The Catholic Church of St. Ann



St. Ann, our Parish Patroness, pray for us!

St. Ann Church

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

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

V. Rev. Jeffrey Calia, C.O., Provost

Rev. Thomas Odorizzi, C.O., Pastor

todorizzi@stannparish.com

Rev. Peter Cebulka, C.O., Head of School, St. Ann Classical School, K-8

Parish Office Staff

Deacon Sal Bonfiglio,
Mrs. Christine Esposito,
Mr. Lou Falconeri,
Mr.

Mr. Anthony Nardino
Ms. Barbara Russell,
Sr. Ella Mae McDonald, MPF
Dir. of Religious Education

Community of Religious Teachers of St. Lucy Filippini

Sr. Phyllis Vella, MPF, Superior

Sr. Dolores Toscano, MPF, Pastoral Associate

Sr. Ella Mae McDonald, MPF Dir. of Religious Education

The Lord's Day Mass Schedule

Sat.: 4 pm St. Ann Church

4 pm St. Joseph Church 5 pm Holy Trinity (LS)

Sun.: 7:30 am St. Ann Church

8:00 am Shrine of Bl. Sacrament (Spanish)

8:30 am Holy Trinity 9 am St. Joseph Church

10 am St. Ann Church

10am Shrine of Bl. Sacrament (Latin EF)

10:30am Holy Trinity 2 pm St. Ann Church

12 pm Shrine of Bl. Sacrament (Spanish)

5 pm St. Ann Church

Daily Masses

Mon. 8 am St. Joseph 12:15 pm Shrine 7 pm St. Ann Tue. 7 am St. Ann 12:15 pm Shrine 7 pm Holy Trinity

Wed. 7 am St. Ann 12:15 pm Shrine

Thu. 7 am St. Ann
Fri. 8 am St. Joseph
12:15 pm Shrine
7 pm Holy Trinity
7pm St. Ann
7 pm St. Ann

Sat. 9 am St. Ann

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday, after the 9am Mass, St. Ann
Saturday, 3-3:30pm, St. Joseph
Wednesday, 11-12noon, Holy Trinity
Wednesday, 7-8pm, St. Ann

—or by appointment—

REMINDER: PRECAUTIONS FOR MASS ATTENDANCE

We hope that everyone who wants to return to church for Mass can be comfortable doing so without feeling overcrowded, especially now that the full Mass schedule is being restored. **Please wear your mask so that it covers both your mouth and your nose.** The tabs of blue tape on the pews are 2 feet apart. If you are not sitting with members of your same household, you are supposed to sit apart a distance of 6 feet. The blue tabs are supposed to assist you to measure the distance from wherever another person may be sitting. Hand sanitizer is available at the doors ways of the church.

Reception of Holy Communion is now at the normal place within the Mass. Distribution is to half of the community at a time to avoid crowding in the center aisle. Please maintain your distance from others. After Communion and the Final Blessing, please take care to leave the church while maintaining your distance from others.

Exception to Mass Schedule this Week

It is the Oratory's common practice to have only one Mass amongst our local parishes on Civic Holidays. We schedule that Mass at 9:00am and take turns at the different church locations.

Tomorrow, January 18, is a civic holiday to honor **Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Mass will be celebrated at Holy Trinity Church** at 9am.

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time — January 17, 2021

Reflection on the Sunday Lectionary Readings

1 SM 3:3b-10, 19; PS 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10; 1 COR 6:13c-15a, 17-20; JN 1:35-42

Our readings today focus on the vital attributes of being a disciple of Christ.

Our First Reading from Samuel unfolds the relationship between Samuel and the Lord. Samuel, who is serving under the priest Eli, hears Eli call him while he is sleeping. Samuel goes to Eli, yet Eli is not the one who is calling him. This happens three times before Eli realizes it is the Lord who is calling Samuel. Eli encourages Samuel to respond next time with, "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening."

If we put ourselves in Samuel's shoes, we can wonder how many times the Lord has spoken to us but did not recognize His voice. God's voice might already be present in the quiet of our hearts, in Scripture, or even in speaking through someone else. He speaks to us in various forms, but to recognize that it is Him, we must give Him a portion of our time by being still and listening to what He is calling us to do or not do.

We can also put ourselves in Eli's shoes, as Eli recognized it was the Lord speaking to Samuel, and he encouraged him to respond. Once Samuel responded to the Lord, "Samuel grew up, and the Lord was with him." Without Eli, would Samuel have ever understood it was the Lord who was speaking? We can only hope! Thankfully, Eli was a good steward of his own wisdom and knowledge of the Lord.

