

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH  
OF ST. ANN

45 Anderson Street; Raritan, NJ 08869

TELEPHONE: 908-725-1008 • FAX: 908-707-1915

WEBSITE: [www.stannparish.com](http://www.stannparish.com)

EMAIL: [info@stannparish.com](mailto:info@stannparish.com)

FACEBOOK: The Catholic Church of St. Ann- Raritan, NJ

SCHOOL: 29 Second Avenue; Raritan, NJ 08869

TELEPHONE: 908-725-7787 • FAX: 908-541-9335

FACEBOOK: St. Ann School

CONVENT: 29 Second Avenue; Raritan, NJ 08869

TELEPHONE: 908-725-2256

### *Parish Mission Statement*

*Inspired by the Holy Spirit, we, the Catholic Church of St. Ann, embrace all as family and continue Christ's mission by exemplifying the love of God and neighbor as stewards of God's gifts to us.*

### *Church*

The Catholic Church of St. Ann is open daily from 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. for prayer and meditation.

### *Daily Mass*

Monday: 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday: 7:00 a.m.

Friday: 8:15 a.m. (when school is in session) & 7:00 p.m.

Saturday: 9:00 a.m.

First Friday: 8:15 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

### *Weekend Mass*

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: 7:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m., 5:00 p.m.

### *Holy Day Mass*

Holy Day: 7:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m. (weekdays)

### *Penance/Reconciliation*

Saturday: 9:30 a.m.-10:00 a.m. & 3:00 p.m.-3:45 p.m.

### *Church Calendar*

Can be found on our website under *Events & News - Calendar*

### *Registration*

Any new family or adult 18 and over, who has moved into the parish, are invited to stop by the Parish Office to complete a new parishioner form. Please notify us of any change of address.

### *Parish Office Hours*

Monday-Friday: 9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.

### *Donations by Electronic Giving: WeShare*

The Catholic Church of St. Ann offers parishioners the opportunity to make Online church and school contributions! Log onto [www.stannparish.com](http://www.stannparish.com), scroll down, click on **Give Online with WeShare**. You will be connected to a secure site to enter your information. Thank you for your continued support!

### *Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) and Adult Confirmation*

Are you or someone you know interested in becoming members of the Catholic Church? Are you a Catholic who was baptized but never received the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Holy Communion or Confirmation? If so, please contact the Parish Office or Deacon Rick Stevens at 908-910-0309 or email him at [rstevens@stannparish.com](mailto:rstevens@stannparish.com).

### *St. Ann Parish Religious Education Program (PREP)*

#### *Grades 1-8*

Monday: 6:15 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

Thursday: 6:15 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

#### *Special Needs PREP*

##### *Grades 1-8*

Monday: 6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

Call Sr. Phyllis Vella in the Parish Office or email her at [pvella@stannparish.com](mailto:pvella@stannparish.com) to register your child.

### *St. Ann School*

#### *Grades K-8*

Discover how a Catholic Classical Education at St. Ann School can inspire your child to be a joyous learner, filled with wonder and awe for all of creation.

Our new academic approach allows for students to be formed and immersed in virtue-truth, beauty and goodness-through their everyday curriculum.



**To learn more about the school and its new Classical education approach, call us at: (908) 725-7787**

*First Sunday of Advent - December 1, 2019*

# First Sunday of Advent - December 1, 2019

## The Catholic Church of St. Ann

Under the Pastoral Care of the Priests and Brothers  
of the Congregation of the Oratory of St. Philip Neri

V. Rev. Peter R. Cebulka, C.O., Provost

**Rev. Thomas Odorizzi, C.O., Pastor**

todorizzi@stannparish.com



### Permanent Deacons

Deacon Roy Rabinowitz

Deacon Rob Sause

Deacon Rick Stevens

Transitional Deacon Br. John Fredy Triana Beltran, CO Ms. Barbara Russell, *Administrative Assistant*

