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The Lord's Day Mass Schedule

Sat.: 4 pm St. Ann Church

4 pm St. Joseph Church 5 pm Holy Trinity

Sun.: 7:30 am St. Ann Church

8:00 am St. Joseph Church (Spanish)

8:30 am Holy Trinity 10 am St. Joseph Church

10 am St. Ann Church

10am Shrine of Bl. Sacrament (Latin EF)

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

12 pm St. Joseph Church (Spanish)

5 pm St. Ann Church

Daily Masses

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

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

ri. 8 am St. Joseph 12:15 pm Shrine 7 pm Holy Trinity rst Fridays 7pm St. Ann

First Fridays
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

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Third Sunday of Advent — December 12, 2021

Stewardship Reflection on Lectionary Readings ZEP 3:14-18A; IS 12:2-6; PHIL 4:4-7; LK 3:10-18

"Rejoice in the Lord always, I shall say it again: rejoice!"

We have arrived at Gaudete Sunday (Gaudete is the Latin word for "rejoice") this Third Week of Advent, and the Scriptures take on a joyful tone as we continue our preparations for the feast of our Savior's birth and ultimately for His Second Coming.

Our First Reading, from Zephaniah, certainly gives us cause to rejoice. "Fear not... be not discouraged! The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a mighty savior." Even more cause for joy, this Savior delights in us — "He will rejoice over you with gladness, and renew you in His love, He will sing joyfully because of you." How can we not be moved by a God who pursues us, who comes to us as Savior, and who actually sings for joy over us!

Our Second Reading gives still more cause for joy as St. Paul reminds us, "The Lord is near. Have no anxiety at all." Then he gives us a prescription for maintaining this peace: "In everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus." Paul's instructions for obtaining peace come as an early Christmas gift. They remind us that we can and should go to God with all our needs and present them to Him along with our thanks. This guidance calls to mind a vital aspect of a stewardship way of life: gratitude to God in response to His great love and countless gifts to us.

The Gospel passage, from Luke, shows us how to live out this sense of thankfulness, making our lives a "Christmas gift" to Christ in joyful response to His love for us. When the crowds hear John the Baptist's message that their Savior is coming, they ask him what they should do to prepare. He responds, "Whoever has two cloaks should share with the person who has none. And whoever has food should do the same." He tells tax collectors to stop collecting more than is prescribed and soldiers, to be satisfied with their wages. In other words, he tells them to be good and generous stewards of all God's gifts to them!

As the great feast of Christmas draws near, let us rejoice in Christ's extravagant love. Let's avail ourselves of the peace He longs to give us. And let's look carefully at our lives to make sure we are indeed making of them a gift fitting for Him. When we get this "gift" right, all the other gifts and to-dos on our Christmas list will fall into their proper place.

— Stewardship Reflections by <u>Catholic Stewardship Consultants</u>

Christmas Midnight Mass
Prelude to begin at 11:20 p.m.
By the Choir and with Congregational Singing
Come, let us adore Him!

HAPPENING THIS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

8-11:30am, School Cafeteria

ADVENT LESSONS & CAROLS

2:30-4pm, St Ann Church



ADVENT EVENT CALENDAR

December 11, 5pm Lighting of Memorial Trees
December 12, 8-11:30am Christmas Breakfast with Santa
December 12, 2:30pm Advent Lessons & Carols at St. Ann's
December 15, 7pm Advent Penance Service at Holy Trinity
December 17, 6pm SA Classical Academy Christmas Show
December 21, 6:30pm Christmas Pageant (children from religious education program)

St. Ann Mass Schedule for Christmas

Friday Vigil, December 24 4pm, 12 Midnight Saturday, December 25 7:30am, 10am, 12 noon (no 4pm Mass)

Mass Schedule for Christmas Octave

Sunday, December 26

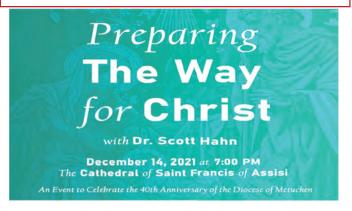
Feast of the Holy Family
7:30am, 10am, 12 noon, 5pm
9am at St. Ann's only
Friday Vigil, December 31

Saturday, January 1, 2022

Mary, Mother of God
7pm at Holy Trinity only
Mary, Mother of God
9am at St. Ann's only
Saturday Vigil
Epiphany of the Lord, 4pm
7:30am, 10am, 12 noon, 5pm

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION — MONDAY EVENING

Sr. Ella Mae is in need of additional teachers to assist at Monday evening Religious Education sessions. Please contact her at the parish office to discuss further. Thank you.



