



CHURCH OF ST. ANN

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

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2020

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



"Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come." - Mk 13:33

PARISH LIFE



Monday 8:00am	11-30-20 Paul Frank <i>rq by Claudia Frank Koheil</i>
Tuesday 8:00am	12-1-20 Louis Cordi <i>rq by The Diomedea Family</i>
Wednesday 8:00am	12-2-20 Rosa Lanziserra <i>rq by Loving Family</i>
Thursday 8:00am	12-3-20 Robert Kolba <i>rq by The Diomedea Family</i>
Friday 8:00am	12-4-20 Burt Minnella <i>rq by Marlene</i>
Saturday 5:00pm	12-5-20 Michael Suckow <i>rq by The Loving Family</i> Kayla Hartney <i>rq by Loving Family</i>
Sunday 8:00am	12-6-20 Richie Tringali <i>rq by Degan Family</i> Richard T. Walker Sr. <i>rq by Loving Family</i>
10:30am	Anthony Policastro <i>rq by Loving Family</i> John Sherwood <i>rq by Loving Family</i> Louise Nardi <i>rq by Alfred Nardi</i>
6:00pm	Mary Heckel <i>rq by Joan Armelino</i>



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

FALL 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 *inside* the sacristy.



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EVENTS CALENDAR

Stay up-to-date with events at your church.

PARISH NOTIFICATIONS

Receive text messages about parish news

ONLINE GIVING

Make a donation one-time or weekly

DAILY READINGS

Follow the readings from home or during Mass

Apple AppStore **Weconnect parish app**
GooglePlay **Weconnect app v.3**

WEEKLY PRAYER

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 29, 2020

SUN 11/29	Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 [4]/1 Cor 1:3-9/Mk 13:33-37
MON 11/30	Rom 10:9-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [10]/Mt 4:18-22
TUE 12/1	Is 11:1-10/ Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 [cf. 7]/Lk 10:21-24
WED 12/2	Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [6cd]/Mt 15:29-37
THR 12/3	Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a [26a]/Mt 7:21, 24-27
FRI 12/4	Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 [1a]/Mt 9:27-31
SAT 12/5	Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [cf. Is 30:18d]/Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8
SUN 12/6	Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 [8]/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 29, 2020

Sunday:	1 st Sunday of Advent
Monday:	St. Andrew, Apostle
Thursday:	St. Francis Xavier, Priest
Saturday:	St. Januarius, Bishop and Martyr
Next Sunday:	2 nd Sunday of Advent

LIVE THE LITURGY

Inspiration for the week

Be watchful! Be alert! The core message of Advent cannot be more direct or simple. As those who are postured in a spirit of readiness and anticipation, we must always be attentive and vigilant. We have to be ready not only for the anticipated arrival of our Lord, but watchful and attentive to the unexpected visit as well. While we know that the Christ is coming, we also do not know the exact time. Cultivating this expectant attitude is the purpose of this season. It is easy to grow slack, inattentive, and too self-assured. We can easily deaden ourselves to the wonder and surprise of God's presence. We get so absorbed in so many other distractions that it can seem like Christ's second coming, and even Christ's coming in time are of lesser importance. When it finally dawns on us that we have wandered far away from where we need to be, and lost our attentiveness and focus, we will wonder how this all happened. We may even try to put the onus on God and blame God for a lack of involvement or presence. We are the ones, who through our own choice, put the distance in our relationship and lost touch. Now it's time to come back and perk ourselves up a bit!



*The One
Who is
to Come*

WORSHIP & MEDITATION



FIRST READING

Oh, that you would rend the heavens
and come down,
with the mountains quaking before you. (Is 63:19b)



PSALM

Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face
and we shall be saved. (Ps 80)



SECOND READING

God is faithful,
and by him you were called to fellowship
with his Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord. (1 Cor 1:9)



GOSPEL

"Watch, therefore;
you do not know when the lord
of the house is coming,
whether in the evening, or at midnight,
or at cockcrow, or in the morning." (Mk 13:35)

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

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

You are at the eye doctor and it's time for the peripheral vision test. You know the one. It's where you put your head up to a contraption and have to click a switch every time you see a squiggly line. If you don't concentrate and maintain optimal focus, you will miss them and skew the outcome of the test. You can easily find yourself with a diagnosis that really isn't accurate! Concentration and focus are key to succeeding with this evaluation. They are also key to developing a healthy, vibrant spiritual life. If we do not bring our full consciousness to the task, concentrate with all our might, be watchful and vigilant, we are not going to see God's loving presence flashing before our eyes!

