Hope • Peace • Joy • Love

Esperanza • Paz • Alegría • Amor

the season of

Advent 2025

St. Anthony of Padua Church

5770 N. Maroa Avenue, Fresno, CA 93704
559-439-0124 | www.stanthonyfresno.org

DEC
14
2025

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA STAFF
(559) 439-0124

Rev. Msgr. Robert D. Wenzinger, Pastor
439-0124, ext. 104
fatherrob@stanthonyfresno.org

Parochial Vicar – Fr. Regino Rosero Quijano

Parochial Vicar – Rev. Joaquin Arriaga

Parochial Vicar – Fr. Jose Padron

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ebriseno@stanthonyfresno.org

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Deacon Rick DeLeon

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Religious Education & Sacraments
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High School Sacraments – LIFETEEN
Jaime Torkelson ext. 117
jtorkelson@stanthonyfresno.org

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)
Martha Danks-Ferguson ext. 114
mdanksferg@stanthonyfresno.org

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:
Tuesday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

BULLETIN/WEBPAGE
Bulletin Editor: bulletin@stanthonyfresno.org
Bulletin inserts are due 4 weeks prior to publication.

Welcome to St. Anthony of Padua

The Catholic Christian community of St. Anthony of Padua welcomes all to our celebrations of God's love. Through prayer, education, sacraments, caring and stewardship, we strive to serve the needs of God's people and to gain a richer understanding of the Gospel message of love. We invite you to become a part of our "Parish Life." Your talents are welcome!
***Rev. Msgr. Robert D. Wenzinger**, Pastor*
Please register at www.stanthonyfresno.org.
Thanks for joining us!

TODAY'S READINGS CAN BE FOUND IN THE GREEN HYMNAL: #864

Mass Intentions

14 SUNDAY – THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
8:00 a.m. † Helen Hein by the Hein Family
9:30 a.m. † Catalina Nava by Marc and Lucy Vasquez
11:00 a.m. † Mark T. Crawford by Martha Crawford
1:00 p.m. † Alfonsina Catalan by Noemi Gomez
6:00 p.m. † Marianne Angelillo by the Ferdinandi Family

15 MONDAY
NO MASS

16 TUESDAY
6:45 a.m. † Marianne Angelillo by Phil & Dorothy Christensen
8:00 a.m. † Margaret Rodriguez by Bernie Araiza

17 WEDNESDAY
6:45 a.m. † Tony & Elvira Fagundes by the Fagundes Family
8:00 a.m. Intentions of Maria H. Perez by Cecilia Perez

18 THURSDAY
6:45 a.m. Intentions of Girado & Comes Families by Cindy Ferdinandi
8:15 a.m. † Rafael & Natividad Beltran by Esther

19 FRIDAY
6:45 a.m. † Velia Chaparro by the Chaparro Family
8:15 a.m. † Milagros Yulingsin by Yvette Kong

20 SATURDAY
4:00 p.m. † Bernard & Theresa Hermann by Jeanne Hermann Starks
5:30 p.m. † Josefina Obregon por Isabel Despres

21 SUNDAY – FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
8:00 a.m. † Leonard Galbaz by his family
9:30 a.m. † Peter L. Mendez by Sandra Mendez
11:00 a.m. † Deceased Members of the Hernandez Family by the Hernandez Family
1:00 p.m. Pro Populo (Por las intenciones de la comunidad parroquial)
6:00 p.m. † Raymond Cerda by Rosa Cerda

SECOND COLLECTION
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14

Our opportunity to give back to those who served.

LA SEGUNDA COLECCIÓN
SÁBADO 13 DE DICIEMBRE
DOMINGO 14 DE DICIEMBRE

Nuestra oportunidad de retribuir a quienes sirvieron.

NO CONFESSIONS
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23

MONDAY, DECEMBER 15
ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE

7:00 p.m. Main Church

The Annual Penance Service will begin promptly at 7:00 p.m. with readings and prayers. We ask all parishioners to sit in the first open pew closest to the altar area and toward the center aisle as to create one continuous line. El Servicio Anual de Penitencia comenzará a las 19:00 h con lecturas y oraciones.

