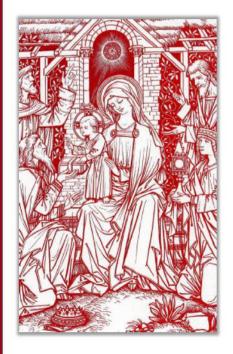


St. Anne Catholic Church

For unto us ... a child is born.



Christmas Masses

Christmas Eve - December 24th

- 4:00 pm
- 6:00 pm
- 10:00 pm

Christmas Day - December 25th

- 8:00 am
- 10:00 am

HAPPY NEW YEAR MERRY CHRISTMAS Christmas PARISH OFFICE **RE OFFICE** CHRISTMAS HOURS **CHRISTMAS HOURS** Monday, Dec. 23 8:30am - 4pm CLOSED Tuesday, Dec. 24 through CLOSED CLOSED Wednesday, Jan.1 Thursday, Jan. 2 8:30am - 4pm 8:30am - 4pm Friday, Jan. 3 8:30am - Noon 8:30am - Noon Monday, Jan. 6 8:30am - 4pm 8:30am - 4pm Sunday, Dec. 22 & 29 No Children's Liturgy HAPPY NEW YEAR **MERRY CHRISTMAS**

A NOTE FROM FATHER EICKHOFF

We often speak about the "real reason for the season" when it comes to Christmas time. We say this phrase as a way of reminding ourselves (and others) that the point of Christmas is not found in gift buying or gift receiving; or in family gatherings (however good they may be); or even in such lofty sentiments as "peace on earth." Rather we proclaim that Jesus Christ is the reason for our celebration and rejoicing in this season of Christmas. However, just to say that Jesus Christ is the reason for our rejoicing is too broad a proclamation. While this is certainly true, our reason for rejoicing at Christmas needs to be more specific if we are to truly understand it.

This understanding is found today in the second reading of today's Mass taken from the Letter to the Hebrews. Jesus Christ is not born amongst us to be an inspiring teacher or a wise instructor as to how to live our lives. No, Jesus Christ – the Second Person of the Most Holy Trinity, the Son of God, who is God – has taken on our human nature and has been born amongst us so that he might offer himself as a sacrifice upon the cross that will take away the sins of the human race once and for all for all who accept Him as Lord. We celebrate at Christmas the beginning of the final stage of our salvation. The earlier stage is God's revelation to the Jewish people through the prophets. With the birth of Christ, the final stage begins in which the previous revelation is summed up and expanded upon. The culmination of this final stage will occur at Easter when Christ – having offered Himself upon the cross as a sacrifice for our sins – will rise triumphant from the grave showing Himself the master of sin and death and demonstrating for us that His sacrifice is truly effective. If you believe that Christmas marks the beginning of our freedom from sin and death you can hardly not rejoice.

I wrote out a lengthy description of the likely availability of seating for the Christmas Masses in the Flocknote that went out last week and this week. I will summarize it here:

Christmas Eve 4pm Mass – Very crowded, standing room only. If you want a seat, be sure to come EARLY (at least 30 minutes early, but 45 minutes early to be safe).

Christmas Eve 6pm Mass – Not crowded at all. Easy seating even if you come right at 6pm.

Christmas Eve 10pm Mass – Will be full, but everyone should be able to find a seat even if it is right next to another person. Come early for the prelude music.

Christmas Day 8am Mass – Not crowded at all. Easy seating even if you come right at 8am.

Christmas Day 10am Mass – Will be full. Possible standing room only. To be sure of having a seat it will be wise to come 15 minutes early.

Yours in Christ, Fr. Stephen Eickhoff Pastor

December 22, 2024 Page Three

Mass Intentions

Monday, Dec 23

8:00 AM- Genevieve Wozek Reg: Deacon Duane Wozek

Tuesday, Dec 24

4:00 PM- O'Toole & Placek Familiy Rea: Cathy & **Bob Spencer**

6:00 PM Hilger & Schindlbeck Family & Friends Req: Jean Hilger

10:00 PM Glen, Myrt & Terry Weber Reg: Karen Wagner

Wednesday, Dec 25

8:00 AM- For the Parishioners

10:00 AM- Clare Hengesbaugh Req: Hengesbaugh Family

Thursday, Dec 26

7:00 AM Feast of Saint Stephen morning mass

Friday, Dec 27

8:00 AM- Thomas Stoneberg Req: Family

Saturday, Dec 28

5:00 PM- Margaret Riley Req: Patty & Lloyd Hundley

Sunday, Dec 29

7:30 AM- Rich Nowotnik Req: Wife-Mary Lou 9:15 AM- Pat & Blanche O'Toole Req: Cathy &

