



Saint Andrew Parish

GATHER • LEARN • LOVE



“I will fulfill the promise.” Jeremiah 33:14

Parish Information

Parish Office Hours:

The parish office is open seven days a week. Hours are Monday through Friday 8:00am to 7:00pm and Saturdays from 9:00am to 2pm and Sundays from 9:00am to noon. Parishioners may stop by to make prayer requests, pay Mass stipends, or seek assistance. Please wear masks when entering the office and remain socially distanced.

If you need to make contact with the parish staff, please call 773-255-3016 and leave a message.

Mass Schedule & Confessions:

All are welcome to join us for Mass at the following times:

Saturday Vigil - 4:00pm, Sunday Morning - 9:00am and 11:00am.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available on Saturdays at 3:00pm in the main church.

Christmas Mass Schedule

Please plan to join us for the celebration of Christmas at the following times:

Christmas Eve Mass, December 24, 2021
3:00pm & 5:00pm

Christmas Day Mass, December 25, 2021
9:00am & 11:00am



Parish Staff

Pastor: Rev. Sergio Romo
FrSergio@standrew.org
Associate Pastor: Rev. Silvanus Kidaha
FrSilvanus@standrew.org
Pastoral Associate: David Heimann
David@standrew.org
Deacon: Mark Purdome
Mark@standrew.org
Deacon: Eric Sorensen
Eric@standrew.org
Business Manager: Esperanza Benavides
Essie@standrew.org
Fundraising/Development: Julie Richards
Julie@standrew.org

Office Manager: Christina O'Malley
Chris@standrew.org
Receptionists: Terry Ryan, Christine Chua
Engineer: Alfred Benkiser
Resident Priest: Rev. Arlin Jean Louis
Contact Parish staff by phone at 773-525-3016

School Administration

Principal: Allen Ackermann
allenackermann@gosaintandrew.com
Assistant Principal: Sarah Casavechia
sarahcasavechia@gosaintandrew.com
Reception: Trini Mahadeo
trinidadmahadeo@gosaintandrew.com
Admissions: Anne Japsen
annejapsen@gosaintandrew.com
Contact School Administration by phone at 773-248-2500



Pastoral Letter

by Fr. Sergio Romo, Pastor



Last week the world experienced the longest partial lunar eclipse in 580 years. My usual practice is to stay up for lunar eclipses and other celestial events. But, unlike previous lunar eclipses, I only stayed up for half of it. As soon as the eclipse reached its peak I could not keep my eyes open any longer. The next morning I regretted having stayed up so late.

As I reviewed the photographs I had taken I thought about how ancient cultures viewed lunar eclipses much differently than we do now. For many ancient civilizations these celestial events were predictors of troubled times soon to come. These events caused much fear and anxiety.

We can sense those emotions in the Word of God for today's readings on the First Sunday of Advent.

Science has since given us the knowledge to understand what truly happens during a lunar eclipse. So, while last week's lunar eclipse did not elicit fear and anxiety, nor did it portend troubling times to come, it did come in the midst of the troubling time we are presently living during this pandemic.

At the start of every liturgical year, the season of Advent speaks to the longing we have for a God who accompanies us during good and bad times. We have that Divine Accompaniment in the person of Jesus Christ. Just as believers then took comfort in the accompaniment that God promises and offers, we too take comfort that God is with us in the midst of all that we have experienced over the last 18 months. Time and time again, we hear in Sacred Scriptures the comforting words, "Do not be afraid."

As with difficult times in the past, this present challenge will eventually pass. Just as a lunar eclipse eventually reveals the moon in its full glory, so too will our lives eventually move beyond the pandemic to more joyful times. The cycle of the liturgy, along with the changing seasons remind us that there is an ebb and flow to life. The one constant though, is God's ever abiding presence to us.

Our hearts and minds may be weary as we approach the end of the second year of this pandemic, but let not our hearts and minds be burdened with hopelessness. We can approach this holy season of Advent by focusing on gratitude for what we do have, and not fretting about those things we don't have.

On the top of that list gratitude is Jesus Christ, the Son of God, who became human, and whose birth we will eagerly stay awake to celebrate at Christmas.

God Bless,
Fr. Sergio

"Advent speaks to the longing we have for a God who accompanies us during good and bad times."