The Catholic Church of St. Ann

EDIFY Transcript, Carter Snead. Watch his video presentation at https://edify.us/video/the-supreme-court-abortion/

The Supreme Court & Abortion

The Supreme Court has corrected previous mistakes. It's rare. Is it nearing a correction of its cases which granted a so-called "right" to abortion?

One of the Courts' most public reversals was in 1954. The case, Brown vs. Board of Education, overruled the precedent for 58 years that had allowed states to engage in "separate but equal" discrimination on the basis of race. It was a shameful practice. Yet it took courage for those justices at the time to overturn the judgment of their predecessors.

In May 2021, the Court made a decision that pro-life Americans hope will begin a process to overturn its major decisions on Abortion: Roe v. Wade in 1973 and Planned Parenthood v. Casey in 1992. Given the high attention on abortion cases, it's unlikely the Court would have granted to hear the Mississippi case, Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization, without some initial sense of where the nine justices stood on the question they agreed to hear, which is whether all restrictions prior to the baby's viability are unconstitutional. Viability is generally acknowledged to be at 22 weeks by the most common metric used to date pregnancies.

Because the Court's controlling precedents on abortion forbid the elected branches of government from "unduly burdening" a woman's freedom to choose abortion prior to viability, and because this law categorically bans abortion prior to viability, this case presents a stark choice. Either affirm the Court's misguided and destructive abortion jurisprudence or affirm this modest law's constitutionality. There is no middle position consistent with intellectual honesty and integrity. The Court may be tempted to invent yet another constitutionally unjustified regulatory scheme for abortion, but this would be unwise, unjust, and contrary to the rule of law and the role of the Court.

What led legally to this moment?

The right to abortion has no grounding in the text or history of the United States Constitution or the American legal tradition. The Court in Roe and Casey tried to locate the right to abortion in the Due Process Clause of the 14th Amendment, which provides that no person shall be deprived of life, liberty or property without due process of law. The 14th Amendment was ratified in 1868 in order to provide fairness and the equal protection of the law to persons who had previously and disgracefully been denied these rights in America. At the time, abortion was illegal nearly everywhere, and no one imagined that the 14th Amendment nullified the authority of states to protect unborn children.

That is, until roughly 100 years later, when the Supreme Court in Roe announced that 14th Amendment's promise of due "process" guaranteed an implicit, unwritten, "substantive" right to privacy that included a fundamental right to abortion, thus strictly limiting state authority to regulate the procedure according to a complex (and entirely fabricated) trimester-based framework.

Later, the Court in Casey significantly modified the rule and rationale of Roe, but to date it has still refused to uphold the constitutionality of any restriction on abortion as such. Instead, the Court has permitted only very minor side constraints, such as informed consent, waiting periods and mandatory parental involvement and bans on particularly grisly and controversial procedures such as "partial-birth abortion." Accordingly, the United States has one of the most permissive legal regimes for abortion in the world—we are one of only a handful of nations that permits elective abortions after 20 weeks gestation. [1]

States remain confused about the scope of their authority, given

the muddled status of abortion jurisprudence, and any restriction on abortion becomes tied up in years-long litigation before it receives an ultimate answer from the Supreme Court.

Roe and Casey have been corrosive of the rule of law, and the separation of powers, because it blurs the distinction between interpreting and making law, confusing the roles of judge and legislator. It has badly damaged our politics, transforming every presidential and Senate election, along with every judicial confirmation hearing, into a zero-sum battle for control of the Supreme Court. And the Roe/Casey jurisprudence has recently been applied by the lower courts to preclude the embracing of even very modest and popular restrictions on abortion, such as the law at issue in Dobbs, which bans abortion after 15 weeks. Indeed, a recent poll suggested majority support for abortion bans starting at six-weeks' gestation. [2]

The human toll of America's abortion jurisprudence has been staggering. Since 1973, there have been over 60 million abortions—more than the combined populations of California and New York. These abortions have disproportionately been performed on the poor and women of color. In the Bronx, for example, more than 50 percent of pregnancies end in abortion.

It is long past time for the Supreme Court to right this grievous wrong. Back in 1954, the justices in Brown did not flinch in the face of withering political criticism and the assertions by some that a reversal of precedent would disrupt entire educational systems that relied on racial segregation. We hope that today's justices do likewise and keep faith with their oaths to impartially interpret the Constitution by overturning Roe and Casey.

