

9 March 2014 ~First Sunday of Lent

The Catholic Church of St. Ann

45 Anderson St., Raritan, NJ 08869 • Tel. (908) 725-1008 • Fax (908) 707-1915

St. Ann School: 29 Second Ave., Raritan, NJ 08869 Tel. (908) 725-7787 • Fax (908) 541-9335

FIRST SUNDAY OF
LENT



PASTORAL TEAM

Rev. Msgr. Michael J. Corona, PA, KCHS, Pastor

Rev. James E. De Fillipps, Parochial Vicar

Rev. Msgr. James Cafone, S.T.D., Weekend Clergy

Deacon John R. Pacifico, Permanent Deacon

Deacon Conrad Paulus, Permanent Deacon

Sr. Dolores Toscano, M.P.F., Superior / Pastoral Associate

Sr. Mary Klersey, M.P.F., Principal

Sr. Phyllis Vella, M.P.F., Director of Religious Education

[Www.stannparish.com](http://www.stannparish.com)

Email: info@stannparish.com

Office hours: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm Monday - Friday

Sacraments & Devotions

Mass Schedule:

Daily: Monday - Friday at 7:00am & 7:00pm; Saturday at 9:00am

Weekend Mass: Saturday Vigil: 4:00pm

Sunday: 7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am, and 12 Noon

Confession:

Saturday: 9:30am - 10:00am & 3:00pm - 3:45pm

Baptism:

First Sunday of the month at the Noon Mass, as well as the second, third and fourth at 1:30pm. Instruction for new parents takes place on the second Saturday of the month at 10am.

Arrangements are made with the rectory, 908-725-1008.

Marriages:

The common policy of marriage requires that arrangements be made at least **One Year** before the date of marriage and before any social plans are made. Bride or Groom must be a parishioner. Please do not make any arrangements until you have met with the pastor, Msgr. Corona and the wedding date has been approved.

Anointing of the Sick:

Please call the rectory to arrange a home visit.

Ministry to the Sick:

Parish home bounds are visited on the first Friday of each month by our Deacons & Religious. If you know of a parishioner that is seriously ill or hospitalized, please let the parish office know.

Sponsors & Godparents:

Must be 18 and registered as an adult and be confirmed in the Catholic Church. If you are married, your marriage must be recognized by the church. This is especially important if you wish to be a sponsor for Confirmation or Godparent for baptism. It takes **6 months** of attending Mass to be eligible for both of these privileges.

Devotions:

Rosary - Prayed after daily morning Mass

Scripture Study - Offered periodically

Santo Niño Novena - First Friday at 8:00pm

St. Joseph Novena - March

St. Rita Novena - May

St. Rocco Novena - June

St. Maria Goretti Novena - June/July

St. Ann Novena - July

Parish Religious Education Program (PREP):

PREP classes for grades K - 8 are taught on Monday or Thursday beginning at 6:15pm to 7:30pm. For information please call the Religious Education Office at 908-725-1008.

Parish Registration:

Any new family who has moved into the parish or adult children 18 and over, are invited to register at our parish after any Sunday Mass or visit the rectory Mon. thru Fri. Also, please notify us if you move.

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST. ANN, RARITAN

MASS SCHEDULE & SPECIAL DATES

Daily Mass

Monday - Friday: 7:00am & 7:00pm; Saturday: 9:00am

Weekend Mass

Saturday Vigil: 4:00pm (1st Sunday Mass)

Sunday: 7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am, and 12 Noon

Confessions

Saturday: 9:30am - 10:00am & 3:00 - 3:45pm

St. Joseph Novena: March 11th - March 19th

Prayed daily after the 7am and 7pm Masses

St. Joseph Feast Day: 19th March 2014

Mass times: 7:00am, 9:00am, 7:00pm

ALTAR CANDLES

For the week of March 8th, the Altar Candles burn in memory (honor) of:

Altar Candle 1 & 2: Nicholas Cicero by Friends

SANCTUARY LAMPS

For the week of March 8th, the Sanctuary Lamps burn in memory (honor) of:

Tabernacle: Nicholas Cicero by Family

St. Joseph: Marcello Pecoriello by The Calo Family

Blessed Mother: For All Deceased Service Men

By Phyllis Scarpone

Rest in Peace

Nicholas Cicero - March 1, 2014

Eternal rest, grant unto him O Lord

and let perpetual light shine upon him.

