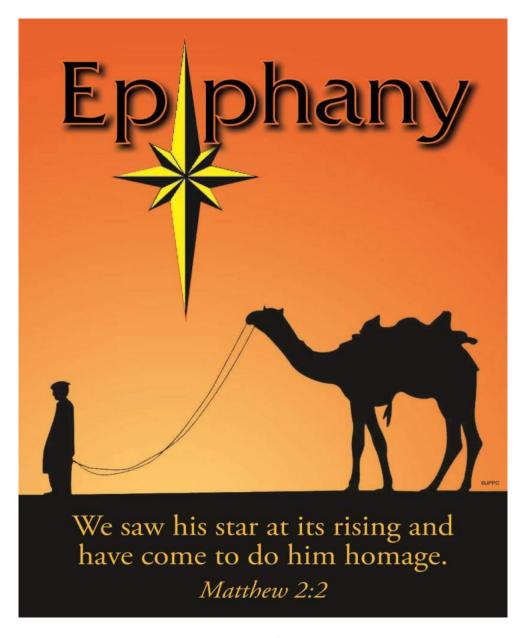
Saint Ann's Parish

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THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD, 1-8-23



Rev. John J. Mink, Pastor Rev. Richard J. Jasper, Associate Pastor Deacon Matthew F. Boyer, Esq. Ms. Rachael Casey – St. Ann's School Principal

MASSES

Saturday Vigil 4:00 PM Sunday 7:30 AM, 10:30 AM,

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 EPIPHANY OF THE LORD JANUARY 8, 2023

Dear Parishioners, Visitors & Friends,

Many thanks for your generous gifts, cards and prayers, given to all of us this Christmas. May this season find you abounding in love, rejoicing in hope, and secure in God's peace. I pray that God's richest blessings continue with you and yours through the New Year.

-- Fr. John Mink, Fr. Richard Jasper and Deacon Matthew Boyer

<u>The St. Ann "APP"</u>: Associate Pastor's Perspective - *Action News* anchor Jim Gardner was my childhood hero.

Other friends my age adored baseball's Mike Schmidt and the Flyers' Eric Lindros. One classmate's dream was to meet and play guitar with Bruce Springsteen.

Not me, though.

By age 10, I knew I wanted to be the next Jim Gardner. Who knows why, quite frankly. I didn't necessarily love history or current events, especially at that age. But I think I knew – even then – the power of television and the role Mr. Gardner played in "anchoring" the tri-state area. People listened to him, trusted him, and invited him into their homes and lives every evening. (Plus, I assumed he was rich, which certainly was an added incentive at age 10 in wanting to imitate him in "grown-up" life.)

One day in middle school, I decided to write a letter to him, asking for advice on breaking into the news business one day. To my pleasant surprise (more like sheer ecstatic joy), a response was sent a week later. I saved that letter for quite a while, and although I don't recall every piece of advice Mr. Gardner shared, this gem has always stayed with me: "Be interested in others' life stories, and honor their uniqueness. Speak truthfully and with utmost respect to everyone you meet."

God obviously had other plans for my life, replacing *Action News* with the Good News. And yet, Mr. Gardner's advice speaks powerfully not only to the vocation of priesthood but to our call as baptized followers of Christ: to honor the journey of each person we encounter, knowing that the presence of God dwells within every person, no exceptions. In many ways, that is the lesson of the Solemnity of the Epiphany: to give our lives and hearts to the One who makes His loving presence known in countless ways, including in and through the lives of those around us.

When Jim Gardner officially retired before Christmas, ending his 44-year-career at the WPVI anchor desk, I will admit I was filled with much emotion. He impacted my life in ways he will never know this side of eternity. And yet, I pray that I – and all of us – never forget the lesson he once offered to a 10-year-old star-struck kid with big *Action News* dreams: "Be interested in others and honor their uniqueness." If we do that, the Good News will be put into "Action."

Second Sunday Social with "Volunteer Fair" TODAY!!! Please join us Sunday, January 8th after the 10:30am mass for our Second Sunday Social. Members of the Welcoming Committee will be available to provide information about the parish, its events and also how to register. At this social, we will have members of various volunteer committees in attendance, so you can learn more about what they do!

ST VINCENT DEPAUL SOCIETY NEWS: Thanks in part to the generosity of St. Ann's parishioners, the St. Vincent DePaul Society (SVDP) recently helped a local family avoid being evicted from their home. The family fell several thousand dollars behind in rent when both the wife and husband were injured and missed substantial time at work. Working with a dozen other local SVDP conferences, our SVDP raised \$4,400 to help pay down the overdue rent and prevent eviction. The SVDP member who notified them of the amount of money raised said "I wish I could have put you all on some kind of conference call so you could hear how grateful they are. [The wife] even requested a call back so her husband could thank us. In their words, "we are determined to get back on our feet and find ways to help others." Thank you for your continued support of St. Ann's SVDP. Your prayers and financial support are invaluable to our efforts to help our neighbors in need. If you'd like to know more about the SVDP, please contact Conference President, Dave O'Connor, at madello@msn.com.

Need to officially become a St. Ann Parishioner? Visit our website www.stannwilmington.com and select the parish registration button. Just fill it out and email it back to us!

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Today we celebrate the feast of the Epiphany, where the Magi find the newborn king and offer him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. In the spirit of the Magi, please put your gift in the St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box so that comfort and peace can once again be given to a newborn child.

Interested in becoming Catholic? RCIA classes have begun (Wednesday evenings 6:30 to 7:30 pm) for those interested in joining the Church or for baptized Catholics who wish to complete their sacramental journey. It's never too late to join the conversation! For more information, please email Fr Jasper: rjasper@stannwilmington.com.

