

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., Parish Pastor

todorizzi@stannparish.com

**Mrs. Marisa Day, Head of School,
St. Ann Classical Academy, PreK-8**

Discover the difference a Catholic Classical education makes.

St. Ann
Classical Academy



St. Ann Classical Academy

40 Second Avenue,
Raritan, NJ 08869

Telephone: 908-725-7787

Website: stannclassical.org

Facebook: [stannclassicalacademy](https://www.facebook.com/stannclassicalacademy)

Call to schedule an appointment or in-person tour.

Or email [<kalbright@stannparish.com>](mailto:kalbright@stannparish.com)

The Lord's Day Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil:

4:00 pm St. Joseph Church
5:00 pm Holy Trinity

Sunday:

7:30 am **St. Ann Church**
7:30 am St. Joseph Church (Spanish)
9:00 am St. Joseph Church (English)
10:30 am **St. Ann Church**
10:30 am Holy Trinity Church
10:30 am Shrine of Blessed Sacrament (Latin)
12:00 pm **St. Ann Church**
12:00 pm St. Joseph Church (Spanish)
5:00 pm **St. Ann Church**

Weekday Mass Schedule

Monday through Friday

8:00 am **St. Ann Church**
12:15 pm Shrine of Blessed Sacrament (English)

Fridays

7:00 pm Holy Trinity Church

Saturdays

9:00 am **St. Ann Church**

First Saturdays

9:00 am Shrine of Blessed Sacrament (Latin)

Holy Day Mass Schedule

7:00 pm Vigil St. Joseph Church (English)
8:00 am **St. Ann Church**
12:15 pm Shrine of Blessed Sacrament English)
12:15 pm Holy Trinity Church
7:00 pm **St. Ann Church**
7:00 pm Shrine of Blessed Sacrament (Latin)
7:00 pm St. Joseph Church (Spanish)

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.
—or by appointment		

Parish Office Staff

Deacon Sal Bonfiglio,	<i>Business Administrator</i>
Mrs. Christine Esposito,	<i>Social Ministry, Office Support</i>
Mr. Lou Falconeri,	<i>Plant Manager</i>
Sr. Ella Mae McDonald, MPF	<i>Dir. of Religious Education</i>
Mr. Anthony Nardino	<i>Dir. of Liturgy & Sacred Music</i>
Ms. Barbara Russell,	<i>Administrative Assistant</i>

Permanent Deacons

Deacon Roy Rabinowitz

Community of Religious Teachers of St. Lucy Filippini

Sr. Phyllis Vella, MPF	<i>Superior</i>
Sr. Ella Mae McDonald, MPF	<i>Dir. of Religious Education</i>

*Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 28, 2024*



Stewardship Reflection on Lectionary Readings

DT 18:15-20; PS 95:1-2, 6-7, 7-9; 1 COR 7:32-35; MK 1:21-28

Our readings today remind us of God's authority.

As we reflect on our Gospel, we recognize that God possesses all authority and that we want to give Him all authority. Jesus was teaching in the synagogue on the Sabbath. All were fixed on His words and astonished at what He had to say. Suddenly everyone's attention shifted to a man with an unclean spirit who began to question Jesus and His authority. Jesus responded, "Quiet, come out of him!" and removed the evil spirit from the man. All were amazed at the healing of this man.

Life can sometimes look like the synagogue in Capernaum. We are living as disciples of Christ when we suddenly recognize evil around us — through events in our lives, temptations we are enduring, or by falling into sin. It can distract us, consume our attention, or even cause us to despair. In these moments of trial, we must remember the Healer in our Gospel today. Recall His words, "Quiet, come out of Him!" Jesus has the power and authority over evil, for He has conquered sin and death. He also has the power and authority over us. And when we invite Him to have that authority, He will heal us and help us persevere.

Today, we are reminded that God is in control and that we want Him to be in control. He is the loving Healer Who will work miracles in our lives if we give Him the authority to do so.

— Catholic Stewardship Consultants, www.CatholicSteward.com

February 2 (February 3-4 in parishes) 2024:

World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life on the Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord

Please join in praying for our clergy and those in consecrated life. We would appreciate your prayers also for discerners to the priesthood as well as to a life of vowed consecration.

