

## FOURTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

St. Anthony of Padua Parish  
Church: Second & Ohio  
Parish Office: 1214 E. Second  
Office Phone: (316) 269-4101  
Wichita, Kansas 67214

### MASS SCHEDULE

#### TUESDAY, JANUARY 30

12:05 p.m. Intentions of Dr. Russell J. Fricano

#### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31

12:05 p.m. VN Mass

#### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1

12:05 p.m. +Rita Rausch

#### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2

12:05 p.m. +DeThample Family

#### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3

4:00 p.m. +Alfred & Leoba Dinkle

5:30 p.m. VN Mass

#### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4

9:30 a.m. +St. Anthony Parish Family

11:00 a.m. VN Mass

#### **Liturgical Roles for Saturday, February 3, at 4:00 p.m.:**

Lector: C. Claycomb

E. Minister: R. Hartman

Ushers: J. & K. Cordell, B. Buhrman

#### **Liturgical Roles for Sunday, February 4, at 9:30 a.m.:**

Lector: C. Reyneros

E. Minister: S. Walcher

#### **PARISH PRAYER LINE**

Kathy Siewert +Jim Mies Jerry Warrell  
Ukraine and its Citizens Kathy Hunter  
Intentions of Deb Anton Devin Carpenter  
Johnny Michelle Houchin Marian Eggbert  
Virginia and John Edwards Steve C.  
Kathryn Olden

# Good News!

January 28, 2024

*Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)*

Deuteronomy 18:15-20 / 1 Corinthians 7:32-35 / Mark 1:21-28

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

If you believed your own natural death was imminent, would that affect the decisions you make? When St. Paul wrote to the church in Corinth, that was his expectation—that the Lord's return was going to take place quickly, that the Second Coming was just about to occur and could happen at any time.

While St. Paul writes to the Corinthians that it is better to be unmarried than married, the purpose of this advice is to keep life simple and focused on what is important. Don't make any long-term commitments like buying a field, or starting a business, or even getting married. Be ready and prepared because the end of the world could literally be tomorrow. "I should like you to be free of anxieties," he wrote. Much later, St. Paul realized the end was not going to happen as soon as originally expected.

Saint Paul was not against marriage. He would be the first to say that, ideally, marriage can and often does reveal the depths of human love, but he would also say that it takes work; it doesn't happen all by itself. Just as readily, St. Paul would also note that, ideally, celibacy can and often does reveal the breadth of love given in service to others, whether the celibate person is lay, a priest, or a religious. It can seem, however, that the unclean spirit that Jesus cast out continues to roam human lives. All of us struggle to live out love as best we can, wherever we find ourselves in life. ●

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#### **OFFERING**

January 21, 2024

English: \$ 1,955.10  
VN: \$ 5,361.00  
Total: \$ 7,316.10

The end-of-the year contribution statements for the English community are now completed and can be picked up in the back of church. There is a separate box for parishioners, and a second box for non-parishioners. St. Anthony's is blessed to have a number of visitors every weekend who generously contribute to the parish. We so appreciate their involvement and donations, and wanted them to have a separate donation statement for their 2023 taxes, if needed.

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Our apologies to those attending the 4:00 Saturday Mass last weekend for how chilly the church was. At almost the last minute earlier that afternoon, a valve had broken in a water pipe and was leaking in the basement. Fr. Ben called Carlos Reyneros at home (our maintenance guy) and Carlos came right down to the church to check out the problem. He found the broken valve, and then left immediately to find a replacement valve and purchase it. Fortunately, Carlos located one and brought it right back to the church and installed it. By the time Mass was over, the furnace was up and running again (although too late to have heat for the 4:00 Mass).

Considering how cold it was last Saturday---and would have been even colder that night---Carlos' extra effort saved the parish frozen pipes and damage. Thank you, Carlos, for your splendid service to St. Anthony's. You earned yet another star in your crown.

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February birthdays in the parish: Tom Houchin (Feb. 11); Cindy Claycomb (Feb. 18); John Belton (Feb. 19); Bob Walterscheid (Feb. 24); Samuel Willis (Feb. 28); Michael Keating, and Charlie Claycomb (Feb. 27). Many graces to all!

Time is passing so swiftly this year already, and next weekend will be the Vietnamese community's New Year celebration on February 2-3 (Friday and Saturday). The drawings will be on Saturday. Prizes range from \$3,000 cash to an iPhone 15 Pro Max and other cash prizes.

Everyone is invited to the all-day celebrations with food and fun galore!

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## Dear Padre

January 28, 2024

**Why is the Old Testament part of Christian worship? Parts of the Old Testament seem to be opposed to the teachings of Christ.**

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* says it best: "The Old Testament is an indispensable part of Sacred Scripture. Its books are divinely inspired and retain a permanent value, for the Old Covenant has never been revoked" (CCC 121).

The Old Testament, also referred to as the Hebrew Scriptures, is the only Bible Jesus ever knew. That is an important reason to try to understand these Scriptures. The Pentateuch (first five books), the prophets, the Book of Psalms, and the wisdom writings all had a profound impact on Jesus. His image of God as Father, his preaching, his parables, and his proclamation of the reign of God were all influenced by the Hebrew Scriptures.

It is true that Jesus' preaching also goes beyond the Old Testament. At times he substitutes what the law has to say with an even more demanding requirement (see, for example, the Sermon on the Mount). In general, however, the Old Testament forms a context for understanding what Jesus was doing. His passion and death made no sense to his first followers except in light of the Suffering Servant of the Old Testament (Isaiah 52:13—53:12). There are many more examples like this one. Thus, the *Catechism* says "the Old Testament bears witness to the whole divine pedagogy of God's saving love" (CCC 122). ●

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