

Saint Ann's Parish

2013 Gilpin Avenue, Wilmington, Delaware 19806-2294

Tel: (302) 654-5519 • Fax: (302) 654-5527 • Website: www.stannwilmington.com

December 19, 2021 – The Fourth Sunday of Advent



Rev. John J. Mink, Pastor

Rev. Richard J. Jasper, Associate Pastor

Deacon Matthew F. Boyer, Esq. Seminarian James M. Gebhart

Mrs. Pat Grant – St. Ann's School Principal (www.thesaintannschoool.org)

MASSES

Saturday Vigil

4:00 PM

Sunday

7:30 AM, 10:30 AM,

CONFESSIONS

Saturday

8:30AM-9:30AM

DAILY MASSES

Monday through Friday

8:00AM

RECTORY HOURS 9AM-4PM Monday to Friday

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 19, 2021



Dear Parishioners, Visitors & Friends,

The candles of our Advent Wreath burn as we draw closer to the day of the Lord's coming. Mary leads us in faith, opening our lives to the grace of Christ. "The Lord God" gives her a son, "the throne of David His Father." Our God keeps His promises to us and calls us to be faithful to Him.

As we prepare to celebrate the birth of our Savior, Christ the Lord, I would like to extend the blessings of Christmas to you and your families on behalf of myself, Fr. Jasper, and our entire parish staff. May we also pray for all of our families who may be unable to get together this Christmas due to health concerns. Please also keep in your hearts our military service members overseas for their sacrifice to our country. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! ---Fr. Mink, Fr. Jasper, Deacon Boyer and Seminarian Gebhart

The St. Ann "APP": Associate Pastor's Perspective I keep a box on my desk that a student once gave me as a Christmas gift that has the word "faith" written boldly across the lid, the letter 't' designed to look like the Cross. It has, over the years, become somewhat of a memory box for me, and I have filled it with photos, prayer cards and newspaper clippings that have meant something to me along the journey.

From time to time, I return to the box in search for inspiration or simply a quick-trip down memory lane. Recently, I came across the following prayer that I had cut out of a Catholic magazine that is no longer published. I can't say why I thought to save it those many years ago, but it must have touched my heart deeply at the time.

As we approach the celebration of Christmas and all the activity that comes with the holiday season, it's easy to forget that there are many among us carrying the burden of caring for a loved one or friend who is suffering. Much too often, I have found, we remember to pray for and ask about the one who is ill, but we sometimes forget about the spouse or child, sibling or hospice worker who steps in to provide for the full-time physical, emotional and mental needs of a loved one.

In that spirit of offering prayer for with them and for them as we end these Advent days, may this "Caregiver's Prayer" (written by the Friends of St. John the Caregiver) be one of those clippings you, too, place in your prayer book, memory box or on the fridge to pray when you need it most:

Heavenly Father, help me better understand and believe I can do what you ask me to do.

Forgive me for the times, even now, when I question Your judgment.

As I go about the many daily tasks of caregiving, give me energy.

As I answer his/her repeated questions just one more time, give me patience.

As I look for solutions to whatever is the most recent concern, give me wisdom.

As I reminisce with him/her about the "good old days," give me a moment of genuine laughter.

As I get to know my loved one in a new way, seeing both his/her strength and frailty, give me joy.

As I sit beside my loved one's bedside waiting for his/her pain medication to take effect, give me comfort.

Lighten my burden, answer my prayer, and give me the strength to do what so often seems impossible.

Give me a quiet place to rest when I need it and a quieting of my anxieties when I am there.

Change my attitude from a tired, frustrated and angry caregiver to the loving and compassionate one I want to be.

Remain my constant Companion, Lord, as I face the challenges of caregiving ...

And when my job is through and it's time for me to let go, help me remember he/she is leaving my loving arms to enter your Eternal Embrace. Amen.

CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE – If you have not returned your gift yet, the due date was last Sunday December 12th. For more info as to how and where to still drop off the gift, contact Katie O'Connor @ madello@msn.com.

ADVENT BIBLE STUDY - Join Deacon Matthew Boyer in Church at **6:30 p.m. TOMORROW Monday, December 20** as we study and pray with the upcoming Sunday's Gospel. A copy of the Scripture passages will be provided. Please consider taking some time in these final days of the Advent season to reflect and prepare for the coming of Christ in history, mystery and majesty.



The St. Ann's 2021 Christmas Mass Schedule



<i>December 24th</i>	<i>4pm</i>	<i>(Church & Social Hall) Christmas Eve Mass</i>
<i>December 24th</i>	<i>7pm & 10pm</i>	<i>(Church) Christmas Eve Mass</i>
<i>December 25th</i>	<i>9am & 11am</i>	<i>(Church) Christmas Day Mass</i>
<i>December 26th</i>	<i>7:30am & 10:30am</i>	<i>Regular Mass schedule</i>
<i>December 27-31st</i>	<i>9am</i>	<i>Daily Mass ONLY</i>
<i>December 31st</i>	<i>4pm</i>	<i>Vigil Mass</i>
<i>January 1st</i>	<i>9:30am</i>	<i>New Year's Day Mass</i>
<i>January 1st</i>	<i>4pm</i>	<i>Regular Saturday Mass</i>
<i>January 2nd</i>	<i>7:30am & 10:30am</i>	<i>Regular Sunday Mass</i>

Please note that there is NOT a morning mass on December 24th. Also reservations are NOT required for any of the masses. The Rectory Office will be closed Thursday December 23rd, Friday December 24th and Monday December 27th for the Christmas Holiday and Friday December 31st for New Year's.



