



# ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA CATHOLIC CHURCH

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## The 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 25, 2026



**January 25 - 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**“He called them, and immediately they left their boat and their father and followed Him.” Matthew 4:22**

Just as Jesus called the first apostles, He calls each of us to follow Him, too. Not everyone is called to leave their business or family behind, but we are expected to put God first in everything. In gratitude to God, we should give our first and best of everything to Him: our time in daily prayer, our talent in participating in one of our parish ministries and our treasure to support the financial needs of our parish mission

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## LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTIONS

<b>Envelopes</b>	1230.00
<b>Loose</b>	582.75
<b>Other</b>	67.49
<b>TOTAL</b>	1880.24

## PRAYER REQUESTS

**Please pray for those who are ill, or housebound, in our Parish Family:**

Barry Bembridge, Baby Anthony Vu, Joanna Black, Stella Hildebrandt, Clayton Jimmie, Metro Huculak, Marguerite Rocheleau

**Please pray for the most recently deceased:** Rudy Leon, Kendra Julien, Anieta Kienzle

## Mission Statement

We, the Catholic community of St. Anthony of Padua, relying on the wisdom and grace of God, unite ourselves to the call for renewal and transformation of our spiritual, social, and economic life.

SAT	January 24	5 pm	+Turenne Family
SUN	January 25	10:30 AM	Fr. Donald Chukwukere (CCE) birthday
		1:00 PM	Abbi Ku Cadiz (healing)
MON	January 26	9 AM	Iza Stephen (healing)
TUE	January 27	7 pm	DeBungie Family & loved ones
WED	January 28	9 AM	Canceled
THU	January 29	9 AM	+James McCullough
FRI	January 30	9 AM	Pillar Family (thanksgiving)
SAT	January 31	5 pm	+Joseph & Rosemary Fischer

## THIS WEEK AT ST. ANTHONY'S

### PREP

Thursday at 3:30 pm

### RCIA

Thursday at 6 pm

## Parish Coffee

right after the 10:30 am Mass on Sunday



Please bring a snack to share with everyone, and if you can stay to help clean up, that's even better!

## Thrift Store Dinner

**Saturday, January 31<sup>st</sup> at 6 pm**  
**All Thrift Store Volunteers and**  
**their spouses are**  
**cordially invited**

**Monday: February 2**  
**Presentation of the Lord & Blessing of Candles (Candlemas), celebrated on February 2, marks the moment when Mary and Joseph brought the infant Jesus to the Temple in Jerusalem, forty days after His birth, in accordance with Jewish law. There, Simeon and Anna recognized Him as the *light for revelation to the nations* (Luke 2:32).**

Because of this imagery of light, the Church developed the tradition of the Blessing of Candles on this day — giving the feast its popular name, Candlemas. Candles symbolize Christ as the Light of the World, and the faithful often bring candles from home to be blessed for use throughout the year, especially during prayer, storms, or times of illness.

Please bring your candles for blessing prior to this date. Remember to include your name(s) so that you can pick them up after the blessing is concluded.

### **Tuesday: February 3**

As Catholics, practices that others might find unusual are second nature to us—and sometimes even taken for granted. We venerate relics, pray with beads, process through the streets with floats, and turn to St Anthony when something is lost. In the same way, we celebrate the 3 February feast of St Blaise with a unique

and beautiful tradition—the blessing of throats.

St Blaise was a 3rd-century Armenian bishop known for his deep faith, fervent love for God and his people, and a reputation for working miracles even during his lifetime. His unwavering witness to Christianity made him a target of persecution by the Romans in Cappadocia, where he was living. When his arrest was ordered, St Blaise fled to the wilderness, continuing his mission in service to God despite the challenges he faced.

St Blaise is renowned for his miraculous healing powers, particularly concerning throat ailments. According to legend, a boy suffering from a fishbone lodged in his throat—or another severe throat malady—was brought to St Blaise as a last resort. The boy was on the brink of death, with no hope of recovery. Saint Blaise prayed over him, blessed him, and miraculously, the boy was healed. This established St Blaise as the patron saint for those afflicted with throat injuries and diseases. It is from this miraculous act of healing that the Catholic Church commemorates his feast day and has the blessing of throats on the Feast of St Blaise.

## Anointing of the Sick



There will be anointing of the Sick on the Weekend of February 7 and 8 at all Masses.

## Anniversary Vows Renewal

If you will be celebrating a milestone anniversary of your marriage this year (ie..5, 10, 15, 20, 25.....or even greater) Please contact Sister Olive as soon as possible.

