



Church Staff

Pastor: Fr. Anthony Onyekwe

Administrative/Financial Secretary:

Mary Alyce Fiechl

DRE: Lois Freeland

Facilities Management: Joey Wall

Web Page:

saintandrewcatholicchurch.org/

E mail Address: saintandrewlex@outlook.com

Facebook.com: Saint Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church

Mass Intentions

Aug 15th: Parishioners of St Andrew and St Regina

Aug 16th: Pat Humble and Family by Mary Alyce Fiechl

Aug 22nd: Parishioners of St Andrew and St Regina

Aug 23rd: Joyce Frankowiak + by Mary Alyce Fiechl

Liturgical Ministers

August 23, 2020

Lectors — Marshall Mize

Gift Bearers —

Eucharistic Ministers —

Sacristans— Carmen McDaniel

Altar Linens — Laurie Green, Mary Theresa Foster

Ushers—Men of the Parish

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time August 16, 2020

Observe what is right, do what is just; for my salvation is about to come, my justice, about to be revealed.

— *Isaiah 56:1*

WHY PRAY?

The “foreigners” as Isaiah calls them, the “Gentiles” as Paul calls them, or the “Canaanites” as Matthew calls them are called to worship the one true God in prayer. As we listen to today’s readings, perhaps we are tempted to ask: Why pray? The question is rhetorical; it is tantamount to asking why should friends talk to one another or people in love kiss one another. Prayer is a way of relating to God, a way of talking to God. The apostles had the opportunity to talk to Jesus in the flesh. We have the opportunity to talk to Jesus Christ in prayer. Our relationship with him must be enthusiastic; it cannot be faint-hearted. John Donne, a fifteenth-century poet, knew what the qualities of good prayer were. Donne asks God to treat him differently from most Christians. The poet does not want God to merely “knock, breathe, shine, and seek to mend,” but also to “break, blow, burn, and make me new” (*Holy Sonnets*, XIV).

It takes a dynamic faith on our part to come to God in prayer. As Jesus once said, “Knock and the door will be opened to you” (Matthew 7:7). It may take pounding the door down, but if we are as persistent as the woman in today’s Gospel, the results will follow.

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TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

In recent weeks, we have looked at the evolution of how Roman Catholics initiate children into the life of the Church. How did customs evolve in the Eastern Church? At one time, Christians in both East and West preferred to celebrate baptism in a community setting, with large numbers of adults and children initiated at Easter. The two branches of Christianity began to split on the proper time to do this.

In the East, water was blessed in abundance on the feast of the Epiphany, which marked, among other things, the baptism of the Lord. Once infant baptism was fixed on that day, local customs marking a birth began to evolve. One celebration was the giving of a name on the eighth day, another was the “purification” of the mother on the fortieth day after birth. In that blessing, re-enacting Mary and Joseph’s journey to the temple, the priest took the baby in his arms and placed the child before the altar. Just as Simeon received the child Jesus, so the priest received the new Christian while chanting Simeon’s prayer. Later, normally on Epiphany, the priest would baptize, chrismate (confirm), and give a few drops of the Precious Blood to the child in a joyous celebration of the whole community.

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

WEEKLY OFFERING

Aug 9th	
Budget	\$2100
Actual	\$945
Bldg.	\$0
Short	\$1155

TODAY’S READINGS FOR YEAR A

First Reading — Thus says the LORD: “Stand firm in justice; do what is right” (Isaiah 56:1, 6-7).

Psalms — O God, let all the nations praise you! (Psalm 67).

Second Reading — The gifts and the calling of God are unable to be revoked (Romans 11:13-15, 29-32).

Gospel — Recognizing the Canaanite woman’s great faith, Jesus told her, “It shall be done as you wish” (Matthew 15:21-28).

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REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Parishioners

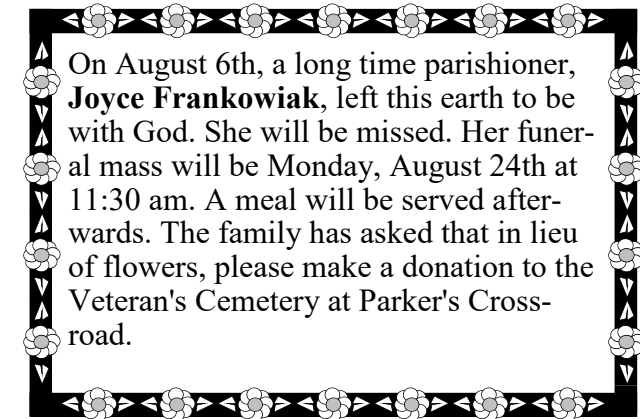
Grant Adams, Joe Bobak, Ken Frankowiak, Ethel Huffman, MaryAnn Maness

Relatives

Kelli Blankenship, Thomas Blankenship, Marie Cravens, Austin Ernst, Emily Ernst, Jackie Donnett, Andrew Grower, Christine Hart and the twin boys Benjamin and Theodore, Nicholas Kirkpatrick, Jenny Moore, Andrew Morlan, Yu Youn Suk

Friends

Emma Cupples, Fr Robert Ponticello



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

PRE Classes Cancelled

There will be no PRE classes on August 23rd and 30th as stated on the calendar. Classes will resume September 13th, after Labor Day.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Ez 24:15-24; Dt 32:18-21; Mt 19:16-22
Tuesday: Ez 28:1-10; Dt 32:26-28, 30, 35cd-36ab; Mt 19:23-30

Wednesday: Ez 34:1-11; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 20:1-16

Thursday: Ez 36:23-28; Ps 51:12-15, 18-19; Mt 22:1-14

Friday: Ez 37:1-14; Ps 107:2-9; Mt 22:34-40

Saturday: Ez 43:1-7ab; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14; Mt 23:1-12

Sunday: Is 22:19-23; Ps 138:1-3, 6, 8; Rom 11:33-36; Mt 16:13-20



Mass Schedule

Monday: 11:30 am

Wednesday: 11:30 am

Thursday: 9:00 am

Friday: 11:30 am

Vigil on Saturday: 4:30 pm

Sunday: 9:00 am

GRATITUDE

O Thou who has given us so much, mercifully grant us one thing more—a grateful heart.

—George Herbert

Coming Events

On Thursday, August 27th, **Father Anthony Onyekwe** will celebrate Mass at 11:30 am, commemorating his 25th Anniversary in the priesthood.

Due to Covid 19, we will postpone any celebrations until we all can be together to share in a meal.

We are in need of a teacher for PreK/K and for Communion 2 classes. Please contact Lois Freeland at 770-714-7167 if you can donate an hour of your time each week during the school year.