



# St. Anthony's of Farnham

"Lakeshore Catholic Faith Community"

417 Commercial Street / PO Box A9

Farnham, NY 14061

Rectory: 549-1159 / Fax: 549-7742 / Parish Hall 549-2867

Email: [stanthonyfarnham@aol.com](mailto:stanthonyfarnham@aol.com)

Website: [stanthonysfarnham.org](http://stanthonysfarnham.org)

REV. TIMOTHY KOESTER, FAMILY PASTOR

PAROCHIAL VICARS: FR. ROSS SYRACUSE,  
FR. JOHNSON MACHADO, FR. MICHAEL JOHNSON



*Parish Office Hours are currently limited at this time.*

*Contact Most Precious Blood at 716-549-0420 if you are in need of assistance.*

*Regular Mass Schedule Saturday 5:30 PM and Sunday 10:30 AM*

*Daily Mass Schedule: Tuesday's and Thursday's 9:00 AM*

*Holy Days of Obligation: 9:00 AM*

*(All Saints Day 9AM, Thanksgiving Day 9AM, Ash Wednesday 7PM)*

**"Come To Me, Always"**



*Trustees: Sandra Hooge, Frank Zeffiro, Jr.  
Family Administrator....MaryLou McEvoy  
Business Manager .....Eleanor Cox  
Parish Council President..Theresa White  
Director of Faith Formation.... ..  
.....Kathleen Brachmann  
Youth Ministry .....Keith Dash  
RCIA.....Scott Schaefer  
Sacramental Program.....Kris Dash  
Liturgy .....Donna Roof*

*Music Ministry .....Mike Cerabone  
Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors  
Coordinator.....Steve Smith  
Parish Advocate for the Sick &  
Disabled.....  
  
Children's Liturgy of the  
Word.....Michelle Baumgarden  
Renewal & Development: Stephen (Bud)  
Brachmann & Theresa White*

*Parish Vocation Coordinator.....Kris Dash  
Respect Life.....Legion of Mary  
Buildings & Grounds.....Larry Leonard  
Custodian .....George Cordia  
Cemetery Sexton.....Frank Zeffiro  
& Charles Walker  
Scout Troop #421 ..... Wayne Ames  
Marriage Preparation.....Keith & Kris Dash*

## SACRAMENTAL MINISTRIES

**CELEBRATION OF EUCHARIST** "Do this in memory of me.."

**RECONCILIATION** "Peace is my gift to you..."

*Confessions – Advent / Lent Penance Service at St. Anthony's and St. Francis. Most Precious Blood Tuesday's 5-6PM, St. Mary's Thursday's 6:30-7:30 PM, St. John Paul II Saturday's 3-4PM*

*\*Always available for confession via appointment\**

**BAPTISM** "Unless you are born again..."

*Arrangements can be made with the parish priest. Parents should be registered in our parish. Baptismal classes are held for parents. Call the rectory one week in advance.*

**SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY** "What God has joined..."

*Engaged couples should phone the rectory to make an appointment with the parish priest to set the date and time for their wedding at least six months in advance. Attendance at a Pre-Cana Conference is also required.*

**CARE OF THE SICK** "Come to me you who are weary..." Please

*notify the rectory office for a pastoral visit to any family member who is sick, confined at home, hospitalized or in a nursing home. Arrangements for the reception of sacraments of the Eucharist*

*can be made through the rectory office. Ministers of the sick are available to bring communion to shut-ins on a weekly basis.*

**ADULT INSTRUCTION AND RCIA** "Go and teach all nations.."

*Adults interested in the Catholic faith are cordially invited to contact the rectory office for information about Adult Inquiry Classes, the Catechumenate, and preparation for adult reception of the Sacraments of Christian Initiation (RCIA) .*

**LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION** "By their fruits you will know them..."

*For those who have been asked to be sponsors for Baptism or Confirmation, we gladly issue recommendations for parishioners who: (1) are baptized and confirmed; (2) are at least 16 years old; (3) are registered for at least 6 months; (4) attend Mass regularly; (5) if married, have done so in conformity with the laws of the Church; (6) if they are parents, are sending their children to Catholic School or Religious Instructions; (7) if they are students, are attending Catholic School or Religious Instructions.*

**PARISH MEMBERSHIP** "That they may all be one..."

*We always welcome new members to our parish family. Please contact the parish priest or the rectory.*



Second Sunday of Advent – December 10, 2023

We are urged to "prepare the way of the Lord!"

God has called some to show others how to prepare through leadership as priests and religious brothers and sisters.