### Office Staff

Mr. Miguel De Jesus, *Director of Sacred Music*

Mrs. Christine Esposito, *Social Ministry*

Mr. Lou Falconeri, *Plant Manager*

### Community of Religious Teachers of St. Lucy Filippini

Sister Margaret Mary Hanlon, MPF, *School Principal/Superior*

Sister Dolores Toscano, MPF, *Pastoral Associate*

Sister Phyllis Vella, MPF, *Director of Religious Education*

## Sacramental Information

### Baptism

Sundays at 1:30 p.m. (must be scheduled with the Parish Office) Instructions for new parents take place on the first Saturday of the month at 10:00 a.m. Please call Mrs. Christine Esposito at the Parish Office or email her at cesposito@stannparish.com to make arrangements.

### Baptism Godparents

Must be 16 years old, registered as an adult and be confirmed in the Catholic Church. If you are married, your marriage must be recognized by the church. This is especially important if you wish to be a Godparent for Baptism. It takes six months of attending Mass to be eligible for this privilege.

### Penance/Reconciliation

We invite you to participate in the Penance & Reconciliation at the times specified in the front of this bulletin.

### Holy Eucharist

We invite you to participate in the Holy Eucharist daily at the times specified on the front of this bulletin. If you have not had the opportunity to make your Holy Communion, please contact the Parish Office.

### Confirmation Sponsors

Must be 16 years old, registered as an adult and be confirmed in the Catholic Church. If you are married, your marriage must be recognized by the church. This is especially important if you wish to be a Sponsor for Confirmation. It takes six months of attending Mass to be eligible for this privilege.

### Marriage

The common policy of marriage requires that arrangements with the church be made at least one year before the date of marriage and before any social plans are made. Either the Bride or Groom must be a registered parishioner. If you would like to get more information about getting married, please contact the Parish Office.

## Ministry Information

### Ministry to the Poor

We help those who are experiencing financial difficulties with food, clothing, shelter, rent, PSE&G, and water bills. Please call Mrs. Christine Esposito at the Parish Office or email her at cesposito@stannparish.com.

### Ministry to the Sick/Homebound

Parishioners who are homebound are visited by our Deacons, Religious & Extraordinary Ministers. If you know of someone that is seriously ill or hospitalized, please contact the Parish Office.

### Ministry to those that are pregnant and/or thinking of an abortion

We are building a culture of Life through prayer and action serving our community, state and country. We pray and serve along with the Pregnancy Aid and Information Center, Please call at 908-256-8121 (24-hour hotline).

## Parish Ministries

### St. Ann's Giving Tree In the Church Lobby

Our annual Gift Giving Tree can be found in our Church lobby this weekend. Please choose a tag and then bring it back with the requested item (unwrapped) December 7th and 8th. Donations of gift wrap would also be appreciated. If you have questions contact Christine at the Parish Office.



### Eye Glasses Collection



On the Feast of St. Lucy, December 13, we will collect used and new eye glasses for New Eyes for the Needy, an agency that sends the glasses to those in need here in the U.S. and in developing countries. You can drop them off in the marked basket in the Church on that day or at the Parish Office.

# The Catholic Church of St. Ann, Raritan, New Jersey



*Pope Francis*  
*General Audience*  
*November 6, 2019*

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

Let us continue our “journey” with the Book of the Acts of the Apostles. After the trials experienced in Philippi, Thessalonica and Berea, Paul arrived in Athens, the very heart of Greece (cf. Acts 17:15). This city that lived in the shadow of its ancient glory despite its political decline, still held the primacy of culture. Here the Apostle’s “spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols” (Acts 17:16). However rather than avoid this “collision” with paganism it spurs him to create a bridge to converse with that culture.

