



### 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.

# December 8, 2024 Second Sunday of Advent

## The Voice Speaks the Word

Last Sunday, the First Sunday of Advent, we were reminded to stay prepared for the Lord's Coming,...*His Second Coming at the end of time.* Today, we turn a corner, so to speak, to begin to change focus, ultimately leading to recalling Jesus' First Coming at His Birth. To aid in that transition in our Gospel today we hear from the one who was sent ahead of Jesus to prepare His way, St. John the Baptist. From a sermon by St. Augustine:

John is the voice, but the Lord is the Word who was in the beginning. John is the voice that lasts for a time; from the beginning Christ is the Word who lives forever.

Take away the word, the meaning, and what is the voice? Where there is no understanding, there is only a meaningless sound. The voice without the word strikes the ear but does not build up the heart.

However, let us observe what happens when we first seek to build up our hearts. When I think about what I am going to say, the word or message is already in my heart. When I want to speak to you, I look for a way to share with your heart what is already in mine.

In my search for a way to let this message reach you, so that the word already in my heart may find place also in yours, I use my voice to speak to you. The sound of my voice brings the meaning of the word to you and then passes away. The word which the sound has brought to you is now in your heart, and yet it is still also in mine.

When the word has been conveyed to you, does not the sound seem to say: The word ought to grow, and I should diminish? The sound of the voice has made itself heard in the service of the word, and has gone away, as though it were saying: My joy is complete. Let us hold on to the word; we must not lose the word conceived inwardly in our hearts.

Do you need proof that the voice passes away but the divine Word remains? Where is John's baptism today? It served its purpose, and it went away. Now it is Christ's baptism that we celebrate. It is in Christ that we all believe; we hope for salvation in him. This is the message the voice cried out.

Because it is hard to distinguish word from voice, even John himself was thought to be the Christ. The voice was thought to be the word. But the voice acknowledged what it was, anxious not to give offence to the word. I am not the Christ, he said, nor Elijah, nor the prophet. And the question came: Who are you, then? He replied: I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way for the Lord. The voice of one crying in the wilderness is the voice of one breaking the silence. Prepare the way for the Lord, he says, as though he were saying: "I speak out in order to lead him into your hearts, but he does not choose to come where I lead him unless you prepare the way for him."

What does prepare the way mean, if not "pray well"? What does prepare the way mean, if not "be humble in your thoughts"? We should take our lesson from John the Baptist. He is thought to be the Christ; he declares he is not what they think. He does not take advantage of their mistake to further his own glory.

If he had said, "I am the Christ," you can imagine how readily he would have been believed, since they believed he was the Christ even before he spoke. But he did not say it; he acknowledged what he was. He pointed out clearly who he was; he humbled himself.

He saw where his salvation lay. He understood that he was a lamp, and his fear was that it might be blown out by the wind of pride.

