

The Catholic Church of St. Ann



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

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todorizzi@stannparish.com

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Or email kalbright@stannparish.com

STAY AWAKE!

For you do not know on which day your Lord will come.

Mt 24:42

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>
Sr. Lorraine Doiron, SJH	<i>Dir. of Adult Sacr. Prep, OCIA</i>
Mrs. Christine Esposito	<i>Social Ministry, Office Support</i>
Ms. Nora Martin	<i>Administrative Assistant</i>
Sr. Ella Mae McDonald, MPF	<i>Dir. of Religious Education</i>
Mr. Anthony Nardino	<i>Dir. of Liturgy & Sacred Music</i>
Mr. Ramon Salazar	<i>Multi-Parish Facilities Manager</i>

Permanent Deacons

Deacon Roy Rabinowitz and Deacon Jesus Rego

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>
Sr. Mary Rose Conforto, MPF	<i>Assistant DRE</i>

*First Sunday of Advent
November 30, 2025*

First Sunday of Advent—November 30, 2025

Stewardship Reflection on Lectionary Readings

IS 2:1-5; PS 122:1-9; ROM 13: 11-14; MT 24:37-44

Today we begin the beautiful season of Advent — a season of preparation. For what are we preparing? The celebration of the birth of our Savior, and the anticipation of His second coming.

These are weighty tasks with eternal consequences. So, let us as Christian stewards make the words of the Prophet Isaiah our motto for the season: “Come, let us climb the Lord’s mountain to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may instruct us in his ways and we may walk in his paths.”

In the weeks leading up to Christmas, it seems everywhere we turn we are pushed to spend more, do more, entertain more, and generally rush around at a frantic pace — all to create a “perfect” Christmas day. In contrast to this worldly pressure, the Church’s guidance to use these weeks as a time to focus on our spiritual lives can indeed seem like a mountain climb.

But the intentional and wise use of the gift of time is exactly what the Christian steward is called to do, and with even greater intensity during Advent.

How can we use our time to prepare for a holy celebration of Jesus’ birth on Dec. 25 and for his second coming at a date we do not know?

We can push back against the world’s pressure to have the “perfect Christmas.” Scale back on the material kind of gift-giving, the complicated menus, the unessential trappings of the season so that we have more time for the spiritual preparations: Confession, weekday Mass, adoration, family prayer time, lighting the Advent wreath, acts of kindness.

It may feel like a mountain climb, but in the end, we will be prepared to celebrate a truly meaningful Christmas, we will have become more like our Savior, and we will be ready for Him to come again. Let’s go climb the Lord’s mountain!

—Catholic Stewardship Consultants, www.CatholicSteward.com

SOCIAL CONCERNS MINISTRY

◆ Monthly Food Drive Collection: Next Week

The next monthly food collection for The Somerset County Food Bank Network is December 6/7, and each first Sunday of the month. Non-perishable food items can be left in a container at the church front 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.

◆ THANK YOU

Thank you to all who donated their extra Turkeys and Hams for Social Ministry. We have kept many families fed and assisted them in celebrating the Thanksgiving holiday. God bless you!



Christmas Gift Giving Tree

Please take one or more tags from the Giving Tree in the church entranceway. Your generosity enables our social ministry to help many families with financial hardship.

The tags and gifts may be returned on December 13/14 in the church basement meeting room. We are grateful to your continued support. If you have any questions, please contact Christine in the parish office.



BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

-  **Date:** Sunday, December 7, 2025
-  **Time:** 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon
-  **Location:** St. Ann’s Classical Academy Cafeteria
-  Guests will enjoy a full hot breakfast, holiday crafts for the kids, and plenty of Christmas cheer for the whole family!
- Prices:** Adults \$12; Kids \$5, Free Under 5 years old

REMINDERS:

Next Sunday, December 7
Lighting of Memorial Christmas Trees
after the 5pm Mass

Monday, December 8,
The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception
of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Holy Day of Obligation.
Masses at St. Ann’s will be at 8am and 7pm.

SAVE THE DATE!

ADVENT LESSONS & CAROLS
Sunday, December 14, 2025—3:00 to 5:00 PM
Saint Joseph Church, Raritan
Followed by refreshments in the Parish Hall

The Community of Religious Teachers
of St. Lucy Filippini invites you...

