

# Sainte Anne Parish

## Salem, MA



Photo: Fr. Lawrence Lew, O.P.

### SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“As the Father loves me, so I also love you. Remain in my love.”

John 15:9



*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.*

### 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: [info@stannesalem.org](mailto:info@stannesalem.org)  
Religious Education:  
[faithformation@stannesalem.org](mailto:faithformation@stannesalem.org)  
Bulletin:  
[stannesbulletin@gmail.com](mailto:stannesbulletin@gmail.com)  
Parish Pastoral Council:  
[PCC@stannesalem.org](mailto:PCC@stannesalem.org)

#### Rectory:

290 Jefferson Avenue  
Salem, MA 01970

# Sainte Anne Parish

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 5 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](http://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 STAFF:

Fr. Maurice Agbaw-Ebai, Administrator  
Fr. Denis Tameh | Fr. Casmia Bello, Priests in Residence  
Charlene Carrier, Coordinator of Religious Education  
Nancy Gavenda and Sr. Pauline Fortin, Sacristans  
Michelle Kolodziej, Operations Manager  
Paul L'heureux, Projects Manager  
Joseph Stella, Director of Music Ministry  
Lourdelyn Valsote, Administrative Coordinator

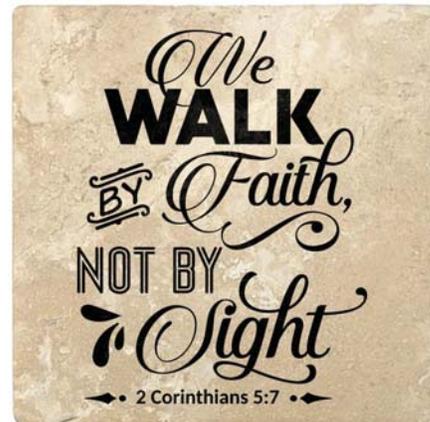
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YouTube - [Sainte Anne's Parish, Salem, MA](https://www.youtube.com/SainteAnneSalemMA)

### Contemplative Prayer - "I do not feel like praying" (Continuation)

Dear Holy People of God,

Last week, continuing our catechesis on Contemplative Prayer, I revisited two attitudes that often come in the way of our prayer life in general, and Contemplative Prayer in particular, namely, the "I do not have time to pray" attitude and the other complaint, "I easily get distracted in prayer." I would like to continue with the third frequently heard complaint: "I feel dry in prayer." In other words, "I do not feel like praying." Let me note from the start that feelings are an essential part of what it means to be human. As it has been said before, one might not remember the exact details of a given incident, but one would remember how one felt about it. Human beings are feeling beings. And oftentimes, we act from our feelings. We even tend to make decisions based on our feelings. And if St. Ignatius of Loyola is right about the promptings of God in Consolation and Desolation (and I think he is), then even God communicates with us in and through our feelings. (I hope someday, to offer a teaching on the Ignatian method of prayer, God willing). So, in all, our feelings are very important, for they tend to indicate what has come out of a past action, and where we might be heading to by way of a future action.



In this light, when we do not "feel like praying," I get it. To be honest with you, I too sometimes do not "feel like" praying. There are days or times when prayer is the last thing I want to do! There are days when praying the Divine Office or Lauds (Morning Prayer) or Vespers (Evening Prayer) appear cumbersome to me. Somedays, I fail. So yes, I get it, when someone says to me, "Fr., I do not feel like praying." We all are in the same boat!

But if my own little experience in the spiritual life could be of help to you, I wish to say to you what I often say to myself, when those "dry moments" come, which is, "Maurice, yes, feelings are important, but you cannot reduce your life to feelings only. And if you cannot reduce your life to feelings, then you shouldn't reduce your prayer life to feelings only as well." I might not feel like eating, but if I continue to deprive my body of food, starving my body, other health issues might arise. I might not feel like getting out of bed, but I know that if I do not show up for lecture at Boston College or St. John's Seminary, not only would it constitute an injustice to the students or seminarians, but I am certain to run into difficulties with the administration of BC or St. John's. A mother might not feel like financially supporting an adult child that has shown much ingratitude, but she still does it anyway, because she knows it is the right thing to do, even though she does not feel like doing it. In effect, there are good things we do that we do not feel like doing, that if it were left to our feelings only, we would not do them.

