

HOLY APOSTLES CHURCH

WESTERN CRANSTON



MARCH 8, 2026

PARISH MINISTRIES & SERVICES

Apostles of Mercy

Stephen Forleo -----401-885-1958

CAL Basketball

Anthony Vescera -----401-580-0747
hacalbball@gmail.com

Men of St. Joseph

Steve Kogut -----401-580-2452
James Chrones -----401-822-1595

Prayer Network

Christine Dooley -----401-946-5586

Trustees

Barbara Papitto -----401-828-5751
Manuel Silva -----401-943-6719

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Ministry / mjs@holyapostles.com*

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MUSIC MINISTRY

Mark Colozzi ----- *Director
chsebandz@gmail.com / 401-524-4364*

Cookie Rodi ----- *Director
divarodi@hotmail.com / 401-323-6679*

John Norigian ----- *Organist
johnnorigian@gmail.com / 401-215-8766*

Parish Office Hours

Monday to Friday
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Our Administrative Offices are located
in the Community Life Center.

Phone --- 401-946-5586

Fax --- 401-946-5066

Email Address

parishoffice@holyapostles.com

Website

www.holyapostles.com

HOLY APOSTLES CHURCH

800 PIPPIN ORCHARD ROAD
CRANSTON, RI 02921

Established July 25, 1991 + Church dedicated July 24, 1994

Community Life Center dedicated June 30, 2001

Reverend William J. Ledoux

Pastor / wjl@holyapostles.com

Monsignor Albert A. Kenney

In Residence

Monsignor Richard D. Sheahan

Pastor Emeritus

Monsignor Paul D. Theroux

Pastor Emeritus

Deacon Gregory P. Albanese

DeaconGreg33@gmail.com

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil

5:00 PM

Sunday

8:30 & 11:00 AM

Weekday

Mon-Fri: 8:30 AM

New Parishioners – Welcome to Holy Apostles! For your convenience, registration forms are available on our website www.holyapostles.com. Please fill the form out and return it to the parish office. Also, we encourage you to introduce yourself to Fr. Ledoux, our pastor.

SACRAMENTS

Baptism

Parents are asked to contact the Deacon early in the pregnancy. Parents are reminded that the selection of sponsors must be made according to regulations specified in Canon Law. Information regarding these regulations will be forwarded upon request.

Marriage

Engaged couples are asked to make an appointment with Father at least one year in advance of their planned date of marriage. In addition, at least one of the individuals planning marriage must be a registered and active member of the parish.

Penance

Saturdays from
4:00 to 4:30 PM

Sacrament of the Sick

Please call to receive
this Sacrament of
comfort & healing.

Communion Calls

Please call the
parish office to
request a visit.



From the Pastor

Dear Friends,

As, we begin the Third week of our Lenten Journey, I wish to share with you our Holy Father's Message for Lent.

MESSAGE OF POPE LEO XIV FOR LENT 2026

Dear brothers and sisters,

Lent is a time in which the Church, guided by a sense of maternal care, invites us to place the mystery of God back in the center of our lives, in order to find renewal in our faith and keep our hearts from being consumed by the anxieties and distractions of daily life. Every path towards conversion begins by allowing the word of God to touch our hearts and welcoming it with a docile spirit. There is a relationship between the word, our acceptance of it and the transformation it brings about. For this reason, the Lenten journey is a welcome opportunity to heed the voice of the Lord and renew our commitment to following Christ, accompanying him on the road to Jerusalem, where the mystery of his passion, death and resurrection will be fulfilled.

Listening

This year, I would first like to consider the importance of making room for the word through listening. The willingness to listen is the first way we demonstrate our desire to enter into relationship with someone.

In revealing himself to Moses in the burning bush, God himself teaches us that listening is one of his defining characteristics: "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry" (Ex 3:7). Hearing the cry of the oppressed is the beginning of a story of liberation in which the Lord calls Moses, sending him to open a path of salvation for his children who have been reduced to slavery.

Our God is one who seeks to involve us. Even today he shares with us what is in his heart. Because of this, listening to the word in the liturgy teaches us to listen to the truth of reality. In the midst of the many voices present in our personal lives and in society, Sacred Scripture helps us to recognize and respond to the cry of those who are anguished and suffering. In order to foster this inner openness to listening, we must allow God to teach us how to listen as he does. We must recognize that "the condition of the poor is a cry that, throughout human history, constantly challenges our lives, societies, political and economic systems, and, not least, the Church."

Fasting

If Lent is a time for listening, fasting is a concrete way to prepare ourselves to receive the word of God. Abstaining from food is an ancient ascetic practice that is essential on the path of conversion. Precisely because it involves the body, fasting makes it easier to recognize what we "hunger" for and what we deem necessary for our sustenance. Moreover, it helps us to identify and order our "appetites," keeping our hunger and thirst for justice alive and freeing us from complacency. Thus, it teaches us to pray and act responsibly towards our neighbor.

