

#### St. Ann Catholic Church, Channahon strives to be a welcoming, caring and faith-filled parish family who desires to bring one another closer to Jesus through Prayer, Involvement and Generosity on our way to the Heavenly Father.

**FROM FATHER JOHN:** "Mary said, 'Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her." ~ Luke 1:38 (Homily message from 12/12/21)

Today is the Third Sunday of Advent. It is also the Feast of our Lady of Guadalupe, the patron saint of the Americas.

I know that all of us have been diligently preparing for the coming of our Lord Jesus throughout this Advent Season. It's vitally important that we focus on preparing spiritually for Christmas and not just materially. I want to share with you an excerpt from *The Ascent of Mt. Carmel* by St. John of the Cross.

St. John of the Cross was Ordained a Carmelite priest in 1567 at the age of 25 and was vowed to the primitive rule of the Carmelites. Along with St. Theresa of Avila, he engaged in the reform of the Carmelite religious order (she reformed the women's order while he worked to reform the men's order). St. John experienced opposition, persecution, and imprisonment by his own brother priests within the order as he worked to reform the order.

He was a great mystic who encountered our Lord Jesus in the dungeon where he was imprisoned. He wrote about the experience of his union with God while he was imprisoned in his book *Spiritual Canticle*. The agony he experienced coupled with his union with God led to ecstasy which he wrote about in his book *Ascent to Mt. Carmel*.

In the following excerpt, St. John of the Cross speaks to us about how our faith is rooted in our Lord Jesus and how in Christ Jesus our God has revealed everything to us. I think these words of St. John of the Cross are good material to reflect on during Advent because they remind of us who we are waiting in anticipation for – the beloved Son of God.

"Under the ancient law prophets and priests sought from God revelations and visions which in deed they needed, for faith had as yet no firm foundation and the gospel law had not yet been established. Their seeking and God's responses were necessary. He spoke to them at one time through words and visions and revelations, at another in signs and symbols. But however he responded and what he said and revealed were mysteries of our holy faith, either partial glimpses of the whole or sure movements toward it.

But now that faith is rooted in Christ, and the law of the gospel has been proclaimed in this time of grace, there is no need to seek him in the former manner, nor for him so to respond. By giving us, as he did, his Son, his only Word, he has in that one Word said everything. There is no need for any further revelation.

This is the true meaning of Paul's words to the Hebrews when he urged them to abandon their earlier ways of conversing with God, as laid down in the law of Moses, and set their eyes on Christ alone: In the past God spoke to our fathers through the prophets in various ways and manners; but now in our times, the last days, he has spoken to us in his Son. In effect, Paul is saying that God has spoken so completely through his own Word that he chooses to add nothing. Although he had spoken but partially through the prophets he has now said everything in Christ. He has given us everything, his own Son.

Therefore, anyone who wished to question God or to seek some new vision or revelation from him would commit an offense, for instead of focusing his eyes entirely on Christ he would be desiring something other than Christ, or beyond him.

God could then answer: This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased; hear him. In my Word I have already said everything. Fix your eyes on him alone for in him I have revealed all and in him you will find more than you could ever ask for or desire.

I, with my Holy Spirit, came down upon him on Mount Tabor and declared: This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear him. You do not need new teachings or ways of learning from me, for when I spoke before it was of Christ who was to come, and when they sought anything of me they were but seeking and hoping for Christ in whom is every good, as the whole teaching of the evangelists and apostles clearly testifies."

May God Bless you and all those who love the Lord.

#### ST. ANN PARISH STAFF

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Faith Formation Assistant/webmasterRosemary Morales x14
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Liturgical Music & Choir Tim Stacy
crabbydad@comcast.net



No sin is new to him. No wrongdoing too great.

Come to Confession and experience mercy.

Parish Council: Stephanie McCollom

Service Commission: Open

Administration Commission: Open

Finance Council: Al Singletary finance@stannchannahon.org

Formation Commission: tom@stannchannahon.org

Worship Commission: Curt Clark

Ushers/Funeral Mass Host: Curt Clark

Extraordinary Ministers: Jim Prosise

Lectors: Karen Slattery stannlectors@gmail.com

Altar Servers: Laurie Bauer stannaltarserver@gmail.com.

Liturgical Scheduler : Martha Pry stannministers@gmail.com

Sunday Children's Liturgy of the Word: Joan Mc Atee

Council of Catholic Women: Betsy Devier erdevier5@gmail.com **S**ACRAMENTS

Catholic parents have the responsibility to have their infant children baptized within the first few weeks of life when possible. Baptism prep will be the 3rd Saturday of the month @ 2 PM in the Fireside room, call the parish office to schedule. Baptisms will be the 1st Sunday of the month at 11:15 AM (Exceptions for holiday weekends.) Please call the parish office to schedule and for information. <u>parishoffice@stannchannahon.org</u> or 815-467-6962, Ext. 10. Eucharist, Reconciliation, Confirmation for Children:

Formation is held during religious education sessions. Registration/ questions contact Tom x13.

