmons, Destinee Smith, Barry Steed, Harper Struntz, Lu Thibault, Adam Watts, Carl Welch, Mark Wilbourne, Joe Wolfe, Judy Wolfe and Family, Bob Wolford, Donnie Wolford, Mary Margaret Wollan, Harlow Wooton

From the Desk of Father Dan

Break on through to the other side. Well, we have broken on through the *Doors* to another week. It appears now that Spring has actually arrived, thankfully, I'm sure, for all of us.

We have now begun taking payment for the Curve tickets. Someone will be available at Masses to take payment and for you to receive your tickets.

I want to convey some information that I recently read in *Crux*, an online Catholic news source. On April 5th, it published an article about the state of the US Church over the last 50 years (1970-2020). The result as compiled by CARA (Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate), which is affiliated with Georgetown University, does research, and conducts surveys. What it found should not shock anyone, but it is still a bit unnerving.

This survey was conducted with only 11 dioceses across the United States, all dioceses that revolved around a major city. The research showed that, over the last 50+ years, the Catholic population has increased by 46% from what it was before, but the number of parishes has declined by 9%. Also, in this study, we see the number of priests has declined by 40%. This is why more than half of the priests in our very own diocese are foreign-born with the majority coming from India. This study also looked at the sacraments and their steady decline over the decades. Baptisms have declined by 57%; marriage by a staggering 78%, and funerals by 14% (although a funeral is not a sacrament, they are afforded to every baptized Catholic). From my own experience, here and in New Jersey, I would have to agree with the assessment, marriages especially. In the almost eight years I have been a priest, I can count on one hand the marriages I have done. If you include convalidations (civil marriages blessed by the Church), then I have to go to the other hand, but still small. In NJ, I was assigned to what are considered here as large churches: 1500 families, 4500 & 6500 families, but still just a very small number of marriages. I have done several Baptisms in my time (unknown number, I don't keep track unlike some priests who do) and a slew of funerals in my time in NJ and a few here. However, in NJ the trend - at least in the neck of the asphalt I was in - was trending toward funeral home services and the decline of traditional funeral Masses, especially during and after the pandemic.

I think this information is nothing earth shattering because we were seeing the downward trend in many areas of church life. Along with what's mentioned here, we also see attendance down dramatically since 1970, and even before. Although this particular article didn't mention attendance at Mass, I have seen other reports that Mass attendance is down to around 20% here in the US, and even a more drastic number in Europe, as much as down to 10%.

Now, some good news for the Church around the world. It is growing in Africa and Asia/Oceania. These parts of the world are where the Church will get its strength going forward unless the trend in the West somehow does an about face. That means we need to continue to pray for the Church, each other, and our families. Sorry to be a buzzkill, but this information is important for us to know about so we can focus our prayers. and we do need to pray, we need to be prayer warriors. As has been said: *"We got to pray just to make it today."*

Okay, enough of that, right. Enjoy the sunshine, think of a song that makes you happy and sing it out loud. *Have a sunshine day* and week. Peace out.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- † **Sunday, April 14th:** St. Anthony's will be praying the Rosary before Mass for the Unborn. Also, every Tuesday before 12 (N) Mass.
- † **Sunday, April 21th:** St. Anthony's Guild Mtg. after Mass - **World Day of Prayer for Vocations**
- † **Wednesday, April 24th:** Family Covered Dish Social at AOOL at 6:30 PM
- † **Thursday, April 25th:** Eucharistic Adoration at St. Anthony's at 5:30 PM
- † **Sunday, April 28th:** CEOS meeting - AOOL Social Hall 10 AM to 2 PM. St. Anthony Parish/ Finance Council meeting follows 11 AM Mass

Please support K of C #15610's baby bottle project. The total COLLECTED by *Mother's Day weekend* will go to **JAMES ISAAC**

Special Collection Efforts continue across the Mountain State after the severe flooding that occurred this month. West Virginia encountered tornados, microbursts, strong winds, heavy rains, and mudslides. Several counties have experienced moderate-to-substantial flooding, notably along the Ohio River and its tributaries. The National Weather Service has confirmed 5 tornadoes in West Virginia – Huntington (Cabell/Wayne), St. Albans (Kanawha), Cross Lanes (Kanawha), Quick (Kanawha) and Lavista (Fayette). A State of Emergency has been declared in 17 West Virginia Counties.

Most Rev. Mark Brennan, Bishop of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, has approved a **special collection to be held the weekend of April 20-21, 2024**, in all parishes and missions throughout the diocese to support recovery efforts related to the series of disasters that have occurred. Checks should be made out to your respective parish with "Disaster Relief" on the memo line. Donations can also be made on the diocesan website at <https://dwc.org/disaster-relief/>.

