### 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

 ${\it Discover the difference a Catholic Classical education \ makes.}$ 



#### St. Ann Classical Academy 40 Second Avenue,

Raritan, NJ 08869
Telephone: **908-725-7787**Website: *stannclassical.org*Facebook: *stannclassicalacademy* 

Call to schedule an appointment or in-person tour.

Or email <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)

<u>Fridays</u>

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 **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
Sr. Lorraine Doiron, SJH
Mrs. Christine Esposito
Ms. Nora Martin
Sr. Ella Mae McDonald, MPF
Mr. Anthony Nardino
Mr. Ramon Salazar

Business Administrator
Dir. of Adult Sacr. Prep, OCIA
Social Ministry, Office Support
Administrative Assistant
Dir. of Religious Education
Dir. of Liturgy & Sacred Music
Multi-Parish Facilities Manager

#### **Permanent Deacons**

Deacon Roy Rabinowitz and Deacon Jesus Rego

#### Community of Religious Teachers of St. Lucy Filippini

Sr. Phyllis Vella. MPF Superior

Sr. Ella Mae McDonald, MPF Dir. of Religious Education
Sr. Frances Gervasio, MPF Homebound Ministry

Sr. Diana Yodris, MPF In residence

May 25, 2025 Síxth Sunday of Easter

#### Sixth Sunday of Easter—May 25, 2025

#### **Stewardship Reflection on Lectionary Readings** ACTS 15:1-2, 22-29; PS 67; REV 21:10-14, 22-23; JN 14:23-29

The concept of hospitality is fundamental to a stewardship way of life. When we envision hospitality, we naturally think of offering a sincere and warm welcome — to those new to our parish, for instance. We picture inviting them in and making them feel at home and at ease in our presence, communicating to them that they are highly valued.

Today's Gospel reading from John invites us to think of hospitality in a slightly different way. In it, we hear Jesus speaking this to his disciples: "Whoever loves me will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our dwelling with him."

Jesus is asking that we permit the Blessed Trinity to come and dwell within us. This is a stunning request. It tells us that our first and most privileged form of hospitality should be directed towards God Himself.

How does one show hospitality to God? How do we make God "at home and at ease" within us? How can we communicate to God that He is "highly valued" by us? Jesus tells us how: we are to keep His word, to follow HIs teachings.

To keep His word, we must know His word. This takes discipline and effort on our part. We must make the study of Scripture and Church teaching a priority in our daily lives.

If we want our parish to be a place of genuine Christian hospitality, we must be sure that our own hearts are hospitable dwelling places for the Blessed Trinity. Then our smiles and words, our greetings and ministries will radiate with the warmth of God's love. And our parish family will become at least a little bit like Heaven on earth. This is the simplicity and glory of a stewardship way of life.

—Catholic Stewardship Consultants, www.CatholicSteward.com

#### **Support the Catholic Communication Campaign**

Next week there will be a special collection for the Catholic Communication Campaign. This campaign connects Catholics with Christ in the United States using the internet, television, radio, and print media. Half of the money we collect remains here in the Diocese of Metuchen to fund local communication efforts. The other half supports the comuunication activities of the US Conference of Catholic Bishops and some projects across the United States and abroad. Your support spreads the gospel message! Learn more at www.usccb.org/ccc.

#### **GREAT JOB!**

In the last two weeks we had a couple of big events:

Mother's Day Brunch and Comedy Show on May 11,
spearheaded by Jim Janci and the Knights of Columbus,
and the Tricky Tray Fundraiser that took place
last Saturday, May 17, organized by the St. Ann Classical
Academy Home School Association.

Thank you to the many volunteers who planned and operated both events. We are grateful to all the restaurants, stores and businesses who sponsored or donated in any way, helping to support St. Ann parish and school.

