

**ST. ANN'S CHURCH**  
**THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT 3-23-2025**

2013 Gilpin Avenue, Wilmington, Delaware 19806-2213  
Tel: (302) 654-5519 • Fax: (302) 654-5527 • Website: [www.stannwilmington.com](http://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.*

**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](mailto:adorationchapel.stann@gmail.com), website: [www.stannwilmington.com/parishinformation](http://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](mailto: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** - 8<sup>th</sup> of each month to volunteer or give donations contact Clair at 302-893-7182 or [clair2413@gmail.com](mailto: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

<https://www.thesaintannschoool.org>

Ms. Rachael Casey – Principal,

[rcasey@thesaintannschoool.org](mailto:rcasey@thesaintannschoool.org)

Mrs. Bonnie Tsaldaris – info & admissions

[btsaldaris@thesaintannschoool.org](mailto:btsaldaris@thesaintannschoool.org)

**PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM**

Student PREP, First Reconciliation/First Eucharist, contact Grace Donahue at [gdonahue@stannwilmington.com](mailto:gdonahue@stannwilmington.com) or 302-654-8504.

**CONFIRMATION PROGRAM (Grade 8)**

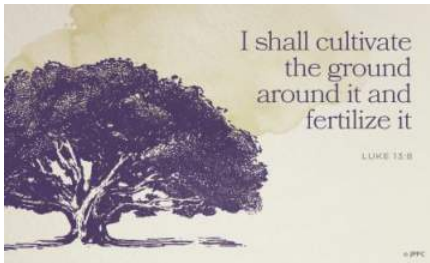
For info contact Mrs. Lynne Dickinson, Coordinator

[mdickinson@thesaintannschoool.org](mailto: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 302-654-5519 or email [pcullen@stannwilmington.com](mailto:pcullen@stannwilmington.com)

**THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT**  
**MARCH 23, 2025**

**From Fr. Eric:**      *God's patience and mercy invites us to repentance (Luke 13:5)*



In today's Gospel, we encounter a powerful message about God's patience and mercy, particularly in the context of repentance and the call to bear fruit in our lives. Jesus uses the parable of the barren fig tree to illustrate the divine gardener's plea for mercy and the importance of producing good fruits as evidence of our faith. This theme resonates deeply with us, especially as we journey through Lent, a season dedicated to reflection, repentance, and renewal.

Luke 13:1-9 recounts a parable about a barren fig tree. The owner, after three years of fruitlessness, decides to cut it down. However, the gardener intervenes, suggesting that the tree should be given another year to grow. He proposes to cultivate the surrounding ground and fertilize it, hoping for future fruit. This parable likely reminded the audience of Israel's reputation as a "vineyard of the Lord" that produces fruit in season (Isaiah 5:7; Psalm 1:3). Jesus emphasized God's patience with sinners, reminding them that He would cultivate and nurture them until their day of reckoning.

This call to repentance is echoed in the first reading from Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18, where God establishes a covenant with Abram, promising him land and descendants. Abram's faith is credited to him as righteousness, illustrating the importance of trust in God's promises.

The responsorial psalm (Psalm 27) reinforces this theme of seeking the Lord as our light and salvation, urging us to wait on the Lord with courage and strength. In the second reading from Philippians 3:17-20, St. Paul encourages the faithful to follow his example and to focus on heavenly things rather than earthly desires. Together, these readings highlight the covenant relationship between God and His people, the necessity of faith, and the urgent call to repentance.

We recognize God's patience, but we don't know when our day of reckoning will arrive. Consider the fate of the Galilean Jews killed by Pilate (Luke 13:1-3). The people who heard of this tragedy asked Jesus about the victims' sins. Jesus refuted this notion, asserting that they were no more sinful than anyone else. Instead, He urged repentance.

God not only commands us to repent but also to "produce good fruits as evidence of [our] repentance" (Luke 3:8). This fruitfulness is the essence of Lent: repent and remain faithful to the gospel. The good news is that we are not alone in bearing fruit. Jesus, our faithful Gardener, is here to guide us in addressing the areas of our lives that need repentance. He will nurture our hearts, prune the branches that lead us astray, and pour out His grace to help us grow.

