

# 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](http://www.stannparish.com)

Email: [info@stannparish.com](mailto:info@stannparish.com)

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

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[www.raritanoratory.org](http://www.raritanoratory.org)

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

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

[todorizzi@stannparish.com](mailto:todorizzi@stannparish.com)

**Mrs. Courtney Ceponis, Head of School,  
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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, | <b>St. Ann</b>     |
| 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 &amp; 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>               |

*Second Sunday of Advent  
December 7, 2025*

*Prepare the way  
of the Lord*

LUKE 3:4

## Second Sunday of Advent—December 7, 2025

### Stewardship Reflection on Lectionary Readings

IS 11:1-10; PS 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; ROM 15:4-9; MT 3:1-12

On this Second Sunday of Advent, our second reading from St. Paul's letter to the Romans encourages us to focus our Advent preparations in this way: "Welcome one another, then, as Christ welcomed you, for the glory of God." And how does Christ welcome us? With unconditional love.

This is the essence of Christian hospitality, a vital aspect of stewardship living. Fully embraced, it has the power to transform our lives and the lives of those who experience it through us.

The practice of Christian hospitality is also a way for us stewards to answer the call of John the Baptist, in our Gospel passage from Matthew. His words apply just as much to us today as they did to the people awaiting the Savior's arrival. John says, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" And he recalls the words of the prophet Isaiah, "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." There is a definite connection between repentance and effective hospitality.

So how can we make repentance a regular part of our everyday lives? We can make an "examination of conscience" a daily part of our prayers, thanking God for the times we said "yes" to Him, and asking forgiveness for the times we chose our own will. We can (and should!) go to Confession this Advent. We can reach out to a family member or friend where there is distance or discord and make peace.

As we "straighten the paths" of our own hearts and minds, we become more hospitable people, better stewards of God's grace and mercy, and far more open and ready to invite others into our lives, homes, and parish. This is preparation fitting for our merciful Savior.

—Catholic Stewardship Consultants, [www.CatholicSteward.com](http://www.CatholicSteward.com)

### REMINDER

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

### ADVENT LESSONS & CAROLS

**Sunday, December 14, 2025**  
**3:00 to 4:30 PM**  
**Saint Joseph Church, Raritan**  
Followed by refreshments in the Parish Hall



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.



Monday, December 8,  
**The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception  
of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
Holy Day of Obligation.**  
Patroness of the United States.

**Masses at St. Ann's will be at 8am and 7pm.**

The Immaculate Conception is the Catholic doctrine that the Virgin Mary was conceived without original sin, meaning she was preserved from any stain of sin from the moment of her conception. This dogma was officially defined in 1854 by Pope Pius IX and is celebrated on December 8th, exactly nine months before her Nativity on September 8th. It's important to distinguish this from the virginal conception of Jesus by Mary, as the Immaculate Conception refers to Mary's own conception in her mother, St. Anne.

Mary, the mother of Jesus, was preserved from original sin from the moment of her conception, making her a pure and fitting vessel for God's son. This doctrine is a central tenet of Catholic faith, signifying that Mary was uniquely prepared for her role and serves as a model of perfect obedience and grace for all believers.

Mary is considered the "Second Eve" or "New Eve," restoring what was lost through Eve's sin by being sinless and fully obedient to God's will.

#### Other local Masses:

St. Joseph Church 7am (Engl), 7:30pm (Spanish)  
Holy Trinity Church 12:15pm, 4:45pm  
Bl. Sac. Shrine 12:15pm (Engl), 7pm (EF, Latin)



#### Feast of St. Lucy December 13

We will include Novena prayers after the final blessing of each daily Mass this week.

St. Lucy, pray for us!

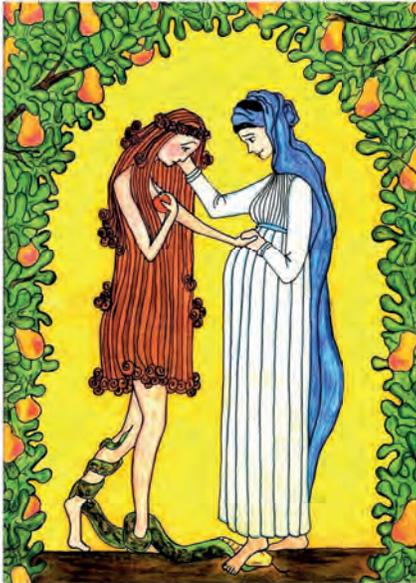
The children of our parish will help prepare you to celebrate the true meaning of Christmas. Parents and families, friends and parishioners, All are invited!!