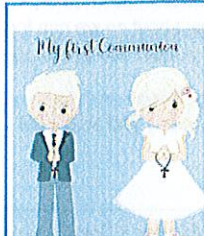
Proceeds from this collection will support the long-term humanitarian and recovery efforts of Catholic Charities West Virginia. Their offices assist families long after other organizations have moved out. The role of Catholic Charities will last months and years as they help families and individuals in the rebuilding process to restore safe, secure, and sanitary living conditions. All of the money raised will stay in West Virginia to assist our neighbors.

Please remember in prayer all those whose lives have been changed in the wake of these disasters. Let us come together now to support our brothers and sisters in Christ who have been injured and lost their homes, cars, employment, and access to food and water.

Many blessings are being wished to Tina & John Cook as they celebrate their Wedding Anniversary on April 24, 2024



Judy Wolfe has sponsored a vigil candle at St. Anthony's for the month of April in loving memory of Andrew Wolfe.



Please keep these children in your prayers as they prepare to receive their **First Holy Communion** on May 5, 2024 at AOOL.

Owen James
Noriah Martz
Harlow Martz
Lillian Sisk



ICE CREAM PARTY

for AOOL's Religious Education Children and Families

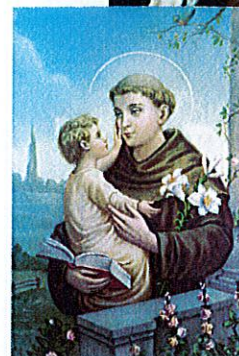
Sunday, May 12, 2024 (after 9 AM Mass)

Come and join us for ice cream and fun!

EVERYONE MATTERS

Our insert this week comes from Sally Johnson, the Regional Director of the **Children's Home Society of West Virginia**. If you are interested in enriching the life of a child by becoming a Foster Parent, please call 304-680-2088 or email her at sjohnson@childhswv.org

To report an incidence of suspected child sexual abuse, please contact your local law enforcement agency, or you may confidentially contact WV Child Protective Services at 800.352.6513. In addition to civil authorities, to report suspected cases of sexual abuse by personnel of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to the Diocese, please contact the Diocese at 888.434.6237 or 304.233.0880. Please visit www.dwc.org under "Accountability" for additional information and reporting methods.



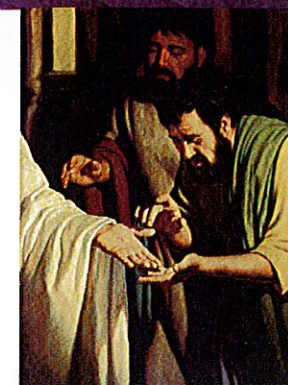
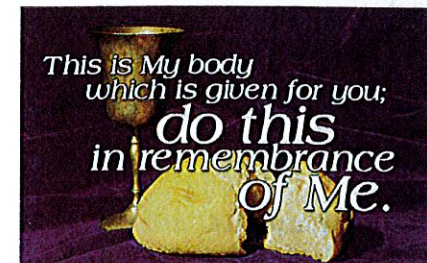
ANNUNCIATION of OUR LORD & SAINT ANTHONY



April 14, 2024

*Third Sunday
of Easter*

*Lord Jesus, open the Scriptures
to us; make our hearts burn
while You speak to us.*

Luke 24:32



 <p>SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION Saturdays 4:00-4:15 PM (AOOL) Thursdays 6:00-6:15 PM (SA) or by appointment</p>	 <p>EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION Thursday 5:30 PM (SA)</p>
<p>Pastor: Rev. Daniel Price Email: dprice@dwc.org</p> <p>K of C #15610 Grand Knight: Brian Crist Directors of Religious Education Tammy Robey (St. Anthony) Kierstin von Hagel (Annunciation) SA Sacristan: Fran McFarland SA Organist: Becky Wolfe AOOL Sacristan: Mike Weaver/Volunteers AOOL Organist: Joanne Peto Nursing Home Coordinator: Linda Ward</p>	<p>E-mail: annunciationchurch@atlanticbbn.net Website: aoolsa.org www.facebook.com/groups/147125069949301 Office Hours <u>Monday-Thursday 8 AM -1 PM</u> Tammy Collett, Parish Secretary Kathy Brockett, Bookkeeper/Secretary Physical Address: 8819 Frankfort Hwy. AOOL - Fort Ashby, WV 26719 SA - 176 Main St., Ridgeley, WV 26753 Mailing Address (both parishes): P.O. Box 1560, Fort Ashby, WV 26719-1560 Phone: (304) 298-3392 Fax: (304) 298-3419</p>

Devotional Prayers (25 minutes prior to Sunday Mass times):

Divine Chaplet - Every First Sunday of the Month

Holy Rosary - On the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays of the Month