Welcome to St. Ann!
We’re so glad that you’re here. We strive to make all feel at home here and to build community. Please let us know if we can assist you in any way.

Parish Clergy & Staff

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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Parish Office

PHONE: 610-933-3732  FAX: 610-935-7958
502 S. Main Street, Phoenixville, PA 19460

Parish Office Hours
Monday to Friday, 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Parish Website: www.churchofsaintann.org
Parish Email Address: stannphx@comcast.net
St. Ann Cemetery: 305 W. Pothouse Road
Sacred Heart Cemetery: 1258 Fillmore Street

MASS SCHEDULE
Monday - Thursday at 8:00 AM in St. Ann Church
Vigil Mass: Saturday at 4:30 PM in St. Ann Chapel
Sunday at 7:30 AM, 9:30 AM & 11:30 AM in St. Ann Chapel
and Spanish Mass at 9:30 AM in St. Ann Church

CONFESSION SCHEDULE
Tuesday at 8:30 AM in St. Ann Church
and Saturday at 3:15-4:00 PM in St. Ann Chapel

New Parishioners: We are pleased to welcome new members to our Parish Community. Please call the Parish Office for Parish Registration dates or to make an appointment.

Bulletin Submissions: Please send all news, photos, and events at least ten days prior to the issue date. Bulletin information should be emailed to stannadulted@gmail.com.

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 Tuesday or Wednesday.

No rides will be scheduled December 16 to 31.

Today:  : Is 35:1-6a, 10; Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11
Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Mt 21:23-27
Tuesday: Gn 49:2, 8-10; Mt 1:1-17
Wednesday: Jer 23:5-8; Mt 1:18-25
Thursday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Lk 1:5-25
Friday: Is 7:10-14; Lk 1:26-38
Saturday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Lk 1:39-45
Sunday: Is 7:10-14; Rom 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24
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----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 least 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 I have through grace the ability now “to dare to hope”, is there any way to experience hope here and now while looking toward the future 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). But how is the Lord near us? Where is the Lord near to us?

THE SILENT WORD, PLEADING – St. Augustine (d. 430) wrote that God is intimior intimio 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 it 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
(Prince Herbert)

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.

Advent
(Jessica Powers)

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.

“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 the shadows. St. John writes that the Light has come into the world but that we choose to love the darkness rather than the Light (John 3:19). Each Advent we celebrate the invasion of the Light (cf. The Advent Wreath) into the dark places within ourselves, within our culture and within creation itself. In my experience, it can burn when I have 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?”

St. Ann (026)
### Calendar for the Week

#### Sunday, December 15  Third Sunday of Advent
- **Mass** 7:30am @ St. Ann Chapel
- **Mass** 9:30am @ St. Ann Chapel
- **Children’s Liturgy of the Word** 9:30am Mass @ 602 Living Room
- **Spanish Mass** 9:30am @ St. Ann Church
- **Food Pantry** 10:30am - 1:00pm @ Parish Office Basement
- **PREP Class** 10:35am - 12:05pm @ HFS
- **Spanish RICA** 11:15am @ Parish Office Dining Room
- **Mass** 11:30am @ St. Ann Chapel
- **PREP Advent Prayer Service** 4:00pm - 5:00pm @ St. Ann Chapel

#### Monday, December 16
- **Rosary** 7:30am - 8:00am @ St. Ann Church
- **Mass** 8:00am @ St. Ann Church
- **Women at the Well** 7:00pm - 8:00pm @ Parish Office Dining Room
- **Legion of Mary** 7:30pm - 8:30pm @ Church Hall Room #2

#### Tuesday, December 17
- **Rosary** 7:30am - 8:00am @ St. Ann Church
- **Mass** 8:00am @ St. Ann Church
- **Confessions** 8:30am @ St. Ann Church
- **Youth Choir Rehearsal** 5:45pm - 6:45pm @ St. Ann Chapel
- **PREP Class** 6:20pm - 7:50pm @ HFS
- **Confessions** 6:30pm @ St. Ann Chapel
- **Adult Choir Rehearsal** 7:00pm - 8:30pm @ St. Ann Chapel
- **Bible Reflection Group** 7:00pm - 8:00pm @ Church Hall Room #1
- **RCIA** 7:30pm - 9:00pm @ Parish Office Dining Room
- **Spanish Bible Study** 7:30pm @ Church Hall Room #3

#### Wednesday, December 18
- **Rosary** 7:30am - 8:00am @ St. Ann Church
- **Mass** 8:00am @ St. Ann Church
- **Eucharistic Adoration** 8:30am - 7:00pm @ Church

Please note: In case of inclement weather, St Ann Parish will follow the Phoenixville Area School District (PASD) in terms of delayed openings of the parish office. Should PASD call a 2 hour delay, St Ann will follow and open the office at 10AM, and morning Mass will not be offered. PASD posts weather related information on their website (www.pasd.com) as well as their social media sites – facebook, twitter, instagram.
WEEK OF DECEMBER 16
St. Peter’s Church Kitchen
121 Church Street
Monday: Lunch 12-1 PM & Pantry 6-7 PM
Tuesday to Friday: Lunch 12-1 PM
Saturday: Breakfast 8:30-9:30AM & Pantry 9-10 AM

