



## CHURCH OF ST. ANN

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

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2020**

## 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT



"Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son,  
and you shall name him Jesus." - Lk 1:31



# PARISH LIFE



## Mass Intentions

Monday 8:00am	12-21-20 <b>Thomas Padden</b> rq by Edna Deegan
Tuesday 8:00am	12-22-20 <b>Thomas Sauickie Jr.</b> rq by Loving Family
Wednesday 8:00am	12-23-20 <b>Thomas Sauickie Jr.</b> rq by Loving Family <b>John F. Clancy</b> rq by Patricia & Billy O'Connor
Thursday 2:00pm 4:00pm Midnight	12-24-20 <b>Dec. mbrs. of St. Ann's Parishioners</b> <b>Dec. mbrs. of St. Ann's Parishioners</b> <b>Dec. mbrs. of St. Ann's Parishioners</b>
Friday 9:00am	12-25-20 <b>Dec. mbrs. of St. Ann's Parishioners</b>
Saturday 5:00pm	12-26-20 <b>Mary Sauickie</b> rq by The Loving Family
Sunday 8:00am	12-27-20 <b>Anthony Lupino</b> rq by Loving Daughter <b>Charles Doherty</b> rq by Joe & Mona Doherty & Family
10:30am	<b>Marion &amp; Jack Corvasce</b> rq by Loving Family
6:00pm	<b>Purgatorial Society of St. Ann</b>



### 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**

## WINTER SCHEDULE

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

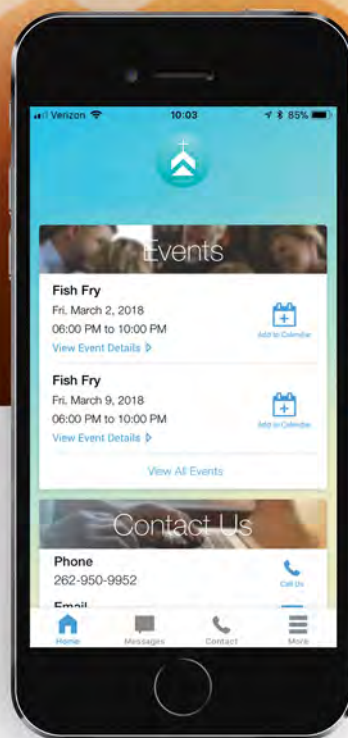
Office Hours Mon - Fri 9A - 1P.

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

Confessions Sat 1P - 2P *inside* the church sacristy.

<https://parishreservations.com/annkeansburg> is being used to make a reservation to attend Christmas Mass. Due to COVID19 space restrictions, reservations are required for the following Masses: Dec 24th 2P, 4P, and Dec 25th 12A. No reservations are needed for 12/25 9A Mass

## CHURCH OF ST. ANN MOBILE APP



### 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 DECEMBER 20, 2020

<b>SUN 12/20</b>	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
<b>MON 12/21</b>	Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21 [1a; 3a]/Lk 1:39-45
<b>TUE 12/22</b>	1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd]/Lk 1:46-56
<b>WED 12/23</b>	Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14 [cf. Lk 21:28]/Lk 1:57-66
<b>THR 12/24</b>	Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29 [2]/Lk 1:67-79
<b>FRI 12/25</b>	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
<b>SAT 12/26</b>	Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17 [6]/Mt 10:17-22
<b>SUN 12/27</b>	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

## OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 20, 2020

<b>Sunday:</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent
<b>Monday:</b>	St. Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church
<b>Wednesday:</b>	St. John of Kanty, Priest
<b>Thursday:</b>	Christmas Eve
<b>Friday:</b>	The Nativity of the Lord (holy day of obligation)
<b>Saturday:</b>	St. Stephen, the First Martyr
<b>Next Sunday:</b>	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

## LIVE THE LITURGY

### Inspiration for the week

Does the world realize that it is waiting? As we go about all of the busyness of our lives and entertain our distractions, there are many holes and gaps in our lives that need to be filled. We are always wanting more, but not really sure what that "more" needs to be. Fulfillment, happiness, contentment, and true satisfactions are fleeting occurrences and often come to us in illusive ways. What we think is the ultimate fix to our anxious emptiness really is only a fancy trend that we entertain. The world does not realize any more today than it did over two thousand years ago that it is waiting for a Savior. We need a Savior. We need to see and embrace the God who has broken into history and become one with us. It is this union of God and man that 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. The world does not know how truly lost it is. Do you realize how lost you are and that the One you need most is here among us and within your grasp?