**WEEKLY SCHEDULE**

**Sunday, December 8**

**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Bar 5:1-9 / Phil 1:4-6, 8-11 / Lk 3:1-6

Vocation Intention - Spirituality Year Seminarians

7:00 a.m. St. Anthony Mass +LaVern Lambrecht

9:00 a.m. St. Anthony Mass +Mayme Flynn

12:00 p.m. St. Anthony Sp Mass Parishioners of all 3 Parishes

6:00 p.m. St. Catherine Immaculate Conception Mass

**Monday, December 9-Office closed**

**THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

Gn 3:9-15, 20 / Eph 1:3-6, 11-12 / Lk 1:26-38

Vocational Intention - 1st & 2nd Year Philosophy Seminarians

Noon St. Anthony Immaculate Conception Mass +Clarence, +Dorothy, & +Tim Gertner

6:00 p.m. St. Anthony Immaculate Conception Mass - Bilingual

6:00 p.m. Sacred Heart Immaculate Conception Mass

**Tuesday, December 10**

Is 40:1-11 / Mt 18:12-14

Vocational Intention - 1st & 2nd Year Theology Seminarian Pts

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 +Bill, +Jody, & +Dan Etl

7:00 p.m. Bingo - Knights of Columbus Hall

**Wednesday, December 11**

Is 40:25-31 / Mt 11:28-30

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 +Richard Wilder

**Thursday, December 12**

**Our Lady of Guadalupe**

Zec 2:14-17 / Lk 1:26-38

Vocation Intention - Vocations Ministry

12:00 p.m. St. Anthony Mass +Jerry Atkin

5:00 p.m. St. Anthony Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass

**Friday, December 13**

**Saint Lucy, Virgin and Martyr**

Is 48:17-19 / Mt 11:16-19

Vocation Intention - Pastoral Year Seminarians

12:00 p.m. St. Anthony Mass +Anthony & +Clara Lechman

**Saturday, December 14**

**St. John of the Cross, Priest, Doctor of the Church**

Sir 48:1-4, 9-11 / Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Vocation Intention - 1st & 2nd Year College Seminarians

8:00 a.m. St. Anthony Mass Special Intentions

5:00 p.m. St. Anthony Mass +Clarence & +Helen Mari

**Sunday, December 15**

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Bar 5:1-9 / Phil 1:4-6, 8-11 / Lk 3:1-6

Vocation Intention - Spirituality Year Seminarians

7:00 a.m. St. Anthony Mass +LaVern Lambrecht

9:00 a.m. St. Anthony Mass Leo Lechman

12:00 p.m. St. Anthony Sp Mass Parishioners of all 3 Parishes



Hope. Peace. Joy. Love. These are the gifts you help share here in our community, throughout the year, with your thoughtful stewardship. One special way to give is eGiving. It can simplify your stewardship and provide steady, consistent support to the parish – so we can be ready with programs, services, ministries for church families & those in our community. Your recurring gifts will sustain our parish, even if you need to miss a Sunday service. It's easy to get started. Here are the ways to sign up: • Visit Faith.Direct/CO963 • Call Faith Direct Customer Service at 866-507-8757 • Scan the QR code Thank you & may God bless your generosity.

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

**Let us remember these sick and suffering:**  
Denton Thompson, Carole Quint, Carol Drury, Margaret Lorie Frick, John Ertle, Raquel L. Serrano, Lisa Bellendir, Sara Wiggitt, Becky Reyes, Jan Cristello, Bill Johnson, John Loos Sr., Sue Whited  
To add someone to the prayer list please contact the parish office at (970)522-6422. Names will remain on the list a minimum of two weeks.

**St. Anthony of Padua, Sterling**  
**Last week's offertory: \$7,394.00**  
**Last week's maintenance: \$15,419.50**  
We ask that you PLEASE use a separate check for Maintenance donations as those contributions go into a different bank account. Thank you

The grotto on the north side of St. Anthony church received a visit from talented volunteer angels recently. Please stop by and see the beautiful decorations they left us with!

The parish office will be closed in honor of the Holy Feast of the Immaculate Conception **Monday, December 9**. We will reopen Tuesday, December 10, at 8:00am.

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**MASS TIMES**  
Holy Day Feast of the Immaculate Conception  
**Sunday, December 8**  
**St. Catherine – 6:00 pm**  
**Monday, December 9**  
**St. Anthony – Noon, 6:00 pm (Bilingual)**  
**Monday, December 9**  
**Sacred Heart – 6:00pm**

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**Prayers and Condolences are offered to the family of David Frenzl. May he rest in peace.**



Catholic Daughters' monthly meeting will be **Monday, December 9, at 6:30pm**, in the Knights of Columbus Hall. This will be our Christmas potluck, with an invitation to those interested in joining Catholic Daughters to come meet us. We ask that you bring a dish to pass, along with a white elephant gift (\$10 spending limit). We look forward to seeing you.



