

Sainte Anne Parish

Salem, MA

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

The image features four lit purple candles of varying heights, arranged in a cluster. They are surrounded by green pine branches and clusters of bright red holly berries. The background is dark with out-of-focus, warm-toned bokeh lights, creating a festive and intimate atmosphere.

John answered them, "I baptize with water; but there is one among you whom you do not recognize, the one who is coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie." John 1:26-27



Sainte Anne Parish

Sainte Anne Parish is a faith community in the Roman Catholic tradition. We strive to live up to the motto: "We Are Family." We see ourselves as a local expression of the universal Church, the People of God, the Body of Christ. Through God's grace we seek to be welcoming and loving. Our life centers on the daily celebration of the Eucharist. We meet Jesus Christ in the Eucharist and are then challenged to bring His love to others.

WEEKEND MASSES:Saturday 4:00 PM; Sunday 8:30 & 11:00 AM
 DAILY MASSES: Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM
 HOLY DAY MASSES:As Announced
 CAMEROON MASS:2nd and 4th Sunday of Month, 1:00 PM
 EUCHARISTIC ADORATION: Thursday, 9:30 AM - 6:00 PM
 ROSARY GROUP:Thursday, 6:00 PM
 CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP:Tuesday, 6:00 - 8:00 PM
 CONFESSIONS:Saturday 3:15 - 3:45 PM or By Appointment
 CHAPEL:Closed Until Further Notice
 CHURCH:Will Remain Open After 9 AM Mass Until 7 PM Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday; Saturday 9 AM-5 PM; Sunday Open for Mass Only

Welcome to New Parishioners: Please introduce yourself to us after Mass. To register, contact the Parish Office or online at stannesalem.org.
Sacrament of Baptism: Baptisms are celebrated on the fourth Sunday of the month at 12:15 pm. A preparation for parents and godparents will take place on the second Wednesday of the month at 7:00 PM at the Rectory. Please contact the Parish Office to arrange a baptism.
Matrimony: Please contact the Parish Office at least six months in advance to arrange for the celebration of your wedding.
Home Visitation: We are happy to visit for confession, holy communion, anointing of the sick, or with anyone who is unable to come to church. Please contact the Parish Office.
Anointing of the Sick: This sacrament is for anyone who is seriously ill, in a weakened condition, facing surgery, entering hospice care, or near death. Please contact the Parish Office for this sacrament to be celebrated.

Parish and Religious Education Offices:

11 Cleveland Street
 Salem, MA 01970

Office: 978.744.1930
Religious Ed.: 978.745.8915

Hours:
 Mon-Thurs 9am- 12 Noon
 Friday (office closed)

Emails:
 Office: stannesalem@aol.com
 Religious Education: faithformation@stannesalem.org
 Bulletin: stannesbulletin@gmail.com
 Parish Pastoral Council: PPC@stannesalem.org

Rectory:
 290 Jefferson Avenue
 Salem, MA 01970

PARISH STAFF:
 Fr. Maurice Agbaw-Ebai, Administrator
 Charlene Carrier, Coordinator of Religious Education
 Marc Deschenes, Maintenance & Repairs
 Nancy Gavenda, Sacristan
 Michelle Kolodziej, Operations Manager
 Paul L'heureux, Projects Manager
 Joseph Stella, Director of Music Ministry
 Lourdelyn Valsote, Administrative Coordinator

Visit our Website - www.stannesalem.org
 Visit us on Facebook at [Facebook.com/Sainte Anne Salem, MA](https://www.facebook.com/SainteAnneSalem)
 Subscribe to our YouTube Channel - Sainte Anne's Parish, Salem, MA

Catholicism as an Advent Experience

The classic Catholic experience has been a certain duality that finds concrete forms of unity: matter and form; word and sacraments; sin and grace; faith and good works. Catholicism as a religious experience continues down the ages to rediscover anew in the world around, the beauty and sacramentalism of the incarnation: that God has become man in the person of Jesus of Nazareth. That God has become man is a truth of the faith that needs an ongoing rediscovery of its beauty and implications, its challenges and invitations. What does a Catholic mean when he or she prays the angelus in the morning, at noon and in the evening? To dwell more on this truth of the faith – that God has become man – poses a great challenge when this is placed side by side in our common daily experiences.