Paul chooses to acquaint himself with the city and he thus began to visit its most important sites and people. He goes to the synagogue, the symbol of the life of the faith; he goes to the square, the symbol of city life; and he goes to the Areopagus, the symbol of political and cultural life. He meets Jews, philosophers, Epicureans, Stoics and many others. He meets all the people. He does not withdraw. He goes to speak to all the people. In this way, Paul observes the culture and he observes the environment of Athens “with a contemplative gaze” that discovers “God dwelling in their homes, in their streets and squares” (Evangelii Gaudium, 71). Paul does not look at the city of Athens and the pagan world with hostility, but rather with the eyes of faith. And this makes us question ourselves about the way we look at our cities: do we observe them with indifference? With disdain? Or with a faith that recognizes God’s children in the midst of anonymous crowds.

Paul chooses the gaze that spurs him to create an opening between the Gospel and the pagan world. In the heart of one of the most celebrated institutions in the ancient world, the Areopagus, he achieves an extraordinary example of inculturation of the message of faith: he proclaims Jesus Christ to the idol worshippers, and he does not do so by attacking them, but by making himself “a Pope, a builder of bridges” (Homily at Sanctae Marthae, 8 May 2013).

*Pope Francis Prayer Intention for  
December 2019  
The Future of the Very Young*



That every country take the measures necessary to prioritize the future of the very young, especially those who are suffering.

*From the desk of...*  
*Bishop James F. Checchio*  
*October 31, 2019*



My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

While shepherding a diocese calls for the commitment of bishop, clergy, religious and the lay faithful, Church theology and the law of the Church teaches that the priests of the diocese are the primary collaborators of the bishop in his role as Chief Shepherd. So, during my past three and a half years here in Metuchen, I have come to know our priests and have grown to love and admire them. One of the times I most enjoy being with our priests is at our annual convocation, which was held recently. Every year, we spend three days together in prayer and fellowship, while having a speaker come in to give us some food for thought. We had the largest number of priests attend the convocation this year. I think in part it was because we are in such a difficult time of purification for our beloved Church and its priests. While clearly the survivors and families of horribly abusive acts have suffered the most, the rest of the members of our Church, as well as our priests, religious and deacons have been affected, too. This year’s gathering of our priests was a moment to be together and recommit ourselves to laying down our lives in service of our faithful and examining how we can best accomplish this in the present circumstances we find ourselves.

Appropriately, our Gospel for one of the Masses at our gathering came from the end of Jesus’ Last Supper with His Apostles. Even at this sacred moment, St. Luke told us about the Apostles getting into an argument about who is the greatest amongst themselves. Of course, Jesus redirects the whole conversation to center it on what they should be arguing about, how to serve better. It is wonderful that the Gospel writers did not sanitize the Gospels, but even the Apostles are shown to us as real men, with disagreements among themselves and sin; the Apostles are very much like us. This Gospel was a great reminder for us that God uses flawed people and our limited talents and gifts for His own purposes, and He can make such great things out of them, if we are open to His redirection and correction in our lives. How we must listen to God in our daily personal prayer and Mass. Being with so many of our priests at the convocation, I could not help but call to mind the many great things God has done in His vineyard of Metuchen, through so many of our priests and their sacred ministry. That is something for which we should be truly grateful.

*Pray for Those We Have Recently Lost*



**Please pray for :**

**Michael Giancaspro**

## First Sunday of Advent - December 1, 2019

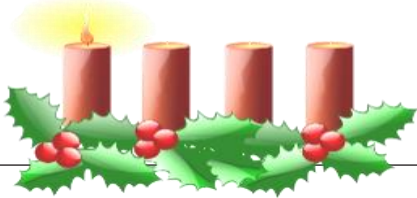
### IMMACULATE CONCEPTION MASS

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is traditionally celebrated on December 8 as a holy day of obligation; however, **because December 8 falls on Sunday this year, the celebration of Immaculate Conception is moved to Monday** so that we can liturgically celebrate the second Sunday of Advent. As a result the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is not obligatory in this instance. We do encourage you to join us on Monday for Mass at 7:00 PM when the Immaculate Conception will be observed.

### DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET

Everyone is welcome to pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet together on **Saturdays at 3pm in the church**. The Divine Mercy Chaplet is a beautiful prayer to help foster devotion to our Lord's Divine Mercy! Jesus conveyed to Maria Faustina Kowalska our need to ask for His mercy, to be merciful ourselves, and to trust in Him completely. Mercy is a key part of the love that He has for us and wants us to show each other.

With this devotion, let us especially remember the spiritual needs of the sick and the dying.



### THE ADVENT COMINGS

Catholics can rightfully wish each other "Happy New Year!" on this Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup>. The new liturgical year, also known as the Church year, begins with the First Sunday of Advent. The liturgical year celebrates the whole truth about Jesus Christ. Quoting Vatican II's Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* tells us:

*In the course of the year, moreover, [Holy Mother Church] unfolds the whole mystery of Christ. . . . Thus recalling the mysteries of the redemption, she opens up to the faithful the riches of her Lord's powers and merits, so that these are in some way made present in every age; the faithful lay hold of them and are filled with saving grace. (CCC, 1163)*

Our English word *Advent* comes from the Latin words *ad* ("to") and *venire* ("to come"), and so *Advent* means "to come to" or "arrival." There are actually two arrivals, or comings, celebrated during the Advent season. Both are comings of God the Son, Jesus Christ.

It is very obvious that Advent celebrates the coming of Christ Our Lord, Son of God the Father and Son of Mary, to Bethlehem as a new-born baby delivered from the blessed womb of His mother. This is the First Coming of Christ in human history. Not as obvious, however, is that Advent also celebrates the Second Coming of Christ when He "will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead" (as we say in the Nicene Creed) at the end of human history, the end of time, in order to complete the establishment of the Kingdom of God which began with His Incarnation. Only when we understand this second celebration of Advent do the readings at Mass, especially on this First Sunday of Advent, make sense.

When mindfully celebrated, Advent reminds us that we live between the First Coming of Christ and His Second Coming. Advent calls us to grow in faithfulness to Catholic doctrine, morality, worship, and prayer as the best way to grow in relationship with Christ born in Bethlehem. Christ came to offer us the fullness of life. It is never too late to take Him up on His offer or to grow in our acceptance of that offer.

Happy New Liturgical Year!

### OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE—Celebration and Movie

The Diocesan celebration of Consecration to Our Lady of Guadalupe will be on the evening of December 12 at the Cathedral. There is limited seating so attendance is by ticket only.

The parish celebration of Consecration to Our Lady of Guadalupe will take place at each Mass for the Third Sunday of Advent, December 15.

If you missed it on November 13, there will be another viewing of the documentary video,

***Guadalupe: Miracle and Mystery***  
after the 12 noon Mass  
on Sunday, December 15.

The video is about one hour long and will help you to better understand the significance and relevance of this great event.

### THE ADVENT WORD

CONTINUING THIS WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4

The **Advent Word** is a scripture-based reflection that will take place on the Wednesdays preceding the four Sundays of Advent. **Each session will start at 7:30pm and meet in the Church Meeting Room. Remaining sessions are on December 4, 11 and 18.** Materials will be provided. Come whenever you can.

May the Word of God take on flesh through us, as we prepare to celebrate the Incarnation!

# The Catholic Church of St. Ann, Raritan, New Jersey

## Mass Intentions

### Monday, December 2

7:00 p.m. Alberto Falco by wife and children

### Tuesday, December 3

7:00 a.m. Immacolata Suriano by Anna Morella

### Wednesday, December 4

7:00 a.m. Antonio and Marie Mattei and George and Lena Taylor by Inez and Bob Taylor