For more information on the World Day for Consecrated Life from USCCB:

<https://www.usccb.org/committees/clergy-consecrated-life-vocations/world-day-consecrated-life>



**St. Ann's Italian Festa
June 20 - June 22, 2024
(Thursday-Saturday)**

It is time to step forward and get involved to make the Festa a great success! The recent Restart the Festa dinner raised \$10,000, which was needed to repair critical pieces of kitchen equipment. However, in the last few years, we have lost some volunteers that were integral. Volunteers are needed each morning in the kitchen as well as during the evening hours. The games and food service areas need staffing. No prior experience is necessary, just your enthusiasm. Planning meetings and fundraising are underway, and now is the time to participate to make Festa 2024 happen.

Contact Jim Wilson at jwi3304440@aol.com with your name and email address if you are interested and able. We will add you to the contact list for upcoming meetings.

Come spend time with Jesus...

*in Prayer,
Reflection,
Vocation Discernment...*



Who: Young women ages 16 - 30

Place: Villa Walsh, Morristown, New Jersey

Date: Friday, February 2, at 7 p.m. through Sunday, February 4, 2024, ending at 2 p.m.

Contact: Sr. Helen Sanchez, M.P.F.

hsanchez444@hotmail.com by January 29, 2024

**Curious about
Classical Education?**



**JOIN US FOR OUR OPEN HOUSE
& PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

January 28, 2024

9:00am-2:00pm*

40 Second Avenue

Raritan, NJ 08869

*Pancake Breakfast in school cafeteria 9-10:30am

*Mass on campus at St. Ann Parish 10:30am

*Open House, campus tours & meet and greet will take place following Mass from 11:30am-2:00pm

**Can't make the Sunday Open House?
Join us on a Wednesday** instead!**

Tours available:

Wednesday, January 17 – 9AM – 11AM

Wednesday, January 24 – 9AM – 11AM

Wednesday, January 31 – 9AM – 11AM

**Registration required in advance. Call 908-725-7787 or Visit stannclassical.org/open-house to book your tour today!



St. Ann Classical Academy: The Only Classical School in the Diocese of Metuchen



SOCIAL CONCERNS MINISTRY

Monthly Food Drive Collection is next weekend.

Non-perishable food items can be left in a container at the church entrance. The need is great so thank you for generously donating. If you have any questions about the Social Concerns Ministry, please contact Christine at the Parish Office at 908-725-1008 press 1, then 6.



Catholic Schools
United in Faith and Community



Catholic Schools
United in Faith and Community



Catholic Schools
United in Faith and Community



Catholic Schools
United in Faith and Community



Catholic Schools
United in Faith and Community



Catholic Schools
United in Faith and Community

#OurPurpose OurSchools

**The Diocese of Metuchen
celebrates Catholic Schools Week 2024**

Since 1974, National Catholic Schools Week is the annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States. It starts the last Sunday in January and runs all week, which in 2024 is January 28 – February 3. The theme for National Catholic Schools Week 2024 is “Catholic Schools: United in Faith and Community.” Schools typically observe the annual celebration week with Masses, open houses and other activities for students, families, parishioners and community members. Through these events, schools focus on the value Catholic education provides to young people and its contributions to our church, our communities and our nation.

**Learn more about Catholic Education
in the Diocese of Metuchen by visiting
www.diometuchen.org/csw**



Contact the Office of Schools at schools@diometuchen.org

Catholic schools remain a bright light in dismal academic forecast

By Mary Morrell, Editor-in-Chief

In spite of the challenges encountered during the three-year health crisis of COVID-19, "Catholic schools have continued the legacy that has characterized Catholic education: academic excellence, a strong partnership with parents, a sense of community and a faith-filled education for students nationwide," reports the National Catholic Educational Association.

Their recent data brief notes that, with the 2022-2023 school year Catholic school enrollment increase (0.3%) which maintains a national two-year trend, Catholic schools continue to attract and retain new students, supporting their academic, spiritual and mental health.

Academically, the merits of Catholic schools continue to be evident in scores from the National Assessment of Educational Progress, known as the "Nation's Report Card," which show noticeable achievement for Catholic schools in a post-COVID-19 environment compared to schools in both the public and private sectors which have suffered steep declines in math and reading at both grades assessed – grades 4 and 8.

