

49TH ANNUAL FESTIVA

R DAY WEEKEND

6:00PM-01:00AM

FRIDAY 9/03 SATURDAY 9/04

5:00PM-02:00AM

SUNDAY 9/05 12:00PM-12:00AM

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

You are welcomed and loved by St Anthony 's Community. We are transformed through prayer, acts of love, forgiveness, service and stewardship.

PARISH OFFICE: ... 978.685.7233 ... FAX: 978.688.4475... rectory@stanthonylawrence.org

DAILY LITURGIES MON (Arabic) / TUE (English) / WED (Arabic) / THU (English) 9 am **WEEKEND LITURGIES:**

SAT 4:00PM(*Eng.*) **SUN** 8:00AM (*Ara*) 9:00AM (*Eng.*) / 11:00AM (*Eng.*& *Arabic*)

Holy days of obligation: Vigil Liturgy @ 7:00 PM

OFFICE HOURS M-TH 9:00 AM-3:00 PM / FRI 9:00 AM-2:00 PM / SAT By Appointment

MEET OUR PRIESTS:

Fr. Elie Mikhael ... 305-807-9087... pastor@stanthonylawrence.org

Fr. Manuel Rahmeh ... 978-873-5363......pv@stanthonylawrence.org

MEET OUR DEACONS: Deacon Nadim B. Daou / Deacon David Leard Sub-Deacon James T. Demers / Sub-Deacon Antoine Nammour



LITURGIES

16TH Sunday & Week of Pentecost الأحد /الاسبوع ألسادس عشر من زمن العنصرة

Saturday, September 4

4:00pm Good Health and Well being of our Mahrajan volunteers.

Sunday, September 5

11:00 am Good Health and Well being of our Mahrajan volunteers.

EXALTATION OF THE CROSS September 14

Saturday, September 11 4:00 pm Private Intentions

Sunday, September 12

8:00 am +Matthew Alawi, *By Subdeacon*

Tony Nammour & Family.

9:00 am +Roy Bistany, By the Family.

11:30 am +Late President, Bachir

Gemayel, & Martyrs of the Lebanese Forces, *By Methuen Chapters Lebanese Forces*.

"Could-you not spend UNE HOUR with me?" EUCHARISTIC ADORATION STARTING SEPTEMBER 9 THURSDAY FROM 9:30AM -12NOON

WEEKDAY LITURGIES

Monday, September 6
NO LITURGY & OFFICE IS CLOSED

Tuesday, September 7
9:00 am Private Intentions

Wednesday, September 8

Feast of the Birth of Virgin Mary

9:00 am In Honor of Toufic & Yolla

Sfeir (Wedding Anniversary) By their daughter, Stephanie Sfeir.

Thursday, September 9

Feast of Sts Ann & Joaquim

9:00 am +Tony, Barbara, John, All, & Georgina Goulart, *By Dora*

Pereira.

Friday, September 10 NO LITURGY



Sanctuary Lamps

For the Good Health & Well Being of our Mahrajan Volunteers.

VENMO VENMO Stanthonylav

REGISTER ONLINE

myEoffering
Sign-Up Today

Stanthonylawrence.org/donate-now/

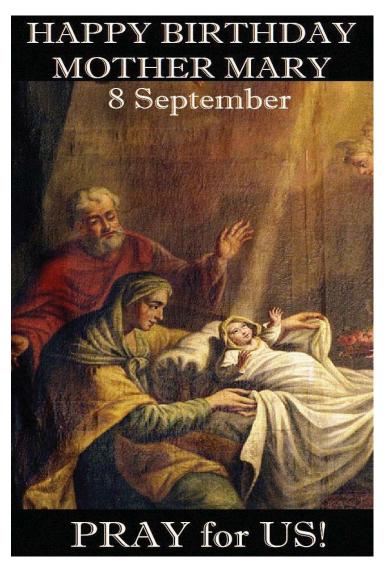
Dear Parishioners,

Humbly, I approach you with an immense gratitude for your dedication and your generosity towards Saint Anthony Church and community, especially during the hardship time of the Pandemic, which we are still dragging to stand up and go on with life.

