



CHRISTMAS 2021

VENITE ADORÉMUS
- DÓMINUM -

*“And the Word
was made Flesh
and dwelt among us;
and we saw His glory,
the glory as it were
of the only-begotten
of the Father,
full of grace and truth.”*

*St. Anthony of Padua
Catholic Church*

Temperance, Michigan

The Nativity of the Lord

Our hearts are aglow with the joy of Christmas! Our senses are alive with the season, from the rich smells of evergreen and gingerbread to the feel of crisp air on our skin and the warmth of a loved one's embrace. At some point in the holiday hustle and bustle, take a few moments of quiet. In the silence, reflect on the other senses of the season. Imagine the cool damp of an animal stable, the earthy smell of hay and feed, and the crisp night air blowing in softly. Imagine kneeling beside an exhausted, joyful mother and a relieved, protective father. Imagine an infant wrapped in cloth scraps held out to your open arms. Imagine holding the infant Jesus. As his eyes meet yours, welcome into your heart the greatest gift of Christmas.

ST. ANTHONY'S DIRECTORY

PASTOR

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 frslaton@stanthonytemperance.org

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Web site: stanthonytemperance.org

OFFICE STAFF:

Michelle Lindsey, Parish Secretary: 734-854-1143 stanthony@bex.net
 Office Hours: Monday - Thursday: 9:00am - 4:30pm; Friday: 9:00am - 1:00pm

Linda Moeltner, Business Office: 734-854-8445 busadmin@stanthonytemperance.org
 Office Hours: Tuesday: 9:00am - 3:00pm

Caeli Rose McCutchen, Office Assistant

DIRECTOR OF LITURGY & MUSIC

Eric Hite.....419-266-0571.....ehite820@gmail.com

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (RE)

Ginny Stout, RE Coordinator.....734-854-1160 dredu@stanthonytemperance.org

Office Hours: Monday - 10:30am - 5:00pm

Mass Schedule

Saturday (Sunday Vigil): 5:00pm (English) Monday: No Mass, except Holydays
 Sunday: 8:00am & 10:00am (English); Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 8:30am (English)
 12:00pm (Latin) Wednesday: 8:30am (Latin)
 Thursday also 7:00pm (Latin)

Sacrament of Penance

Saturday: 3:30-4:30pm; Thursday: 5:30 - 6:30pm; Or by appointment

Devotions

First Friday: 8:30am Mass (English) & 7:00pm Mass (Latin)
 First Saturday: 9:00am Mass (Latin)

Prayer Blankets

Sandy Maenle.....734-847-7813

Prayer Chain

Miriam Dressel.....734-888-1192

† Our Sacramental Policy †

Six-month Parish registration and participation are required for Baptism, Confirmation and Marriage.

Baptisms: Arrangements must be made in advance and parents must attend a baptism class. The Church requires that at least one of the parents be a practicing Catholic, and the Godparents must be active, practicing, fully initiated Catholics at least 16 years of age. If two Godparents: must be 1 male & 1 female; if one Godparent: may be male or female.

Marriage: Arrangements must be made at least nine months in advance. Please call the rectory office. Officiate at the ceremony must be St. Anthony Parish Pastor or a family member.

Funerals: Officiate must be St. Anthony Parish Pastor or a family member.

Please note: The services of the Parish Organist are used for all sacramental liturgies.



For more details regarding our Sacramental policies and procedures, please refer to the Sacrament link on our Parish web-site.

Christmas Blessings to All!

Many people come to St. Anthony Catholic Church to worship during the Christmas Season.

What a blessing to celebrate this holy day with the familiar faces of those who join us throughout the year, who, especially in these difficult times have enriched our lives through Worship, Christian Charity, and self-giving love:

We Give Thanks to God for You!

In this past year, we have been blessed with new acquaintances, whether joining us at Holy Mass, or registering to become members of our family.

Or, maybe today is your first time at St. Anthony's.

To all of you we offer a sincere: "Hello and Welcome."

