

Catholic Parishes of St. Anthony and Our Lady of the Hills

September 13, 2020

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Issue No. 204



St. Anthony Catholic Church
1000 6th Street
Charleston, WV 25302
www.stanthonywv.com

Facebook
www.facebook.com/stanthonywestvirginia

General Directory

Administrator

Fr. Tijo George

Email: tgeorge@dwc.org

Fr. Charles Anemelu

(Priest in Residence)

Deacon David Wuletich

Email: davidwuletich@gmail.com

Phone: 304-345-9567



Our Lady of the Hills Catholic Church
100 Jackson Drive
Elkview, WV 25071
www.ourladyofthehills.com

Facebook
www.facebook.com/ourladyofthehillswv

Office

1000 6th Street, Charleston, WV 25302

Email: secretary@stanthonywv.com Phone: 304-342-2716

Office Hours:

Monday-Tuesday-Thursday-Friday from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm; Closed Wednesday and holidays.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

St Anthony by appointment. Our Lady of the Hills by appointment.



ANNE FRANK'S ENDURING TESTAMENT

Seventy-five years ago this month, Anne Frank began a diary, which has sold over thirty million copies and been translated into almost seventy languages. No other teenager—perhaps no adult—has influenced Holocaust studies as much as she has. What makes Frank's diary so memorable is the depth of its honesty and humanity during a time of unimaginable evil.

When Anne began her diary, her family was living in Amsterdam, after her father, Otto, had moved the family there from Germany, following the Nazi takeover of 1933. For almost a decade, life in Amsterdam was relatively serene for then Franks—Otto and his wife Edith, Anne and her sister Margot. Things changed dramatically when the Nazis invaded the Netherlands, as Jews came under fierce attack. Just weeks after she began her diary, Anne's sister was summoned to a Nazi work camp. But the Franks went into hiding in an attic apartment concealed behind Otto's business office in Amsterdam. There Anne and her family lived for the next two years, along with four other endangered Jewish friends, aided by a small group of Otto's employees, who provided food and information from the outside world.

During this time, from 1942-1944, Anne wrote the bulk of her diary. She wrote about the day-to-day trials of her family and friends, and made it a point to describe their moments of tenderness and joy ("I don't think of all the misery, but of the beauty that still remains,") although there were times when her confinement became too much, and Anne was tempted by despair. But the act of writing became a source of strength.

That August, Nazi officials stormed the secret annex and seized its occupants. To this day, no one knows how the Nazis learned of the hiding place, but Anne and the others were all deported to concentration camps. Only Otto Frank survived the War. While he was in captivity, his Catholic secretary—who had risked her life protecting everyone in the secret annex, and was honored by the state of Israel for doing so—gave Otto a copy of Anne's diary. Otto meticulously reconstructed the diary and finally had it published, first in Dutch, then in English and other languages, to worldwide acclaim. Among the millions of people moved by Frank's diary was a young man, John Neiman, who had just become a Catholic, and who would eventually become a priest. He and Otto became great friends until Otto's death in 1980. Since then, Father Neiman, who serves the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, has become an authority on the life and legacy of Anne Frank, giving free lectures about her witness.

(continued on page 2)

Mass Schedule September 12 — 20

Saturday 09/12: <small>24th Sunday in Ordinary Time</small>	SA Mass 5:30 p.m. People of the Parish
Sunday 09/13: <small>24th Sunday in Ordinary Time</small>	OLH Mass 8:30 a.m. †Holy Souls in Purgatory (prayer gift) SA Mass 10:30 a.m. †Pauline Wyatt
Thursday 09/17:	SA Mass 9:00 a.m. †David Wibberg
Friday 09/18:	SA Mass 9:00 a.m. †Reparation to Divine Justice (prayer gift)
Saturday 09/19: <small>25th Sunday in Ordinary Time</small>	SA Mass 5:30 p.m. People of the Parish
Sunday 09/20: <small>25th Sunday in Ordinary Time</small>	OLH Mass 8:30 a.m. †Holy Souls in Purgatory (prayer gift) SA Mass 10:30 a.m. †David Wibberg

Bulletin & Mass Announcements

The deadline this week for bulletin announcements is **Wednesday at 5:30 p.m.** and for Mass announcements is **Friday at 9:00 a.m.**

Thank you!!



Safe Environment—The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston is committed to the protection of its children and young people. The Diocese complies with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People* by maintaining an Office of Safe Environment. To report an incidence of suspected child sexual abuse, please contact your local law enforcement agency, or you may confidentially contact the West Virginia Bureau for Children and Families/Child Protective Services by calling the Child Abuse Hotline at 800.352.6513. To report suspected cases of sexual abuse by personnel of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to the Diocese, please contact one of the Bishop's designees at 888.434.6237 (toll free) or 304.233.0880: Sister Ellen Dunn, ext. 264; Mr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Mr. Tim Bishop, ext. 353; Fr. Dennis Schuelkens, ext. 270 or call the Office of Safe Environment at 304.230.1504. For more information on the Diocese's Office of Safe Environment, please go to www.dwc.org, then click the "Diocese" tab, then click "Office of Safe Environment" under the "Offices" menu. To learn more about the Catholic Church's efforts in preventing sexual abuse of children in the United States, please visit <http://www.usccb.org>. Under "Issues and Action," click "Child and Youth Protection" from the drop down menu.

