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Sr. Ella Mae McDonald, MPF Dir. of Religious Education Sr. Charlyne Greene, MPF Community Support

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Email: info@stannparish.com

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

Fri. 8 am St. Joseph 12:15 pm Shrine First Fridays

7 pm Holy Trinity **7pm 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
Friday, 11-12noon Shrine of Bl. Sac.

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Transfiguration of the Lord — August 6, 2023

Stewardship Reflection on the Lectionary Readings DN 7: 9-10, 13-14; PS 97: 1-2, 5-6, 9; 2 PT 1: 16-19; MT 17: 1-9

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord. According to most Catholic scholars and theologians, the Transfiguration is the culminating point of the Lord's public life. His Baptism is considered to be the starting point of that public life, and the Ascension is the end. Our Gospel Reading today, which reports this event, is from the Book of Matthew. However, the Transfiguration is also reported in Mark and Luke, and St. Peter refers to it in one of his letters, and by St. John as well.

Naturally, Peter and John would allude to the Transfiguration as they (along with St. James) witnessed it. Jesus took the three Apostles and led them to a "high mountain" where He was transfigured before their eyes. The mountain is never directly identified, but tradition has ascertained it to be Mt. Thabor. Of course, it is not the mountain but what occurred there that is important. In the original Greek from today's Gospel St. Matthew uses the Greek word metemorphe ($\mu\epsilon\tau\alpha\mu\rho\rho\phi\omega$) to describe the Transfiguration. It means "a complete change of form, structure, or substance." Most of us are familiar with the term metamorphosis, the word used to describe what occurs when a caterpillar becomes a butterfly.

However, the Transfiguration is something beyond that. Jesus allows the three Apostles who were present (as well as those of us who hear the Word) to view what eternal life in heaven is like. Christ's divinity is on full display. To use Matthew's words, "His face shone like the sun and His clothes became white as light."

Our First Reading from the Book of Daniel contains almost the same description as that found in the Gospel. The prophet Daniel describes what will occur as follows: "His clothing was bright as snow, and the hair on his head as white as wool." As if that prophecy was not enough, Daniel takes it to the next step by going on to say, "One like a Son of man coming, on the clouds of heaven."

The term Son of Man is one that Jesus was most likely to use in indication of Himself. Seeing it in a prophecy, and especially one which is so clearly the Transfiguration merely more closely associates Jesus with the Transfiguration which is to come and described so perfectly in the New Testament.

In our Second Reading from St. Peter's Second Letter the Apostle Peter also alludes to the Transfiguration. Peter writes, "...we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty...when that unique declaration came to him from majestic glory, 'This is my Son, my beloved, with whom I am well pleased.' We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven while we were with him (Jesus) on the holy mountain."

Those words from God are reported quite accurately in our Gospel Reading from St. Matthew, but this is Peter repeating them. You can almost sense Peter remembering the experience clearly. At the time Peter mistakenly placed Jesus as an equal to Moses and Elijah at the Transfiguration, and this was the way God made it quite plain to Peter that this was not the case. This may have been a rebuke to Peter, but now it is a valuable memory to him.

The Transfiguration was not a different miracle; it was part of an ongoing miracle. Perhaps the real miracle was that Jesus kept away from displaying His glory most of the time. When the three apostles present became aware of the full divinity of Jesus, it is reported that "They fell prostrate and were very much afraid." Is that how we react when we become aware of the presence of God? Are we a bit fearful?

Knowing God, appreciating God, and embracing God should give us confidence. God's grace is amazing, and that needs to be our reality. Remember that Jesus is on His way to crucifixion and temporary death. We are on that same path, but the Transfiguration is a reminder to us of the hope we have in the saving grace of the Lord.

- Catholic Stewardship Consultants

PLEASE NOTE: TUESDAY, AUGUST 15 is a HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION, the SOLEMNITY of the ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Our usual Holy Day Mass schedule is **7am and 7pm**. We do not have a Vigil Mass for Holy Days at St. Ann's.

There will NOT be a 7pm Mass on Monday, August 14. We will not have the usual Monday evening Mass.

Holy Trinity Church is having a Vigil Mass on Monday, August 14 at 7pm.

FAREWELL AND PRAYERS FOR SISTER CHARLYNE GREENE, MPF

Sister Charlyne's last weekend with us at St. Ann's is this weekend, August 5/6. Sister has been reassigned to St. Thomas Convent in Southington, CT.

We are thankful for all the support Sr. Charlyne provided preparing teens who received the sacraments of initiation this past Easter season. Grateful for her loving presence, please pray for Sr. Charlyne as she faces this new transition. May God continue to bless and guide her.

Thank You!

I could shout the words from the highest mountain for all the world to hear.

I could paint the words across the moon for all the world to see.

I could cast the words in bronze for all the world to feel.

But, however I proclaim my thanks, there is no way to fully show how grateful I am!