Maybe you've been away for a while and have chosen this time to re-connect:

To you we offer a heartfelt, "Welcome Home!"

Christmas Blessings



From Father Slaton and the Staff of St. Anthony Catholic Church

Linda Michelle Eric



Ginny Caeli Robert



There is a lot of imagery around Christmas that has to do with adoption – or, more specifically, with a child being loved by another as if they belonged to that person and loved in such a profound way that in time, they do come to belong to that person.

We see this with Joseph and the **infant Jesus. Joseph is not Jesus' biological father.** But through a series of actions, and through his faithfulness in small, everyday matters, Joseph becomes the foster father of Jesus.

Perhaps we are parents who have adopted children, or we ourselves were adopted. We have also seen how, through a series of actions of love and sacrifice, someone can become the parent of a person who is not their “blood.” A lot of times these families celebrate the day of the adoption. I’ve heard it called a “gotcha day,” and it’s marked joyously, like a birthday.

Most of us are not descended from **the Israelites, God’s Chosen People.** But through a series of extraordinary actions of love and sacrifice, God has made Himself our parent, too. And through our own actions, and through faithfulness in small and everyday matters, we are His children.

But in this family, instead of blood ties, we have **stewardship ties. It’s not about who we look like, it’s about how we treat one another.** How we take care of one another.

So this Christmas, let’s think about how we will celebrate our adoption. As much as it is Jesus’ birthday, it’s also our “gotcha day” – the day we received the gift of eternal family.

–Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

All the Recipients of the Prayer Blankets and Prayer Squares

All those in Jails or Prisons

- Rudi Amer
- Sharon Bailey
- Fay Barakat
- Paul Bazydlo
- Wayne Breining
- Jan Brissette
- Bob Carey
- Carey
- Gerald Carto
- John, Bev, & Ann Connolly
- Terri Corathers
- Lowell Cousino
- Mandy Cousino
- Sue & David Dawn
- Veronica DeLeon
- Marcus Demorest
- Reagan Devlin
- Teresa Devlin
- Christopher Dixon
- Martha Eades
- Kristen Easton
- Emily
- Elaine Esper

....Let us Pray for....

- Joe Evener
- “Family”
- Scott Ferguson
- Jim Fuelling
- Julie Fuzinski
- Jennifer Gibson
- Eric Gogel
- Mike Gogel
- Grandson
- Judy Chris Govern
- Sheila Greisinger
- Theresa Grycza
- Janet Harrell
- Ann Hayden
- Gloria Hartman
- Stephen & Nicole Hartman
- Diane Heidelberg
- Phylis Heyse
- Sonya Hill
- Jake Holmes
- Immalynn
- Rosemary Jacobs
- Jimarie
- Gloria Knaggs
- Jonah Kornberg
- Kathy Kapela
- Richard Kopas

- Wayne Langscheid
- Mary LaRoy
- Karen LaVoy
- Fr. John Lehner
- Harry Linebaugh
- Joe Maenle
- John Maenle
- Kelly Maenle
- Sandy Maenle
- Steve Murzynski
- Casey Naperella
- Bernadine Nusbaum
- Tyler & Jen Oehlers
- Austin Oehlers
- Homero Ortiz
- Madeline Palmer
- Jenny Pam
- Jacob Parrish
- Dianne Petrilla
- Jimmy Pilrose
- Julie Price
- Judy Raabe
- Rakebrand Family
- Annie Rayburn
- Devon Rayburn
- Dustin Rayburn
- Jonathon Rayburn
- Fr. Patrick Rohen
- Joy Rokicki

- Rick Rust
- Jana Schenkel
- Rick Schneider
- Jean Schroeder
- Steve & Sue Shaw
- Miriam (Midge) Sherman
- Michael Smith
- Alexander, Andrew & Tanner Skelton
- Jim Sodd
- Chuck Smith
- Cheryl Stanford
- Linda Staub
- Donald Stoll
- Terry Stoll
- Jim Stout
- Sister Serra
- Szalasiewicz, CSSF
- Tom Szuba
- Tom Townsend
- Alicia Trejo
- Lily Tussey
- Alex Valdez
- Virginia VanKirk
- Christopher Warner
- Kristine Wells
- Judy Wertemberger
- Dean & Melanie Witt
- Bill Wright

CHRISTMAS



o Come, Let Us Adore Him!

