



St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church

2223 St. Anthony Road – Quincy, Illinois 62305

Web: www.stanthonypadua.org Office: (217) 222-5996 Fax: (217) 224-6477

March 22, 2026—Fifth Sunday of Lent (A)

A Message from Fr. Tom Donovan:

Twentieth century philosophers have a term that has escaped faculty lounges and the pages of their journals, in an attempt to name the dread that lives deep at the heart of the human experience. "Existential angst" refers to a suite of human fears that bring discomfort to those who reflect deeply upon their lives and their existence. First and foremost, 'existential angst' confronts the reality that our time in life is finite and that death is inescapable. This generates an urgency which is contradicted by the seeming-meaninglessness of it all. Our lives are the most valuable gift that we perceive, yet the universe seems so indifferent to our choices, our reality, our history, and our destiny. This produces a sense of isolation, in that no matter how much effort we expend, we are still alone in our own minds and consciousnesses, desperately yearning for connection and yet profoundly alone. In these contexts, the modern philosopher Jean-Paul Sartre famously said that the human person is "condemned to be free". That is, that the freedom we have to be whatever we can make ourselves to be is unmoored by a script or a set of directions or even a purpose. Thus, we bear complete responsibility for the absolute freedom that we bear. Whew. If you sense the darkness, then yeah, you 'get it'.



The story of the Raising of Lazarus is perhaps the most profound narrative in all of scripture that addresses the raw feelings of this 'angst'. It doesn't sugar-coat fear and loss an isolation with platitudes, but instead enters into the very bleakness of the human condition and makes some critical adjustments to our understanding of this experience. 1) It accepts the reality of the grief of separation and isolation. Jesus does not scold Mary who laments, "if you were only here,

my brother would not have died". Does God not care? Is he unable to act? Does he wish this evil? This story validates all of these feelings and then invites us to look at the divine response. 2) Rather than remaining impassive, we hear the words "Jesus wept". It is not a theological lecture or effort of distraction. We see that Jesus does not stand aloof from the terror of human existence, but he enters into the socio-emotional isolation and feels its agonizing weight alongside us. 3) We hear Jesus say, somewhat echoing the response of our Lord to the suffering of the man born blind from last week, that "this sickness will not end in death. No, it is for God's glory, so that God's Son may be glorified through it" Like the response to the question of the sin underlying the Blind Man's suffering, Jesus says that Lazarus' illness and death serves a divine purpose, and is not a meaningless consequence of an uncaring or hostile universe. 4) Jesus then attacks the deepest root of the angst found in the finality of the tomb.... the literal, actual tomb where the body wastes away ("surely Lord there will be a stench!")... Jesus proclaims, "I am the resurrection and the life.. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die..." Jesus claims a finality over the grave and thus physical death becomes a threshold that not only gives meaning, but invites a different way to see one's existence in God.

Soren Kierkegaard, in reflecting on these very lines arrives at the interesting conclusion that existential angst might be the sign of something more. We might call it the 'friction point' between your finite, decaying body, and your infinite, eternal soul. If you were only an animal, you could eat and sleep and be content, not caring about mortality. But Kierkegaard reasons that the fact one knows this dread of existence is perhaps a sign that helps human beings know that they were made for more?

This week our St. Dominic students will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation at school, and our second graders will have a special celebration for receiving the sacrament for the first time.

Next weekend, Palm Sunday, priests of the deanery will gather to hear confessions at Blessed Sacrament Church, starting at 2 pm until all are heard.

During Holy Week, I will plan to hear confessions at additional times through the week. These times will be listed in next week's bulletin.