That's why we need Advent. Let's face it. We can easily get distracted, focus on nonessential and superficial things and lose touch with what really matters. Our attentions wander. We daydream and even become a bit overwhelmed and tired. All of the stresses and demands of life consume us and we find ourselves constantly trying to play catch up rather than relishing the moment of the now. "Now" moments are so fleeting. They flash before us like those squiggly lines on a screen. Present moments go as quickly as they come but it is important to discover them and rest in them as often as we can. Though gone in a flash, these now moments of encounter with God teach powerful lessons and offer a grounding in truth that can be found nowhere else. It's the grace of Advent to become watchful and attentive because we are never sure when God will surprise us.

God loves surprises and love thrives on them! God's now moments of surprises come as tender instants of intimate connection where I find profound peace, experience joy, and rest in love. These are Advent times reflective of the now moments when Christ first was born, when God surprises us during every time we care to watch and when the great surprise of Christ's second coming dawns upon us all. But, to discover the grandeur and experience the awe of these now times, we have to be ready. We have to want to be there. We have to believe. And, we have to have the desire to soak in as much as we can in the time we have before us.

LITURGICAL LIFE

RESPONDING *to the Call*

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments

In the Unexpected

“What could happen next?” How many times have you asked yourself that question in the past year? Though we most often use that expression when things don’t seem to be going our way, this year it has been an expression of the constant changes to our world which the COVID-19 pandemic has wrought. But we might use the same expression to explain our feelings of being overwhelmed by blessings and good things, when the stars seem to align just right.

No matter what, we can say with certainty that tomorrow will not go exactly as we envisioned. Our lives are influenced by so many factors and the world around us is increasingly complex. Rather than be surprised by the unexpected, maybe we should expect the unexpected.

Living in this manner causes us to cherish more deeply the gifts we have been given. It helps us to live in the present and become mindful of those around us. Our relationships deepen. Our sense of responsibility builds. Our stewardship way of life finds new meaning and purpose.

This Advent will not be the same experience as last Advent. It remains to be seen what the coming days and weeks have in store for each of us. However, no matter what happens, Jesus Christ is there to welcome us to the unexpected. He will celebrate with us in joy and he will even feel our pain. You can count on the unexpected, but you can also count on Him to be there with you. He is now and forever, Emmanuel, “God with us.” He is the expected in all things unexpected.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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WHY DO WE DO THAT? Catholic Life Explained:

Question:

When we say the Penitential Act at Mass, why do we strike our chest three times?

Answer:

Our rituals and liturgical celebrations are filled with a variety of symbols, some of which also relate to our gestures and physical postures (e.g. kneeling, sitting, processing, making the Sign of the Cross). The custom of striking our breast three times during the “I Confess” of the Penitential Act of the Mass is one of those gestures that is loaded with symbolism.

The tradition of Christian’s striking the breast (above the heart) is rooted in the image of Sacred Scripture, especially texts like Psalm 51 which speak of a “humbled contrite heart” or how God heals broken hearts, binding up our wounds (see Psalm 147:3). Early Christian writers like Saint Augustine of Hippo and Saint Jerome also refer to this custom in their writings.

Ultimately, this practice is an expression of our sorrow for those times when we have been guilty of faults and a sign that we are willing to take responsibility for our sins and failings. That we all perform this gesture together is also an act of solidarity, recognizing that none of us, regardless of where we are on our journey of faith, is without fault and the need for grace and forgiveness.

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**Jesus said to his
disciples: "Be
watchful! Be alert!
You do not know
when the time will
come. What I say
to you, I say to all:
'Watch!'"**

- Mk 13:33, 37

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass
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LITURGICAL LIFE

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading

We hear today the prophet Isaiah's internal spiritual struggle as he questions God's ways and decries our human tendency to sin. What spiritual struggles do you need to confront as we enter into the season of Advent?

Second Reading

In his opening words to the Corinthian Christians, Paul reminds the faithful of God's fidelity to those who believe in his Son. He then cites examples of the blessings they have received since coming to the faith. What are some blessings you have received in your faith journey?

Gospel Reading

Jesus instructs his disciples to be vigilant for the end times. How can you make this spiritual discipline a focus of your Advent season this year?



1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



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.

THE SEASON OF ADVENT
MEANS THERE IS SOMETHING
ON THE HORIZON
THE LIKES OF WHICH WE HAVE
NEVER SEEN BEFORE.

— JAN RICHARDSON

*“Watch,
therefore; you do
not know when
the Lord of the
house is coming,
whether in the
evening, or at
midnight, or at
cockcrow, or in
the morning.
May he not
come suddenly
and find you
sleeping.”*

- Mk 13:35-36

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