**Tuesday, December 16 at 6:30pm in St. Ann Church**  
**Religious Education Christmas Pageant**

**Friday, December 19 at 6pm in the school gym**  
**St. Ann Classical Academy Christmas Concert**

Don't miss these opportunities to celebrate our faith and the gift of our parish children.

# The Catholic Church of St. Ann



MARY COMFORTS EVE  
Sr. Grace Remington, OSCO

Thank you, Immaculate and Virgin Mary, for bringing your child to us.

Mary of Advent, with your example of patient waiting and prayerful trust, help the human family also to be open to draw close to Salvation, your Son, Jesus, and to bear Him forth in our own lives. In our great need, pray for us, New Eve!

Reflect more on this art. See Article by Garrett Johnson: 6 Things To Notice In This Beautiful Image of Mary and Eve, <https://catholic-link.org/mary-and-eve/>

## KOC COATS FOR KIDS DRIVE 2025

Thanks to All who donated and made the annual "Coats for Kids Drive" a huge success!

Due to your overwhelming generosity, we were able to collect 390+ coats and a very welcome \$500 donation from the Somerville Elks (made into gift cards).

What a wonderful heartwarming feeling thinking of all the local community children that you have been able to help keep warm this winter!

Special thanks to the Raritan and Somerville Knights of Columbus for their hard work and the Somerville Elks for their generosity. And a most special thank you to Christine Esposito at St Ann's Social Ministry for the unbelievable job she does in processing and finding a home for all those coats!



## SOCIAL CONCERNS MINISTRY

We served 49 families this Thanksgiving. Thank you for your generosity. We also, received over 12 turkeys that were donated to Social Ministry. Thank for all of your donations of turkeys and hams! You are blessed!

## MONTHLY SENIOR GATHERING

Our next Senior Gathering is **December 17<sup>th</sup> from 1pm to 3pm** in the church basement meeting room. Please bring a dozen cookies to exchange. Please contact Christine at the rectory office for any questions. All are welcome. Bring a friend. Come and enjoy our parish fellowship!

## 2026 CALENDARS

Anna Louise Bongiovi and Bongiovi Funeral Home has once again provided Calendars to our parish community for the New Year. We are grateful for her generosity and support.



## 2026 HOLIDAY CALENDAR RAFFLE! FIRST DRAWING JAN. 2026

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FEBRUARY 1, 2026**

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## Second Sunday of Advent—December 7, 2025

### Mass Intentions

**Monday, December—Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

8:00 am People of the parish  
 7:00 pm Immacolata Suriano  
 by children & grandchildren

**Tuesday, December 9**

8:00 am Rosina Greco by children & family

**Wednesday, December 10**

8:00 am Michael V. Incontrera  
 by Frank & Maria Incontrera

**Thursday, December 11**

8:00 am Mark Marshal by Freddie & Anna Ritorto

**Friday, December 12**

8:00 am Lidia Natale by Anna & Ken DiGraziano

**Saturday, December 13**

9:00 am \*For the intentions of Caterina Fusca in Honor of St. Lucy by Caterina Fusca

**Sunday, December 14, Third Sunday of Advent**

7:30 am Joseph & Rose Sansone by children  
 10:30 am Kenneth Zilli & Claire Zilli Verdini  
 12:00 pm Nancy DiGraziano  
 by the Fodora DeCicco Families  
 5:00 pm People of the parish

### This Week's Daily Bible Readings

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>Sunday</b><br/>                 Is 11:1-10; Rom 15:4-9;<br/>                 Mt 3:1-12</p> <p><b>Monday</b><br/>                 Gn 3:9-15, 20;<br/>                 Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38</p> <p><b>Tuesday</b><br/>                 Is 40:1-11; Mt 18:12-14</p> <p><b>Wednesday</b><br/>                 Is 40:25-31; Mt 11:28-30</p> | <p><b>Thursday</b><br/>                 Is 41:13-20; Mt 11:11-15</p> <p><b>Friday</b><br/>                 Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a,<br/>                 12:1-6a, 10ab; Lk 1:26-38<br/>                 or Lk 1:39-47,</p> <p><b>Saturday</b><br/>                 Sir 48:1-4, 9-11;<br/>                 Mt 17:9a, 10-13</p> |
|--|--|

