Saint Anne and Holy Cross Parishes
26 Emerson Avenue, Hampstead, NH 03841

4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT

And the angel said to her in reply, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God." - Lk 1:35

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

SAINT ANNE PARISH
26 Emerson Avenue
P.O. Box 339
Hampstead, NH 03841
Phone: (603) 329-5886
Fax: (603) 329-4468
saintannechurchnh.org

PARISH OFFICE HOURS
The Parish office is open Monday through Thursday, 8:30 am to 4:00 pm.

MASS SCHEDULE
Monday - Thursday, 9:15am
Always check the Mass schedule for possible changes in the regular schedule.

Saturday, 4:00pm
Sunday, 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am
Coffee & donuts fellowship is offered after the 8:00 and 9:30am Sunday Masses.

Holy Days Of Obligation
9:15am & 7:00pm on the day.

SACRAMENTAL LIFE

Baptism
Catechesis is required of all parents. Arrangements made at the office.

Sacrament of Penance
Saturday, 3:15 to 3:45 p.m. Or anytime by appointment.

Matrimony
Arrangements must be made six months before the date of the wedding and before the reception is fixed. Our full policy is available on the website.

Anointing of The Sick
For those who are ailing, elderly or about to undergo surgery. Please notify the Office as soon as possible.

Eucharist to the shut-ins
For Communion to all shut-ins, please notify the Parish Office so we can arrange a visit.

Vocations
Call Rev. Matthew Mason at 603-663-0196 or email at mmason@rcbm.org

Parish Mission Statement:
Saint Anne Parish, guided by the Holy Spirit, is committed to making active Disciples of Christ, all for the Glory of God. As baptized Christians, we seek to live according to the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church, centered on the Eucharist and in service to all.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 19, 4:00 pm
†Allen Gault by family
†Deceased of the Giarrusso & Flynn families

Sunday, December 20, 8:00 am
†Geraneo family (Christmas remb.) by family
†Robert John Dastin by Judith Delisle

Sunday, December 20, 9:30 am
†Chludzenski & Repczynski families by Bob & MaryAnn Jenne
Intentions of Dave Luther

Sunday, December 20, 11:00 am
†Deceased members of the DelPercio family by family
†Bartholomew Reidy by Girotti family

Monday, December 21, 9:15 am
†Pauline Walton-Flath (b'day remb.) by Doreen Manke

Tuesday, December 22, 9:15 am
†Richard Barry by Jackie Cassidy

Wednesday, December 23, 9:15 am
†Dawn Folopoulos by Jackie Cassidy

Christmas Eve —Thursday, December 24, 4:00 pm
†Janice & Edward Mincy / Anne & Al Gottwald by family
†Edgar & Shirley Chapdelaine by daughters

Christmas Eve —Thursday, December 24, 6:00 pm
†Robert F. Walsh by Florence Walsh
†Filiberto Ranalli by wife & family

Christmas Day — Friday, December 25 — Midnight Mass
†Paul Comeau, Jr. by family
Barbara Hamel (for improved health) by family

Christmas Day — Friday, December 25, 8:00 am
†Deceased of Mullen & Skanes families by Bill & Marie Mullen
†Joseph A. & Florence B. Cote by daughter

Christmas Day — Friday, December 25, 10:00 am
†Lawrence Ciba by family
†Members of the LoRusso & Quevillon families

Saturday, December 26, 4:00 pm
†Barbara Matijasec by Rosina
†Jeremiah Dowd (b'day remb.) by family

Sunday, December 27, 8:00 am
†Maurice Martineau (20th anniv.) by Belinda Hamel
†John Moorehouse by Dennis & MaryLu McCarthy

Sunday, December 27, 9:30 am
†Ann & Dominic Delgavio by Delgavio family
†Joan Ouellette (5th anniv.) by family

Sunday, December 27, 11:00 am
†Aaron Holden by family
William Nikas (for health) by Kathryn Castonguay

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 20, 2020

Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16 Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 [2a]/Rom 16: 25-27/Lk 1:26-38
Monday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21 [1a; 3a]/Lk 1: 39-45
Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd]/Lk 1:46-56
Wednesday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25: 4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14 [cf. Lk 21:28] Lk 1:57-66
Thursday: ***Morning***: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29 [2] Lk 1:67-79
Friday: ***Vigil***: 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. ***Night***: Is 9:1-6 Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13 [Lk 2:11] Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14. ***Dawn***: Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20. ***Day***: Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 [3c]/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or Jn 1: 1-5, 9-14
Saturday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31: 3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17 [6] Mt 10:17-22
Next Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15: 1-6; 21:1-3/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1] or Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 [7a, 8a]/Col 3: 12-21 or 3:12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40

Sanctuary Candle is in memory of

Deceased of the Andrzejewski & Parrish families

"Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them."

