

ATRIUM TOUR

(22) St. Anthony of Padua Stained-Glass Window



St. Anthony of Padua was born Fernando Martins de Bulhões in Lisbon, Portugal, 13 years after St. Francis of Assisi. At the age of 15, he entered the Order of St. Augustine. After two years, he was sent to Coimbra, where he spent nine years in intense study, immersing himself in Augustinian theology that he would later unite with the Franciscan spirit.

The course of his life changed dramatically when the bodies of the first five Franciscan martyrs were returned from Morocco. These friars had preached in the mosque in Seville and then continued on to Morocco, where they boldly proclaimed Christ despite repeated warnings. There they were tortured and beheaded. When their remains were carried in solemn procession to Fernando's monastery in the presence of the queen and a great crowd, he was deeply moved.

Inspired by their witness, Fernando made a life-changing decision. He went to the small Franciscan friary in Coimbra and said, "Brother, I would gladly put on the habit of your Order if you would promise to send me as soon as possible to the land of the Saracens, that I may gain the crown of the holy martyrs." After overcoming objections from his Augustinian prior, he was permitted to leave and join the Franciscans, taking the name Anthony.

St. Anthony became known for his powerful and effective preaching. Because of his extraordinary knowledge of Scripture and theology, combined with his ability to communicate the faith so clearly, he was later declared a Doctor of the Church. He died in 1231 and was canonized only one year later by Pope Gregory IX, who had personally known him. This remarkably swift canonization reflected the widespread conviction of his holiness and the many miracles attributed to him.

St. Anthony is best known today as the patron saint of lost articles. This devotion is linked to a well-known story from his life. While staying at a Franciscan friary in Montpellier, France, Anthony kept a hand-copied book of Psalms containing notes and commentary he used in teaching theology. In the 13th century, such books were rare and precious. When a young novice left the Order, he took the book with him. Distressed by the loss, Anthony prayed that the novice would change his heart and return it. A short time later, the young man came back, returned the book, and asked forgiveness. The book is said to be preserved today in the Franciscan friary in Bologna, Italy. After Anthony's death, this story spread widely and helped establish his enduring reputation as the finder of lost things.

His feast day is June 13.

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The window is in memory of **Ron and Carol Dauwe**. Ron was a 1953 graduate of Roger Bacon High School and his wife Mary Carol (Morgan) graduated from Our Lady of the Angels in 1956.

Ron's 1953 yearbook superlative reads: *"Merit winner, Religious Council, C.S.M.C.... Works at Albers as a stock boy...Liked Civics because it was the most interesting...Ron spends his weekends with Dave and Tom."* Ron passed away at the age of 90 on November 28, 2025.

The Roger Bacon Fine Arts Center (FAC) is named after Carol who passed away on June 13, 2013 at the age of 75. While at OLA, Carol was a member of the band, Math Club, Student Council and Senior Club. Her 1956 yearbook superlative reads as follows: *"Curly-haired 'Mog' likes pizza and dates...found with Marcia and Jeanie...hopes to get married and rear a family."*



The Dauwe family is a big supporter of the fine arts, was instrumental in the construction of the FAC, and sponsors a fine arts scholarship.