



THE CATHOLIC CHURCH
OF ST. ANN

45 Anderson Street; Raritan, NJ 08869

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

WEBSITE: www.stannparish.com

EMAIL: 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, 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.

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 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

Second Sunday of Advent - December 8, 2019

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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

Returning St. Ann's Giving Tree Gifts

Tags from St. Ann's Giving Tree and gifts (unwrapped) should be dropped off in the Church basement this weekend. Donations of gift wrap would also be appreciated. If you are unable to bring the tags and gifts on Sunday you may drop them off at the Parish Office. Thank you for your generosity.



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 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.

Congratulations to Those Receiving First Reconciliation at St. Ann's This Weekend



Congratulations to those who received the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time this weekend.

Ava Grace Adams
Leannebelle Timbang Alfonso
Ava Belle Bossotti
Isabella Anita Canova
Jacob H. Capozzi
Ryan M. Capozzi
Chelsea Chavarria Porras
Isabella Sofia D'Amore
Arthena Raflyn Dequina
Miguel Kahzi Ferrer
Anna Elizabeth Ganz
Austin Scott Johnson
Iker Abel Juarez
McKenzie Marie Kelco
Kiersten Lynn Keller
Emilie Germaine Kerbrat
Gabriel Joon Charles Knapp
Gabiella Sarayu Lodese
Ela Martina Lopez
Jennifer Toni Mattei-Chiselko
Livia Belen Ona Nebab
Avery Rae Nebel
Eva Theresa-Njeri Njau
Sophia Margoth Ramirez Naranjo
Madelyn Grace Rippel
Francesca Carmela Ava Russo
Giorgio Vincenzo Dylan Russo
Katalina Santana
Harrison Theodore Youngman
Jeremiah Joseph Zelis
Vania R. Zevallos Laura

*From the desk of...
Bishop James F. Checchio
November 14, 2019*



My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we enter this final month of preparation in our year of awakening before consecrating our diocese to Jesus through Our Lady of Guadalupe, I want to share with you my opening homily from our pilgrimage to her shrine in Mexico City. I think it applies to all of us and can help us all prepare for the graces Mary wants to share with us:

What a beautiful start to our pilgrimage with Mass here at the original shrine to Our Lady of Guadalupe, which hosted the "Tilma" for almost 300 years until the new shrine was built in the 1970s. And what a joy it is to worship God here today and to thank Him for the gift of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Our Gospel today is the reading of Our Blessed Mother going in haste to visit her cousin Elizabeth. When she arrived, Elizabeth recognized something extraordinary about Mary's visit as John leapt in her womb. Incredibly, even in the womb, John was fired up to be in Jesus' presence! So, Elizabeth immediately cried out "Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb," a prayer we say at least 50 times a day as we pray our daily rosary! Elizabeth's cry is the recognition of a sacred moment, a moment of encountering God and knowing that something incredible has just taken place. It calls forth humility, gratitude, reverence, and praise. What a great moment! The prophets spoke about how God would one day "visit" his people. Now, Elizabeth is "visited" by God present in Jesus in the womb of Mary, and Elizabeth recognizes that this encounter with her cousin is nothing ordinary at all, rather, it is a sacred moment.

My brothers and sisters in Christ, we too all have sacred moments when we realize that God has touched our lives in extraordinary ways. These are moments for us, like the encounter in the Gospel today, that evoke within us that same sense of humility, gratitude, reverence, and praise, moments when we realize and understand that God is in control of our lives...and always has been and always will be – until He calls us home. Moments when we know we are loved, forgiven, and not alone. We don't live all day caught up in those "moments" but gratefully God does provide them for us every now and then to sustain our faith and invite us to trust the Lord during our difficult times as well. Mary is declared "Blessed" by Elizabeth because she trusted that the Lord's word to her would be fulfilled. Mary's discipleship is defined by her confident trust in God's promises. It is easy for us to trust in the Lord's promises when we are experiencing success and the praise of others. It can be difficult to trust in God's promises when we asked to embrace sacrifice, confusion, disappointment, conflict and rejection. The enduring quality of Mary's discipleship is that she trusted the Lord even when it meant accepting such difficulties.

