



## CHURCH OF ST. ANN

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

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2020**

## THE HOLY FAMILY



The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom;  
and the favor of God was upon him. - Lk 2:40



# PARISH LIFE



Monday 8:00am	12-28-20 <b>Frank Regan</b> rq by Lazzaro Family
Tuesday 8:00am	12-29-20 <b>Warren Young Jr.</b> rq by Loving Family
Wednesday 8:00am	12-30-20 <b>Thelma Manoes</b> rq by Loving Family
Thursday 8:00am	12-31-20 <b>Gordon Missimer</b> rq by Loving Daughter
Friday 9:00am	1-1-21 <b>St. Ann's deceased members</b>
Saturday 5:00pm	1-2-21 <b>Charlie Doherty</b> rq by Stephen, Nancy Doherty and Boys
Sunday 8:00am	1-3-21 <b>Richard T. Walker Sr.</b> rq by Loving Family
10:30am	<b>Michael Suckow</b> rq by Loving Family
6:00pm	<b>Purgatorial Society of St. Ann's</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

**Richard T. Walker Sr.**  
rq by Loving Wife & Family



## WINTER SCHEDULE

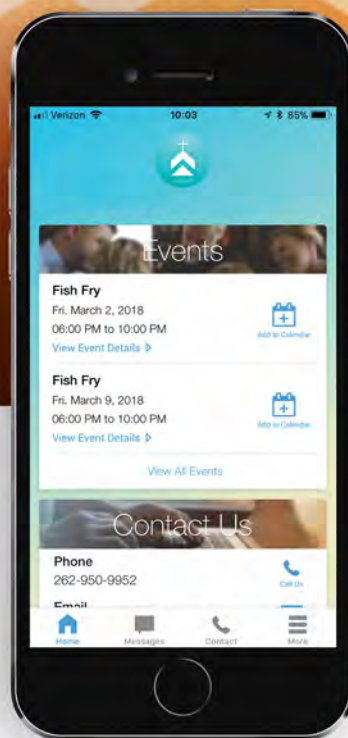
Masses Mon - Fri 8A, Sat 5P, Sun 9A.

Office Hours Mon - Fri 9A - 1P.

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

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

## 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 27, 2020

<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
<b>MON 12/28</b>	1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7]/Mt 2:13-18
<b>TUE 12/29</b>	1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 [11a]/Lk 2:22-35
<b>WED 12/30</b>	1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [11a]/Lk 2:36-40
<b>THR 12/31</b>	1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13 [11a]/Jn 1:1-18
<b>FRI 1/1</b>	Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [2a]/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21
<b>SAT 1/2</b>	1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [3cd]/Jn 1:19-28
<b>SUN 1/3</b>	Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

## OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 27, 2020

<b>Sunday:</b>	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
<b>Monday:</b>	The Holy Innocents, Martyrs
<b>Tuesday:</b>	St. Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr
<b>Thursday:</b>	St. Sylvester I, Pope; New Year's Eve
<b>Friday:</b>	Mary, The Holy Mother of God; New Year's Day; World Day of Peace
<b>Saturday:</b>	Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church
<b>Sunday:</b>	The Epiphany of the Lord; National Migration Week

## LIVE THE LITURGY

### Inspiration for the week

While families come in all shapes and sizes and no two are the same, they all need a common focus and grounding. Families are intended to be pivotal in providing us with a proper social structure and understanding, a support system, lessons about relationships and communication and the unconditional acceptance and love we so desperately crave. In addition to all of these things, the axis of every family has to be centered on faith. It is here that we can learn about the virtues and discover the windows to God Himself in His gifts of faith, hope, and love. We can learn, modeling our experience after the Holy Family, how to use these as anchors in our lives so that we can live out the other virtues with greater integrity. Because our human families struggle with weakness and sin, we have to come back to the Holy Family often for inspiration and guidance. In the bond of love that they shared, they clung to the anchor of God Himself and endured challenges far greater than many we will ever face.



New  
Year's  
Blessings



# WORSHIP & MEDITATION



## FIRST READING

The Lord took Abram outside and said,  
“Look up at the sky and count the stars, if you can.  
Just so,” he added, “shall your descendants be.”  
(Gn 15:5)



## PSALM

The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.  
(Ps 105)



## SECOND READING

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to  
go out to a place  
that he was to receive as an inheritance;  
he went out, not knowing where he was to go.  
(Heb 11:8)



## GOSPEL

The child grew and became strong,  
filled with wisdom;  
and the favor of God was upon him. (Lk 2:40)

*Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001,  
1998, 1970 CCD. The English translation of Psalm  
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## GOSPEL MEDITATION

### Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Tragedy and disappointment are inevitable. What sees you through this? There will be challenges, changes, unexpected circumstances, interrupted plans, hurts, and injustices experienced by every human being at some point in their lives. We will be asked to adjust our plans, change course, and even encounter suffering and death. Where do we learn all of the lessons we need to live life well? Some of them we learn along the way but much of what we bring to life, positive and negative, comes from our early beginnings, our families. This is our early world and provides the blueprint for how we see the bigger, more inclusive world, which unfolds before us.

