



CHURCH OF ST. ANN

311 CARR AVE, KEANSBURG, NJ 07734 | 732.787.0315 | STANNKEANSBURG@GMAIL.COM

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23, 2020

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

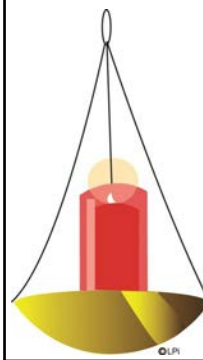


"I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." - Mt 16:19

PARISH LIFE



<i>Monday</i>	<i>8-24-20</i>
8:00am	Thomas Sauickie Jr. <i>rq by Loving Family</i>
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>8-25-20</i>
8:00am	Mike McNamara <i>rq by Loving Family</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>8-26-20</i>
8:00am	St. Ann Purgatorial Society
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>8-27-20</i>
8:00am	Kevin Nemeth <i>rq by Loving Family</i>
<i>Friday</i>	<i>8-28-20</i>
8:00am	Special Intentions for Ross Mcgee
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>8-29-20</i>
5:00pm	Elanor Kiszkiel <i>rq by Loving Daughter Elanor</i>
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>8-30-20</i>
8:00am	Virginia & Barbara Gibney <i>rq by Loving Family</i> Richard T. Walker Sr. <i>rq by Loving Family</i>
10:30am	Fred Dollinger <i>rq by Loving Family</i>
6:00pm	Parishioners of St. Ann



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 **Parishioners of St. Ann**

SUMMER SCHEDULE

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.



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/

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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 AUGUST 23, 2020

SUN 8/23	Is 22:19-23/Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 6, 8 [8bc]/Rom 11:33-36/ Mt 16:13-20
MON 8/24	Rv 21:9b-14/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18 [12]/Jn 1:45-51
TUE 8/25	2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17/Ps 96:10, 11-12, 13 [13b]/Mt 23:23-26
WED 8/26	2 Thes 3:6-10, 16-18/Ps 128:1-2, 4-5 [1]/Mt 23:27-32
THR 8/27	1 Cor 1:1-9/Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [1]/Mt 24:42-51
FRI 8/28	1 Cor 1:17-25/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11 [5]/Mt 25:1-13
SAT 8/29	1 Cor 1:26-31/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5-6ab, 15ab and 17 [cf. 15ab]/ Mk 6:17-29
SUN 8/30	Jer 20:7-9/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 [2b]/Rom 12:1-2/Mt 16:21-27

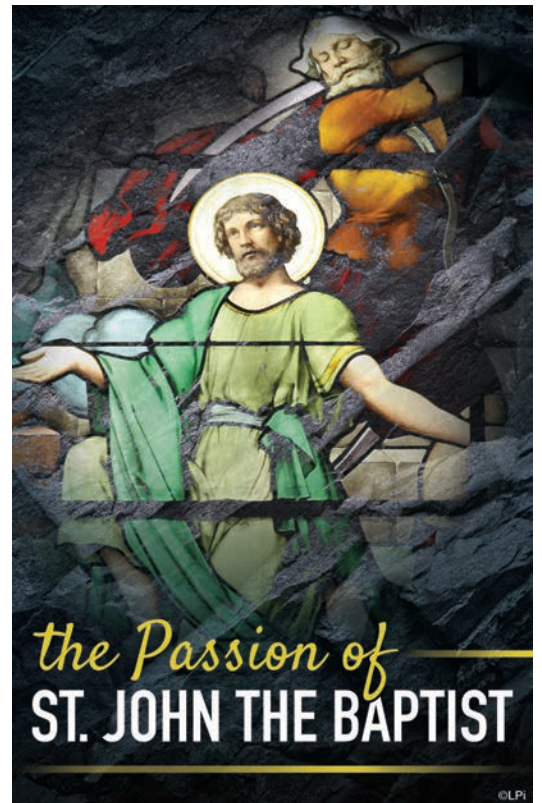
OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 23, 2020

Sunday:	21 st Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday:	St. Bartholomew, Apostle
Tuesday:	St. Louis; St. Joseph Calasanz, Priest
Thursday:	St. Monica
Friday:	St. Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Saturday:	The Passion of St. John the Baptist
Next Sunday:	22 nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

LIVE THE LITURGY

Inspiration for the week

To stand in the presence of God is to stand in the presence of incomprehensible mystery. We are people of proofs and facts. With good reason, we are becoming more doubtful of what presents itself to us, as technology makes it easy to fabricate false images and distort what is actually true. What we think is real actually may not be. We become skeptical. Does this skepticism affect our relationship with God? To have faith in God means that we must be willing to trust in the absence of full knowledge. To know the mind of God means we would know God himself, and that is impossible. To acknowledge Jesus as the Christ means we acknowledge that the reality and presence of an incarnate God has a fundamental claim on who we are. When we name this truth, we participate in a depth of knowledge that stretches us far beyond the scope of our minds. It brings us to silence, which is the only way to touch our soul.