Second Sunday of Advent - December 8, 2019

THIS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8

ADVENT LESSONS & CAROLS: at 2pm

A prayerful time with beautiful music and seasonal Advent hymns and readings.
Reception follows in school cafeteria.

DEDICATED TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY: after the 5pm Mass

A beautiful night filled with the Light! Thank you to all who helped set up the trees around the church perimeter.
The parish is also grateful to all who sponsored a dedicated tree.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION MASS

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is traditionally celebrated on December 8 as a holyday 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**. Although it is not a holyday of obligation, we do encourage you to join us on Monday for Mass at 7:00 PM when the Immaculate Conception will be observed. Immaculate Mary, pray for us!

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

Next Sunday—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.

VIDEO ENCORE!

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.

ALL PARISHIONERS AND FRIENDS OF ST. ANN'S, PLEASE INVITE FRIENDS AND FAMILY WHO HAVE YOUNG CHILDREN TO ATTEND THE OPEN HOUSE THIS TUESDAY. COME AND SEE THE GIFT WE HAVE TO OFFER.

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 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.

St. Ann School
29 Second Avenue, Raritan, NJ 08869
908.725.7787



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

Mass Intentions

Monday, December 9 — Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mother

7:00 p.m. Living and Deceased Members of the Knights of Columbus
Special Intention for Maria Incontrera in honor of the Immaculate Conception
Salvatore Pannace by Raffaele & Lina Cirianni

Tuesday, December 10

7:00 a.m. Michael Incontrera by Frank & Maria Incontrera

Wednesday, December 11

7:00 a.m. Patrick Bliss and Antoinette Lettieri by Patty Bliss and family

Thursday, December 12

7:00 a.m. Cecilia Pier by Legaspi Family

Friday, December 13 — Saint Lucy, Virgin and Martyr

8:15 a.m. Josephine Forktus by Steve and sons

7:00 p.m. Henry and Phyllis Florczak by Mike & Terry Florczak

Salvatore Pannace by Gregory & Maria Rosa Natale

Special Intention for Caterina Fusca in honor of St. Lucy

Saturday, December 14

9:00 a.m. Special Intention for Maria Natale in honor of St. Lucy

4:00 p.m. Paul Crandall by family

Sunday, December 15 — Third Sunday of Advent

7:30 a.m. Deacon John Pacifico by Louis Troisi, Jr.

10:00 a.m. Special Intention for Ronca Family by the family

12:00 p.m. Delmont Light by Annmarie Simeone and Pat Collins

5:00 p.m. People of the Parish

Altar Candles, Sanctuary Lamps, Altar Flowers:

Altar Candle #1 for Immacolata Suriano
by her children

Tabernacle Lamp for Eva DePrimo
by family

Blessed Mother Lamp for Paul Crandall
by family

Altar Flowers in Honor of My Deceased Loved Ones
by Sr. Dolores Toscano



St. Ann's Music Ministry

As we are almost already halfway through our Advent season, the choir is taking a weekend off from singing at mass to prepare their voices for Lessons and Carols which is this weekend, Sunday, December 8th at 2pm. Please come and hear our parish tradition mixing in with the Oratory's tradition along side the choirs from Holy Trinity.

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 Hughes; 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 Orecchio; 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 11:1-10; Rom 15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12

Monday

Gn 3:9-15, 20; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday

Is 40:1-11; Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday

Is 40:25-31; Mt 11:28-30

Thursday

Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a, 12:1-6a, 10ab; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Friday

Is 48:17-19; Mt 11:16-19

Saturday

Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Murder Mystery Dinner at St. Ann School

Come join us for a night of entertainment! The 7th Grade class at Saint Ann School will be performing a Murder Mystery Show and Dinner. The event is a fundraiser for the school. The show will take place on Friday, January 31, 2020. Doors will open promptly at 6:00 p.m. Dinner will be served during the intermission. All donations and admission fees go directly to the school. We appreciate your support. Tickets will be \$10. Children 2 years old and under are free. Ticket Order Forms are available at the back of Church or at the school.



