

ST. ANN'S CHURCH
THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT – 3-10-2024

2013 Gilpin Avenue, Wilmington, Delaware 19806-2294

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

MASSES

Saturday Vigil

4:00 PM

Sunday

7:30 AM, 10:30 AM

Monday through Friday

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 – Open/closings call (302) 655-1639, email: adorationchapel.stann@gmail.com, website: www.stannwilmington.com/parishinformation.

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 atrites@stannwilmington.com 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.thesaintannschoool.org

Ms. Rachael Casey – Principal,

rcasey@thesaintannschoool.org

Mrs. Bonnie Tsaldaris – info & admissions

btsaldaris@thesaintannschoool.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@thesaintannschoool.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 pcullen@stannwilmington.com.

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT
MARCH 10, 2024

From Fr. Eric:

Today, the Fourth Sunday of Lent is often called *Laetare* (Rejoice) Sunday since our Entrance Antiphon from Isaiah 66:10-11 is: "**Rejoice, Jerusalem! Be glad for her, you who love her; rejoice with her, you who mourned for her.**" Why does the Church invite us in the middle of the penitential season of Lent to rejoice? **We rejoice because our Lenten observances look forward to the glory and hope of the resurrection.** Consequently, our readings assure us that God loves us and is coming to our rescue.

Our first reading tells us that when Israel was in Exile they did not remain in their exile, they did not pass into extinction but they were preserved and were even allowed to return home! That's a reason to rejoice, that's a cause for hope!

The chronicler, the author of the first reading, paints a shameful picture of God's people repeatedly piling up one sin upon another. He maintains: "All the princes of Judah, the priests, and the people added infidelity to infidelity, practicing all the abominations of the nations and polluting the Lord's Temple." No matter how many messengers the Lord sends them, they refuse to hear God's call to repentance. Like a parent who runs out of ways to discipline his or her children, God has "no remedy." So, he allows them to be defeated by their enemies and taken into exile for seventy years. Only after they repent sincerely does God free his people through Cyrus, king of Persia, who orders them to go back to rebuild their Temple in Jerusalem to "fulfill the word of the Lord."

Today's Gospel reading is taken from John's Gospel. It consists of two parts. The first part is the final sentence of Jesus' reply to Nicodemus, the Pharisee who approached Jesus at night. In the part of the conversation with Nicodemus, Jesus referred to an incident reported in the Old Testament. When the Israelites grumbled against the Lord during their sojourn in the desert, God sent venomous serpents to punish them for their complaints. By recalling this story, Jesus alludes to the salvation that would be accomplished through his death and Resurrection.

The second part of today's Gospel is a theological reflection on Jesus' words to Nicodemus. In these reflections, John elaborates on a number of themes that are found in his Gospel: light and darkness, belief and unbelief, good and evil, salvation and condemnation. In John's reflection, we find an observation about human sinfulness. Jesus is the light that has come into the world, but people preferred the darkness. We wish to keep our sins hidden, even from God. Jesus has come into the world to reveal our sins so that they may be forgiven.

One would have thought that the sinful character of the human race would have called for judgment by the Son of God. On the contrary, Jesus affirmed to Nicodemus that God did not send his only begotten Son to condemn the world. This should be seen as condoning the evil deeds of humanity. God despises or loathes sin or evil but loves the sinner. He is always ready to give the sinner a second chance in the hope that he/she will learn from his/her mistakes, repent and take the path of eternal life. Jesus teaches that it is only the person who refuses to accept the chance that God has given him/her to amend his/her ways and believe in him that faces judgment.

This is the Good News; it is the reason for our rejoicing in this season of Lent and throughout our lives.

ONE GOOD HABIT FOR LENT: FEED THE HUNGRY – Our Knights of Columbus here at Saint Ann Parish make that easy for you by providing plastic Knights of Columbus bins just inside the front door of our church, in the vestibule for you to drop off cans or boxes of food for God's Hungry Children. For Lent you can make a pledge of a can or box of food a day and drop it in the bins daily or weekly. The Knights of Columbus will handle the rest for you! There is more information on flyers in the vestibule. God bless you all!

Fourth Sunday of Lent: In today's Gospel, God demonstrates great love for us by sending his Son so that we may believe in him. We demonstrate our great love for God by doing good works: reaching out to others, acting in justice and charity. **Through your almsgiving you are performing a good work; far greater than you think. Know that your nickel, dime, quarter, or dollar is multiplied by coins placed by others in the St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box.**

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: We are looking for ten people to get their feet washed during the Holy Thursday Mass on March 28th at 7pm. If you are interested please call the rectory at 302-654-5519 or email stannschurch@stannwilmington.com.

