



**SAINT ANTHONY  
CATHOLIC CHURCH**

## 2024 Advent Week 1



Dear Parishioners,

Since the earliest days of the Church, Advent has been a season of anticipation, preparation, and hope. We direct our hearts and minds towards the anniversary of Christ's

first coming in the nativity, but the Sunday Gospel also reminds us to look forward "in anticipation of what is coming upon the world" in His second arrival. We are exhorted to "be vigilant at all times and pray" and not to be weighed down by "the anxieties of daily life" as we await Christ (Lk 21:25-36).

Parishes often use Advent to ask for funding and year end gifts; but this year I want to do an Advent appeal differently. As we practice gratitude for Christ's incarnation, I want to show gratitude for all of you. As we look with hope towards Christ's second coming, we'll look forward to the exciting growth in our parish. As we update you on our past successes and future needs, I seek not that you *pay*, but rather that you *pray*.

This Advent, please focus on Christ and join us in daily prayer for our church, our ministries, and our people.

In Christ,  
Fr. David Reamsnyder

## This Week's Prayer

Join us this week, December 2<sup>nd</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup>, as we pray a daily rosary for the intentions of our parish:



- » **Mon 12/2:** Thanksgiving for well and faithfully attended masses at St. Anthony's
- » **Tues 12/3:** Thanksgiving for every volunteer supporting the liturgy in our parish
- » **Wed 12/4:** Thanksgiving for every volunteer involved in St. Anthony's music ministry
- » **Thur 12/5:** Prayers for the men in our parish discerning and undergoing diaconate formation
- » **Fri 12/6:** Prayers for the proper funding of our church maintenance and renovation
- » **Sat 12/7:** Prayers for the discernment and planning of our church maintenance and renovation
- » **Sun 12/8:** That we draw ever closer to our vision of "reverent worship in a transcendent space"



# Ministry Updates: Liturgy, Sacraments, and Maintenance

## Growth (Where We've Been)

- » 14 weekly masses with over 1,200 people attending Mass each weekend, and hundreds daily
- » An adult choir, thirty members strong, beautifully singing hymns, chants, mass settings, and four-part harmonies
- » Two children's choirs building out the next generation of music at St. Anthony's, and close to fifty altar servers
- » Replaced roofing across all of our buildings and restored our steeple cross
- » Updated wiring and electrical service that brings us safely up to code
- » Updated classrooms and CGS atriums where our students grow in the faith
- » Updated security systems in all of our buildings

## Hope (Where We're Going)

- » Continued recruitment of year-round cantors, choir members, and sacristans
- » Training of new organists, and increased repertoire for our choir
- » Formation and ordination of new deacons
- » Continued updates to door security for advanced parishioner access
- » Improvement and maintenance of our marian garden
- » Holistic interior renovation of our historic church
- » Updated hymnals granting access to four-part harmony for the entire congregation

# Thank you

We want to begin Advent by focusing on the core of our Faith here at St. Anthony's: the Liturgy that brings us together in praise, worship, and thanksgiving. None of this would be possible without the generous volunteers who support our liturgy and music ministries. Thank you to the more than one hundred lectors, cantors, choir members, sacristans, organ players, altar servers, flower coordinators, eucharistic ministers, and deacons who help us to reverently worship God with beautiful Masses.

The first aspect of our parish vision is "reverent worship in a transcendent space." We are slowly continuing with the maintenance and beautification of our church. Your weekly offerings, along with many generous supporters who have made gifts to specific projects, has allowed us to address necessary maintenance here at the parish, and we continue to plan for Church renovation.

