

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD APRIL 14, 2019

Dear Parishioners...

Come Celebrate with Our Parish! On the evening of Holy Thursday, Lent comes to an end, and we enter into the "Three Days" that are the center of our year: **The Sacred Paschal Triduum**. On these Three Days, the Church is at its best. In song, scripture and ritual we proclaim the heart of what we believe and celebrate throughout the year. We gather often – at church, at home – during the Triduum to reflect on the central reality of our faith, the death and resurrection of Jesus. During these Three Days, Christians renew their vows and new Christians are initiated. These are the "high holy days" of Christianity. You are invited to make these Three Days different from all the other days of the year. Adults in the community are invited to plan ahead so that the entire time from Holy Thursday evening until the Easter Vigil is free of social engagements, free perhaps even of work, free of entertainment, free of meals except for the simplest nourishment. Because of the importance of these days, we are not merely invited: We are all needed to be present in the Church. All of us need the whole community together on its greatest days, the evening April 18 through the evening of April 20 in this year of the Lord, 2019. Begin plans now to celebrate with your community the three most important days in our year.

Together we journey through Lent. Together we come to the font to renew our Baptismal promises. Together we welcome the newest members of our parish family. Together we share the joy of the Easter feast as we share in the Eucharist banquet of heaven. Join us for this year's Paschal Triduum!
...Prayerfully yours, Fr. Mink

The St. Ann "APP": Associate Pastor's Perspective - I was dragged kicking and screaming to an Easter Vigil Mass when I was 10-years-old. My mom knew someone coming into the Church that year and thought it would be nice for us to celebrate this sacred moment on her faith journey. There was just one major problem as I saw it: word-on-the-street from the older altar servers was that this particular Mass was long and boring ... with LOTS of readings. Thus, I wanted no parts of it.

But, remember, I was 10. I had no choice in the matter, not if I wanted to live to see Easter Sunday morning (and a basket of chocolate and jelly beans). So I went, begrudgingly. And yet, to this day, I must now humbly admit that the Easter Vigil Mass was the most beautiful experience of Liturgy I had ever been a part of. The darkened Church and flickering sea of candles ... the chanting of psalms ... the joyful ringing of bells ... and the evident joy of those becoming Catholic for the first time filled my young heart with an appreciation that this was truly something special and sacred. It was both an understanding of what Church is meant to be and a foretaste of what heaven must be like.

This coming Saturday evening at 7:30 p.m., why not consider joining us for our St. Ann's Easter Vigil? We have **seven** new parishioners entering the Church that night, receiving the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and First Communion for the first time. As their sisters and brothers in the faith, what a beautiful witness for them to see how grateful we are that they are joining us in full communion at the Altar, and how we promise to support them in their new journey as Catholic Christians.

And, trust me, it really isn't as long a Mass as those eighth grade altar servers once claimed it to be!

HOLY WEEK AT ST. ANN'S

Monday, April 15: Our Annual Chrism Mass held at Holy Cross Parish in Dover at 7:00PM.

Tuesday, April 16: Our Lenten Parish Penance Confessions held at 6PM

Holy Thursday, April 18: Morning Prayer at 9am....and then we celebrate the Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:00PM. Procession to the Repository with adoration until 11pm.

Good Friday, April 19: Morning Prayer at 9am and then we solemnly remember the death of the Lord in the Liturgy at 3PM with Scripture Readings, Prayers, Veneration of the Cross and Communion. Stations of the Cross will be held at 7pm.

Holy Saturday, April 20: Morning Prayer at 9am and then we begin the celebration of the Lord's Resurrection in the Easter Vigil at 7:30PM.

Easter Sunday, April 21: Masses are at 7:30AM; 9:00AM; 10:30AM; 12Noon.

The Rectory closes at 2pm on Thursday, April 18th and reopens on Monday, April 22nd.

Mass Intentions

Saturday April 13

8:00 A.M. Kathleen Eckrich
5:00 P.M. Henry, John & Jimmy Mauk

Sunday April 14 Palm Sunday

7:30 A.M. Parishioners
9:30 A.M. John C. Volk, Jr.
11:30 A.M. Braun & Mooney families

Monday April 15

6:30 A.M. Bridie Hennelly
8:00 A.M. Gregg Bacchieri

Tuesday April 16

6:30 A.M. Patrick Carter
8:00 A.M. Matt Hogan

Wednesday April 17

6:30 A.M. George Korg
8:00 A.M. Maria Orga

Thursday April 18 Holy Thursday

7:00 P.M. Intentions of the Priests

Friday April 19 Good Friday

3:00 P.M. No Intentions

Saturday April 20 Holy Saturday

7:30 P.M. Intentions of the Priests

Sunday April 21 Easter Sunday

7:30 A.M. Harris/Montague families
9:00 A.M. Patrick Carter
10:30 A.M. Jennie Gallagher
12:00 P.M. Parishioners

Pray for the sick, shut-ins and elderly of our Parish.

Offertory for the weekend of March 31st was \$11063. As always – thank you for your kind and generous support to St. Ann's.

WASHING OF THE FEET – *At the Last Supper, Christ knelt before his disciples and washed their feet telling them, "As I have done for you, you should also do". On Holy Thursday, in Catholic churches throughout the world, priests will fulfill this command by washing the feet of twelve parishioners. If you would like to participate in this humbling moment of grace by having one of our priests wash your feet at the Holy Mass, please call the parish office at 654-5519. Thank you.*

The Chapel of Divine Mercy will close at 9pm on Saturday, April 13th and reopen at 6am on Monday, April 22nd.