Bob Spencer

11:00 AM- For the Parishioners

Events

Mon, Dec 23

8:30 AM Rosary

7:30 PM Celebration Ringer

7:30 PM Chancel Choir

7:30 PM OCIA Catechumenate

Tues, Dec 24

4:00 PM, 6:00 PM and 10:00 PM Christmas Eve Mass

Wed, Dec 25

8:00 AM and 10:00 AM Christmas Mass **No Eucharistic Adoration or Confessions**

Thurs, Dec 26

7:00 AM Feast of Saint Stephen morning mass

Fri, Dec 27

8:30 AM Eucharistic Adoration in the Church

Sat, Dec 28

No Confessions today



Readings for the Week

Scripture Readings-For the Week of December 22, 2024

Sunday-Fourth Sunday of Advent

Mi 5:1-4a; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45

Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14; Lk 1:57-66

Tuesday

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-3, 4, 5, 27 and 29; Lk 1:67-79

Wednesday-The Nativity of the Lord

Vigil Mass: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22- Sunday-Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph 25; Mt 1:1-25 or Mt 1:18-25

-14; Lk 2:1-14

Mass at Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20 Mass during the Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 or Jn 1:1-5, 9-14

Thursday-Feast of Saint Stephen, First Martyr

Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17; Mt 10:17-22

Friday-Feast of Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist

1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a and 2-8

Saturday-Feast of the Holy Innocents, Martyrs

1 Jn 1:5 -2:2; Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7-cd-8; Mt 2:13-18

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28; Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 or Ps Mass during the Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13; Ti 2:11 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10; Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24; Lk 2:41-52

December 22, 2024 Page Four

Please Pray For

Karen Alesch Lenny Altop Ken Assell

Maximiliano Ballesteros

Trica Barron Mary Connelly Anne Rangel-Croker Jim De Vos Paula Dohonge Karleigh Drebes

Robert Duprey StephanieDuprey Anna Duy James Feeley

Lorraine Fischer Deane Goldstein Kelly Gosett

Carolyn Gray

Glenn Grimm Dan Gutierrez Liam Harkins Ken Harkins J. J. Heinemann

Dean Hermance Martha Hettinger David Hoffman Dean Knott Joan Kubicki Andrea Lorenz Mva Mananlad Ramiro Martinez

Albert Mata Jr. Pam McCusker Carole McNair Ronald Morman Carol Nieldlinger Charles Nieldlinger Adriana Padilla Kathryn Pasholk Victoria Russo Rudy Sanchez Lorraine Schleitwiler

John Schultz Barbara Shields MaryAnn Smolucha Father Dan Stempora

Lee Toutant

Marianne Troscinski

Ray Vanagas Jay Vidmar Tom Wicklund Debby Winograd John Wossner

And all who are experiencing illness and are not listed by name. Names will be kept on listing for six weeks

COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND

† Are you or do you know someone unable to attend Mass regularly due to age or illness?



Pastoral Care Ministers are available to bring the Eucharist to you.



PARISH BULLETIN EMAIL NOTIFICATION

Stay up to date with what is happening at St. Anne Parish.

Each week Discover Mass will send you an email update with a link to the current week's bulletin. https://discovermass.com/church/st-anne-oswego-il/#bulletins



December 22, 2024 Page Five

God's Share

All of us are recipients of many blessings from God. In return, He expects that we praise Him for His goodness and thank Him for His generous 1 gifts. Thanking, however, is not done in word only, but in deed, also.

Total Parish Offering December 8, 2024	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>
Sunday Offering	\$ 15,913.04	\$20,000.00
E-Giving	\$ 7,690.50	166 Transactions

Total Offering \$ 23,603.54

Thank you to those who are able to continue to support us through EGIVING or mailing in your contribution!

E-Giving: If you would like to participate in E-Giving https://giving.ncsservices.org/App/Giving/ncs-1474

For those signed up for EGIVING, please continue this practice to aide in the processing of the collection.

"Recent Federal Tax changes may make it advantageous for parishioners receiving RMDs (Required Minimum Distributions) to <u>transfer funds</u> from their IRA (Individual Retirement Accounts) to St. Anne Parish. Please consult your financial planner or tax advisor before making any tax or contribution decision."

