



### SAINT ANTHONY

*Our Mission: May Christ's grace renew us to exercise His gifts. (see Rom 12:4-6)*

**Very Rev. Michael Bodzioch**  
**Rev. Enrique Salazar**  
**Deacon Ronald Michieli**  
**Deacon Bernard Schwartze**

326 South 3rd St.  
Sterling, Colorado 80751  
(970)522-6422

For Sacramental Emergencies,  
please call (970)520-3628.

Church Email: [parish@saintanthonyssterling.org](mailto:parish@saintanthonyssterling.org)  
Church Website: [www.saintanthonyssterling.org](http://www.saintanthonyssterling.org)

#### Holy Mass

Saturday Vigil .....5:00 p.m.  
Sunday.....7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m.  
Domingo (en Español).....12:00 p.m.  
Mon., Wed., Thu., Fri.....12:00 p.m.  
Tue.....5:30 p.m.  
Saturday.....8:00 a.m.

#### Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday..... 3:30 p.m.  
and 30 minutes before scheduled Masses

#### First Friday—Eucharistic Exposition



### SACRED HEART

Physical Address: 621 Logan St., Peetz, CO

#### Eucharistic Celebrations:

1st, 3rd, and 5th Sunday .....8:00 a.m.  
2nd and 4th Sunday.....10:00 a.m.

#### Sacrament of Reconciliation:

1st, 3rd, and 5th Sunday .....7:30 a.m.



### SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA

Physical Address: 111 S. 5th St., Iliff, CO

#### Eucharistic Celebrations:

1st, 3rd, and 5th Sunday.....10:00 a.m.  
2nd and 4th Sunday .....8:00 a.m.

#### Sacrament of Reconciliation:

2nd and 4th Sunday .....7:30 a.m.

## February 25, 2024 2nd Sunday of Lent

### Lord, to Whom Shall We Go? (John 6:68b)

For this weekend's reflection, I would like to touch upon a topic of concern for me and for others, a topic that I raised during my homily at Mass at Sacred Heart and at St. Catherine on February 18. Besides many prayers for healing, as individuals, how should we respond to scandals in the Church? Should I stay or should I go? If we walk away from the Church and Her Sacraments, to whom shall we go? To what end?

This comes to mind for me because I hear that many of those who have walked away from the Sacraments claim that they did so due to the scandals, the abuses and coverups, especially those that were exposed in 2002 and 2018. I suspect that many of us know of persons who have left the Sacraments, claiming the scandals as the main reason for their leaving.

I totally recognize **the temptation** to walk away from the Catholic Church for that reason. I acknowledge the reality of that temptation, 100%. These sins sting and they stink. And they are serious sins, mortal sins. They leave deep wounds, deep scars: physically, spiritually, and emotionally. That cannot be denied, and we pray for all those involved, especially for those who were/are directly hurt by those who abused the trust that was placed in them. These sins *must not* be glossed over. With that in mind, we must face up to another truth. There is only one Person who can heal the deepest wounds in our souls and offer us greater peace of mind as we journey through this wounded and broken world.

So, where do we find direct access to Jesus and His healing? I know of only one correct answer to that very important question. It remains the Church that Jesus Himself founded. Do we walk away from the healing He offers us, from the Church, from the 7 Sacraments that Jesus Himself gave us?

What is the benefit of leaving the Church and the Sacraments that Jesus us? The 7 Sacraments that Jesus gave the Church (all 7 are in the New Testament) provide the healing and strength that only Our Lord can give. We receive healing and strengthening of the soul through Confession. We receive healing and spiritual strength by receiving Jesus Himself in Holy Communion.

Undeniably, scandals are a part of the whole history of the Church, even at Her very beginning. The name Judas comes to mind. Yet, the Church endured through that time and will do so through these difficult times as well because Jesus promised that the gates of "the netherworld," namely Hell, would not prevail against His Bride, the Church. Recall that He cannot and will not break His promises. No matter how foul and festering our sins are, and they are, the beauty of the truth, the beauty of the Truth Himself cannot lose the war.

So, as I scan the spiritual landscape, so to speak, I ask myself, Lord, to whom should I go? I remain Catholic, still love His Bride, not because of our sins but because of the graces that He offers the world through the Church Jesus Himself established: the One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church.

I have no doubt that Satan is pleased when a person leaves the Sacraments, because the 7 Sacraments are the main weapons that Jesus gave His Bride to heal His beloved people and to stave off the arrows of our Ancient Enemy. If you've walked away, *please come home*. You would bring joy to us and to Heaven and, a bonus, tick off our Enemy, if you return to the fullness of the Faith.

