

ST. ANN'S CHURCH
THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT 12-1-2024

2013 Gilpin Avenue, Wilmington, Delaware 19806-2213
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.

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 online parent Baptismal program and compliance with Godparent eligibility policy is required before setting a baptism date. Call the rectory for more info.

EUCCHARISTIC 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.

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 wedding date.

PARISH ADVISORY GROUP – Charles Klous, Finance Council Executive Officer

EMMANUEL DINING ROOM - 8th of each month to volunteer or give donations contact Clair at 302-893-7182 or clair2413@gmail.com.

ST. ANN SCHOOL age 3 – grade 8
2006 Shallcross Ave., Wilmington, DE 19806-2295
Tel: 302-652-6567 Fax: 302-652-1241

www.thesaintannschoo.org

Ms. Rachael Casey – Principal,
rcasey@thesaintannschoo.org

Mrs. Bonnie Tsaldaris – info & admissions
btsaldaris@thesaintannschoo.org

PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

Student PREP, First Reconciliation/First Eucharist, contact Grace Donahue at gdonahue@stannwilmington.com or 302-654-8504.

CONFIRMATION PROGRAM (Grade 8)

For info contact Mrs. Lynne Dickinson, Coordinator
mdickinson@thesaintannschoo.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 302-654-5519 or email pcullen@stannwilmington.com

**THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 1, 2024**

From Fr. Eric: *I will raise up for David a just shoot. (Jeremiah 33:15)*

Happy Advent! This season of waiting and preparation is just what we need to get ready to welcome the Lord at Christmas. Yet Advent can so quickly become filled with parties, gift buying, and card writing, as well as apprehension or fears concerning difficult family situations. So how can we better embrace this season and the grace God has in store for us? Today's first reading gives us a beautiful image that can help us: "a just shoot" rising up to give us new life (Jeremiah 33:15).

The First Sunday of Advent marks the beginning of the liturgical year and a season of preparation for Christ's coming. Today's Gospel from Luke emphasizes the need for vigilance, prayer, and strength as we await the return of the Son of Man. Jesus warns of tribulations, but encourages his disciples not to fear, but to stand tall and find strength in faith. This message of hope was particularly meaningful for early Christians facing persecution and uncertainty. As we enter Advent, we are called to reflect, stay watchful, and rely on Christ's presence to endure challenges.

Jesus, the true "just shoot," wants to help us embrace a sense of peaceful waiting and joyful expectation in the midst of all the busyness and crowds. As we set aside time to be with him, he can help us lift our eyes to the heavens and ponder the star that is approaching Bethlehem and the empty manger that is waiting for the Savior.

He can also help us "prepare the way of the Lord" in our hearts (Luke 4:1) as we consider the ways in which our lives have become cluttered with self-centeredness or anger or pride. Jesus, the "just shoot," can give us the grace to see our sins and our anxieties more clearly and to bring them to him for forgiveness and healing.

If you're feeling the weight of the expectations and perhaps the tensions of the coming weeks, you're not alone. Say yes to God's invitation—to the disarming, gentle, "just shoot" that can bring you new life. Say yes to the One who longs to give you rest in the midst of the pressures in your life.

This Advent, let us commit ourselves to trusting in Jesus, the "just shoot." On a more personal note, let him meet you where you are, lead you to deeper surrender, and make you ready to receive his presence at Christmas!

*"Lord, your ways are so different from my ways.
Help me to receive all the grace you have for me this Advent."*

APPEAL UPDATE – Thank you to everyone who has donated to the 2024 Appeal. St. Ann's goal is \$143,500 and we currently have \$131,200 pledged towards that goal. ***We are still in need of \$12,300*** to meet our goal so we need your help! Will you help us reach our goal? Please prayerfully consider donating, especially if you have never given before. All monies collected over the goal will come back to the parish! Visit www.cdow.org/FAC to donate. Thank you as always for your generosity!

Second collection – The second collection this weekend is for the Retirement Fund for Religious.

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception is a Holy Day of Obligation, which is being observed on Monday, December 9th this year. Masses will be at 8am, 9:15am (School Mass) and 5:30pm

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.

ST. ANN'S PRAYER LINE – to place a name on the prayer line contact Susana Saldivar at susana.saldivar1@gmail.com or 302-824-0161.

CALLED BY NAME – Please fill out one of the yellow cards in the back of church with the name of someone you believe has a calling towards religious life and leave them in the offertory baskets.

ADVENT SCRIPTURE STUDY – We are offering Bible Study sessions immediately after the 8:00am Mass on Mondays during the *Season of Advent*. Sessions will be held in the church on the following Mondays: 12/2, 12/9, 12/16 from 8:30am – 9:15am. Take some time during this season to reflect on the meaning of the Word of God and grow in your relationship with our Lord.

“COME, LET US ADORE HIM” – Please join us for an *Advent Holy Hour* at St. Ann’s on **Monday, December 2nd at 6:30pm**. In this time of year when we’re preparing our hearts to receive Jesus in His Incarnation, it’s especially fitting to carve out time to be before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, to ask for his presence to change our hearts and our lives, and to bring our burdens and joys to Him. Our Holy Hour will include the Rosary, time for silent prayer, and Benediction of the Eucharist.