*"Thank you, Lord, for being patient with me so as to bear fruit!"*

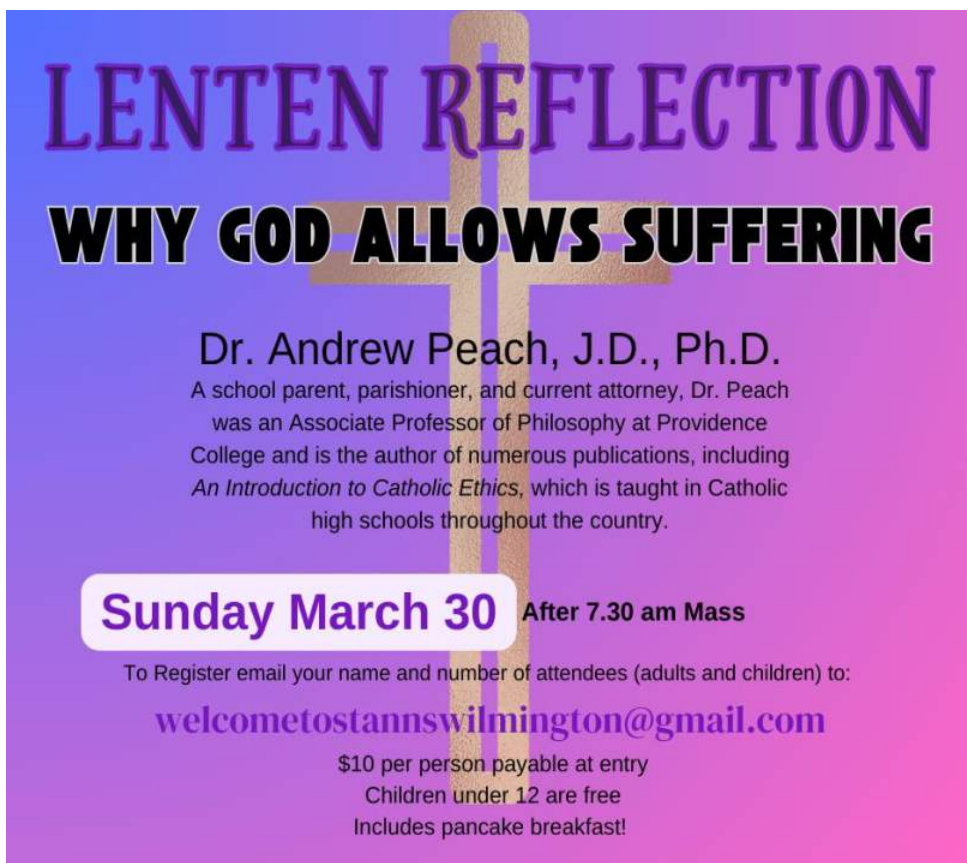
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**INTERESTED IN BAPTIZING YOUR CHILD AT ST. ANN'S?** There is an online Baptism PREP class required if you have not taken a class within the last two years. Just visit the "Ascension Press" website and look for "Belonging." The cost for the class is \$9.95. Once you have taken the class, we can get you on our baptism calendar. We schedule two baptisms on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of each month. For info, call 302-654-5519 or email [stannschurch@stannwilmington.com](mailto:stannschurch@stannwilmington.com).

**BISHOP KOENIG VISITING ST. ANN'S** – Our Chapel of Divine Mercy has been designated as one of the Jubilee sites for pilgrimages and pious visits within the Diocese of Wilmington until December 28, 2025. Therefore, Bishop Koenig will be here at St. Ann's on **Sunday, April 6<sup>th</sup>** to celebrate the 10:30am Mass. For additional information about the Jubilee, please visit the Vatican website: [jubilaum2025.va](http://jubilaum2025.va).

**PAUSING FOOD DONATIONS IN THE CHURCH VESTIBULE** – Our Knights of Columbus Council must pause collecting food donations at the rear of the church. Please do not leave any food there for the foreseeable future. We thank everyone for their past generosity and hope to resume collections in the future. God bless you all. - Msgr. Dewson Council

**2025 Faith and Charity Catholic Appeal – “Together in Hope”** – Embracing the gospel message, "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit" (Romans 15:13), we invite you to join us in our 2025 Faith and Charity Catholic Appeal under the theme “Together in Hope.” This Appeal is a call for us to unite in faith, as a community bound by hope, trusting in God’s providence and guided by the Spirit. Just as hope sustains us through life’s challenges, our collective generosity will bring forth abundant blessings for those in need within our diocese. Your giving is not only a response to the call of Christ but a powerful expression of our shared hope and solidarity. Let us unite in giving, confident that together we can make a transformative difference in the lives of thousands. “Together in Hope,” we can achieve more than we ever could alone. Join the Appeal and be a vital part of the hopeful journey we share in faith and charity. Thank you to everyone who has pledged to the Faith and Charity Catholic Appeal. Your participation is a beacon of hope that strengthens our community. If you have not yet participated, please consider doing so today. Your gift makes a real and lasting impact on the lives of individuals and families across our 12-county diocese. Pledge envelopes are available in the pews and in the back of church and can be placed in the offertory baskets. Thank you for your generosity and support. To learn more about the Faith and Charity Catholic Appeal, visit [www.cdow.org](http://www.cdow.org); click “Giving” then “Faith and Charity Catholic Appeal.”