Dear Holy People of God, when we do not feel like praying, please remember two things:

Firstly, that prayer, like other good things in life, is not just about feelings, but likewise about the will. In other words, we should will to pray. When we will to pray, then we stick to our prayer moments and prayer times. Praying is of the human will. Prayer is a willing moment. If I have set aside 15 minutes in the morning as my God-time, then I try to discipline myself to respect that scheduled appointment with God. I consciously safeguard those 15 minutes every morning, fully conscious that it tells a lot about my character, about who I am, to keep my word! And I have come to believe that character is who I am when no one is watching me! Hence, kindly remember when you do not feel like praying: prayer, like other good things, is not about feelings only, but is also of the human will.

Secondly, when we do not feel like praying, we are going through a "dark night," like a "desert experience." Feelings, warm thoughts about God, warm memories, are absent. I got good news for you: many of the saints too had desert experiences, when they did not feel like praying. From the saints, such as Ignatius, Therese of Avila, Mother Teresa of Calcutta, etc., we learn a saintly wisdom: never skip prayer when you do not feel like praying. Rather, if you can, add a little more time to your regular prayer time. You do not overcome the desert on the way to the promised land from Egypt by standing still or returning to Egypt. You overcome the desert by moving on towards the promised land. I have noticed, in my own prayer life, that whenever I have felt dry and not felt like praying and decided to stick to my prayer time and pray all the same, those moments have been the most rewarding spiritual moments. Could it be that my breaking point is my breakthrough point? It would seem so. The saints teach us that God sometimes allows us in spiritual darkness, to train us to learn anew that timeless wisdom of St. Paul: "For we live by faith, not by sight" (2 Corinthians 5:7). One can say, for we pray by faith, not by feelings.

Summarily, when we do not feel like praying, please remember two things: Firstly, prayer is not just about feelings but also of the will; Secondly, the desert or absence of feeling for prayer is a stage on the way to the promised land. Your breaking point is your breakthrough point. (to be continued, Fr. Maurice).



**Ascension Day**, often called Feast of the Ascension of Jesus Christ, Ascension Thursday and Holy Thursday is held on a Thursday 39 days (40th day of Easter) after Easter Sunday. The day commemorates Jesus Christ's ascension into heaven. The Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord is a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses will be held on **May 12th at 6pm and on May 13th at 9am.**

**SCRIPTURE READINGS 2021**

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>6<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER</b><br>May 9  | Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/1 Jn 4:7-10/Jn 15:9-17                        |
| <b>MONDAY</b><br>May 10                          | Acts 16:11-15/Jn 15:26—16:4a  |
| <b>TUESDAY</b><br>May 11                         | Acts 16:22-34/Jn 16:5-11  |
| <b>WEDNESDAY</b><br>May 12                       | Acts 17:15, 22—18:1/Jn 16:12-15   |
| <b>ASCENSION THURSDAY</b><br>May 13              | Acts 1:1-11/Eph 1:17-23 or Eph 4:1-13 or 4:1-7, 11-13/Mk 16:15-20         |
| <b>FRIDAY</b><br>May 14                          | <i>Feast of Saint Matthias, Apostle</i><br>Acts 1:15-17, 20-26/Jn 15:9-17 |
| <b>SATURDAY</b><br>May 15                        | Acts 18:23-28/Jn 16:23b-28  |
| <b>7<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER</b><br>May 16 | Acts 1:15-17, 20a, 20c-26/1 Jn 4:11-16/Jn 17:11b-19                       |

By Dr. Scott Hahn, Begotten by Love

6th Sunday of Easter (Cycle B)



**ST. PAUL CENTER FOR BIBLICAL THEOLOGY**

**Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48 | Psalm 98:1-4 | 1 John 4:7-10 | John 15:9-17**

God is love, and He revealed that love in sending His only Son to be a sacrificial offering for our sins. In these words from today's Epistle, we should hear an echo of the story of Abraham's offering of Isaac at the dawn of salvation history. Because Abraham obeyed God's command and did not withhold his only beloved son, God promised that Abraham's descendants, the children of Israel, would be the source of blessing for all nations (see Genesis 22:16-18).

