

**Dear Parishioners and Friends of St. Anthony's,**

**On Friday, Oct 18th, in the early hours of the morning, a massive fire ravaged St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church in Casa Grande, AZ, of the Diocese of Tucson, headed by the Most Rev. Edward J. Weisenburger. The only catholic church in town, St. Anthony's serves more than 5,000 families and a large number of transient parishioners from different parts of the country during the winter season. The fire slightly damaged the exterior of the church building but the interior of it was severely engulfed in fire. The choir area was totally destroyed, the sanctuary (main worship area) was badly ruined, the rest of the inside of the church was generally smoked damaged. The real cause of the fire is still being determined. In the meantime, I have been receiving an outpouring of calls and emails from people wanting to help rebuild the church. While the St. Anthony's Parish is fully insured, funds raised will assist the staff and community to address unknown expenses and needs which are not covered by insurance. St. Anthony's has been home to many generations of Catholics and a friend to many other sister Christian churches in town. Although the church building was built in 1960, the parish is almost a hundred years old. Over time, people had been working so hard to improve and develop the church and the entire complex. It was truly heartbreaking to see that many of those things that our people had belabored so much to accomplish would be reduced to ashes in a few hours of unforgiving blaze. As of the moment, we are so blessed to have a relatively bigger community center (parish hall) to celebrate Masses and other Sacraments uninterruptedly. We will stay there until we fully restore the main church.**

**We are humbly appealing for your kind heartedness and charitable spirit to help us REBUILD ST. ANTHONY'S. Please write your donation check to St. Anthony of Padua Parish with Church Restoration Funds on the memo line. You may also deposit directly to the Church Bank Account:  
First Interstate Bank – Routing No. 092901683, Savings Account No. 3113663402.**

**Thank you for your compassionate generosity. May God bless you and your loved ones abundantly.**

**For St. Anthony's Faith Community,  
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Pastor  
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