- Fr. Michael

## WEEKLY SCHEDULE:

**Sunday, February 25 SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**  
**Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18 / Rom 8:31b-34 / Mk 9:2-10**  
*Vocation Intention - Spirituality Year Seminarians*  
 7:00 a.m. St. Anthony Mass **+Henry Rosas**  
 8:00 a.m. St. Catherine Mass **+Peggy Zink**  
 9:00 a.m. St. Anthony Mass **+Matt Montgomery**  
 10:00 a.m. Sacred Heart Mass **+Joanne Devie**  
 12:00 p.m. St. Anthony Sp.Mass **Parishioners of all 3 parishes**

**Monday, February 26 Dn 9:4b-10 / Lk 6:36-38**  
*Vocational Intention - 1st & 2nd Year Philosophy Seminarians*  
 12:00 p.m. St. Anthony Mass **+George Samber**

**Tuesday, February 27 Is 1:10, 16-20 / Mt 23:1-12**  
*Vocational Intention - 1st & 2nd Year Theology Seminarians*  
 5:00 p.m. Liturgy of the Hours – Associates of the Sisters of St. Francis-All welcome (lift door - Parish Center)  
 5:30 p.m. St. Anthony Mass **+Leo "Shorty" Stieb**

**Wednesday, February 28 Jer 18:18-20 / Mt 20:17-28**  
*Vocational Intention - 3rd & 4th Year Theology Seminarians*  
 9:00 a.m. Legion of Mary (lift door - Parish Center)  
 12:00 p.m. St. Anthony Mass **+Edward McMahon**


**Thursday, February 29 Jer 17:5-10 / Lk 16:19-31**  
*Vocation Intention - Vocations Ministry*  
 12:00 p.m. St. Anthony Mass **+Marilyn Gerk**

**Friday, March 1 World Day of Prayer**  
**Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a / Mt 21:33-43, 45-46**  
*Vocation Intention - Pastoral Year Seminarians*  
 10:00 a.m. Devonshire Mass **+Stan Koester**  
 12:00 p.m. St. Anthony Mass **Presiding Priest's Intentions**

**Saturday, March 2 Mi 7:14-15, 18-20 / Lk 15:1-3, 11-32**  
*Vocation Intention - 1st & 2nd Year College Seminarians*  
 8:00 a.m. St. Anthony Mass **+Marilyn Gerk**  
 5:00 p.m. St. Anthony Mass **+Angela Montgomery Hill**

**Sunday, March 3 THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT**  
**Ex 20:1-17 / 1 Cor 1:22-25 / Jn 2:13-25**  
*Vocation Intention - Spirituality Year Seminarians*  
 7:00 a.m. St. Anthony Mass **+Robert Quint**  
 8:00 a.m. Sacred Heart Mass **+Laurie Sawtelle**  
 9:00 a.m. St. Anthony Mass **+Jerome Schell**  
 10:00 a.m. St. Catherine Mass **+Rudy Hernandez**  
 12:00 p.m. St. Anthony Sp.Mass **Parishioners of all 3 parishes**

**Parish Office Hours:**  
**Monday through Friday 8:00 am – Noon, 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm**  
**CLOSED FOR LUNCH FROM 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm**  
**Phone number (970)522-6422**

 St. Raphael Counseling, located at St. Anthony's parish center in Sterling, will be temporarily closed through March of 2024. If you or someone you know would like to talk to a counselor, please contact the Denver office at (720)377-1359 to schedule an appointment. Their address is 2696 S. Colorado Blvd. #445, Denver, CO 80222.

**Baptism:** Baptism forms are available online at our website: [saintanthonyssterling.org](http://saintanthonyssterling.org). Please complete all forms, including the godparent forms, and return them to the parish office.

**Sacrament of Marriage:** Notify the Parish office eight months in advance of proposed marriage date to allow for adequate preparation.

**Anointing of the Sick:** Please notify the Parish office if someone is ill, homebound, or in need of the sacrament.

**Quinceañera Ministry:** Please call Caroline Lopez 970-522-9438 for any questions or interest in celebration. Notify at least one year in advance of proposed date for adequate preparation.



**St. Anthony Pastoral Council Members:**  
 Eddie Baughman, Cyler Beeson, Mike Ehrmann, Bernice Reed, Mark Unrein, and Bobbi Zen.

**St. Anthony Finance Council Members:** Les Archuleta, Greg Etl, Ron Marostica, Kristin Nichols, and Adam Rose.



### St. Anthony of Padua, Sterling

**Last week's collection: \$5,082.76**  
**Maintenance collection: \$ 150.00**

We ask that you **PLEASE** use a separate check for Maintenance donations because those contributions go into a different bank account. Thank you.

**Let us remember these sick and suffering:**  
 Andrea Wasson, Janie Marin, Dan Von Arx, Dick Devie, Lisa Walter, Pat Rieb, Dennis Boren, Terry Sanger, Donna Boothe, Montelle Martens  
 To add someone to the prayer list please contact the parish office during regular business hours at (970)522-6422. Names will remain on the list a minimum of two weeks



Spend an hour in adoration of Our Lord Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament. Beginning after Noon Mass at St. Anthony's Friday, March 1, & ending with the start of 8:00 am Mass Saturday

March 2. To ensure each hourly period is covered, please sign the sheet located at the back of the church.