Today, Sunday, December 19th marks the fourth and final week of Advent. It is during this week that we will light the final purple candle to mark the last week of prayer and patience as we excitedly await the birth of our savior, Jesus Christ. The Pre-K 3 students who we call the Mustang Minis are enjoying learning about Advent and all of the wonderful things that it encompasses. Some of the ways that we learned about advent are through reenacting the major scene, painting ornaments for our Jesse Tree and by being extra reverent during prayer circle.

Another exciting happening in Pre-K 3 are the wonderful new additions we have in our outside play area. The SAS Home and School Association generously donated play houses, sand tables, water tables, chalk boards and small cars that the children can "drive". It is Such great fun!

Mrs. Ryan, myself and the Pre-K 3 friends wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year. - **Submitted by St. Ann's PreK 3 Teacher, Mrs. Lisa Stewart**

St. Ann's Christmas Choir Concert – A "BIG" thank you to everyone involved with making our annual Christmas Concert such a success. We are so blessed to have such talented men and women who give so much of their time and talent to our parish. Another wonderful and inspiring concert at St. Ann's! Now...who's ready for Christmas!

Annual Catholic Appeal – There's still time to support the ministries of the Annual Catholic Appeal. As the close of 2021 approaches, take the opportunity to improve lives and make a 2021 tax-deductible donation to the Appeal. St. Ann's is at 87% or \$125,500 of our \$140,000 goal. Any amount reached over the goal comes back 100% to St. Ann's. If you haven't yet given, please think about donating to this much worthy cause. Thank you for your kindness.

Need to register for St. Ann's? Visit our website www.stannwilmington.com and select the parish registration button. You can either print the form and drop off to the rectory or fill out online and email it back to us.

Mass Intentions

****Priests will be saying Mass Intentions privately for each 6:30am daily mass & the 8am Saturday Mass**

Saturday December 18

**8:00 A.M. Mary Cunningham & Deceased members of the Cunningham family

4:00P.M. Anne & James P. Kane, Sr

Sunday December 19

7:30 A.M. James & Rose Julian

10:30 A.M. Florence M. Garofalo
Benjamin L. Stanley

Monday December 20

**6:30 A.M. Rita Draper Mozeleski

8:00 A.M. Harris/Montague families

Tuesday December 21 St. Peter Canisius

**6:30 A.M. David Michael Young

8:00 A.M. Margaret Boecky Roser
Michelina Vella

Wednesday December 22

**6:30 A.M. Robert Buccini

8:00 A.M. Daniel J. Monigle

***9:15 A.M. Gloria Manubay (School Mass)

*****Not a Public Mass**

Thursday December 23 St. John of Kanty

**6:30 A.M. Caz Rynkowski

8:00 A.M. Jane Scott Mahoney
Connie DeAscanis

Friday December 24 Christmas Eve

4:00 P.M. Charles H. McKinney (Church)

4:00 P.M. Henry/Theresa Deptula (Social Hall)

7:00 P.M. Joseph & Idella Bradley

10:00 P.M. Sancho & Gloria Manubay

Saturday December 25 Christmas Day

9:00 A.M. Mary Agnes Smallwood

11:00 A.M. Janet Salacki

Sunday December 26

7:30 A.M. Patrick Carter

10:30 A.M. Anna Kelley family

Pray for the sick, shut-ins and elderly of our Parish.

ST. ANN'S PRAYER LINE – to place a name on the prayer line contact Joe/ Shirley Ackerman at 384-7513 or joeshirl7@comcast.net.

Offertory for the weekend of December 5th was \$16,795. As always – thank you for your kind and generous support to St. Ann's.



HOLY MOMENTS



WE CONGRATULATE

MARGARET CHRISTINE KUHA

Daughter of Carsten & Christine Kuha

who was welcomed into the Christian community through Baptism

PLEASE DON'T FORGET US!!! Parish Giving is available for Online Offertory Giving – Visit our website and click the Parish Giving Button.

Election of Trustees – Each parish in the Diocese of Wilmington is incorporated within and by the laws of the State in which it is located. St. Ann is incorporated in the State of Delaware. The by-laws of the Corporation and the statutes of the Diocese of Wilmington provide for five trustees; the Bishop of the Diocese, and the Pastor, and a priest so designated by the Bishop, (these days it is the Chancellor of the Diocese) and two (2) lay persons are to be elected each January by duly registered members of the parish in the meeting called by the President (the Pastor). That election is scheduled for Sunday - January 9th, following the 10:30am Mass. Our current lay trustees are Charles Klous and David O'Connor.

Hospital Visitations – Make sure to email the Rectory at stannschurch@stannwilmington.com or call 654-5519 if you are in the hospital and would like the rectory to know. The pastoral services at the hospitals are no longer making weekly calls to update us on admissions.

Advent Prayer

Light of the world, enter the darkness of our hearts and renew us in faith, hope and love. As we prepare to celebrate the great mystery of the Incarnation, help us to see your presence in our world, especially in the needs of the poor. Strengthen us to become true peacemakers able to love our enemies and forgive those who have offended us. Lead us to acknowledge our own sinfulness, accept your mercy and extend your healing love to those around us. Amen...





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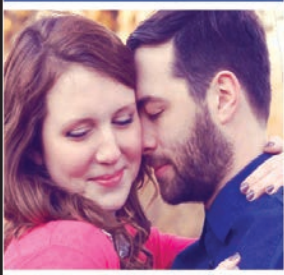
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