What will you give to Christ this Christmas?

Come and pray with Him

In the Most Blessed Sacrament.

He is constantly offering Himself to the Father in a spirit of adoration, thanksgiving, reparation, and petition.

Come and pray to Him

He Himself is God and deserves the worship of adoration, thanksgiving, reparation, and petition.

Come and pray as you like



- ◆ Recite your favorite prayers.
 - ◆ Contemplate acts of faith, hope, charity, adoration, thanksgiving, reparation,
 - ◆ Petition: obedience, humility, resignation...or whatever virtue appeals to you as you pray before the Blessed Sacrament.
 - ◆ Meditative reading
 - ◆ Offer your time before the Eucharistic Lord for a special intention.
- Cards are available at the Chapel entrance that may be filled out & sent to those we pray for.

The Christmas Story

According to St. Luke

In those days, a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that the whole world should be enrolled. This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria. So all went to be enrolled, each to his own town.

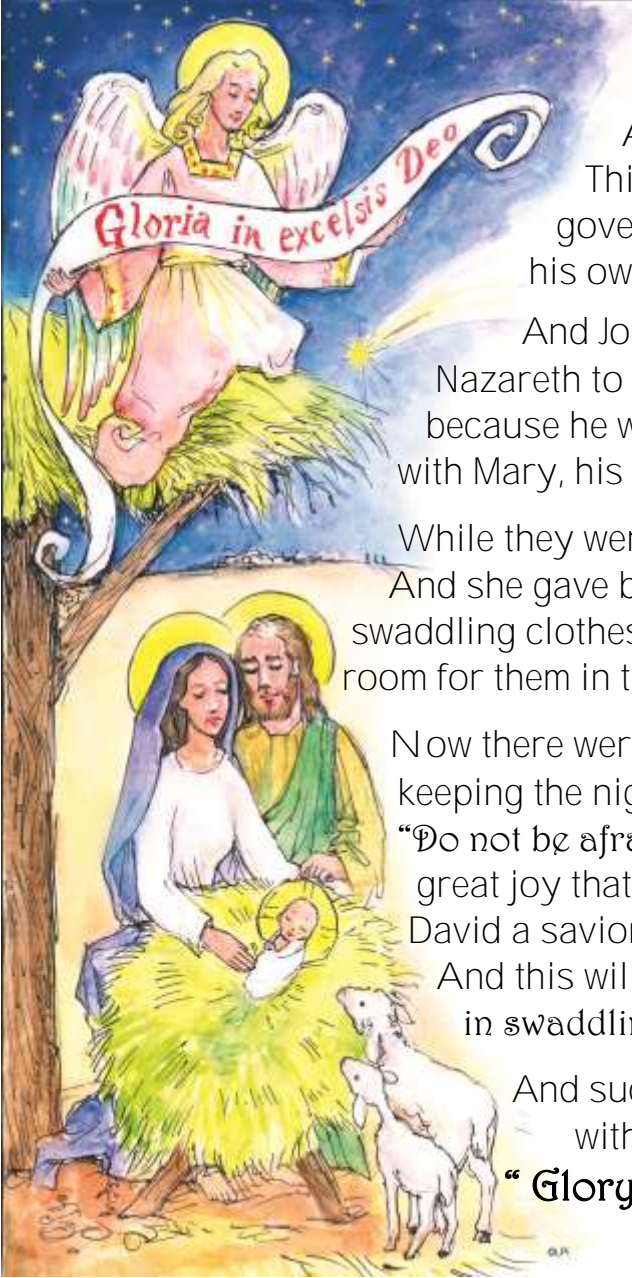
And Joseph, too, went up from Galilee from the town of Nazareth to Judea, to the city of David that is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child.