HOLY MOMENTS

We congratulate the following who were welcomed into the Christian community through Baptism:

EVELYN GRACE ...daughter of John & Erin O'Toole

CATHERINE ELAINE....daughter of Thomas & Alanna Piser

Pray for the repose of the soul for our recently departed: **MICHAEL REYNOLDS**



The sixth grade class, along with seventh and eighth graders, have recently enjoyed the fruits of their labor in Science Olympiad. They recently placed 3rd in the state of Delaware and 1st among all Catholic schools. Our Middle School students prepared for 5 months with the help, time and talent of volunteer coaches like Julie Dugan and Mike Johnson. In the Science classroom, these students have also been busy creating and using dichotomous keys, dissecting frogs and experimenting with the speed and acceleration of objects. As Louis Pasteur once said, "Science brings men nearer to God"! During Lent, sixth graders have received the grace of God's forgiveness during Reconciliation. They recently learned about the origins of Laetare Sunday and the significance of the papal Golden Rose. In addition, they have focused their studies on the religious and historical aspects of Jesus' Passion, Death and Resurrection. During Stations of the Cross, the sixth grade students have truly learned about pain, sacrifice and, most importantly, everlasting hope. Through both traditional prayer and contemplative prayer, our students have been committed to spending more time in prayer this Lent. We are solemnly, but joyfully, looking forward to the Holy Triduum and Easter Sunday. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Men's Morning Group: Please join us for Scripture discussion and prayer after the 8 a.m. mass each Wednesday. For more info, please email the rectory or richcsisca@comcast.net.

2019 Annual Catholic Appeal – “AS I HAVE DONE FOR YOU, YOU SHOULD ALSO DO”

Thank you to everyone who has made a pledge to this year’s diocesan Annual Catholic Appeal. If you have not yet participated, please consider doing so today. Your gift makes a real difference in the lives of thousands of individuals and families who reside within our 12-county diocese. Pledge envelopes are available in the pews and can be placed in the offertory basket. To learn more about the Annual Catholic Appeal, visit www.cdow.org/annualcatholicappeal

The Chapel of Divine Mercy is open with the Blessed Sacrament exposed the following hours: **6am to 10pm Monday through Friday & Sunday, 6am to 9pm Saturday.** Email www.adorationchapel.org or call Chris at 584-1422 or Nan at 656-8438 to offer an hour of time.

ST. ANN’S PRAYER LINE – to place a name or special request on the prayer line call Joe or Shirley Ackerman at 384-7513 or email joeshirl7@comcast.net.

Jesus tells His disciples “I am among you as the one who serves.” And in every age, He calls some from among His disciples to serve as religious sisters and brothers, as deacons, and as priests. Have you ever considered that He might be calling you? Call or write Fr. Norm Carroll, Diocesan Vocation Director (302-573-3113, vocations@cdow.org). Visit our website: www.cdow.org/vocations.

LAYMAN’S WEEKEND RETREAT – The annual Archbishop Fitzmaurice Group weekend retreat is only two weeks away. Don’t pass up this opportunity to join fellow Catholic men in giving witness and praise to God on May 3rd-5th at beautiful St. Joseph’s-in-the-Hills, Malvern, PA. For more info, visit www.malvernretreat.com or call Paul Smith Jr at 302-777-2408.

Becoming Catholic: Seven adults from St. Ann’s are planning to become members of the Catholic Church this coming Saturday at the Easter Vigil this year. Are you or someone you know interested in learning more about joining the Church? Were you baptized as child but have not yet celebrated the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist? New groups are forming now! For more information, please contact Jane at the rectory (654-5519) or email Father Jasper at rijasper@stannwilmington.com.

High-School Faith-Sharing: Our next meeting will be in early May, with the intention of inviting parents to share their thoughts on the spiritual needs of their teen-aged daughters and sons as we continue to design and improve the faith-formation program. If you as a parent are interested in joining this discussion, please email Fr. Jasper at rjjasper@stannwilmington.com.

Divine Mercy Sunday April 28th – Please join us for the singing and reflection on the divine Mercy Chaplet at St. Ann’s. The service will begin at 3pm.

Confirmation Update: Attention all of those preparing for Confirmation! We are blessed to be confirming 42 young adults at St. Ann Parish this year! The count-down is on!
Confirmation Practice: Monday, May 6, at 6:00 PM in the Social Hall for Sponsors and Students.
Confirmation Mass: Thursday, May 9, at 6:15 PM in the Social Hall for Sponsors and Students. Parents can go directly to the church after drop-off. *A special thank you goes out to all who have assisted in the program. The year went by so quickly and our preparation was wonderful because of you! Blessings for doing God's work!*

The Pontifical Good Friday Collection – Pope Francis has asked our parish to support the Pontifical Good Friday collection, which helps Christians in the Holy Land. Your support helps the church minister in parishes, provide Catholic schools and offer religious education. The Pontifical Good Friday Collection also helps to preserve the sacred shrines. The wars, unrest and instability have been especially hard on Christians. In these times of crisis, the Pontifical Good Friday Collection provides humanitarian aid to refugees. When you contribute to the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, you become an instrument of peace and join with Catholics around the world in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land. Please be generous. For more info, visit www.myfranciscan.org/good-friday.

WDEL/YouTube Lenten multimedia series: If you missed Father Jasper’s YouTube Lenten series entitled: “*Holy Boldness: A Journey Through Lent with Four American Saints*,” you can still watch the videos via the diocesan website (YouTube.com/DioceseofWilm), or listen to the podcast available on Apple/Spotify/iHeartRadio.