A lesson learned through faith, love and dedication: Mountains can be moved.

As our Parish is hosting her Annual Mahrajan, you haven't spared neither your time, your talent nor your monetary donations to contribute towards the success of our Annual Mahrajan.

Yes, Presence is love and your presence showers our church and community with love and blessings! Humbly, your Pastor and Servant, Fr Elie Mikhael



Hello Religious Education Families!!!

We are excited to announce that our first class will be held:

Sunday, September 26 @ 10:00 A.M.

A liturgy will be celebrated at 9:00 as a prayerful kick off to the year.

It is time to register!

You can register online through the church website: www.stanthonylawrence.org/calendar-classes-and-events/

You may also register in person: Saturdays, September 11 & 18 after the 4:00 liturgies or Sundays September 12 & 19 after the 9 & 11:30 liturgies.

If this is a First Communion year for your child, please see the guidelines on the website for Eparchy policies regarding making this sacrament.

The religious education team is also looking for volunteers to teach. We need one volunteer for grade 4 and another volunteer for grade 6.

We cannot wait to see you all in person soon!!

Knights of Mary Online Registration is now available for the 2021-2022

Visit our website to register your children: https://www.stanthonylawrence.org/registration-form-4/

Coming soon...

Bible studies Arabic and English will resume beginning of October on Zoom

Youth and young adults English Bible studies Will be offered this fall on Zoom.

MYO and MYA will be resuming their normal activities this fall.... In person

Stay tuned! More info to come!!!

Newlyweds 2019-2020 Meet & Greet

Time & Date will be published in near future ...

THE FADING OF FORGIVENESS

In a recent issue of Comment Magazine, Timothy Keller, theologian & pastor of Redeemer Presbyterian Church in New York City, wrote an insightful essay entitled, The Fading of Forgiveness, within which he highlights how, more and more, forgiveness is being seen as a weakness and a naivete.

He begins by pointing to a couple of highly publicized incidents of forgiveness. In 2015, Dylann Roof shot nine members inside an African American church in South Carolina and was publicly forgiven by the relatives of his victims. And in 2006, when a gunman shot ten Amish children in a school room in Pennsylvania and then killed himself, the Amish community there not only forgave him, they went to visit his family and expressed sympathies to them for their loss. What was the general response? Admiration for extraordinary selflessness and virtue? No, not that. More generally, these instances of forgiveness were judged as naïve fundamentalism and as unhelpful. Why? Why would these instances not be recognized instead both for what is most noble within humanity and for what is highest within religious virtue?

Keller suggests that there are a number of reasons for this, but he singles out two in particular. We are a "therapeutic culture" (where only our own truth and feelings matter) and a culture that has a "religion without grace" (its vision and virtue go no further than what echoes in our emotions and willpower). Hence, our culture sees forgiveness more negatively than positively. For it, forgiveness allows oppression to maintain its power and thus permits the cycle of violence and abuse to go on. Like a family refusing to stand up to an alcoholic member, it enables rather than stops the abuse and allows a sick situation to continue. Forgiveness then is a further injustice to the one who has been violated and can lead to a form of self-loathing, an acceptance of a humiliation destructive of one's self-image, a further loss of dignity. Moreover, the moral pressure to forgive can be a further burden on the victim and an easy escape for the perpetrator. Is this logic correct?

From a purely emotional point of view, yes, it feels right; but it is wrong when scrutinized more deeply. First, it is evident that vindictiveness will only produce more vindictiveness. Vindictiveness will never soften a heart and help change it. Only forgiveness (analogous to dialysis) can take violence and hatred out of a relationship. As well, in the words of Martin Luther King, anyone devoid of the power of forgiveness is also devoid of the power of love. Why?

Because each of us will get hurt by others and will hurt others in every one of our relationships. That is the price of community inside human inadequacy. Hence, relationships at every level, personal and social, can only sustain themselves long term if there is forgiveness.