SATURDAY & SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20 & 21
CATHOLIC CHARITIES TRUCK

Knights of Columbus volunteers will be available to accept your nonmonetary donations of nonperishable food, clothing, household goods and more after each of the weekend Masses. Together, we make a difference.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2026
WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

9:00 a.m. Conference Room

Women's Bible Study will resume on January 7th.

Merry Christmas!

Knights of Columbus

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2026

General Meeting 7:00 p.m.; Rosary 6:15 p.m.

St. Agnes Social Hall – 111 W. Birch Avenue, Pinedale

The Knights of Columbus are not part of and not acting on behalf of the St. Anthony of Padua parish or the Diocese of Fresno

SILVER ANGELS MINISTRY
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2026

Merry Christmas from Silver Angels! We will see you back on February 11th, 2026.

For more information on parish groups, call the Ministry Office at 439-0124, ext. 106.

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday (Vigil Mass)
4:00 p.m. – English
5:30 p.m. – Español

Sunday
8:00 a.m.; 9:30 a.m.; 11:00 a.m. – English
1:00 p.m. – Español
6:00 p.m. – English

Livestream Mass Schedule
9:30 a.m. – English Mass
1:00 p.m. – Misa Español

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

Tuesday-Thursday (OLG Chapel)
6:45 a.m. – Daily Mass
8:00 a.m. – Chapel open until 11:00 a.m.

Friday (OLG Chapel)
6:45 a.m. – Daily Mass
8:15 a.m. – Followed by Adoration

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Friday
9:00-11:00 a.m. – Guadalupe Chapel

RECONCILIATION

Tuesday
6:00 p.m. – Chapel Confessionals

Saturday
10:00 a.m. – Chapel Confessionals

Grupo de Oración

MIERCOLES – GRUPO DE ORACIÓN ENCUENTRO CON DIOS.

Te invitamos al grupo de oración todos los miercoles desde las 6:30 p.m. empezando con El Rosario, en el salon #23 de nuestra parroquia.

"Ven y llénate del Señor."

The Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven,
may the faith You have given us
in Your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of charity enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed hope
for the coming of Your Kingdom.
May Your grace transform us into tireless
cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.
May those seeds transform from within both
humanity and the whole cosmos
in the sure expectation
of a new heaven and a new earth,
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,
Your glory will shine eternally.
May the grace of the Jubilee
reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope,
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.
May that same grace spread
the joy and peace of our Redeemer
throughout the earth.
To You our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever.
Amen

Oración del Jubileo

Padre que estás en el cielo,
la fe que nos has donado en
tu Hijo Jesucristo, nuestro hermano,
y la llama de caridad
infundida en nuestros corazones por
el Espíritu Santo, despierten en
nosotros la bienaventurada esperanza
en la venida de tu Reino.
Tu gracia nos transforme
en dedicados cultivadores de las semillas
del Evangelio que fermenten la humanidad
y el cosmos, en espera confiada
de los cielos nuevos y de la tierra nueva,
cuando vencidas las fuerzas del mal,
se manifestará para siempre tu gloria.
La gracia del Jubileo
reavive en nosotros, Peregrinos de Esperanza,
el anhelo de los bienes celestiales
y derrame en el mundo entero
la alegría y la paz
de nuestro Redentor.
A ti, Dios bendito eternamente,
sea la alabanza y la gloria por los siglos.
Amén.

Franciscus

STEWARDSHIP – MANAGING GOD'S GIFTS TO US

Sharing the Gifts We Have Been Given!

November 23, 2025	$24,684.00
Last year's plate income:	$24,005.00
Difference:	$679.00
Year-to-Date Plate Collection • *Colectas Del Año Hasta La Fecha*	
July 1, 2025 – August 30, 2025	$203,312.54
July 1, 2024 – August 30, 2024	$182,422.86
Difference:	$20,889.68

WE GREATLY APPRECIATE YOUR CONTINUED GENEROSITY
GRACIAS POR SU CONTINUA GENEROSIDAD

GIVE ONLINE – ***Easy, Safe, and Convenient: When you give to God, you discover that God gives to you. You can also drop your envelope in the mail slot located in the door on the south side of the Parish Office.***