© Come  
All Ye  
Faithful



# WORSHIP & MEDITATION



## FIRST READING

"When your times comes and you rest  
with your ancestors,  
I will raise up your heir after you, sprung  
from your loins,  
and I will establish his kingdom firm." (2 Sm 12)



## PSALM

For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.  
(Ps 89)



## SECOND READING

According to the revelation of the mystery  
kept secret for long ages  
but now manifested through the  
prophetic writings and,  
according to the command of the eternal God.  
(Rom 16:25b-26a)



## GOSPEL

"Behold, you will conceive in your womb  
and bear a son,  
and you shall name him Jesus.  
He will be great and will be called  
Son of the Most High." (Lk 1:31-32a)

*Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001,  
1998, 1970 CCD. The English translation of Psalm  
Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981,  
1997, International Commission on English in the  
Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.*



## GOSPEL MEDITATION

### Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

In Blaise Pascal's work, *Pensees*, 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.



# LITURGICAL LIFE

## RESPONDING *to the Call*

### EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

#### Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments

##### The Journey

Advent comes along every year and will continue to do so until Jesus returns. As this season draws to a close, we can each ask ourselves, “Am I now any better a disciple of Jesus Christ and more of a steward of all my gifts than before the Advent season started?” I have been on this earth for 40+ years. I have had 40+ Advents to draw closer to God and to work on taking more seriously my baptismal call. Some have gone better than others, but I would like to think my spiritual life progressed at least a small amount during each of them.

Conversion is a process. Stewardship is about a way of living and it is about more than simply being generous when a situation calls for it. Stewardship and conversion go hand-in-hand and we are always moving closer to holiness in Jesus Christ. Living in this way takes practice and commitment. If this Advent didn’t go as you had hoped, remember is not really an end. It is just another step along your journey.

This Christmas, while you are giving and receiving gifts and hopefully spending time with those you love, may you take the time to cherish the true gift that came to us over 2000 years ago and continues to call us to this day: Jesus. Let us be grateful beyond measure for this gift above all gifts, let us continue on our journey, and let our lives give testimony to the one who leads us.

— 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:

##### Question:

What is the difference between apostles and disciples?

##### Answer:

When we look at the gospel accounts of the life of Jesus, we see two special titles applied to his followers: *apostles* and *disciples*. At first glance, we might think that these two words are interchangeable, but when we look at what each one means, we quickly see that the evangelists were using them very specifically. When we look more closely, we see that while Jesus had many *disciples*, the group of *apostles* was much more limited and referred to Jesus’ closest collaborators.

The word *apostle* essentially means “one who is sent forth” or, as we might think of it today, “an ambassador.” The group of apostles — sometimes called the Twelve — included those twelve men who formed Jesus’ inner circle (see Mark 3:13-14; Luke 6:12-13). It was this group that received the gift of the Holy Spirit and who were sent out by Jesus with the special mission of forgiving sins on that first Easter Sunday (see John 20:19-23). In time, the Catholic Tradition also recognize Saint Paul and Saint Barnabas as apostles, recognizing that they also shared the mandate of going out in the Lord’s name to pray, to bless, and to preach. In 2016, during the Jubilee of Mercy, Pope Francis raised the liturgical celebration of Saint Mary Magdalene to the rank of feast, recognizing that she also received a special mandate to proclaim the good news of Jesus’ resurrection to the Eleven, becoming the “apostle to the apostles.” In a particular way, the bishops continue the mission of the apostles in our own time.

