



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

Website: stanthonysfarnham.org

FAMILY PASTOR: REV. TIMOTHY KOESTER

PAROCHIAL VICARS: Fr. Ross Syracuse, Fr. Johnson Machado, Fr. Michael Johnson

DEACONS: Deacon Joe Gray, Deacon Neal Linnan, Deacon Steve Schumer, Deacon Bill Walkowiak

Parish Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday, 9:00 AM-1:00 PM

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"



<p>Deacons: Deacon Joe Gray, Deacon Neal Linnan</p> <p>Trustees: Sandra Hooge, Frank Zeffiro, Jr. Business ManagerEleanor Cox Parish Council President..Theresa White Director of Faith Formation....</p> <p>.....Kathleen Brachmann</p> <p>Youth MinistryKeith Dash RCIA.....Scott Schaefer Sacramental Program.....Kris Dash LiturgyDonna Roof</p>	<p>Music MinistryMike Cerabone Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors Coordinator.....Steve Smith Parish Advocate for the Sick & Disabled.....</p> <p>Children's Liturgy of the Word.....Michelle Baumgarden Renewal & Development: Stephen (Bud) Brachmann & Theresa White</p>	<p>Parish Vocation Coordinator.....Kris Dash Respect Life.....Legion of Mary Buildings & Grounds.....Larry Leonard CustodianGeorge Cordia Cemetery Sexton.....Frank Zeffiro & Charles Walker Scout Troop #421 Wayne Ames Marriage Preparation.....Keith & Kris Dash Parish Secretary.....Pat Maiorana</p>
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SACRAMENTAL MINISTRIES

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

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

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

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) .

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.

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.

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

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.



Feast of the Holy Family December 31, 2023

The Holy Family – Jesus, Mary and Joseph – always supported each other in doing God's will, even when it involved hardship. As the family of God's children, we must help each other follow God's will. Let us never stand in the way of those whom God has called to a Church vocation. Invite them to contact Fr. Dave Baker at 716-847-5535 or visit buffalovocations.org

December 31, 2023

DAILY MASSES & INTENTIONS

Sat. 12/30 5:30 PM People of the Parish
 Sun. 12/31 10:30 AM Father's Day Intentions

Mon. 1/1 New Year's Day 8:00 Mass at St. Francis & Most Precious Blood

Tues. 1/2 9:00 Mass Ginette Cobb by Randy & Denise Grupp

Wed. 1/3 8:00 AM Mass at St. Francis & Most Precious Blood

Thurs. 1/4 9:00 AM Joseph & Patrick Prenevau by Mr. & Mrs. Howard Mandell

Fri. 1/5 8:00 AM Mass at Most Precious Blood;
8:30 AM Mass at St. John Paul II

Sat. 1/6 5:30 PM Mass Irma McDermott by Bud & Kathy Brachmann

Sun. 1/7 10:30 AM Mass Fr. Walter Matuszak by Michael Parker

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

NEXT WEEKEND MINISTRY SCHEDULE

SATURDAY JANUARY 6, 2024 5:30 PM
 LECTOR Keith Dash
 MINISTERS Eileen Brittain
 ALTAR SERVER

SUNDAY JANUARY 7, 2024 10:30AM
 LECTOR Sarah Kief
 MINISTERS Steve Smith, Noreen Crane
 ALTAR SERVER Ryan Kief, Jonathan Pilski

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT

December 24, 2023 Weekly Offertory \$ 2,197.00
 Christmas Collection \$ 2,262.00

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.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.