ST. AGNES MISSION CHURCH

111 W. Birch Avenue, Pinedale, CA 93650
(559) 439-2100

Sunday 9:00 a.m. – English

Sunday 10:30 a.m. – Español

For the following Sacraments, please contact St. Anthony of Padua:
Anointing of the Sick • Baptisms • Confession • Funerals • Weddings

Please mail any correspondence, contributions, Mass intentions to:
St. Anthony of Padua – 5770 N. Maroa Avenue, Fresno, CA 93704

Sacraments & Pastoral Support.... Chris Shiveley (559) 439-0124, ext. 103
cshiveley@stanthonyfresno.org
Director of Religious Education..... Phyllis Carmona

"Christ has made my soul beautiful
with jewels of grace and virtue.
I belong to Him Whom the Angels serve."
– St. Agnes

SHARING THE GIFTS WE HAVE BEEN GIVEN	
November 9, 2025	$1,269.00

WE GREATLY APPRECIATE YOUR CONTINUED GENEROSITY!
GRACIAS POR SU CONTINUA GENEROSIDAD

DIOCESE OF FRESNO OFFICE OF VOCATIONS

WRITTEN BY MONSIGNOR PATRICK MCCORMICK

A PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

God our Father, in Baptism, You call Your people by name and make us one family in Your Church. We praise Your goodness. We thank You for Your gifts.

Father, bless our Church with Your love. Raise up in the Diocese of Fresno good and holy families: loving husbands and wives, devoted parents, and children. Raise up from our families dedicated and generous men and women who will serve Your people. Send Your Holy Spirt to call, guide, and strengthen our future priests, deacons, nuns, sisters, and brothers in religious vocations, so that they may serve Your people by following the example of Your Son, Jesus Christ, in whose name we offer our prayer.

Amen.

ORACION POR LAS VOCACIONES

Dios Padre Nuestro, que en el bautismo llamas a tu pueblo por su nombre haciendo de nosotros usa familia en tu Iglesia.

Alabamos tu bondad y agradecemos tus dones. Bendice a nuestra Iglesia con tu amor, suscitando en la Dióceis de Fresno buenas y santas familias: matrimonios amorosos, padres e hijos con gran devoción. Que de nuestros hogares nazcan personas dedicadas y generosas que sirva a tu pueblo.

Envia tu Espíritu Santo para guiar, dirigir y fortalecer a nuestros futuros sacerdotes, diáconos, monjas y personas consagradas a la vida religiosa. Que ellos puedan servir a tu pueblo siguiendo el ejemplo de tu Hijo Jesucristo, en cuyo nombre ofrecemos nuestra oración.

Amen.

The following couples will marry in the coming weeks:

Isidro Solorio & Brisa Olivares

Vernon McCartney & Alexandra Candelario

If you know of any canonical reason for them not to be married, please contact the Parish Office.

Tuesday, December 16
6:00 p.m. Mass | Main
Wednesday, December 17
6:00 p.m. Mass | Main
Thursday, December 18
6:00 p.m. Mass | Main
Friday, December 19
6:00 p.m. Mass | Main
Saturday, December 20
6:30 p.m. Mass | Main
Sunday, December 21
6:00 p.m. Mass | Main
Monday, December 22
6:00 p.m. Mass | Main
Tuesday, December 23
6:00 p.m. Mass | Main
Wednesday, December 24
6:30 p.m. Mass | Main

St. Anthony of Padua School and Parish are taking part in the Catholic Charities Toys For Kids drive. Please place your new unwrapped toy in one of the collection boxes found in the Conference Room (aka Donut Room) before **Wednesday, December 17.** Thank you for making Christmas a more joyful day for needy children in our Valley.

Saturday, January 3, 2026

First Saturday
8:15 a.m. Mass
Followed by the Rosary and meditation on the mysteries of the Rosary honoring Our Lady of Fatima's Request.

Parish Ministry Guide –

Christ said, "I have come to serve, not to be served."
The prayers during the Mass invite us to offer our prayers and gifts to the Lord. Liturgical Ministry calls the faithful to be part of the Mass. We all feel unworthy to serve, just as Christ's disciples, who were fishermen before Christ called them. Is Christ calling you?