When we think of the word *disciple*, we see that it has a very different meaning. Rather than referring to those who were sent out to carry on the mission of Jesus, *disciple* literally means “student” or, more specially, an “apprentice learner.” The task of the disciple is to learn and integrate into their lives the teachings, values, and way of life of their master teacher. Although a disciple might be called on to explain or represent aspects of their life, in light of the teachings they receive from this master teacher, Christian discipleship is ultimately about living our lives with faith and integrity, guided by the life and mission of Jesus, our Master Teacher. The call to discipleship is the common vocation of all Christians.



# LITURGICAL LIFE

**Support  
Local  
Business.**

**Shop our Bulletin  
Advertisers Today!**

## SUPPORT OUR LOCAL ADVERTISERS

*Our advertisers need your help  
during these difficult times!*

Please show your support for your parish by also supporting our advertisers. We wouldn't be able to bring you our bulletin every week without them, and right now they need your help more than ever. Please encourage and remind others to show their support and shop local during these hard times!

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

## QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

**Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture**

### First Reading

Today's reading from Second Samuel narrates the context in which God establishes his covenantal promise to King David around the year 1000 B.C. In the birth of Jesus, God fulfills his covenant with David. What does this teach us about the idea of "salvation history?"

### Second Reading

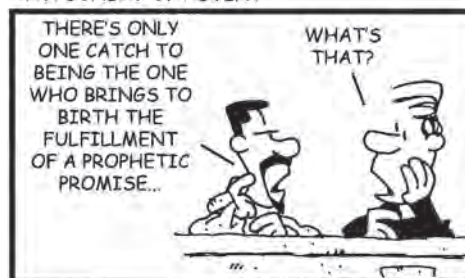
Paul concludes his letter to the Romans with a hymn of praise to God for the long-awaited revelation that all are saved and justified through faith in Christ. In what ways are you praising God during this season of Advent?

### Gospel Reading

Today's Gospel reading records the angel Gabriel's announcement to Mary of the upcoming birth of Christ. Mary's acceptance of God's will for her life ("May it be done to me according to your word.") models for all of us unconditional faith. How can we encourage others to embrace such faith?

**LET YOUR  
LONGING LEAD  
YOU TO THE  
FATHER**

### 4TH 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.



*Then the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father.”*

- Lk 1:30-32

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

Serving Monmouth County with compassion and integrity for three generations.

# JOHN F. PFLEGER

## FUNERAL HOME, INC.

John F. Pfleger Sr. (Founder), Evan F. Pfleger (Manager - N.J. Lic. No. 4714)  
Gregory W. Pfleger (Owner-inactive)

115 Tindall Road, Middletown, N.J. 07748  
Tel. 732-671-1326 • Fax: 732-706-0702  
www.pfleggerfh.com / info@pfleggerfuneralhome.com




## DAVID J. FOLEY

### ATTORNEY-AT-LAW

274 Main Street, Keansburg  
(732) 495-6500 Fax: (732) 495-3300

### If You Live Alone You Need MDMedAlert!

24 Hour Protection at HOME and AWAY!

- ✓ Ambulance Solutions as Low as **\$19.95** a month
- ✓ Police ✓ Fire
- ✓ Friends/Family **FREE Shipping**  
**FREE Activation**  
**NO Long Term Contracts**

CALL NOW! **800.809.3352**

**MDMedAlert**  
Safe-Guarding America's Seniors Nationwide!

**GPS Tracking w/Fall Detection**  
Nationwide, No Land Line Needed  
**EASY Set-up, NO Contract**  
**24/7 365 Monitoring in the USA**

This Button SAVES Lives!  
As Shown GPS, Lowest Price Guaranteed!



# Morgan

## basement waterproofing

In Our 4th Decade of Quality Service

- French Drains • Foundation Repair
- Mold Remediation

All Work Guaranteed  
**877-401-4777**  
morganbasementwaterproofing.com

Advertisement space for Morgan Basement Waterproofing.