#### Monday, May 26 — MEMORIAL DAY

- Mass at 8am Mass at St. Ann
- Offices & School Closed
- 7pm Mass in celebration of the Feast of St. Philip Neri at St. Joseph Church



## THE RARITAN ORATORY OF ST. PHILIP NERI

THE FEAST OF ST. PHILIP NERI
MONDAY, MAY 26, 2025
HOLY MASS AT 7:00 PM

FOLLOWED BY A LIGHT RECEPTION IN THE PARISH HALL

THE CHURCH OF ST. JOSEPH 16 E SOMERSET ST., RARITAN, NJ 08869

WWW.RARITANORATORY.ORG



The Raritan Oratory of St. Philip Neri Presents **Easter Season Formation Series: the Acts of the Apostles** 



Scripture study about Easter faith lived in the early church and the transformative power of the Holy Spirit

#### Wednesday, May 28, 7:00 pm St. Joseph's Parish Hall

Church Basement 16 E. Somerset St. Raritan All are welcome—no need to purchase materials



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#### The Catholic Church of St. Ann

#### Announcing a modification in leadership for the next school year at St. Ann Classical Academy



#### Dear St. Ann Classical Academy and Parish Families,

It has been my great pleasure to serve as Head of School at St. Ann Classical Academy over the past several years. Together, we have completed our transition from a traditional Catholic school to an established classical school in the Diocese of Metuchen. During that time, we've seen such beautiful growth in our students and faculty as we've embraced the pedagogy of classical education—building a school culture grounded in truth, beauty, and goodness and marked by the wonder and joy of learning. None of this would have been possible without the dedication of our exceptional faculty and the encouragement, trust, and partnership of you—our school families. Our shared commitment to being authentically Catholic, rigorously classical, and simply joyful has shaped St. Ann Classical Academy into the school community we are today.

As we look ahead to the coming school year, I want to share a personal update. With my daughter preparing to begin her senior year of high school this fall, my husband and I have spent much time discussing how best to support her during this important and exciting time. Over the past several months, Fr. Tom and I have had ongoing conversations about what a fruitful and sustainable path forward might look like—for both my family and for St. Ann Classical Academy. I'm deeply grateful for his support throughout this time of discernment. As of June 30, I will step down as Head of School and, beginning July 1, I will transition into a new role: Academic Dean of Classical Instruction.

In this new position, I will continue to serve in an administrative capacity while also returning to the classroom to teach in the Upper School. This role is designed to support the continued growth and integrity of our classical mission in all areas of school life. As we look to the year ahead, we are also excited to share that we will be more fully immersing ourselves in the classical vision we've been faithfully working to realize. This will include a renewed emphasis on cross-curricular integration throughout the grades, with particular attention to the meaningful incorporation of the arts across subjects. These enhancements will be thoughtfully reflected in the curriculum as we continue to cultivate a rich, unified, and joyfully classical experience for our students. We are deeply grateful for your continued support as we take this important step forward with our mission.

I am also very pleased to share that Mrs. Courtney Ceponis will be appointed Head of School, effective July 1. Mrs. Ceponis has already been an essential part of our leadership team as both a faculty member and marketing coordinator. She brings a deep love for our school, a clear vision for its future, and steadfast dedication to our mission. I have every confidence in her ability to lead St. Ann Classical Academy with wisdom, care, and clarity as we move into this next chapter. Fr. Tom, Mrs. Ceponis, and I are working closely together to ensure a thoughtful and seamless transition, and we're all looking forward to the work ahead.

I am truly grateful for each of you, for your commitment to our school, your belief in our mission, and the joy you bring to this community. I look forward to continuing to serve St. Ann Classical Academy in this new capacity and ask for your prayers and patience as we walk together into this next season. With God's grace, I know it will be one of growth, renewal, and continued fidelity to the beautiful work we've been called to do. Blessings on your day,

Marisa Day Head of School

#### Dear St. Ann Classical Academy and Parish Communities,

I write to you as the incoming Head of School with great joy, deep gratitude, and a profound sense of responsibility. As we prepare to enter the 2025–2026 academic year, our seventh year as a classical school and our 60th year as a Catholic school in the Diocese of Metuchen, it is both an honor and a privilege to assume this role and to serve this extraordinary community of faith and learning.

At St. Ann Classical Academy, we are entrusted with a sacred mission: to build a foundation for our students in the knowledge of the goodness, beauty, and truth of God's creation, both visible and invisible; to cultivate an understanding of the true nature of the human person; and to nurture our students as faithful Christian disciples. This mission, rooted in our Catholic identity and animated by the classical tradition, is not only our goal—it is our shared vocation. This calling unites us in spirit and purpose.