ALTAR SERVER
We invite parents of youth (3rd grade and up, who have received their First Holy Communion) to prayerfully consider the unique opportunity for your child to grow closer to Our Lord and His Church as an Altar Server.

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS
Considered the unique honor to offer the "Body of Christ" to the faith community. Ministers are commissioned by our pastor to assist with the distribution of Holy Communion at Mass. Candidates should be 18 years of age and be in full communion with the church (all sacraments).

LECTORS
Do you remember the joy of reading to your children before bed? If so, chances are you're a Lector candidate. Persons, 5th grade and older, who have made their First Holy Communion with good reading skills can serve as a Lector at Mass.

USHER & GREETER MINISTRY
Are you the type to get to church early? Why not join the Usher Ministry and greet your fellow parishioners as they enter the church? Ushers assist with the collection and act as Eucharistic Guards during Communion. Join the team and serve when you can.

HOMEBOUND MINISTRY
Are you a Eucharistic Minister who is being called to serve the members of our parish who are unable to come to Mass on Sunday due to illness or other limitation? We are looking for Eucharistic Ministers who are willing to take Holy Communion after Mass to the members of the parish who are Homebound.

To sign up to help with parish ministries, go to www.stanthonyfresno.org/ministries/, or call the Parish Office at 439-0124 for more details.

SERVIDOR DE ALTAR
Invitamos a los padres de los jóvenes (de 3° grad en adelante, que hayan recibido su Primera Comunión) a considerar en oración la oportunidad única de que su hijo crezca más cerca de Nuestro Señor y de Su Iglesia como Monaguillo.

MINISTROS DE LA EUCARISTÍA
Se considera el honor único de ofrecer el "Cuerpo de Cristo" a la comunidad de fe. Los ministros son comisionados por nuestro párroco para asistir en la distribución de la Sagrada Comunión en la Misa. Los candidatos deben tener 18 años de edad y estar en plena comunión con la iglesia (todos los sacramentos).

LECTORES
¿Recuerda la alegría de leer a sus hijos antes de dormir? Si es así, lo más probable es que usted sea un candidato a Lector. Las personas, de 5° grado en adelante, que han hecho su Primera Comunión con buenas habilidades de lectura pueden servir como Lector en la Misa.

MINISTERIO DE UJIERES Y SALUDADORES
¿Eres de los que llegan temprano a la iglesia? ¿Por qué no te unes al Ministerio de Ujieres y saludas a tus feligreses cuando entran en la iglesia? Los ujieres ayudan con la colecta y actúan como guardias eucarísticos durante la comunión. Únase al equipo y sirva cuando pueda.

MINISTERIO DE LOS CONFINADOS EN CASA
¿Es usted un Ministro Eucarístico que está siendo llamado a servir a los miembros de nuestra parroquia que no pueden asistir a Misa el domingo debido a una enfermedad u otra limitación? Estamos buscando un Ministro Eucarístico que esté dispuesto a llevar la Sagrada Comunión después de la Misa a los miembros de la parroquia que están en sus hogares.

Para inscribirse para ayudar con los ministerios parroquiales, visite www.stanthonyfresno.org/ministries/ o llame a la Oficina Parroquial al 439-0124 para obtener más detalles.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION – GIFT "Growing In Faith Together"

Faith Formation & Sacrament Preparation for Children in Kindergarten-6th Grade

FIRST RECONCILIATION, FIRST COMMUNION & SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION

GIFT Registration is now open at www.stanthonyfresno.org.

Sunday Classes (3:00-4:15 p.m.) and Second Year students and parent(s) one Thursday per month class (at 6:30 p.m.) will begin in October, 2025.

For more information or to volunteer in children's ministry and continue to have this program, contact Mary Briseno at 559-439-0124, ext. 113 or by email mbriseno@stanthonyfresno.org.

EDUCACIÓN RELIGIOSA – GIFT "Creciendo Juntos En Nuestra Fe"

Formación de Fe y Preparación Sacramental para niños del Kínder-6 to grados

PRIMERA RECONCILIACION, PRIMERA COMUNION, Y SACRAMENTOS DE INICIACION

La inscripción para el programa GIFT ya está abierta en www.stanthonyfresno.org.