Mass Intentions—In accordance with the guidelines from the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, Mass stipends are deposited in a separate checking account. **If you are writing a check, please make it payable to St. Anthony Mass Account.**

The current suggested level of giving is **\$20 for a weekend Mass or \$10 for a daily Mass.** Any offering, however, is most welcome, and, if you do not have funds to offer, you are encouraged to request your Mass intention.

Prayer List for the Sick & Homebound

St. Anthony—Mary Canterbury, Mary Hanson, David Dodd, Nazira Joseph, Zachariah Kushner, Christina Lopez, Michael McCallister, Maya Clark, Robin Holly, Mike Layne, Michael Bee, Lorie Collingwood

Our Lady of the Hills—Bert Zodorozny, Margaret Hancock, Violet Edwards, Marilyn Spencer, William Spencer, Katie Caroli, Jeanne Rollins, Steven Spencer, Doug Spencer, Harry Crede, Lorie Collingwood

Please call Father Tijo George at 304-342-2716, ext. 406 if you would like a visit and to receive communion or a home blessing.

Stewardship Report for Sept. 5 & 6, 2020

St. Anthony

Offering	\$ 1,792.50
Building Fund	280.00
St. Anthony Caring Fund	55.00
Other	35.73

Attendance Saturday—17 Sunday—40

Our Lady of the Hills

Offering	\$ 1,380.00
LERMA	480.00
St. Anne's Outreach	80.00
Other	125.00

Attendance Sunday—27

Thank you for your generosity! Please remember to continue to support your parish during this difficult time. May God bless you!

Anne Frank's Enduring Testament *(continued from page 1)*

Her philosophy was: "Live your life doing good for other people." Those words reaffirmed Father Neiman's decision to become a priest.

Anne's unshakable faith in God is often downplayed, as when commentators celebrate her literary immortality by citing her prophetic line, "I want to go on living even after my death!"—without mentioning the sentence that immediately follows. "And that's why I am so grateful to God for having given me this gift, which I can use to develop myself and express all that's inside me!" Anne Frank knew what could happen to her and her family, but that didn't prevent her from writing in her diary: "God has not forsaken me, and he never will"; and "It's God who has made us the way we are, but it's also God who will lift us up again."

~ By William Doino, Jr.

Music for Liturgy



Entrance:	Gather Us In (instrumental) — #303
Gloria:	Mass of Renewal — #860
Offertory:	There's a Wideness in God's Mercy — #476
Communion:	Loving and Forgiving — #654
Recessional:	The Spirit Sends Us Forth (instrumental) — #377



The Diocesan Scholarship Association Collection: September 12 & 13—Our second collection this weekend is for the Diocesan Scholarship Association. Since its inception, the DSA has assisted hundreds of students who chose to attend Wheeling University where they received an excellent education at West Virginia's only Catholic institution of higher education.

Disaster Relief Collection: September 19 & 20—Most Rev. Mark Brennan, Bishop of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, has approved a special collection to be held the weekend of September 19-20 in all parishes and missions throughout the diocese to support recovery efforts related to the recent natural disasters that have occurred across the country (US Gulf hurricanes and the western wildfires) as well as the devastating explosion that occurred in Beirut, Lebanon.

Proceeds from this collection will support the humanitarian and recovery efforts of Catholic Charities USA and Catholic Relief Services and will provide pastoral support and rebuilding assistance to impacted dioceses through the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

As we hold the victims and first responders in our prayers during these critical days, let us also spend time in prayer and discernment as we prepare for this upcoming collection. Let us come together now to support our brothers and sisters in Christ who are suffering this horrible loss.

Please remember in prayer those who have lost their lives as a result of these disasters, as well as all those who are injured and lost their homes, cars, employment, access to food and water and to those who remain without electricity or are stranded.

Checks should be made payable to your parish and indicate "Disaster Relief" on the memo line.

Online Giving Now Available—We are excited to inform you that we now offer ParishSOFT Giving on our websites: www.stanthonywv.com and www.ourladyofthehills.com! As a church that seeks to serve, we wanted to provide you the convenience of being able to give the way you want, whenever you want. ParishSOFT Giving offers you the opportunity to make secure, automatic contributions from your bank [or credit/debit card] account to our church. Online Giving costs you nothing and provides many advantages to you and the church:

Benefits for You	Benefits for the Church
No check writing or ATM stops before church	Provides sustained giving that helps parish budgeting and ministry planning
Safe, secure, and confidential transactions	Reduces check processing fees
Use your checking/savings account or credit/debit card	Allows staff more time to focus on ministries
Schedule recurring or one-time donations	Creates peace in knowing your data and auto-deposited gifts are secure
Change a gift or account anytime you like	Accommodates special funds and tuition
Choose offertory, special funds, pledges	Provides giving history for tax statements
View your giving history anytime	Reaches a wider demographic of givers

We ask that you consider using this service—especially if you currently manage your bills or banking online. For more information about ParishSOFT Giving, please visit your parish website and click on the **"Online Giving"** button, or call Michele at 304-342-2716.