A recently released NAEP Long-Term Trend assessment report reveals a continuing decline for public schools with average math scores for 13-year-old students falling nine points between 2020-2023. Reading scores fell by four points. For 9-year-old students who were administered the LTT assessments in 2022, scores dropped by seven points in math and five points in reading.

The same LTT assessment showed 13-year-old students in Catholic schools outpacing their public-school counterparts by 20 points in math and 21 points in reading. There were no results for 9-year-old Catholic school students as sample size was insufficient.

Since the 1970s, the NAEP has monitored student performance in math and reading through long-term trend (LTT) assessments across three age levels, 9-, 13-, and 17-year-old students. While usually administered every four years, with the last being

administered in 2020, the National Center for Educational Statistics decided to administer the assessment ahead of schedule for students ages 9 and 13 to provide data on post-pandemic student performance.

When the first national study of the pandemic's impact on learning was released, the 2022 NAEP results (unrelated to LTT assessments) showed that Catholic schools had done remarkably well in mitigating learning loss resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic and related challenges while revealing an unprecedented decline in average scores for public school students coming out of the pandemic.

Comparing results from 2019 and 2022, the main NAEP indicated reading and math scores declined in public and charter schools for grades 4 and 8 for the majority of states. Average national reading scores reverted to 1992 levels, and math scores had the most significant declines ever recorded for that subject.

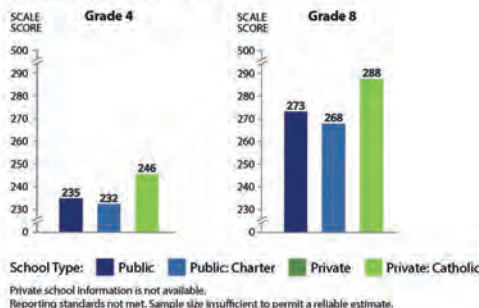
In contrast, Catholic schools showed a slight increase (1 point) in 8th-grade reading and maintained levels for 4th-grade math at achievement levels already higher than public schools. Catholic schools saw declines in 8th grade math and 4th-grade reading, though declines were less than those in public and charter schools.

In a 2021 article in America Magazine, Kathy Mears, then-interim president and chief executive officer of the National Catholic Educational Association acknowledged, "Catholic schools have placed students first in the teaching and learning processes. We have continued to orient these endeavors toward the pursuit of beauty, truth and goodness in the person of Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit is at work, breathing life and fostering renewal in the souls of the young people entrusted to our care. It is through this unique and blessed devotion and service to God's people that generations will be transformed."

To read more about student achievement visit nationsreportcard.gov. Go to Dashboards to access Catholic school information. Go to Reports to access highlights or full reports of various assessments.

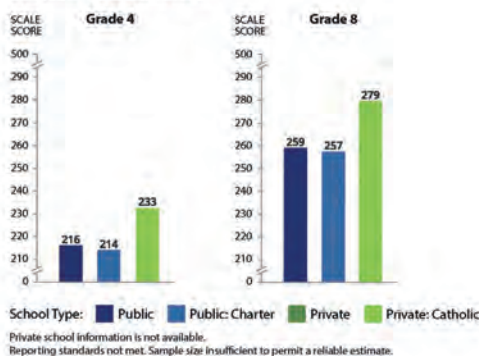
Average scores in NAEP Mathematics

for all students, by grade and type of school:
2022 (grade 4) and 2022 (grade 8).

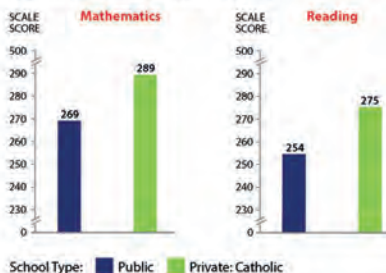


Average scores in NAEP Reading

for all students, by grade and type of school:
2022 (grade 4) and 2022 (grade 8).



Average scale scores for age 13 long-term trend by public or nonpublic school, 2023, National



NOTE: The NAEP Long-Term Trend Mathematics scale ranges from 0 to 500. Some apparent differences between estimates may not be statistically significant.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), 2023 Long-Term Trend Mathematics Assessment.