GOSPEL MEDITATION - DECEMBER 20, 2020 — FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

In Blaise Pascal's work, Pensées, he says: "What else does this craving, and this helplessness, proclaim but that there was once in man a true happiness, of which all that now remains is the empty print and trace? This he tries in vain to fill with everything around him, seeking in things that are not there the help he cannot find in those that are, though none can help, since this infinite abyss can be filled only with an infinite and immutable object; in other words by God himself."

We have a difficult time accepting that fulfillment and happiness are not achieved by our own merits but through a relationship with God. We are hardwired for this relationship and it is in our DNA. The simple fact is that we come from God and are designed to return to God. If our beginning and our end define who we are, why would we not want to seek the One who can truly satisfy? The world does not realize that it is waiting. It is waiting for the birth of God in time, within one's soul and in eternity. We get so confused by seeking other momentary satisfactions that we misinterpret the hunger within. We crave God.

The union of God and humanity, revealed in Jesus Christ, is precisely what sets us on a straight path, orders our relationships, establishes proper focus and goals and tells us whose kingdom we really are meant to serve. We are so lost. God is with us. The prophet Nathan told this to King David, the angel said this to Mary and the birth of Christ brings this Good News to us. We do not need to be busily looking for more things but must learn to find contentment and blessing in the One Presence. This is the beautiful simple message of Advent!

If you are feeling unsettled, anxious, angry, disgruntled, disconnected, unhappy, worried, fearful, off center, becoming overly self-indulgent, unable to spend time alone and without distraction, then there's a good chance you are lost. Now is the time to allow God to find you! Ponder the holy simplicity of Mary's call to be the Mother of God. "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." When we are helpless and at home with our emptiness, God will fill us. Our Savior has come.

©LPi

Sunday Offertory Collection Totals

Publication of collection totals has been suspended due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Thank you for your generous support.

Upcoming Second Collections

There is no scheduled Second Collection for the weekend of December 19/20.

There is no scheduled Second Collection for the weekend of December 26/27.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

PASTORAL & PARISH STAFF

Very Rev. Marc Gagne, V.F.
Pastor
Deacon William E. Mullen,
Pastoral Associate
Joan Virga
Confirmation/Youth Minister
Pam Walsh
Rel. Ed. Coordinator, Gr 1-8
Cheryl Gottwald
Rel. Ed. Secretary
Maureen Johnson
Pastoral Secretary
Paula Smith
Administration
& Human Services
Paul Comeau
Buildings & Grounds
Nancy DeFilippo
Safe Environment Coordinator
Cynthia Verrill Moscato
Director of Music
Joan Virga
Associate Director of Music
Eric Sinitski
Youth Choir Director
Nancy Steenson
Children's Choir Director

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Visioning & consultative body to the pastor. Currently serving the Council are:

Rosemary Berube
Regina Birdsell
Jim Carey
Robert Dorion
Deborah Fitzgerald, Chair
Peter Hess
Belinda Hamel
Daniel Hebert
Christina Hurni
Richard Leather
Terry Zuidema
Fr. Marc Gagne, Ex-Officio
Deacon Bill Mullen, Ex-Officio

FINANCE COUNCIL

Consultative body to the pastor. Currently serving the Council are:

John Keisling
John Sedensky
David Mason
Peter Hess, Chairperson
Fr. Marc Gagne, Ex-Officio
Paula Smith, Ex-Officio

SAINT ANNE ECUMENICAL FOOD PANTRY/OUTREACH

Serving those from Hampstead, Sandown, Danville, & Atkinson. Open Thursdays, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm.

Please contact Jim Carey at Outreach@saintannechurchnh.org or 603-339-3731 for more information.

VISIT US ONLINE!

https://www.saintannechurchnh.org/

♦

- **Weekend Masses: 4:00 PM on Saturday; 8:00, 9:30, and 11:00 AM on Sunday. Limited in-person seating available or view via the Livestream* link at https://www.saintannechurchnh.org/**

♦

- **Daily Mass is held Monday through Thursday at 9:15 AM via the Livestream link on the parish website. Limited seating is also available in the church.**

♦

- **Prayer Service every Friday at 9:15 AM with Deacon Bill Mullen.**

♦

- **Previous Masses are available for viewing on the parish website: click on the Livestream* link and then "Archived Masses & Events" to find them.**

*Due to ongoing difficulties connecting with Facebook please use the Livestream link on the parish website as your primary access to Mass.

