

# 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

## Christmas Octave Schedule

### Octave Weekdays:

Mon., Dec. 30 9am ONLY (NO 7pm)

Tues., Dec. 31 9am

**Mary, Mother of God** (Holyday of Obligation)

Tues., Dec. 31 7pm, MMG Vigil

Wed, Jan. 1, 2020 9am and 7pm

## 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).



*Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph - December 29, 2019*

# Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph - December 29, 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

### Office Staff

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

Mrs. Christine Esposito, *Social Ministry*

Mr. Lou Falconeri, *Plant Manager*

Ms. Barbara Russell, *Administrative Assistant*

### 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.

## 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.

### 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).

## 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**

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



*Pope Francis  
General Audience  
December 18, 2019*

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

In these last days of Advent, we do well to ask ourselves: How am I preparing for the birth of Jesus? One way to prepare for Christmas is to set up a nativity scene in our homes, churches and public spaces, a lovely tradition that began with Saint Francis of Assisi. The Christmas crèche is a kind of living Gospel, a touching reminder that the Lord showed his love for us by being born as one of us, in order to share in our daily lives, hopes and concerns. The name Bethlehem, which means “house of bread”, and the image of the manger, evoke the meals which we share as families, and the centrality of Jesus, the living bread come down from heaven, in our family life.

In this world of frenetic activity, the Christmas crèche also encourages us to pause and contemplate what is truly important in life. Everything in the nativity scene speaks of the harmony and peace that only Christ the Saviour can bring to our lives and to our world. As we gaze upon the lowly scene of Jesus’ birth, let us invite him into our hearts, so that each new day can bring spiritual rebirth and preserve in us the joy of Christmas.

## *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.

## *Retrouvaille for Couples*

Stress in you Marriage? Feeling frustrated, hurt or angry at your spouse? Have you thought about separation or divorce?

Retrouvaille is a lifeline to help couples heal and renew their marriages. The program consists of a weekend experience for married couples (no group discussions) with six follow-up sessions.

Upcoming weekend: February 21-23, 2020.

For information and to register call Rich Colasuonno at 732-236-0671 or Annette Colasuonno at 732-672-0748 or email 3024@retrouvaille.org

*From the desk of...  
Bishop James F. Checchio  
December 19, 2019*



My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

What a blessed time for our Diocese! I certainly count it among my blessings in life to be a part of this Church of Metuchen, and I thank God for all of you each morning. Our Year of Spiritual Awakening of Faith bore much fruit, as we strove to wake up and become even more aware of God’s love and desire for us. Just as St. Juan Diego was prepared for the encounter he had with our Mother Mary, so we have been preparing ourselves for our encounter, our consecration to Jesus through Our Lady of Guadalupe. Our students participated with a consecration in each of their schools on her feast day, and in the evening, we gathered in our beautiful Cathedral, filled to capacity, with Archbishop Christophe Pierre, the Pope’s representative to our country, presiding at Mass. At the end of the Mass, I led our faithful in our consecration and on the following weekend, each of our parishes was asked to recite the prayer of consecration together in a great moment of prayer as we entrusted our whole Diocese to Our Lady of Guadalupe asking her to bring us closer to Her Son.

Mary always desires to bring us to her Son. St. Juan Diego used his tilma, his cloak, and gathered up the roses which miraculously appeared on the Hill of Tepeyac. They were used as proof of Mary’s visit to us. When he released the roses in front of the Bishop, Mary’s image appeared on the cloak. It is the only image of Mary that she left of herself in our world, a “selfie” of herself if you will. Normally, the images of Mary we have from her apparitions are reports of what the visionaries saw, but this image was left by her. It has miraculously been preserved through all these years. Just as St. Juan Diego gathered the roses in his cloak, which was usually used for gathering vegetation from gardens or transporting other objects, so Mary is now gathering all of us in her cloak, to bring us closer to heart of her Son.

When we visited the Shrine of Guadalupe in Mexico in October, the Rector of the Shrine told us a beautiful story of how the people of Mexico at that time, at their weddings, would tie their tilmas together to symbolize their marriage covenant; the couple being tethered together for life. So, we through our consecration have been forever tethered together with Our Lady of Guadalupe. We have entered a sacred covenant with her; we promise to pray to her daily and in turn she will hold us in her tilma, close to her heart and to that of her Son.

## Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph – December 29, 2019

**Dear St. Ann Parishioners and Friends,**

Let us welcome the New Year in the spirit of Mary, Mother of God! Celebrating her Holyday on January 1st, may we be confident and unafraid of whatever lies ahead. God is with us and is worthy of our trust. Be open and receptive, like Mary, to however the Lord wants to work in your life. Realize that for us that may involve the suffering that comes with sincere repentance, a letting go of our self-sufficiency or ungodly attachments, the healing of deep wounds. Welcome these blessings that lead us to greater freedom, hope, joy and a renewed life. Do not be afraid! Invite Mary, our Blessed Lady, to walk with you.

The end of the year is also an opportunity to reflect on the blessings of the past year and to give thanks. I am grateful for all the many ways the people of St. Ann Church and School have given of themselves this past year to enrich our parish life and ministries. I consider myself fortunate and blessed to be your pastor, to be in your service here, to pray and worship with you, to grow in faith relationship with our Lord and with you. I am humbled by your love and devotion to Jesus. I am grateful of your support and your prayers. Please pray also for those who work for and serve the parish, that together we be faithful to the mission of Christ and the Church.

God bless you all. Have a safe, healthy and Happy New Year. Continued Christmas graces and blessings to you.

Peace!



### SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE—Save the Date SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, 2020

**CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK is January 26-31, 2020**

The Opening Mass for Catholic Schools Week is at 10am on Sunday, January 26, 2020. Following Mass is a pancake breakfast in the school cafeteria. We will have an **Open House from 11:30am-1:00pm** that same day.

St. Ann School has distinguished itself by adopting the Catholic Classical Education method, the only K-8 elementary school to offer a classical liberal arts education in the Diocese of Metuchen and throughout the local NJ region.

This is a great opportunity to come and see what St. Ann Catholic Classical School is about. Discover the differences between the classical method and the modern method of education. Come to understand the benefits of classical education for your child's learning experience. Learn why this approach best honors and advances the personal dignity and faith journey of your child.

Families, especially with young children, are invited. Invite friends and extended family members who have grade school children to come to St. Ann's Open House on January 26.

### **Together in Charity — Special Second Collection, January 5, 2020**

Thank you for your help in making the **Together in Charity Collection** a success last year. The funds received enable us to provide approximately 14,000 each month this fiscal year to help individuals and families with basic needs including rent, utility service, and food. Last year, 59 parishes contacted this office for financial assistance. The funds contributed to the **Together in Charity Collection** made it possible for the Diocesan Emergency Assistance Program to respond to all requests by offering 436 grants that helped 645 adults and 567 children, a total of 1212 individuals in the amount of \$215,723.85.

The **Together in Charity Collection** will be taken up again next weekend. The generous offering made by members the parish communities is the sole source of funding for the Diocesan Emergency Assistance Program.

Please help us again this year promote the **Together in Charity Collection**. Thank you for your continued willingness to work as a team to help those in need and for all you do to support Catholic Charities!

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

## Mass Intentions

### Monday, December 30

9:00 a.m. Margherita Cugliari by daughter Caterina Fusca

### Tuesday, December 31

9:00 a.m. Cecilia Pier by the Tan Family

7:00 p.m. People of the Parish

### Wednesday, January 1—Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

9:00 a.m. People of the Parish

7:00 p.m. Dan Trierweiler by Ruth Ann and Frank Kerr

### Thursday, January 2

9:00 a.m. Salvatore Pannace by Saverio and Caterina Totarello

### Friday, January 3

8:15 a.m. Michael Giancaspro by Sisters of St. Ann's

7:00 p.m. Henry Condo, Jr. By Rose Marie and Jim Condo

### Saturday, January 4

9:00 a.m. George Gabriel Papamicheal by Linda Dineen

4:00 p.m. Mr. and Mrs. Ben Marshall, Diane and Bridget by Mark and Toni Marshall

### Sunday, January 5 -Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

7:30 a.m. People of the Parish

10:00 a.m. Living and Deceased Members of the Rosary Altar Society

12:00 p.m. Robert Petrella by Shirley Mazzarella

5:00 p.m. Colonel Frank L. Carlone by the Carlone Family

## Pray for those who are Sick in our Community

Wayne Basilone	Cindy Galvacky	Austin McNamara
Anna Carra	Gambino Family	Lidia Natale
Katie Cassling-Fishman	Maria Rosa Gasparro	Ann Navatto
Bruno Cirianni	Gloria Guide	Victor Rangel
Frank Cirianni	Bernadette Healy	Marie Richardson
Mary Contino	Victor Laggini	Deborah Scarpone
Gina Cusati	Gloria A. Lamaestra	Mary Soriano
Maria Anastasia D'Amore	Brianna Rose Larson	Cathy Stinziano
Michael D'Angelo	MaryAnn Mangiaracina	Nathan Tarantino
Dominick DeLuca	Mark Marshall	Joseph Tomaio
Ann DiBetta	Giovanna Martini	Emanuel Valentin
Mary Felice	Susan Maurice	Ron Wyka
Frank Forte		Alex Zachok

## Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Every First Friday at the Catholic Church of St. Ann we observe Adoration of our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. Come and join us in prayer for one hour or a half hour, once a month, after the morning Mass and before the evening Mass. You decide what time during Adoration you can attend. A sign up sheet can be found in the back of the Church or contact Lou Troisi at (908) 704-8959.

## Pray for those in the Military



**Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all those serving in the Nation's Armed Forces and the families waiting for them at home. May God protect them.**

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.  
 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

## Altar Candles, Sanctuary Lamps, Altar Flowers:

*St. Joseph Lamp for Giuseppe Greco*  
by his children

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

## This Week's Daily Bible Readings

### Sunday

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14; Col 3:12-21  
 or 3:12-17; Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

### Monday

1 Jn 2:12-17; Lk 2:36-40

### Tuesday

1 Jn 2:18-21; Jn 1:1-18

### Wednesday

Nm 6:22-27; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

### Thursday

1 Jn 2:22-28; Jn 1:19-28

### First Friday

1 Jn 2:29-3:6; Jn 1:29-34

### First Saturday

1 Jn 3:7-10; Jn 1:35-42

## 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.



## Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph - December 29, 2019

### Parish Events

**Sunday, December 29 - Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**

1:00 pm Santo Nino Feast Practice (SC)

**Monday, December 30**

No School

No PREP

**Tuesday, December 31**

No School

Parish Office Closed

**Wednesday, January 1 - Solemnity of Mary Mother of God**

No School

Parish Office Closed

**Thursday, January 2**

No PREP

6:00 pm Children's Choir (CL)

6:45 pm Bell Choir Practice (CL)

7:30 pm Adult Choir Practice (CL)

**Friday, January 3 - First Friday**

9:00 am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament following 8:15am Mass

7:30 pm Holy Name Society Meeting (SC)

8:00 pm Santo Nino Novena (C) following 7:00 pm Mass

**Saturday, January 4**

9:30 am Confession (C) [after 9:00 am Mass]

3:00 pm Confession (C)

3:00 pm Pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet (C)

4:00 pm Food Drive (C)

**Sunday, January 5 - Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord**

Food Drive (C)

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]



### Weekly Offering... December 22, 2019

Not available at time of publication.

### 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.

### PREP (CCD)

#### Sacrament of Confirmation:

**Sunday, February 9, 2020:**

12:00 pm Mass for parents and candidates **and**

1:00 pm Candidates-Only Session (School Cafeteria)

#### Sacrament of First Holy Communion:

**Sunday, February 9, 2020:**

10:00 am Mass for parents/guardians and children

Questions: Contact Sr. Phyllis at the Parish Office  
(908) 725-1008, press 1 then 5

### Bereavement Support Group

A bereavement support program of five meetings will begin on Tuesday, January 14, 2020 at 7:00 P.M. at St Thomas the Apostle in Old Bridge (parish room in the Parish Hall). The meetings will continue on Tuesdays, January 21, February 11 and 25, and March 10. The program is offered as a support for all persons who have recently lost a loved one and are struggling with the mourning process. Registration is required. No walk-ins. For more information, please call Deacon Pat at 732-251-4000 ext. 8218

### Catholic Charities Connection Program

Mentors are needed to be a positive adult role model for children who have suffered loss or who have special needs. It only takes a minimum of three hours per week and you can make a difference in a child's life. Interested in learning more? Contact: Jeanette Cullen (732) 738-1323 or jcullen@ccdom.org for more information.

### 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.

### St. Ann's Music Ministry

Rejoice! Our Savior is born to the Virgin Mary and with her spouse Joseph. The choir sings an interesting arrangement of God Rest Merry Gentlemen which reminds us of the reason Jesus had to come to Bethlehem - "to save us all from Satan's power as we were gone a stray." By the intercession of the Holy Family, may we create families that lead us away from sin and model the unity of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph.

### How to Report Sexual Abuse

If you were sexually abused by a member of the clergy or anyone representing the Catholic Church, or you know of someone who was, you are encouraged to report that abuse to law enforcement and by contacting the Diocesan Response Officer at (908) 930-4558 (24 hours).