Lenten Bible Study – We are offering Bible Study sessions immediately after the 8:00am Mass until 9:15am on Mondays during the Lenten Season. We will reflect on the meaning of the upcoming Sunday's Gospel. Sessions will be held in the church on the following Mondays: **3/11, 3/18, & 3/25** (Holy Week). Take some time during your Lenten journey to reflect on the meaning of the Word of God.

Eucharistic Concert with Chris Brunelle - Please join us **Sunday, March 10th** at 2pm in the church for a concert with guest musician Chris Brunelle. Chris is a fabulous guitarist, singer, and songwriter who is coming to celebrate the Eucharist with us. Check out his website: <https://chrisbrunellemusic.com/> and his YouTube channel: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCRdcjB3HTyMxkP_imONR2Aw.

St. Ann Parish Annual Dinner – Save the date, Saturday, March 23rd in the Social Hall. Doors open at 5pm for refreshments, dinner at 5:30pm. Adults are \$16 and Children \$10. Includes three delicious courses of your favorite soup, salad, pasta, roast beef, and an assortment of desserts. There will be musical entertainment and beer and wine available to purchase. Go to www.stannwilmington.com/parish-activities/annualdinner for details and to book.

All are invited to the **13th CYM Pilgrimage** – **“Blessed are They/Bienaventurados son ellos”** – on **Saturday, March 23, 2024**, in Wilmington, DE. We hope to gather 1000 pilgrims this year to walk with Bishop Koenig through the route and encourage families to accompany their young people! The CYM Pilgrimage will be blessed this year by the presence of the Blessed Carlo Acutis Eucharistic Miracles Exhibit, which St. Elizabeth Parish will host throughout that weekend. Please register here: <https://www.cdowcym.org/events/detail/pilgrimage-2024>. Questions should be directed to catholicyouth@cdow.org.

THE SOUPER BOWL WINNERS: The big winners of our Parish Souper Bowl was the people who will be dining on the soup that you, our Parishioners brought to Church. The other Souper Bowl Winners were you, our Parishioners, who bought, brought, and donated the canned Soup to church and placed soup in the plastic Knights of Columbus containers in the vestibule. How much did you donate? The count was 921 cans and containers of soup, surpassing last year's total by three hundred cans. We thank you, our winners! May you continue to be generous to God's hungry children. May God bless you in this world and the next.

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



Mass Intentions

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

Saturday March 9 St. Frances of Rome

**8:00A.M. John Smallwood
4:00P.M. Jack & Eileen Lynam
David Morris

Sunday March 10

7:30 A.M. Parishioners
Thaddeus James Atkin, Jr.
10:30 A.M. JoAnn S. Carello
James Castello

Monday March 11

**6:30 A.M. Joan Everson
8:00 A.M. Anne M. McAdams

Tuesday March 12

**6:30 A.M. Mary Ann Ward
8:00 A.M. Florence M. Garofalo

Wednesday March 13

**6:30 A.M. Edward M. Winner
8:00 A.M. Judy Ann Gardner

Thursday March 14

**6:30 A.M. Rita Tigani
8:00 A.M. Alanna Smallwood

Friday March 15

**6:30 A.M. Doris DeHart
8:00 A.M. Kenny Ackerman

Saturday March 16

**8:00A.M. Rev. Robert Crawford
4:00P.M. Katie Much
Mr. & Mrs. Francis T. Smith

Sunday March 17 St. Patrick's Day

7:30 A.M. Tom Wertz
Robert Cleaver
10:30 A.M. Deceased members of the Reilly & Fry Families
Parishioners

Pray for the sick and elderly of our Parish

Offertory for the weekend of February 25th was \$10,088. 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.

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

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.



HOLY MOMENTS



Please pray for the repose of the soul of:

Mary Ann Ward & Jean Scalessa



**AUSTIN MARTIN CARTERETTE &
DELPHINE MIREILLE CARTERETTE
Children of Benjamin Carterette &
Rowena Gutana**

**NOLAN JOHN KAPA
Son of Zachary and Meghan Kapa**

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 stannschurch@stannwilmington.com.



"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 is \$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.

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