### Weekly Candle, Lamp and Flower Intentions

**Blessed Mother Lamp for Paul Crandal**  
 by Frances Crandall



### PRAYERS FOR A NEW BISHOP

O Lord, Shepherd of Shepherds,  
 we turn to you seeking your grace,  
 that we in the Diocese of Metuchen may be given  
 a bishop who is a shepherd after your heart  
 and will guide us, your flock, to be a faithful flock  
 and fruitful field in union with you  
 now and for eternity. Amen.

### 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

|                                   |                 |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Mass Offertory                    | \$ 6,976        |
| WeShare Online Giving             | \$ 1,676        |
| <b>Total for parish operation</b> | <b>\$ 8,652</b> |
| <b>Works of Mercy</b>             | <b>\$ 1,288</b> |

#### Contributions for the weekend of November 30, 2025

|                                   |                 |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Mass Offertory                    | \$ 6,121        |
| WeShare Online Giving             | \$ 2,132        |
| <b>Total for parish operation</b> | <b>\$ 8,253</b> |
| <b>Works of Mercy</b>             | <b>\$ 118</b>   |

### Next Sunday, Second Collection Retirement Fund for Religious

Next Sunday, December 14, we will have a special second collection in support of the Retirement Fund for Religious

### Pray for those in the Military

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Victor Dulay, Jr.</b> , U.S. Marine Corps  | <b>TSgt Anthony J. O'Connor</b> , U.S. Air Force |
| <b>Pvt Brennan Gasway</b> , U.S. Army         | <b>Pvt Tayla Rasmusson</b> , U.S. Marine Corps   |
| <b>A1C Olivia F. Geary</b> , U.S. Air Force   | <b>PFC Daniel J. Salvo</b> , U.S. Marine Corps   |
| <b>PFC Brendan Hughes</b> , U.S. Marine Corps | <b>Cpl Jonathan Schultes</b> , U.S. Marine Corps |
| <b>PFC Gavin John</b> , U.S. Marine Corps     | <b>LtCol Louis P. Simon</b> , U.S. Marine Corps  |
| <b>LCpl Matthew John</b> , U.S. Marine Corps  | <b>PFC Jerome C. Sunga</b> , U.S. Army           |
| <b>Brock D. Laggini</b> , U.S. Coast Guard    | <b>Jack Vara</b> , U.S. Marine Corps             |
| <b>CW4 Michael Lopez, Jr.</b>                 | <b>Maj Matthew Werner</b> , U.S. Army            |
| <b>Maj Michael Morella</b> , U.S. Army        | <b>Sgt Janet Wyka</b> , U.S. Army                |
| <b>Sgt Dan Neville</b> , U.S. Marine Corps    | <b>Maj Kaitlyn Zimmitti</b> , 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   | Ken Heaphy            | Daniel Roggenburg  |
| Joanmarie Carlone  | Bernadette Healy      | John Roglieri      |
| Bruno Cirianni     | Anthony Hughes        | Isabella Ruffa     |
| Mary Contino       | Wilhelmina            | Steven Sabo        |
| Jerry Costanzo     | Kuszelewicz           | Danilo & Sanbeda   |
| Ralph Cusati       | Brianna Rose Larson   | Santos             |
| Harold D'Alessio   | Michael Lynch         | Deborah Scarpone   |
| Maria Anastasia    | Antonio, Alice & Lisa | Cathy Stinziano    |
| D'Amore            | Magdamit              | Jo Surace          |
| John D'Angelo      | Lella Mathews         | Patricia Tibaldi   |
| Rose D'Angelo      | Jim McGuinness        | Saverio Todarello  |
| Josephine DiPiazza | Edward J. McNamara    | Luisito Tolentino  |
| John Falco         | Wilfredo Medina III   | Jenny & Lou Troisi |
| Frank Forte        | Joyce Melitsky        | Emanuel Valentin   |
| Cindy Galvacky     | Andrea Michaels       | Patrick Viola      |
| Gambino Family     | Salvatore Navatto     | Ron Wyka           |
| Angie Glenn        | Joseph Pellegrino     |                    |

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