Our families of origin can be sources of grace, heartache or a combination of both. Families are intended to be pivotal in providing us with proper social structure and understanding, a support system, lessons about relationships and communication, and the unconditional acceptance and love we so desperately crave. They can also determine whether we have an accessible and healthy relationship with God. Many of life's challenges can literally bring us to our knees and require that we possess a strength of character that resides well beyond the superficialities of our world. At some point we will all need three coping gifts that can be given to us only by God: faith, hope, and love. Our families help us learn that we are not the ones responsible for their creation, but God!

Our experience of early family life colors all of our relationships and what we expect to achieve from life in general. Resolving conflicts, dealing with difficulty and suffering, celebrating accomplishments, prioritizing our needs, listening to God's call, understanding relationships, understanding disappointment, learning about the virtues and living a centered focused life are all lessons our families either succeed in teaching or do not. To succeed, as God has designed and ordered our world, is to discover his presence and then trust that Presence. The Holy Family can teach even the most dysfunctional family how to best use God's gifts of faith, hope, and love to find him and do his will. Their simple humble example is always before us, showing us the way. Jesus, Mary and Joseph, pray for us!

# LITURGICAL LIFE

## RESPONDING *to the Call*

### EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

#### Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments

##### *The Gift of Family*

What a year it has been! How will we speak of these times a decade from now? As time goes by, our impressions of this past year will certainly change. How we feel today about dealing with a killer virus and all the chaos surrounding that is still fresh for all. I would assume that most of us right now are also holding those we love a little closer and hugging them a little harder. Hopefully, even if the fears and concerns of 2020 dissipate in the future, the way we feel toward our family should never leave us.

Stewardship is certainly about everything. God has given us so much, great and small, profound and common. One of the greatest gifts that all have received is family. Families take all shapes and sizes and some look very different than others. For some, family is a caretaker or temporary guardian. For others it is a friend when everyone else seems to have vanished. The bottom line is that, to quote a song from many years ago, "people need people."

When God gave the world His only Son, the Incarnation did not come on a cloud or with a flash of light. He was born into a family. Jesus understood the gift of family all his life. Do you think that if having a family wasn't important God would have still included this in the plan of salvation?

As this year draws to a close, remember your stewardship many days begins and ends with the people closest to you. Don't misuse or take for granted this precious gift. God gives us gifts on purpose, even to His only begotten Son.

— 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:

I've seen people hang rosaries over the rear-view mirrors in their cars and a few of them wear them around their necks. Is it OK to do that?

##### Answer:

The practice of hanging a rosary or a religious medal off of the rearview mirror of one's car is a fairly popular custom across many cultures. While there is no particular rule approving or condemning this practice, we should also be mindful of the respect and reverence due to religious objects and devotional items (i.e. sacramentals). An important point to consider would be the reason why one chooses to place a rosary or religious medal in our cars. Is it a reminder of the protection and intercession of Mary and the saints? Does it encourage us to be mindful of God's presence, even in such a mundane task as driving? Is it an outward expression of our more private devotions?

One advantage of having a rosary or religious medal in our cars is that it can also serve as a reminder to pray when we travel, asking for protection for ourselves and for other motorists or commuters. Certainly, invoking the protection and prayers of the saints is a wonderful practice for families, helping to reinforce our belief in the communion of saints and the care and concern we owe to one another.



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When they had fulfilled  
all the prescriptions  
of the law of the Lord,  
they returned to Galilee,  
to their own town of  
Nazareth. The child grew  
and became strong, filled  
with wisdom; and the  
favor of God was upon him.

**- Lk 2:39-40**

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 story of Abram and Sarah and their struggle to have a family centers on Abram's faith in the Lord. When have you needed to rely on faith when it comes to your family?

### Second Reading

The author of Hebrews holds up Abraham as a model for the faith. When have you had to unconditionally trust in the Lord?

### Gospel Reading

Only Luke records the presentation in the Temple of the baby Jesus. Simeon reveals to Mary and Joseph insights into Jesus and his destiny. How do you imagine Mary and Joseph understood Simeon's words?



HOLY FAMILY





# 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.



*“For my eyes  
have seen your  
salvation,  
which you  
prepared in the  
sight of all the  
peoples,  
a light for  
revelation to the  
Gentiles,  
and glory for your  
people Israel.”*

- Lk 2:30-32

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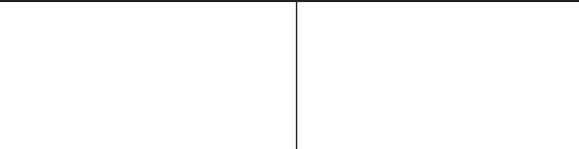
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