If God is calling you to a Church vocation, contact Fr. Dave Baker at 716-847-5535 or visit [buffalovocations.org](http://buffalovocations.org)

December 10, 2023

**DAILY MASSES & INTENTION**

Sat. 12/9 5:30 PM Don Magavero by Ron Cervola

Sun. 12/10 10:30 AM Jean Barthold Valvo by Karen Shanly

Mon. 12/11 8:00 AM Mass at St. Francis & Most Precious Blood

Tues. 12/12 9:00 AM Mother's Day Intentions

Wed. 12/13 8:00 AM Mass at St. Francis & Most Precious Blood

Thurs. 12/14 9:00 AM Father's Day Intentions

Fri. 12/15 8:00 AM Mass at Most Precious Blood,  
8:30 AM Mass at St. John Paul II

Sat. 12/16 5:30 PM William and Virginia Cummings by Family

Sun. 12/17 10:30 AM Francis Deppeler by Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Hall

Mass Intentions are \$ 15, and a Mass card is available please call the office or stop by the rectory.

\*December 9/10: WINE~HOST~CANDLES – In Loving Memory of Christine & Anthony Tortorice donated by Nicholas & Alyssa Orlando.

**NEXT WEEKEND MINISTRY SCHEDULE**

<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 16, 2023</b>	<b>5:30 PM</b>
LECTOR	Sandie Hooge	
MINISTERS	Laura Nobsisch	
ALTAR SERVER		
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 17, 2023</b>	<b>10:30AM</b>
LECTOR	Donna Roof	
MINISTERS	Rose and Tony Cerabone	
ALTAR SERVER	Ryan Kief, Jonathan Pilski	

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT**

December 3, 2023	Weekly Offertory	\$ 3,421.00
	Monthly Offertory	\$ 655.00

If you are able to make a Church donation, please mail to the Church, or donate electronically by the following ways: A donation can be made through our website: [www.stanthonySFarnham.org](http://www.stanthonySFarnham.org). Smartphone: You can Text to Donate: Text to \*716-215-2401 (Simply text amount to the \*number and follow prompts to complete) "Give+ Mobile App: Download "GivePlus Church" to set up donation. Search zip code 14061 for our church.

**UPCOMING EVENTS AND MEETINGS**

December 10 – Faith Formation Classes with Parents 9:15AM

December 15 – Barn Mass 7:00 PM Zeffiro homestead  
1165 Milestrip Rd, Irving

December 16 – Youth Ministry at Columban's Retirement  
Home 2:00 -4:00 PM

December 17 – Faith Formation Classes 9:15 AM

**THIS WEEK AT ST. ANTHONY'S**

*Sat. Dec. 9	WINGS 9:00 - 10:30 AM 5:30 PM Mass <i>St. Juan Diego Cuahltloatin</i>
*Sunday Dec 10	Faith Formation Classes 9:15 AM 10:30 AM Mass <i>2nd Sunday or Advent</i>
Monday Dec. 11	<i>St. Damasus</i>
Tuesday Dec. 12	9:00 AM Mass <i>Our Lady of Guadalupe</i> Legion of Mary 9:30 AM Boy Scouts 6:30 PM
Wed. Dec. 13	AA Meeting 8:00 PM <i>St. Lucy</i>
Thursday Dec. 14	9:00 AM <i>St. John of the Cross</i>
Friday Dec. 15	9:00 AM Barn Mass at Zeffiro's Homestead; 1165 Milestrip Rd.
*Sat. Dec. 16	Youth Ministry Advent Event at St. Columban's Retirement Home 5:30 PM Mass
*Sunday Dec 17	Faith Formation Classes 9:15 AM 10:30 AM Mass <i>3rd Sunday or Advent</i>

**WE REMEMBER:** Sr. M Richard Outcault, FSSJ, who passed away on November 23, 2023. Sister was a teacher at St. Mary of the Lake School from 1982-1984. Please remember in prayer her dedicated service.

