

The Catholic Church of St. Ann



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

St. Ann Church

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Email: info@stannparish.com

Facebook: The Catholic Church of St. Ann- Raritan, NJ

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www.raritanoratory.org

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

Rev. Thomas Odorizzi, C.O., Parish Pastor

todorizzi@stannparish.com

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Call to schedule an appointment or in-person tour.
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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>

*Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 4, 2024*

Stewardship Reflection on Lectionary Readings
JB 7:1-4, 6-7; PS 147; 1 COR 9:16, 22-23; MK 1:29-39

Our readings today remind us that Christ came to serve. Jesus' entire life was focused on others. He came to fulfill His Father's mission — the salvation of mankind. He labored for this mission by becoming the humblest of servants.

In today's Gospel, Simon says to Jesus, "Everyone is looking for you." Jesus did not seek after the praise. Rather, He responded by saying, "Let us go on to the nearby villages that I may preach there also." Jesus was already looking to whom He could serve next.

As Christian stewards, we are also called to be humble servants who labor for our Father's mission. We should strive to imitate the Perfect Steward, Who was constantly aware of the needs of those around Him and put His gifts to good use. For us, this begins right here in our home, parish, and community. We are called to live each moment in awareness of our Father's mission and in gratitude for all He has given us.

Jesus tells us that the way to be attentive is through prayer. Before Jesus made the decision to go to the nearby villages to preach, He first went off to pray. It is through prayer that Jesus could hear what His Father was asking of Him. We, too, are called to spend time in daily prayer — we will then become aware of the opportunities to serve the Lord.

Let us commit to finding some quiet time this week to pray. Let us ask the Lord — how can I serve You better throughout my days? And let us pray, 'Make me humble, Lord.'

— *Catholic Stewardship Consultants, www.CatholicSteward.com*

**Help Needed:
Catechist for Faith Formation**

First grade teacher on Sundays from 9-10:15am.
Please contact Sr. Ella Mae at 908-725-1008, press 1 then 5.

Support for the Catholic Spirit

There will be a Second Collection next weekend.
Please contribute to support the publication of our diocesan newspaper, The Catholic Spirit.



**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
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Church Meeting Room
RSVP to: 908-725-1008 Ext # 6 (Christine)

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Participate in this pivotal moment in the Church and draw into a deeper intimacy with our Lord. Join our diocese by registering today! Scan the QR code or click Book Now to attend this historic event.



*The next Festa meeting will be Wednesday,
February 7, at 7PM in the church basement.*



**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.

The Catholic Church of St. Ann

The Lenten Season is just around the corner! Some information in preparation:

2024 Lenten Obligations

1. The days of both fast and abstinence are Ash Wednesday (February 14) and Good Friday (March 29).
2. The other Fridays of Lent (Feb. 16 and 23, Mar. 1, 8, 15, and 22) are days of abstinence.
3. Fasting in the Roman Catholic tradition means to limit oneself to one full meal with two smaller meals which together do not equal the size of your full meal. The obligation of fasting applies only to Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59.
4. Abstinence in the Roman Catholic tradition means to abstain from eating meat (beef, chicken, pork, turkey, etc.). The obligation of abstinence applies to all Catholics who have reached the age of 14.

Note: This year, be aware that Ash Wednesday falls on February 14 (also Valentine's Day). The obligation to fast does remain in effect, so it is suggested that those who are planning a special dinner make that their one main meal of the day.

Ash Wednesday Schedule February 14

7 AM	St. Joseph (English)
8 AM	St. Ann
12:15 PM	Shrine (English)
12:15 PM	Holy Trinity
4 PM	St. Ann - <i>Liturgy of the Word with Distribution of Ashes</i>
7 PM	St. Ann
7 PM	Holy Trinity
7 PM	Shrine (Latin, EF)
7 PM	St. Joseph (Spanish)

Other plans for the Lenten Season:

- **Stations of the Cross** at St. Ann's at 7pm each Lenten Friday.
- **Lenten Soup/Supper** will precede Stations in the church basement hall at around 6pm. Any questions about the Friday Soup/Supper may be directed to Christine Esposito in the parish office.
- **Biblical Walk Through the Mass:** Wednesday evenings, February 21, 28, March 6, 13. Save the dates. Details to follow.
- **Lenten Penance Service:** Wed. Mar. 20, 7pm at Holy Trinity.

February 2 (February 3-4 in parishes) 2024: World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life on the Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord

World Day for Consecrated Life will be celebrated in the Church on Thursday, February 2, 2024, and in parishes over the weekend of February 4-5, 2023. Please pray for all those who have made commitments in the consecrated life, and be sure to thank them on their special day, **especially the Community of Religious Teachers of St. Lucy Filippini, who have had such a caring impact on or parish community.**

May they continue to be inspired by Jesus Christ and respond generously to God's gift of their vocation.

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.

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.