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). **This year, our meeting will be after the 10:30am mass next Sunday, January 15th. Our current lay trustees are Charles Klous and David O'Connor.**

St. Ann's Employment Opportunity - St. Ann Parish, located in the Highlands neighborhood of Wilmington, is seeking a multi-skilled person to join our maintenance department. This is a full-time position with benefits and a salary of \$20 - \$22 per hour. Valid driver's license required. Please send cover letter, resume and letters of recommendation to Mr. Patrick Cullen at pcullen@stannwilmington.com.

St. Ann's School Home and School News......the new date for trivia night (rescheduled because of the World Series) is **Saturday**, **January 28**. We apologize for multiple changes in date. If you were unable to attend before, you are in luck because there is room for more tables to sign up! Please contact Brian Klous at bklous@gmail.com or klousb@dnb.com to register your table or if you have any questions.

INTERESTED IN BAPTIZING YOUR CHILD AT ST. ANN'S? There is an online Baptism PREP class required if you have not taken a class within the last two years. Just visit the "Ascension Press" website and look for "Belonging". The cost for the class is \$9.95. Once you have taken the class, we can get you on our baptism calendar. We are only scheduling baptisms one each Sunday after the 10:30am mass – so approximately 11:30pm. For more info, email stannschurch@stannwilmington.com or call 654-5519.

Diocesan News....

9 Days for Life Live Novena - Join parishioners from across the Diocese of Wilmington in the Live Respect Life novena, 9 days for Life, Thursday, January 19 – Friday, January 27 at 8 pm. Get daily intentions, brief reflections, and more. Join us at https://www.cdow.org/catholic-diocese-of-wilmington-offices-and-ministries/respect-life/. If you are unable to join us live on the webinar, Sign up for emails or text messages at https://www.cdow.org/catholic-diocese-of-wilmington-offices-and-ministries/respect-life/. If you are unable to join us live on the webinar, Sign up for emails or text messages at https://www.cdow.org/catholic-diocese-of-wilmington-offices-and-ministries/respect-life/. If you are unable to join us live on the webinar, Sign up for emails or text messages at https://www.cdow.org/catholic-diocese-of-wilmington-offices-and-ministries/.

Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children - January 23, the Church in the United States observes the annual "Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children." This day is set aside to pray for the legal protection of human life and to do penance for the violations to human dignity through abortion. We are called to observe this day through prayer and penance. More information: respectlife.org/january-22.

Healing after Abortion - If you or someone you know is suffering after abortion, confidential, compassionate help is available. Visit HopeAfterAbortion.com or RachelsVineyard.org.

Mass Intentions

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

Saturday January 7 St. Raymond of Penyafort

**8:00 A.M. William Biordi

4:00 P.M. Kenny Ackerman

Bernie Barrish & Linda Prickett

Sunday January 8

7:30 A.M. Regan & Sorbara family

9:00 A.M. Parishioners **PREP Mass

**Not a public mass

10:30 A.M. James J. Gallagher, Sr. Patrick Muzzi

Monday January 9

6:30A.M.** Bernhard & Kay Tittman

8:00 A.M. Sweeney & Reardon families

Intention of Pamela & Paul Mathis

Tuesday January 10

6:30A.M.** Msgr. Paul J. Taggart

8:00 A.M. Michael P. Kelly

Wednesday January 11

6:30A.M.** Jeffrey Peacock

8:00 A.M. Intention of Connie & Frank Varone

Thursday January 12

6:30A.M.** Claire Pistone

8:00 A.M. Sonny DeMeo

Douglas Wheeler

Friday January 13 St. Hilary, Bishop & Dr.

6:30A.M.** Arthur Vincent Leon

8:00 A.M. John Tharan

Saturday January 14

**8:00 A.M. Patricia Choma

4:00 P.M. M/M Francis T. Smith

Sunday January 15

7:30 A.M. Parishioners

John Tharan

10:30 A.M. Special Intention of Joe & Shirley

Ackerman

Pray for the sick and elderly of our Parish

Offertory for the weekend of December 24th was \$16,859 and the Christmas collection was \$17,878. As always, thank you for your support!

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

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





St. Ann's Chapel Candle this week is in memory of:

MICHAEL P. KELLY

Hospital Visitations – Make sure to email the Rectory at 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.

Listen to Catholic Forum every Saturday afternoon at 1:30 on Relevant Radio 640. Next Saturday, January 14th learn about the new book, "The Prayer Book for Tired Parents" by Debbie and David Cowden. Catholic Forum airs on Saturday afternoons at 1:30pm on Relevant Radio 640. However you can listen online any time after 2pm at www.cdow.org/CatholicForum.

"MEMORIAL VOTIVE CANDLES" – Dedicate the sanctuary candle in front of the Blessed Sacrament in both the church and the Divine Mercy Adoration Chapel in memory of your deceased loved one. The offering will be \$20.00 for the week per each location. The dedications will be published in the parish bulletin the week prior. Just send in your check for the offering and also note the requested week you would like to reserve. For questions, contact the rectory at stannschurch@stannwilmington.com. or call 302-654-5519.

The Cast Is Set for the 2023 St. Ann's School Musical – The Music Man Jr. - Mark your calendars for March 31st and April 1st as the cast and crew travel to River City, Iowa! There's sure to be lots of singing, dancing and drama when Professor Harold Hill comes to town! Hope to see you there.

Are you Using Our Online Parish Giving and Don't Need Your Weekly Envelopes? Please let us know so that we can cancel them. Just call us at 302-654-5519 or email the rectory at stannschurch@stannwilmington.com.

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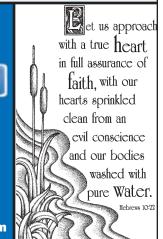
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