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS**

Bryan Ahl, Sharon Ames, Wayne Ames, Andrea Battaglia, Katelyn Bogdan, Verna Bogdan, Michael Bolistrieri, Zane Bolkman, John Brackett, Sheri Buczkowski, Nicholas Byer, Jared Canto, Diane Catalfu, Lucille Chiapparo, Florence Conover, Joe Cook, Callan Cooke, Eleanor Cox, Glenn Cummings, Joyce Cureo, Jennifer Cxyz, Mark DeCarlo, Jonah, Eric DeLang, Katlin DeMaria, Carol A. Doino, Dave Dudek, Lorraine Dunkel, John Durusky, Tami Faraci, Jack Fescio, Joe Haak, Rose Haak, Inez Hacker, Sue Hall, Carol Hoppa, Darlean Jewell-Morales, Kerry, Kristen Kielbasa-Cummings, Stanley Kowal, Don Kraft, Dayle Kuest, Gunar & Trish Kuest, Marke Lantry, Kathy Leiker, Joanne Leone, Barbrea Lewellen, Dan Lewellen Sue Licht, Troy Little, Judy Lohr, Collin Lyford, Rebecca Hall-Marshall, Renee' McMullen, Barbara Morin, Linda Muscato, Sheri Niedermeier, Kira Palermo, Alicia Parisio, Michael Pawelek, Rylee Pierce, Mark(Norm) Postle, Meagan Postle, Carol Privitera, Marge Puntillo, Vinnie Puntillo, Nina Reghetti, Rev. Dr. James Reidling, Eugene & Mary Rigby, Jessie Rinehart, Joyce Rogers, Jim Ross, Jean Marie Sadowy, Robert S. Sciandra, Evan Scholl, Matt Scholl, Ralph Schweers, Lynn Sellick, Joe Siciliano, Jim Smith, Kathy Solly, James Spano, LouAnn Stevenson, Elisabeth Stoklosa, Ruth Taggart, Elizabeth Valvo, BethAnne Van Horn, Dottie & Thomas Van Wie, Don Waite, Cheryl Waterman, Laure Weidner, Gene Welty, Marian Wesolowski, Gregory Winger Jr., Matthew Young, Chris Zgoda, Judith Zielinski.

We are happy to honor requests for prayers for the sick especially when they are in the hospital, in rehabilitation, in hospice or in a post op recovery. When they are improved we remove their names to make room for others. **Those of you who call in requests should notify us when they are better.**

**CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE**

**Sunday, Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> 4:00 PM Mass**  
**10:00 PM Mass**  
**Monday, Dec. 25<sup>th</sup> 10:00 AM Mass**

## **PARISH NEWS**

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:** Faith Formation Classes will meet at 9:15 AM with their families for our next class.. Our Youth Ministry will meet on Dec. 16<sup>th</sup> at the St. Columban's Retirement Home from 2:00 - 4:00 PM for their special Advent event.

**BARN MASS:** Please plan on attending our Barn Mass which will be held on Friday, Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> at Frank and Carol Zeffiro's home, 1165 Milestrip Road, Irving, NY. This is a wonderful way to be reminded of the reason for this season and the humble beginnings of our Savior.

**WE ARE IN NEED OF YOUR HELP:** If you attend daily mass on Tuesday and/or Thursday mornings, we are looking for people to volunteer to lector. Please see Deacon Neal prior to mass if interested. Thank you!

**TEDDY BEAR SUNDAY IS BACK!** Please help bring happiness to St. Columban's Retirement Home. As in years past, we will be accepting your donations of teddy bears until December 19<sup>th</sup>. Please place your donation on the side of the organ next to the center aisle. Any questions, please contact Kathie Barreca 716-549-2402.

### **FROM THE PASTOR**

#### *Second Sunday of Advent: Straighten the Path*

Today's Gospel is taken from the beginning of Mark. Unlike Luke and Matthew, Mark does not include any details of Jesus' birth. Instead, Mark begins with the appearance of John the Baptist in the desert. On this the Second Sunday of Advent, we are invited to reflect upon the role of John the Baptist, who prepared the way for Jesus and the salvation that he would bring to us; and upon ourselves and how we respond.

Our God is coming. The time of exile, the long separation of humankind from God due to sin, is about to end. This is the good news proclaimed in today's liturgy.

Isaiah in today's First Reading promises Israel's future release and return from captivity and exile. But as today's Gospel shows, Israel's historic deliverance was meant to herald an even greater saving act by God, the coming of Jesus to set Israel and all nations free from bondage to sin, to gather them up and carry them back to God. God sent an angel before Israel to lead them in their exodus towards the promised land. And He promised to send a messenger of the covenant, Elijah, to purify the people and turn their hearts to the Father before the day of the Lord.

John the Baptist quotes these, as well as Isaiah's prophecy, to show that all of Israel's history

looks forward to the revelation of Jesus. In Jesus, God has filled in the valley that divided sinful humanity from Himself. He has reached down from heaven and made His glory to dwell on earth, as we sing in today's Psalm. He has done all this not for humanity in the abstract but for each of us. The long history of salvation has led us to this Eucharist, in which our God again comes, and our salvation is near. And each of us must hear in today's readings a personal call. Here is your God, Isaiah says. He has been patient with you, Peter says in today's Second Reading.

Like Jerusalem's inhabitants in the Gospel, we have to go out to Him, repenting our sins, all the laziness and self-indulgence that make our lives a spiritual wasteland. We have to straighten out our lives so that everything we do leads us to Him.

John the Baptist is presented to us as a model during Advent. We, too, are called upon to prepare a way for the Lord. Like John the Baptist, we are messengers in service to one who is greater than we are. Our Baptism commissions us to call others to life as disciples of Jesus. Today, let us hear the beginning of the Gospel and again commit ourselves to lives of holiness and devotion.