Often, we find ourselves in circumstances where we could share our knowledge of the Lord. Yet, we hold back. We cannot allow opportunities to share our faith pass us. To be a disciple of Christ means we are a good steward of the knowledge that has been gifted to him or her by God, sharing it with others.

Our Gospel today bears witness to Jesus' first disciples. The two that were with John were his followers, which means they had heard of Jesus and believed in Him. Upon seeing Jesus, John proclaims, "Behold, the Lamb of God." The lamb is a reference to the Jewish sacrificial offering at Passover. This title of Jesus reveals Him as Savior. Once they heard this, they immediately followed Jesus. They had to be with Him. Jesus turned to them and asked, "What are you looking for?" They responded with, "Rabbi, where are you staying?"

Imagine Jesus asking you, "What are you looking for?" Or "What do you seek?" We might respond with answers like a better job, more kids, retirement, or any number of things that we think will make our lives better. The things we seek may be righteous, and God wants us to come to Him with everything — yet, as disciples of Christ, we should first and foremost seek the Kingdom of God. If we strive to respond to Jesus' question in the same way the first disciples responded by asking, "Where are you, Lord?" then we will not be disappointed with the outcome. A disciple of Christ seeks the Kingdom of God first in his life.

MONTHLY EUCHARISTIC HOLY HOUR Sunday, January 17, 2021, 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM

Join members of the Congregation and the Secular Oratory for a Eucharistic Holy Hour every 3rd Sunday of the month, at 3:30-4:30pm in St. Ann Church, Raritan. This hour of Adoration includes readings, song, and silent prayer, and concludes with Benediction.



THE PRINCIPAL METAPHOR FOR GOD

The family is the principal metaphor for understanding God in terms of his own internal life in the Trinity. And since that is true, the metaphor of family also makes sense for the Church as well.

The Church is God's family, and your parish is a microcosm of that family.

So, what should that tell us?

It should tell us that we must care for those in our community as we care for those in our family, and to work on the relationships in our parish with intentionality.

Our families and parishes are the foundations of love we're called to live in our daily life. And if we get this kind of love right we can change the world.

Friends, be confident in Christ's mercy and love.

jon.leonetti@gmail.com

Do not conform yourselves to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and pleasing and perfect.

(Romans 12:1)

Our story of Jesus' first disciples concludes with Andrew intentionally sharing the Good News of Christ to his brother, Simon Peter. Andrew had the gift of meeting the Lord and did not hoard it to himself. Instead, he sought his brother and proclaimed what he had experienced. This is a reminder for us. We are called to be missionary disciples — to seek the Lord and to share what we have found. Our faith is a gift! We should strive to share this gift with others. A disciple of Christ is a good steward of the Good News.

Our journey as disciples of Christ is an ongoing adventure. To grow on this journey, we can seek first the Kingdom of God, listen to God's voice in our lives, and be good stewards of what He has gifted us. With that, the Lord will respond with, "Come, and you will see!"

— Stewardship Reflections by *Catholic Stewardship Consultants*

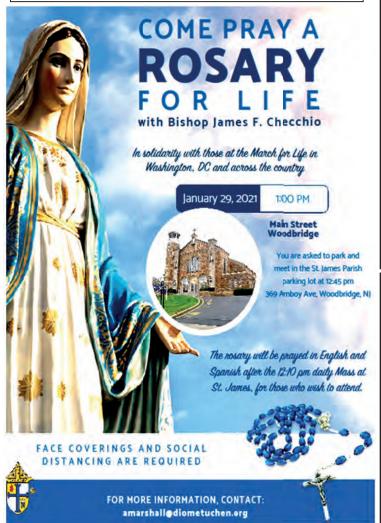
The Catholic Church of St. Ann

Local January Prolife Events

The over 61 million abortions since the 1973 decisions of Roe v. Wade and Doe v. Bolton reflect with heartbreaking magnitude what Pope Francis means by a "throwaway culture." However, we have great trust in God's providence. We are reminded time and again in Scripture to seek the Lord's help, and as people of faith, we believe that our prayers are heard. January 22 is designated as a "Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children." One way we can participate in this Day of Prayer by attending Eucharistic Adoration at Holy Trinity Church, Bridgewater, at anytime between Noon and 6:45 PM. Eucharistic Adoration will close with Benediction at 6:45. followed by the 7:00 PM Mass. Please consider setting aside time to pray before Our Lord present in the Eucharist. Your prayers are greatly needed for the unborn and for our nation.