*Come and spend time
with the Lord this Advent,
discovering where the Lord
may be calling you...
and to discover who we are!!!*



Who: young women ages 17-25
When: December 5-7, 2025
Where: Villa Walsh, 455 Western Ave.,
Morristown, NJ
Contact: Sr. Helen Sanchez, MPF
Email: hsanchez444@hotmail.com

The Catholic Church of St. Ann

Announcement of Elected Administrator for the Diocese of Metuchen

September 24, 2025, Pope Leo named Bishop Checchio as Coadjutor Archbishop of New Orleans. When he was formally installed at St. Louis Cathedral in Louisiana Tuesday, November 18, the Diocese of Metuchen became a *Sede Vacante* (Vacant See). Canon 421 of the Code of Canon Law states that within eight days of becoming a Vacant See, the College of Consultors elects a priest to serve as Administrator.

Fulfilling the role task given to them by Canon Law, on November 20 the College of Consultors of the Diocese of Metuchen elected **Very Rev. Jonathan S. Toborowsky** to serve as Diocesan Administrator, until such time as Pope Leo XIV names a new Bishop of Metuchen.

Rev Toborowsky, a priest of the Diocese of Metuchen, was ordained to the Priesthood in 1998. A native of Port Reading, NJ, he has served parishes of St. James in Basking Ridge, St. Mary in Alpha, St. Thomas in Old Bridge, St. Lawrence in Laurence Harbor, and Immaculate Conception in Annandale, and served as Vicar General since 2022.

Father Toborowsky asks the faithful for their prayers as he assumes this new role, as we all continue praying for the Holy Spirit's guidance in the Holy Father's selection of our new bishop.

PARISH ADVENT EVENTS *at a glance*

- | | |
|--|---|
| 12/5—First Friday, Holy Hour with Santo Nino (Filipino prayer group), 7pm | 12/14—Advent Lessons & Carols, St. Joseph Church, 3pm |
| 12/7—Breakfast With Santa, cafeteria, 9am-noon
—Ceremonial Lighting of Memorial Christmas Trees, following the 5pm Mass | 12/16—Religious Education Christmas Pageant, church at 6:30pm |
| 12/8—IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, Holy Day Masses, 8am and 7pm | 12/17—Senior Social, St. Ann church meeting room, 1-3pm
—Extra opportunity for Confession, St. Ann Church, 7pm |
| 12/12—Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe | 12/19—SACA Christmas Concert, school gym, 7pm |

LAST CHANCE



St. Ann's Annual Christmas Tree Fundraiser

- Memorialize a tree to remember a loved one
- Dedicate a tree to someone special
- Choose a special intention or Christmas message

Forms can be found in the lobby of the church & on our website

DEDICATION & TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY:
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2025
AFTER THE 5:00 PM MASS

CONTACT INFO:
parishoffice@stannparish.com
908-725-1008, press 1 then 4
stannparish.com/news/trees



St. Joseph's Christmas Kolach Fundraiser

A kolach is a traditional Eastern European pastry that has a filling rolled within it. See filling options below.

Price: **\$18.00** per loaf. Pay Cash or Check payable to St. Joseph Church. **Orders must be in** by Tuesday, **December 2, 2025**. Print your contact information clearly. Please mail payment and order form or drop it off in an envelope through the mail slot in the Parish Office at 16 E. Somerset St., Raritan, NJ 08869

Name _____

Phone # _____

Email _____

Fillings (indicate number of loaves desired):

Nut _____ Poppyseed _____

Apricot _____ Lekvar (prune) _____

Raspberry _____ Pumpkin Cream Cheese _____

Pick-up Kolach on the weekend of December 20-21 (subject to change) in the St. Joseph Lower Church Hall.

Check off this box if you prefer to pick up the Kolach on Friday December 19, between 9-10am, provided that the kolach is delivered on time,

Questions? parishoffice@sjraritan.org,

908-725-0163.

Thank you & God bless!