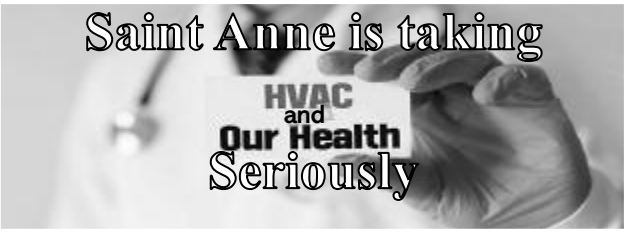
The Parish Office will be closed from Thursday, December 24, 2020 until Monday, January 4, 2021 for the Christmas Holiday.

Youth Choir Caroling Event

Hello! To help ring in the season of Christmas, the youth choir will be caroling on the Fourth Sunday of Advent (12/20) after the 9:30 Mass and after the 11:00 Mass as people come to receive Communion. We will be set up by the church bell. Please feel free to stop by and listen. For continued safety we will adhere to the NH mask mandate. If you are outside and come to listen please keep a mask on. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Please contact Pam Walsh at 603-329-5886 ext.105 or at **pwalsh@saintannechurchnh.org** for information on Faith Formation and Sacraments this fall.

Contact Joan Virga at 603-329-5886 ext. 104 or at **jvirga@saintannechurchnh.org** for Youth Ministry!



Heating season has arrived, and at Saint Anne, we are taking all of our health seriously by taking steps to help reduce the chance of viral spread that could occur as we button up for the coming winter season and provide for improved circulation of air through our HVAC/forced hot air heating system.

- We have replaced our regular 1 inch air filters with the installation of 1 inch MERV 13 HVAC filters, rated to trap mold, bacteria, and viruses, preventing the same from being recirculated in the air. This week those filters will be upgraded to a 5 inch MERV 13 filter, maximizing their efficiency and life.
- This week we are installing manometers in every duct system, which monitor filter performance, ensuring that we are able to change the filters as soon as the efficiency begins to be compromised, instead of using the 'calendar' based practice of every two or three months.
- This week UV Lights will be installed in each of the ducts, with the approved rating to kill and destroy viruses collected in the filters, further preventing the virus from being recirculated into the air.
- During occupancy in the church, the windows will be opened slightly (1/2") to increase fresh air intake throughout the church.
- The ceiling fans will run continuously in reverse, drawing air upward, away from the congregation.

Based on professional consultation and advice, these steps will further reduce viral spread, along with wearing facial coverings and regular sanitation of the church, pews and touchable surfaces.

Everyone needs to continue to use their best judgement as to whether in-person attendance or virtual attendance is right for them with their individual health concerns and needs. The efforts we have taken will help those who do choose to attend to remain safe.

At St. Anne we take our Health & our HVAC seriously. Thank you all for your patience and cooperation during this difficult time.

Lights of Hope 2020

By Lighting up Hampstead,
we bring light to issues that face our community locally and globally, including helping to fund our own food pantries, disaster relief, vision testing, and more.

EVENT DETAILS:

The event takes place on December 24, 2020.

Candles should be lit between 2 to 4 pm and will burn for 10 hours.

Kits Cost $10 each (6 candles & 6 Bags)

QUESTIONS: Contact Roxanne Schloth at lightsofhampstead@yahoo.com

Hampstead Lions Club

Adopt-A-Person for Christmas

Rockingham Nursing Home Gift Program

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Thank you to all who donated so generously to others during this holiday season!

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Joy to the World

Christmas Masses at Saint Anne Parish will be available in-person (limited seating) and via Livestream at the parish website:

www.saintannechurchnh.org

Christmas Eve — December 24, 2020
Vigil Mass — 4:00 PM
Vigil Mass — 6:00 PM

Christmas Day — December 25, 2020
Midnight Mass — 12:00 AM
Morning Masses
8:00 AM
10:00 AM

Those unable to attend in person are invited to come and receive the Eucharist following the 4:00PM and 6:00PM Christmas Eve Masses and following the Christmas Day Mass at 10:00AM.

Have a Merry, Safe and Blessed Christmas!

Fr. Marc Gagne
Deacon Bill Mullen
and all the Parish Staff

"For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger." - Lk 2:11-12

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