May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

St. Joseph Novena

On March 11th we will be starting a novena to St. Joseph, patron saint of family protection and fathers work, that will end on March 19th.

We invite you to pray with us after the 7:00 am or 7:00 pm Mass Monday through Friday and at 9:00 am on Saturday.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

During the solemn evening of

Good Friday

at 7:30pm in St. Ann Church the Conform2Christ Youth Board invites you to pray the Stations of the Cross with them.



Monday, March 10, 2014

7am: Special intention of Anna & Nicola Di Betta in honor of Padre Pio

7pm: Deceased members of the Knights of Columbus

Tuesday, March 11, 2014

7am: George & Dorothy Ferrera by Children

7pm: Special intention in honor of Sts. Anthony & Gregorio by M Mark Marshall

Wednesday, March 12, 2014

7am: Special intention in honor of Sts. Gregorio & Padre Pio by Vincenza Greco

7pm: Carmilita & Salvatore Gagliardi by Teresa Ciurleo

Thursday, March 13, 2014

7am: Rosa Cirianni by Raffaele & Isabella Cirianni

7pm: Antonio & Esterina Iannetta by Joe & Lena Iannetta

Friday, March 14, 2014

7am: Marlene Floczak by JoAnn Giaquinto

7pm: Robert Miller by Trish Miller & Family

Saturday, March 15, 2014

9am: Carole Dumfries by Searchwell Family

4pm: Carmella Nowosielski by Daughter & Wisbeski Family

Sunday, March 16, 2014 ~ 2nd Sunday of Lent

7:30am: Helen Sabol by Barbara & Vicky

9am: Living & Deceased members of Holy Name Society

10:30am: Anthony & Matthew Orlando by Family

12pm: People of the parish

Pray for our sick of our parish

Victoria Andrews	Anthony Gambino	Yolanda Polidoro
Luzmanda Anthony	Elizabeth Gecik	Frank Ratkowski
Bernadette Bavoso	Eleanor Giraldo	Teresa Riga
Chester Butkiewicz	Roberta Grillo	Cosette Ruh
Joanmarie Carlone	Ruth Gulick	Marianne San Filippo
Jaden Chambers	Doris Kelco	Nancy Schiavi
Albert Charles	Bernadette Laggini	Mary Shallenberger
Nick Cicero	Barbara Langon	Phyllis Serafin
Kathy Ciociola	Edward Locasio	David Snedegar
Dominic Comandol	Marie Locasio	Frank & Lucille Sudano
Angela DeFina	Rosalie Marrone	Dolores Talamini
Ann Descoteau	Giovanna Martini	Anthony Tomaro
Mary Ann De Maio	Kathy McCormack	Tommarie Tibaldi
Theresa DiBetta	Victoria Melitsky	Carolyn Trepiccio
Nancy DiGraziano	Olga Morella	Marie Vale
Lydia Digiuoseppantonio	Anna Moretti	Allison Valverde
Thomas Duda	Nancy Natale	Richard Vetack
Mary & Richard Felice	Ava Rose Navarro	Vincent Viscariello
JoAnn Felty	Thomas Orecchio	Carmella Vitale
Sharon Fisahn	Olga Orlando	Joan Wirzman
Maria Fusca	Raymond Peters	Lisa Yoder
Teresa Galaini	John Petsko	Margaret ZanGrando

9 MARCH 2014 ~ THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Dear Sisters and Brothers:

The general stood on the seashore and looked out at the waves and the empty horizon and at the sky. "Whenever it comes," he said, "it will be the longest day". That general's name was Rommel, and he was referring to the invasion of Europe by allied forces massed on the other side of that sea. The day came on the 6th of June, 1944. We know it now as D-Day. It began early and finished late and in the course of that day thousands of soldiers died. For them it was a short day, their last day. But for the forces drawn up against each other it was a momentous day. In 1962 a great film was made to depict that day and the title chosen was taken from those prophetic words of Erwin Rommel. *The Longest Day* made for a long film as well!