First Sunday of Advent- November 30, 2025

Mass Intentions

Monday, December 1

8:00 am Philippo & Anna Di Betta from Angelo & Catherine Viscariello

Tuesday, December 2

8:00 am Albert Falco from Antonette Falco

Wednesday, December 3

8:00 am Mark Marshall from Gregorio & Sabrina Ruffa & family

Thursday, December 4

8:00 am Lidia Natale from Anna & Freddie Ritorto

Friday, December 5

8:00 am Souls in Purgatory from Caterina Fusca

Saturday, December 6

9:00 am Saverio & Maria Grazie Domenico, Domenico Toderillo from Saverio & Caterina Toderillo

Sunday, December 7, Second Sunday of Advent

7:30 am People of the parish

10:30 am Living & Deceased Members of the Rosary Altar Society

12:00 pm Immacolata Suriano from children & grandchildren

5:00 pm Peter Wyka by Ron & Cathy Wyka

This Week's Daily Bible Readings

Sunday

Is 2:1-5; Rom 13:11-14; Mt 24:37-44

Monday

Is 4:2-6; Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday

Is 11:1-10; Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday

Is 25:6-10a; Mt 15:29-37

Thursday

Is 26:1-6; Mt 7:21, 24-27

First Friday

Is 29:17-24; Mt 9:27-31

First Saturday

Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8

Concluding the Month of All Souls in Purgatory Prayer for the Dead

In your hands, O Lord,
we humbly entrust our brothers and sisters.
In this life you embraced them with your tender love;
deliver them now from every evil and bid them eternal rest.
The old order has passed away: welcome them into paradise,
where there will be no sorrow, no weeping or pain,
but fullness of peace and joy with your Son and the Holy
Spirit forever and ever. Amen.

Have a Blessed Advent Season

The season of Advent is a time of expectation, when we prepare our home and our hearts to celebrate the birth of Jesus on Christmas Day. The word Advent is derived from the Latin word *adventus*, which means "coming". Advent is a season of hope, a time to nurture peace and experience joy in anticipation for the love that is made incarnate with the birth of Jesus.

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 **November 23, 2025** will be included in next week's bulletin, due to the holiday printing schedule.

Give Online with WeShare

Online Giving is a simple means of caring for your parish through direct, online contributions. You determine the terms according to your personal and 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. Contact the office if you need assistance.

*God proves his love for us in that while we were still sinners
Christ died for us. (Romans 5:8)*

Pray for those in the Military

Victor Dulay, Jr. , U.S. Marine Corps	TSgt Anthony J. O'Connor , U.S. Air Force
Pvt Brennan Gasway , U.S. Army	Pvt Tayla Rasmusson , U.S. Marine Corps
A1C Olivia F. Geary , U.S. Air Force	PFC Daniel J. Salvo , U.S. Marine Corps
PFC Brendan Hughes , U.S. Marine Corps	Cpl Jonathan Schultes , U.S. Marine Corps
PFC Gavin John , U.S. Marine Corps	LtCol Louis P. Simon , U.S. Marine Corps
LCpl Matthew John , U.S. Marine Corps	PFC Jerome C. Sunga , U.S. Army
Brock D. Laggini , U.S. Coast Guard	Jack Vara , U.S. Marine Corps
CW4 Michael Lopez, Jr.	Maj Matthew Werner , U.S. Army
Maj Michael Morella , U.S. Army	Sgt Janet Wyka , U.S. Army
Sgt Dan Neville , U.S. Marine Corps	Maj Kaitlyn Zimmitti , U.S. Air Force

Pray for those who are Sick in our Community

Joseph Arena	Gladys Gonzalez	Edith Pena
Pasquale Barbieri	Susan H.	Victor Rangel
Yolanda Bontempo	Bernadette Healy	Daniel Roggenburg
Joanmarie Carlone	Anthony Hughes	John Roglieri
Bruno Cirianni	Wilhelmina	Isabella Ruffa
Mary Contino	Kuszelewicz	Daniilo & Sanbeda
Jerry Costanzo	Brianna Rose Larson	Santos
Ralph Cusati	Michael Lynch	Deborah Scarpone
Harold D'Alessio	Stanley M. Magda	Cathy Stinziano
Maria Anastasia	Antonio, Alice & Lisa	Jo Surace
D'Amore	Magdamit	Patricia Tibaldi
John D'Angelo	Lella Mathews	Saverio Todarello
Rose D'Angelo	Jim McGuinness	Luisito Tolentino
Josephine DiPiazza	Edward J. McNamara	Jenny & Lou Troisi
John Falco	Wilfredo Medina III	Emanuel Valentin
Frank Forte	Joyce Melitsky	Patrick Viola
Cindy Galvacky	Andrea Michaels	Ron Wyka
Gambino Family	Salvatore Navatto	
Angie Glenn	Joseph Pellegrino	

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