**LENTEN REFLECTION**  
**WHY GOD ALLOWS SUFFERING**

**Dr. Andrew Peach, J.D., Ph.D.**  
 A school parent, parishioner, and current attorney, Dr. Peach was an Associate Professor of Philosophy at Providence College and is the author of numerous publications, including *An Introduction to Catholic Ethics*, which is taught in Catholic high schools throughout the country.

**Sunday March 30** After 7.30 am Mass

To Register email your name and number of attendees (adults and children) to:  
[welcometostannswilmington@gmail.com](mailto:welcometostannswilmington@gmail.com)

\$10 per person payable at entry  
 Children under 12 are free  
 Includes pancake breakfast!



**STATIONS OF THE CROSS** take place every Friday in Lent at 6pm and on Good Friday they are at 7pm.

**LENTEN BIBLE STUDY**  
 Join us immediately after the 8am Mass every Monday during Lent. We will reflect on the meaning of the upcoming Sunday’s Gospel. Sessions will be held in the church on the following Mondays: **3/24, 3/31, 4/7, & 4/14**. Take some time during your Lenten journey to reflect on the meaning of the Word of God.

**WE NEED YOUR HELP** – We are looking for a few good men and women to help our current ushers. We could use your help to greet the faithful, gather the donations from the collection baskets after Mass, seat people (when necessary), count the number of the faithful, and help place the gifts in the sacristy after Mass. Additionally, the ushers are there to help people if someone is in need of assistance. If this is a way you would like to contribute to our parish, please contact the rectory at 302-654-5519 or [stannschurch@stannwilmington.com](mailto:stannschurch@stannwilmington.com).

**Reminder – Fridays in Lent are obligatory days of abstinence from meat for all who have completed their 14<sup>th</sup> year of age but as always, anyone for whom fasting or abstinence would pose a health risk is excused.**



## Mass Intentions

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

### Saturday March 22

\*\*8:00 a.m. Rev. Thomas F. Gardocki (2017)  
4:00 p.m. Mr. & Mrs. Francis T. Smith  
Pat McLaughlin

### Sunday March 23

7:30 a.m. Robert Straight & Mary Durkalec  
10:30 a.m. Maeve Kenny Solberg  
The Parishioners of St. Ann's

### Monday March 24

\*\*6:30 a.m. Joanne Ademski  
8:00 a.m. Yong Tae Tae

### Tuesday March 25

\*\*6:30 a.m. Deacon John J. Becker (1999)  
8:00 a.m. Fr. Daniel Gerres, K of C

### Wednesday March 26

\*\*6:30 A.M. Rev. Francis J. Connelly (1935)  
8:00 A.M. Katherine M. Seitz

### Thursday March 27

\*\*6:30 a.m. Deacon David F. Rodgers (1999)  
8:00 a.m. Mari Skelly

### Friday March 28

\*\*6:30 a.m. Rev. Philip L. Siry (2013)  
8:00 a.m. Catherine & John Doraz

### Saturday March 29

\*\*8:00 a.m. Rev. Edward M. Aigner (2023)  
4:00 p.m. Bruce Faulkner and Sue Ruebens

### Sunday March 30

7:30 a.m. Thomas J. Duszak  
The Parishioners of St. Ann's  
10:30 a.m. Robert Straight

*Pray for the sick and elderly of our Parish*

**Offertory for the weekend of March 9<sup>th</sup> was \$15,229. 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](mailto:stannschurch@stannwilmington.com) or call 302-654-5519 if you are in the hospital and would like the rectory to know.

**Need to register for St. Ann's?** Visit our website [www.stannwilmington.com](http://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](mailto:susana.saldivar1@gmail.com) or 302-824-0161.

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



St. Ann Catholic School  
@StAnnParishWilmington



venmo



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**CHARLOTTE ANN WIGGINTON**  
*Daughter of Conor and Kaylyn Wigginton*

St. Ann's

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