### Thursday, December 5

7:00 a.m. Salvatore Pannace by Elena and Gracie

### Friday, December 6 - First Friday

8:15 a.m. Maria Fusca by friends

7:00 p.m. Eva and Charles DePrimo by family

Salvatore Pannace by Vincenza Greco

### Saturday, December 7

9:00 a.m. Fannie and Herman Bacchino by family

4:00 p.m. Frank and Mary Gecik by Bob and Pat Ronca

### Sunday, December 8-Second Sunday of Advent

7:30 a.m. People of the Parish

10:00 a.m. Alex Salerno by Barbara and Tom Offerdahl

12:00 p.m. Immacolata Suriano by her children

5:00 p.m. Deacon John Pacifico by Eleanor and Art Mattei

*Altar Candles & Sanctuary Lamps  
are burning this week for:*

*Blessed Mother Lamp Special Intention for  
Daughter Jenna  
by Carmela and Wayne Kopf*

## St. Lucy Novena Begins December 4



The Novena in honor of St. Lucy begins Wednesday, December 4th and continues until her feast day, December 13th. The novena will be prayed at weekday Masses. Prayer sheets will be available in the back of the Church.

## Pray for those who are Sick in our Community

Wayne Basilone

Anna Carra

Katie Cassling-  
Fishman

Bruno Cirianni

Frank Cirianni

Mary Contino

Maria Anastasia

D'Amore

Michael D'Angelo

Dominick DeLuca

Ann DiBetta

January Drevnak

Mary Felice

Frank Forte

Cindy Galvacky

Gambino Family

Maria Rosa

Gasparro

Gloria Guide

Bernadette Healy

Victor Laggini

Gloria A. Lamaestra

Brianna Rose

Larson

MaryAnn

Mangiaracina

Mark Marshall

Giovanna Martini

Austin McNamara

Lidia Natale

Ann Navatto

Victor Rangel

Marie Richardson

Deborah Scarpone

Mary Soriano

Cathy Stinziano

Nathan Tarantino

Joseph Tomaio

Emanuel

Valentin

Ron Wyka

Alex Zachok



## Pray for those in the Military

**May God protect the men and women serving  
in our Nation's Armed Forces.**

LtCol Michael A. De Cicco; U.S. Army

Victor Dulay, Jr; U.S. Marine Corps

PFC Brendan Hughs; U.S. Marine Corps

PFC Gavin John; U.S. Marine Corps

LCpl Matthew John; U.S. Marine Corps

CW4 Michael Lopez, Jr.

PFC Vincenzo Mattei; U.S. Army

Maj Michael Morella; U.S. Army

Sgt Dan Neville; U.S. Marine Corps

Zack Drecchio; U.S. Navy

Pvt Tayla Rasmusson; U.S. Marine Corps

PFC Daniel J. Salvo; U.S. Marine Corps

Cpl Jonathan Schultes; U.S. Marine Corps

LtCol Louis P. Simon; U.S. Marine Corps

PFC Jerome C. Sunga; U.S. Army

Jack Vara; U.S. Marine Corps

LCpl Daniel Viscariello; U.S. Marine Corps

Sgt Janet Wyka; U.S. Army

Capt Kaitlyn Zimmitti; U.S. Air Force

## This Week's Daily Bible Readings

### Sunday

Is 2:1-5; Rom 13:11-14; Mt  
24:37-44

### Monday

Is 4:2-6; Mt 8:5-11

### Tuesday

Is 11:1-10; Lk 10:21-24

### Wednesday

Is 25:6-10a; Mt 15:29-37

### Thursday

Is 26:1-6; Mt 7:21, 24-27

### First Friday

Is 29:17-24; Mt 9:27-31

### First Saturday

Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Mt 9:35-  
10:1, 5a, 6-8

## Lessons and Carols December 8 2:00pm

Join us for our annual celebration of Advent in word and song led by Oratory Director of Sacred Music, Anthony R. Nardino, and featuring the music ministries of St. Ann & Holy Trinity parishes. Lessons & Carols will take place this year on Sunday, December 8, at 2:00 pm in the Church of St. Ann, Raritan. A light reception will follow. Everyone is welcome!