Reception of Baptism, Reconciliation, R.C.I.A.,

Eucharist & Confirmation for Adults:

Inquiries about reception of Sacraments, contact Tom, Ext. 13. Engagement Preparation for the Sacrament of Marriage:

Couples need to be registered and active in parish life and attend weekly Mass. Preparation begins eight months before proposed date. Contact Parish Office 815-467-6962.

Validation of a Civil Marriage:

Baptisms:

If you were married civilly by the State and wish to validate your marriage as a Sacrament, contact Dcn. Bob, Ext. 12 or the parish office, Ext. 10

### Confession

Tuesday, Dec. 21st 6-8:00 PM (2) Confessors Available

Every Saturday 8:30 am (except Dec. 25, 2021 & Jan. 1, 2022)

Monday Ladies' Card Club: Judi Petersen

Knights of Columbus: John Behling jpbehling@comcast.net

Men's Club: Mike McGrath

Second Saturday Euchre: Rich Collofello

P.A.D.S. Shelter: Robin Cook

Daybreak Shepherd Table: Laura Hrechko lphrechko@aol.com

Venturing Crew: J.J. Fleming

Township Goldeneers: Pat Mueller

Baptism Preparation: Dcn. Bob Duncan

Sacramental Arrangements Baptism/Marriage Prep/Annulment Jill Walsh 815-467-6962, Ext. 10

Thursday Bible Study: Tom Uraski

Saturdays Fishers of Men: Herald Longton

Adult R.C.I.A. Melissa/Scott Knaub Jr. High /Confirmation Rel. Education Tom Uraski, Ext. 13

Protecting God's Children Tom Uraski/Elaine Ward, Ext. 13 Prayer Tree: Penny Caruso PENLC@comcast.net

St. Ann Youth Football: john.krenkel@gmail.com

Sew Helpful Betsy Devier erdevier5@gmail.com

Church/Office Housekeeping Luanne Stewart 815-467-4857

Adoration Wednesdays Julie Brewers

Children/Teen Choir: Abbey Pursell

Adult Choir/Cantors Tim Stacy crabbydad@comcast.net

Bulletin/Ministry of Care: Jill Walsh parishoffice@stannchannahon.org

Communication Narthex Screens Rosemary Morales rosemary@stannchannahon.org For more information, contact Parish Office at 815-467-6962.

# WEEKLY PRAYER

#### **READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 19, 2021**

Sunday:	Mi 5:1-4a/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 [4]/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45
Monday:	ls 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 [cf. 7c and 10b]/Lk 1:26-38
Tuesday:	Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21 [1a; 3a]/Lk 1:39-45
Wednesday:	1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd [cf. 1a]/Lk 1:46-56
Thursday:	Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14 [cf. Lk 21:28]/Lk 1:57-66
Friday:	<i>Morning</i> : 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29 [2]/Lk 1:67-79
Saturday:	<i>Vigil:</i> Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 [2a]/Acts 13:16-17, 22- 25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25 <i>Night:</i> Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13 [Lk 2:11]/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14 <i>Dawn:</i> Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20 <i>Day:</i> Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 [3c]/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18
	or 1:1-5, 9-14
Next Sunday:	Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk

Next Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:41-52 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 [cf. 5a]/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52

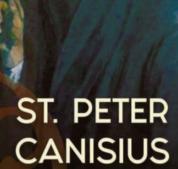
#### **OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 19, 2021**

Sunday:	4th Sunday of Advent
Tuesday:	St. Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church
Thursday:	St. John of Kanty, Priest
Friday:	Christmas Eve
Saturday:	The Nativity of the Lord
Next Sunday:	The Holy Family

#### LIVE THE LITURGY

#### Inspiration for the week

Did you ever find yourself wishing that God would just step in and fix all that is wrong with the world? After all, how much longer can all of this go on? There is so much inequity in life. Our world's political, economic, and environmental systems do not always serve the best interests of people. We read stories about injustice, disregard for human life, greed, heartache, and people being hurt and deprived every day. People are still starving and there is often little regard for human life. This is not the way God intended it to be. Realizing that we have caused most of these problems ourselves, we look to God for an answer and a way out of the difficulties we have created. Taking responsibility for our actions is not something that comes easily. What we fail to see is that God has already sent the answer in the person of Jesus Christ. God did fix our problem! Mary had to set her needs aside in order for the Son of Justice to come into the world. We need to do the same. It is only by believing in, listening to, and acting upon what God has spoken that true peace will ever come to be, and God's fix be made known.



