CHURCH OF ST. ANN

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

SUNDAY, JULY 26, 2020

17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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"The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field, which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field." - Mt 13:44

PARISH LIFE



Monday 7-27-20 8:00am **Patricia & Anthony Menture** rq by The Frizzell Family Tuesday 7-28-20 St. Ann's Purgatorial Society 8:00am Wednesday 7-29-20 8:00am Michael DeBlasio rq by Loving Family Thursday 7-30-20 **Michael Mazzaro** 8:00am rq by Loving Family Friday 7-31-20 8:00am Parishioners of St. Ann Saturday 8-01-20 5:00pm **Agnes Faas** rq by Bayshore Senior Center Sunday 8-02-20 8:00am **Richie Tringali** rg by The Deegan Family Richard T. Walker Sr. rq by Loving Family **Carlito Wallace** 10:30am rq by Loving Father John Mari 6:00pm rq by Lorraine Mari

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 **Michael McNamara rq by Loving Family**

<u>Masses</u> Mon - Fri 8A, Sat 5P, Sun 9A. <u>Office Hours</u> Mon - Fri 9A - 1P. <u>Church Hours</u> Mon - Fri 8:30A - 12P. <u>Confessions</u> Sat 1P - 2P *outside* the double doors of the handicapped entrance.

NEW FACEBOOK PAGES

Please check out and "Like" our pages. The parish is www.facebook.com/ church.of.st.ann.keansburg/ and CCD's page is www.facebook.com/St-Anns-Religious-Education-204651476726972/

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS • NEWS

> stannsreligiouseducation.weebly.com stannsre@gmail.com PHONE: 732-787-5744

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 26, 2020

- **SUN 7/26** 1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12/Ps 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-128, 129-130 [97a]/ Rom 8:28-30/Mt 13:44-52 or 13:44-46
- **MON 7/27** Jer 13:1-11/Dt 32:18-19, 20, 21 [cf. 18a]/Mt 13:31-35
- **TUE 7/28** Jer 14:17-22/Ps 79:8, 9, 11 and 13 [9]/Mt 13:36-43
- WED 7/29 Jer 15:10, 16-21/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9, 10-11 [2]/Jn 11:19-27 or Lk 10:38-42
- **THR 7/30** Jer 18:1-6/Ps 146:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6ab [5a]/Mt 13:47-53
- **FRI 7/31** Jer 26:1-9/Ps 69:5, 8-10, 14 [14c]/Mt 13:54-58
- **SAT 8/1** Jer 26:11-16, 24/Ps 69:15-16, 30-31, 33-34 [14c]/Mt 14:1-12
- **SUN 8/2** Is 55:1-3/Ps 145:8-9, 15-16, 17-18 [cf. 16]/Rom 8:35, 37-39/Mt 14:13-21

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 26, 2020

Sunday:	17 th Sunday in Ordinary Time, St. Ann
Wednesday:	St. Martha
Thursday:	St. Peter Chrysologus, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Friday:	St. Ignatius of Loyola, Priest
Saturday:	St. Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Next Sunday:	18 th Sunday in Ordinary Time

LIVE THE LITURGY

Inspiration for the week

When a merchant finally finds a priceless, perfect pearl, he sells all he has and buys it. He does this because that pearl matters to him. It has significance and brings a depth of joy like none other. What matters and is of importance to you? When what matters to us has something to do with the kingdom of God, God is delighted. His exuberant happiness is hard to contain because He knows that we are happy stumbling upon this beautiful wisdom. Ask God to help you discover this pearl of great price. There are many things competing for our attention every day. But not all of these things are important. We focus too much energy on the unimportant, superficial stuff and neglect paying attention to the things that really make a difference and have the greatest impact. Things all too easily become more significant than people, and our agendas become more essential than God's. We do not have to empty our bank accounts and totally detach from everything we have in order to serve God. But, we are asked to prioritize our lives and make what matters to God what matters most to us. In doing so, when we rise each day, we will be able to see what really needs our attention and embrace it with great joy!



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FIRST READING

"Give your servant, therefore, an understanding heart to judge your people and to distinguish right from wrong." (1 Kgs 3:9a)



PSALM Lord, I love your commands. (Ps 119)



SECOND READING

We know that all things work for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. (Rom 8:28)



GOSPEL

"The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field, which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field." (Mt 13:44)

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WORSHIP & MEDITATION

GOD DELIGHTS IN YOU

GOSPEL MEDITATION Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

A single mother who has a child with special needs works two jobs and sacrifices much of her own pleasures in order to be available for her son. Being the best mother possible is important to her and brings her joy. We are willing to make great and often heroic sacrifices for those people and things that matter most to us. Unless there is something of obvious importance to us in our immediate path, we can easily approach life in a more haphazard and chaotic way. We jump from one thing to another, responding to whatever it is that is competing for our attention at that moment. When everything is important, nothing is important.