Penance Service at St. Anthony's will be **Friday, December 13, at 6:00pm**. Father Michael has invited two priests to attend, in addition to himself & Father Enrique.



The Knights of Columbus Council 1559 & 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Assembly 95 will host their annual Christmas Party **Sunday, December 15 at 5:30pm** in the Knights Hall. All Knights, Auxiliary members, & their families are invited. The turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes & gravy will be furnished by the Knights. Please bring your favorite side dish or dessert to share with others.



Join us for Our Lady of Guadalupe Celebrations **Thursday, December 12**. Beginning with the Solemn Mass at **6:00pm** in St. Anthony's, followed by the play "Representations of the Apparitions" in the parish center gym at 7:00 pm. We will finish the celebrations with a dinner.



St. Anthony's Religious Education classes are presenting **A Dinner Theater - "The First Christmas"**, **Wednesday, December 18**. The dinner will include hot roast beef, various sides & dessert. A free will donation is greatly appreciated. Parish center doors open at 5:30pm.



**Christmas Eve & Christmas Day Masses**  
**Tuesday, December 24, 2024**  
St. Catherine – 5:00 pm  
St. Anthony – 5:00 pm & 7:00 pm (Spanish)  
**Wednesday, December 25, 2024**  
St. Anthony – Midnight & 9:00 am  
Sacred Heart – 10:00 am



Mass times for the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of Jesus are as follows:  
**Tuesday, December 31**  
Sacred Heart 6:00pm  
St. Anthony 6:00pm (Bilingual)  
**Wednesday, January 1, 2025**  
St. Anthony 9:00am  
St. Catherine 10:00am

**St. Catherine of Siena, Iliff**  
www.saintcatherinesiliff.org  
**Last week's collection: \$1534.00**  
**Sunday, December 15, 2024 10:00am**  
**Third Sunday of Advent**  
**For the Repose of the Souls of Clarence & Dorothy Gertner**  
**Sacristans: Ashley and Jeri**  
**Lector: Children**  
**Servers: Aniston, Bailey, and Faye**  
**EMHC: Jonna, Naomi, and Peggy**  
**Gift Bearers: Children**  
**Coffee and Rolls 4th Sunday of the month after Mass**  
St. Catherine Finance Council: Tim Anderson, Randy Cerk, & Tom Hiss

**Sacred Heart, Peetz**  
www.sacredheartpeetz.org  
**Last week's collection: \$1069.01**  
**Sunday, December 15, 2024 8:00am**  
**Third Sunday of Advent**  
**For the Repose of the Souls of Bruce & Connie Mourn**  
**Sacristan: Mary**  
**Lector: Kevin Martin**  
**Servers: Colton & Grayson Sintler and Dru Weimer**  
**Gift Bearers: Jeff Long Family**  
**Coffee & Donuts 1st Sunday of the month after Mass**  
**Church Potluck 4th Sunday of the month after Mass**

St. Anthony's Funeral Committee is taking orders for Holiday Gift Baskets. The baskets are \$25, & will include an assortment of homemade breads, cookies, & candies. Order forms are at the back of the church, & will be accepted through Sunday, December 15. Baskets will be ready for pickup Wednesday, December 18, from noon until 6:00pm, in Hagus Hall.

**Advertiser of the Week:**

**FAMILY Food Market**  
970-522-2904  
217 S. 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave-Sterling, CO

Please submit bulletin announcements by 8:00 am Thursday for that weekend's bulletin. Email: [parish@saintanthonyssterling.org](mailto:parish@saintanthonyssterling.org)

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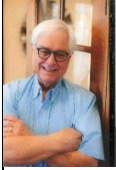
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**Remember St. Catherine Parish in your will**

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 Knights of Columbus  
 Sterling Council  
 No. 1559  
 Gr. Knight: Robert Schell  
 Fin. Secretary: Dennis Boren  
 Meeting Nights 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thurs  
 Rosary 7:00pm Meeting 7:30pm  
 Knights of Columbus Hall

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