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

Second Sunday of Advent - December 8, 2019

Parish Events

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 Advent Lessons & Carols (C), light reception (SC)
 Lighting of St. Ann's Christmas Trees after 5:00 pm Mass (C)

Monday, December 9

St. Lucy Novena (C)
 6:15 pm PREP (S) (SC)
 7:45 pm Knights of Columbus Meeting (CMR)

Tuesday, December 10

St. Lucy Novena (C)
 7:00 pm St. Ann School Open House (S)

Wednesday, December 11

St. Lucy Novena (C)
 6:00 pm Children's Choir (CL)
 6:45 pm Bell Choir Practice (CL)
 7:30 pm Adult Choir Practice (CL)
 7:30 pm The Advent Word (CMR)

Thursday, December 12

St. Lucy Novena (C)
 6:15 pm PREP (S) (SC)

Friday, December 13

6:30 pm St. Ann School Christmas Program (SG)

Saturday, December 14

Sunday, December 15

8:00 am-11:00 am Parish Breakfast with Santa (SC)
 Our Lady of Guadalupe Video, *Guadalupe: The Miracle and the Message* after the 12:00 pm Mass (CMR)
 1:00 pm Santo Nino Feast Practice (SC)

[C = Church, CMR = Church Meeting Room, CL = Church Loft, PMR = Parish Meeting Room, S = School, SC = School Cafeteria, SL = School Library]

Christmas Octave Schedule

Christmas Eve, Dec. 24	4pm and 12 Midnight (5pm and 10pm at HT)
Christmas Day, Dec. 25	7:30am, 10am, 12 Noon (8:30am, 10:30am at HT)
Octave Weekdays:	
Thur., Dec. 26	9am ONLY
Fri/Mon, Dec. 27, 30	9am ONLY (NO 7pm)
Weekend, Dec. 28-29	Normal weekend schedule
Tues., Dec. 31	9am and 7pm MMG Vigil (5pm at Holy Trinity)
Mary, Mother of God, Holyday of Obligation	
Wed, Jan. 1, 2020	9am (11am at HT), 7pm

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

Weekly Offering... November 24, 2019

	Total: \$ 8,869.50
Church Collection:	\$ 7,108.00
Online Offering:	\$ 1,453.50
Other	\$ 308.00
Catholic Campaign for Human Development	\$ 1,212.01

Weekly Offering... December 1, 2019

	Total: \$ 8,635.00
Church Collection:	\$ 6,447.50
Online Offering:	\$ 1,935.50
Other	\$ 252.00

Thank you for your generosity to our parish.

Year-End Contributions

In accordance with IRS tax law, there may be a tax benefit for making deductible contributions to charitable, tax exempt 501.c.3 organizations. To be included in your 2019 tax return, you must make your contribution before the end of December. Consider making an extra year-end donation to St. Ann parish. Thank you for your support and generosity.

Bishop's Annual Appeal Rebate

You may have seen in the Catholic Spirit that St. Ann parish exceeded our goal by the highest percentage among all other parishes in the Diocese. If a parish exceeds their goal, the Diocese rebates the parish 50% of the surplus. We have received our Bishop's Annual Appeal **rebate totaling \$16,524**. Bishop Checchio is grateful for your support for the ministries and services that the Diocese provides. The rebate to the parish is greatly appreciated as well! Thank you for your generosity.

Give the Gift of Faith

Remember our Parish in Your Will

More and more Catholics are responding to the idea of giving a gift that perpetuates our Catholic faith. Please consider remembering St. Ann parish in your will. By doing so, you establish a legacy of love for others by enabling the Church to continue the expansion of our Catholic faith through its ministries. For more information on naming our parish in your will, contact:

Diocese of Metuchen
 Office of Stewardship & Development
 by phone at 732-562-2432 or
 by emailing development@diometuchen.org.

Also, see link, <http://diometuchen.plannedgiving.org/>