As we embark on this new chapter, I am reminded of the story *The Boys in the Boat*, which beautifully illustrates the transformative power of unity, perseverance, and shared vision. These young men, though vastly different in background, discovered that true success came not from individual effort alone, but from a deep harmony of hearts, minds, and wills—each person striving not for self, but for the team. That spirit of "rowing as one" echoes the very heart of our Catholic educational mission.

In this same spirit, I invite each of you—parents, teachers, staff, students, parishioners, and friends—to join together in a communion of purpose. Let us embrace one another in a spirit of harmony and cooperation, devoting ourselves to the continuous improvement of our school in service to the best interests of our students and the broader school community. Let our unity be a witness to the Gospel we proclaim, a unity that mirrors the love of Christ and radiates through every aspect of school life.

Our shared commitment to educate the mind, body, and soul must be grounded in prayerful discernment, collaborative service, and the joyful pursuit of excellence. As we seek to strengthen our community, let us do so with hearts attuned to Christ, eyes fixed on truth, and hands ready to serve with love. In all we do, may we be ever mindful that our mission is not simply academic—it is deeply spiritual, forming young people who reflect the light of Christ in the world.

As we look ahead, I am especially grateful for the continued partnership of Mrs. Marisa Day, who will be stepping into the role of Academic Dean of Classical Instruction. This important position reflects our growth into an established classical school and will allow her to further share her many gifts in curriculum development, pedagogy, and faculty support. Her deep love for classical learning, her servant-hearted leadership, and her steadfast commitment to our mission have been and will remain a tremendous blessing to our community.

Together, let us champion the treasures of classical education, deepen our love for Christ and His Church, and form students whose intellects are sharp, whose hearts are generous, and whose spirits are joyful. We do this not for our glory, but *Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam*—for the Greater Glory of God.

Under the patronage of St. Ann and inspired by the joyful witness of St. Philip Neri and St. Lucy Filippini, may we row forward as one, united in purpose, uplifted by grace, and filled with the hope of what God will do in and through us in the year ahead

With prayers for a joyful and grace-filled year ahead,

Mrs. Courtney Ceponis
Incoming Head of School

#### **NOW ENROLLING!**

**St. Ann Classical Academy** is now enrolling Pre K - 8<sup>th</sup> Grades for the 2025-2026 school year, and we have room for your family!

Visit online at

#### stannclassical.org/open-house

or call at 908-725-7787 to learn more, to register for a personal tour, or to apply today.

We look forward to welcoming you!



The Diocese of Metuchen's **Office of Vocations** invites young men ages 14-17 to attend







# GIVE THE GIFT OF A CLASSICAL EDUCATION

The Catholic classical approach we are implementing views the purpose of education and of the human person differently than the "modern" approach. Our curriculum and style of teaching is geared towards affirming the divine attributes that unite all subjects of learning. We promote the pursuit of the True, Good and the Beautiful through a process of discovery and reasoned thinking, thereby drawing students into deeper participation in the life of God.

Through a vibrant and distinct Catholic classical education at St. Ann Classical Academy in Raritan, your child will grow in personal and academic confidence, know they are uniquely loved and come to recognize the dignity of the human person as gift from God. We look forward to welcoming you.

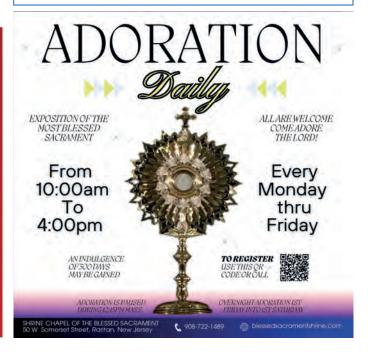
NOW ENROLLING PreK-8th GRADE!

Visit our website for more information or to enroll today.



#### Prayer for Vocations

God our Father, we thank you for
calling men and women
to serve in your Son's Kingdom
as priests, deacons, and consecrated persons.
Send your Holy Spirit to help others to respond
generously and courageously to your call.
May our community of faith support vocations
of sacrificial love in our youth and young adults.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns
with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, forever and ever. Amen.



#### The Catholic Church of St. Ann

# St. ANN ITALIAN FESTA VOLUNTEERS NEEDED SIGN UP TO HELP OUT MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK!!



Save the Dates!!!

