



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!*

Participation

You come to Mass not as a spectator, but as a participant. Vatican II's *Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy* says in paragraph 14 that the full, conscious, and active participation of the people is their right and obligation as the priestly people of God (1 Peter 2:9).

The phrase "full, conscious, and active participation" expands a sentiment expressed by Pope Pius X in *On Sacred Music*, where he urged the assembled faithful to acquire the true Christian spirit from its source: "active participation" in the mysteries and solemn prayer of the Church. When he wrote this in 1903, most people prayed devoutly at a typical Mass, but not yet fully engaged with the liturgical action exercised by the ministers in the sanctuary.

When the Second Vatican Council promoted this idea in the 1960s, it called for a participation that was not only "active," but "full" and "conscious" as well; it gave these examples for its execution: acclamations, responses, psalms, antiphons, hymns, actions, gestures, and bodily attitudes (*Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy*, 30). In 1967, the Sacred Congregation of Rites issued an instruction on sacred music, citing these passages from the Council, and calling for both an internal and an external participation of the people.

As a result, when you come to Mass you have words to say, songs to sing, gestures to make, and postures to assume. But all these external actions should be supported by an internal sense that gives them deliberate meaning.

This is why the famous Catholic "Sunday obligation" appears in the *Code of Canon Law* not as an obligation to "go" to Mass on Sundays and holydays of obligation—but to "participate" at Mass on those days. The obligation is more than just being there. It is to sing and respond from the heart.



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.

YOUTH FAITH FORMATION 2025-2026

We are approaching that time of year! Youth Faith Formation is open to children up to age 12 and registration will begin in August and classes begin on October 5th. You can register on the parish website. If you have a child that will be receiving a sacrament this year (Baptism, First Communion, Confirmation) then participation is required. Classes are held during the 12:30pm mass on the first Sunday of each month. This year there will be no fee to participate.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION 2025-2026

Given the popularity of the Rerum Novarum registrations, we will be hosting a virtual faith formation study group for the 2025-2026 school year. Look for information on the topic and materials for this opportunity to deepen your understanding of faith through the convenience of online and group conversation. Classes will be held once a month via Zoom from October until May.

JOIN THE READING ROTATION!

As we return to our parish routines after a lovely summer break, we invite you to join the rotation of readers who help proclaim the Word during mass. All materials will be provided and you can select your preferred frequency. If you would like your name added to the list, please let us know!

MONTHLY OUTREACH PROJECT

Food Drive

CRITICAL FOOD NEEDS

- Sugar
- Pasta Sauce
- Canned Beans
- Oil
- Rice

WESTERN FAIRFAX CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

Items are collected the last Sunday of each month.

**FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY**

Our next gathering for Fellowship will be after mass on **August 31st**. This is also the monthly food collection date - so it's an opportunity to support our community's needs by donating a food item to WFCM and celebrate the joys of being part of a parish family. It's a twofold blessing to gather and share. Mark your calendar and join us! You can find a list of the most needed items in the bulletin this week and donations can be dropped into the baskets in the back of the church. Thank you, in advance, for your support of our brothers and sisters in need - an act of mercy and compassion.

Talk To Us...

703-665-9730 - Parish Cell

Fr. Jason Lody, FCM
jlody@mysaintanthony.org

Fr. Julian Garcia
jgarcia@mysaintanthony.org

Facebook & Instagram
@MySaintAnthonys