



Saint Andrew Parish

GATHER • LEARN • LOVE



“Rejoice in the Lord always!” Philippians 4:4

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 Eve & Day Masses

Christmas Eve Masses will be held on **Friday, December 24, 2021** at 3:00pm and 5:00pm and on Christmas Day at 9:00am and 11:00am Masses.

Reservation will be required for the Christmas Eve Masses at 3:00, 3:15, and 5:00pm. Please visit www.standrew.org/christmas for more information and to make your reservation. The reservation system opened at 11:00am on December 11, 2021.



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 Deacon Eric Sorensen



“Pope Francis asks each of us to help.

‘Let us pray that people who suffer from depression or burnout will find support and a light that opens them up to life.’”

Every time I hear St Paul’s reading to the Philippians, it brings a sad smile to my face. It reminds me of a Lector at my old family parish in Detroit. For some reason, she always seemed to be scheduled to proclaim this reading, “Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: rejoice...The Lord is near.” It was proclaimed like a dirge, a mournful lament. Much like Eeyore, Winnie-the-Pooh’s donkey friend, it sounded sad and gloomy. Perhaps the lector was depressed, but I didn’t know her well. I should have reached out and tried to listen to her, just as Winnie-the-Pooh did for Eeyore.

This is especially a difficult time for many during this holiday season. The days are shorter, as the dark descends. The cold weather drives us inside, perhaps to further isolation. The increased stress of creating a perfect holiday only leads to unrealistic expectations. Perhaps, we feel fatigued, tense, frustrated, lonely, sad or a sense of loss. Perhaps we just don’t feel like rejoicing, even though the Lord is very near.

Pope Francis asks each of us to help. “Let us pray that people who suffer from depression or burnout will find support and a light that opens them up to life.” And we...reveal the light, as the faithful. But first, we must address our own mental health. Perhaps it needs a boost through exercise, getting enough sleep, eating and drinking in moderation, finding ways to relax, or setting reasonable holiday goals. Thus, allowing ourselves to be without anxieties and knowing the peace of God that guards our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus – *the reason for the season.*

In the Advent spirit, we bring the light to each other’s lives. We stay in touch with family, friends, and neighbors so that they know they are not alone and loved. We help to lift the burden of their worries by taking the time to listen and care. Through our volunteering and support we witness to the presence of Christ in their lives. And we encourage their healing through professional help, and the healing and comfort only God can give.

Yes, we are the light to the world! We are the Advent faithful, rejoicing always, for we know the Lord is near. So, let us go forth and bring the universal message of peace and unity to all in need. And through our support welcome them home to St Andrew community. They may sound like Eeyore, but we know they are indeed our friends, our brothers and sisters in Christ.

May the joy of this Advent season be with you...all year long.

Rejoice Always! Deacon Eric



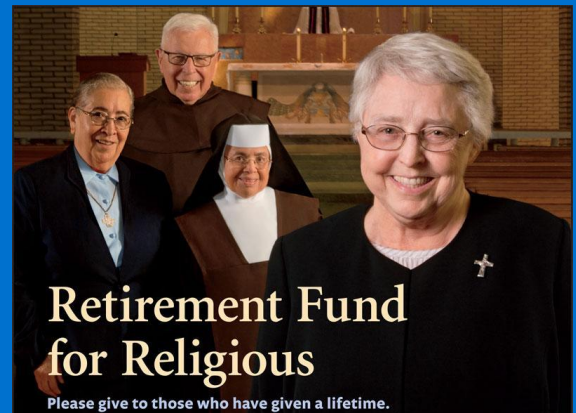
Come to the Manger

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 30 minute increments from 6:30 to 7:30pm starting this week on **December 13, 14, 15, and 21**. Make plans to join us for this beautiful new tradition!



Retirement Fund for Religious

Do you have a favorite nun, brother, or religious order priest who influenced you? Ever wish that you could say "thank you" but don't know where they are or how to help? Most religious orders are underfunded for the retirement of their members, and the "[Retirement Fund for Religious](https://www.givecentral.org/location/299/event/26890)" taken during the second collection at Masses this weekend is a key way these communities receive the support they need to help those who helped us. Please support the fund by visiting <https://www.givecentral.org/location/299/event/26890>

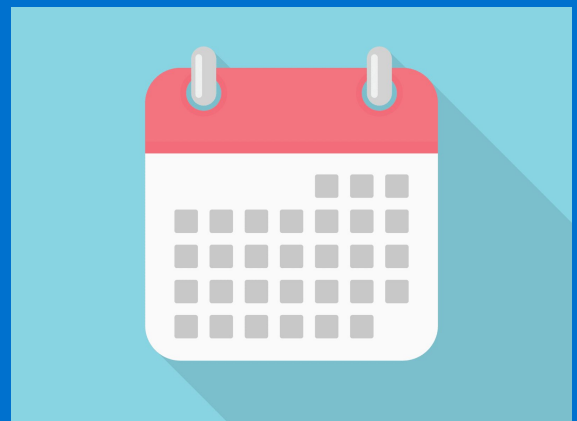


Special Note About Mass Schedules

With the rotation of Holy Days in any calendar year, some years present some unique changes and 2021 is one of them.