HOLY HOUR OF POWER – St. Joseph’s on French Street will be joining us at St. Ann’s for Adoration, Praise, and Worship Music on **Wednesday, December 4th at 6:30pm**. Please help up fill the church!

CHRISTMAS CONCERT – Please join us for our annual Christmas Concert in the church on **Sunday, December 8th at 2:00pm**. St. Ann School Band, St. Ann School Choir, and the St. Ann Parish Choir will perform. Contact Andrew Trites, Music Director, with questions: atrites@stannwilmington.com.

PENANCE SERVICE – Use the season of Advent to receive God’s grace, mercy, and forgiveness through the beautiful sacrament of Confession. There will be a brief Penance Service followed by confession with visiting priests from **6pm – 7pm on Monday, December 16th**.

THE SVDP GIVING TREE will be set up Saturday, November 30th in the church sanctuary. Tags on the tree represent gift requests for families assisted by our Saint Vincent DePaul Society throughout 2024. If you take a tag please return the *WRAPPED GIFT WITH THE TAG ATTACHED UNDER THE TREE NO LATER THAN **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15th***. For more information contact Katie O’Connor at madello@msn.com.

FUNERAL PACKETS AVAILABLE – It is important to think about our mortality, eternal life, and to know the funeral directives of the Catholic Church as to what is appropriate to know beforehand to have a meaningful celebration for you and your loved ones. It is best to *plan ahead* rather than in an emotional situation. The parish is here to help you plan and answer any questions with the parish funeral booklet located on the tables in the back of church and on our website, <https://www.stannwilmington.com/>. Additional copies are available in the parish office. Go to our website, click on “Sacraments,” then click on “Information on Funeral Planning.” You will find funeral options appropriate to your situation, along with a funeral planning sheet, approved scripture readings and music to assist you. Please contact the parish office with any questions after reading this guide.

OUR SCHOOL IS HIRING – Do you know someone who would make a great First Grade Assistant Teacher (Long Term Substitute)? Interested candidates may submit a resume and cover letter to the school at office@thesaintannschoool.org or to Principal Rachael Casey at rcasey@thesaintannschoool.org. For a job description, visit the school’s website at: <https://www.thesaintannschoool.org/about-us/employment-opportunities>.

SCHOOL NEWS – Field trip fun at the Herr’s Chip Factory! Our third graders got an up-close look at economics in action, exploring how goods and services, producers and consumers, and supply and demand all come together to make their favorite snacks. Plus, a special treat—sampling hot chips right off the conveyor belt!

SECOND SUNDAY SOCIAL – Save the date for **Sunday, December 15th**. We will have our 2nd Sunday Social this day because it is the second full weekend of December even though it’s technically the 3rd Sunday. ***We Want You!*** *to be the face of hospitality as a greeter on the Second Sunday of each month. Please welcome all who visit our Parish as they enter and send them out after Mass with a friendly face from our Parish. Those interested please contact Kim Perle at lal120g@verizon.net.*

EMMANUEL DINING ROOM – Our next lunch delivery will be **Sunday, December 8th**. We welcome any donations of cases of water, applesauce packs, and/or granola bars or Nutrigrain bars. If you would like to help, please drop items at 2413 W 17th St. or call Clair for pickup at 302-893-7182. Thank you for helping those in need.

Mass Intentions

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

Saturday November 30 St. Andrew

**8:00 a.m. All Souls
4:00 p.m. Joseph & Evelyn Dorris
Paul Mahoney, Sr.

Sunday December 1

7:30 a.m. Parishioners & Paul Mahoney, Sr.
10:30 a.m. Braun & Mooney Families
Eileen Frabizzio

Monday December 2

**6:30 a.m. Marcy Aitken
8:00 a.m. Georgina Sheing, Henry, & Janet Salacki

Tuesday December 3 St. Francis Xavier

**6:30 a.m. The intentions & protection of Todd Baylis Hammond & his loved ones
8:00 a.m. Charles Farino & Ellen Bleacher

Wednesday December 4 St. John Damascene

**6:30 a.m. Curt McMaster
8:00 a.m. James P. Garofalo
***9:15 A.M. Joe Vattilana & Sisters of St. Francis – **School Mass – not a public mass**

Thursday December 5

**6:30 a.m. Cornelius J. Reardon
8:00 a.m. Ashley Bailey & Michele Smith

Friday December 6 St. Nicholas

**6:30 a.m. Intentions of Fr. Eric Frimpong
8:00 a.m. Carl Engelbert
Barbara & John Hammerer

Saturday December 7 St. Ambrose

**8:00 a.m. John Francis (Jack) Hyde III
4:00 p.m. Art & Joan Connolly
William J. Pierce, Jr.

Sunday December 8

7:30 a.m. Parishioners & Irene H. Wood
10:30 a.m. Ceil Haywood & Paul Mahoney, Sr.
Pray for the sick and elderly of our Parish

Offertory for the weekend of November 17th was \$10,016. As always, thank you very much 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 stannschurch@stannwilmington.com or call 302-654-5519 if you are in the hospital and would like the rectory to know.

Give to St. Ann Church by scanning a QR Code:



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www.stannwilmington.com

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 302-654-5519 or email stannschurch@stannwilmington.com.

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