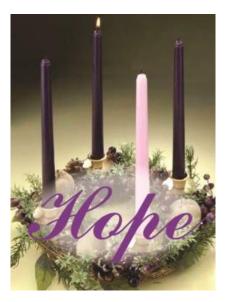
ST. ANN'S CHURCH THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT 12-3-2023 2013 Gilpin Avenue, Wilmington, Delaware 19806-2294 Tel: (302) 654-5519 • Fax: (302) 654-5527 • Website: www.stannwilmington.com

MASSES

Saturday Vigil Sunday Monday through Friday 4:00 PM 7:30 AM, 10:30 AM 8:00 AM **CONFESSIONS -** Saturday 8:30am-9:30am in the reconciliation room in the church vestibule.



PARISH CLERGY Rev. John J. Mink, Pastor Rev. Eric Frimpong, Associate Pastor Deacon Matthew Boyer, Esq. Mr. Eric Gianforcaro, Seminarian

THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE – call the Rectory at least 12 months in advance. *Initial meeting with couple* & *St. Ann's priest required before setting wedding date*. **THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM** – Completion of Parent Baptismal Program with Godparent guidelines required before setting baptism date. Call the rectory for more info.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION – For info on the Chapel go to www.stannwilmington.com/parish information or email adorationchapel.stann@gmail.com.

ST. VINCENT DePAUL SOCIETY - Provides emergency help/assistance to the needy. Call (302) 658-9876. **VISITS TO THE SICK & HOMEBOUND** – can be arranged on a temporary or regular basis by the

homebound person, an immediate family member or care giver. We are happy to bring the sacraments.

PARISH MUSIC PROGRAM Director: Andrew Trites Email <u>atrites@stannwilmington.com</u> Choir Rehearsal: Wednesdays in the Social Hall at 7pm.

Couples being married are to contact the director for an appointment several months before the requested date.

PARISH ADVISORY GROUP - Charles Klous, Finance Council Executive Officer ST. ANN SCHOOL age 3 – grade 8 2006 Shallcross Ave., Wilmington, DE 19806-2295 Tel: (302) 652-6567 Fax: (302) 652-1241 www.thesaintannschool.org Ms. Rachael Casey – Principal, rcasey@thesaintannschool.org Mrs. Bonnie Tsaldaris – info & admissions btsaldaris@thesaintannschool.org

PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM Student PREP, First Reconciliation/First Eucharist For info contact the office: (302) 654-8504. CONFIRMATION PROGRAM (Grade 8) For info contact Mrs. Lynne Dickinson, Coordinator mdickinson@thesaintannschool.org

ESTATE PLANNING – We are grateful to parishioners who have included St. Ann's in their plans with a legacy gift in their memory. For more info, contact Patrick Cullen at 654-5519 or email <u>pcullen@stannwilmington.com</u>.

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 3, 2023

From Fr. Eric: (Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7 - Psalm 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 - 1 Corinthians 1:3-9- Mark 13:33-37)

Be watchful! Be alert! (Mark 13:33)

Today we begin our Advent journey and prepare for Jesus' coming at Christmas. So, we should expect today's Gospel to refer to his birth. However, Jesus is not talking about **Christmas** when he says, **"Be watchful! Be alert!"** (Mark 13:33). He is urging his disciples to be vigilant as they wait for his return. We might wonder, why are we hearing about the Second Coming? Isn't Advent about Jesus' first coming? Well, yes. But as **St. Bernard of Clairvaux once said, we can ponder three "comings" of the Lord during Advent.**

First, there's Jesus' **coming as a baby in Bethlehem**. So, we can enter into the Jewish people's longing for the Messiah. Next, there's his **Second Coming in glory at the end of time**. We can be watchful as we ready our hearts for Jesus' return. **Finally**, we can experience **a third** coming of Jesus—**his coming into our hearts right now**. In fact, it is this coming of Christ that brings together all that we do during this holy season.

Jesus comes to us every day. He is not passive; he does not wait for us to climb some mountain, like Zacchaeus, to find him. He is the initiator. He actively pursues us and seeks us out. That is why he became a man; that is why he promised to be with us always (Matthew 28:20). And that is why he seeks to come into our lives this Advent.

Jesus comes to remind us to pause in our busy lives. He comes to inspire us to pray and read his word. He reminds us that he is with us, even when we feel alone. He stirs our conscience so that we could turn away from sin and move toward his mercy. He comes to us in a friend or stranger in need of kindness. Jesus is constantly seeking ways to come to us. And the more alert we are to his coming now, the more ready we will be when he comes again.