With spiritual insight, Saint Augustine helps us to understand the tension between the present moment and the future fulfilment that characterizes this custody of the heart. He observes that: "In the course of earthly life, it is incumbent upon men and women to hunger and thirst for justice, but to be satisfied belongs to the next life. Angels are satisfied with this bread, this food. The human race, on the other hand, hungers for it; we are all drawn to it in our desire. This reaching out in desire expands the soul and increases its capacity." Understood in this way, fasting not only permits us to govern our desire, purifying it and making it freer, but also to expand it, so that it is directed towards God and doing good.

However, in order to practice fasting in accordance with its evangelical character and avoid the temptation that leads to pride, it must be lived in faith and humility. It must be grounded in communion with the Lord, because "those who are unable to nourish themselves with the word of God do not fast properly." As a visible sign of our inner commitment to turn away from sin and evil with the help of grace, fasting must also include other forms of self-denial aimed at helping us to acquire a more sober lifestyle, since "austerity alone makes the Christian life strong and authentic."

Third Sunday of Lent ~ March 8, 2026

In this regard, I would like to invite you to a very practical and frequently unappreciated form of abstinence: that of refraining from words that offend and hurt our neighbor. Let us begin by disarming our language, avoiding harsh words and rash judgement, refraining from slander and speaking ill of those who are not present and cannot defend themselves. Instead, let us strive to measure our words and cultivate kindness and respect in our families, among our friends, at work, on social media, in political debates, in the media and in Christian communities. In this way, words of hatred will give way to words of hope and peace.

Together

Finally, Lent emphasizes the communal aspect of listening to the word and fasting. The Bible itself underlines this dimension in multiple ways. For example, the Book of Nehemiah recounts how the people gathered to listen to the public reading of the Law, preparing to profess their faith and worship through fasting, so as to renew the covenant with God (cf. 9:1-3).

Likewise, our parishes, families, ecclesial groups and religious communities are called to undertake a shared journey during Lent, in which listening to the word of God, as well as to the cry of the poor and of the earth, becomes part of our community life, and fasting a foundation for sincere repentance. In this context, conversion refers not only to one's conscience, but also to the quality of our relationships and dialogue. It means allowing ourselves to be challenged by reality and recognizing what truly guides our desires — both within our ecclesial communities and as regards humanity's thirst for justice and reconciliation.

Dear friends, let us ask for the grace of a Lent that leads us to greater attentiveness to God and to the least among us. Let us ask for the strength that comes from the type of fasting that also extends to our use of language, so that hurtful words may diminish and give way to a greater space for the voice of others. Let us strive to make our communities places where the cry of those who suffer finds welcome, and listening opens paths towards liberation, making us ready and eager to contribute to building a civilization of love.

I impart my heartfelt blessing upon all of you and your Lenten journey.

LEO PP. XIV

From the Vatican, 5 February 2026, Memorial of Saint Agatha, Virgin and Martyr

Have a good week!

Fr. Ledoux



- **WEEKDAY MASS** ~ Mass is offered on **Monday - Friday at 8:30 AM.**
- **SACRAMENT OF PENANCE** ~We offer the sacrament **every Saturday afternoon from 4:00 to 4:30pm.**
- **PRIVATE PRAYER before the BLESSED SACRAMENT** ~ The Community Life Center's main entrance is open for morning Mass and remains open until 4:00 pm.
- **STATIONS OF THE CROSS** ~ FRIDAYS: March 13, 20 & 27 at 6:30pm.



It is very important that you prayerfully consider making a gift to this Appeal so that the various agencies of our diocese can continue to assist our fellow-Rhode Islanders in need. Every gift, big or small, is important to our success. If we all contribute, I am certain that our goal is attainable.

Holy Apostles' Goal: \$133,665.00

Amount Collected as of 2/27: \$46,891.00

Visit givecentral.org/2026CCA to make your difference today. Thank you again.

Third Sunday of Lent ~ March 8, 2026

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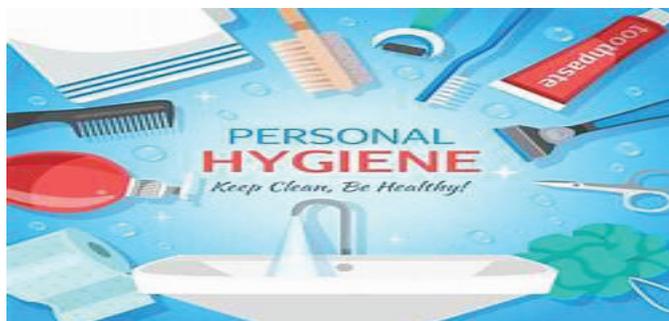
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Parish Lenten Collection

Sponsored by the Apostles of Mercy

Donations can be put in the boxes at the entrances of the Church.