## Get this weekly bulletin delivered by email - for FREE!

Sign up here:  
<https://www.jspaluch.com/BulletinSubscribe.aspx>

Courtesy of J.S. Paluch Company, Inc.



# SHAMROCK STAGE COACH

For Your Busing Needs Drivers Needed. Will Train.

347 Main St., Keansburg  
**CHARLIE HOCKEY - President** **732-787-1113**



Consider Remembering Your Parish in Your Will.

For further information, please call the Parish Office.

Newly Renovated  
**Jacqueline M. Ryan**  
**Home For Funerals**

Family Owned and Operated Since 1947

Now a third generation to serve the community with the compassion and care that has become the Ryan Family Hallmark.

Specializing in:  
Personal Attention • Pre-Arrangements • Payment Plans

Manager: Alicia Kedz Sarin • NJ Lic. # 4062 • Fax: 732-495-7373  
**732-787-1177**  
233 Carr Avenue, Keansburg

FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED • 4 GENERATIONS OF EXPERIENCE

Michael Pavone, Owner/Manager  
NJ License #4556

**ShorePoint**  
FUNERAL HOME AND CREMATION SERVICES, INC.

3269 Route 35 North • Hazlet **732-203-9200**

PREARRANGEMENT & PREPAYMENT PLANS AVAILABLE

[www.shorepointfh.com](http://www.shorepointfh.com)



CatholicCruisesandTours and The Apostleship of the Sea of the United States of America

Take your FAITH ON A JOURNEY.

Call us today at 860-399-1785 or email [eileen@CatholicCruisesandTours.com](mailto:eileen@CatholicCruisesandTours.com)

[www.CatholicCruisesandTours.com](http://www.CatholicCruisesandTours.com)

## Grand Opening

### Keansburg Family Dental

### Senior Citizen Discounts

Visit our new Modern Office Digital X-Rays

Up to 90% less radiation

Most Insurances Accepted Office Hours By Appointment

Tel (732) 945-8283 365 Carr Ave. Keansburg, NJ 07734

## Grow Your Business, Advertise Here.

Support Your Church & Bulletin.

Free professional ad design & my help!

email: [sales@jspaluch.com](mailto:sales@jspaluch.com)

[www.jspaluch.com](http://www.jspaluch.com)

For Information ... Call **800.524.0263**

DO YOU HAVE SALES EXPERIENCE? ARE YOU WELL NETWORKED IN THE LOCAL COMMUNITY?

## J.S. PALUCH COMPANY

NATIONAL PUBLISHER OF CHURCH BULLETINS

- Full Time Positions Available with Excellent Earning Potential!
- Medical Benefits, 401K, Life & AD&D Insurance Available
- Excellent Commission Compensation Program

Interested? Call Kay Leane 1.800.621.5197 x2823  
or Email Resume to [RECRUITING@JSPALUCH.COM](mailto:RECRUITING@JSPALUCH.COM)

[www.jspaluch.com](http://www.jspaluch.com)

EARN MONEY! DO GOOD! MAKE A POSITIVE IMPACT!

### WHY IS IT

A man wakes up after sleeping under an ADVERTISED blanket on an ADVERTISED mattress and pulls off ADVERTISED pajamas bathes in an ADVERTISED shower shaves with an ADVERTISED razor brushes his teeth with ADVERTISED toothpaste washes with ADVERTISED soap puts on ADVERTISED clothes drinks a cup of ADVERTISED coffee drives to work in an ADVERTISED car and then . . . .

refuses to ADVERTISE believing it doesn't pay.

Later if business is poor he ADVERTISES it for sale.

### WHY IS IT?



Your ad could be in this space!

## catholicmatch<sup>®</sup>

### New Jersey



[CatholicMatch.com/myNJ](http://CatholicMatch.com/myNJ)

## ONE PARISH

Grow in your faith, find a Mass, and connect with your Catholic Community with OneParish!



Download Our Free App or Visit **MY.ONEPARISH.COM**