St. Ann's Respect Life Rosary

On the 3rd Monday of the month at <u>St. Ann's church, a Prolife Rosary</u> for an end to abortion is prayed following the 7pm Holy Mass. Next Pro-Life Rosary is next Monday, January 18.



RESPECT FOR LIFE NEWS & EVENTS

Annual Diocesan Respect Life Mass & Pro-Vita Awards

Please consider attending on Friday, January 22 at 5:00 p.m. at the Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi, Metuchen. Bishop James F. Checchio will be the celebrant.

This year's Pro-Vita Winners are Frances Johnson and Frank McCann.

Frances Johnson is the Director of the Pregnancy Aid and Information Center in Raritan and Frank McCann is the Treasurer of New Jersey Right to Life. Both Frances and Frank are members of St. Matthias Parish in Somerset.

- Seating is limited so registration is required to attend the Respect Life Mass.
- Please register by visiting: www.diometuchen.org/ humanlifeanddignity
- The Mass will also be live-streamed.

Come pray a rosary for life

In solidarity with those at the March for Life in Washington, DC, and all who are praying for life in a special way on that day, Bishop James F. Checchio will pray a rosary for life on Main Street in Woodbridge on Friday, January 29 at 1 p.m. All are invited to attend, though face coverings and social distancing will be required.

Those planning to attend are asked to park and meet in the St. James Parish, 369 Amboy Ave., Woodbridge, parking lot at 12:45 p.m. We will then process to the Main Street location. The rosary will be prayed in English and Spanish. There is a 12:10 p.m. daily Mass at St. James for those interested in attending before the rosary. For more information, contact: amarshall@diometuchen.org.

9 Days for Life

Join thousands of Catholics nationwide in the annual Respect Life novena, 9 Days for Life, Thursday, January 21 – Friday, January 29. Get daily intentions, brief reflections, and more. Sign up at **9daysforlife.com!**



Urge Legislators to Oppose NJ Reproductive Freedom Act (\$3030/A4848)

On October 8, 2020, The Reproductive Freedom Act (RFA) S3030 was introduced in the New Jersey State Senate and was referred to the Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee. If passed, the RFA would codify into New Jersey law the findings of Roe v. Wade, meaning that abortion would remain legal in New Jersey even if the case were overturned by the Supreme Court. The RFA would also strip safeguards and regulations on the abortion procedure, making New Jersey a more dangerous place for women and their unborn babies

Contact your state legislators now to oppose this measure. For more information and to find your state legislator or to view the NJ Bishops' Statement on this proposed legislation visit: https://njcatholic.org/reproductive-freedom-act

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time — January 17, 2021

Save the Date

for

Date Night for a Joy-Filled Marriage

Celebrate World Marriage Day with the St. Ann Regional Catholic Marriage Ministry On Saturday, February 13, 7:00-9:00pm

It's an opportunity for Catholic couples to support and encourage one another, share faith and prayer, express gratitude to God for this loving plan and affirm the beauty of their vocations. Included will be delicious individually wrapped dessert, coffee and tea.

Pandemic precautions will be observed. More information will follow. Save the Date!

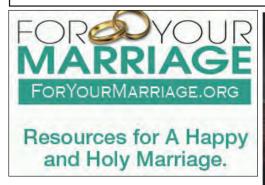
CATHOLIC SCHOOL 2021-2022 TUITION ASSISTANCE

ONLINE APPLICATION PROCESS OPEN

Families interested in applying for tuition assistance to attend an eligible Diocese of Metuchen elementary or high school may apply through FACTS Grant & Aid Assessment at https://online.factsmgt.com/aid starting January 1, 2021.

Online applications must be completed (including all reguired documentation) by no later than March 31, 2021. Applications are available in English and Spanish.

Families that need assistance completing the online application or need access to a computer to apply should contact their school.



Prayer for Family Unity

Lord Jesus, with Mary and Joseph, vou lived in a family. Teach me to appreciate the gift of being part of a family. Show me ever new ways of protecting and comforting those closest to me: and, each day, let me do something that will say 'I love you' without speaking those words. Let me never part from any of my family in anger; prompt me always to turn back without delay to forgive and to be forgiven. Let me see your image in my family, in each of them, and in my larger family too. knowing that, in your kingdom, we will be truly one family, united by your sacrifice on the Cross. Amen.



