

St. Ann Parish

"To Grow in Grace Through Jesus Christ"

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

- 502 South Main Street Phoenixville, PA 19460
- Phone: 610-933-3732
- Fax: 610-935-7958
- stannphx@comcast.net
- www.churchofsaintann.org
- Facebook St. Ann Parish Phoenixville

Pastor

Rev. John J. Newns

Email: fathernewns@gmail.com

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Retired Priest in Residence

Rev. Joseph A. Heim, M.M.

Email: jheim@maryknoll.org

Phone: 610-933-1733

Weekend Ministry

Rev. Kail Ellis, O.S.A.

Deacon Daniel T. Giblin

Email: deacongiblin@gmail.com

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Deacon Mark Szewczak

Email: Dcn.Mark.S@gmail.com

Phone: 484-985-1889



Liturgy & Adult Faith Formation

Madelyn O'Hara, 484-302-5705

stannadulter@gmail.com

PREP & Youth Sacramental Preparation

Julie Prichett, 610-755-1077

youthstann@comcast.net

Spiritual Ministry 610-416-5431

Sr. Marie Rose Gibson, R.S.M.

Music Ministry 610-933-3732

Tom Denny, tgdenny@verizon.net

BusinessManager 610-933-3732

Lisa Burghardt

burghardt@comcast.net

Holy Family School 610-933-7562

Principal-Mr. Thomas Dever

tdever@myholyschool.org

DECEMBER 17, 2017

Chapel  604 South Main Street

Sunday Masses: 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 AM & 6:00 PM

Sacred Heart Church 148 Church Street

Saturday: 3:45 - 4:30 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 5:00 PM Vigil Mass

Weekdays and Holy Days

Mass schedule listed in the bulletin

CEMETERIES

St. Ann: 305 W. Pothouse Road, Hours 8 AM-3 PM

Sacred Heart: 1261 Fillmore Street

Church Main Street & Third Avenue

Church is open:

Mon-Fri: 7:00 AM-3:00 PM

Sunday Spanish Mass: 9:30 AM

WEEKLY DEVOTIONS IN CHURCH

Rosary: Monday thru Thursday 7:35 AM

Miraculous Medal Novena Tues after 8:00 AM Mass

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Tues after 8:00 AM

Mass or call the Rectory to make an appointment.

Infant of Prague Novena Wednesday 7:55 AM

Eucharistic Adoration Wednesday 8:30 AM - 7:00 PM

CONTACT THE LITURGY AND ADULT FAITH FORMATION OFFICE AT 610-933-3732 FOR:

BAPTISM- Parents of children to be baptized are required to attend a Pre-Jordan session. Please make arrangements well in advance of the birth of your child.

MARRIAGE - Make arrangements one year in advance.

RCIA - To become a fully initiated member of the Catholic Church.

PREP CLASSES - All public school students Grades K-6 are expected to participate in PREP (Parish Religious Education Program). Classes are held on Sundays from 10:35 AM - 12:05 PM and Tuesdays from 6:20 - 7:45 PM. Call Julie at 610-755-1077.

CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE FOR THE FOLLOWING AT 610-933-3732

BUSINESS HOURS - 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM, Mon - Fri. Submit all bulletin materials by Noon Monday.

CHANGES in address or phone number.

PARISH REGISTRATION takes place in the Parish Office after the 11:30 AM Mass once a month.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTRY- Eucharist is brought to those unable to come to Mass because of sickness or age.

ANOINTING OF PEOPLE WHO ARE SICK in the event of an emergency contact the Parish Office at any time. Anointings can be requested before a planned hospital visit.

FROM THE PASTOR

HOPE – is the preeminent theme of Advent. To hope is much more than merely to wait. To hope is to wait with expectation, to look forward, to be vigilant—especially in the face of obstacles to hope. As we have been praying within Masses the first half of Advent: *“...when he comes again in glory and majesty and all is at last made manifest, we who watch for that day may inherit the great promise in which we **now dare to hope.**”*



THAT SAID – at some points (often for extended periods) we find the words of our ancestors welling up within us: *“How long, Lord? Will you utterly forget me? How long will you hide your face from me? How long must I carry sorrow in my soul, grief in my heart day after day?”* (Psalm 13:2-3). Even if through grace I have the ability to “now dare to hope,” is there any way to experience hope **here and now** while looking toward future fulfillment with expectation?