"Even now says the Lord, return to me with your whole heart!" - Joel 2:12

— Mass Times —

Saturday: 4:00, 6:30 pm

Sunday: 8:00, 10:30 am

M, Tu, Th, at St. Anthony: 7:30 am

W. at St. Dominic 8:30 am

Th. at Good Samaritan 10:00 am

F. at St. Dominic 8:15 am

Holy Days: as announced

When on vacation visit: www.masstimes.org

— Sacrament of Reconciliation —

Saturday: 5:00-6:00 pm

and other times by appointment

— Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament —

Tuesday: after Mass until noon

except when a funeral is scheduled



Mass Intentions

Mon., March 23, 2026

7:30 a.m. Bill Koch+

Tues., March 24, 2026

7:30 a.m. Roger K. Boone+

Wed., March 25, 2026

-at St. Dominic School

8:30 a.m. Russ & Rita Terstriep+

6:00 p.m. David Brown+

Thurs., March 26, 2026

7:30 a.m. Joan Cook+

-at Good Samaritan Home

10:00 a.m. Florence Griesbaum+

Friday, March 27, 2026

-at St. Dominic School

8:15 a.m. John & Elaine Will+

Palm Sunday

Saturday, March 28, 2026

4:00 p.m. Bob Maas+

6:30 p.m. Parish Intentions

Sunday, March 29, 2026

8:00 a.m. Carlene Crawford+

10:30 a.m. Richard Wand+

Perpetual Prayer Candle

Week of March 21-27

The Frericks & Meyer Families

Protecting Service Men & Women

Healing for Jim Brinkman

— Parish Office Hours —

Monday-Friday

8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Bulletin Deadline: Monday, Noon

St. Dominic School

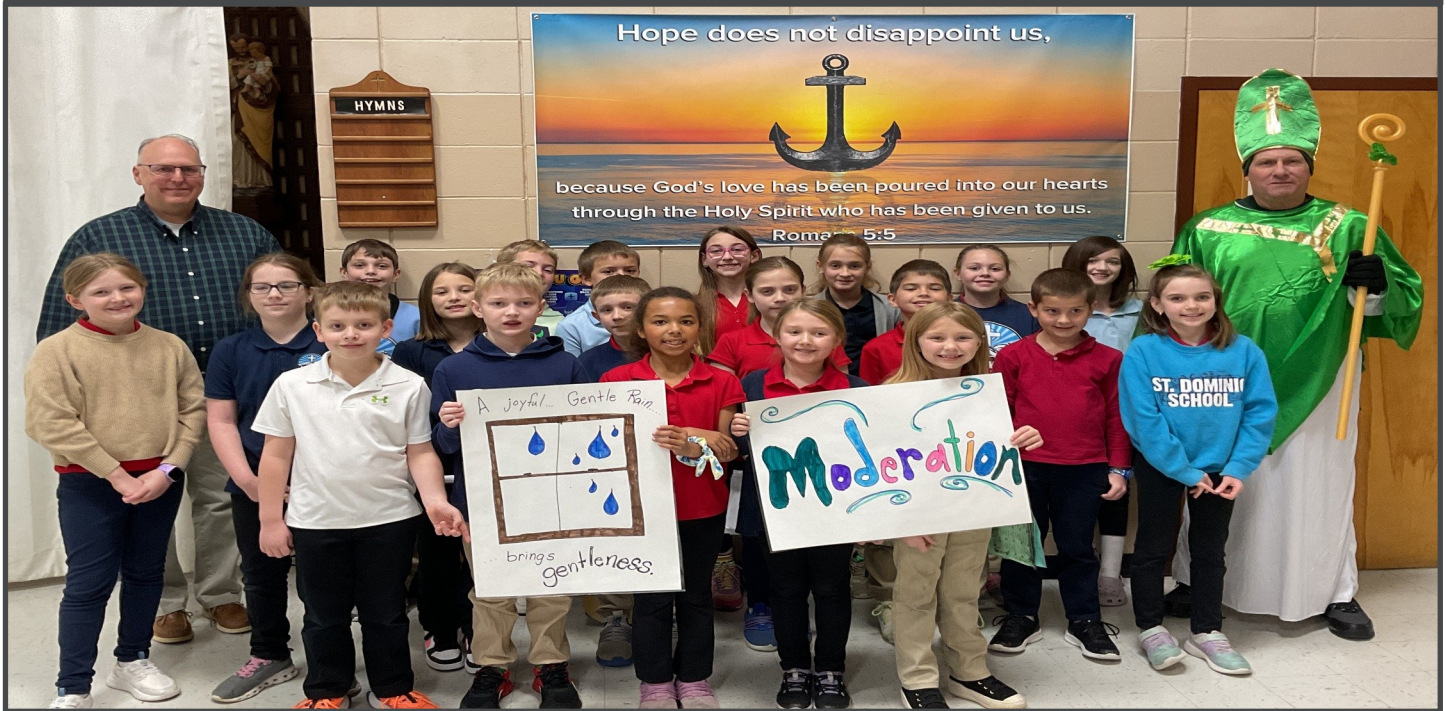
4100 Columbus Road — Quincy, Illinois 62305