Because of the celebration of the Solemnity of Christmas, there will not be a Saturday Evening Vigil Mass anticipating the Feast of the Holy Family on Saturday, December 25, 2021.

Also on the Solemnity of Mary, January 1, 2021, we will only hold Mass in recognition of this feast on Saturday morning at 9:00am. The evening Mass at 4:00 will celebrate the Solemnity of the Epiphany.





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Biddy Basketball (K-3) is Back for 2022!

Sunday afternoons January 9 through February 20, 2022
Starts at 12:30pm - no games 01/30/22

Open to all girls and boys Kindergarten through 3rd Grade—
beginners or experienced!

Biddy basketball includes instruction, games, and a ton of fun for
all. T-shirts and awards are included.

Register today at <http://standrew.org/gather/upcoming-events/biddy-basketball/>
(Fee is \$50 for one child, \$75 for two, or \$100 for three or more)

For more information: standrewbiddy@gmail.com

Fully-vaccinated volunteers wanted

Masks required for all – Spectators limited to parents only





Season's Greetings!!

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.

Saint Andrew, you are amazing! At the start of Monday, we had over 80 ornaments left to pass out. You heard our cry for help! The School and Church trees is now bare! All the ornaments have been distributed!

Please start and finish your shopping this week and have those winter warmth items back to either the school or rectory at the end of this week.

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.

On the back of each cut out ornament is a label that includes the students name, age, grade, and gender. Please shop accordingly.

Once your shopping is complete, please return the two (2) **NEW, UNWRAPPED** items **AND** the **ORNAMENT** in a ziplock bag to either the school or the rectory by **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10th**.

For any questions please email Julie Richards at julie@standrew.org.

God Bless and thank you for all your support!

Learn at Home, for Individuals & Families

Celebrating Advent Together

Ask a typical first grader about the liturgical year, and you will likely hear about Christmas, Easter, and Ordinary (or “oh, ya know.. just the *regular*”) time. There is usually some confusion about the difference between Advent and Lent. What is very clear to these young people is that both are a period of intense waiting... particularly when it comes to Christmas. So how can we celebrate advent in a special way at home?

For some, taking turns lighting each candle of an advent wreath indicates that the weeks are ticking by. Advent calendars are all over grocery stores, containing scripture passages or small treats, giving us a foretaste of the sweetness of Christmas. If you attend mass at Saint Andrew or have watched a live stream recently, you may have noticed the large advent wreath in front of the Mary altar. We can think of this as our parish family’s wreath!

Others may have a nativity in their home, and traditions vary from family to family about who appears in the nativity at a certain time. Many hide baby Jesus in a special place until Christmas Eve or Christmas Day (don’t forget where he is!). It can also be fun for your three kings to go on an adventure through your home as they follow the star to Bethlehem, arriving on Epiphany to celebrate Jesus with gold, frankincense and myrrh.

Advent is a season of anticipation and a season of Hope. The coming of Jesus in Advent is bound up with the reason for his birth - to be Savior of the World. His coming is threefold: We celebrate Jesus’s first coming in the Nativity, live in expectation of his second coming at the end of time, as well as rejoice in his presence in our midst today as risen Lord.

However you celebrate Advent, allow yourself to live in the reason for THIS season.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK TO READ & PRAY AT HOME

Masses will be said privately for the intentions listed below.

DECEMBER, 2021

Sunday 12	First Reading Second Reading Gospel Mass Intentions	Zep 3: 14-18a Phil 4: 4-7 Lk 3: 10-18 +Gwen Dolyn McCarten & deceased family members, +Geraldine Klemy and + Father Dominic Byrne
Monday 13	First Reading Gospel Mass Intentions	Nm 4: 2-7, 15-17a Mt 21: 23-27 Our departed Parishioners
Tuesday 14	First Reading Gospel Mass Intentions	Zep 3: 1-2, 9-13 Mt 21: 28-32, Our departed Parishioners
Wednesday 15	First Reading Gospel Mass Intentions	Is 45: 6c-8,18, 21-25c Lk 7: 18b-23 +Scott Jacobs
Thursday 16	First Reading Gospel Mass Intentions	Is 54: 1-10 Lk 7: 24-30 Our departed Parishioners
Friday 17	First Reading Gospel Mass Intentions	Gn 49: 2, 8-10 Mt 1: 1-17 Our departed Parishioners
Sunday 19	First Reading Second Reading Gospel Mass Intentions	Mi 5: 1-4a Heb 10: 5-10 Lk 1: 39-45 +John & Virginia Kaufman & deceased family members, + Mary Lou Jones, +Thomas Cooney Family and the + Dougherty Family

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 +Gwen Dolyn McCarten and deceased family members, +Geraldine Klemy and +Fr. Dominic Byrne

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



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

Preschool to 8th Grade Admission Sessions

9am

November 9th March 8th

December 14th April 12th

January 11th May 10th

February 8th



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