Festa Returns June 19, 20, 21

We NEED volunteers!!! Please email:

FestaStAnn@gmail.com

Sponsorships Available

## Many ways to volunteer to help make the St. Ann Italian Festa a great success!

Setup for Festa Clean up Wed. 6/18, 8am-12noon Sat. 10pm-12midnight

Each Day:

Kitchen Food Prep 8am-1pm Kitchen Food Prep 5pm-10pm

Pizza Fritte Tent 4:30-7:30pm; 7:30-10pm

American Food Tent

Food Ticket Sale Tent
Dunk Tank Manager
Dunk Tank Victim!
Castle Blowup House
Kitchen Cleanup

8pm-10pm
5-7:30pm; 7:30-10pm
one person per hour
5-10pm
each night, 9-11pm

Trash/Recycling Detail, Security and more

Go to https://www.facebook.com/StAnnFesta/ Sign up to volunteer on signupgenius.com, 2025 FESTA

#### Italian Festa Volunteers Meeting

Get ready to help make this year's Italian Festa a success!

#### \*\*\*Volunteers are still needed\*\*\*

If you can help, join us for a quick, but important, meeting where we'll:

- Fill remaining openings
- Discuss event logistics
- Go over shift times and setup details

Meet other volunteers, ask questions, and learn how you can make the 116th St. Ann's Italian Festa unforgettable!

Date: Wednesday June 4th

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Saint Ann's School Cafeteria

Your help makes all the difference! Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!



It's that time of year to put your aprons on and bake some cakes, brownies, cookies, pies, muffins, cupcakes or whatever is your specialty!

Make it a great prize at this year's



#### FESTA CAKE WHEEL

All baked goods can be brought to the cafeteria starting at noon on Thursday, June 19<sup>th</sup>.

This year the St. Ann Classical Academy HSA will be manning the booth.

\*Sign-up sheets will be available beginning Sunday, June 1st at the entrances of the Church.

\*Drop off your baked contribution on the days of Festa starting at *noon but before 5:00 pm*.

\*Please label your goodies so winners are aware of nuts or other common allergy ingredients.

\*PLEASE, NOTHING NEEDING REFRIGERATION.



#### June 19th-21st, 2025 5:00-10:00 PM

#### Discounted Festa Food Tickets

\$42 in Food Tickets for \$40° \$85 in Food Tickets for \$60° \$110 in Food Tickets for \$100°

 While supplies last. Available after masses starting May 10th or at the St. Ann's rectory office during normal business hours.

#### Super 50/50 Tickets \$50 each

are also available online stannclassical square site Drawing held

Drawing held June 21 at 10pm



## 2025 Bishop's Annual Appeal: PILGRIMS OF HOPE: Journeying Together in Faith, Hope and Charity

Thank you to all who have given so generously to the 2025 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 <a href="https://diometuchen.org/BAA">https://diometuchen.org/BAA</a>.

View the inspiring 2025 Bishop's Annual Appeal at https://youtu.be/YD2KH8exue4

mine at <u>nttps://alonietachen.org/brirk.</u>		
<b>BAA</b> Update Information	as of 5/16/25	
St. Ann Parish Goal:	\$68,000.00	
Total Pledged:	\$63,133.20	
Amount Received:	\$60,298.83	
Over/(Under) Goal:	(\$4,866.80)	
Percent of Goal Pledged:	92.84%	
Percent of Goal Received:	88.67%	
Average Gift Amount	\$423.71	

#### Fifth Sunday of Easter—May 25, 2025

#### Mass Intentions

Monday, May 26 — Memorial of St. Philip Neri

8:00 am Aloe Family by Luigi & Regina Basile 7:00 pm at St. Joseph Church, Oratory Mass & celebration

Tuesday, May 27

8:00 am Anna Giampietro by 6th Grade Religious Class

Wednesday, May 28

8:00 am Domenico DiBetta by Greg & Domenica Grande

Thursday, May 29 (not Ascension Thursday)