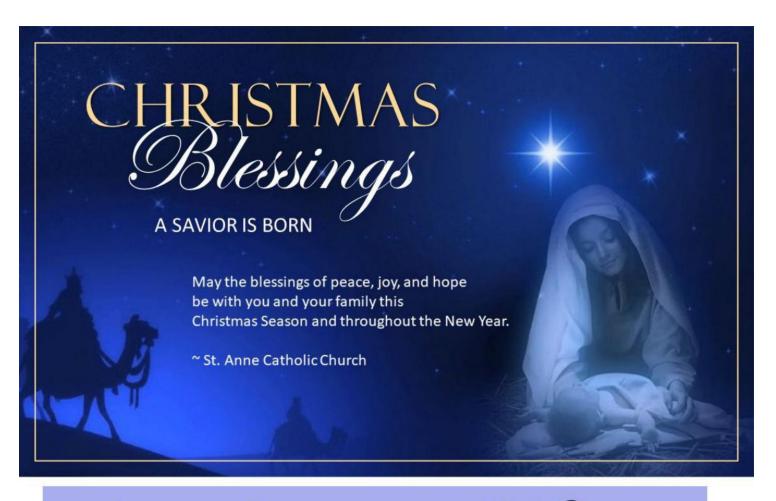
OPENING OF THE JUBILEE YEAR 2025

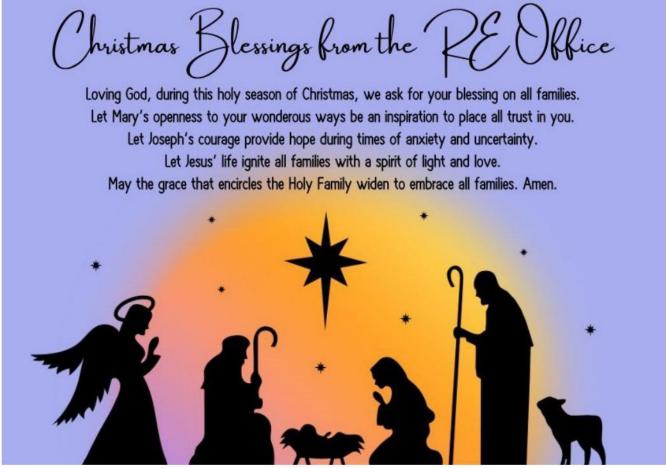


On Sunday, December 29, throughout the world Catholics will gather at their Cathedral Churches to celebrate the opening of the Jubilee Year 2025.

The Diocese of Joliet will celebrate the opening of this Jubilee Year at the 10:30 am Mass on December 29, at the Cathedral of St. Raymond Nonnatus in Joliet. Everyone is invited to this very special Mass as a worldwide celebration of the Jubilee Year 2025 begins. This will be a very special time for the Church and plans have been made to celebrate this Jubilee Year throughout the Diocese. In the coming weeks, we will be sharing with you these important days, times and places where we will gather to continue our celebration of the Jubilee Year.

Page Six December 22, 2024







Week of December 22, 2024



The Story of Christmas | Benjamin Cello Christmas Special

In this special hour-long television event, Benjamin Cello and his friends travel to Pennywhistle Park for a spectacular shadow puppet retelling of "The Story of Christmas" by Brother Joseph and "The Shadow of His Wings" puppet theater.



O Holy Night - Christmas with the Annie Moses Band

Experience the beauty of the Christmas season with the Annie Moses Band as the acclaimed classical crossover ensemble performs stunning arrangements of holiday favorites.



Mary's Labor: What Does Catholic Tradition Have to Say?

Join Dr. Scott Hefelfinger and Dr. Michael Barber as they explain the Catholic Church's understanding of Mary's labor and the birth of Jesus Christ.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription. Visit signup.formed.org and select our parish name.



January 9, 2025, 1:00pm Regular Monthly Meeting

A program for the January meeting is still under discussion. Watch future bulletin announcements for further information. Visitors are welcome.

St. Anne Seniors is a social organization for parishioners over 55. The seniors often participate in parish service-and-outreach programs. Monthly meetings, treats, current parish happenings, followed by an educational topic or entertainment.

For information contact Mary Robinson at (630) 608-9668.

St. Anne Parishioners, God's People

I would like to invite you, your family, relatives, and friends to one hour of prayer to Our Blessed Mother

We say the Rosary, Fatima Prayers and Spiritual Readings Come join The Blue Army in the chapel every Thursday evening at 6:30 PM.

In addition, come join us on Monday and Wednesday to recite the Rosary in the church after the 8:00 AM Mass.

Let us go to Mary; there is no more direct route to Our Lord.