In June 2014, people will assemble on the beaches of Normandy, as they have done every decade, to remember the day and to visit the graves of fallen comrades. With each passing year the number of veterans is getting fewer, but the collection of stories is increasing. We, the next generation, collect the stories and reflect on the meaning of those far-off events, and as our own lives unfold, and we struggle with our own history, we listen to the personal, particular stories and at the same time we try to see the real meaning of everything that happened. We want to learn how to avoid the tragedies that befell our ancestors. We want to know the personal stories, the "little picture", and so come to understand clearly the great story, "the big picture".

The work of historians goes on, to try to piece together all the stories that make up the history of the past, and to explain to us the forces that were at work, and how human beings behaved. If we do not listen to them and try to learn something, we will be doomed to repeat the tragedies of the recent past.

In our Old Testament Lesson today, we hear the story of Adam and Eve, which we find in the Book of Genesis. The writer is trying to show us how the world came to be in the mixed-up state it is in. The story points out many good things about this world. It is made by God, especially with us in mind.

It is a beautiful place. We can be happy here. We can be at peace here.

Our great guide to peace and happiness is to listen carefully to what God says to us. God is not a kill-joy. He does not try to prevent our happiness or even boss us about. God is no dictator. In fact, God has seen fit to create us for freedom. We can respond to God, just as we respond to each other. There is no threat, no pressure, except the call to do what is good and right. Goodness always demands our attention and our obedience, and that is where we fall down.

The fall of Adam and Eve describes the "big picture" of the world. In every human life, in every "little picture", that fall is repeated. We can choose to follow God or to give in to the temptation to do wrong. Sometimes we give in. We are a fallen race and we know it. The evidence is all around us. If it destroys our hope or our belief in God, we can be greatly harmed. We need good news: a reason to believe, a reason to hope, a reason to go on.

In our Gospel Lesson, we learn that the good news has come to us in the form of Jesus Christ. This man has fought with the devil, with every evil in this world. Even to the point of death. But he was not defeated. The death and resurrection of Jesus is the triumph of God's goodness over evil. At the beginning of that battle, Jesus struggles with Satan in the desert. His victory there shows us how to fight the same fight. "Do not rely on material things for your life," Jesus says. Be spiritual. Live responsibly. Do not waste your life on useless things. Dedicate yourself to all that is good and just and true. Worship God. That is a whole new world.

In your charity, please pray for the sick and lonely—visit them if you can. Also, please remember to pray for all who have wandered from the Faith and all who have died. Please pray for the parents of the babies who have been killed through abortion.

May God always be pleased with us!

Monsignor Michael

Our Scripture Lessons remind us:

...that in the story of the garden of Eden a distortion of the truth eases the passage of sin into the world;

...that the devil distorts the truth in his attempts to tempt Jesus in the wilderness;

...that the disciples who stand by Jesus at the cross truly love him, and this love transforms our lives

May God always be pleased with us. Amen!

ATLANTIC CITY BUS TRIP



St. Ann's monthly bus trip to ATLANTIC CITY will resume on Thursday, March 13th. Bus leaves from our church at 9am. Please call Marge Corona at 908-725-1198 to reserve your seat or obtain more information.

INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY NETWORK

We are in need for volunteers to assist with IHN. There is no special training needed, just a warm heart. Volunteers are needed during the evening from 7pm to 10pm. Please contact Christine at 908-725-1008 xt.119 for further details.

SOCIAL MINISTRY



We are currently looking for volunteers for a new cooking program. If you are interested in teaching someone how to cook, please contact Christine at the rectory office at 908-725-1008 or email cesposito@stannparish.com.