Please join us for a Holy Hour & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Sunday, March 3, at 3:00 pm in Saint Anthony Church.

**Prayer Pretzels**

Around the year 610, an Italian monk made a treat for the children who had learned to recite their prayers. Christians in those days prayed by folding their hands across their chests with each hand touching the opposite shoulder. This clever monk formed the dough so that it would look like hands folded in prayer. These little breads were called *bracellae*, the Latin word for "little arms." Today, we call them pretzels.

*Holy God, may these pretzel snacks remind us to always turn to you in prayer. Amen.*

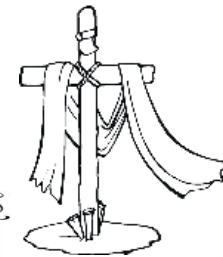
Deadline for bulletin announcements is **8:00 am Thursday**. Email announcements to [parish@saintanthonyssterling.org](mailto:parish@saintanthonyssterling.org)

**The Knights of Columbus Fish Fry** will be held in the cafeteria every Friday during Lent starting at 5:00 p.m. No fish fry on Good Friday.



### Guidelines for Fasting and Abstinence during Lent

For members of the Latin Catholic Church [this does include the Church in the U.S.], the norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal. Two smaller meals may also be taken, but not to equal a full meal. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members of the Latin Catholic Church from age 14 onwards. There are two days of fasting: Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Every Friday during Lent is a day of abstinence. (from the U.S. Catholic bishops)



Stations of the Cross will begin February 16, starting at 7:00 pm, then continuing every Friday through March 22 in Saint Anthony's Church. On Good Friday, Stations of the Cross will begin at 8:00 pm. If you would like to volunteer to lead Stations of the Cross, there are Fridays available. Please call the office at (970)522-6422 to learn more.

### Additional Confession Time Saint Anthony's during Lent

There will be an additional confession on March 14 at 6:00pm. We have invited 2 priests from outside our parishes to help with confessions. This will hopefully give us 4 priests to hear confessions that night.



Catholic Daughters will meet Monday, March 4, 2024 at 6:00pm at the Knights Hall.

Father, help me to see this holy season of Lent as a time of spiritual renewal, rather than a time of deprivation. Motivate me to reach a new level of experiencing your grace.

### Advertiser of the Week:

**SCHLENZ BUILDERS, INC**  
 1026 N Division Ave.  
 522-4535

### St. Catherine of Siena, Iliff

[www.saintcatherinesiliff.org](http://www.saintcatherinesiliff.org)

**Last week's collection: \$716.00**

**Sunday, March 3 10:00 am**

**Sacristan – Sandy**

**Lector – Jodi**

**Servers – Aly, Joey, Taylor**

**EMHC\* - Brenda, Nick, Tom**

**Gift Bearers – Nick & Kasey Anderson Family**

**Coffee and Rolls 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month, after Mass**  
 St. Catherine Finance Council: Tim Anderson, Randy Gerke, Tom Huss,  
 \*Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion



Father Michael and Father Enrique will be hearing additional confessions at St. Catherine's on Wednesday, March 6, 2024 at 6:00pm.

### Sacred Heart, Peetz

[www.sacredheartpeetz.org](http://www.sacredheartpeetz.org)

**Last week's collection: \$1972.00**

**Sunday, March 3 8:00 am**

**Coffee & Donuts after Mass**

**Sacristan – Melinda**

**Lector – Religious Ed. Students**

**Servers – Parker Reker, Preston Reker, Luke Uhler**

**EMHC\* -**

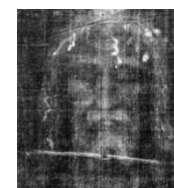
**Greeters & Offertory – Religious Ed. Students**

**Coffee and Donuts 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month, after Mass**  
**Church Potluck 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month, after Mass**

Sacred Heart Finance Council: Randy Fehringer, Evelyn Gardiner, Phil Schumacher  
 Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion



Please join the parishioners of Sacred Heart in Peetz **March 22, at 6:00 pm**, for Stations of the Cross. A potluck soup supper will follow. Please bring a meatless crockpot of soup, along with one of the following; a side of bread, cheese & crackers, or veggies to share.



Join us **March 10, 2024 at Sacred Heart Parish, Peetz, CO.**, at 1:00 pm, for a presentation highlighting the Shroud of Turin. The presenter, Jim Bertrand, will bring a replica of the Shroud for display.



Father Michael and Father Enrique will be hearing additional confessions at Sacred Heart on **Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at 6:30pm.**

