SAINT ANNE PARISH BULLETIN ST. ANNE PARISH 20 BOSTON ROAD SOUTHBOROUGH, MA



DECEMBER 24, 2017 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



PEACE



YOU ARE NEAR

"THE LORD IS NEAR TO ALL WHO CALL ON HIM. TO ALL WHO CALL ON HIM IN TRUTH." PSALM 145:18

THIS TIME OF ADVENT IS CHARACTERIZED BY THE THEME OF CLOSENESS, GOD'S CLOSENESS TO HUMANITY. MARY AND JOSEPH ARE THE TWO PEOPLE WHO, MORE THAN ANYONE ELSE, WERE INVOLVED IN THIS MYSTERY OF GOD'S CLOSENESS TO HUMANITY.

HOW AND WHEN HAVE I MOST EXPERIENCED GOD'S CLOSENESS DURING THIS ADVENT?

WE WELCOME ALL VISITORS TO

ST. ANNE PARISH.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO

JOIN OUR FAITH

COMMUNITY, PLEASE CALL

THE PARISH OFFICE TO

REGISTER

AS AN ACTIVE MEMBER.

MAY GOD BLESS YOU.



CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE CHRISTMAS EVE

MASS TIMES: 5:00PM AND 11:00 PM

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD— CHRISTMAS DAY MASS TIMES: 9:00AM AND 11:00AM

PREVENTING CHILD ABUSE IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY:

It's every adult's moral responsibility to protect possible victims (any age) by reporting suspected abuse or neglect to the responsible authorities. For particular help you may call: The Office for Healing and Prevention, Diocese of Worcester, at 508-929-4363. The Diocese of Worcester requires Safe Environment

Training for all staff & volunteers.

Lord's Day Mass Schedule: Saturday ~ 5:00 pm Sunday ~ 8:30 am & 10:30 am

Children's Liturgy of the Word 10:30 am Mass during school year

Filipino Mass:
Third Sunday of the month - 12 pm

<u>Daily Mass Schedule:</u> Week Day Mass, Monday-Thursday: 9:00 am First Friday: 9:00 am

> <u>Confessions:</u> Saturday ~ 4:15 pm, or anytime on request

Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:
Wednesday ~ 9:30 am to 4:00 pm

Sacrament of Baptism
Call the Parish Office to
schedule a Baptism.
Baptisms are generally celebrated at
any of the Masses on the first weekend
of the month so that the child may be
welcomed and received in
the presence of the parish community.

Sacrament of Marriage
Arrangements with a Priest required
at least one year prior to
the wedding date.

Visitation of the Sick Fr. Albert and

St. Anne's Ministers of Communion are pleased to bring Holy Communion to parishioners who are unable to join us for weekly worship. Please call the Parish Office to arrange a time.

Parish Contact Information
Office Hours, Monday ~ Thursday
9:30 am to 3:30 pm
Friday ~ 9:30 am to noon
Telephone 508-485-0141

Fax 508-481-9374

E-mail:

stanne403@stannesouthborough.org

Web: www.stannesouthborough.org
Amy Buttiglieri ~ Webmaster
webmaster@stannesouthborough.org

PARISH INFORMATION

PRAYER, HEALING MINISTRY AND SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT: The Spiritual Development group will meet every Tuesday morning following the 9:00am mass. Please read the conclusion section of the Immaculate Heart of Mary and God's Plan for America. The next meeting will be January 9, 2018 We will have 30 minutes adoration followed by study and fellowship in the Parish Hall from 10:00 to 11:00 am. Please contact Monica Shay if you have questions.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY: The Prayer Shawl Ministry will not be meeting during the Christmas Holidays. Meetings will resume on Monday, January 8, 2018. Otherwise, the ministry members meet every Monday at 10:00am to noon in the Conference Room at the Parish Hall. Anyone interested in being a part of this Ministry are welcome to join. Annette Buhsmer, Chair



Saint Anne Parish extends sympathy to the family and friends of:

Patty Morgan

May she Rest in Peace

<u>Liturgical Minister Schedule</u>				
December 24 and 25				
5:00pm	Lector	Roger Jolicoeur		
	Communion Ministers	J. Castelda/M. Andries		
8:30am	Lector	NEED		
	Communion Ministers	D. Campero/C. Carreras		
10:30am	Lector	Peter Bradstreet		
	Communion Ministers	J. Flathers/NEED		
	<u>Christmas Eve</u>	December 24		
5:00pm	Lector	Joe Cruciani		
	Communion Ministers	P. Howard/J. & J. McCarthy		
11:00pm	Lector	John Callinan		
	Communion Ministers	C. Carreras,/A. & B. Shea		
	<u>Christmas Day</u>	December 25		
9:00am	Lector	Regina McAuliffe		
	Communion Ministers	J. Flathers/NEED		
11:00 am	Lector	Jim Garden		
	Communion Ministers	P. Bradstreet/NEED		
December 30 and 31				
5:00pm	Lector	Roger Jolicoeur		
	Communion Ministers	J. Castelda/G. Polanik		
8:30am	Lector	Regina McAuliffe		
	Communion Ministers	T. Bhisitkul/D. Campero		
10:30am	Tanya Rybarczyk	J. Flathers/D. Draper		

PARISH STEWARDSHIP REPORTS FOR:

December 16 and 17, 2017

Weekly Offering.....\$3,241.25.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ONGOING GENEROUS SUPPORT.

Diocesan and Special Collections in DECEMBER ~ 2017

Christmas Offering December 25



WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE with MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 24~ Monday, December 31, 2017

Survivary, December 21 Wildhamy, December 51, 2017			
4th Sunday of Advent			
SATURDAY	5:00pm	Anne "Cibelli" Donahue (1st Anniversary) by her Daughters	
SUNDAY	8:30am	Pamela Soucy (1st Anniversary) by her Family	
	10:30am	Phil Wood by his wife, Jane and Family	
<u>CHRISTMAS EVE</u>			
SUNDAY	5:00pm	Parishioners of St. Anne Parish	
	11:00pm	Parishioners of St. Anne Parish	
<u>CHRISTMAS DAY</u>			
MONDAY	9:00am	Parishioners of St. Anne Parish	
	11:00am	Parishioners of St. Anne Parish	
TUESDAY	9:00am	Margaret Anne Hostage by her Family	
WEDNESDAY	9:00am	Holy souls in Purgatory	
THURSDAY	9:00am	Parishioners of St. Anne Parish	
FRIDAY	No Mass		
SATURDAY	5:00pm	Richard Castelda by his Family	
SUNDAY	8:30am	Helen Fries (4th Anniversary) by her daughter, Clare and Family	
	10:30am	Edward J. Hasbrouck	

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Sr. Yvette, Faith Stephens, June Phillipo, Jan & Charlie Mangana, Danielle Taylor, Jamie Farley, Stephanie McMahon, Rachel Knoll, Brad Arsenault, Paine Family, Lavallee Family, Marilou A. Custodio, Patty Morgan, Melinda O'Connor, Susan Davis, Scott Broussard, Paul Brodeur, Kenny Cassidy, Colleen Manning, Simone Almeida, Pat Austin, Nolan Francis Lane, Bill Yetman, Phil Auzenne, Gayle Dufour, Alexandra Barr, Carolyn Green, (Red) Weir, Zenta Franz, Denise Perrin, Katie Lutz, Judi Shea, Irene Larochelle, Peterson, Isabel Chesak, George Wood, Gertrude Wallace, Judy Christian, Jeanne Walker, Dianne Higgins, Shannon Hayden, Millie Garden, Brian K., Eunice, June St. Andre, Emily, Mark S. Tootalian, Richard Buttiglieri, Milton Rattet, Dorothy Reid, Yvonne Allain, Dewey Morton, Nancy Powers, Carol Dunn, Stephen Brown, Fr. John Sassani, Jack Maley, Elaine Taylor, Karen Gazzardi, Joan Misener, Fernard, Cecile, Beverly, Michael Santella

by his niece, Elizabeth Hasbrouck

CHRISTMAS WISHES TO ST. ANNE PARISH PARISHIONERS FROM FATHER ALBERT

My dear parishioners,

I wish you all a merry Christmas and a grace-filled New Year 2018. As we are celebrating this joyful feast, I invite you all to reflect on John's gospel that says, "How humble is our God! He came into a world that "knew him not" (John 1:10) in order to redeem a people who "received him not" (John 1:11). Jesus came not surrounded by fine gifts, or handled by the finest doctors and servants or clothed in the softest linens. Instead He was born impoverished, placed in an animals' stall and wrapped in swaddling clothes. Yet, Jesus was given the one thing valued most by God: LOVE. Giving their "yes" to God, Mary and Joseph laid aside their own plans to welcome Him into the world. He was greeted by simple, uneducated shepherds who believed the angel's words and so were privileged to see the Messiah.