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cfrericks@stdominicquincy.org



A Message from Mrs. Carol Frericks—Principal

Third Grade Leaders Teach About Gentleness and Moderation



During the month of March, our third-grade leaders, along with their teacher, Mr. Kevin Genenbacher, are teaching our K-8 students about the Fruit of the Holy Spirit — GENTLENESS, and the virtue for each week. On March 17, St. Patrick's Day, the class introduced the virtue of moderation during Morning Assembly. They also taught us that GENTLENESS can be expressed by singing a joyful, gentle rain song. Our entire school enjoyed a visit from St. Patrick, also known as Mr. Thoele, our favorite Crossing Guard.

Mark Your Calendar

Sunday, March 22

10:30 AM Holy Moments Mass Grade 3

Monday, March 23 PTO Book Fair

9:00-10:30AM 6th Grade QND Culture Day

6:00 PM PTO Family Faith Night

Tuesday, March 24 PTO Book Fair

9:00-11:00 AM Lent Reconciliation

7:00 PM Discipleship Meeting

Wednesday, March 25 PTO Book Fair

8:30 AM School Mass

6:00 PM PTO Meeting

Thursday, March 26 PTO Book Fair

6:30 PM First Reconciliation at St. Anthony

Friday, March 27 PTO Book Fair

8:30 AM School Mass

Out of Dress Code Day

4:30-7:00PM St. Anthony Fish Fry

PTO Book Fair March 23 — 27





Upcoming Events

HELP WANTED

St. Anthony of Padua Church and St. Dominic School announces an opening for a new position which I am tentatively calling: "Director of Parish Outreach and Engagement". This job and ministry, reporting to the pastor, is intended to expand our Stewardship, Mission, and Ministry outreach efforts to our parishioners, taking charge of activities such as *Communio*, youth ministry, the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA), Vacation Bible School (VBS), liturgical ministry training and scheduling, the organization and support of small faith-sharing groups, as well as coordinating more formal programming for adult religious formation. This role may be available to assist in religious education ministries at St. Dominic School and with the parish-based Families of Faith programming, but is formally separate from these efforts. Finally, the employee would be a liaison for our upcoming Centennial Campaign, receiving guidance from and providing assistance to our professional Campaign directors. This will be a half-time to full-time position, and the applicant should be an active, participating member of St. Anthony parish. Expected salary range will be \$20-45k depending on part-time or full-time status, and will also include for FT employees, eligibility for diocesan benefits, summarized here: <https://dio.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Benefits-Flyer-1.pdf>. Please provide a letter of interest as well as a resume to the parish office. The application window will close on April 1 or when the position is filled. For further information, please contact the parish office at (217) 222-5996.

Navigating Us Retreat for All Married Couples

We are thrilled to bring this nationally proven program (formerly *Adventures in Marriage*) to Quincy. It has helped thousands of couples strengthen their connection, and we're honored to offer something with such a strong track record of impact.

Navigating US is a fun, highly interactive retreat designed to help couples build deeper connection, stronger communication, and practical skills you can use immediately. Whether your marriage is thriving or you've simply felt stuck in a few old patterns, this weekend is about strengthening what you already have - not fixing what's "wrong."