May the Lord bless all of you with His abundant graces!

Love and Prayers Sr. Charlyne Greene, MPF

After 23 years of service to the people of God in Raritan area, Sister Dolores Toscano, MPF, is retiring from her role as Pastoral Associate at St. Ann Parish. Sister Dolores has faithfully and generously ministered to the homebound, bringing the comfort of the Eucharist and the balm of friendship to the lonely and sometimes forgotten. She has meticulously tended to the altar linens, mended vestments and performed countless acts of charity. Sister knows and believes that as God loves us, so must we love one another.

Please join in thanking God and Sister Dolores for the faithful witness she has provided to our community these many years. Bishop James Checchio will be celebrating the 12 noon Mass on August 27. A reception in the school cafeteria will follow Mass to give everyone an opportunity to thank Sr. Dolores and to say good bye. Sister will be moving to the local Mother House of the Filippini Sisters in Morristown.

The Catholic Church of St. Ann



Stress In Your Marriage? Do you feel lost, alone or bored in your marriage? Are you frustrated, hurt or angry with your spouse? Have you thought about separation or divorce? Does talking about it only make it worse?

RETROUVAILLE is a Lifeline to Help Couples Heal and Renew their Marriages, sponsored by the Diocesan Office of Family Life. It consists of a weekend experience for married couples (no group discussions) with six follow-up sessions. The upcoming weekend is August 18-20, 2023. All inquiries are confidential.

For further information, please contact Rich Colasuonno, 732-236-0671 or Annette Colasuonno 732-672-0748 or email 3024@helpourmarriage.org.

Silver & Gold Wedding Anniversary Celebration

The diocesan church cordially invites couples celebrating their 25th or 50th wedding anniversaries in 2023 to attend the Silver and Gold Anniversary Prayer Service with Bishop F. Checchio on Sunday, October 22, 2023 at 3:00 PM at the Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi, 548 Main Street, Metuchen, New Jersey.

Registration is required to attend the Prayer Service.

Registration will close by October 6, 2023.

Please register online at: https://www.diometuchen.org/silverand-gold-anniversary-celebration. If you are unable to access, please contact the Family Life Office at 732-562-1543 or amarshall@diometuchen.org.

Registration will close on October 6, 2023. Although no fee is required, in the past many Jubilarian couples have given a donation of gratitude to the Church in memory of this special occasion.

2023 Bishop's Annual Appeal Renewed and Sent on Mission by the Eucharist

Thank you to all who have given so generously to the 2023 Bishop's Annual Appeal. If you have not made a pledge, there is still time to participate. Mail your gift to: Diocese of Metuchen, Bishop's Annual Appeal, PO Box 4000, Metuchen, NJ 08840-4000 or give online at https://diometuchen.org/ BAA.

Status of St. Ann's BAA	As of July 28
Goal:	\$63,000.00
Total Pledged & Received:	\$80,803.63
Amount Received:	\$79,393.88
Over/(Under) Goal:	\$17,803.63
Percent of Goal Pledged:	128.26%
Percent of Goal Received:	126.02%
Average Gift Amount:	\$402.01

A NOTE OF THANKS FROM SR. COLETTE Dear Father Tom and Members of St. Ann's Parish,

Thank you for your welcome and hospitality while I was with you on the weekend of July 22-23 to share a bit of the missionary outreach of the Sisters of Charity of Seton Hill. Our Sisters in Korea, China and Ecuador are grateful for your generosity which enables them to minister to those needing care and kindness.

I am also grateful to the Sisters at the convent for their invitation to stay with them on the weekend.

Please know that all of our Sisters, those on special missions, as well as all the rest of us in the congregation, will be lifting you in prayer for your own special intentions. I will be particularly mindful of you and your prayerful celebration of the liturgy.

With grateful prayer,

Sister Colette Hanlon, S.C.

Sister Colette Hanlon, S.C. chanlon@scsh.org CC: Sr. Kwangshim Oh myhopeci@gmail.com

(About \$4,000 was given to the Sisters of Charity through this year's Mission Cooperative Program. God bless you!)

Saint Ann Regional Marriage Apostolate

Date Night for a Joyful Marriage

Feasts of the Angels Saturday September 30, 2023 6:30 - 9:00 PM

Inviting couples who are dating, engaged, newlywed or married several years.