8:00 am Evelyn Gasparini by Frances Crandell

Fríday, May 30

8:00 am Peter Scavo by Angela & Salvatore Ruggeri

Saturday, May 31

9:00 am Eliana Specian by Nonna

The Ascension of the Lord, June 1

7:30 am Nicola Greco by Caterina & Saverio Todarello

10:30 am Living & Deceased Members of the

Rosary Altar Society

12:00 pm Elisabetta & Francesco D'Angelo, and

Filomena & Guiseppe Natale by Granddaughter, Elizabeth

5:00 pm People of the Parish

#### This Week's Daily Bible Readings

**Sunday** Acts 15:1-2, 22-29;

Rv 21:10-14, 22-23;

Jn 14:23-29

**Monday** 

Acts 16:11-15;

Jn 15:26-16:4a

Tuesday

Acts 16:22-34; Jn 16:5-11

Wednesday

Acts 17:15, 22-18:1;

Jn 16:12-15

Thursday

Acts 18:1-8; In 16:16-20

Friday

Acts 18:9-18; Jn 16:20-23

Saturday

Zep 3:14-18a or

Rom 12:9-16; Lk 1:39-56

#### **Celebrating the Easter Sacraments of Initiation**

Through the OCIA process, we've had adult baptisms and full initiation of baptized adults, both Catholic and non-Catholic, at the Easter Vigil. In the past few weeks many young children received their First Holy Communion. Many families are celebrating the joy of newborn children and having them baptized.

In two weeks we will conclude the Easter Season with the celebration of **Pentecost** and with the **Confirmation of Adults**. Bishop Checchio has granted delegation to Fr. Tom to confirm eleven adults from the community. Please pray for those who will be Confirmed at the **12 noon Mass on Sunday, June 8.** 

Come, Holy Spirit, be with us! Thank you for the blessing of conversions in our community and the gift of your mercy and love.

#### Parishioner Financial Support

The principal means of support for the Catholic Church of St. Ann is your weekly generosity. What is normally donated online and your sacrificial offering at Mass makes up the "ordinary income" that is supposed to balance the expense of ordinary parish operation, made up of salaries and benefits for the employees of the parish who serve you; all utilities and supplies; ministries and formation programs; resources needed for quality liturgies; snowplowing and landscaping, maintenance and custodial services to the buildings and properties—church, convent, rectory/office and school building. Please keep this in mind when assessing your regular level of financial support to the parish.

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

#### Contributions for the weekend of May 18, 2025:

Mass Offertory	\$ 6,281
WeShare	\$ 2,960
<b>Total for parish operation</b>	\$ 9,241
DOM other (Development of Peoples)	\$ 592



WeShare Online Giving is a simple means of caring for your parish through consistent, direct, electronic contributions. You determine the terms according to your personal, prayerful stewardship. Once in place,

online giving happens automatically until you decide to amend the terms. Sign-up is simple and safe through the parish website. Please contact the parish office if you need assistance.

#### 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.
Maj Michael Morella, U.S. Army
Sqt Dan Neville, U.S. Marine Corps

TSgt Anthony J. O'Connor, U.S.Air Force
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
Maj Matthew Werner, U.S. Army
Sgt Janet Wyka, U.S. Army
Capt Kaitlyn Zimmitti, U.S. Air Force

Andrea Michaels

#### Pray for those who are Sick in our Community

Katelyn Anderson Gladys Gonzalez Joseph Arena Susan H. Yolanda Bontempo Joanmarie Carlone Bruno Cirianni Laura Karg Mary Contino Ronald Kozak Jerry Costanzo Ralph Cusati Mary Grace Harold D'Alessio Maria Anastasia D'Amore John D'Angelo Rose D'Angelo Josephine DiPiazza John Falco Frank Forte Cindy Galvacky Gambino Family Angie Glenn

Lidia Natale Bernadette Healy Joseph Pellegrino Edith Pena Anthony Hughes Dave Pietrowicz Victor Rangel Brianna Rose Larson John Roglieri Danilo & Sanbeda LaVerghetta Santos Michael Lynch Deborah Scarpone Stanley M. Magda Cathy Stinziano Antonio, Alice & Lisa Patricia Tibaldi Magdamit Saverio Todarello Mark Marshall Luisito Tolentino Lella Mathews Jenny & Lou Troisi Jim McGuinness Emanuel Valentin Edward J. McNamara Ron Wyka Wilfredo Medina III Joyce Melitsky











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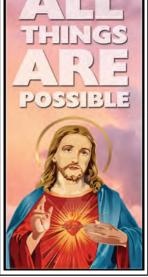
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