This is for ALL married couples! **We know you're busy.** But this retreat doesn't require you to be gone all weekend! *Your Marriage is the foundation that supports everything else.* Giving it one intentional weekend can bless your family for years to come. Limited to 25 couples across all 3 parishes April 10-12 at Town & Country Inn & Suites \$50 per couple (must be present for all sessions) A block of rooms are held for \$129 if you want to make a weekend of it. Use QR code for reg. & info



ST. ANTHONY PARISH • ST. DOMINIC SCHOOL

2223 St. Anthony Rd. Quincy, IL 62305 4100 Columbus Rd. Quincy, IL 62305

FISH FRIES

- ON THE MENU -

Catfish Plate (Whole or Fillet).....\$15.00
(includes 3 sides, drink, & dessert)

Walleye Plate.....\$15.00
(includes 3 sides, drink, & dessert)

Child's Plate.....\$8.00
(includes 1 pc. of walleye, 2 sides, drink, & dessert)

Fish Sandwich, Fries, & Drink.....\$8.00

• HOMEMADE DESSERT •

ST. DOMINIC'S FRY-DAYS	ST. ANTHONY'S FRY-DAYS
February 20 March 6 March 20 4:30pm - 7:00pm Carry-outs available; enter through EAST driveway	February 27 March 13 March 27 4:30pm - 7:00pm Carry-outs available; enter SOUTH basement entrance

Help is needed! Fish Fries

We are in need of help for the upcoming fish fries.

Ladies of the Parish We Need Your Help for Desserts

We need your help providing pies, cakes & dessert for the fish fries. Last names schedule:

P-Z St. Anthony Mar. 27

Please contact Jr Dreyer 217-779-0029 or Jackie Dreyer 217-222-8049.

We also will need help at each of the Fish Fries.

Help is also needed to cut up potatoes Thursday at 9:00 a.m. before St. Anthony fish fry.

Please use the QR code at the left to sign up or go to the St. Anthony website www.stanthonypadua.org where you will find fish fry information. Click on that and you will be able to sign up.



— Parish Data —

PARISH CALENDAR

Monday, March 23	
6:00 p.m.	Family Faith Night at St. Dominic School
Tuesday, March 24	
Wednesday, March 25	
8:30 a.m.	Mass at St. Dominic
6:00 p.m.	Mass at St. Anthony
6:00 p.m.	PTO Meeting
Thursday, March 26	
6:00 p.m.	GriefShare
6:30 p.m.	First Reconciliation
5:30-7:00 p.m.	Choir Practice
Friday, March 27	
4:30–7:00 p.m.	Fish Fry at St. Anthony
<i>Palm Sunday</i>	
Saturday, March 28	
4:00 p.m.	Mass
6:30 p.m.	Mass
Sunday, March 22	
8:00 a.m.	Mass
9:00-10:15 a.m.	Families of Faith
10:30 a.m.	Mass

Pray with our Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV the monthly intention for March 2026:

Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.



WEEKLY PARISH OFFERING

Week 36	March 14/15	Total Year-to-Date
Loose Collection	\$ 917.05	\$ 34,476.93
Weekly Envelopes	\$ 15,385.00	\$ 387,433.22
Electronic Deposits	\$ 0.00	\$ 58,032.00
Total, March 14/15	\$ 16,302.05	\$ 493,300.06
Budget Goal <small>(we need no less than this to stay out of deficit spending for the year!)</small>	\$ 13,000.00	\$ 468,000.00
Difference	\$ 3,302.05	\$ 25,300.06

Money Counters : Monday, March 23, 2026
Nancy Speckhart Melanie Longenecker Jan Obert