THIS WEEK AT ST. ANTHONY'S

Saturday Dec. 30	5:30 PM Mass <i>St. Timon the Apostle</i>
Sunday Dec. 31	10:30 AM Mass <i>The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph</i>
Monday Jan. 1st	<i>Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God</i> New Year's Day
Tuesday Jan. 2 nd	9:00 AM Mass <i>SS. Basil the Great and Gregory</i> Legion of Mary 9:30 AM
Wednesday Jan. 3 rd	AA Meeting 8:00 PM <i>The Most Holy Name of Jesus</i>
Thursday Jan. 4 th	9:00 AM Mass <i>St. Elizabeth Ann Seton</i>
Friday Jan. 5 th	<i>St. John Neumann</i> First Friday
Saturday Jan. 6 th	5:30 PM Mass <i>St. Andre Bessette</i>
Sunday Jan. 7 th	Faith Formation & Youth Ministry 9:15 10:30 AM Mass <i>The Epiphany of the Lord</i>

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 Czyz, Mark DeCarlo, Jonah, Eric DeLang, Katlin DeMaria, Carol A. Doino, Lorraine Dotterel, 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, Barbbra 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, Nina Righetti, Rev. Dr. James Reidling, Eugene & Mary Righy, 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.

PARISH NEWS

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: We welcome our new parish secretary Pat Maiorana to St. Anthony's. Our new office hours will be Tuesday's and Thursday's, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM.

SPECIAL MINISTRY HELP: We are in need of parishioners to be lectors for our Saturday and Sunday liturgies. If you are willing to volunteer for this ministry, please contact the rectory or Donna Roof.

PARISH NEWS

FAITH FORMATION/YOUTH MINISTRY: Classes will resume on Sunday, January 7th at 9:15 AM.

WE ARE IN NEED OF YOUR HELP: We will be taking down our Christmas decorations on Sunday, January 14th following the 10:30 AM mass. We are in need of many volunteers to help with this task. Remember “many hands, make light work!” Thank you!

PRAYERS OF THE SICK: We are happy to always honor requests for prayers for the sick in our bulletin. When they have improved, please remember to notify the office. This way our prayer list is kept current.

LAKESHORE CATHOLIC FAITH COMMUNITY NEWS: Please refer to the back page of our bulletin for more events that are taking place in our family of parishes and the diocese.

FROM THE PASTOR

Feast of the Holy Family: Our True Home



Today the Church celebrates the Feast of the Holy Family. This celebration is assigned to the Sunday within the octave of Christmas. The Gospel for today is taken from the Gospel according to Luke and is part of Luke's Infancy Narrative. Today's Gospel describes the presentation of the child Jesus in the Temple and shows Joseph and Mary as devout Jews, following the prescriptions of the Law of Moses. The Gospel alludes to several aspects of the Law of Moses: circumcision, the dedication of the firstborn son to the Lord, and the purification of a woman after childbirth.

Why did Jesus choose to become a baby born of a mother and father and to spend all but His last years living in an ordinary human family? In part, to reveal God's plan to make all people live as one “holy family” in His Church. In the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, God reveals our true home. We're to live as His children, “chosen ones, holy and beloved.”

Today's Gospel notes that Jesus was circumcised on the eighth day after his birth, in accordance with the Mosaic Law. At that time, he was called Jesus, the name he was given by the angel Gabriel. On the 40th day after Jesus' birth, Mary performed the appropriate purification rites and made her offering at the Temple. Although the Law of Moses required an offering of a lamb, those who could not afford a lamb could substitute two turtledoves or two pigeons. In this scene, Luke identifies Joseph and Mary as being poor, and indeed throughout Luke's Gospel, Jesus will show special concern for the poor.

Another Jewish rite referenced in this Gospel is the dedication of the firstborn son to the Lord. In remembrance of the feast of Passover, when the firstborn children of the Israelites in Egypt were saved from death, the Law of Moses

prescribed that all firstborn males of Israel should be consecrated to the Lord. In this tradition, Mary and Joseph present the infant Jesus in the Temple in Jerusalem.

Happy homes are the fruit of our faithfulness to the Lord. But the Liturgy is inviting us to see more, to see how, through our family obligations and relationships, our families become heralds of the family of God that He wants to create on earth. In what Jesus calls “my Father's house,” every family finds its true meaning and purpose. The Temple is God's house, His dwelling. But it's also an image of the family of God, the Church.