Why did the Father plan such a lowly appearance for the Word who had been with Him from all time? Certainly the starkness and poverty of Jesus' surroundings reveal the extent to which He would go to save the humanity. But Jesus' humble birthplace also reveals something about us: without Him, we are the poor ones — abandoned and lost, vulnerable to the attacks of our enemy, the devil. Jesus was born in a stable inside a cold cave, probably dark and miserable, just as our hearts are before we allow Jesus to be born within us.

"The Word became flesh and dwelt among us" (John 1:14) to bring us back to the Father, to fill us with grace and truth. We have received the greatest of gifts. How can we ever thank the Lord except by humbling ourselves before the lowly manger? Let us welcome Jesus into our hearts as Mary did, by turning our lives over to God completely. May the Infant Jesus bless you and your family.

With prayers *Fr. Albert*

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education class dates and times will be published in next week's bulletin, December 30 and 31. You may also check the Parish Website for all the class dates and times.

www.stannesouthborough.org



We wish all the children and the young adults of St.
Anne Parish a wonderful Christmas.
We hope Santa comes down your chimney
with the gifts you've wished for.

OUR FATHER'S TABLE: The St. Anne Parish youth participates by cooking a meal on Wednesday, December 27 at St. Anne Parish Hall, 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm. The meal is served in Marlborough at the New Hope Community Church, 204 Main St., Marlborough (entrance in the rear on Weed Street) on Thursday, December 28 at 4:30pm. If you can make a dessert or serve at 4:30pm on Thursday, RSVP to Regina at 508-485-0159.

A LETTER FOR CHRISTMAS TO THE PARISHIONERS OF THE WORCESTER DIOCESE FROM BISHOP ROBERT MC MANUS

December 2017

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

A chapel in Shepherd's Field outside of Bethlehem commemorates the wondrous events of Christmas in three beautiful paintings.

In the first painting, the shepherds, keeping watch over their flock by night, are roused from their silent vigil by the glad tidings of an angel, glorious streams from Heaven, and the strains of an angelic choir. In the second painting, the shepherds, having traveled to Bethlehem, bow in awe and adoration before the new born Christ child in the manger as heavenly light illuminates the Holy Family. In the final painting, dawn is breaking, the Heavenly streams of God's glory are fading, and the shepherds are again back amidst their flock. But the shepherds are changed.

In the third painting, an elderly shepherd looks upward with an expression of wonder. Another shepherd pipes a tune on a simple musical instrument while a shepherd boy skips with exuberance, joy, and uplifted arms. They have returned to the place where they were but they have not returned the way they were. They are filled with joy, wonder and awe that God has come to them.

Christmas reminds us that God has also come to us. The shepherds' path to joy is also ours. At Christmas Mass and every Mass we might think of ourselves as shepherds going to Bethlehem. After hearing God's Word, we go to Him in the communion line, bow in adoration and receive the same Divine Child born of Mary and worshiped by the shepherds at the manger.

As the shepherds departed from the stable, so may we depart Christmas Mass, and every Mass, with joy, wonder and awe that God has come to us. May this Christmas change us so that as we return to our routines with a deeper appreciation of God's love for us, we may bear witness to that love just as the shepherds did on that first Christmas morning.

With every prayerful best wish for a Blessed and Merry Christmas, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Robert J. McManus Bishop of Worcester

EUCHARIST ADORATION WIL NOT BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27



SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLYMOTHER OF GOD

MONDAY, JANUARY 1, 2018

MASS TIME: 9:00 AM

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD DECEMBER 25, 2017





MAY THE LIGHT OF CHRISTMAS BRING YOU AND YOUR FAMILIES
THE GIFT OF PEACE AND TRANQUILITY
AS WE CELEBRATE THE BIRTH OF OUR
SAVIOR, JESUS CHRIST.

WE WISH YOU A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS.