Suggested Tithing Chart

Per hour	Per year	2% per week	4% per week	6% per week	8% per week	10% per week	12% per week
\$15	\$30,000	\$12	\$24	\$36	\$48	\$60	\$72
\$20	\$40,000	\$16	\$32	\$48	\$64	\$80	\$96
\$25	\$50,000	\$20	\$40	\$60	\$80	\$100	\$120
\$30	\$60,000	\$24	\$48	\$72	\$96	\$120	\$144
\$35	\$70,000	\$28	\$56	\$84	\$112	\$140	\$168
\$40	\$80,000	\$32	\$64	\$96	\$138	\$160	\$192
\$45	\$90,000	\$36	\$72	\$108	\$144	\$180	\$216
\$50	\$100,000	\$40	\$80	\$120	\$160	\$200	\$240

*Approximated based on 40 hour-work week and 2,000 hour work-year.
Thank you for reviewing and considering your parish tithe each year.*

Parish Ministry Schedule - Sat.& Sun., March 28 & 29, 2026

	Saturday, 4:00 PM	Saturday, 6:30 PM	Sunday, 8:00 AM	Sunday, 10:30 AM
Key Minister/	Roger & Tawny Benz		Dan Reichert	Pat & Amanda Veile
Lector	Bill Anderson	Janet Bick	Mike Hummel	Kim Peters
Usher	Roger Benz Tawny Benz Jr. Dreyer Tom Grawe	Jason Benz George Benz Ron Reichert Ted Vahle	Grady Bockhold Richard Foster Mike Genenbacher Gene Goerlich	David McCleary Craig Schafer Rick Schafer Kurt Fischer
Servers	Volunteers	The Benz Family	Pius IX Altar Servers	Madison & Emma McCleary
Greeters/ Gift Bearers	Dana & Rose Lugering Family	Marilyn Boone	Bob & Dorothy Haley	Frank Arnold
Rosary Leader	Carol Vogel	Earl Boone	Steve Zanger	The McCleary Family

In charity, please remember in your prayers: All Caregivers, The Shut-Ins of our Parish, Military Members and their families, Mike Hildebrand, Jackie Schieferdecker, Dennis Meyer, Winnie Huber, Cindy Barner, Tom Ness, Jim Brinkman

Also please remember in your prayers those who have died in 2026:

March 22, 2026

Nursing Care Patients

IL Veterans Home

Michael Hildebrand
Verne Hagstrom

Good Samaritan

Marcia Hays

Sunset Assisted Living

Richard Blickhan

Curtis Creek

Sally McCarl

**Adams Pointe-
N. Adams Arbor**

Rose Cherry

**Mt. Sterling Health &
Rehab.**

Jowanna Campos

Quincy Health Care &

Senior Living

Mary Bange

**ST. DOMINIC SCHOOL PRESCHOOL
TEACHER AIDE POSITION OPENING:**

We are accepting applications for a part-time preschool teacher aide position in our Little Dolphins Preschool Program for the 2026-2027 school year. If you are interested in serving as a preschool teacher aide from 8:00 AM to 1:30 PM on school days, please contact Mrs. Carol Frericks at cfrericks@stdominicquincy.org or call the school office at 217-224-0041 for an application and the job description. St. Dominic School part-time hourly wages range from \$15.00 to \$17.00 per hour. A summary of benefits can be found at <https://dio.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Benefits-Flyer-1.pdf>.

Another opportunity to show your commitment to QND! The students of QND thank you for your support on Commitment Week-end! For those parishioners who missed the opportunity to make their pledge or gift to QND, You can place your contribution in the collection basket or they can be mailed to QND, PO Box 1014, Quincy, IL 62306. Contributions benefit the 49th Fund Drive, which bridges the gap between the cost to educate and the tuition charged to families. To learn more about QND, visit QuincyNotreDame.org Scan the QR codes to give to QND. Thank you for your consideration!



The Pictorial Directories are here!!

If you and your family had their picture taken for the directory you may pick at the parish office 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Trusting Jesus in a Wild World will be the theme for this year's **St. Anthony Vacation Bible School**. Mark your calendars for June 22, 23, 24! More information will be sent out later.



Did You Know??? This past week Father Tom celebrated 10 years being our pastor at St. Anthony parish.