Many, many thanks to all who came out and supported our Christmas Bazaar! It was a great success and a wonderful prelude to the Christmas season. Thank you to all the bakers and volunteers who made this year’s Christmas Bazaar a wonderful experience. Through the awesome generosity of the crafters donating raffle prizes and those who bought chances, we raised over $600 for the parish. Hope to see you again next year!
“GIVING HOPE TO ALL” – is the theme of the 2019 Catholic Charities Appeal. This annual appeal is our main corporate effort as the Body of Christ in the five counties of the Archdiocese to serve hundreds of thousands of our neighbors in need of material and social assistance. For more visit http://www.catholiccharitiesappeal.org

It’s never too early to start thinking about the start of your child’s formal education. We invite you to visit Holy Family School. Meet our principal, Mrs. Jenn D’Amelio, our faculty, and our students! To schedule a tour, learn about financial aid, or simply to ask some questions, please contact our office at office@myholyfamilyschool.org or call 610-933-7562. Come and see for yourself what quality Catholic education looks like! Holy Family School: Christ Centered, Student Focused, Family Driven. Visit our website at www.myholyfamilyschool.org and like us on Facebook!

We love having you as part of our flock! Let’s keep in touch! Get important Parish & Ministry updates via email & text. There are two ways to connect. Visit our church at: flocknote.com/StAnnPhx or Text Stannphx to 84576 from your phone to subscribe to updates.

First Thursdays of the Month through May 7, 2020, 6:30-8:30 PM
Event: FREE! Women’s Evenings of Reflection (Mini-Retreats)
Women’s Evenings of Reflection with retreat director, Father Scott Reilly, will be offered the first Thursdays of the month through May 2020 (no meeting in January). Come refresh your soul each month by setting aside a few hours with Christ. The theme for the year is the Fruits of the Holy Spirit. Evenings begin with Mass, followed by supper, reflection and a personal testimony. Come to just one evening or as many as you choose. All are welcome!
Retreat Director: Fr. Scott Reilly, Legionaires of Christ
Location: St. Katharine of Siena Church in Wayne, PA
More Info: Click Here
RSVP:https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c084babad2fa3fe3-womens

Aid for Friends - If you can assist by creating single-serving meals with leftovers for the homebound in our community, you can pick up empty trays & supplies and then drop off meals on the back porch of 602 S. Main Street on Saturdays from 4:00 to 5:30 PM and Sundays from 8:00 AM to 12:30 PM.

Additional Ministers of Hospitality are needed for our Christmas Masses. Please sign up in church or chapel. Thank you!!

CATHOLIC YOUNG ADULTS OF CHESTER COUNTY (CYAAC)
(A ministry for young adults in their 20s and 30s)

CYACC - Cookie Social
Join CYACC - Chester County Catholic Young Adults, at 7:15pm on December 18th at Saints Peter and Paul Church in West Chester. Back by popular demand, join CYACC for our Annual Cookie Party! Feel free to make, bake or buy your own cookies for all to share. It’s always a great time with cookies, games, and fellowship. This will be our last event of 2019. You won’t want to miss it! For more information check www.cyacc.org or find us in Facebook / email us at cyacc1@gmail.com

Friday, January 10 – Saturday Jan 11, 2020
Event: Hope Blooms Healing Retreat
This retreat is for any woman healing from betrayal, trauma, abuse or emotional wounding. Come, as we walk on sacred ground together to share our stories, strengthen spiritually, and immerse ourselves in the healing love of our Lord. The retreat includes opportunities for individual healing work, teachings on the 5 Keys of Unbound, personal reflection time, Mass, Adoration, Confession and more.
Speakers: Retreat leaders: Father Allen Hoffa, De Yarrison of You Are Made New Ministry and Laura Ercolino of Bloom for Catholic Women.
Location: Mariawald Renewal Center in Reading PA
To learn more: visit https://youaremadenew.com/healing-retreats/.

Saturday, February 1, 2020, 9:00-12:00 PM
Event: Chosen: Daughters, Sisters, Warriors Retreat
We can get caught up in the noise of our hurried, unfulfilling and hyper-sexualized culture, becoming disconnected from the truth of who God says we are: beloved and chosen, of infinite value and undeniable dignity. Come spend the day with us as we: remember our feminine genius, understand common spiritual obstacles we encounter as women, talk about our Blessed Mother’s role in protecting and strengthening us and gain tools to stand and stay in the Father’s blessing.
Conference team: Father Stephen DeLacy, De Yarrison, Jenn Lozano and Megan Murphy
Location: Pope John Paul II High School in Royersford, PA
Learn more and register: https://youaremadenew.com/chosen-conference or contact De Yarrison at 610.287.2989.

Additional Ministers of Hospitality are needed for our Christmas Masses. Please sign up in church or chapel. Thank you!!

HOPE Notice: To Clients
Remember rides are not available form December 16-31. Our drivers are taking a much deserved Christmas break. We are so grateful for their generous ministry of service. Enjoy your break, drivers.
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What’s My Name?
The #WHATSMYNAME Movement asks everyone to simply ask drivers “What’s my name?” before entering their vehicle to make sure it is the car they are supposed to enter.

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In Remembrance of Samantha Josephson

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What’s My Name?
In Remembrance of Samantha Josephson

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