



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!



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.

❖ Epiphany Chalk

SOME CHRISTIANS bless their homes on Epiphany each year. With chalk, they write an inscription on the inside lintel above the front door. The series of numbers, letters, and crosses changes only slightly from year to year. For example, at the start of the year 2018, the line read as follows: 20+C+M+B+18.

The four digits designating the New Year appear at the beginning and end of the line. In 2010, for example, the last number would have been 10. Because Epiphany comes so near the beginning of the New Year, the numbers represent an annual renewal of God's blessing.

The letters have two meanings. They are the initials of the traditional names of the Magi: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar. They also abbreviate the Latin words *Christus mansionem benedicat*, "May Christ bless the house." The letters recall the day on which the inscription is made, as well as the purpose of blessing.

The crosses represent Christ, whom we invoke, and the saintliness of the Magi. The inscription is made above the front door, so that all who enter and depart this year may enjoy God's blessing.

The month of January still bears the name of the Roman god Janus, the doorkeeper of heaven and patron of the beginning and end of things. This blessing adds a Christian dimension to the traditional observance of the first month. The inscription is made of chalk, a product of clay, which recalls the human nature taken by God's eternal Word in this holy season.

If you want to bless your home this Epiphany, read the opening verses of John's Gospel, pray the Lord's Prayer, then write the inscription for this year above your front door with chalk.

FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY - NEXT WEEK!

If you are interested in doing the blessing of your home for 2024, the words of the blessing and chalk (optional) can be found in a handy bag at the back of the church. Feel free to adapt this tradition to fit your needs.

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.

MONTHLY FOOD DRIVE

We have updated the list of most needed items for our partners at WFCM. The next collection date will be **January 25th**.

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 4th: Epiphany Sunday, No Class

February 1st: topic: St. Valentine of Rome

March 1st: topic: St. Patrick

April 5th: Easter Sunday, No Class

May 3rd: topic: St. Joan of Arc

June 7th: topic: The Eucharist