ANSWERING THE CALL TO SERVE SEMINARIAN FORMATION

*While He was with them at table,
He took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them.
With that their eyes were opened and they recognized Him.
(Lk 24:30-31)*

One of the key ministries supported by the Annual Appeal is **Seminarian Formation**. We are blessed to have 21 men currently studying for the priesthood in the Diocese of Metuchen. It is a blessing that brings with it the responsibility of providing for their education. Quality formation is essential for our future priests who will be the sacramental presence of the Lord in the midst of our parishes, nourishing and healing with Word and sacraments the people they are called to serve. We need men who are capable of fostering spiritual life, preaching the Gospel and directing the pastoral activities in our parishes and other special ministries. Your gift to the Bishop's Annual Appeal helps to defray the costs of forming the future shepherds of our Church.

GOOD STEWARDS: Bishop's Annual Appeal Foundation

Central to our understanding of Christian stewardship is the concept of accountability. To safeguard the gifts you have entrusted to our care, we recently set up a special foundation, a separate trust, where all the money from this Appeal goes so that it can only be used, without exception, to provide the services listed below. You can be assured that your gift is well protected and well used; making a difference in meeting the spiritual, educational and social needs of the people we serve. A gift to the Bishop's Annual Appeal is a worthy investment.

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time — February 4, 2024

Mass Intentions

Monday, February 5

8:00 am Nicola DiBetta by Vincenza Greco

Tuesday, February 6

8:00 am Domenico Natale by Caterina Grande

Wednesday, February 7

8:00 am Michael D'Angelo by Caterina & Nicola Grande

Thursday, February 8

8:00 am Dr. Jose Santos by friends

Friday, February 9

8:00 am Joan Williams by Stephen Williams

Saturday, February 10

9:00 am Maria Rosa and Antonio Gasparro by their daughter Sabrina Ruffa and family

Sunday, February 11

7:30 am Frank Cirianni by Mary Lou Cirianni & family

10:30 am Immacolata Soriano, Gregorio Ruffa and Maria Gasparro by Vincenza Greco

12:00 pm The Marshall Family by Mark & Toni Marshall

5:00 pm People of the Parish

This Week's Daily Bible Readings

Sunday

Jb 7:1-4, 6-7;
1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23;
Mk 1:29-39

Monday

1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13; Mk 6:53-56

Tuesday

1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30;
Mk 7:1-13

Wednesday

1 Kgs 10:1-10; Mk 7:14-23

Thursday

1 Kgs 11:4-13; Mk 7:24-30

Friday

1 Kgs 11:29-32, 12:19;
Mk 7:31-37

Saturday

1 Kgs 12:26-32, 13:33-34;
Mk 8:1-10

2024 Bishop's Annual Appeal

STAY WITH US, LORD:

Renew our Hearts and Send Us on Mission

By giving to the Bishop's Annual Appeal, we are opening our hearts to those living on the fringes of society and help to attend to their physical, spiritual and emotional needs. The basic necessities of food and shelter provided by **Catholic Charities**, as well as the counseling services the agency offers to those struggling with addictions and other hardships of life can only continue with your help. Please prayerfully consider a gift today.

You can find the link to the Bishop's Appeal video by going to <https://diometuchen.org/BAA>.

Please remember in your prayers the repose of the soul of **Monsignor William J. Capik**, a retired priest of the Diocese, who passed away on January 27. Msgr. Capik was ordained to the priesthood on June 4, 1955, was pastor of St. James Parish in Basking Ridge for 24 years, retired from active ministry in 2005.

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 for the weekend of **January 28:**

Offertory Contributions \$ 6,892

WeShare Offertory Contributions \$ 2,215

Total for Parish Operation \$ 9,107

Foundation for Catholic Education additional \$ 237

To request a **2023 Contribution Statement from St. Ann's Church** please call Barbara at the parish office: 908-725-1008, press 1 then 4; or email Barbara at: brussell@stannparish.com.

Weekly Candle, Lamp and Flower Intentions



Blessed Mother Lamp for

Maria Rosa Gasparro

by her daughter Sabrina and family

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

Brock D. Laggini, U.S. Coast Guard

CW4 Michael Lopez, Jr.

LCpl Sean Maj, U.S. Marine Corps

Maj Michael Morella, U.S. Army

Sgt Dan Neville, U.S. Marine Corps

TSgt Anthony John O'Connor, U.S. Air Force

Zack Drecchio, 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

Pray for those who are Sick in our Community

Joseph Arena
Vitangelo Bavaro
Joanmarie Carlone
Bruno Cirianni
Mary Contino
Jerry Costanzo
Ralph Cusati
Maria Anastasia
D'Amore

Roseann Danna
Josephine DiPiazza
John Falco
Frank Forte
Cindy Galvacky
Gambino Family
Gladys Gonzalez

Susan H.
Bernadette Healy
Anthony Hughes
Laura Karg
Brianna Rose Larson
Michael Lynch
Anne M.
Antonio, Alice &
Lisa Magdamit
Mark Marshall
Lella Mathews
Susan Maurice
Jim McGuinness
Edward J. McNamara
Wilfredo Medina III
Joyce Melitsky

Andrea Michaels
Lidia Natale
A.J. Papavero
Edith Pena
Victor Rangel
Danilo & Sanbeda
Santos
Deborah Scarpone
Cathy Stinziano
Patricia Tibaldi
Saverio Todarello
Luisito Tolentino
Jenny Troisi
Lou Troisi
Emanuel Valentin
Ron Wyka

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had a blood type,
what would it be?
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