GAUDETE! – The first word of today’s Mass in the Roman Missal is *Gaudete* which is translated as *Rejoice*: **“Rejoice in the Lord always! I say it again, Rejoice! Indeed, the Lord is near!”** (Philippians 4: 4-5). Where is this nearness?

SILENT WORD, PLEADING – St. Augustine (d. 430) wrote that God is *intimior intimo meo* (“nearer to me than I am to myself”). This Doctor of the Church helps us learn the divine language when he said to God: *“You were within me, but I was outside, and it was there that I plunged into the lovely things which you created. You were with me, but I was not with you. Created things kept me from you; yet if they had not been in you they would have not been at all. You called, you shouted, and you broke through my deafness. You flashed, you shone, and you dispelled my blindness.”*



The Anglican priest George Herbert (d.1633) named this presence our “abiding restlessness” and the Carmelite nun Jessica Powers (d. 1988) reminds us that this Voice is the Voice of a Person.

The Pulley

When God at first made man,
Having a glass of blessings standing by,
Let us (said He) pour on him all we can:
Let the world's riches, which dispersed lie,
Contract into a span.

So strength first made a way;
Then beauty flowed, then wisdom, honour,
pleasure: When almost all was out,
God made a stay, Perceiving that alone of all
His treasure Rest in the bottom lay.

For if I should (said He)
Bestow this jewel also on my creature,
He would adore My gifts instead of Me,
And rest in Nature, not the God of Nature:
So both should losers be.

Yet let him keep the rest,
But keep them with repining restlessness:
Let him be rich and weary, that, at least,
If goodness lead him not, yet weariness
May toss him to My breast.

George Herbert

Advent

I live my Advent in the womb of Mary.
And on one night when a great star swings
free from its high mooring and walks down
the sky to be the dot above the *Christus-i*,
I shall be born of her by blessed grace.
I wait in Mary-darkness, faith's walled place,
with hope's expectance of nativity.

I knew for long she carried me and
fed me, guarded and loved me,
though I could not see.
But only now, with inward jubilee,
I come upon earth's most
amazing knowledge:
someone is hidden in this dark with me.

Jessica Powers

FROM THE PASTOR, cont.

“**NEARER MY GOD TO THEE**” – goes the great old hymn. In this Penitential Season of Advent let’s remember that the **Sacrament of Penance** is given to us as an especially graced path with which to draw nearer not only to God but also draw near to ourselves, especially the parts of us that remain in our Shadow. St. John writes that the Light has come into the world but that we choose to love the darkness rather than the Light. Each Advent we celebrate the invasion of the Light (cf. The Advent Wreath) into the dark places within us, within our culture and within creation itself. In my experience, it can burn when I let in this Light, but I think this is what John the Baptist means when he says the One who is coming will baptize us with **Fire** and the Holy Spirit.

PENITENTIAL PREPARATION – As a preparation for Confession this Advent, I invite you to visit the Pastor’s Portion of our parish homepage and check out “Is G-d Dumb?”



“**WHERE IT’S EASY TO DO GOOD**” Dorothy Day, recently declared a **“Servant of God”** by the Vatican, worked to shape a society “where it is easy to do good.” **Wish Lists** for a number of local charitable non-profits are posted both on our parish bulletin boards and on our website to make it easier to help neighbors in need at this time of year. Our parish poor box donations in these cold months will support the local **Code Blue** program.