Moreover, with Jesus, forgiveness becomes singularly the most important of all virtues. It decides whether we go to heaven or not. As Jesus tells us when he gives us the Lord's Prayer, if we cannot forgive others, God will not be able to forgive us. Why? Because the banquet table, eternal community of life, is only open to everyone who is willing to sit down with everyone. God cannot change this. Only we can open our hearts sufficiently to sit down with everyone.

Recently, given some of our ecclesial infighting, various groups have attempted to single out one specific moral issue as a litmus test for Christian discipleship. For many, this litmus test is abortion; others pick church attendance or some other issue. What might serve as a litmus test for Christian discipleship? Precisely this: the willingness to forgive. Can I forgive someone who has wronged me? Can I forgive someone whom I hate and who hates me? That challenge lies most central in Jesus' teaching.

That being said, it must also be said that forgiveness is not simple or easy. That is why in the Judeo-Christian spirituality of Sabbath, there is a (too-little-known) spirituality of forgiveness. As we know, the command to celebrate Sabbath asks us to honor this cycle in our lives: Work for six days – rest for one day. Work for 7 years – rest for one year. Work of seven times seven (forty-nine) years – have a major rest (sabbatical). Work for a lifetime – and then be on sabbatical for eternity.

Well that is also the cycle for forgiveness. In the spirituality of Sabbath: You may hold a minor grudge for six days – then you need let it go. You may hold a major grudge for seven years – then you need to let it go. You may hold a soul-searing grudge for forty-nine years – then you need to let it go. You may hold a grudge that ruined your life until your deathbed – then you need to let it go. That is the final Christian moral imperative. Desmond Tutu once said, "without forgiveness there is no future". True – on both sides of eternity.

By Fr. Ronald Rolheiser



MARONITE YOUTH ORGANIZATION

We are Excited to be BACK!!

MYO 2021-2022 Registration now open for all High School Youth!

Registration Form can be found in the foyer and online:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YR68GQR

Stay tuned for information on same day registration after mass in the coming weeks

BE PART OF OUR MINISTRIES

Register Now!

Religious Education

https://www.stanthonylawrence.org/ registration-form/

Maronite Youth Organization -MYO

https://www.stanthonylawrence.org/registration-form-2/

Maronite Young Adults - MYA

Please email the Parish to add your name to the MYA Group: rectory@stanthonylawrence.org

Knights of Mary - KOM

https://www.stanthonylawrence.org/registration-form-4/

Knights of the Altars

https://www.stanthonylawrence.org/application/

In addition our Parish takes pride and invites you to be part of the other ministries such as:

- Daughters of St Anthony
- Our Lady of Lebanon Sodality
- Sunshine Committee
- *M*_*Wine*
- Bereavement Ministry
- Ushers
- Men's Ministry

The Sacraments of Baptism & Confirmation was administered to:

Ella George Atallah Daughter of George & Guila Atallah

May God shower His blessings upon the Baptized & their families!

BANNS OF MARRIAGE

2nd Banns Announced for:

Charbel Daher & Pascal Richa Marie Rahme & Brendan Melvin Cecilia Daher & Wilfredo Pagan

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- **Sept. 4:** Barbara Bistany, Allan Bistany, Megan El Hayek, Therese Leone, Layla Merheb, Abbas Sadek
- **Sept. 5:** Lyanna Abboud, Harrison Ameen, Stephanie Constantine, Dominic Maroun, Bruce Touma
- **Sept. 6:** Nelly Bouraphael, Lori Corey, Olivia Reed
- **Sept. 7:** Cynthia Ayoub, Violetta Hawwa, Eleanor Tarness
- **Sept. 8:** Sahar Ata, Tania Behnam, Charbel Sadek, Charbel Zaarour
- **Sept. 9:** Mirna Abou-Ezzi, Luka Hayek, Linda Khoury
- Sept. 10: Lola Abou Khalil, Rita Zaarour

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Sept. 4: Pierre & Elham Azzi

Sept. 6: Larry & Linda Kalil,

Dr. Tony & Viviane Tannoury

Sept. 7: Edward & Stacey Zraket

Sept. 8: Brian & Linda Khoury

Sept. 9: Abdo & Amanda Iskander

Sept. 10: Elie & Lina Merheb

DONATE A TREE IN MEMORY OF A LOVED ONE

The Memorial Tree Program offers families an Opportunity to remember and honor their loved ones while enhancing the beauty of Historic Saint Anthony Maronite Catholic Cemetery.