Las clases dominicales (de 15:00-16:15 h) y la clase un jueves al mes (a las 18:30 h) para estudiantes de segundo año y sus padres comenzarán en octubre de 2025.

Para más información o para ser voluntario en el ministerio de niños y poder continuar con este programa, comuníquese con Mary Briseño al 559-439-0124, ext. 113 o por email: mbriseno@stanthonyfresno.org.

EDGE

2025-2026 Registration for **Grades 6th through 8th** is open (available online only) through September 24th 2025. Register at www.stanthonyfresno.org. Click the Faith Formation tab, in the drop-down menu select Edge Youth Ministry.

Tuesday Evenings in the Social Hall at St. Anthony's School, 6:30-8:00 p.m., beginning September 30th.

EDGE is a Catholic youth group that is designed to meet the educational, spiritual, emotional, and social needs of young adolescents. As young adolescents, they are trying to figure out who they are and what they believe. **Youth will prepare for the Sacraments of Baptism and First Communion while attending EDGE.**

Director, Jaime Torkelson, ext. 117, jtorkelson@stanthonyfresno.org.

LIFETEEN

Confirmation 1 and 2 – High School Teens

2025-2026 Registration for **Grades 9 through 12** is now open (available online only) through September 24th 2025. Register at www.stanthonyfresno.org. Click the Faith Formation tab, in the drop-down menu select Confirmation/LifeTeen.

Sundays in the Social Hall at St. Anthony's School directly after the 11:00 a.m. Mass, 12:00-1:30 p.m., beginning October 5th.

LifeTeen leads teenagers and their families into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ and His Church. We created a dynamic space where teens can develop friendships with their peers, learn more about their faith, and encounter Jesus in the Sacraments!

Confirmation is a two-year program for students who are Freshmen or older. Candidates for Confirmation must be at least 16 years of age to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. Confirmation candidates meet Sundays with our LifeTeen Youth Group which begins after the 11:00 a.m. Mass until 1:30 p.m.

1st Year session will begin Sunday, October 5th
2nd Year session will begin Sunday, October 19th

Director, Jaime Torkelson, ext. 117, jtorkelson@stanthonyfresno.org

EDGE/LIFETEEN Volunteers Needed

We're looking for volunteers interested in helping with Edge (6th - 8th grade youth group) and/or LifeTeen (9th-12th grade teens). If you feel called to help our youth connect with Christ and His Church, please contact the Parish Office. You are more than needed, you are wanted!

OCIA: ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS

Tuesdays: 6:30-8:00 p.m. St. Anthony Conference Room (aka Donut Room)

SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION

Tuesdays: 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
St. Anthony of Padua Conference Room
(aka Donut Room)

To register go to www.stanthonyfresno.org
Click on Faith Formation and scroll to Sacraments of Initiation for Adults.

We welcome adults seeking any of the Sacraments of Initiation: **Baptism, Confirmation or Eucharist**

New folks are welcome to join us at any time during the year.
If you have questions, please contact Martha by phone or email.

PARA JÓVENES BILINGÜES

INSCRIPCIONES YA ESTÁN ABIERTAS

Para inscribirse
ESCANEE EL CODIGO QR

Para mas información comuníquese al (559) 439-0154 con el Diacono Edgar #111 o Hna. Lupita #107

SACRAMENTOS PARA ADULTOS

Adultos mayores de 18 años interesados en los Sacramentos de Primera Comunión, Confirmación o Bautismo hablar con Hermana Edith, ext. 122 o sisteredith@stanthonyfresno.org.

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

A message of hope resounds through the readings for this Third Sunday of Advent. Isaiah's word of hope came nearly three millennium ago to people suffering the turmoil and indignity of invasion by the Assyrians: Fear not! You will see the glory and splendor of the Lord who will come to save you! James encourages his community with yet more words of hope: Be patient! Do not loose heart! The Lord's coming will be soon!