Any questions, please feel free to call:

Charlotte A Sartain 630-723-9005 Cas27buell@att.net





PRAYER SHAWLS AVAILABLE



- Know a parishioner, family member or friend going through a difficult time?
- Prayer Shawls are available. Please contact the parish office to arrange a time to pick one up to take to them: 630-554-3331 or stanne@stanneparish.org
- Shawls have been knitted or crocheted, blessed and bagged with an enclosed prayer ready to be given to someone in need



PRAYER TREE

The prayer tree is a small group of people quietly serving in a special ministry and is known for its long-time commitment to the needs of others. These individuals quietly pray behind the scenes for their fellow parishioners, their families and our community

There are no meetings, no minutes and no reports. All are welcome to open their hearts to reach out and join the ranks of those praying.

Contact: Jackie Johnson, 630-554-1591







Has the Christmas spirit given you a yearning to donate to a worthy cause? Consider helping our P.A.D.S ministry continue its mission to supply food to the homeless at Hesed House.

If donating by check, please make check payable to St. Anne Church and mark for Hesed House. You can leave your contribution in the donation basket at church, or mail to:

PADS Ministry St. Anne Catholic Church P.O. Box 670 Oswego, IL 60543

To make an e-donation find the link on the parish website or simply scan the QR code below





A St. Vincent de Paul Society Gospel Reflection

Jesus was born during the night of the year when darkness is the longest. The Savior of the World comes for people dwelling in dark places. The real, lasting, and deep joy of Christmas is that the Light shines there as well.

Through your prayers and gifts to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, "Light" has shown, bringing real, lasting and deep joy to the hearts of the poor who live in dark places in our streets and neighborhoods. On behalf of all those you have helped; we wish you all a very Blessed and Happy Christmas!

Do you know of someone who needs help? Our contact information is: Hotline: 630-383-2322 Email: stvincentdp@stanneparish.org.



4th to 8th Graders

Would you like to learn how to knit or crochet?

Do you already know how to knit or crochet?

Do you want to share your creations to a worthy cause?

Learn the basics to make hats, scarves, baby washcloths, booties or small squares to be made into baby blankets.

Yarn and supplies will be provided to start your first project

- · Meet one Saturday per month
- 1st meeting will be January 11, 2025
- Time: 10:30am 11:30am

Register by December 15th

https://stanneparish.org/KidzforaCause-registration/
Make sure to save as a PDF, and then fill in form,
resave and send to Cathy Gillooly at: reo@stanneparish.org

For questions, please email **Chris Wozek** at: goofymom_3@hotmail.com (Please put "Kidz for a Cause" in the subject line.)

Page Eleven December 22, 2024

Catholic Charities provides outpatient counseling in DuPage, Will, Grundy, Kendall, Kankakee, Ford, and Iroquois counties. We offer individual, group, family, and couples therapy, including specialized services like anger management and preventative education programs.

Our services are available to those in financial need, and we accept most major insurance. If you or a loved one are struggling with anxiety, depression, substance use, or relationship issues, we are here to help.

Call 815-723-0331 for more information, to verify insurance coverage, or to schedule an appointment. We're now accepting new clients!

For more information about the programs and services provided by Catholic Charities, visit <u>catholiccharitiesjoliet.org</u>.

Advent Vespers and Benediction

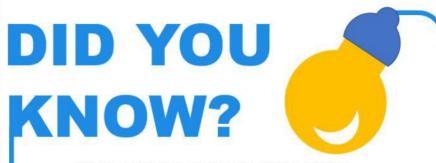
You are invited to participate in Vespers, the evening prayer of the Church, in the Chapel at 6:00 P.M. on the four Sundays in Advent, December 1, 8, 15, and 22. A psalm arrangement will be used, a time for Adoration, and the hour of prayer will end with Benediction.

(Father will be available to hear confessions on December 15th and 22nd during this time).

Prayer booklets will be provided.
All are welcome.







HIGH SCHOOL CONFIRMATION CLASS

If you are a high school student and want to take personal responsibility of your faith, then it's time to say **YES** to God.

Any high school student who has not yet received the Sacrament of Confirmation is invited to take the journey into adult Christianity.

Classes to prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation will begin January 11, 2025, at 10am in the Joachim Center.

To sign up or for more information, please call Deacon Duane Wozek, Youth Ministry, 630-383-2316.



Who Is Jesus?

Do you want to get to know Him better?

What does it mean to follow Him?