Plant-A-Tree A—

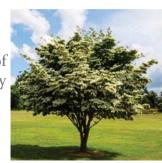
For a donation of \$400.00 a new tree will be planted in memory of your loved one, and a memorial plaque will be displayed by the tree for a period of ten years.

Plant-A-Tree B—

For a donation of \$250.00 Plant an Italian Cypress or Kousa Dogwood Tree in memory of a loved one. A memorial plaque will be displayed by the tree for the period of five years.

How the Money is Used

Your money is used for the conservation and enhancement of St Anthony Maronite Cemetery. Not only will your donation offset the purchases of new trees and plants for the grounds, your contribution helps maintain the beautiful, natural environment of our Cemetery.



Tree to be planted
(30 to 50):

Kousa Dogwood or
Italian Cypress

New Data - March 2020



St Anthony Maronite Cemetery

151 North Lowell Street Methuen, MA 01844

Your Donation is Tax-Deductible

Your contribution is tax deductible. You will receive a written acknowledgement of your donation from the Saint Anthony Maronite

Catholic Cemetery.

If you like to donate a tree, please call the office at 978.685.7233 or email us at rectory@stanthonylawrence.org

TREE OF LIFE

REMEMBER YOUR LOVED ONES BY PUTTING THEIR NAMES ON TREE OF LIFE BRASS ALUMINUM PLAQUES SIZES:

1.5" X 3" = \$75 / 3"X 6"= \$150 / 4"X8"= \$250 Please submit your request either by

Phone: 978.685.7233

or by E-mail: rectory@stanthonylawrence.org

TITHES & OFFERINGS STEP UP YOUR WEEKLY / MONTHLY / ANNUAL GIVING COMMITMENT

REGISTER FOR ONLINE DONATION: TO KEEP UP WITH OUR NEEDS AND, NOT TO FALL SHORT OF OUR FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP GOAL. Apply Online:

stanthonylawrence.org/donate-now/

CEMETERY RULES & GUIDELINES

Several inquiries have been made regarding Cemetery flowers and plants at the graves. In order for us to maintain a respectable resting place for our loved ones, guidelines are set in place and available on our website for your reference.

Planting Policy

The planting policy of St. Anthony Maronite Cemetery is as follows. Flowers only (either annuals or perennials) may be planted at the base of a monument with the following stipulations:

- 1. The flowerbed may be no wider than the width of the monument base and must come out from the monument base no more than eight (8) inches.
- 2.No shrubs, trees, or bushes may be planted in the planting bed.
- 3. Ornaments, such as plastic decorations, pinwheels, animal figurines, balloons, etc. are not allowed.
- 4.No bed covering, such as mulch or stones, etc. may be added to the planting bed.
- 5. Upkeep of the planted materials is the sole responsibility of the person who has planted the flowers.
- 6.St. Anthony Cemetery bears no responsibility for upkeep nor does it assume liability for damage, theft, or vandalism with regard to the plantings or the planting bed.
- 7.If plantings and planting bed are not maintained, or if inappropriate materials appear in the bed, St. Anthony Cemetery reserves the right to remove any dead plants or inappropriate materials.
- 8.On occasion, the cemetery maintenance staff may remove plantings to accommodate a burial or other activity. Cemetery staff cannot replace plantings.

Note that plantings cannot be placed on a Flat Marker Lot, but only on an upright Monument Lot.

Please take the time to review the complete cemetery guidelines by visiting our website www.stanthonylawrence.org/cemetery/

We ask that you share this information with your family members and friends, especially those who do not have access to our website.