And the message of hope comes to us in the response of Jesus to John's questions from a Galilean jail. John, who proclaimed the coming wrath of God and pointed to the One coming who is stronger than he, now sits in Herod's prison awaiting death because he spoke truth to power. Is John questioning his life's work? Perhaps, to a degree, but his question to Jesus: "Are you the One," sets up the response of Jesus, a hope-filled message describing what His ministry will look like: the blind see, cripples walk, lepers are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised to life, and the poor have the Good News preached to them. Echoing the dream and vision of Isaiah and all the prophets, the Kingdom of God comes to rule our hearts and the world. We who are privileged to be least in God's Kingdom continue this mission and message of hope.

– Fr. Jay

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

Sunday, December 14, 2025
Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10
Psalm 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10
James 5:7-10
Matthew 11:2-11

Monday, December 15, 2025
Advent Weekday
Numbers 24:2-7, 15-17a
Psalm 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9
Matthew 21:23-27

Tuesday, December 16, 2025
Advent Weekday
Zephaniah 3:1-2, 9-13
Psalm 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19, 23
Matthew 21:28-32

Wednesday, December 17, 2025
Late Advent Weekday
Genesis 49:2, 8-10
Psalm 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17
Matthew 1:1-17

Thursday, December 18, 2025
Late Advent Weekday
Jeremiah 23:5-8
Psalm 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19
Matthew 1:18-25

Friday, December 19, 2025
Late Advent Weekday
Judges 13:2-7, 24-25a
Psalm 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17
Luke 1:5-25

Saturday, December 20, 2025
Late Advent Weekday
Isaiah 7:10-14
Psalm 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6
Luke 1:26-28

Access Daily Readings from the New American Bible, Revised Edition (NABRE) online at https://bible.usccb.org

ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS

Saint of the Day: December 14
Patron Saint of Mystics

John is a saint because his life was a heroic effort to live up to his name: "of the Cross." The folly of the cross came to full realization in time. "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me" (Mark 8:34b) is the story of John's life. The Paschal Mystery – through death to life – strongly marks John as reformer, mystic-poet, and theologian-priest.

Ordained a Carmelite priest in 1567 at age 25, John met Teresa of Avila and like her, vowed himself to the primitive Rule of the Carmelites. As partner with Teresa and in his own right, John engaged in the work of reform, and came to experience the price of reform: increasing opposition, misunderstanding, persecution, imprisonment. He came to know the cross acutely – to experience the dying of Jesus – as he sat month after month in his dark, damp, narrow cell with only his God.

Yet, the paradox! In this dying of imprisonment John came to life, uttering poetry. In the darkness of the dungeon, John's spirit came into the Light. There are many mystics, many poets; John is unique as mystic-poet, expressing in his prison-cross the ecstasy of mystical union with God in the Spiritual Canticle.

But as agony leads to ecstasy, so John had his Ascent to Mt. Carmel, as he named it in his prose masterpiece. As man-Christian-Carmelite, he experienced in himself this purifying ascent; as spiritual director, he sensed it in others; as psychologist-theologian, he described and analyzed it in his prose writings. His prose works are outstanding in underscoring the cost of discipleship, the path of union with God: rigorous discipline, abandonment, purification.

Read the full article: "St. John of the Cross" Franciscan Media, Franciscan Friars, https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day/saint-john-of-the-cross/ (Accessed November 16, 2025).

TERCER DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO

Un mensaje de esperanza resuena en las lecturas de este tercer domingo de Adviento. Las palabras de esperanza de Isaías llegaron hace casi tres milenios a un pueblo que sufría la agitación y la indignidad de la invasión de los asirios: ¡No temáis! ¡Veréis la gloria y el esplendor del Señor, que vendrá a salvaros! Santiago anima a su comunidad con más palabras de esperanza: ¡Sed pacientes! ¡No os desaniméis! ¡La venida del Señor será pronto!

