



CHURCH OF ST. ANN

311 CARR AVE. KEANSBURG, NJ | 732.787.0315 | STANNKEANSBURG@GMAIL.COM

SUNDAY, JULY 12, 2020

15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



"The seed sown on rich soil is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold." - Mt 13:23

PARISH LIFE



Monday 7-13-20
8:00am **Purgatorial Society of St. Ann**

Tuesday 7-14-20
8:00am **Agatha Moore**
rq by Loving Family

Wednesday 7-15-20
8:00am **Patrick Byrne**
rq by Loving Family

Thursday 7-16-20
8:00am **Thomas McNulty**
rq by Loving Family

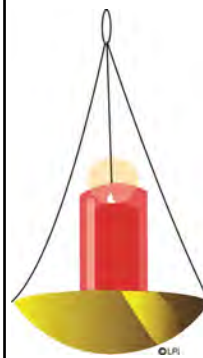
Friday 7-17-20
8:00am **Eileen Taylor**
rq by Loving Family

Saturday 7-18-20
5:00pm **Jack Slattery**
rq by Loving Family

Sunday 7-19-20
8:00am **Thomas & Aileen Flanagan**
rq by Loving Family

10:30am **Vernon Magee**
rq by Loving Family

6:00pm **Carol Smith**
rq by Loving Family



THE SANCTUARY LAMP

The Sanctuary Lamp is available for special intentions. The Lamp burns weekly for deceased members of a family or requests for a special intention. The donation is \$20. Please call the Rectory for further information.. This week's Sanctuary Lamp burns for **Jim Killeen**
rq by Loving Wife & Family



Masses Mon - Fri 8A, Sat 5P, Sun 9A.

Office Hours Mon - Fri 9A - 1P.

Church Hours Mon - Fri 8:30A - 12P.

Confessions Sat 1P - 2P *outside* the double doors of the handicapped entrance.

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NEW FACEBOOK PAGES

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Information on guidelines and restrictions continue to evolve rapidly and the likelihood of being closed longer seems imminent, but we will do our best to keep all our families informed. Here's how you can help: Make sure that you are signed into our CCD Text Blast system. Those already signed into "STANNCONFIRM" will continue to receive messages but all previous grade level options were eliminated in the fall as previously announced. Text "STANNRE" to 84483 & you will receive a confirmation notice that you are in the system. Check our website for home study plans and important updates and Sacrament information.

WEEKLY PRAYER

Readings for the week of July 12, 2020

SUN 7/12	Is 55:10-11/Ps 65:10, 11, 12-13, 14 [Lk 8:8]/Rom 8:18-23/Mt 13:1-23 or 13:1-9
MON 7/13	Is 1:10-17/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23 [23b]/Mt 10:34—11:1
TUE 7/14	Is 7:1-9/Ps 48:2-3a, 3b-4, 5-6, 7-8 [cf. 9d]/Mt 11:20-24
WED 7/15	Is 10:5-7, 13b-16/Ps 94:5-6, 7-8, 9-10, 14-15 [14a]/Mt 11:25-27
THR 7/16	Is 26:7-9, 12, 16-19/Ps 102:13-14ab and 15, 16-18, 19-21 [20b]/Mt 11:28-30
FRI 7/17	Is 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8/Is 38:10, 11, 12abcd, 16 [cf. 17b]/Mt 12:1-8
SAT 7/18	Mi 2:1-5/Ps 10:1-2, 3-4, 7-8, 14 [12b]/Mt 12:14-21
SUN 7/19	Wis 12:13, 16-19/Ps 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16 [5a]/Rom 8:26-27/Mt 13:24-43 or 13:24-30

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 12, 2020

Sunday:	15th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday:	St. Henry
Tuesday:	St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Virgin
Wednesday:	St. Bonaventure, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Thursday:	Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Saturday:	St. Camillus de Lellis, Priest
Next Sunday:	16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

LIVE THE LITURGY

Inspiration for the week

Any good farmer will tell you that regardless of how good the quality of the seed, its sprouting and bearing of effective fruit is dependent upon the quality of the soil. Preparing the soil is one of the most essential components of farming. There is no doubt that the seed of God's Word will eventually achieve its purpose. God cannot and will not fail. When and how that seed bears fruit is, however, dependent upon us. What is the quality and condition of your soil? Life's concerns and preoccupations can cause us to become inattentive to our inner life. This sometimes unintentional neglect can result in our soil becoming hard, overgrown with weeds, rocky, parched, and lifeless. When God's seed is sown, it doesn't always take root because it struggles to establish roots and flourish. How can you more attentively attend to the soil of your heart so that it will be a fertile and vital place for the fruit of the Gospel to grow?



God
is the
Heartbeat
of my
soul

WORSHIP & MEDITATION



FIRST READING:

So shall my word be
that goes forth from my mouth;
my word shall not return to me void,
but shall do my will,
achieving the end for which
I sent it. (Is 55:11)



PSALM:

The seed that falls on the good ground
will yield a fruitful harvest. (Ps 65)



SECOND READING:

I consider that the sufferings of this
present time are as nothing
compared with the glory to be
revealed for us. (Rom 8:18)



GOSPEL:

"But some seed fell on rich soil,
and produced fruit,
a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold.
Whoever has ears ought
to hear." (Mt 13:8-9)

*Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001,
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GOSPEL MEDITATION

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Using the best seeds doesn't always guarantee the best plants. An older Italian gentleman straight from Italy gave me these amazing tomato seeds that he claimed produced the best tomatoes ever grown. Without doubt, the fruit he shared with me was a testament to that fact. These tomatoes were amazing! I couldn't wait until the next growing season to plant these seeds and harvest my own tomatoes. The whole experiment ended up a failure. I did everything the gentleman said, but my fruit didn't even come close. What happened? At first I was perplexed, then some years later the light dawned. The problem wasn't the seeds, it was the soil!