Faith in the incarnation (that God has become a man in Jesus Christ), constantly encourages one to trust that in the final analysis, my life is in God’s hands, and God is willing to help me. Amidst the varied religious experiences and challenges, one is constantly faced with the sublime and good that Christianity can, and does bring about in our local situations. At the same time, an honest evaluation points to the battle between what the Incarnate Son of God invites us to live, and what we concretely live. We see if we are honest with ourselves, that we are often caught up in a drama between whom we are and whom we ought to be. We see that in the struggle to live out the life of the Incarnation, to live the life of God’s Son, we are often trapped in the meager resources of our own efforts. Sometimes we feel like Simon before our Lord: “Master, we have struggled all night but caught nothing!” (Lk. 5:5). The feeling of nothingness of the faith; the feeling of nothingness even of what it means to be a priest today, can and does in fact become dominating and crushing! We too are often left only with the crumbs of life, as we watch the seeming futility of all our efforts and calculations.

The Catholic tradition sees Advent as the time of the unredeemed, as the era when the whole of creation as it were, is groaning and waiting in one great act of giving birth, and not only creation, but all of us who possess the first-fruits of the Spirit, we too groan inwardly as we await for our bodies to be set free (Rm. 8:22-23). Perhaps the beauty of Catholicism lies in the interrelatedness of the seasons, the realization that to be Catholic means to live in a perpetual Advent, in a state of being redeemed and unredeemed at the same time. To be Catholic is to discover the wisdom of the breadcrumbs of our state, and yet to have the audacity to move on, trusting that in the final analysis, irrespective of the ups and downs of my life, God will become all in all. There is therefore no room for despair. God is there to help me. I am not self-sufficient.

Herein lies the wisdom of being a Catholic: that I realize that I am redeemed: God has sent His son. And yet I am also humble enough to acknowledge that I have to spend the rest of my life struggling with strong and unredeemed impulses. It can be a very crushing life struggle, but a very rewarding one. In one phrase, it is the delight of being Catholic, of living in Advent, with the hope of meeting the Lord who comes to help me, because I am not self-sufficient. (Fr. Maurice Agbaw-Ebai)

Society of St. Vincent de Paul



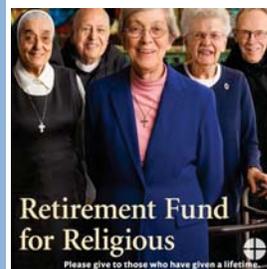
Once again this year, we have been blessed with an anonymous donor who will match all donations made to the Salem St. Vincent de Paul Society during the month of December. This is an opportunity for members of the Salem community to double the value of a gift to help Christ and his poor. What better way to celebrate this Christmas season, especially in this year of the pandemic, than to help the needy in our own city? We can't be at the church doors for our regular collections, but all donations made in the month of December will qualify for the match. You may place your donation in one of the collection boxes at Ste. Anne's any time during the month of December or you may also mail checks made out to St. Vincent de Paul and addressed to Society of St. Vincent de Paul, 158 Federal Street, Salem, MA 01970. For the last month, your donations helped to fund \$17,786 in assistance to the poor in Salem (the most we have ever spent in one month), including \$8,672 for overdue rent to avoid eviction; \$2,786 for past due electricity and fuel bills to avoid shut off of those utilities; \$4,009 for food vouchers; and \$1,173 for miscellaneous items such as beds and bedding, and adult diapers. Because we are a volunteer organization, our operating expenses were just \$147 for the month. We gratefully acknowledge your generous contributions which help the needy of Salem. **There will be a second collection for St. Vincent de Paul at all Masses on December 12th and 13th.**

Catholic Appeal Update

Ste. Anne’s Goal: \$20,437.00
 Amount Received to Date: \$19,223.33 (94% of goal)
Shortfall: \$ 1,213.67



To make a donation, visit www.bostoncatholicappeal.org



Elderly religious have offered a lifetime of service. Now they need your help. Please consider donating to the Retirement Fund for Religious collection this weekend. Learn more at retiredreligious.org.

Masses for Christmas and New Year's

Christmas Eve:
4 pm and Midnight

Christmas Day:
10 am and 1 pm (Cameroon Mass)

New Year's Eve:
4 pm

New Year's Day:
10 am

We have reinstated SignUp Genius for Christmas. **You will need to once again register to attend one of the Masses for Christmas and New Year's.** Please visit our website to sign up (www.stannesalem.org) or call the Parish Office at 978.744.1930.



CHRISTMAS FLOWERS AND DECORATIONS

It's that time again, we ask you to make a donation in memory of a loved one so that we can purchase the necessary flowers and decorations.

The names of your loved ones will be listed in a bulletin insert and we ask that they be remembered in all our prayers.

Please mark an envelope Flower Donation.

Drop the envelope in the collection or bring it to the Parish Center.

Christmas donation in memory of:

Donated by: _____

The Third Sunday of Advent - Gaudete Sunday
December 13, 2020

What is special about the Third Sunday of Advent?