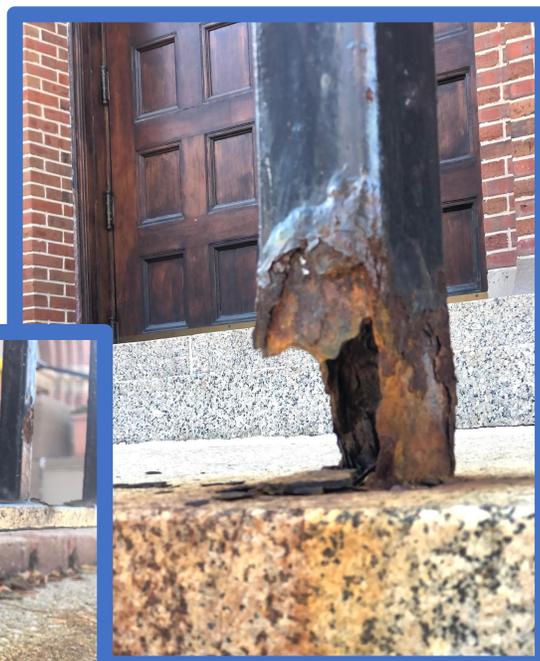
STEP UP - Giving Tuesday November 30, 2021

THE CHALLENGE

Giving Tuesday provides individuals who love Saint Andrew Parish to make a direct impact on the largest single day of philanthropic giving in the United States.

This year's campaign invites givers to "step up" as we raise money to enhance the safety and beauty of our church steps. The railing on and around the steps of the church have been an eye sore for years. Some iron rails have rusted through, and many rails could easily be broken with someone's bare hands.

At night, the steps of the church are dark and present a potential tripping hazard. When a person in need grabs onto the rails, they need assurance that they will be safe.



THE GOAL

This year our goal is to raise \$6,000 in a single day to ensure that the rusty old railing that surrounds the front of church can be replaced this Spring.

The new center railing will be similar to the railing seen to the right (*this is just a proposed sample*).

Give online at www.standrew.org/givingtuesday



Celebrate the Immaculate Conception

Saint Andrew Parish will celebrate the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, our nation's patron, on **December 8, 2021** with Mass at 7:00pm in the main church.

Please come and join us in prayer as we look to Mary's constant intercession for healing of our nation's divisions.



Come to the Manger - Outdoor Devotion

Saint Andrew Parish is pleased to announce the return of our outdoor Christmas devotion "Come to the Manger." This brief outdoor prayer service on the steps of the church began during the pandemic as a way to show our gratitude for the birth of Jesus while staying socially distanced. Featuring a light show on the church and a chance to sing with the church bells, this devotion will be done in 20 minute increments from 6:30 to 7:30pm on **December 13, 14, 15, and 21**. This year's devotion also includes hot chocolate and candy canes for the kids. Make plans to join us for this beautiful new tradition!



Advent Speaker Series - The Gifts We Bring

During the season of Advent, Saint Andrew provides an annual faith enrichment program that prepares the heart for Christmas. This year we are re-presenting our program "The Gifts We Bring" which explores the spirituality of our giftedness through the lens of the Clifford Strengths Finder, an often used human resourcing tool used in corporate offices. These sessions will take place on Thursday nights, December 9, 16, and 23 from 7:00pm to 8:30pm over video conference. Registration for the series will begin starting November 28 through the Saint Andrew website.





Since 2015, Saint Andrew Parish and School has partnered with Saint Mary of the Lake and St. Thomas of Canterbury, located in the Uptown neighborhood, with a Christmas service project through a Giving Tree. Saint Andrew has helped students ranging from Pre-K thru 8th grade stay warm over the cold, winter, Chicago months.

We are looking for volunteers to help with this project. Please email Julie Richards at julie@standrew.org. We also wanted to announce a few important, upcoming dates.

Thank you to those who helped cut out ornaments this past Sunday after Family Mass. The Giving Trees are up in the back of Church and in the School and are stocked with ornaments. Starting this Sunday (First Sunday of Advent) Saint Andrew families will be able to select these ornaments off the trees and begin their holiday shopping. We will also have volunteers handing out ornaments several days a week at drop off and pick up starting **Monday, November 29th – Wednesday, December 8th with our “MOBILE GIVING TREE”**.

As a reminder, here's how it will work:

Each student from Saint Mary of the Lake and St. Thomas of Canterbury is going to receive a gift from a Saint Andrew family (families can take more than one child if they choose) equaling **no more** than \$25.00. This gift will include two (2) **NEW** items from a pair of gloves/mittens, socks, a winter hat or scarf. Please refrain from purchasing toys, coats, candy, etc. How thankful these children will be to have two brand new winter warmth items this Christmas!

Winter warmth items will need to be turned into the school or rectory no later than **Friday, December 10th** in order for all these students to receive their new items.

Thank you for all your support!