BABY GIFT DRIVE

St. Ann Church will hold its monthly Baby Gift Drive March 8 & 9, 2014. All donations will be given to the Pregnancy Aid Center On Thompson St. in Raritan. Every gift counts. Please remember to bring your items to Mass and place in the baskets.

OUR MILITARY

Let Us Remember..In our prayers, the men and women serving in our Nation's Armed Forces.

- Major Michael A. De Cicco, U.S. Army
- LCpl William A. De Santis, U.S. Marine Corps.
- Victor Dulay, Jr. U.S. Marine Corps
- LCpl. Matthew John U.S. Marine Corps
- PFC Gavin John, U.S. Marine Corps
- CW4 Michael Lopez, Jr.
- Major Michael Morella, U.S. Army
- Sgt. Dan Neville, U.S. Marine Corps
- PFC Keith Ressa, U.S. Army
- PFC Daniel J. Salvo, U.S. Marine Corps
- Corporal Jonathan Schultes, US Marine Corps
- Major Louis P. Simon, U.S. Marine Corps
- PFC Jerome C. Sunga, US Army
- Jack Vara, U.S. Marine Corps
- LT. Robert Wilson, U.S. Navy



May God bless them & keep them safe. Pray for the souls of those who have given their lives in service to our country.

WEEKLY OFFERTORY

Week #36:	\$10,064.46
Budget need per week:	\$16,000.00
Weekly Deficit:	(\$5,935.54)
Deficit since 7/1/13:	(\$210,220.98)
Weekly Poor Box	\$422.56

Are you receiving a tax refund this year? Many Catholics find that tithing on unexpected income – a tax refund, winnings at the casino, or an inheritance is a great first step to feeling the joy and contentment that come when we really do give as God has asked us to go give. Try it yourself and feel the joy.

ELECTRONIC GIVING - SAFE & EASY

St. Ann's offers parishioners the opportunity to make Online Church contributions! Log onto www.stannparish.com. Scroll to the bottom of the page and click on St. Ann Parish Online Donation System. There you will be connected to a secure site where you can enter your information safely and privately.

LENTEN SUPPER

Everyone is invited to attend the Lenten Supper held on Wednesday, 12th of March beginning at 5:30pm in the school cafeteria. Please respond to Debby Zakashefski at 908-369-0831 by March 10th so that we know how many to prepare for.

MENU FOR WEDNESDAY DINNER
SOUP • EGG SALAD SANDWICH
DESSERT • BEVERAGE



Lenten Parish Mission

April 7th, 8th & 9th

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday Evenings at 7:00pm
 This year our Lenten Mission will be led by The Very Rev. Juan Diego Brunetta, O.P., J.C.D.
 Our mission will close with Eucharistic Adoration and our Lenten Penance Service. Four priests will be available to hear confessions.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 9, 2014

Sunday:	Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7/ Rom; 5:12-19
Monday:	Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/ Mt 25:31-46
Tuesday:	Is 55:10-11/ Mt 6:7-15
Wednesday:	Jon 3:1-10/ Lk 11:29-32
Thursday:	Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/ Mt 7:7-12
Friday:	Ez 18:21-28/ Mt 5:20-26
Saturday:	Dt 26:16-19/ Mt 5:43-48

School News



Dear Friends of St. Ann School,

When you were a child, you remember giving up all sorts of things for Lent. If you went to Catholic school, you may even remember the Passion Play and Friday Stations of the Cross.

We have a variety of activities planned at the school and classroom level including those already mentioned. Why a variety? Each soul is unique. We are trying to educate the whole child and every soul is attracted to God in its own way and for its own purpose. Just like there are different intelligences and different learning styles, there are different styles of praying but we all pray to the same God.

For those who need a concrete reminder, we are carrying around a stone. It can be a reminder of a heart that needs softening or that God is the rock of our salvation. For those who understand sacrifice we have silent snacks and mission outreaches. For those who are doers, we have a good deed crosses posted. For those who pray best by singing, we have a different Lenten refrain added to morning prayers each week. This list goes on. It covers Lent as prayer, sacrifice, and alms giving.