If we do not wear the right pair of glasses, we can get all too easily caught up in the superficial stuff and neglect paying attention to the things that really matter. The kingdom of God is like the pearl of great price that is worth selling everything for so that it can be obtained. Based on where I invest my time and energy each day, I really wonder whether I am serving God's kingdom or my own. Have you ever considered tracking how you spend your time? You may be surprised! We allow our agendas to set the clock of our lives. We forget that joy and a true sense of purpose are not going to be found in following that timepiece. Joy is the expression of the happiness that is discovered when living in the kingdom of God. When our agenda matches God, not only do we leap for joy but God leaps with delight as well. Our well-being is what matters most to God.

Can you imagine God delighting in you? It is easy to deaden our senses to the whole reality of God and the joy that living the Gospel can bring. The demands of secular life and the agendas competing for our attention can quickly do that. We can get tired and spiritually apathetic. But if we can see our way through all of the conflicting voices and hear the voice of God, we can rediscover our zeal and passion and redirect our efforts. When we begin to see as God sees, we can rise each day and notice what really needs our attention and embrace it with exuberance. Be careful, though. It may not be what we originally had on our list. Responding to it, however, will be worth putting everything else aside.

LITURGICAL LIFE



EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments

What Is God Asking of You?

What are you willing to give for the sake of the kingdom of God? Often, we begin a discussion like this with a story or a few leading thoughts. However, if we are to be serious about who we claim to be as Christians, there should be no beating around the bush. The question is not only important for each of us and our relationship with our God, but it should be important for the relationship each of us has with the entire Body of Christ. Like any good team or family, I need you to have my back, and I need to have yours. If one of us is going to lay it on the line and be all in for our faith, then we all need to be as well.

If only all the Christians of the world felt the same way. In some parts of the world, Christians are still being martyred for their faith. Others must worship underground and avoid the government-led police. Then there are those who seem to take faith for granted, and because little is asked by their friends or parish, they give nothing. It is quite a contrast of situations.

On this day, it may seem like little is being asked of you and I by God. Is that because we aren't being asked or because we aren't listening? If you are counting on me and I am on you, we should figure this out sooner than later. Of course, I suspect we actually do know the answer, don't we?

- Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

PLEASE CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING

Our parish is grateful for your continued support. Thank you!





WHY DO WE DO THAT? Catholic Life Explained: Lighting Candles in Church

Question:

Why do Catholics light candles in church?

Answer:

Candles have been part of the Church's worship from the earliest times. In the days before electricity, candles and oil lamps were the ways that people lighted buildings. Even today, we often still depend on candles during power outages, relying on their flickering flames to bring light into the dark.

Like our ancestors, we also light candles on special occasions. Think about a festive family meal or a romantic dinner for two — there will often be candles on the table, special objects for a special event. We light candles on birthday cakes and carry them in processions. We also place candles at makeshift memorials that appear when there has been an accident or act of violence. In these moments, their light casts aside a different kind of darkness — the darkness of grief, fear, and death.

The custom of the early Christians lighting candles and lamps at the tombs of the martyrs gave way to the practice of having candles at Mass, honoring the sacredness of the celebration.

As Christians decorated their worship spaces with statues and icons, they would burn candles in front of sacred images and the relics of the saints, basically "shining a light" on what they held to be sacred. When pilgrims would visit these shrines, they would often bring candles to light before the image or relic. These candles came to be a symbol of the person, and their prayer and the burning these candles came to be understood as an extension and continuation of the prayer that was offered. What began as a practical way to provide light has come to be a symbol of the hopes, desires, loves, losses, fears, and faith of everyday Christians offering their prayers to God and his saints.

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- Mt 13:44

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LITURGICAL LIFE

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading

As a young man and new king of Israel, Solomon asks the Lord for the gift of wisdom. How do you exercise the virtue of wisdom in your daily life?

Second Reading

How do you think Paul can assert with such certainty: "We know that all things work for good for those who love God"?

Gospel Reading

Jesus offers several "end of the age" parables to the disciples: buried treasure and fine pearls (a priceless discovery) and the large catch of fish (an inclusive invitation). What do you think Jesus is teaching his disciples about the kingdom of heaven?



17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME





LITURGICAL LIFE

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.



"Thus it will be at the end of the age. The angels will go out and separate the wicked from the righteous and throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth. Do *you understand all* these things?" They answered, "Yes."

- Mt 13:49-51

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511576 St Ann Church

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