Homeless kits (travel sized body wash, comb, toothpaste, toothbrush, body lotion, wet wipes in a clear gallon size bag).

Family Size Personal Hygiene Products – specifically bar soap, toothpaste, shampoo & conditioner

Laundry detergent, dish soap & household cleansers

ITALIAN NIGHT –



SATURDAY, MARCH 21ST at 6:00PM
\$25. Adults / \$10. Children 12 & under

Tickets may be purchased after Mass or the parish office. This benefits our Teen Mission Program.



Sunday, March 15, 2026

2:00pm

*Rehearsal for Candidate and Sponsor will be Tuesday, March 10th @ 5:30pm

STUDENTS & PARENTS MEETING

Grade 8 and Confirmation I
Sunday, March 22 at 5:30PM

Catholic School (Grades K-8) Tuition Assistance

In order to ensure objectivity, the Diocesan Catholic School Office's policy requires that parents complete a financial aid application form that may be obtained from the Catholic school the child attends or plans to attend next year. In addition, a written letter (no emails) requesting consideration for assistance must be submitted to Fr. Ledoux no later than April 30th. **Please mark your envelope with Tuition Assistance.**

-Families requesting assistance must follow church law on fulfilling the "Sunday" obligation to attend Mass. It should also be by way of exception that a family attends Mass in a parish other than Holy Apostles.

-At least one parent must be involved in a parish program/ministry.

-Families must be regular contributors to the parish budget using the weekly envelopes or through Faith Direct.

Third Sunday of Lent ~ March 8, 2026



Men of Saint Joseph International

The Holy Apostles Men of St. Joseph meet twice a month for fellowship and discussion. Men of all ages are invited to attend. For more information, please visit the RI Men of St Joseph website at: <https://www.mosji.org/>

Next Meeting: March 18th at 7:00PM

Save The Date!
Saturday May 2, 2026
St. Augustine Church



Catholic Men's Conference

"Whoever believes in Me will do the works that I do" John 14:12

Most Reverend Bruce Lewandowski, C.S.R.
 Bishop of Providence
 Reverend Christophe M Mahar
 Pastor St. Augustine Church
 Mr. Dennis Sousa
 Director, Office of Family, Youth, & Young Adult Evangelization



Sponsored by the Men of Saint Joseph International
 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM

STEWARDSHIP

Time and Talent - We wish to thank all those parishioners who are always so willing to pitch in and lend a helping hand. Their participation contributes to the vibrancy of our community.

Treasure – Thank you for your financial support.

Online Giving with Parish Soft Giving

After the joyful summer months, the Fall season is a great time to streamline your giving and provide steady, consistent support that helps us be ready with programs, services, and ministries for our church families and for those in our community. Your recurring gifts will help strengthen our parish and sustain our ministries throughout the year, even if you need to miss a Sunday Mass.

It's easy to get started. Here are the ways to sign up:

- ❖ Call ParishSOFT Customer Service at 866-930-4774 option 6
- ❖ Log in to: giving.parishsoft.com/giving/FD-18

Please note the change in the Easter Sunday Mass Schedule:
Easter Sunday: 8am, 9:30am & 11am

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	<i>Vigil: 3rd Sunday of Lent</i>	March 7
5:00 PM	Carol & Roger Winarski (Anniversary) Requested by Marie Albanese	
Sunday	<i>Third Sunday of Lent</i>	March 8
8:30 AM	Giuseppe Mattiello (18th Anniversary) Requested by Daughter, Rosemarie & Family	
11:00 AM	Gerard Dulieu & Lillian Newhouse (Anniv.) Requested by Family	
<p>✠ The Altar Bread is offered this week in memory of Antonio Petrone (Anniv.), Emilia Petrone (Birthday) & Margaret Farley (Anniv.) requested by The Farley Family.</p> <p>✠ The Sanctuary Candle is offered this week in memory of Walter P. McQueeney requested by Mr. & Mrs. Raymond White.</p>		
Monday	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	March 9
8:30 AM	For the People	
Tuesday	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	March 10
8:30AM	Open	
Wednesday	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	March 11
8:30 AM	Open	
Thursday	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	March 12
8:30 AM	Open	
Friday	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	March 13
8:30AM	Anna Moreira Robert P. Sousa Robert J. Sousa Requested by Arthur & Mimi	
6:30PM	Stations of the Cross	
Saturday	<i>Vigil: 4th Sunday of Lent</i>	March 14
2:00 PM	Benjamin Richtarik & Simeone Tessier Wedding	
5:00 PM	Rita & Frank Sullivan Requested by Friends	
Sunday	<i>Fourth Sunday of Lent</i>	March 15
8:30 AM	Michael Pezza Sr. (21st Anniversary) Requested by Family	
11:00 AM	Joan Gannon (Anniversary) Requested by Family	
2:00 PM	Confirmation	

Third Sunday of Lent ~ March 8, 2026

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