



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!

✦ Veiling Statues

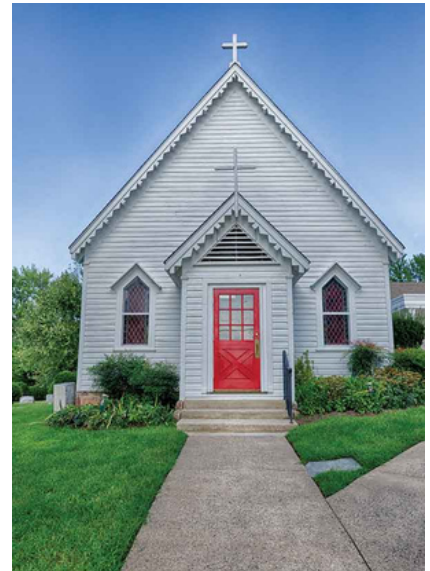
THE VEILING of statues during the last two weeks of Lent is permitted in Catholic Churches throughout the United States. It is optional.

In the past, crosses and statues in all churches were covered in purple before the Fifth Sunday of Lent. The cloth had to be opaque and free of symbols. For example, you could not cover a Cross with a cloth decorated with a cross. The Stations of the Cross were left unveiled. Crosses remained covered until Good Friday, when the Cross for veneration was solemnly unveiled. The Easter Vigil used to be celebrated on Holy Saturday morning, and statues were unveiled during the Glory to God. Wherever that was difficult, they were uncovered later in the day.

Today, crosses and statues may be veiled just prior to the Mass on the Fifth Sunday of Lent. Crosses are to be uncovered after the Good Friday celebration. Statues should be unveiled before the Easter Vigil begins.

The custom promotes sorrow among the faithful preparing to celebrate the Passion of Christ. It also recalls an incident in John's Gospel where Jesus escaped death by stoning when he "hid himself" because his hour had not yet come (8:59).

Many parishes do not veil images. Veiling can foster the misperception that Catholics regard statues as idols to be placated or penalized. The last two weeks of Lent used to be called Passiontide because one Evangelist's Passion was proclaimed on each of the two Sundays. But Lent now has a single character. On the Sundays of weeks three, four, and five we celebrate the Scrutiny of the Elect, and the Passion is proclaimed on Palm Sunday. Hence, the need to distinguish the last two weeks has disappeared.



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.

LOOKING AHEAD TO HOLY WEEK & EASTER

Virtual Triduum

- Holy Thursday: Video Posted Online
- Good Friday: Video Posted Online
- Holy Saturday: Video Posted Online

Easter Sunday

- 12:00pm Egg Hunt
- 12:30pm Solemn Mass of the Resurrection



THE LENTEN JOURNEY

Fasting and abstinence during Lent are meaningful practices—they discipline the body, sharpen spiritual awareness, and create space for prayer. But Lent is fundamentally about conversion of heart—repentance, deeper communion with Christ, and renewal of our love for God and neighbor. If fasting does not lead to greater humility, charity, and dependence on God, it becomes an empty exercise. The focus of Lent is transformation; fasting is simply one of the tools that helps us get there. So eat meat on Friday and work to become a better person this season!

ANSWER THE CALL - BE A READER!

If you are interested in joining the rotation of readers, let our coordinator Frank know! See him at mass or let one of the priests know and you will be connected with him. Schedules are flexible and the time commitment is minimal. Training and resources (including a pronunciation guide) will be provided.

GENERAL ABSOLUTION AT MASS

This prayer invites us to acknowledge our sins together and receive God’s mercy before entering more deeply into the sacred mysteries. Rooted in the structure of the Mass as outlined in the Roman Missal, this act prepares our hearts to worthily hear the Word of God and receive the Eucharist.

MONTHLY FOOD DRIVE

We have updated the list of most needed items for our partners at WFCM. The next collection date will be March 29th. Thank you, in advance, for your generosity in support of our brothers and sisters in need.

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:

- March 1st:** topic: St. Patrick
- April 5th:** *Easter Sunday, No Class*
- May 3rd:** topic: St. Joan of Arc
- June 7th:** topic: The Eucharist

A special shout-out to **Tina** and **Adriana** for taking the lead on supporting the faith development of our youngest parishioners.

Talk To Us...

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