Learn at Home, for Individuals & Families

Jesus, Savior and Brother

Our knowledge of Jesus's earthly life is limited in scope. We learn about his ministry through the Gospels, but the majority of his life remains in shadow. Ask children to tell you about Jesus, and it's likely that they will focus on his birth and death: Christmas and Easter.

If we accept that Jesus truly lived among us, we begin to understand the marvelous relationship we have with him. Jesus experienced frustration (John 2:15-16), temptation (Mark 1:13) weariness (John 4:6), disappointment (Luke 13:34) and ridicule (Mark 15:19). He was a child and a teenager. He grew into a man who was frequently an outsider, who chose to do the right thing, even when it meant suffering.

We also profess Jesus as our Savior. He is the new covenant - the one who conquered death, the sign of our salvation. A "salve" is an ointment that heals and soothes. Jesus's most significant miracle was not to raise Lazarus from the dead or give sight to the blind, though these are the miracles we seem to remember best. Jesus's most significant miracle was in the healing of our woundedness. We participate in this incredible gift of reconciliation through our Baptism, when we go to Confession, in the Anointing of the Sick, and at the celebration of the Eucharist.

Jesus is more than just Christmas and Easter, more than birth and death - he is in the living of our lives. As fully human, he sees and understands the messes we get into because he's been there. And as fully God, he can help us put things back in order... all we have to do is ask.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK TO READ & PRAY AT HOME

Masses will be said privately for the intentions listed below.

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2021

Sunday 28	First Reading Second Reading Gospel Mass Intentions	Jer 33: 14-16 1 Thes 3: 12- 4:2 Lk 21: 25-28, 34-36 Anne Browne, Jason Orillaza, +Donald Cherco,+Chuck Sarazine, +Patricia S. Wuertz and +Wade Neufeld
Monday 29	First Reading Gospel Mass Intentions	Is 2: 1-5 Mt 8: 5-11 Our departed Parishioners
Tuesday 30	First Reading Gospel Mass Intentions	Rom 10: 9-18 Mt 4: 18-22 +Thomas Cooney Family and +The Dockery Family
Wednesday December 01	First Reading Gospel Mass Intentions	Is 25: 6-10a Mt 15: 29-37 Our departed Parishioners
Thursday 02	First Reading Gospel Mass Intentions	Is 26: 1-6 Mt 7: 21, 24-27 Our departed Parishioners
Friday 03	First Reading Gospel Mass Intentions	Is 29: 17-24 Mt 9: 27-37 Our departed Parishioners
Sunday 04	First Reading Second Reading Gospel Mass Intentions	Bar 5: 1-9 Phil 1: 4-6, 8-11 Lk 3: 1-6 +Livia Ledesma, Diane Ghattas, +David Kuhlhanek and +Norma Salaria

For daily readings, please visit www.usccb.org



PRAYER INTENTIONS

We would ask you to keep the following people and intentions in your prayers.

- For the health and wellbeing of all who are recovering from the effects of COVID-19 including the ill, the deceased, and those suffering job loss.
- That government leaders find the wisdom and strength to lead our country, states, and municipalities to overcome racial discrimination and injustice. .
- For the repose of the souls of all the faithful departed including +Donald Cherco, +Chuck Sarazine and +Patricia S. Wuertz, +Wade Neufeld.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Enrich – Expand - Grow	
Income	1,855,847
Interest on Income	32,764
Total Income	1,888,980
Consulting Operating Expense	180,000
Archdiocesan Contribution	196,800
Church Lighting (Actual)	250,517
Church Lighting (Consultant)	10,480
Church Windows (Actual)	157,120
School Addition (Actual)	17,030
Total Expense	811,947
Balance	1,077,033

PARISH FINANCIAL INFORMATION

October 2021 Offering	
Envelopes Collection	10,876
Automated Giving	24,369
Loose Cash	2,854
Total Offertory	38,099
Monthly Budgeted Expenses	38,500
ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL 2021	
Goal	33,945
Amount Pledged	50,955
Amount Paid	49,050
Balance Due	1,905



Saint Andrew School



Preschool to 8th Grade Admission Sessions

9am

November 9th March 8th

December 14th April 12th

January 11th May 10th

February 8th



Join us for an
Open House on
November 18th at 6pm!
(773) 248-2500
www.GoSaintAndrew.com

Spirit. Study. Service.

- 2013 & 2020 National Blue Ribbon School
- 3 & 4 year old Full Day Preschool programs
- Full Day Kindergarten program
- A rigorous curriculum tailored to each student
- Art, Music, Spanish, Technology and Phys. Ed.
- Catholic values for life: Spirit. Study. Service.
- Before + After school care
- A vibrant family community