Students in St. Augustine of Canterbury School, Kendall Park, are using the 5 "C's" of the Engineering Process: Creativity, Communication, Critical Thinking, Collaboration, and Curiosity to guide Ozobot robots through a maze using color codes – short sequences of color used to teach basic coding concepts, from cause-and-effect to debugging. —Photo courtesy St. Augustine FB page

**CATHOLIC SCHOOL 2024-2025
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 online now through the FACTS Grant and Aid Assessment at

<https://online.factsmgt.com/aid>.

Online applications must be completed (including all required documentation) by **no later than March 31, 2024**.

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.

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)



***Date Night for a
Joyful Marriage***

**Saturday February 10, 2024
6:30-9pm**

St. Ann Regional Marriage Apostolate invites dating or engaged couples, newly or "recently" wed couples, to celebrate the gift of each other and the call of covenant love, and ***World Marriage Day!***

Guest Speakers, Francis & Marsha Asprey, will present their faith testimony of courtship, engagement and the adventure of early married life.

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)

Weekly Candle, Lamp and Flower Intentions



Blessed Mother Lamp for Angelo Bavaro
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ANNETTE COLASUONNO @ 732-672-0748
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**ANNOUNCING AN
UPCOMING RETROUVAILLE
WEEKEND FOR
COUPLES**

**FEBRUARY 2 -4,
2024**

**Is your marriage going
down the right road . . .
or is it a little off track?**

Life can be difficult, and so can the challenges you face in marriage.

Does the distance between you seem wide? Are you already separated? Looking for a better way? Retrouvaille can help and offers hope for a better relationship. Retrouvaille is a peer ministry of volunteer couples that can help you learn the tools of healthy communication, build intimacy and heal, just as they have done in their own marriages. Retrouvaille is Christian-based, and Catholic in origin, but welcomes couples of all faiths as well as non-religious couples. Retrouvaille can help get your relationship back on track.

Alcoholics Anonymous

Holy Trinity Church hosts closed weekly A.A. meetings on Saturday mornings from 10 A.M. to 11 A.M. in the church basement "TV room."

A.A. Hotline: If you want to stop drinking and need to speak to someone dial 1-908-687-8566 24 hours a day/7 days a week.

**ARE YOU BEING CALLED
TO THE DIACONATE?**

The Diocese is looking for Spanish-speaking or bilingual men who are interested in becoming Deacons. A new diaconate formation class is about to begin. Applications for that class will be accepted this Spring; prior to applying, interested men must attend an Information Meeting.

Information Meetings will be held at the St. John Neumann Pastoral Center in Piscataway on Wednesday, January 31, 2024 at 7:00 PM and again on Saturday, February 3, 2024 at 10:00 AM. If you are between the ages of 35 and 60, and you believe you are being called to this ministry, you, your wife and your pastor are cordially invited to attend one of these meetings.

If you have any questions, or wish to advise that you will attend, please contact the Diocesan Diaconate Office at (732) 562-2457 or diaconate@diometuchen.org.

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time — January 28, 2024

Mass Intentions

Monday, January 29

8:00 am Domenico Natale by Caterina and Saverio Todarello

Tuesday, January 30

8:00 am John and Bernice Giramma by Sr. Ella Mae McDonald

Wednesday, January 31

8:00 am Rufino Faller by Efren and Jasmine Caraos

Thursday, February 1

8:00 am Living and Deceased Members of the Cammarata Family by Lena Cammarata

Friday, February 2

8:00 am Nicola DiBetta by Biagio and Maria Laurito

Saturday, February 3

9:00 am Sr. Blaise Miller RSM, First Anniversary, by Harold and Jacqueline D'Alessio

Sunday, February 4

7:30 am Giuliana Natale by her family
10:30 am Living and Deceased Members of the Rosary Altar Society
12:00 pm Loretta Basilone by Kathy, Linda and Bill Basilone
5:00 pm People of the Parish

This Week's Daily Bible Readings

Sunday	Wednesday
Dt 18:15-20; 1 Cor 7:32-35; Mk 1:21-28	2 Sm 24:2, 9-17; Mk 6:1-6
Monday	Thursday
2 Sm 15:13-14, 30, 16:5-13; Mk 5:1-20	1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12; Mk 6:7-13
Tuesday	Friday
2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30-19:3; Mk 5:21-43	Mal 3:1-4; Heb 2:14-18; Lk 2:22-40
	Saturday
	1 Kgs 3:4-13; Mk 6:30-34

2024 Bishop's Annual Appeal STAY WITH US, LORD:

Renew our Hearts and Send Us on Mission

Please watch your mailbox for a letter from Bishop Checchio coming to you this week announcing the 2024 Bishop's Annual Appeal. Our parish can share in a successful Appeal by earning a rebate of 50% of the amount collected over goal.