So be alert! The Lord who loves you is walking beside you. Will you notice him? "Jesus, help me to be aware of the ways that you come to me this Advent." (WAU)

Please join us for our Christmas Concert, next Sunday, December 10th at 2:00pm in the church

FOOD FOR GOD'S HUNGRY CHILDREN - Thank you for your generosity in donating food to feed God's hungry children through the Food Shelf in New Castle and MARYDALE. Your donations make our Knights of Columbus most welcome at both establishments. We tell them we are only the carriers of the food donated by our wonderful Parishioners. Of course, you may continue to leave the food in the plastic Knights of Columbus bins in the Vestibule of our Church. Lists of the foods requested are printed and displayed in page holders in the vestibule of our church. You are welcome to take a copy home with you. God bless you for all you do.

The **SVDP CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE** will be set up Saturday, December 2, 2023 in the church sanctuary. Tags on the tree represent gift requests for families assisted by our Saint Vincent DePaul Society throughout 2023. If you take a tag please return the WRAPPED GIFT WITH THE TAG ATTACHED UNDER THE TREE NO LATER THAN SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17th. For more information contact Katie O'Connor at <u>madello@msn.com</u>.

First Sunday of Advent: As we begin Advent we are called to "Be watchful! Be alert" as we stand in joyful anticipation for the grace of Christmas to once again bless our lives. **Your gift in the St. Vincent** de Paul Poor Box will help the poor to celebrate the grace of God's love this Christmas. Donation envelopes are at the back of the church. You can also donate through the parish website (<u>https://www.stannwilmington.com/support</u>) and the Parish Giving portal (<u>https://www.parishgiving.org/index</u>).

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS FOR VETERANS! You donated 695 items for our Veterans in Nursing Homes in the area. Specifically, you donated 6 fleece pajama pants, 3 Sleep pants, 40 V-neck T-shirts, 60 Crew neck T-shirts, 240 socks, 419 disposable razors, 19 cans of shaving cream, 1 antiperspirant deodorant, 8 tubes of toothpaste, 9 tooth brushes and 2 bottles of Body Wash. Our Knights of Columbus will combine all these items with those donated by three other Parishes in the County for distribution to the Veterans in the Wilmington VA Hospital Nursing Home, the Coatesville, PA VA Hospital Nursing Home, and in the Home of the Brave in Milford. Thank you for your generosity!

Save the Date for our next PARISH HOLY HOUR 6:30 pm in Church - Monday, December 11th, the theme will be the Holy Season of Advent.

"**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 <u>stannschurch@stannwilmington.com</u> or call 302-654-5519.

Christmas with Mark Twain, a solo performance by Fr. Paul Mast, is set for Sunday, December 10 at 3pm at St. Joseph Parish Hall, 319 E. Main St, Middletown, DE. Tickets are \$12.00 and include a Basket Raffle entry. There is no charge for students under the age of 18. Additional Basket Raffle entries are 3 for \$10. Fr. Mast will sell signed copies of his book and refreshments will be served following the performance. Proceeds from the event benefit the restoration of St. Francis Xavier Shrine in Warwick, MD. Go to https://bit.ly/TwainChristmas to purchase tickets. For additional information, email OldBohemiaHS@gmail.com.

ULSTER PROJECT DELAWARE 2024 - Ulster Project Delaware (UPD) is currently seeking adventureseeking applicants, aged 14 -16, for its annual month-long peace, service and leadership project in July 2024. American teens and their families host Protestant and Catholic teens from Northern Ireland as they seek to learn tolerance, build understanding and gain lifelong friendships. All teens participate in day trips to NYC, DC, Philadelphia, Hershey Park and the beach; service projects; leadership and team building events; visits to various places of worship; and fun local outings. Teens of all faiths and nationalities are encouraged to apply. The cost is minimal and the experience is priceless! There will be an Information Session on *Thursday 12/07/2023 at 6:30 PIM* at the Claymont Library, 400 Lenape Way, Claymont DE 19703. Applications are now being accepted. Visit <u>www.ulsterprojectdelaware.org</u> for more information and email any questions to <u>applyupd@gmail.com</u> or call Ruth Langrehr at 302.893.1878.

Please visit and "like" our Facebook page. (Use the QR code by holding your smart phone camera over the QR code pictured. You will be <u>directed to the Facebook page on your phone.</u>)