We see that promise coming to fulfillment in today's First Reading. God pours out His Spirit upon the Gentiles, the non-Israelites, as they listen to the word of Peter's preaching. Notice they receive the same gifts received by the devout Jews who heard Peter's preaching at Pentecost - the Spirit comes to rest upon them and they speak in tongues, glorifying God (see Acts 2:5-11).

In His love today, God reveals that His salvation embraces the house of Israel and peoples of all nations. Not by circumcision or blood relation to Abraham, but by faith in the Word of Christ, sealed in the sacrament of baptism, peoples are to be made children of Abraham, heirs to God's covenants of promise (see Galatians 3:7-9; Ephesians 2:12).

This is the wondrous work of God that we sing of in today's Psalm. It is the work of the Church, the good fruit that Jesus chooses and appoints His apostles for in today's Gospel.

As Peter raises up Cornelius today, the Church continues to lift all eyes to Christ, the only one in whose name they can find salvation.

In the Church, each of us has been begotten by the love of God. But the Scriptures today reveal that this divine gift brings with it a command and a duty. We are to love one another as we have been loved. We are to lay down our lives in giving ourselves to others - that they too might find friendship with Christ, and new life through Him.

A service of the St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology  
www.SalvationHistory.com

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**Baby Bottle/Envelopes to Support The Pregnancy Care Center**

We are hosting a Baby Bottle Drive for The Pregnancy Care Center (PCC). Please use the addressed baby bottle envelopes provided to mail in your donation, noting Ste. Anne's church on your donation. You can also give online at [pccfriends.org](http://pccfriends.org) or **scan the QR code**



and be directed to our virtual baby bottle campaign. The Pregnancy Care Center (PCC) offers loving, confidential support to women who are facing an unplanned pregnancy. In addition, they provide sexual integrity education, post abortion counseling and material assistance (baby items/food). The services are free, thanks to support from individuals and local churches. The PCC has locations in Haverhill, Lawrence, and Lowell. Thank you!



## Mass INTENTIONS

**Saturday, May 8th**

4:00 pm

**Sunday, May 9th**

8:30 am

11:00 am

1:00 pm

**Monday, May 10th**

9:00 am

**Tuesday, May 11th**

9:00 am

**Wednesday, May 12th**

9:00 am

6:00 pm

**Thursday, May 13th**

9:00 am

**Friday, May 14th**

9:00 am

**Saturday, May 15th**

4:00 pm

**Sunday, May 16th**

8:30 am

11:00 am

**Vigil: Sixth Sunday of Easter**

Parish Family

**Sixth Sunday of Easter**

Francis Walker, 1st Anniversary, by the Family

Christopher Walker, by the Family

Parish Family

Cameroon Community

Henry Jalette, Jr., for Healing, by Connie Kirby

Thank you, St. Jude, by JJ

Parish Family

Vigil Mass for Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord

**Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord**

Parish Family

**Feast of Saint Matthias, Apostle**

Parish Family

**Vigil: Seventh Sunday of Easter**

Parish Family

**Seventh Sunday of Easter/The Ascension of the Lord**

Parish Family

Alfred &amp; Cynthia Bedard, by the Afflitto Family

William Theriault, 1st Anniversary, by the Family

Thanksgiving Mass, by Family

Albert E. Robidoux, 29th Anniversary, by the Robidoux

Family

**LIVE THE LITURGY****Inspiration for the week**

God is love. These three simple words deserve a great deal of attention. They have the power to transform our relationship with God from something that is static and distant to one that is personal and real. We all know the power of love and how important it is to completing all of the human and divine circuits of our lives. But we do not often consider the awesome fact that it is given to us as a gift and is not simply part and parcel of the human package. God is the author of love and love itself. When we truly love another human being, it is really God being God in and through us. The love to which we are called and the love of which the Gospel speaks is a selfless love that seeks the wellbeing of not only our significant others but of all of our brothers and sisters. This love, which is of God, is a love that will endure all things and bring immeasurable joy when experienced. It is the most sincere form of friendship.