## Parish Religious Education Program - PREP Sacrament of First Reconciliation Info

- ◆ Wednesday, December 4, 4:30-5:30pm  
**Practice for the Sacrament of First Reconciliation**  
in Church (children and parents/guardians)
- ◆ Saturday, December 7, 10:30am  
**Sacrament of First Reconciliation** in Church

## St. Ann's Music Ministry

Happy New (Liturgical) Year! With this new year, we will be singing the mass ordinary (Kyrie, Holy, Memorial Acclamation, Amen, and Lamb of God) from the People's Mass. We will also be singing the refrain "People of God prepare your hearts. Your savior is near" weekly throughout the Sundays of Advent. Just as the music and liturgy slightly change, let us change our hearts to prepare for the coming of our Lord both in Bethlehem as well as the end of time.

## First Sunday of Advent - December 1, 2019

### Parish Events

#### Sunday, December 1

Christmas Gift Giving Tree  
5:30 pm Char Tree Lighting (Char Restaurant)

#### Monday, December 2

6:15 pm PREP (S) (SC)

#### Tuesday, December 3

7:00 pm Columbiette's Meeting (CMR)  
7:30 pm Social Ministry Meeting (PMR)

#### Wednesday, December 4

St. Lucy Novena Begins (C)  
12:30 pm School Dismissal (S)  
4:30 pm Practice for First Reconciliation (C)  
7:30 pm The Advent Word (CMR)

#### Thursday, December 5

St. Lucy Novena (C)  
6:15 pm PREP (S) (SC)  
6:00 pm Children's Choir (CL)  
6:45 pm Bell Choir Practice (CL)  
7:30 pm Adult Choir Practice (CL)

#### Friday, December 6 - First Friday

St. Lucy Novena (C)  
Adoration following 8:15 am Mass (C)  
Santo Nino Novena following the 7:00 pm Mass (C)

#### Saturday, December 7

St. Lucy Novena (C)  
Return Gift Giving Tree tags and gifts (unwrapped) (CMR)  
Food Drive (C)  
9:00 am - 2:00 pm St. Ann School Craft Fair (SC)  
10:30 am - 12:00 pm First Reconciliation (C)  
Knights of Columbus Wreath Sale after 4:00 pm Mass (C)

### Parish Events Continued

#### Sunday, December 8

Return Gift Giving Tree tags and gifts (unwrapped) (CMR)  
Food Drive (C)  
Knights of Columbus Wreath Sale after Masses (C)  
2:00pm Lessons and Carols (C) followed by light reception (SC)  
Lighting of St. Ann's Christmas Trees after 5:00 pm Mass (C)

[C=Church, CMR = Church Meeting Room, CL= Church Loft, PMR= Parish

### St. Ann's Christmas Trees Are Here

**Time is running out, but it is not too late to share in this tradition.**

There are still a few trees left to dedicate.

Reservation forms can be found at the back of the Church or contact the Parish Office.

The Tree Lighting will take place on December 8 after the 5:00pm Mass.

Our 125 trees will light up our grounds each night from December 8th until the Epiphany of the Lord.

### Weekly Offering... November 24 2019

Not Available at Time of Publication

### ST ANN SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE: COME AND SEE!

St. Ann School will be hosting an open house on Tuesday, December 10th for anyone interested in exploring our new classical curriculum. The evening will begin at 7:00 PM in the school cafeteria.

Please share this information with anyone you know who may have an interest in our school.

Come and see the good things happening as we form young disciples of Christ.

RSVP to Kelly Albright (908) 725-7787 or email Kelly at: kalbright@stannparish.com.



# Open House

**Tuesday, December 10 at 7 pm**

**Make your appointment TODAY!**

**Discover how a Catholic Classical Education at St. Ann School can inspire your child to be a joyous learner, and filled with wonder and awe for all creation. Our new academic approach allows for students to be formed and immersed in virtue, beauty and goodness—through their everyday curriculum.**

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