Mass Intentions

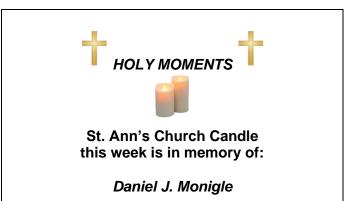
Widss Interitions
**Priests will be saying Mass Intentions
privately for each 6:30am daily mass & the
8am Saturday Mass
Saturday December 2
**8:00A.M. Anne Elizabeth Murphy
4:00P.M. Joseph & Evelyn Dorris
Kenny Ackerman
Sunday December 3
7:30 A.M. Virginia Catherine Marie Wallace
***9:00 A.M. Parishioners
PREP Mass – not a public mass
10:30 A.M. John C. Volk, Jr.
Ann Snyder
Monday December 4 St. John Damascene
**6:30 Å.M. Charles Farino
8:00 A.M. Intentions of Mike and Chris Eckrich
James P. Garofalo
Tuesday December 5
**6:30 A.M. Barbara Chudzik
8:00 A.M. Cornelius J. Reardon
Mulrine & Boeck Families
Wednesday December 6 St. Nicholas
**6:30 A.M. Joan Songer
8:00 A.M. Edward Reilly
Gail Harris
Thursday December 7 St. Ambrose
**6:30 A.M. Intentions of Anne Whitehead
8:00 A.M. Sweeney & Reardon Families
Friday December 8 The Immaculate
Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
**6:30 A.M. Joseph Vattilano
8:00 A.M. Ceil Haywood
Anita Flynn
9:15 A.M. Parishioners – School Mass, not a
public Mass
5:30 P.M. Intentions of Jo Regan and Family
Saturday December 9 St. Juan Diego
**8:00A.M. Mary Farino
4:00P.M. Jerry Grossman
Anita Flynn
Sunday December 10
7:30 A.M. Louis P. Corrozi
Parishioners
10:30 A.M. Msgr. Paul J. Taggart
Pray for the sick and elderly of our Parish
Fiay for the Sick and Elderly of our PallSh

Offertory for the weekend of November 19 was \$11,293. As always, thank you for your support!

PLEASE DON'T FORGET US!!! Parish Giving is available for Online Offertory Giving – Visit our website and click the Parish Giving Button. **Hospital Visitations** – Make sure to email the Rectory at <u>stannschurch@stannwilmington.com</u> or call 654-5519 if you are in the hospital and would like the rectory to know.

Need to register for St. Ann's? Visit our website <u>www.stannwilmington.com</u>, print the form and drop it off at the rectory or email it back to us.

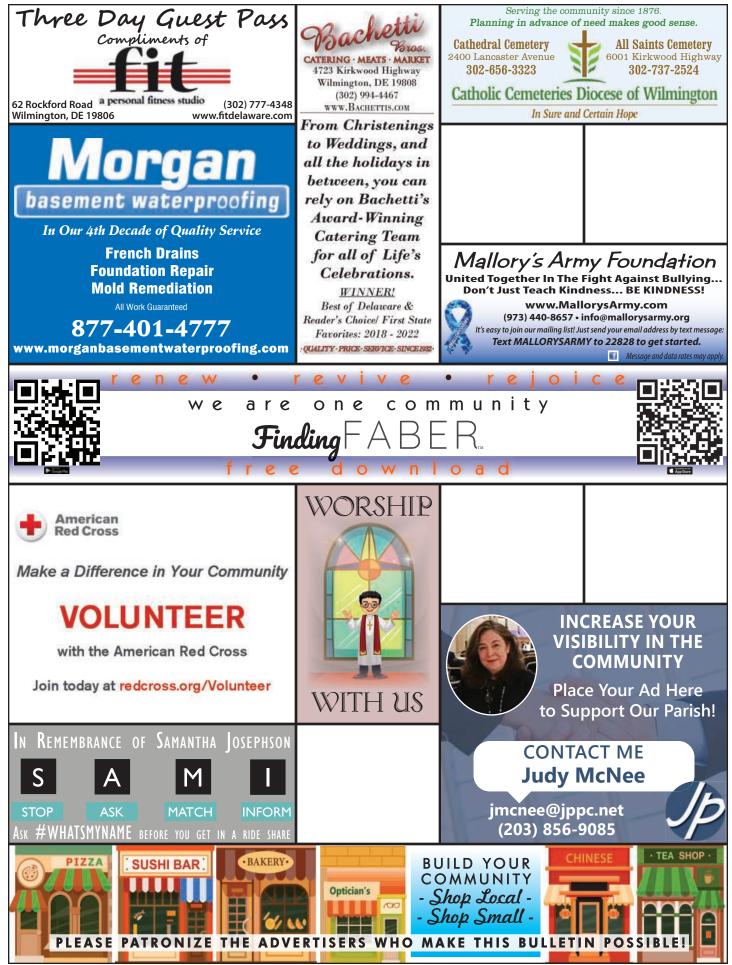
ST. ANN'S PRAYER LINE – to place a name on the prayer line contact Susana Saldivar at <u>susanasaldivar1@aol.com</u> or 302-824-0161.



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 schedule two baptisms on the 2nd and 3rd Sundays of each month. For info, call 654-5519 or email <u>stannschurch@stannwilmington.com</u>.





John Patrick Publishing Company 1-800-333-3166 (www.jppc.net)



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