

Faith Notes...

Saint Anthony of Egypt's Story; Memorial on Tuesday January 17

The life of Anthony will remind many people of Saint Francis of Assisi. At 20, Anthony was so moved by the Gospel message, "Go, sell what you have, and give to [the] poor" (Mark 10:21b), that he actually did just that with his large inheritance. He is different from Francis in that most of Anthony's life was spent in solitude. He saw the world completely covered with snares, and gave the Church and the world the witness of solitary asceticism, great personal mortification and prayer. But no saint is antisocial, and Anthony drew many people to himself for spiritual healing and guidance.

At 54, he responded to many requests and founded a sort of monastery of scattered cells. Again, like Francis, he had great fear of "stately buildings and well-laden tables."

At 60, he hoped to be a martyr in the renewed Roman persecution of 311, fearlessly exposing himself to danger while giving moral and material support to those in prison. At 88, he was fighting the Arian heresy, that massive trauma from which it took the Church centuries to recover. This heresy - "The mule kicking over the altar" - denied the divinity of Christ.

Anthony is associated in art with a T-shaped cross, a pig and a book. The pig and the cross are symbols of his valiant warfare with the devil—the cross his constant means of power over evil spirits, the pig a symbol of the devil himself. The book recalls his preference for "the book of nature" over the printed word. Anthony died in solitude at age 105.

Reflection for us

In an age that smiles at the notion of devils and angels, a person known for having power over evil spirits must at least make us pause. And in a day when people speak of life as a "rat race," one who devotes a whole life to solitude and prayer points to an essential of the Christian life in all ages. Anthony's hermit life reminds us of the call to the *absoluteness of our break with sin* and for the *totality of our commitment to Christ*. Even in God's good world, there is another world whose false values constantly tempt us.

from: <https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day/saint-anthony-of-egypt/>

Quote of the week: "God can write straight even on the crooked lines of our history. God allows us our freedom, and yet in our failures He can always find new paths for His love. God does not fail." - Pope Benedict XVI

Italian Dinner Fundraiser

Please see the sponsor board in the Church entrance for the many food items and supplies needed to put on the dinner. Please pay at the time of signup if possible.

We need dessert items of any delicious kind! Sign up on the clipboard in the Church entrance or call Martha to let her know she can count on you! 208-756-2150

Advertising posters are available. Please help put them up around town by taking them to your place of work or to a business you frequent.

Bring your electric roasters for sauce to the Hall during Office hours or on the weekends before or after Mass by Wed. the 25th. Please label all parts of your roaster with your name.



Special Days This Week:

Jan. 14: Nick & Carla Munning (A).

Jan 15: Bill Bernt (B).

Sue Petty (B).

Mary Wright (B).

Jan. 18: Ted & Sue O'Malley (A).

Jan. 19: Fr. Dat Vu (B).

Margie Svalberg (B).

Jan. 20: Jerrilee Sever (B).

Lorilei Parmalee (B).

*Happy Birthday & Anniversary!
May you be richly blessed as you
celebrate your special day!*

UPCOMING EVENTS

All Fridays in Jan: 4p.m. Choir Practice

Jan. 17: Exploring the Faith class after 9 a.m. daily Mass in the Parish Hall.

Jan. 17: Pastoral Council meeting: 6 p.m.

Jan. 19: Exploring the Faith at 5:30 p.m. in the Library.

Jan. 21: Sacristan Training at 4:30 p.m.

Jan. 22: Sacristan Training at 8:00 a.m.

Jan. 23: Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children.

Jan. 24: Finance Council meeting: 5:30 p.m.

Jan. 28: Annual Italian Dinner. 4-8 p.m.

Feb. 5: 8 to 10:30 a.m. Knights of Columbus benefit breakfast for *Hope's Place – Pregnancy Care Center*.

Feb. 9: Knights of Columbus meeting. 7:00

February Volunteer Opportunities:

- Snow Removal for daily and weekend Masses.
- Coffee Hour: Feb. 12, 19 & 26.

Please let Ronda know if you can do all or part of the needed days.

Miscellaneous:

~If you didn't get your piece of blessed chalk for blessing your house, pick one up this weekend along with instructions.

~Religious Education Classes:

First Communion Prep is on Wednesdays from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

All other classes are Sundays after Mass.