Critical Moments: How should Catholics pray before and after Mass?

It happens every Sunday. Parishioners scurry into their pews moments before Mass begins.

A few sneak in during the opening song or even the first reading, hoping that no one will notice. After Communion, the church is noticeably emptier than it was only minutes before. Several members of the congregation *(continued on page 4)*

Critical Moments: How should Catholics pray before and after Mass? *(continued from page 3)*

have slipped out the door to hurry off to their next activity. Many others bolt to their cars after the final blessing or file into the parish hall for coffee, donuts and friendly conversation.

Catholics who neglect to arrive early at Mass and hesitate to stay late are missing out on critical moments they could be using to cultivate their spiritual lives and grow in their relationship with God. Taking a few minutes for silent prayer before and after Mass can help Massgoers focus their attention, prepare their hearts for worship, express their gratitude and carry their experience of God back into their daily lives.

Zeroing in on God

Human minds wander. At one moment, a person is devoutly focused on singing the praises of God in the Gloria. In the next, she is thinking about what she would like to have for lunch. These lapses in attention happen to everyone from time to time, but they can be minimized by designating a few minutes before Mass to quiet the mind and zero in on God.

Begin by simply greeting God and reciting a few familiar prayers — perhaps the Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory Be — to direct the mind toward the divine. Set before the Lord anything that is troubling or burdensome, and surrender it to His all-powerful care. Examine your conscience and repent of any sins that might be weighing heavily upon it. Lift up family, friends and acquaintances to the Lord and place them in His loving protection. Let go of anything that might distract the mind from offering God full praise, devout prayer and reverent worship over the next 60 minutes.

Now that the mind is focused on God, it is time to prepare the heart to worship Him. Focus especially on what is about to happen in the Mass. Recall that the lector and deacon or priest will be reading from the inspired and inerrant Word of God. Remember that Jesus is going to be really present — body, blood, soul and divinity — in the Eucharist. Recollect that this Eucharistic Jesus will come in a highly intimate way to each and every person who receives Him in holy Communion during the next hour.

Most importantly, ask God for help. Ask Him for the attention and devotion necessary to pray and worship well during Mass. Ask Him for the grace to receive Him worthily in holy Communion. He will always respond graciously and powerfully to an open, longing, loving heart.

Moments of Thanksgiving

When Father says, “Go forth, the Mass is ended,” do not take that as a cue to dash out the church door as quickly as possible. Instead, when the closing hymn ends, remain in the pew for a few minutes to bask in the intimate presence of the Eucharistic Jesus and to thank God for the great gifts He has just provided in the Mass.

Express heartfelt gratitude for the opportunity to worship with the saints and angels; to hear God’s Word solemnly proclaimed; to witness the sacred moment of consecration when Jesus became truly present on the altar under the appearance of bread and wine; and to receive the Lord of heaven and earth in holy Communion.

Do not rush through these moments of thanksgiving. God has given His very Self to His people in this Mass; the least His people can do in return is give Him thanks.

Before returning to the activities and cares of daily life, spend a few moments placing these in God’s hands. Beg Him for a share of His overflowing love and the courage to spread it everywhere throughout the coming week. Ask Him for grace to avoid sin. Tell Him about difficulties at work or at home, and ask Him for solutions. Talk to Him about troubled relationships, and ask for His guidance toward reconciliation. Recall and obey the comforting command of 1 Peter 5:7: “Cast all your worries upon him because he cares for you.”

Practical Tips

For many Catholics, taking time to pray before and after Mass requires some adjustment and effort, at least at first. The following suggestions might help:

1. Get up 15 minutes earlier on Sunday mornings or start getting ready for Mass 15 minutes earlier on Saturday evenings. Then, be ready to leave for Mass 15 minutes earlier than normal.
2. To avoid feeling rushed, do not schedule any activities until at least a half-hour after Mass.
3. Make a firm commitment. Spiritual growth requires discipline, but God rewards His people’s efforts thirtyfold, sixtyfold and even a hundredfold (see Mt 13:8).
4. Invite others to pray. Sharing a prayer commitment with family, friends and fellow parishioners provides necessary motivation and support.
5. Do not fret about distractions during prayer before and after Mass. Gently guide the mind back to prayer whenever it wanders.

Pope Paul VI once called the Mass “the most perfect form of prayer.” Indeed, during holy Mass, God deepens and broadens His intimacy with His people as He speaks His Word to their hearts and nourishes their souls with the Eucharist. Is it not fitting, then, that Catholics should prepare carefully and thoroughly for this tremendous encounter with God? And is it not fitting that Catholics should express their gratitude for such an encounter? By spending time with God in prayer during those critical moments before and after Mass, Catholics will better appreciate the great gift of this most perfect prayer and, more importantly, grow ever closer to the Giver.

~Amy Troolin