I'm Carter Snead, Professor of Law and the director of the de Nicola Center for Ethics and Culture at the University of Notre Dame, for EDIFY.

- [1] The other countries are Canada, China, North Korea, Singapore, the Netherlands, Taiwan and Vietnam. Original source: <u>How does U.S. abortion law compare to other countries?</u>
- [2] Sheffield, Matthew. (2019, June 12). <u>Poll: Majority thinks fetal heartbeat abortion bans aren't too restrictive</u>. The Hill.



Third Sunday of Advent — December 12, 2021

Mass Intentions

Monday, December 13 -Feast of Saint Lucy

7:00 pm Living and Deceased Members of the Knights

of Columbus;

Erlinda Magat Arciga by her family

Tuesday, December 14

7:00 am Special Intention for Caterina Fusca in honor of St. Lucy

Wednesday, December 15

7:00 am Paul Crandall by his family

Thursday, December 16

7:00 am Brian Hawkins by Patty Bliss and Joann Lovering

Fríday, December 17

Saturday, December 18

9:00 am Margherita Cugliari by her daughter, Caterina

Fusca

4:00 pm Maryjane and Bill Galvacky by Cindy and

Chuck Galvacky

Sunday, December 19 -Fourth Sunday of Advent

7:30 am Joseph and Rose Sansone by their children

and family

10:00 am Intentions of the Ronca Family

12:00 pm Natale and Graham Families by Filomena

Graham and family

5:00 pm People of the Parish

This Week's Daily Bible Readings

Sunday	Wednesday	
Zep 3:14-18a; Phil 4:4-7;	Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21c-25;	
Lk 3:10-18	Lk 7:18b-23	

MondayThursdayNm 24:2-7, 15-17a;Is 54:1-10; Lk 7:24-30

Mt 21:23-27

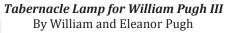
Friday
Tuesday Gn 49:2, 8-10; Mt 1:1-17

Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Mt 21:28-32

Saturday

Jer 23:5-8; Mt 1:18-25

Weekly Candle, Lamp and Flower Intentions





St. Joseph Lamp for Natalie Zaman
By her mother

Help Aging Religious

Elderly Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests have offered their lives in service to others—educating the young, comforting the sick, and ministering to the less fortunate. Today, many are frail and need assistance. Your gift to the **Retirement Fund for Religious** helps furnish medications, nursing care, and more. Please be generous to today's second collection.

Parishioner Financial Support

THANK YOU to all who help support the operation and ministry of St. Ann parish. All are encouraged to contribute using

either envelopes or through WeShare Online Giving. We are also certainly grateful to all who drop off or mail their contribution. WeShare is a convenient and effective and signing up is easy. Simply go to the parish website and click on this icon and set up your personal account. Call the parish office if you need assistance.

Give Online with WeShare

Contributions from December 4 weekend

Offertory Contributions	\$	7,777
WeShare Contributions	\$	3,551
Total for Parish Operation	\$ 1	11,328
DOM Other	\$	34
St. Ann Catholic Academy	\$	1.000

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

SOCIAL CONCERNS

- We are **collecting frozen turkeys and hams** to give at Christmas to 25 parish and local families. If you would like to donate, please contact Christine at the parish office at 908-725-1008 press#1, then#6.
- If you have not returned your **Giving Tree gift**, please do so as soon as possible.

Pray for those who are Sick in our Community

Joseph Arena	Frank Forte	Jim McGuinness
Joanmarie Carlone	Cindy Galvacky	Edward J. McNamara
Anna Carra	Gambino Family	Wilfredo Medina III
John Carrick	Maria Rosa Gasparro	Andrea Michaels
Bruno Cirianni	Susan H.	Lidia Natale
Frank Cirianni	Bernadette Healy	Ann Navatto
Mary Contino	Anthony Hughes	Victor Rangel
Jerry Costanzo	Brianna Rose Larson	Marie Richardson
Maria Anastasia	Franco Lopreiato	Deborah Scarpone
D'Amore	Michael Lynch	Charalena Sena
Michael D'Angelo	Antonio, Alice & Lisa	Cathy Stinziano
Roseann Danna	Magdamit	Patricia Tibaldi
Josephine DiPiazza	Mark Marshall	Saverio Todarello
John Falco	Giovanna Martini	Emanuel Valentin
Mary Felice	Susan Maurice	Ron Wyka
•		•

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
Force

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
SPC4 Joshua Sena U.S. Army
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

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