For us Lent is not a do it and cross it off your list activity, like doing homework, cleaning your room, or going to Mass on Sunday. Lent is a journey to Easter, to salvation. Just like the trip to Disney includes buying the tickets, packing, and the plane ride, plus the actual trip, so it is with Lent. It is all consuming as is a trip. We approach it with anticipation and joy even though we actually may not like some of the preparations for the trip.

Lent is like living your own love story. People in love fix their eyes on the beloved. They are in constant response to the mood, the actions, the attention, the life of the loved one. The other becomes their constant focus. Once a person loves and is in love, that person is never the same. Once in love, we change. We actually not only become lovable, we are lovable! For our children, God and His people are the loved one. Our actions are in response to what is happening in the life of God and the Church. The acts of Lent develop habits that make our children not only virtuous but actually holy.

St. Ann Parish offers many Lenten activities to its parishioners. Do one really well or do several to see which one assists you in growing closer to God. Whatever you do, do it like children, with a sense of joy, love, and adventure.

God bless you,
Sr. Mary Klersey, MPF
Principal

WEEK AHEAD

Sunday, March 9, 2014

- 8am: Parish breakfast (school café)
- 10:30am: Mass with First Communion Prep children (church)
- 1pm - 5pm: High School Basketball Games (school gym)
- 7pm: BINGO (school café)

Monday, March 10, 2014

- 5pm: Basketball practices (school gym)
- 6:15pm: PREP classes
- 7:30pm: K of C meeting (church meeting room)

Tuesday, March 11, 2014

- 6pm: Special Needs Prep (school)
- 7pm: Boy Scouts (school café)
- 7:30pm: BINGO (school café)

Wednesday, March 12, 2014

- 5pm: Choir practices (Choir loft)
- 5pm: Basketball practices (school gym)
- 5:30pm: Lenten Suppers (school café)

Thursday, March 13, 2014

- 9am: Atlantic City Parish Bus Trip
- 5pm: Basketball practices (school gym)
- 6:15pm: Prep class (school)
- 7:30pm: Book discussion (church meeting rm)

Friday, March 14, 2014

- 5pm: Basketball practice (school gym)
- 7pm: Bereavement group meeting (rectory conference room)
- 7pm: Pit Night (school café)
- 7:30pm: Ice Cream & Movie Night (church meeting room)

Saturday, March 15, 2014

- All day: Basketball games (school gym)
- 9am: Pinewood Derby (school café)
- 10am: K of C Spelling Bee (church meeting room)
- Parish Baby Gift Drive



11th Annual St. Ann's Golf Outing

Monday, May 5th, 2014

Copper Hill Country Club

100 Copper Hill Rd., Ringoes, NJ 08551

www.copperhillcc.com

Registration & Breakfast: 8:00am - 9:30am

Shotgun start: 9:30 am (scramble format)

Lunch / Cocktails / Awards &

Silent Auction: 2:30pm - 4:30pm

\$195 per golfer

Golfer give away bags worth over \$200

To register or inquire more information, please visit
<http://www.stannparish.com/schoolsite/fundraiser.html>
and click on Golf Outing.



YOUTH GROUP EVENTS

Friday, 14 March 2014
**ICE CREAM
 EXTRAVAGANZA &
 MOVIE NIGHT**
 RSVP 3/11
 Church Meeting Room
 7:30pm-9:30pm
 Grades 4-6
 \$5.00

Sunday, 13 April 2014
**YOUTH
 PROCESSION OF
 PALMS & SOCIAL**
 RSVP 4/8
 St. Ann Church & Church
 Meeting Room
 11:45pm-2:30pm
 Free

Friday, 21 March 2014
**DODGEBALL
 TOURNAMENT
 WINNING TEAMS
 SCORES
 iTunes GIFT CARDS**
 St. Ann School Gym
 8:00pm – 9pm
 Grades 6-9
 \$5.00