For much of the Church's history, this Sunday had a special name: "Gaudete" Sunday. The traditions surrounding this Sunday go back as far as the fourth or fifth century, as does the season of Advent itself. Advent, our preparation for Christmas, was originally a forty-day penitential season like Lent. In fact, since it used to begin on November 12 (just after the Memorial of St. Martin of Tours), it was called "St. Martin's Lent." "Gaudete Sunday" was the Advent counterpart to "Laetare Sunday," which marks the midpoint in Lent. On Gaudete Sunday, the season of Advent shifts its focus. For the first two weeks of Advent, the focus can be summed up in the phrase, "The Lord is coming." But beginning with Gaudete Sunday, the summary might be, "The Lord is near." This shift is marked by a lighter mood and a heightened sense of joyous anticipation. Liturgically, the colors lighten as well. The priest usually wears rose-colored vestments, a hue seen only on Gaudete Sunday and Laetare Sunday. On this day, we light the third candle of the Advent wreath, which is also rose-colored, or if you prefer, pink. The word "Gaudete" is Latin for "Rejoice." In times when the focus of our anticipation is often on the negative and fearful, this celebration is a reminder that God who loves us is still in charge and that we await his coming not with fear, but with tremendous joy.

**PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR PARISH:
GRANDMA'S ATTIC**

Please support your parish by making an appointment to shop at Grandma's Attic on **Saturday, December 19th.** You must call for an APPOINTMENT (no walk-ins) and obtain specific details. Several volunteers have been accommodating safe, masked, hand sanitized, safe distancing shopping staying within the Governor's regulations of no more than 10 (volunteers and shoppers included). Please see this week's and past bulletins for income generated. Up to this point, we have not received one parishioner request; all attendees have been through connections with "new" friends through on-line sales. Great feedback from the community! Please call and come spend some money for great buys! Help us get to the \$10,000 mark for 2020. Thank you! Please contact Alma Pelletier 978.314.7344 or Judy Ware 781.258.6974 for information or to make an appointment.





Saturday, Dec. 12 4:00 pm	Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe William Harrison Parish Family
Sunday, Dec. 13 8:30 am 11:00 am 1:00 pm	Third Sunday of Advent Rita Pelletier, in Remembrance Doris Fournier, by the Parish Pastoral Council Cameroon Community
Monday, Dec. 14 9:00 am	Memorial of Saint John of the Cross, priest and doctor of the Church Arthur H. Jean Jr.
Tuesday, Dec. 15 9:00 am	Doris Fournier, by the Parish Pastoral Council
Wednesday, Dec. 16 9:00 am	Cynthia & Alfred Bedard
Thursday, Dec. 17 9:00 am	Doris Fournier, by the Parish Pastoral Council
Friday, Dec. 18 9:00 am	For the terminally ill, by Ruddy Incarnacion
Saturday, Dec. 19 4:00 pm	Vigil: Fourth Sunday of Advent Parish Family
Sunday, Dec. 20 8:30 am 11:00 am	Fourth Sunday of Advent Ronald Deschenes, Birthday, by the Family Deceased Members of the Thibodeau & Bossea Families, by Susan and Bob Quinn Deceased Members of the Blanchette & Castonguay Families, by Claire Blanchette

Videotaped Mass has been discontinued

After careful consideration, the decision has been made to discontinue videotaping the 4pm Mass. The link to CatholicTV is posted on our website for viewing the daily and weekend Masses. Daily Mass airs live at 9:30 am and 12:30 pm, and is rebroadcast at 7pm and 11:30 pm. Sunday Masses air throughout the day at 10am, 4pm, 7pm, and 11:30 pm. Viewers can watch these Masses on demand at any time at www.WatchtheMass.com.



CATHOLIC CITIZENSHIP ESSAY CONTEST

The Masconomo Council 1232 Knights of Columbus is sponsoring a Catholic citizenship essay competition open to area students in the **8th through 12th grades** (enrolled in public, private, parochial or home school). Submitted essays are to be 500-750 words in length and focused on the topic: ***“How trusting in God during a difficult time has helped you or someone you know find strength and hope to endure it.”*** Cash prizes will be awarded to winners in five categories. Essay entries must be submitted by December 15th and be emailed to contest coordinator **Tom Finn** at: contact@kofcmanchesteressex.org (Note: Content entry applications require parental consent). For more information, contact finnbro@gmail.com. The winning essay will be sent on to compete for state and national recognition in 2021.

Notes from the Parish Office

The Parish Office is working on updating and standardizing office procedures. As you know, a new voice mail system was recently installed (the phone number remains the same: 978.744.1930). In the near future, the office email address will be changing from stannesalem@aol.com to info@stannesalem.org. **Please be sure to make note of the new email address**, which should be used when contacting the Parish for Mass intentions, scheduling funerals, baptisms, etc., or for any general information. Additionally, the cost for Mass Intentions is now \$15 per Mass. Please contact the Parish Office with any questions at 978.744.1930.