While they were there, the time came for her to have her child, And she gave birth to her first born son. She wrapped Him in swaddling clothes and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

Now there were shepherds in that region living in the fields and keeping the night watch over their flock. The angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.”

And suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God and saying:

**“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth
Peace to those on whom His favor rests.”**



Today marks the end of the Advent season and the beginning of the Christmas season.

We have lighted four candles these past four weeks
and asked God to help us be present to our neighbors and friends.

Now in the Christmas season we are called to be Christ in the flesh to our world.

Let us pray...

O God, you became human through the obedience
of a simple young woman named Mary.

Mary is our model of faith. May we be faithful to Your word as Mary was.
Give us the courage to face each day with the yes that Mary gave to You.

We ask this through the incarnate God,
Who comes to us again during this Christmas season. Amen.



“The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it”

(Jn. 1:5).

Over the course of the years, I have had several spiritual fathers. These men were the ones I turned to for guidance and support in matters of prayer, pastoral ministry, and the worship of the Almighty. I clearly remember one incident when I was lamenting with my spiritual father, a good and Godly man who has gone to his eternal reward. I was recounting my list of concerns regarding the state of the Church, society, and the encroaching political pressure that was being leveled upon the people of God when he commented: “don’t allow yourself to be overwhelmed by all of this!” I was a bit confused, until he elaborated: “The situation may look dire! You may not see any avenue of correction. But God can fix all of this instantly if He chooses to.” These words left quite an impression upon me. It was a reminder (and a humbling one) that I am not in charge of all things. It is not my responsibility to “fix” all the problems of society and the world. God has asked me to shepherd a small corner of the south-west district of the Archdiocese of Detroit and I need to remain focused on being faithful to that calling. It was almost as if he instructed me: “Do your job as a pastor and let God be God”.

Most of you reading this article are aware that the last few weeks have been difficult for me on a personal level. Along with personal loss, the Archdiocese has asked me to supervise a reordering of the local parishes, and the Holy See has given some difficult and heart-breaking instructions. These factors, along with the political and social tensions that we are all facing, seem to only contribute to the chill and darkness that seem to be enclosing us on all sides. These facts can not be ignored! I have no intention of disregarding the reality that we currently face. However, this is Christmas! The light has entered into the world! We have been assured that the darkness will not be able to comprehend or overcome the light. So, it is my intention to celebrate the birth of Our Blessed Lord. I intend to offer the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, to gather with family and friends, to tell our stories and sing our songs, to drink eggnog and sample the customary treats, and to bask in the warmth of the season. Will such an approach solve any of the previously mentioned dilemmas? No, it will not. But the battle will still be there on Dec. 26th. The struggle will continue on “Boxing Day” under the guidance and intercession of St. Stephen. I intend to focus upon the situation immediately before me, and I would suggest that we all do the same.

We are told in Scripture that our enemies are not flesh and blood. We are not at war with political entities or oppressive conglomerates. Our enemies do not wear suits, masks, or clerical attire. Our struggle is *“against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world...”* (Eph. 6:12). Our enemies are spiritual, and they would rejoice if we should lose sight of the only hope we have against them—the Light. So, let us set aside our fears and concerns. Yes, the times we live in are dark and the cold of events surrounding us may leave a bitter chill. But the light has entered into the world. This is the season to focus upon the light and allow the warmth of Christ to comfort us in the struggle. Tomorrow will bring all the difficulties and struggles which will require God’s grace. Today we rejoice and focus our gaze on the light. We deal with the situation before us in the illumination that the light of Christ brings to us today and we remind ourselves that God is still God. We allow ourselves to remember who is still the Sovereign of all creation, and who we must place our trust in tomorrow.

Blessed Christmas & God love you,

Fr. Slaton