You will be given an opportunity to renew our marriage vows during the Masses on the weekend of **February 15 at 10:30 am.**



### Unique Call of Women in the Church Fiat Young Adult Catholic Women's Group

Join the Religious Sisters of the Archdiocese of Vancouver as we dive into the unique contributions of women saints in a four-part series. The next presentation focuses on St. Joan of Arc, with discussion, reflection, and a themed dessert to follow. All Catholic women ages 18-35 discerning God's will in their lives are welcome! On Friday, January 23, 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Franciscan Sisters of the Eucharist convent (2811 Venables St. Vancouver). Register at [beholdvancouver.org/events](http://beholdvancouver.org/events).

### National Catholic Health Care Week

From February 1 to 7, 2026 we mark National Catholic Health Care Week across Canada. Inspired by Catholic social teaching, this year's theme Open Hearts, Healing, Hope reflects the profound belief that healing is communal. We are grateful for our Catholic health ministries as partners in the healing ministry of Jesus, fostering trust, promoting justice and respecting the dignity of every human person—body, mind and soul. Pray with us during the Week with special daily reflections and prayers. Learn more and find resources at [beholdvancouver.org/events](http://beholdvancouver.org/events)

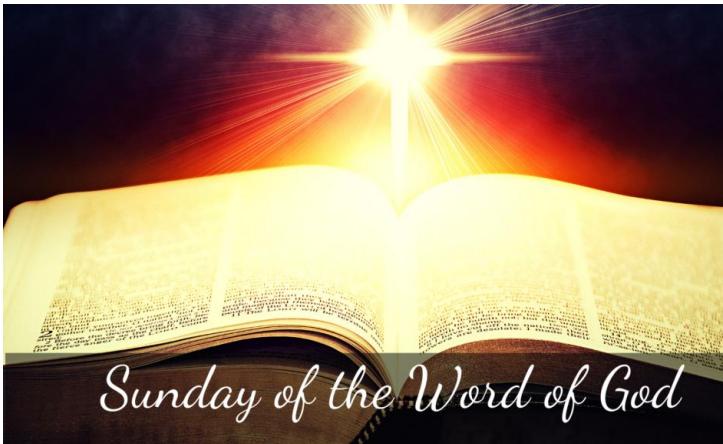
## Special Prayer Intention for Catholic Health Care

The court case involving St. Paul's Hospital continues to be heard by the B.C. Supreme Court. The case pertains to whether faith-based health care facilities are permitted to operate in accordance with their values by not providing Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD). It will challenge Catholic healthcare and its place within Canada's publicly funded healthcare system.

*Lord Jesus, Divine Healer, you sought out the sick, the marginalized, and those cast aside. We pray for all who receive care at St. Paul's Hospital, for their families and loved ones, and for all healthcare workers who serve with compassion. We entrust this court case to your care. Grant wisdom to those who must decide it, that justice may prevail and that Catholic health care may continue its mission without compromise. Help us to protect those who are most vulnerable and to build a society where every human life is sacred.*

## Seminary of Christ the King Live-In Experience

Are you interested in the priesthood or the life of a religious brother, and want to see for yourself what seminary life is like? Spend two days at the Seminary, meet other young men who have a priestly or religious vocation in mind. Saturday, February 7 through Sunday, February 8 at Christ the King Seminary in Mission. Learn more at [sck.ca/vocation-live-in](http://sck.ca/vocation-live-in).



*Sunday of the Word of God*

**This Sunday January 25, 2026 is Sunday of the Word of God. The theme for this year is *The Word of Christ Dwells Among You* (Col 3.16).**

Sunday of the Word of God, which Pope Francis instituted, takes place the third Sunday of Ordinary Time and reminds us that sacred Scripture is essential for the Christian life. “Devoting a specific Sunday of the liturgical year to the word of God can enable the Church to experience anew how the risen Lord opens up for us the treasury of his word and enables us to proclaim its unfathomable riches before the world,” the late pope wrote in his 2019 apostolic letter, “Aperuit Illiis.”



### Walking in the Light

The 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A reminds us that God brings light into darkness. We hear the words of Isaiah about a people who once lived in gloom but now see light. This reading shows us that God does not leave us alone. He is near, even in hard times.

In the Gospel, Jesus begins preaching and calling his first followers. He brings light to Galilee, a place people often forgot. He tells them to turn their lives around and follow him. His message is simple but clear: the kingdom of heaven is close.

Saint Paul also speaks to the early Church. He tells them to stop fighting and focus on Jesus. It is a good reminder for us today. We belong to Christ, not to any group or leader.

The 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A helps us see how Jesus brings hope, healing, and peace. He calls each of us to follow him and live in his light.