SAVE THE DATE

Dinner & Dessert, BYOB. \$35.00 per couple The Catholic Church of St. Ann 45 Anderson Street, Raritan, NJ. 08869 Church Meeting Room RSVP to: 908-725-1008 Ext # 6 (Christine)



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Transfiguration of the Lord — August 6, 2023

Mass Intentions

Monday, August 7

7:00 pm Living and Deceased Members of the Cammarata Family by Lena Cammarata:

Pasquale Suriano by his children and

grandchildren; and

Maria Gasparro by the Rocciolo Family

Tuesday, August 8

7:00 am Robert M. Keating Sr. by Sophie and Chester

Wednesday, August 9

7:00 am Living and Deceased Members of the Cammarata Family by Lena Cammarata

Thursday, August 10 Feast of St. Lawrence

7:00 am Antonio and Rosina Viscariello by their daughter Clementina

Friday, August 11

Saturday, August 12

9:00 am Claudette Jannone by Jack and Dorothy Filep 4:00 pm Josephine Fortktus by her husband and sons

Sunday, August 13

7:30 am People of the Parish

10:00 am Virginia Stevens by Michael and Tina DiFabio 12:00 pm Antonio Gasparro by his wife Maria Rose and

children

5:00 pm Diane Elizabeth Whelan by Bridget Lawn

This Week's Daily Bible Readings

Sunday

Dn 7:9-10, 13-14; 2 Pt 1:16-19: Mt 17:1-9

Monday

Nm 11:4b-15; Mt 14:13-21

Tuesday

Nm 12:1-13; Mt 14:22-36

Wednesday

Nm 13:1-2, 25-14:1, 26-29a, 34-35: Mt 15:21-28

Thursday

2 Cor 9:6-10; Jn 12:24-26

Friday

Dt 4:32-40; Mt 16:24-28

Saturday

Dt 6:4-13; Mt 17:14-20

Weekly Candle, Lamp and Flower Intentions

Tabernacle Lamp for the living and deceased Members of the Cammarata Family







Altar Flowers in honor of Sr. Dolores on her 97th Birthday by the Rosary Altar Society

August Virtual Family Rosary

The Office of Family Life is sponsoring a virtual rosary for engaged/married couples and children on August 7th and August 21st at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom. Please contact Cristina at cdaverso@diometuchen.org for details and link information.

Parishioner Financial Support

THANK YOU to all who help support the operation and ministry of St. Ann parish. Whether by envelope, by mail or by online giving, your contributions are essential & appreciated.

WeShare online giving is encouraged because of of its ease of use, consistency in support and flexibility. It is easy to sign up. Simply go to the parish Give Online website and click on this icon and set up your personal account. Call the parish office if you need assistance.

with WeShare

Contributions info from the weekend of July 30:

Offertory Contributions \$ 5,184 **WeShare Offertory Contributions** \$ 2,250 **Total for Parish Operation** \$ 7,434 **SACA Day of Giving** \$ 2.125 **Additional Mission Co-op** \$ 42

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

REGISTER NOW FOR ST. ANN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

All Religious Education Faith Formation Information and Registration Forms can be found on our parish website: stannparish.com. Look under "St. Ann Faith Formation' and "Faith Formation Info & Forms". Contact Sister Ella Mae at the Parish Office for more assistance or questions.

Pray for those in the Military

Victor Dulay, Jr; U.S. Marine Corps Pvt. Brennan Gasway; U.S. Army AIC Olivia F. Geary, U.S. Air Force **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 Mai Michael Morella: U.S. Army Sgt Dan Neville; U.S. Marine Corps

Zack Orecchio: U.S. Navv Pvt Tayla Rasmusson; U.S. Marine Corps PFC Daniel J. Salvo; U.S. Marine Corps Col Jonathan Schultes: U.S. Marine Coros SPC4 Joshua Sena ILS, Army LtCol Louis P. Simon; U.S. Marine Corps **PFC Jerome C. Sunga**; U.S. Army Jack Vara; U.S. Marine Corps Col Daniel Viscariello: U.S. Marine Coros Sgt Janet Wyka; U.S. Army TSgt Anthony John O'Connor; U.S. Air Force Capt Kaitlyn Zimmitti; U.S. Air Force

Pray for those who are Sick in our Community

Joseph Arena Vitangelo Bavaro Joanmarie Carlone Bruno Cirianni Mary Contino Jerry Costanzo Maria Anastasia D'Amore Michael D'Angelo Roseann Danna Iosephine DiPiazza Iohn Falco Frank Forte Cindy Galvacky Gambino Family Marilyn Harris Susan H.

Bernadette Healy **Anthony Hughes** Laura Karg Brianna Rose Larson Michael Lynch Antonio, Alice & Lisa Magdamit Mark Marshall Giovanna Martini Lella Mathews Pina Mattei Susan Maurice Iim McGuinness Edward J. McNamara

Wilfredo Medina III

Jovce Melitsky

Andrea Michaels

Lidia Natale Victor Rangel Danilo & Sanbeda Santos Nancy Scafuto Deborah Scarpone Cathy Stinziano Patricia Tibaldi Saverio Todarello Luisito Tolentino Ienny Troisi Lou Troisi **Emanuel Valentin** Ron Wyka

John Michaels



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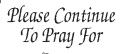


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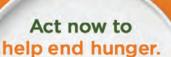
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