Let's find out the answers to these questions together

WHO: all high school students are invited

WHAT: 6 week bible study

WHERE: Teen Center (lower level of Joachim Center)

WHEN: starting January 5th after the 11:00 am mass

Contact Deacon Duane at 630-383-2316



551 Boulder Hill Pass P. O. Box 670 (mailing address) Oswego, IL 60543

www.stanneparish.org

Parish Office	
Phone	(630) 554-3331
Fax	(630) 554 0530
Emailstanr	ne@stanneparish.org
Monday-Thursday	8:30 AM-4:00 PM
Friday	
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·	
Religious Education C	office
Religious Education C	
Religious Education C	Office (630) 554-1425
Religious Education C	Office (630) 554-1425
Religious Education C Phone	office (630) 554-1425 (630) 554-9797
Religious Education C Phone Fax Hours	office (630) 554-1425 (630) 554-9797 11:00 AM-7:00 PM

MISSION STATEMENT Learn, Live and Nurture — Learn the Faith, Live the Faith and

Nurture the Faith

As a welcoming Catholic community, we strive to be disciples of Jesus glorifying His true presence in the Eucharist. Just as St. Anne was called by God, we are called as faithful witnesses to celebrate the Sacraments, honor traditions and nurture the family by studying, praying and proclaiming the Good News through service and evangelization.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Baptisms are generally held the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month (some months this may vary) at 12:30 PM. Expectant parents are to call the Parish Office, six months before the birth of their child for preparation information. Please do not choose Godparents until you receive the established Church guidelines for Godparents.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Couples seeking the Sacrament of Marriage should call the parish office at least six months before the date of marriage. A wedding date may not be secured until meeting with the parish Deacon or Priest. At that time, the couple will be secured a date and begin the process of preparation for the Sacrament of Marriage.

PARISH STAFF

PARISH STAFF		
Pastor		
	(030) 303-2317	
Director of O.C.I.A.		
ocia@stanneparish.org	(630) 383-2331	
High School Youth Minister		
hsym@stanneparish.org	(630) 554-1425	
Deacon		
deacongary@stanneparish.org	(630) 383-2327	
Pastor Emeritus	Rev. Daniel F. Stempora	
Director of Music Ministry		
music@stanneparish.org	(630) 383-2317	
Business Manager		
businessmgr@stanneparish.org	(630) 383-2310	
Director of Religious Education, K-5		
reo@stanneparish.org	(630) 554-1425	
Director of Religious Education, 6-8		
jhdre@stanneparish.org	(630) 554-1425	
Administrative Assistant		
stanne@stanneparish.org	(630) 554-3331	
Parish Council President	Glenn Weir	
parishcouncil@stanneparish.org		
EUCHARISTIC LITURGY		
Saturday		
Sunday		
Monday-Wednesday-Friday	MA 00.8	

EUCHARIS	STIC LITURGY
Saturday	5:00 PM
Sunday	7:30, 9:15 & 11:00 AM
Monday-Wednesday-Friday	8:00 AM
Tuesday	7:00 AM
Thursday Communion Service	7:00 AM
SACRAMENT OF	FRECONCILIATION
Saturday	
Wednesday	7:00-8:00 PM
	IC ADORATION
Wednesday	7:00-8:00 PM
Friday	0.30 0.00 414

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

If there is anyone at home who cannot get to Mass and the Sacraments because of illness or age, please call the parish office at anytime to request the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.

O.C.I.A. (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults)

Those interested in becoming Catholic or in learning more about the Catholic faith meet weekly. Call the parish office or e-mail rcia@stanneparish.org for more information.

STEWARDSHIP PARISH

We are a stewardship parish. This means that every parishioner with an income is asked to use a Sunday envelope, since we expect to meet our needs from the one collection at the Presentation of the Gifts.

NEW PARISHIONERS

All new families are warmly welcomed to Saint Anne Parish and we ask that you register your family through our website at http://stanneparish.org/registration-form/.

BULLETIN DEADLINE

Bulletin articles are due into the parish office by 10:00 AM Thursday, 10 days before the Sunday you wish the article to appear. Please email your copy to stanne@stanneparish.org using Microsoft WORD.

AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DIFIBRILLATOR AED

Located Across from Parish Offices and On Outside Wall of Gathering Room of Church.

PARISH MAILING ADDRESS

Reminder: anything **mailed** to parish offices must be addressed to: P. O. Box 670, Oswego, IL 60543-0670





630-892-5612

ken.brummel@heitkotter.com

1700 Industrial Drive Montgomery

heitkotter.com









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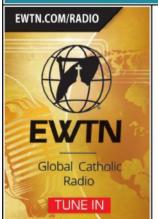


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