Through your support of the Bishop's Annual Appeal you help those in our diocese whose needs are the greatest—the poor, the homeless, and those struggling with illness or grief. Among other needed pastoral ministries, your gift also supports the formation of seminarians and many other vital services. The many pastoral, educational and charitable ministries of the Diocese of Metuchen would not be possible without a generous contribution from every household. Please be as generous as your means allow.

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 and appreciated.

WeShare online giving is encouraged because of its ease of use, consistency in support and flexibility. Sign-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

Contribution information the for weekend of January 21:

Offertory Contributions	\$ 4,160
WeShare Offertory Contributions	\$ 2,647
Santo Nino	\$ 667
Total for Parish Operation	\$ 7,484
Foundation for Catholic Education	\$ 881

St. Ann Classical Academy is registering children for the 2024-2025 academic year.

Consider your children's future and what they will need to live in the world with confidence and hope. Will they have a firm sense of their human dignity and of their identity as one of God's beloved children? Will their knowledge of academic subjects coincide with an understanding of the purpose and goal of their knowledge? Will they appreciate God's presence and gift in all that is beautiful, true and good?

Consider St. Ann Classical Academy
when making plans for the next school year.

Pray for those in the Military

Victor Dulay, Jr. , U.S. Marine Corps	Zack Drecchio , U.S. Navy
Pvt Brennan Gasway , U.S. Army	Pvt Tayla Rasmusson , U.S. Marine Corps
AIC Olivia F. Geary , U.S. Air Force	PFC Daniel J. Salvo , U.S. Marine Corps
PFC Brendan Hughs , U.S. Marine Corps	Cpl Jonathan Schultes , U.S. Marine Corps
PFC Gavin John , U.S. Marine Corps	SPC4 Joshua Sena , U.S. Army
LCpl Matthew John , U.S. Marine Corps	LtCol Louis P. Simon , U.S. Marine Corps
Brock D. Laggini , U.S. Coast Guard	PFC Jerome C. Sunga , U.S. Army
CW4 Michael Lopez, Jr.	Jack Vara , U.S. Marine Corps
LCpl Sean Maj , U.S. Marine Corps	Cpl Daniel Viscariello , U.S. Marine Corps
Maj Michael Morella , U.S. Army	Sgt Janet Wyka , U.S. Army
Sgt Dan Neville , U.S. Marine Corps	Capt Kaitlyn Zimmitti , U.S. Air Force
TSgt Anthony John O'Connor , U.S. Air Force	

Pray for those who are Sick in our Community

Joseph Arena	Susan H.	Andrea Michaels
Vitangelo Bavaro	Bernadette Healy	Lidia Natale
Joanmarie Carlone	Anthony Hughes	A.J. Papavero
Bruno Cirianni	Laura Karg	Edith Pena
Mary Contino	Brianna Rose Larson	Victor Rangel
Jerry Costanzo	Michael Lynch	Danilo & Sanbeda Santos
Ralph Cusati	Antonio, Alice & Lisa Magdamit	Deborah Scarpone
Maria Anastasia D'Amore	Mark Marshall	Cathy Stinziano
Roseann Danna	Giovanna Martini	Patricia Tibaldi
Josephine DiPiazza	Lella Mathews	Saverio Todarello
John Falco	Susan Maurice	Luisito Tolentino
Frank Forte	Jim McGuinness	Jenny Troisi
Cindy Galvackey	Edward J. McNamara	Lou Troisi
Gambino Family	Wilfredo Medina III	Emanuel Valentin
Gladys Gonzalez	Joyce Melitsky	Ron Wyka

If autocorrect
had a blood type,
what would it be?
Typo negative.

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 TUESDAY-THURSDAY (DINNER): 4:30-8:30PM
 FRIDAY (LUNCH/DINNER): 12-9:30PM
 SATURDAY (DINNER): 4-9:30PM
 SUNDAY (BRUNCH/ DINNER): 11AM-8:30PM

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