THIS WEEK AT ST. ANN’S Confessions

Mon.	6:30 PM	St. Ann Church
Tue.	8:30 AM	St. Ann Church
Wed.	6:30 PM	St. Ann Church
Thu.	2:00 PM	St. Ann Chapel
Thu.	6:30 PM	St. Ann Church
Sat.	3:45 PM	Sacred Heart Church

**Table Fellowship for the
WEEK OF DECEMBER 17**
St. Peter’s Church, 121 Church St.

Lunch - Monday - Friday
Noon to 1:00 PM

Monday (December 18)
Dinner 5:00 - 6:00 PM Pantry 6:00 - 7:00 PM

Saturday (December 23)
Dinner at 5:00 PM

THIS WEEK’S SCRIPTURES

Sun: Is 61:1-2a,10-11/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8,19-28

Mon: Jer 23:5-8/Mt 1:18-25

Tues: Jgs 13:2-7,24-25a/Lk 1:5-25

Wed: Is 7:10-14/Lk 1:26-38

Thu: Sg 2:8-14/Lk 1:39-45

Fri: 1 Sm 1:24-28/Lk 1:46-56

Sat: Mal 3:1-4,23-24/Lk 1:57-66

Next Sun: 2 Sm 7:1-5,8b-12,14a,16/Rom 16:25-27,29/
Lk 1:26-38

Readings for Christmas Masses—See page 4

HELP NEEDED - We will need additional people to serve as **MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY** for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. We will have experienced Ministers of Hospitality at each service to direct any extra one-time helpers. If you are able to help, please put your name and phone number on one of the sheets in the lobby of Chapel or near the St. Joseph statue, in Church or in Sacred Heart Church.

“**WHO IS MY NEIGHBOR?**” – During Advent and Christmas Season all funds received via our **Parish Poor Boxes** will be designated for the **Code Blue Ministry** here in Phoenixville. If you go to www.annsheart.org/codeblue you will find more information about volunteering and/or making a donation online.

THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 17, 2017
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SUNDAY

Third Sunday of Advent

7:30 AM Mass in Chapel
9:30 AM Mass in Chapel
9:30 AM Spanish Mass in Church
11:30 AM Mass in Chapel
6:00 PM Mass in Chapel

9:30 AM - Children's Liturgy (602)
9:30 AM - Sunday School (Pre-School)
10:35 AM - PREP K-6 (School)



Giving Tree gifts for the retired IHM Sisters living in Camilla Hall are due today. We will deliver the gifts to the IHM Sisters after the 11:30 AM Mass.

BAPTISM – Within the 1:00 PM Group Baptism on today we will welcome Blaire Kathryn Weller into the Church and our parish community through the Sacrament of Baptism.

MONDAY

8:00 AM Mass in Church

6:30 PM - Confessions (Church)

7:00 PM - Support Group for Parents of Special Needs Children at St. Basil's Church, 2330 Kimberton Road. If interested, contact Jim King at dre@stbasils.org or 610-935-1261.

7:30 PM - Legion of Mary (Church Hall)

TUESDAY

8:00 AM Mass in Church

8:30 AM - Confessions (Church)
5:45 PM - Youth Choir (Chapel)
6:20 PM - PREP K-6 (Church, School)
7:00 PM - Adult Choir (Chapel)
7:00 PM - Bible Reflection (Church Hall)
7:30 PM - RCIA (Parish Office)

WEDNESDAY

8:00 AM Mass in Church

8:30 AM - 7:00 PM - Eucharistic Adoration (Church)
6:30 PM - Confessions (Church)
7:00 PM - Charismatic Prayer Group (Church Hall)
7:30 PM - ESL Classes (Church Hall)

7:30 PM - Catholic Young Adults—Cookie Party at St. Peter and Paul, West Chester. It's time for CYACC's annual Cookie Exchange. Whip up a batch of your favorite cookies to share with the group (or stop by the supermarket) and join us for some Christmas themed games and maybe some carols.

THURSDAY

St. Peter Canisius

8:00 AM Mass in Church

2:00 PM - Confessions (Chapel)
5:45 PM - Youth Choir (Chapel)
6:30 PM - Confessions (Church)
7:00 PM - ESL Classes (Church Hall)
7:30 PM - Adult Choir (Chapel)

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

St. John of Kanty

7:00 AM - Men's Bible Study (Church Hall)
3:45 PM - Confessions (Sacred Heart Church)

Vigil of Fourth Sunday of Advent
5:00 PM Mass in Sacred Heart Church



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

PATRICIA HAND
turned 90
on **DECEMBER 12**

JOHN CALVECCHIO
turns 94
on **DECEMBER 18**

UPCOMING EVENTS

NEXT SUNDAY – Please note that while **Aid for Friends** will continue as usual, we have cancelled:

**Sunday School
Children's Liturgy of the Word
The 6:00 PM Mass**

MASSES for the FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sun.	7:30 AM	Mass in Chapel
12/24	9:30 AM	Mass in Chapel
	9:30 AM	Spanish Mass in Church
	11:30 AM	Mass in Church

MASSES for CHRISTMAS

Sun.	4:00 PM	Mass in St. Ann Chapel
12/24	4:00 PM	Mass in St. Ann Church
	7:30 PM	Mass in St. Ann Chapel
	7:30 PM	Spanish Mass in St. Ann Church
	10:00 PM	Mass in St. Ann Chapel
Mon.	7:30 AM	Mass in St. Ann Chapel
12/25	9:30 AM	Mass in St. Ann Chapel
	11:30 AM	Mass in St. Ann Chapel
	2:00 PM	Vietnamese Mass in St. Ann Church

READINGS FOR CHRISTMAS MASSES

The Vigil Mass (4:00 & 7:30 PM)
Isaiah 62:1-5/Acts 13:16-17, 27, 29/Matthew 1:1-25

Mass During the Night (10:00 PM)
Isaiah 9:1-6/Titus 2:11-14/Luke 2:1-14

Mass at Dawn (7:30 AM)
Isaiah 62:11-12/Titus 3:4-7/Luke 2:15-20

Mass During the Day (9:30 & 11:30 AM)
Isaiah 52:7-10/Hebrews 1:1-6/John 1:1-18

CHRISTMAS EVE MEAL - If you are alone or away from home this Christmas we invite you to share in a meal on Christmas Eve from 8:30 PM on in the Church Hall. Please contact Graciela at 610-787-1840 or graciedolet@gmail.com if you will be attending. All are welcome!



HOLY DAY OF OPPORTUNITY – This year since January 1st falls on a Monday, there is no obligation for us to participate in Mass that date. That said, our parish will provide the opportunity to celebrate the **Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God with three Masses in Chapel:**

- 1) **6:00 PM on Sunday December 31**
- 2) **9:30 AM on Monday January 1**
- 3) **11:30 AM on Monday January 1**

ST. CHARLES BORROMEO SEMINARY is very pleased to announce that, as part of the Cardinal Foley Lecture Series, they will be hosting Bishop Robert Barron on January 29 at 7:00 PM. Bishop Robert Barron will be presenting "On the Church and Social Communications."

NEED A RIDE - HOPE volunteers drive people in need to appointments or on essential errands, Monday - Friday, 7:00 AM - 4:00 PM. Schedule a ride 4 days in advance. If you call on a Friday the ride will not be scheduled until Tues. or Wed.

Dec. 16 - 31: MaryAnn Fennell at 610-933-1058
January 1 - 15: Sally Freed at 610-933-7660
January 16 - 31: Caroll Daly at 610-933-5291

Necesita un "RIDE" - Nuestro Ministerio HOPE tiene voluntarios disponibles para llevarlo a citas esenciales de lunes a viernes, de 7 AM a 4 PM. Para coordinar esta actividad por favor llame a Rosa Padilla al 484-302-6056 con 4 días de anticipación. Si llama un viernes el viaje no será programado hasta el martes o miércoles.



AID FOR FRIENDS
FOOD AND FRIENDSHIP FOR THE HOMEBOUND

If you can assist by creating single-serving meals with leftovers for the homebound in our community, you can pick up empty trays and supplies and meals can be dropped off at 602 S. Main St.

Sunday 8:00 AM - 12:30 PM and 5:30 - 7:00 PM

For more information call Kate at 610-933-3814 or katecommiskey@msn.com.

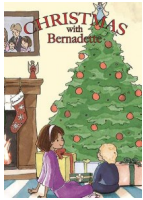
Holiday
Wishlist

Wish Lists for a number of local human service agencies: Mom's House, St. Mary's Franciscan Shelter, Good Samaritan Shelter, PACS, The Clinic, The House, A Baby's Breath and Ann's Heart (Code Blue Ministry) will be posted on the bulletin boards in our worship sites and on our website. **Lists are available in our Worship Sites.**



FORMED is loaded with religious material for people of all ages. Log onto www.FORMED.org and enter our Parish Code: W2HQ93.

