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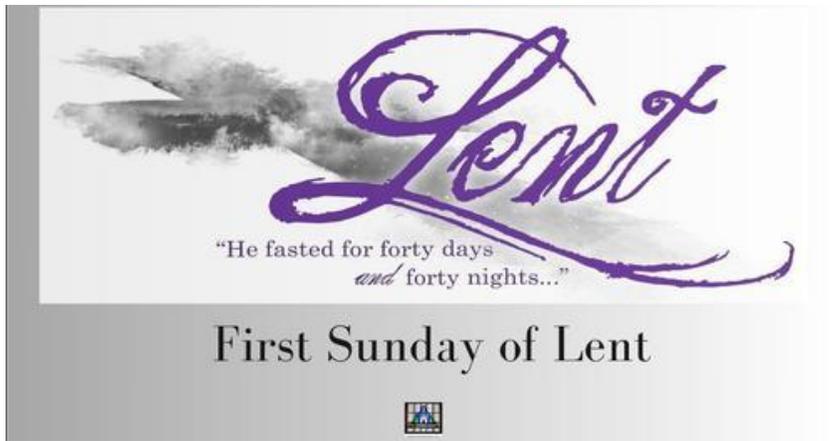


# ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA CATHOLIC CHURCH

7237 Morrow Road, Agassiz, British Columbia V0M 1A0 (604) 796 – 9181  
www.stanthonyagassiz.ca st.anthonys@shaw.ca | parish.sapa@rcav.org

## First Sunday of Lent

February 22, 2026



**REV. FR. DENNIS O. FLORES**  
*Pastor*  
dflores@rcav.org

**S. MARY OLIVE KINGSBURY,**  
*RVM*  
*Pastoral Assistant*  
maryolivekingsbury687@gmail.com

**TAD SEYMOUR**  
*Technical Support & Webmaster*  
st.anthonys.webtech@gmail.com

**BECCIE BOKENFOHR**  
*Secretary*  
st.anthonys@shaw.ca

### LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTIONS

<b>Envelopes</b>	1680.00
<b>Loose</b>	516.00
<b>Other</b>	25.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2221.00</b>

### PRAYER REQUESTS

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

**Family:**

Barry Bembridge, Joanna Black, Stella Hildebrandt, Clayton Jimmie, Metro Huculak. Marguerite Rocheleau, Leo Vantol, Francesca Waight, Russ C., Marion B., Trudy Stoeckly,

**Please pray for the most recently deceased:**

### February 22 - 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent

*"It is written: 'The Lord, your God, shall you worship and him alone shall you serve.'" Matthew 4:10*

Tempted between the riches and power of this world and service to God, Jesus chose service to His Father. If we wish to truly follow Jesus, we, too, must decide to turn away from worldly power and riches and put God at the center of our lives. Lent is our time to prune ourselves of earthly things and develop and nurture heavenly things. Lent is time to repent and let go of the other "gods" we have put before God.

### 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	February 21	5 pm	+Eliza Villacorte
SUN	February 22	10:30 AM	+Tony & Johanna Struys
		1:00 PM	Metro Huculak
MON	February 23	9 AM	+John & Bernie Denis
TUE	February 24	7 pm	+Douglas Soriano
WED	February 25	7 PM	Liturgy of the Word
THU	February 26	9 AM	+Editha Alcuitas Abellaneda
FRI	February 27	9 AM	+Editha Alcuitas Abellaneda
SAT	February 28	5 pm	+Editha Alcuitas Abellaneda

## Lenten Soup & Buns

This year, it will again be hosted by All Saints Anglican Church each week.

It begins at 6 pm, February 25<sup>th</sup> and continues weekly throughout Lent until March 25<sup>th</sup>.