Grave Purchase and Burial at St Anthony

Grave Purchase—*For Active Parishioners

- Grave Purchase-Double Depth: \$1900 (one time fee)
- Perpetual Care: \$200 (one time fee)

Total of Grave (Double Depth) Purchase: \$2100

• Memorial Stone Permit: \$75 (one time fee paid upon installation)

Burial Costs (Itemized)

- Opening and Closing (Summer Fees): \$1000
- Opening and Closing (Winter Burial): \$1,200
- Church Stipend: \$250
- Church Stipend (Wake in Church): \$450
- Soloist: \$150
- Organist: \$150
- Clergy Stipend: \$200 or left to the Family Discretion

Total of Burial Costs:

- Burial (Summer Fees): \$1,750
- Burial (Summer Fees-Wake in Church): \$ \$1,950
- Burial (Winter Fees): \$1,950
- Burial (Winter Fees-Wake in Church): \$2,150

Prices are subject to change.

*Active Parishioners are considered those who have participated: Socially, spiritually and have contributed regularly in our database.

ONLINE BURIAL SEARCH

- 1. Go to www.stanthonylawrence.org
- 2. Scroll to the bottom and click on BURIAL ONLINE SEARCH.
- 3. Type in the last/first name or in some cases just last name and click search.

CEMETERY LOT SALES AND AVAILABILITY

Saint Anthony Cemetery offers affordable payment plans to fit any family's budget. For more information:

By Phone (*During Office Hours*) 978-685-7233 or email rectory@stanthonylawrence.org

 $\textbf{By visiting:} \underline{www.stanthonylawrence.org/lots-sales/}$

EPISTLES FOR THIS WEEKEND

Romans 8:18-27

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

رومة 27-8:8

يا إخوتِي: إِنِّي أَحْسَبُ أَنَّ آلامَ الوَقْتِ الحَاضِ لا ثُوَازِي المَجْدَ الَّذي سَوْفَ يتَجَلَّى فينَا. فإنَّ الخَليقَةَ تَنْتَظِرُ بِفَارِغِ الصَّبْرِ ، ولكِنْ عَلَى رَجَاءِ «بِسِمُلْطَانِ اللهِ الَّذي أَخْضَعَهَا» تَجَلِّي أَبْنَاءِ الله؛ لأَنَّ الخَليقَةَ أُخْضِعَتْ لِلبَاطِل، لا طَوْعًا، بَل أَنَّ الخَليقَةَ نَفْسَهَا سَتُحَرَّرُ هِي أَيْضًا مِنْ عُبُودِيَّةِ الفَسَادِ إلى حُرِّيةِ مَجْدِ أَوْلادِ الله. ونَحْنُ نَعْلَمُ أَنَّ الخَليقَةَ كُلَّهَا مَعًا تَئِنُّ وتَتَمَخَّصُ إلى الآن. ولكِنْ لا هي فَحَسْب، بَلْ نَحْنُ أَيْضًا الَّذينَ لَنَا بَاكُورَةُ الرُّوح، نَحْنُ أَيْضًا نَئِنُ في مَعًا تَئِنُ وتَتَمَخَّصُ إلى الآن. ولكِنْ لا هي فَحَسْب، بَلْ نَحْنُ أَيْضًا الَّذينَ لَنَا بَاكُورَةُ الرُّوح، نَحْنُ أَيْضًا نَئِنُ في أَنْ في الآن ولكِنْ لا هي فَحَسْب، بَلْ نَحْنُ أَيْضًا الَّذينَ لَنَا بَاكُورَةُ الرُّوح، نَحْنُ أَيْضًا نَئِنُ في أَنْ الْخَليقَة كُلُها مَنْ عَلَى الثَّذِينَ النَّبَتِي أَيْ فِذَاءَ جَسَدِنَا. فإنَّنَا بِالرَّجَاءِ خُلِّصْنَا. والرَّجَاءُ اللَّذي يُرَى لَيْسَ رَجَاء. فهَلْ يَرْجُو أَنْ الْمُوحَ اللهُ اللهُ اللهُ اللَّذِي يَوْحَصُ القُلُوبَ يَعْمُدُنَا في صَمُعْفِنَا، لأَنْنَا لا نَعْرِفُ أَنَا اللَّوح، وهي أَنَّهُ لللهُ عَلْ الرُّوح، وهي أَنَهُ اللهُ عَلَى اللَّوح، وهي أَنَهُ اللهُ عَلَى اللَّور مَا يَوْمَ مَا اللهُ اللهُ عَلَى اللَّوج، وهي أَنَهُ اللهُ عَلَى اللَّهُ عَلَى اللَّوح، وهي أَنَهُ عُلْدَة عَلَى اللَّهُ عَلَى اللَّهُ عَلَى اللَّهُ الله وَقُومَ مَشِيئَةَ الله.

