

FIRST WEEK OF ADVENT

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

MASS INTENTIONS

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2

12:05 p.m. +Mary Kathryn Walterscheid

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3

8:00 a.m. VN Mass, then Adoration until
6:00 p.m.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4

12:05 Intentions of Debbie Walterscheid

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5

12:05 p.m. Living & Deceased Members of St.
Anthony Fraternity of Secular Franciscans

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6

4:00 p.m. +Janelle Slingsby and +Eunice
Berland Family
5:30 pm. VN Mass

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7

9:30 a.m. St. Anthony Parish Family
11:00 a.m. VN Mass

Liturgical Roles for Saturday, December 6 at 4:00 p.m.:

Lector: P. Andrews
E. Minister: S. Oakes
Ushers: J. & K. Cordell, B. Buhman

Liturgical Roles: Sunday, December 7 at 9:30 a.m.

Lector: M. Gittrich
E. Minister: S. Walcher

PARISH PRAYER LINE

Johnny Todd Nguyen +Shirley Mendenhall
Ukraine and its Citizens Julie Munoz
Dee Francis Deb Anton, +Bob Walterscheid
Manny Godsey +Mary Staab
Elizabeth Mulhell Jennifer Glass

Good News!

November 30, 2025

First Sunday of Advent (A)

Isaiah 2:1-5 / Romans 13:11-14 / Matthew 24:37-44

MIGUEL DULICK

This is the first Sunday of Advent, and the excitement is palpable. Writing 800 years before Christ, the prophet Isaiah sounds like breaking news: "They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks." The psalmist announces we are already there: "And now we have set foot within your gates, O Jerusalem." Saint Paul tickles our fancy with another whole round of "revelation" yet to come "on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ." Only Jesus himself seems a little cautious: "Be watchful! Be alert!" The Lord "is coming," but he's not here yet. Leave it to Jesus to force the paradox for which Advent seems to have been created: Jesus is present, but we dare not "sleep," lest we miss him!

How do we wait for Christmas? After Halloween, the Christmas lights go up, the carols start, the "Merry Christmas!" / "Happy Holidays!" debate begins. Lent is a time for repentance, alms, and fasting. But there's no fasting in Advent: we fill bags with gifts and stockings with goodies. The Church tries to slow us down and encourage a little reflecting to prepare the way, led by John the Baptist. So let's keep waiting; let's hold on to our peace. Christmas Eve will be here soon enough. But let's not be too austere. A full menu of holiday parties and concerts and family feasts can legitimately "anticipate" Christmas. Let's cheer each other: Merry Advent! ●

©2025 Liguori Publications. Imprimi Petest: Fr. Kevin Zobel, CSSR, Provincial, Denver Province, the Redemptorists, Liguori Publications, a nonprofit corporation, is an apostolate of the Redemptorists. To learn more about the Redemptorists, visit Redemptorists.com. No part of this work may be used in any form without the prior written permission of Liguori Publications. Scripture texts in this work are taken from *The New American Bible, Revised Edition* © 2010, 1991, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Inc., Washington, DC. All Rights Reserved. Printed in USA. Visit Liguori.org or call 800-325-9521.

OFFERING

November 23, 2025

English: \$ 1,973.00

VN: \$ 6,310.00

Total: \$8,283.00

NOVEMBER 30, 2025



Advent is a four-week season dedicated to prayerful reflection for the arrival of Jesus Christ's Nativity at Christmas time. The Season of Advent begins this Sunday, November 30.

This Wednesday, December 3, is the regular monthly Adoration Wednesday in the parish, beginning with a VN Mass at 8:00 a.m. The Wednesday then has Adoration for parishioners until Benediction at 6:00 p.m. (There is no Pastoral Council meeting later that evening.) If you wish to sign up for Adoration Wednesday, there are sign-up sheets in the back of church.

Again this Christmas Season, St. Anthony Parish is sponsoring an Angel Tree for the children of clients of Center of Hope, a homelessness Prevention Program. The tree will be in place later this week with children's gift labels to be taken home, filled with a gift or gift card, and returned to the church.

This year Center of Hope said it is not necessary to wrap your presents this year; that way parents can see if a gift is something their child would be interested in. If a gift label is not available for a particular gift you want to donate, it can still be donated without a label.

*

Christmas Call to Sharing

Priests play an essential role of sanctifying, teaching, and leading. They are servants to all. Very soon, you will be receiving an invitation from Bishop Kemme asking you to consider a gift to

the Christmas Call To Sharing. Your gift is used to benefit the 51 men currently studying for the priesthood in the Wichita diocese and the 21 priests in retirement. I would ask you to prayerfully consider a special gift this year to support our priests. ---Bishop Kemme

We are delighted to welcome our new Choir Director at historic St. Anthony Church: Liona Fusco. Welcome!!!

Liona was born in Switzerland and grew up in the Catholic faith. As a youth she played the guitar and the recorder. When older, Liona joined the choir at another parish and eventually became its choir director, in addition to being a cantor and a lector.

Several years ago she and her husband Robert started attending St. Anthony Church and were impressed by the always-magnificent St. Anthony Choir. When the late director, Lori Born, became ill earlier this year, Liona joined the choir. (Lori passed away on May 9 this year). Long-time choir member Bernie Dette then offered to serve as Choir Director again, but the exigencies of challenging family concerns proved more than expected, so the role of Choir Director then passed to Liona. And did we mention she also speaks eight languages and teaches at two different schools? Very busy lady!

St. Anthony's is again blessed with a parishioner who unhesitantly is offering her time and talent to the Lord through stewardship at St. Anthony Parish. Thank you, Liona!

Next Week: More on the choir, specifically the "Voice of St. Anthony's," Bernie Dette, and the Conclusion of the American Bishops' Statement about immigrants from last week's bulletin.