K through 7 Grade Students

Masconomo Council 1232 Knights of Columbus is sponsoring a Keep

Christ in Christmas poster contest open to area students in K through 7th grades (enrolled in public, private, parochial or home school). By engaging the creativity and imaginations of our youth, we hope they will come to a deeper understanding of the true, spiritual meaning of Christmas. Prizes will be awarded to winners in each division. Posters must be submitted by December 15th and be emailed to: contact@kofcmanchesteressex.org (Note: Contest entry applications require parental consent). For more information contact contest coordinator **Eric Speed** at: speederic55@gmail.com.

The Church is the Body of Christ: we walk “with Christ” to the extent that we are in relationship “with his body.” Christ provided for the creation and growth of this unity by the outpouring of his Holy Spirit. And he himself constantly builds it up by his Eucharistic presence. It is the one Eucharistic bread that makes us one body. As the Apostle Paul states, “Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.”
(1Cor 10:17) - St. Pope John Paul II



FINANCIAL UPDATE - SUPPORT YOUR PARISH

Your financial support of the parish pays for utilities, staff and clergy salaries, property maintenance, supplies, and supports our parish ministries. Everything we do as a parish relies on the offertory collections and other donations. Your continuing generous and sacrificial giving will assist your parish to provide for your spiritual needs and to serve the wider community. ***Merci and Thank You!***

Week ending 12/6	Collection	Online Giving
Offertory	\$2,408	\$745
Sacramentals	\$450	
Shrines/Candles/Flowers	\$305	
Maintenance/Repairs/Fuel	\$260	\$5
Gifts/Bequests	\$25	
Grand Annual	\$120	
St. Vincent de Paul	\$76	
Religious Education	\$25	
Grandma's Attic	\$2,000	
Immaculate Conception	\$52	
All Saints Day	\$15	
Solemnity of Mary	\$5	
Retirement Fund Religious Sisters	\$40	\$20
Christmas	\$10	
Totals	\$5,791	\$770

Scripture Readings

Sunday	December 13
Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8,19-28	
Monday	December 14
Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Mt 21:23-27	
Tuesday	December 15
Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Mt 21:28-32	
Wednesday	December 16
Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21c-25/Lk 7:18b-23	
Thursday	December 17
Gn 49:2, 8-10/Mt 1:1-17	
Friday	December 18
Jer 23:5-8/Mt 1:18-25	
Saturday	December 19
Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Lk 1:5-25	
Sunday	December 20
2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38	



For the Sick: Jason Alexander, Dorothy Sherry, Armen Sarafian, Pat John, Steve L., Kathleen Levy, Ron Budka, Leona Budka, Denise Wells, Kayla Campagna, Jay P., Madeline St. Pierre, Joan Driscoll Bick, Pat Jalbert, Steven Conner, Raymond Thompson, Larry Blanchard, Chris Hall, Laurie Babbin, Rob Holloran, Karen Friedrich, Peter and Ben, Carol Whynott, Barbara Newman, Lila LaMalfa, Dina Russo, Carson Borden, Terry Walters, Bill Walters, Frank Popielski, Jean Sacco, Pauline Bellomo

For the Military: Jason Boyle, Nicholas Budka, Sean Patrick Mautone, Keith Lovely, David Irwin, K. Ryan McKinley, Michael Angers

For all victims of the Coronavirus, for all front line workers, and for all medical researchers that they may find an effective prevention.

For all the deceased members of our parish.

For our Advent celebration, that it would be a time of reflection on the coming of Christ, filled with prayer, repentance, and love for God and neighbor.

For Priests and Seminarians: Please pray each day for our Boston priests and seminarians:

- Saturday - Fr. Ixon Chateau and Hung Viet Tran
- Sunday - 1969: Pope Francis ordained
- Monday - Fr. John Delaney and Alphonsus Hien Quang Vu
- Tuesday - Fr. William Williams and Leonardo Moreira
- Wednesday - Fr. Kwang Lee and Kevin Pleitez
- Thursday - 1966: Bishop Kennedy ordained
- Friday - Fr. Francis Conroy and Erick Gonzalez
- Saturday - Fr. Donald Clifford and Fernando Vivas

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November is the month of
ALL SOULS



During November, it is **CatholicTV's** privilege
to pray for the souls of your **departed loved ones**
at each **daily Mass**. If you would like us to pray for
them by name, please send us an email at
AllSoulsRemembrance@CatholicTV.org.



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