In our families we're to build up this household, this family, this living temple of God until He reveals His new dwelling among us and says of every person: “I shall be his God and he will be my son.” Choicest Blessings. Fr. Tim

ROAD TO RENEWAL

Today we celebrate the feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. In his 2009 Angelus address on this very feast, Pope Benedict XVI wrote, “The first witnesses of Christ's birth, the shepherds, found themselves not only before the Infant Jesus but also a small family: mother, father and newborn son. God had chosen to reveal himself by being born into a human family and the human family thus became an icon of God! God is the Trinity, he is a communion of love. So is the family despite the differences that exist between the Mystery of God and his human creature, an expression that reflects the unfathomable Mystery of God as Love.

In marriage the man and the woman, created in God's image, become “one flesh,” that is a communion of love that generates new life. The human family, in another sense, is an icon of the Trinity because of its interpersonal love and the fruitfulness of this love. We have seen an attack in recent years on the family nucleus. Families have been torn apart by war, sin, and a misconstrued portrayal in the modern culture of what the family is all about. Let us pray that the love manifested in the manger in Bethlehem is carried in the hearts of all Christian families.

Beginning January 8, our family will begin to follow our new devotional schedule. Some of the changes made were to address the changes made in the Mass schedule and office hours. Other changes were made to foster a deeper spiritual environment for all of us to enjoy and grow in holiness. Please take some time to visit your parish website for a deeper understanding and complete list of devotionals offered in our family.

Two weeks ago, our family Pastoral Council met to discuss our Lent, Holy Week, and Easter schedules. Although we have not finalized these decisions, they will be released as soon as possible. Next week, the staff from our Faith Formation programs will gather to discuss our going forward in the family. We look forward to discussing the path to help us catechize our youth and young adults.

May God continue to watch over our families and our family of parishes and lead us to the eternal home he has prepared for us. Looking forward to our growth in the Lord. **Happy New Year!** Choicest Blessings, Fr. Tim

~LAKESHORE CATHOLIC FAITH COMMUNITY NEWS ~

FIRST FRIDAY DEVOTIONS: First Friday Devotions and Benediction at MPB will take place Jan. 5th in the Chapel from 8:30 AM until 11:00 AM.

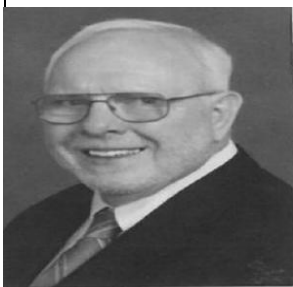
OPERATION STORM HEAVEN: The recitation of the Rosary will take place Monday, Jan. 1st in the main church of St. John Paul II immediately following the 8:30 AM Mass. The next date for the Rosary is Thursday, Feb. 1st at 5:30 PM in the Little Church of St. John Paul.

FAMILY EVENT AT OLV BASILICA: “Kids Night under the Dome” will take place at OLV National Shrine & Basilica, Saturday, Jan. 6th from 5:30 – 7:30 PM. Families are encouraged to take their children to experience the beauty of the dome and the Basilica. You are welcome to bring a blanket or sleeping bag and wear comfortable clothes or pajamas to lie on the floor as you view the dome. You will also see the story of the Magi come to life and experience the amazing St. John’s Bible up close. This is a free family event and refreshments will be provided.

DIOCESE TO CELEBRATE ANNIVERSARIES: The Diocese of Buffalo and the Foundation of the Roman Catholic church will honor couples observing their 25th, 50th, 60th and 70th wedding anniversaries with a special Mass Sunday, Feb. 11th at St. Joseph Cathedral. During the Mass, couples will renew their marriage vows. If you are celebrating one of these anniversaries in 2024 and would like to be in attendance at this Mass, please register with the Parish Office by Friday, Jan. 12th.

DONATE ELECTRONICALLY: Online you can make a donation on our website: 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.

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



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**THE BRANT-FARNHAM
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Located in Brant Town Hall

*1895 Dr. Johnston’s office was in the old Tripi
Store at Brant Center(since demolished). Often,
in exchange for medical services, he was paid in
produce rather than cash.*

Town of Brant Historian, Patty Friend

*Meetings are the 3rd Saturday each month,
9:30 AM – Noon. Everyone is welcome!*