Announcement for December 16/17



Have you seen the children's books on FORMED? Download *Christmas with Bernadette* for some one-on-one quiet time with your children or grandchildren.

Then spend some quiet time with Christ as you listen to Archbishop Sheen's wonderful meditation *The True Meaning of Christmas*.



2017 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - If you would like to receive a statement for tax purposes contact the Parish Office at 610-933-3732 or email ginnyn@comcast.net after December 31.

REMEMBER OUR SICK

Alicia Andrews, Peter Benevento, Gene Bernat, Chad Berish, Beth Booth, Carolyn Boring, Ashley Rose Bukay, Ed Cain, Eleanor and John Calvecchio, Leroy Campbell, Dave Cocci, Angeline Costello, John Daly, Al DeMola, Isabella DeSimone, Michael DiArcangelo, Lida Dickinson, Lucille Dickson, Loan Doan, Dan Fennell, Daniel Flores, Sally Freed, Ryan Gerhold, Joe Gibson, Gordon Gladden, Jennifer Pacifico Golaszewski, Christine Greger, Jim Havrilla, Jean Hoffman, Angela Hogan, Ann Hovanec, Michael Hudak, Jeanette Jelus, Ann Johnson, Maren Kaniewski, Irene King, Larry Kirk, Jack Klenk, Patrick Koch, Irene Layden, Denise Long, Ray Long, Claire Maestrale, Steve & Joanne Mardi, Marie Marosek, Thomas Mastrangelo, Heather McCann, John McKenzie, Michele Mellon, Ron Motzer, Tom Moyer, Karen Nesspor, Jacob Nichols, Georgene O'Donnell, Marcelo Opiela, Steve Pannella, Cindy Patton, Joan Pendergast, Glen Philips, Abigail Pilcicki, Dianne Litishin Ponzio, Ann Racey, Christine Radoiss, Katherine Raggazino, Jerry Ratchford, John Riegel, Kris Roberts, Kathryn Rocky, Pat Scott, Ken Shackleton, Keith Sheridan, Patrick Sheridan, Eustachia Shtohryn, Margaret Sim, James Smith, Renee Smith, Jennifer Spencer, Evelyn Spitz, Christine Kulp Springer, Bob Stancavage, Marc Stevenson, Sherri Stover, Julie Szewczak, Ethel Thomas, Glenn Thomas, Don Troncelliti, Helen Twargoski, Doris Valerio, Jeff Vance, Joe Vargo, Paul G. Weaver, Charles Wertz, Ann Wolff, Talan Wolstenholme, our homebound, parishioners in Nursing Homes, Hospitals & all serving in the Armed Forces.



Want to save some time and money while helping St Ann Parish in the process? Consider using Direct Deposit for your weekly Sunday donation. St Ann's offers a Direct Debit program whereby your total monthly (Sunday) contribution is automatically deducted from your designated account on the 15th of each month. There is no fee to use this service. Sign up forms may be found on our chapel shelves or call the parish office for more info.

If you use the monthly direct debit program and you are uncomfortable as the collection basket passes you, feel free to place an empty envelope marked 'direct debit' into the basket.

Also, you may contact your Bank or Credit Union to use the Bill Payer service they offer. Many financial institutions offer this service for free.

No more writing checks!

Year End Giving

You might want to donate appreciated stock or mutual fund shares. Such gifts may qualify for a Federal Income Tax Deduction, and you also may avoid capital gains tax on the appreciation. If you want to make the gift of appreciated securities to the parish, please contact the Office for Investment Services at 215-587-3969. Please note that **parishes will receive the full sale price of donated securities** processed through the Archdiocesan brokerage account.



	12/10/17 24th Sunday in Fiscal Year	Sunday Donations Fiscal Year to Date 7/1/17 - 12/10/17
Budget:	\$15,900	\$378,000
Offering:		
Envelopes	\$10,513	\$260,207
Loose	1,028	23,852
Online Giving	1,556	41,809
Mail	4,023	36,076
Total	\$17,120	\$361,944
Overage	\$1,220	
Shortage		-\$16,056

Thank you for your generosity!