



# SAINT ANTHONY of PADUA

*Catholic Community*

### SUNDAY MASS

12:30pm

5649 Mount Gilead Road  
Centreville, VA

*Also streamed live on Facebook*

### YOUTH FAITH FORMATION

1st Sunday of Each Month

*class is held during the 12:30pm mass and supplemental materials are made available on the parish website.*

### FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY

Last Sunday of Each Month

*contact a member of the hospitality team if you'd like to bring a treat to share!*

### CALLED TO MINISTRY

Do you feel a call to serve as a reader, server, musician/singer, or in hospitality at our parish? Let one of our priests know you are interested and we will welcome you to our team with open arms. No experience necessary and folks of all ages are called to accept the invitation to ministry. You can also send us an email at: [info@mysaintanthonys.org](mailto:info@mysaintanthonys.org).

### HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

Although we have just begun our Lenten Journey, it is important to look ahead and plan for upcoming parish celebrations.

**Palm Sunday: April 13th.** Weather permitting, we will begin outdoors with the blessing of palms and reading of the first gospel, followed by a procession into the church. This Sunday is also when the Passion is read, and we are looking for volunteers to help with this dramatic reading. Fr. Julian, presiding.

**Holy Thursday & Good Friday: April 17th and 18th.** Daily reflection videos will be posted on the parish Facebook page at 9am.

**Easter Sunday: April 19th.** Easter Egg hunt at 12pm, followed by a Solemn Mass of the Resurrection at 12:30pm with all the "smells and bells." Early arrival is recommended.



### YOUR PASTORAL TEAM

Fr. Julian, Fr. Jason, and Fr. David are honored to walk with you on your journey of faith and to support your spiritual needs.

## St. Patrick

EVERYONE KNOWS when St. Patrick's Day is. But in the world of Catholic trivia, March 17 is often something else.

St. Patrick served as archbishop of Armagh in the fifth century. He brought Christianity to Ireland, where it continues to flourish. Today, Patrick has advanced far beyond most other saints, into the world of secular calendars, parades, greeting cards, table decorations, and parties. Not even the Twelve Apostles can boast such a festive following.

However, because of our quirky church calendar, many March 17s come and go without a mention of Patrick at Mass.

Our Church ranks saints' days by their importance. The principal days are called "solemnities." Christmas and Easter are the two most important. Next are the celebrations called "feasts." Here is where we find, among others, the apostles. Then there are "memorials," the saints of general interest on the universal calendar like Francis of Assisi, Therese the Little Flower, and some of our newest

saints like Maximilian Kolbe and Andrew Dung-Lac and companions. They show the multiculturalism of the communion of saints.

Then there are "optional memorials." These saints have limited or local interest, and your community may opt in or opt out of celebrating them. These include Nereus and Achilleus, Maria Goretti, Turibius de Mogrovejo, and believe it or not Patrick. Consequently, a parish could skip over Patrick every year and celebrate something like "Tuesday of the Fourth Week of Lent." When March 17 falls on a Sunday, Patrick drops out for a year. Sundays take precedence over optional memorials.

However, the principal patron of a diocese, parish or country takes the status of a solemnity. When March 17 falls on a Sunday in Lent, locales under Patrick's patronage may celebrate his day on March 18.

The liturgical color for Patrick is white, as for other saintly bishops who were spared a martyr's death. We reserve green vestments for ordinary time.

### PARISH OUTREACH MINISTRY

Every month, on the last Sunday, we gather food items for Western Fairfax Christian Ministries. In February, we collected and donated a total of 66 pounds of food, bringing our total donations to over 200 pounds since the beginning of the year.

### FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY

Our next gathering after mass for Fellowship will be on **Sunday, March 30th**. Remember that this month there are 5 Sundays and our parish tradition is to celebrate the last Sunday of each month. If you are interested in contributing to our smorgasbord of treats and drinks, please contact a member of our Hospitality Ministry:

**Tina:** tinamarie2044@gmail.com

**Polly:** pdredge@gmail.com

**Anne:** agawalt@mac.com

### SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Here are some important dates to mark on your calendar:

**Adult Sacraments: Easter Sunday, April 20th**

**First Holy Communion: May 4, 2025**

**Confirmation: June 8, 2025**