*Say to Jesus
as the apostles
did: "Lord,
teach us to
pray."*

— ST. JOHN BAPTIST DE LA SALLE

WORSHIP & MEDITATION



FIRST READING

"I will place the key of the House of David
on Eliakim's shoulder;
when he opens, no one shall shut
when he shuts, no one shall open." (Is 22:22)



PSALM

Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake
the work of your hands. (Ps 138)



SECOND READING

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom
and knowledge of God!
How inscrutable are his judgments and how
unsearchable his ways! (Rom 11:33)



GOSPEL

"And so I say to you, you are Peter,
and upon this rock I will build my church,
and the gates of the netherworld shall not
prevail against it." (Mt 16:18)

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

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

The only way to know God is to love God. Our minds will never fully grasp the mystery of God, but our hearts and souls can learn to love the mystery. Years ago, when life had a more innocent quality to it, we believed what we were told or witnessed, unless there was direct evidence otherwise. This was especially true if the information came from someone in authority. In a sense, we were a bit more gullible on one hand but also more trusting on the other. The latter is an admirable quality that sadly can be eroded when we realize we have been duped. With education and technological advances, we find ourselves more skeptical and less likely to too quickly accept and believe what we see and hear.

For all of the good that social media can do, it can also easily distort reality and truth. Photoshop and a myriad other technological truths can add to, fabricate, and make even the non-existent seem real. It is amazing. How far do we allow this obviously justifiable skepticism to take us? Questioning and doubting are healthy elements of any good relationship as long as we don't allow them to turn us away from a deeper experience of love and encounter. If we cannot get our minds around something or empirically justify or prove it, we tend to declare it a hoax, untrue, or unauthentic and walk away. The very same trust that can quickly be eroded is exactly what is essential for all of our relationships, especially our relationship with God. With all things and people that make a profound claim on us, we have to trust in the absence of knowledge. Full self-investment involves plunging completely into the unknown!

Simon Peter said to Jesus, "You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God." Peter came to this knowledge, which is not "head knowledge" because of the relationship he shared with Jesus and what God was able to reveal in and through that relationship. Peter simply "knew" because of love that this is who Jesus really is. The silent exchange of love between friends, and not an intellectual exercise of the mind, brought Peter to this place. When we stop and think about it, there are many things in life that we simply know but do not completely understand. When someone sacrifices their own well-being for another, it may not make intellectual sense when examined. But it makes a world of sense when it is carried out. The vastness of reality and an encounter with incomprehensible mystery all lead us to profound silence where we simply know something to be true. Have you trusted enough to allow your relationship with God to bring you to this place or are you still too skeptical?

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**"I will give you the keys
to the kingdom of heaven.
Whatever you bind on
earth shall be bound in
heaven; and whatever you
loose on earth shall be
loosed in heaven." Then
he strictly ordered his
disciples to tell no one that
he was the Christ.**

- Mt 16:19-20

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass
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QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading

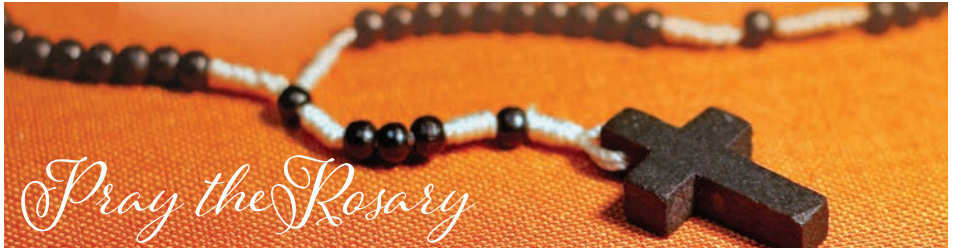
The Lord condemns Shebna (a scribe under King Hezekiah) for ignoring Isaiah's prophetic warning and elevates Eliakim with "a seat of honor." How well do you listen to prophetic voices?

Second Reading

We hear today Paul's concluding remarks from Romans 9:11 (reflections on God's plan of salvation for Jews and Gentiles). Paul contends that God's ways are beyond our understanding. Do you find this comforting or unsettling?

Gospel Reading

Jesus informs Peter that his confession of him as "the Messiah, the Son of the living God" is divinely inspired. How do you imagine Peter personally reacted to the news of this revelation?



For centuries Catholics have turned to the Blessed Virgin Mary, asking for her intercession in times of need by praying the Rosary. This great prayer, whose origins date before the 12th century, uses a meditative repetition of prayers that invoke the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary as she leads us to consider the mysteries in the life of her Divine Son, Jesus. History has shown this to be a powerful, effective and calming prayer that has truly changed hearts and lives over the centuries of its use.

Venerable Archbishop Fulton Sheen once said of the Rosary that it is "the book of the blind, where souls see and there enact the greatest drama of love the world has ever known; it is the book of the simple, which initiates them into mysteries and knowledge more satisfying than the education of other men; it is the book of the aged, whose eyes close upon the shadow of this world, and open on the substance of the next. The power of the Rosary is beyond description."

As Bishop of the Diocese of Trenton, I invite all Catholics in the Diocese of Trenton to consider making this powerful devotion part of your daily life of prayer. Please join with me in praying Our Lady's Rosary every day between now and October 7, the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary, for the many intentions and needs of our nation today, especially for a true respect for life in all its stages from conception to natural death; for the strengthening of marriage and family life; for an end to the COVID 19 pandemic and for all those impacted by it; for a lasting resolution to the racial tensions and injustices that have too long afflicted our country; for an end to the violence and death in our cities, especially among the young; for the victims of sexual abuse and human trafficking; for the poor, the unemployed and those who face economic hardship and for so many of the other intentions and needs that we face in our country and world.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Most Reverend David M. O'Connell, C.M., Bishop of Trenton

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