**120TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

Plans are underway to celebrate the 120th anniversary of our church, which was established as a French parish in 1901 to serve the large French-Canadian population living in Salem at the time. We hope to have Cardinal O'Malley join us at a celebration sometime in October. More to come.



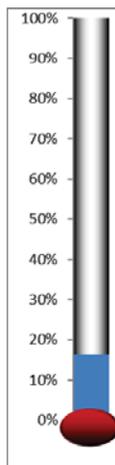
*"To speak of the Blessed Sacrament is to speak of what is most sacred.*

*How often, when we are in a state of distress, those to whom we look for help leave us; or what is worse, add to our affliction by heaping fresh troubles upon us. He is ever there waiting to help us." - St. Euphrasia Pelletier, Foundress of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd*

**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!**

| Collection for Weekend of 5/2/21 | Collection | Online Giving |
|----------------------------------|------------|---------------|
| Offertory                        | \$2,799    | \$680         |
| Maintenance/Repairs/Fuel         | \$45       |               |
| Sacramental                      | \$450      |               |
| St. Vincent de Paul              | \$12       |               |
| Grand Annual                     | \$1,200    |               |
| Totals                           | \$4,506    | \$680         |
| Grand Total                      | \$5,186    |               |



Goal: \$30,000  
Total to date: \$4,895 (16%)

**2020-2021 Grand Annual Campaign**



**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, Barbara Newman, Lila LaMalfa, Dina Russo, Carson Borden, Terry Walters, Bill Walters, Frank Popielski, Jean Sacco, Pauline Bellomo, J. Richard Julien, Henry Jalette, Jr., Lee Melanson

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

**For God's protection for all of God's children,** for the health and safety of everyone during this time of the COVID-19 pandemic.

**For all the deceased members of our parish.**

**For our parish community and its needs,** that we would open ourselves to the transforming message of the gospel and heed the call of Christ.

**For all Christians,** that the Holy Spirit will enliven their lives at this time of Resurrection, so that we may live the life of Christ with enthusiasm.

**For Priests and Seminarians:**

- Saturday - Fr. Benito Moreno and Christopher Letizia
- Sunday - Fr. Joseph Nguyen and Ulises Diaz
- Monday - Fr. William O'Connor and Michael Castellon
- Tuesday - Fr. Wellington Oliveira and Peter Sang Van Hoang
- Wednesday - All Oblates of the Virgin Mary
- Thursday - Fr. Andrea Povero and Hung Viet Tran
- Friday - Fr. Matthew Westcott and Alphonsus Hien Quang Vu
- Saturday - Fr. John Sullivan and Leonardo Moreira



Through the generosity of donors like you, last year's Catholic Appeal raised \$14M to help the ministries of the Archdiocese of Boston support our faith, our parishes, and our communities. We are so thankful for the dedication of our extended family of faith, as together we can impact the lives of others far beyond the change we could affect on our own. To date, Ste. Anne's has raised

**\$4,425** towards our goal of **\$21,805 (20%)**. Please consider making your gift today by visiting [bostoncatholicappeal.org](http://bostoncatholicappeal.org). Your gift has an immediate impact on our parish and the work of our Church. Thank you in advance for your generosity. Please contact the Parish Office with any questions or concerns at 978.744.1930.

**Maintenance Person Needed**



Are you or someone you know seeking part-time work? Ste. Anne's is actively seeking a Maintenance Technician. The position is 10-15 hours per week and includes essential duties to support our Church properties. For more information about the job responsibilities, please contact Michelle Kolodziej at 978.744.1930 or by email to [michelle.kolodziej@stannesalem.org](mailto:michelle.kolodziej@stannesalem.org).

*Ever living God, help us to celebrate our joy in the resurrection of our Lord and to express in our lives the love we celebrate. ~ Roman Rite*

# Teamwork



A sincere thank you to all of you who have contributed to this year's Catholic Appeal.

If you have not had the opportunity to donate, there is still time! Just visit [bostoncatholicappeal.org](http://bostoncatholicappeal.org) or scan the code below to make your gift today.



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