You won't want to miss this unprecedented FREE event for Catholics! The Word 2021 International Catholic Bible Summit is FREE, online, and includes more than 70 of the most trusted and loved Bible experts as they go deep in to how to use the Bible to find clarity, hope, and joy, even in the midst of uncertain times.

Join us February 11-13 and discover...

- How to find unshakeable hope and peace no matter what you're going through.
- How to break open the Bible and hear what God is saying to you right now.
- The keys to unlocking a deeper prayer life.
- Where to turn in times of suffering.
- The keys to overcoming doubt and share your faith with others
- How to find balance and recalibrate your family with the Word of God.

... and much more!

Please be sure to register and invite your friends! Register for FREE at: CatholicBibleSummit.com

The Catholic Church of St. Ann

THE RENEWAL OF CATHOLIC EDUCATION

St. Ann Classical Academy wants to take part in this renewal

Take a few minutes to read some of Elisabeth Sullivan's insights and discover many reasons for supporting and promoting this renewal.

The tumult, fears, and divisions of 2020 stand in stark contrast to the peace of the Christ Child. When the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, the weary world rejoiced in the Truth. Everything was forever changed. But amid today's aggressive secularism, the challenge for Christians is to keep this truth in focus, to live constantly in the wonder and mystery that lie beyond human comprehension-that draw us to the Light beyond ourselves.

Among parents, educators, and clergy who are alarmed by the skyrocketing numbers of young people who are falling away from their Catholic faith, there is a growing realization that the secular progressive model of education has been a stealthy saboteur. Rooted in an atheistic, utilitarian philosophy, it has no interest in wonder or wisdom. Aimed at the merely temporal goals of college and career readiness, it fails to feed the mind, the heart, and the soul. A pragmatic, godless education relentlessly defies and belittles the mysteries at the heart of faith. Its consequences can be seen in an epidemic of skepticism, anxiety, and even despair among the young.

A growing number of Catholic educators are now confronting the fact that, when they uncritically adopt secular curricula, standards, and pedagogy, they are inadvertently teaching as though the Incarnation never happened. They see what the secular model can never convey: The world is a different place through the eyes of faith. Learning becomes an adventure to discover meaning, purpose, order, connections, and beauty in Creation. All knowledge is one in Jesus Christ, the Logos in Whom all things cohere. As young people are guided to know themselves and their place in the world, they grasp that "it is only in the mystery of the Word made flesh that the mystery of man truly becomes clear" (Gaudium et Spes). When this vision is restored throughout the curriculum, pedagogy, and school culture, they grow in joyful hope.

A vibrant renewal of Catholic education is spreading across the country as educators reject the utilitarianism and fads of the dominant, industrialized model and reclaim the distinctive, centuries-old Catholic educational tradition that unites faith and reason. The impact of this deeply human formation is transformative. Students find joy in learning. Teachers are renewed in their vocations. Families are being drawn back to the Church. Dying schools are revived. New ones are launched. Their experience demonstrates that the solution to the demise of Catholic education has been hiding in plain sight all along: These communities flourish when they reclaim the Church's tradition in the classical liberal arts and sciences, which formed some of the sharpest minds and holiest saints in the history of the world.

Elisabeth Sullivan serves as the Executive Director of <u>The Institute</u> for Catholic Liberal Education (ICLE),

HELP PROMOTE OUR SCHOOL



40 Second Avenue, Raritan, NJ 08869 Telephone: 908-725-7787 Website: www.stannparish.com/school

Facebook: St. Ann School

Catholic Classical education is all about God's children discovering the joy of learning when education is presented within the context of the Coming of the Lord Jesus.

He comes as Gift for us, inviting us to discover the gift that we can become.

WE ARE OPEN!
IN-PERSON EDUCATION
SPACES STILL AVAILABLE
2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR

Call for more information or email <kalbright@ stannparish.com>

Registration for the 2021-2022 school year begins in January. Catholic Schools Week 2021 is January 31-February 6.

Ways that you can help advance this renewal and support St. Ann Classical Academy:

- If you are a parent with young children, think, pray and consider enrolling them at St. Ann Classical Academy. Contact the school for more information. Talk to Fr. Peter Cebulka, Head of School.
- Word of mouth promotion—encourage other family members, friends, neighbors or co-workers to explore Catholic Classical Education with us.
- Be a "Tuition Angel"—perhaps you are in the position of being able to assist a struggling family to keep the Catholic education option open through tuition assistance. You may make the difference for a much needed increased enrollment.
- Offer the gift of a classical Catholic education for your grandson or granddaughter, niece or nephew.