DAILY SAINTS

Saturday, September 4: St. Babylas, Patriarch of Antioch, M

Sunday, September 5: St. Sharbel of Raha and his Sister, M, St. Teresa of Calcutta, C

Monday, September 6: St. Michael the Archangel, An

Tuesday, September 7: St. Sozon, M

Wednesday, September 8: Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Thursday, September 9: Sts. Joachim & Anne, Parents of the Virgin Mary, C;

Bl Frederick Ozanam, C; The Council of Chalcedon

Friday, September 10: St. Pulcheria the Queen, C.



oin us for the

Twelfth Annual Benefit Event for The Eparchy of Saint Maron

Details to follow

GOSPELS FOR THIS WEEKEND

Luke 18:9-14

Jesus also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: 'Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax-collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, "God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax-collector. I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income." But the tax-collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, "God, be merciful to me, a sinner!" I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted.'

لوقا 18-9-18 قالَ الربُّ يَسوعُ هذَا المَثَلَ لأَناسٍ يَثِقُونَ في أَنْفُسِهِم أَنَّهُم أَبْرَار، وَيَحْتَقِرُونَ الآخَرين: »رَجُلانِ صَعِدَا إلى الهَيْكُلِ لِيُصلِّيا، أَحَدُهُما فَرِّيسيُّ وَالآخَرُ عَشَّار. فَوَقَفَ الفَرِّيسِيُّ يُصلِّي في نَفْسِهِ وَيَقُول: أَللَّهُمَّ، أَشْكُرُكَ لأَنِّي لَسْتُ كَبَاقِي النَّاسِ الطَّمَّاعِينَ الظَّالِمِينَ الزُّنَاة، وَلا كَهذَا العَشَّار. إِنِّي أَصنُومُ مَرَّتَينِ في الشُّكرُكَ لأَنِّي لَسْتُ كَبَاقِي النَّاسِ الطَّمَّاعِينَ الظَّالِمِينَ الزُّنَاة، وَلا كَهذَا العَشَّار. إِنِّي أَصنُومُ مَرَّتَينِ في الأُسْبُوع، وَأُودِي العُشْرَ عَنْ كُلِّ مَا أَقْتَنِي. أَمَّا العَشَّارُ فَوقَفَ بَعِيدًا وَهُوَ لا يُريدُ حَتَّى أَنْ يَرْفَعَ عَيْنَيْهِ اللهُ اللهُمَّ عَيْنَيْهِ إلى السَّمَاء، بَلْ كانَ يَقْرَعُ صَدْرَهُ قَائِلاً: أَللّهُمَّ، إصْفَحْ عَنِّي أَنَا الخَاطِئ! أَقُولُ لَكُم إِنَّ هذَا نَزَلَ إِلَى بَيْتِهِ مُن يَرْفَعُ نَفْسَهُ يُواضِعُ نَفْسَهُ يُرْفَع. «

Saint Teresa of Calcutta MC

Beatified	19 October 2003, Saint Peter's Square, Vatican City by Pope John Paul II
<i>C</i> : 1	4 September 2016, Saint Peter's

Canonized Square, Vatican City by Pope

Francis

Feast **5 September**



SACRAMENTS

Baptism & Confirmation: *1 month in advance with the Pastor*

Donations: *Church & Priest:* \$200

Matrimony: Couples should make arrangements six months prior to the wedding date

Donations: Church \$500—Priest: Free Will

Reconciliation: One hour Before Thursday & Saturday Liturgies, or by appointment

Anointing of the Sick: Please notify the Rectory if a member of your family is ill, hospitalized, or unable

to come to Church and would like to receive communion at home

Please refer to our website for more Sacrament Celebrations Guidelines.















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"God is Love" 1 John 4:8

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