FEAST DAY DECEMBER 21

CLP

#### SAINT OF THE WEEK

Born in Holland, St. Peter Canisius (May 8, 1521 – December 21, 1597) was a preacher, teacher, and writer throughout his whole life. At the age of 19, he received a master's degree from the university at Cologne. Soon afterwards, St. Peter met Peter Faber, the first disciple of Ignatius of Loyola, who influenced him so much that he eventually joined the Society of Jesus.

St. Peter Canisius founded colleges and seminaries, served as a missionary, cared for the sick or imprisoned, and wrote close to eight volumes of letters — many about St. Cyril of Alexandria and St. Leo the Great.

A man blessed with many talents, St. Peter Canisius is a wonderful example of a man who developed his talents to further God's work here on earth.

CLPi



## St. Ann Parish 2021 Advent & Christmas Schedule

Adoration Tuesdays: December 7, 14 & 21\* ~ 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm Every Wednesday ~ 8:30 am - 10:30 am

\*Confession offered Dec. 21, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm (2) Confessors available

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Wednesday, December 8 ~ Mass at 8 AM, 4 PM & 6 PM

> Christmas Eve - Friday, December 24 Mass at 3 PM, 4:30 PM & 10 PM

Christmas Day - Saturday, December 25 Mass at 8 AM & 10 AM (*No Saturday evening Mass or Saturday morning confessions*)

> Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God Friday, December 31 - Mass at 4 PM Saturday, January 1, 2022 - Mass at 10 AM (*No Saturday morning confessions*)

#### INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 18, 2021 St. Ann Parish & +Marie Loizon/Lisa & Pat Kelly 4:00 pm Sunday, December 19, 2021 8:00 am +Mike & Jim Gramman/Jim & Anita Schemensky 10:00 am +Ronald Odegaard/Adam & Lisette Mutsch Monday, December 20, 2021 Liturgy of the Word w/Holy Communion 8:00 am Tuesday, December 21, 2021 8:00 am +Marilyn Wylie/Jim & Anita Schemensky Wednesday, December 22, 2021 +Mary Jones/Hilda Garibay 8:00 am Thursday, December 23, 2021 8:00 am +Mary & Andy Toth/Family Friday, December 24, 2021 ~ Christmas Eve 3:00 pm Intention of Celebrant 4:30 pm +Virginia Feeney/Mike & Kim Mitchell 10:00 pm The People of St. Ann Parish Saturday, December 25, 2021 ~ Christmas Day 8:00 am +Louie Moorman/Larry & Janet Moorman 10:00 am +Colleen Appleton/David Appleton and The People of St. Ann Parish Sunday, December 26, 2021 8:00 am +Peter & Lillian Schemensky/MM Schemensky 10:00 am +Barbara Bielawski/The Jostlein Family + = denotes deceased person / SI = special intention









DRAKE ROBERT MORETTI Son of Alex & Lindsey Son of Ryan & Allyson

HUDSON MICHAEL COSTIGAN Son of Daniel & Torie

SANTINO GUIDO ANDREUCCI Son of Alessandro & April

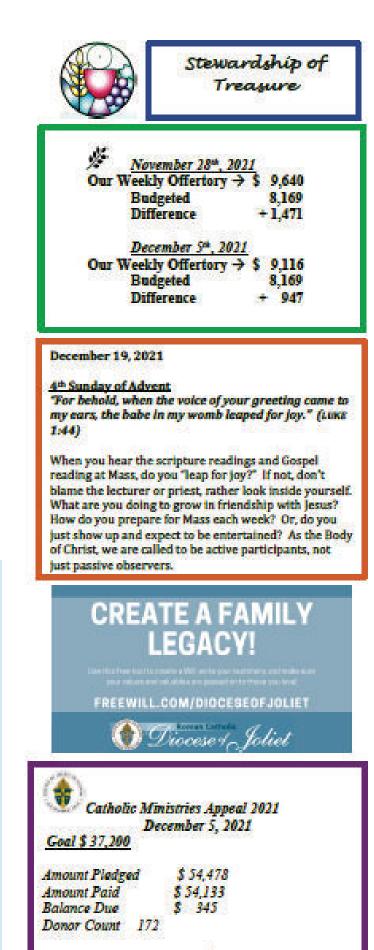
> LOGAN ALEXANDER STEWART

BROYLES Daughter of Bryan & Kirsten

**PEYTON IOY** 

BROOKLYN CHRISTINE CAMPBELL Daughter of Kenneth & Christina

> OWEN HENRY CASSIDY Son of Lee & Kathleen



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