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time — January 17, 2021

Mass Intentions

Sunday, January 10-Baptism of the Lord

7:30 am Salvatore Stina by sister-in-law Caterina Fusca

10:00 am Special Intentions of the Ronca Family 12:00 pm Annita DeBellis by the Dryl Family

5:00 pm People of the Parish

Monday, January 11

7:00 pm Living and Deceased Member of the Knights of

Columbus

Tuesday, January 12

7:00 am Rev. Msgr. Charles W. Day on his Birthday by

Sr. Dolores Toscano

Wednesday, January 13

7:00 am Rose and John Tozzi by children

Thursday, January 14

7:00 am Erica P. Rego by Inez and Bob Taylo

Fríday, January 15

Saturday, January 16

9:00 am Domenica Natale by wife Emilia Natale

4:00 pm

Sunday, January 17 -Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 am Rafael Szilagyi by George Matyasfalvi 10:00 am Marshall Family by Toni and Mark Marshall 12:00 pm Richard and Sally Minetti and Josephine

Armandi by Dr. and Mrs. Joseph R. Mele

5:00 pm People of the Parish

This Week's Daily Mass Readings

Sunday	Wednesday
Is 55:1-11; 1 Jn 5:1-9;	Heb 2:14-18; Mk 1:29-39
Mk 1:7-11	Thursday
Monday	Heb 3:7-14; Mk 1:40-45
Heb 1:1-6; Mk 1:14-20	Friday
Tuesday	Heb 4:1-5, 11; Mk 2:1-12
Heb 2:5-12; Mk 1:21-28	Saturday
	Heb 4:12-16; Mk 2:13-17

COVID-19 Recovery Program

Saint Peter's Healthcare System has developed a COVID-19 Recovery Program to address the lingering complications endured by many COVID-19 patients. Those who have previously tested positive will have access to multi-specialty care.

Patients that have recovered from COVID-19 but are till experiencing persistent symptoms should contact the COVID-19 Recovery line at 732-745-8552 or email COVID19Recovery@saintpetersuh.com; someone will contact you within 2 business days.

Parishioner Financial Support

THANK YOU to all who are mailing or dropping off your envelopes or check contributions in support of the operation of St. Ann parish. During these unusual times many more parishioners have found that WeShare Online Giving has been a con-

venient and effective way for them to support the parish. It is an easy process to sign up for WeShare. Simply go to the parish website and click on this icon and set up your personal account.

Give Online with WeShare

Contributions from January 10, 2021

Envelopes/Checks/Cash
WeShare Online Giving \$3,036
CHRISTMAS (additional) \$11,301
Total for Parish Operation
DOM/Other \$1142

Thank you and God bless you for supporting the mission of the church and the ministry of St. Ann parish.

VOLUNTEER SOUGHT

Thanks to those who generously donated so that St. Ann's could purchase new church video camera and control equipment, we now have a system in place to more easily support livestream video of church services. We would like to find a couple of people from the parish who knows already, or is willing to be trained, how to set up and operate our system, when needed. It involves computer interface wifi/internet hook up, and familiarity with our equipment. Please contact the parish office if interested.

Pray for those in the Military

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.
LCpl Sean Maj; U.S. Marine Corps
Maj Michael Morella; U.S. Army
Sgt Dan Neville; U.S. Marine Corps
AIC Anthony John O'Connor; U.S. Air

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
Cpl Daniel Viscariello; U.S. Marine Corps
Sgt Janet Wyka; U.S. Army
Capt Kaitlyn Zimmitti; U.S. Air Force

Pray for those who are Sick in our Community

Karen B. Cindy Galvacky Wilfredo Medina III Joanmarie Carlone Gambino Family Andrea Michaels Maria Rosa Gasparro Lidia Natale Anna Carra Christopher Carson Gloria Guide Ann Navatto Katie Cassling-Bernadette Healy Victor Rangel Fishman Victor Laggini Marie Richardson Bruno Cirianni Brianna Rose Larson Deborah Scarpone Frank Cirianni Michael Lynch Mary Soriano Mary Contino Antonio, Alice & Lisa Cathy Stinziano Maria Anastasia Magdamit Nathan Tarantino D'Amore MaryAnn Saverio Todarello Michael D'Angelo Mangiaracina Joseph Tomaio Dominick DeLuca Mark Marshall **Emanuel Valentin** Giovanna Martini Mary Felice Ron Wyka Frank Forte Susan Maurice

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