Friday, 18 April 2014
 (Good Friday)
**STATIONS OF THE
 CROSS
 LED BY FR. JAMES
 &
 ST. ANN YOUTH
 BOARD**
 St. Ann Church
 7:30pm

Friday, 11 April 2014
OPEN GYM NIGHT
 St. Ann School Gym
 7:45pm – 9pm
 Grades 6-9
 \$4.00

Saturday, 19 April 2014
**EASTER EGG HUNT
 HOSTED
 BY YOUTH BOARD**
 Prayer Garden
 Pre-K3 to 1st Grade
 11AM
 Free

*If the event needs an RSVP please do so by the assigned date;
 too much food/drink is being wasted! Please RSVP to
jdefillips@stannparish.com*

St. Ann School 14th Annual Spring Fling Tricky Tray Saturday, May 3, 2014



Doors open at 5:00 pm
 The first ticket will be pulled at 7:00 pm

**Admission tickets are \$15 each and
 includes one sheet of regulars.**

Save money and time by ordering ticket packages in advance. These tickets will be ready for you when you arrive at the Tricky Tray. Additional tickets are available for purchase throughout the night. **Tickets are currently on sale now and will remain on sale until we are sold out.**

This event sells out very quickly. Please visit St. Ann School website at: <http://www.stannparish.com/schoolsite/fundraiser.html> and click on Tricky Tray.

Adults only, please.

No one under 18 years of age will be admitted.

P.R.E.P. REGISTRATION 2014-2015

Join the March Madness as families begin to re-register their children for the 2014-2015 Religious Education (PREP) Program by coming in person to review and complete Registration Forms. Parents/Guardians may come during the Monday/Thursday class times (6:15pm-7:30pm) to re-register/with payment or during Parish Office hours. An additional late fee will be added to Re-registration forms that will be mailed to families after June 1st.

Any new families wishing to register their child (Grade1-8) may also take advantage of this registration. Please contact Sr. Phyllis at pvella@stannparish.com or 908-725-1008 for more info.

WANTED: CATECHIST/VOLUNTEERS

Are you looking for a way to share your faith, time, talent? PREP, Parish Religious Education Program, needs you! Volunteers are needed for classes, catechists, aides, sacramental preparation, substitutes, office/resources and other areas.

You don't have to have children in the program to volunteer. We encourage all adults to prayerfully consider whether this ministry is right for you. All volunteers must be cleared through the workshop Protecting God's Children - www.virtus.org and will be provided guidance, support along the way. If interested or wish to know more about volunteering, contact Sr. Phyllis at: pvella@stannparish.com or (908) 725-1008.

Greetings from the Office of the Diaconate

My name is Deacon Sam Costantino and I serve the bishop as Director, Office of the Diaconate for the Diocese of Metuchen. The purpose of my note is to begin to invite you to read some questions and answers about the ministry of deacon. The questions and answers are taken from Deacon Bill Ditewig's book entitled, "101 Questions and Answers about Deacons". I will be running these Q&A articles during the next several months in preparation for the recruitment of men into the Class of 2019. I hope that you find them informative. If you have any questions, please call the Office of the Diaconate at 732-562-1990 ext. 1710 or ext. 1711.

Question #1:

Just who and what is a deacon anyway?

A Catholic deacon is a member of the clergy. In the Catholic Church, "the clergy" consists of three groups of ordained ministers: bishops, priests, and deacons. While all members of the Church are called to minister to others by virtue of their baptism, some Catholics are also ordained to specific forms of ministry to the rest of the Church. We refer to these ordained Catholics as "clerics" or "clergy."

The title "deacon" comes from the Greek word diakonos, which means "servant". A deacon is permanently and publicly configured to Christ the Servant, he shares in the overall pastoral responsibility of the bishop to care for all of the people in the diocese, and he becomes an integral part of the clerical structure of the Church, in partnership with priests, serving the needs of the entire diocese.