Y el mensaje de esperanza nos llega en la respuesta de Jesús a las preguntas de Juan desde una cárcel de Galilea. Juan, que proclamó la ira venidera de Dios y señaló al que vendría, más fuerte que él, ahora está sentado en la prisión de Herodes esperando la muerte por haber dicho la verdad al poder. ¿Está Juan cuestionando la obra de su vida? Quizás, hasta cierto punto, pero su pregunta a Jesús: "¿Eres tú el que ha de venir?", da lugar a la respuesta de Jesús, un mensaje lleno de esperanza que describe cómo será su ministerio: los ciegos verán, los cojos andarán, los leprosos serán curados, los sordos oirán, los muertos resucitarán y a los pobres se les predicará la buena nueva. Haciéndose eco del sueño y la visión de Isaías y de todos los profetas, el Reino de Dios viene a gobernar nuestros corazones y el mundo. Nosotros, que tenemos el privilegio de ser los últimos en el Reino de Dios, continuamos esta misión y este mensaje de esperanza.

– P. Jay

ESCRITURA SEMANAL

Domingo, 14 de diciembre de 2025
Isaías 35:1-6a, 10
Salmo 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10
Santiago 5:7-10
Mateo 11:2-11

Lunes, 15 de diciembre de 2025
Día laborable de Adviento
Números 24:2-7, 15-17a
Salmo 25:4-5ab, 6 y 7bc, 8-9
Mateo 21:23-27

Martes, 16 de diciembre de 2025
Día laborable de Adviento
Sofonías 3:1-2, 9-13
Salmo 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19, 23
Mateo 21:28-32

Miércoles, 17 de diciembre de 2025
Último día laborable de Adviento
Génesis 49:2, 8-10
Salmo 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17
Mateo 1:1-17

Jueves, 18 de diciembre de 2025
Último día laborable de Adviento
Jeremías 23:5-8
Salmo 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19
Mateo 1:18-25

Viernes, 19 de diciembre de 2025
Último día laborable de Adviento
Jueces 13:2-7, 24-25a
Salmo 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17
Lucas 1:5-25

Sábado, 20 de diciembre de 2025
Último día laborable de Adviento
Isaías 7:10-14
Salmo 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6
Lucas 1:26-28

Acceda a las lecturas diarias de la Nueva Biblia Americana, Edición Revisada (NABRE) en línea en https://bible.usccb.org

SAN JUAN DE LA CRUZ

Santo del día: 14 de diciembre
Santo patrón de los místicos

Juan es santo porque su vida fue un esfuerzo heroico por estar a la altura de su nombre: "de la Cruz". La locura de la cruz se hizo plenamente realidad con el tiempo. "El que quiera venir en pos de mí, niéguese a sí mismo, tome su cruz y sígame" (Marcos 8:34b) es la historia de la vida de Juan. El Misterio Pascual – de la muerte a la vida – marca profundamente a Juan como reformador, poeta místico y sacerdote teólogo.

Ordenado sacerdote carmelita en 1567 a la edad de 25 años, Juan conoció a Teresa de Ávila y, como ella, se consagró a la Regla primitiva de los Carmelitas. Como compañero de Teresa y por derecho propio, Juan se dedicó a la labor de la reforma y llegó a experimentar el precio de la misma: creciente oposición, incomprensión, persecución, encarcelamiento. Llegó a conocer profundamente la cruz – a experimentar la muerte de Jesús – mientras permanecía mes tras mes en su celda oscura, húmeda y estrecha, solo con su Dios.

¡Pero qué paradoja! En esta agonía del encarcelamiento, Juan cobró vida y recitó poesía. En la oscuridad de la mazmorra, el espíritu de Juan alcanzó la Luz. Hay muchos místicos, muchos poetas; Juan es único como místico-poeta, expresando en su cruz carcelaria el éxtasis de la unión mística con Dios en el Cantar Espiritual.

Pero así como la agonía conduce al éxtasis, Juan tuvo su Ascensión al Monte Carmelo, como él mismo lo llamó en su obra maestra en prosa. Como hombre, cristiano y carmelita, experimentó en sí mismo este ascenso purificador; como director espiritual, lo percibió en otros; como psicólogo y teólogo, lo describió y analizó en sus escritos en prosa. Sus obras en prosa destacan por subrayar el costo del discipulado, el camino de la unión con Dios: disciplina rigurosa, abandono, purificación.

Lea el artículo completo: "San Juan de la Cruz", Franciscan Media, Franciscan Friars, https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day/saint-john-of-the-cross/ (consultado el 16 de noviembre de 2025).

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