"Happy 10th Anniversary! Your dedication to our parish and your quiet sacrifices over the last decade have truly inspired us".



Thank you to everyone who helped, volunteered, or attended the St. Anthony Ladies Society 2026 Spring Craft/Vendor Show. Your participation was greatly appreciated.

The St. Anthony Ladies Society

St. Anthony Cemetery We have been very fortunate to have had wonderful volunteers mowing and trimming our cemetery through the years. It has been very difficult to find volunteers in the past couple of years. As spring and summer are quickly approaching we have had to make the decision to hire someone to do the mowing and trimming of the cemetery to keep it looking nice. If you are interested in placing a bid for the mowing and trimming of the cemetery providing your own equipment you may send your bid to the parish office by **March 20, 2026**. For questions please call the parish office at 217-222-5996.

Card Shower for Bob & Dorothy Haley

As many of you may know, Bob & Dorothy Haley (St. Anthony parishioners) lost their home and all of their belongings in a house fire.

If you would like to help support Bob & Dorothy please feel free to put a card with a donation in the collection basket with their name on it, drop it by the parish office 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. Monday through Friday, or drop off at the Gene Grawe office.

MARCH GROCERY ITEMS
Toilet Paper, Laundry & Dish Detergent
The Ladies of Charity & Catholic Charities Thank You



Welcome
Jenean Wand
to our St. Anthony Parish Family!

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS & MASSES
WEDNESDAYS DURING LENT**

Each Wednesday during Lent (after Ash Wednesday), in addition to Mass at St. Dominic School, there will be a **6:00 pm Mass** at St. Anthony Church, with **Stations of the Cross beginning at 5:30 pm.**



Safe Environment Program

To report all allegations of Sexual Abuse of a Minor by Clergy-Even if it is in the past- Individuals are encouraged to call:
The Diocesan Child Abuse Reporting and Investigation Number (217) 321-1156

St. Anthony of Padua Church, Quincy, March 22, 2026

Attention All Women of the Parish You are invited to The Quincy Deanery Council of Catholic Women's Spring Gathering on Wednesday, March 25, 2026 at St Thomas Parish in Camp Point IL. Theme: "Building Catholic Culture" -Father Scott Snider; Tri-Parishes Pastor 7:45 am-8:15 am: Registration; Cost \$10 8:15 am: Mass followed by Adoration and the rosary 10:00 am: Light Breakfast, program and speaker, lunch and FUN. Ends approximately 2:30pm Please register so we know how many for lunch. You can register by using the QRC or use the sign-up sheet at church.



Welcome to all visitors to St. Anthony Parish!

If you are searching for a place to call home please consider becoming a member of our parish family. It is very simple to sign up. Just call the parish office (217-222-5996) and indicate that you would like to join our parish and a registration form will be sent to you or emailed to you.

St. Peter School Teacher Openings for the 2026-2027 School Year St. Peter School is accepting applications for full-time teaching positions for the 2026-2027 school year. We have a 4th grade position as well as a 7/8 grade Science/Religion/Reading position open. Applicants must hold an active Illinois teaching license and demonstrate enthusiasm and dedication to student success. As a Catholic school, we seek educators who are committed to fostering both academic excellence and spiritual growth in a faith-filled environment that supports the values of our Catholic tradition. Interested candidates should submit a cover letter, resume, and three letters of reference via email to c.venvertloh@cospq.org or by mail to **Mrs. Cindy Venvertloh, Principal, St. Peter School, 2500 Maine Street, Quincy, IL 62301**. For inquiries, please contact the school office at **217-223-1120**. St. Peter School wages are based on years of experience and education ranging from \$33,000 to \$70,000 depending upon education and experience. More specific information will be provided upon request. A summary of benefits can be found at <https://dio.org/wp->



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The Annunciation

The Angel Gabriel appeared and all of Heaven trembled in anticipation. Mary gives her fiat and our long wait is over! Generation after generation of longing and aching for a Messiah comes to fulfillment.

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