You cannot sow seeds in any old place and in a haphazard way and expect them to be at their best. It doesn't work that way. Planting the seeds is the easiest part. Preparing the soil is the challenge. Tilling, mulching, enriching, and building up the nutrients are all required for good fruit. Then after the seeds are planted, more care is required in order to maintain that healthy, nutrient rich environment for those seeds to sprout, grow, and flourish. God happily sows the seeds of his Word. What do we do with them?

If we expect to be a passive bystander and have good fruit magically grow, we are mistaken. Bearing the good fruit of God's Word requires preparation and work. We have to cultivate the soil of our lives so that those seeds can find a proper home. This one thing alone takes a great deal of patience, time, and effort. What kind of preparation have we put into our lives so that we can be a recipient of God's seed? It takes a great deal of soul-searching and ego-checking to properly prepare. God is the ever faithful and persistent sower. If the seeds do not bear fruit the first time, God will come back time and time again, giving it another try.

If we have created a suitable bed for sowing, then once the seed is sown, we must properly maintain them. What is our maintenance plan for the seeds of God's Word? We need not only a source for water but a watering schedule. We need to weed, aerate the soil, nurture the young plants, protect them, and provide proper nutrients. What does our spiritual maintenance plan look like? If we have done all things well, imagine what the seeds of God's Word could produce in us!

LITURGICAL LIFE

RESPONDING *to the Call*

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments

Focus on the Good

When I was a child, my mother had a set of sculptures resembling three human heads. One head had hands over the ears, one had hands over the eyes, and one had hands over the mouth. Of course, they depicted the phrase, "Hear no evil; see no evil; speak no evil." I have seen these images repeated many times since then, usually as the monkey heads from a Japanese proverb, which would have probably seemed a little less creepy to me when I was a small child. Apparently, there is no consensus about the full meaning or certain origin of these three images nor the phrase. At the very least, it causes us to reflect on the need to avoid evil and look for the good in things.

As I have lived my life, I have come to believe there are more people who live their lives in a contrary manner to these images. It is not that they seek evil, but it is as if they "see no good, hear no good, and speak no good." Gossiping is the way they pass the time, and they always seem to find the negative in people and situations. Being a good steward certainly means that we do not seek evil, but more than that, it means that we see the abundance of good things all around us. These gifts of God are big and little, profound and ordinary. By seeing the world in this way, we begin to change our personalities and our overall disposition. We always need to follow a new proverb: see all the good, hear all the good, and speak about the good. Amen.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

**God bless you for your generosity and thoughtfulness.
Our parish is grateful for your continued support. Thank you!**



WHY DO WE DO THAT?

Catholic Life Explained:

Why Do Catholics Baptize Babies?

Question:

Why do Catholics baptize babies?

Answer:

For adults who want to be baptized, the celebration only takes place after a long, guided, and thoughtful process through the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. This is also true for many Protestant Christians, who are baptized later in life, often after a personal, transforming religious experience. So, it seems fair to ask why our Catholic tradition includes infant baptism. After all, if we make adults who want to become Catholic wait months and even years as they grow in their understanding of Christ and his teachings, why should babies — who "do nothing" — be baptized?

Our custom of infant baptism dates back to the earliest days of the Church, when St. Paul baptized entire households, including, we presume, children (see Acts 16:15, 33; 18:8). That had become common practice by the second century. When Christianity was legalized 200 years later, infant baptism became the normal practice throughout the Church.

We recognize that in Baptism, we are given the grace to overcome original sin — the human tendency to choose ourselves and our own wills over God — and to become members of the Church. This is the gift we give to infants in Baptism.

In its essence, the baptism of infants also reminds us adult Christians that the gift of salvation and membership in the Church (i.e., the Body of Christ) is God's initiative. It is freely offered to us, regardless of where we might be in life's journey. Salvation isn't something we earn. Instead, we see that Baptism is the beginning of a lifelong process of growing into the kind of disciples that Jesus wants us to be.

To learn more, see the "Catechism of the Catholic Church" (no. 1250-1252 and 1262-1270).

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And he spoke to them at length in parables, saying:
"A sower went out to sow...
Some seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it. But some seed fell on rich soil, and produced fruit, a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold. Whoever has ears ought to hear."
- Mt 13:3, 7-9

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001,
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LITURGICAL LIFE

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading

The prophet Isaiah assured the captive Israelites exiled in Babylon that God's word is reliable and purposeful. Does this bring you comfort or distress?

Second Reading

Paul speaks of a spiritual connection and yearning for freedom (redemption) shared between us and creation itself. What do you think a redeemed creation looks like?

Gospel Reading

Why do you think Jesus explains the parable of the sower to his disciples but not to the crowds?

“
The
things that
we love
tell us what
we are.
”

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS

©LPI

15th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



HEALTH AND WELLNESS

3 EASY STEPS

To Keeping Yourself & Others Healthy!

We are cautioned to be especially careful during the Coronavirus outbreak. Here are some simple ways to keep sickness away.



Wash Your Hands

Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds using soap and water. If you can't wash your hands, use hand sanitizer frequently.

Don't Touch Your Face

Especially around the eyes, nose and mouth. If you must sneeze, use a tissue or your arm.

Keep Your Distance

Practice social distancing during this epidemic and stay away from large groups. Instead, call, email or check up on family and friends using social media.



“The seed sown among thorns is the one who hears the word, but then worldly anxiety and the lure of riches choke the word and it bears no fruit. But the seed sown on rich soil is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold.”

- Mt 13:22-23

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