Choicest Blessings, Fr. Tim

### **ROAD TO RENEWAL**

Shalom. What would have been a familiar Hebrew greeting to Jesus is the theme for the Second week in Advent, peace. Saint Francis de Sales once said, "Do not lose your inner peace for anything whatsoever, not even if your whole world seems upset. If you find that you have wandered away from the shelter of God, lead your heart back to Him quietly and simply."

The great Saint draws comparison between peace and the shelter of God, almost as if those two go so perfectly together. Our ability to be at peace with our neighbors and ourselves is what allows our soul to draw closer to God. Only when our relationship with God is not hindered by the stain of sin and chaos, is when we are truly sheltered in God's protection, bringing the soul peace.

As we prepare for the holiday, include time to draw near to the simplicity and quietness of God's Creation and Way. Waiting in peace for the arrival of her King and Lord. How can we be an outward sign of peace to those who will be visiting our family of parishes, our life, this season? May you experience God's Choicest Blessings!

Shalom, Fr. Tim

**RURAL TRANSIT SERVICE** is currently looking for volunteers by driving, dispatching or becoming a driver aide. We will work with your schedule; call today to find out how you can begin your new adventure volunteering with us! **NEED A RIDE?** We are a non-profit transportation organization servicing seniors, disabled and income eligible residents in selected areas of Erie County. 716-549-5098; [www.ruraltransitservice.org](http://www.ruraltransitservice.org)

**STAY CONNECTED** with all the latest information and events in our parish by signing up on our Facebook page. We share bulletin announcements, pictures of events that happen at St. Anthony's, and meditations to enhance spiritual growth.

**FEED THE HUNGRY:** Please remember to support those in need in our community by donating **NON-PERISHABLE** food OR clothing to Operation Good Neighbor. Collection boxes are at the entrances of our church. **PLEASE DO NOT PLACE FRESH FOOD IN THE COLLECTIONS BINS AT CHURCH.** Your support helps fight hunger 365 days a year! **OPERATION GOOD NEIGHBOR:** Operation Good Neighbor in Evans at 2030 South Creek Rd., Evans NY 14112, Food Pantry 12:30-5:30PM. 716-627-5194

**ABORTION EXPANSION BILL:** Contact your state legislator and express your view of their vote on the abortion expansion bill. <https://www.nyscatholic.org> and click on Action Center **OFFICE OF PRO-LIFE ACTIVITIES - TELEPHONE HOTLINE NUMBERS.** Unplanned Pregnancy, Abortion Alternatives & Healing: 716-847-2205. St. Gianna Pregnancy Outreach Centers, helping mothers and fathers in need: 716-842-BABY (2229) Buffalo, 716-203-7593 Chautauqua County, 716-284-BABY (2229) Niagara County. Project Rachel, post-abortion reconciliation: 716-847-2211

**DONATE ELECTRONICALLY:** Online you can make a donation on our website: [www.stanthonyvsfarnham.org](http://www.stanthonyvsfarnham.org). Smartphone: You can Text to Donate: Text to \*716-215-2401 (Simply text amount to the \*number and follow prompts to complete) " Give+ Mobile **App:** Download "GivePlus Church" to set up donation. Search zip code 14061 for our church.

" QR Code: Download QR Code reader **App,** Scan the code with your smartphone.....as seen here...→ follow prompts to complete transaction

**PLEASE NOTE:** Any articles to be published must be submitted by Wednesday 10:00 AM to be included in the weekend bulletin Pulpit announcements will be limited to emergency announcements only. Please plan ahead. Thank you.

	<p><b>THOMAS "TOM" VAN WIE</b> Licensed Real Estate Salesperson</p> <p><b>The Certo Team</b> "Helping you find your way HOME" CELL: 716-984-8661 <a href="mailto:TVWAMBIT@gmail.com">TVWAMBIT@gmail.com</a> <a href="http://www.TheCertoTeam.com">www.TheCertoTeam.com</a></p> <p>4779 Transit Rd., Ste. 17 Depew, NY 14043 716-668-7000 Fax:716-668-6804</p>  	<p align="center"><b><u>LAKESHORE CATHOLIC FAITH COMMUNITY</u></b></p> <p align="center"><b>St. Anthony's, Farnham Most Precious Blood, Angola St. Francis of Assisi, Athol Springs St. Mary of the Lake, Hamburg St. John Paul II, Lake View</b></p>
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*"Pre planning today will relieve loved ones the  
stressful decisions of tomorrow - Guaranteed Price Pre  
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**THE BRANT-FARNHAM  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**  
*Located in Brant Town Hall*

*1889 Frank Lograsso Cheese Factory and  
Winery was established on Ellis Road  
Town of Brant Historian, Patty Friend*

*Meetings are the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday each month,  
9:30 AM - Noon. Everyone is welcome!*