



# 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!*

## MONTHLY FOOD DRIVE



- Canned Meat (chicken, salmon, sardines, Vienna sausages)
- Boxed Pasta (macaroni, ziti, shells, etc.)
- Rice (white or brown)
- Peanut Butter
- Flour (white or Masca)
- Oil (canola, vegetable, olive)
- Sugar
- Chicken/Beef/Bone Broth
- Canned Fruit (peaches, pears, pineapples)
- Boxed Cereal
- Shelf Stable Juice (apple, cranberry, grape, etc.)
- Shelf Stable Almond Milk (family size)
- Similac (blue label)



**WESTERN  
FAIRFAX**  
CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES



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### 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.

### MONTHLY FOOD DRIVE

We have updated the list of most needed items for our partners at WFCM. The next collection date will be **December 28th**.

### CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Join us for Christmas Mass at 12:30pm on December 25, 2025. This will be a Solemn Liturgy of the Incarnation with all the smells and bells. Carol singing will begin at **12:20pm**, immediately followed by mass. Early arrival is recommended due to demand for parking, but plenty of parking spaces around the church and on the side lot will be available.

## The Gospel of Matthew

**CHANCES ARE** you know Matthew's Gospel better than you know the other three. It contains the Sermon on the Mount with the Beatitudes and the Lord's Prayer. It highlights the ministry of Peter. In it, Jesus urges the disciple to works of mercy because "just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me" (Matthew 25:41). It records stories about the birth of Jesus, the coming of the Magi, the flight into Egypt, and the slaughter of the innocents. Its account of the death of Christ thunders with an earthquake. For centuries, Matthew's popular Gospel dominated the Scripture readings Catholics heard at Mass. However, when the lectionary was revised in 1969, it became associated with the first of a three-year cycle of readings. During Ordinary Time of year A, we expect to hear Matthew when we attend Sunday Mass.

Most people assume that the author of this Gospel was the tax collector who decided to follow Jesus. However, this is not likely. Many Scripture scholars

believe an anonymous Jewish Christian who lived at Antioch in Syria wrote the Gospel late in the first century. The author borrowed much of Mark's Gospel—a pointless method if the writer had been an eyewitness to the events. The Gospel circulated long before the name "Matthew" became attached to it.

Matthew's Gospel seems intended for an audience of Christians very familiar with the Jewish way of life: believers who came from a prosperous area, but who were threatened by persecution. Its central message is embedded in the title associated with Jesus at his birth, "Emmanuel," "God is with us." In Jesus, God is with us. To Jesus, we respond as disciples.

The writer of Matthew's Gospel is sometimes symbolized as a man or an angel, recalling the genealogy that opens the book. Even though this Gospel was probably written after Mark's, it appears first in the New Testament and first in the lectionary cycle.

### CONFIRMATION & RCIA

Anyone interested in beginning preparation for Confirmation or any adult interested in receiving sacraments through the process of RCIA, classes will begin in January. Please contact Fr. Jason in person or via email to start the process or express interest.

### YOUTH FAITH FORMATION 2025-2026

This year's theme is Journey with the Saints and Seasons. Classes are held during the 12:30pm mass on the first Sunday of each month. Our remaining schedule is as follows:

**January 4<sup>th</sup>:** Epiphany Sunday, No Class

**February 1<sup>st</sup>:** topic: St. Valentine of Rome

**March 1<sup>st</sup>:** topic: St. Patrick

**April 5<sup>th</sup>:** Easter Sunday, No Class

**May 3<sup>rd</sup>:** topic: St. Joan of Arc

**June 7<sup>th</sup>:** topic: The Eucharist

### ANNUAL COOKIE EXCHANGE

Get those family recipe cards out and start thinking about your contribution to our cookie exchange. Participants are asked to make 2 dozen cookies for sharing on **January 25, 2026**. Those bakers who sign up in advance will be able to participate in the cookie exchange after mass.

## Talk To Us...

703-665-9730 - Parish Cell

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**Facebook & Instagram**  
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