



# ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA CATHOLIC CHURCH

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## Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 5, 2026



July 5, 2026 - 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

*“Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest.” Matthew 11:28*

In the Gospel, Christ gives thanks to the Father for those who are humble for it was to them that the Father was revealing the Kingdom of God to. Humility is an important virtue to foster especially in the work of stewardship, for with humility we can see how much God is generous to us and how much we need Him. With humility, we can ask the Lord to help us carry our burdens, and He will make them light.

**REV. FR. DENNIS O. FLORES**  
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### LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTIONS

<b>Envelopes</b>	\$1045.00
<b>Loose</b>	780.75
<b>Other</b>	10.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1835.75</b>

### PRAYER REQUESTS

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

Barry Bembridge, Joanna Black, Stella Hildebrandt, Metro Huculak. Marguerite Rocheleau, Russ C, Elwyn Lyftogt, Cheryl Yaretz, David Yaretz, Sebastian Rodrigues, Betty Baldhauf

*Please pray for the most recently deceased:*

Ross Sicard, Joe Horvath, John Pinvesan

### 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	July 4, 2026	5 pm	<b>Stella Hildebrandt (healing)</b>
SUN	July 5, 2026	10:30 AM	David Yaretz (healing) Christopher & Stephanie Vallejo (wedding anniversary) The People of Venezuela
		1:00 PM	David Yaretz (healing) +Armando Angue Maria Goretti (thanksgiving) The People of Venezuela
MON	July 6, 2026	9 am	David Yaretz (healing)
TUE	July 7, 2026	7 pm	David Yaretz (healing) Dely Cabanlig (birthday)
WED	July 8, 2026	9 am	Liturgy of the Word
THU	July 9, 2026	9 am	David Yaretz (healing) +Briccio P. Cadiz
Friday	July 10, 2026	9 am	David Yaretz (healing)
SAT	July 11, 2026	5 pm	David Yaretz (healing)

## Mass Wedding for Civilly Married Couples

Your marriage is a beautiful gift from God, and the Church warmly invites you to deepen your journey in Christ by celebrating the Sacrament of Marriage. Archbishop Smith will preside over a special Marriage Mass for civilly married couples. This is a wonderful opportunity to open your heart to God's grace and receive the full blessing of the Church. Saturday, September 19 at St. Paul's Parish, Richmond. Register by June 30 at [beholdvancouver.org/events](http://beholdvancouver.org/events).



**Are you interested in exploring the Catholic Faith and to become part of the Church?**

**We'd love to talk with you!**

**The RCIA program commences again in September. Please see Fr. Dennis or Sister Olive for more information**



**2026 Goal: \$10,500**

Please see Leonne Beebe who is in the Gathering Area of the Church to assist you with your donations! Thank you for helping us meet our goal this year.

**Save the date!**

**St. Anthony's Parish**

September 12: K of C Golf Tournament

September 13: Parish Picnic

## Venezuela Earthquakes

Donations matched until July 14

*Following the devastating earthquakes in Venezuela, please consider donating to Development and Peace — Caritas Canada, the official international solidarity organization of the Catholic Church in Canada. Donations will support its local partner, Caritas Venezuela, in providing urgent help to affected communities, including food, water, shelter, clothing, hygiene supplies, medication, and other emergency assistance. Every dollar donated for Venezuela until July 14 will be matched by the Government of Canada, doubling the impact of your gift.*

*Please give generously online at [devp.org/en/make-a-donation/?tfa\\_1953](http://devp.org/en/make-a-donation/?tfa_1953)*



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### **The B.C. Catholic - New Publishing Schedule**

*The B.C. Catholic will continue serving readers through a renewed print and digital model. The final weekly newspaper has been published, and beginning in July, readers can follow The B.C. Catholic each week through a new email digest. A redesigned monthly print edition will launch in September and will continue to be mailed to homes through Canada Post.*

*Sign up for the new weekly email at [bccatholic.ca/digest](http://bccatholic.ca/digest)*

## **St. Maria Goretti, Virgin and Martyr Feast Day: July 6**



### **A story like many others...**

*In every respect other than her death, Maria Goretti's brief life seems a story repeated over and over again across the globe. The third of seven children, she was born in 1890 in Corinaldo, Italy, to a poor family. By the time she was five, her parents had lost their farm and hired themselves out to work for others as tenant farmers. The family moved often, finally ending up in Nettuno, not far from Rome.*

*When Maria was nine, her father died, and her mother and siblings threw themselves into work to feed the family. Maria kept house, cooked and watched her baby sister. It was a hard life. There was no time for school, for the family was too busy trying to survive. Like many of the poor, the Gorettis could not afford a home of their own, so they shared living quarters with another family, the Serenellis. And like many young girls in similar circumstances, Maria was the victim of unwanted sexual advances on the part of Alessandro, the Serenellis' 20-year-old son. She said nothing about his unwelcome invitations, which she refused, for she was a frightened child and he was a grown man threatening to kill her if she told.*

## **Uncommon courage**

**In 1902, 11-year-old Maria was sitting on the steps mending a shirt when Alessandro grabbed her and dragged her into the house. He held an awl and threatened to stab her if she refused him again. Maria did just that. She had been a bit behind the other children in catechism class, but everything she needed in this moment came to her with absolute clarity. No," she cried as he tried to choke her, "It's a sin! God doesn't want it!" She struggled and tried to run for the door. He caught her, and when she said that she would rather die than give him what he wanted, he stabbed her fourteen times with the awl before running away. Her family heard the baby crying and ran into the house to find Maria bleeding on the floor. In the hospital, the doctor operated on her without anesthesia. Think of me in Paradise," he suddenly "said in the middle of the surgery. Which of us will get there first?" she "mused. You, Maria," he answered. Then yes, I "will remember you," she promised.**

## **I want him with me in heaven!**

**She knew she was dying now, and so still more came to her with astonishing clarity. There was someone who needed something from her, indeed, who needed the greatest gift she could give before dying. Alessandro Serenelli needed her forgiveness, and the forgiveness of God. She told the police the name of the man who had harmed her, but she added, I forgive him, and I want him with "me in heaven!" Alessandro took a long time to accept that forgiveness. Sentenced to thirty years in prison, at first he showed no remorse. Years later, he had a dream, which he recounted to a bishop who came to visit him in jail. He saw the little girl he had killed handing him lilies she had gathered, but they burned in his**

**hands. He woke and he knew that the forgiveness she had given him was a power mightier than he could conceive, and that this power was at work in him. Alessandro's heart broke open, and he began to accept the forgiveness of God.**

## **A miracle of forgiveness**

**Twenty-seven years after Maria's murder, Alessandro was released from prison. He went straight to Maria's mother, Assunta, and begged her forgiveness. Who was she to refuse, the mother said, what her daughter had given so readily? The next day, they went to Mass together as if they were mother and son. Alessandro became a Franciscan lay brother, working in the garden of a monastery until his death. It was this miracle of forgiveness and conversion that sealed what many had already begun to suspect: that illiterate child who died was a martyr filled with divine charity. In 1950, Pope Pius XII canonized this 20th century St. Agnes" in the presence of "her mother, her siblings, and her erstwhile neighbor, who had killed her only to discover in her an intercessor, a sister and a friend.**

**A relic of St. Maria Goretti is placed in the altar of our Shrine of the Sto. Niño de Cebu. This was placed at the dedication of the new altar on August 22, 2022 by Archbishop Michael Miller, CSB**