## THIS WEEK AT ST. ANTHONY'S

### PREP

Thursday at 3:30 pm

### RCIA

Thursday at 6 pm

**Stations of the Cross**  
All Fridays during Lent  
5 pm



YOU ARE INVITED TO THE ANNUAL CHILLIWACK PRO-LIFE FUNDRAISING DINNER

Friday, March 6, 2026

SCAN FOR TICKETS

# CHERISH GALA

*Every Life:*  
A MASTERPIECE

GUEST SPEAKER  
**Wendy Burpee**  
Executive Director of Genesis Women's Clinic in Pennsylvania

Wendy's powerful story of redemption reveals how God brought her out of domestic abuse, shame, and hopelessness—and gave her a passion for the unborn. Through her testimony, you'll witness both the devastating impact of abortion and the incredible mercy and healing power of God.

Doors open 6:30 pm  
Dinner begins 7:00 pm  
Main Street Church Auditorium  
9325 Main Street, Chilliwack

## Upcoming in our Parish

**Jennifer & Aaron Sask  
and**

**Gerald & Wilma Struys**  
are the parish liaisons for  
Chilliwack Pro Life.

Please mark your calendar for Thursday,  
March 12<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm.

We will be welcoming Marian Neels from  
Cherish Project (Chilliwack Pro Life) who  
will be making a presentation on

**Euthanasia.**

**This is a very current and important issue  
Please come and be informed.**

Please watch your upcoming bulletins for  
more details on this presentation, but in the  
meantime, please mark your calendars.

Our catechumen, **AVERIA  
DeBUNGIE** is one of the chosen to join  
the Rite of Election which will take  
place on  
Saturday,  
February 21<sup>st</sup>  
at St. Matthew  
Church in  
Surrey at 7:30  
p.m. with  
Archbishop  
Richard  
Smith. Let us  
accompany her with our fervent  
prayers as a community of faith.



It is a Catholic liturgical rite marking the final phase of preparation for the unbaptized to enter fully into the life of the Church through the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and the Eucharist. They offer their name for enrollment by signing the Book of the Elect. This usually occurs on the first Sunday of Lent.

## Rite of Enrollment

The children who are preparing for  
the Sacraments of Reconciliation and  
Eucharist in our Parish will be  
participating in this Rite today:

Ledger Reaume

Lydia-Grace Reaume

Tri Vu

Let us pray for our children who are  
in preparation for these Sacraments.

We are also grateful to their  
catechists who are so committed to  
teaching them.

## **Making Sense of Discipline**

### **Neufeld Parenting Course**

The real question for concerned parents and teachers is not just about how to manage a child's behaviour but rather how to do so without causing harm to relationship, development, and well-being. This online course unfolds how to do just that, while at the same time not compromising the adult's responsibility to impose some order on behaviour when circumstances require. The guidelines and principles apply to children of all ages. Weekly on Tuesdays, from February 17 to March 10 on Zoom. Learn more and register at [beholdvancouver.org/events](http://beholdvancouver.org/events).

### **Pope's Reflection on the**

#### **First Sunday of Lent 2026**

Pope Leo XIV, in his first Lenten season as pontiff, offered a heartfelt reflection for the First Sunday of Lent, centering on conversion of heart, the power of words, and the call to peace.

He invited the faithful to see Lent not only as a time of personal sacrifice but as a season of healing relationships — with God, with others, and with creation.

Drawing from the Gospel account of Jesus' temptation in the desert, the Pope emphasized that true fasting is not only from food, but from harsh words, rash judgment, and indifference.

*When we fast from words of anger, we 'make room for words of hope. When we refrain from judging, we open the door to understanding. And when we choose*

*peace over conflict, we reflect the heart of Christ."*

He encouraged believers to practice three Lenten disciplines:

1. Listening deeply — to God in prayer and to others with compassion.
2. Fasting meaningfully — letting go of habits that harm relationships.
3. Building community — through acts of mercy and reconciliation.

The Pope concluded by urging everyone to let this Lent be a journey from division to unity, reminding that the desert is not a place of emptiness, but a place where God speaks most clearly.

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### **Second Collection: St. Joseph Society**

This Sunday, support our retired priests by giving to the St. Joseph's Society. Your tax-deductible gift to this second collection helps:

- Provide comfortable living environment, quality medical care and other essential services to our retired priests
- Expresses gratitude to our retired priests who have dedicated their entire life to the Church
- Promote a culture of vocations by supporting senior priests who continue to serve even past their retirement