Monday, January 1st is the Feast of the Solemnity of Mary
Masses will be celebrated at 8:30AM, 10:00AM and 11:45AM

Friday, January 5th is First Friday
We invite you to spend time in prayer…
Mass will be celebrated at 9:00AM. There will be a Holy Hour with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at 7:00PM in the St. Therese Chapel. please see p. 17

Celebrating Christmas at Saint Anne’s
A great team of volunteers help deliver food and gifts for our Christmas Sponsor a Family program in Wyandanch ~ please see p. 2
Danny Marquino (pictured with his brother, Larry) narrates the Christmas Pageant at our Special Needs Mass ~ please see p. 4

Pope Francis Invites Us to Sunday Mass please see page 5

All Are Welcome!
We welcome new members to join our parish family. Please contact the parish office. We also welcome any adult who was never baptized, baptized non-Catholics or those seeking to receive First Eucharist or Confirmation to become a full participant in the Catholic Church.
Loaves and Fishes Christmas Sponsor a Family—Thank You So Much!

Despite the cold and snow on the ground, our stalwart volunteers safely delivered everything to Saint Martha’s in Uniondale and Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Parish Outreach in Wyandanch on the morning of Saturday, December 16th. In total, over 325 families received food for Christmas dinner and extras to help stock their shelves, along with gifts for each member of their families. In the words of one mother, “I thank the family who gifted my family and I hope God continues to bless them. They are truly angels in disguise.”

Thanks to all who helped bring hope and joy to families in need. Special thanks to Barbara Tranfaglia, Jon and Lilly Schwieger, Paul and Diane Wykowski, Joanne and Rob Sorge, Mary Stenson, Jennifer Staub, Tricia Paskewitz, Marianne Huggard and every volunteer who so generously helped with this program. Our teen volunteers were exceptionally helpful and their dedicated efforts were much appreciated! Together, everyone helped bring joy and lightness of heart to many this Christmas.
Dear Parishioners,

Happy and Blessed 2018! We shared a wonderful celebration of Christmas last weekend and I am grateful to all who participated. About 5000 people came for Christmas Mass which included more than 2000 people combined for the two 4:00PM Masses in the Church and auditorium. All the liturgies were celebrated with reverence and joy and we experienced no disruptions. Many thanks to Sr. Judy who organized the dozens of ministers who assist with each of the Masses. Altar servers, lectors, eucharistic ministers all responded to the call to service and at the end of the 1:15PM Christmas Day Mass, we were able to leave the church happy that so many people came to share in Christmas adoration, praise, and worship.

People were very happy to welcome back our Music Director Tim Brown as he continues his recovery from major heart surgery. All our music ministry and especially our choir uplifted our spirits with the traditional Christmas music. I especially enjoyed the choir's “Silent Night” that concluded Midnight Mass.

Our church always looks so bright and beautiful at Christmas. Every year there is an additional touch and slightly different arrangements. This year Alyce DeLisio and her team of parishioners added some red ribbon along the balcony railing and included more beautiful white poinsettias. The parishioners who decorate the church spend many hours all through the Advent Season to prepare the church. This year was particularly challenging as the flowers needed to be arranged on the altar between the end of the 11:45AM Mass on Sunday and before the 4:00PM Mass on Christmas Eve. As always, not only a great job by this team, but a very generous and selfless effort.

Our parish staff, maintenance crew, and sacristans all do us a great service throughout this season. There are so many Advent and Christmas and school activities to prep for, clean up after with all sorts of details that require attention. The parish staff responds to all sorts of requests and needs of parishioners at this time of the year. We do our best to get all the information right and to keep everything going in the right direction with all the schedules, announcements, and celebrations. The parish staff does a great job. Our sacristans are under great pressure with the Christmas Masses. Dealing with the priests, deacons, altar servers, ministers, and all the churchgoers is no easy task. Our sacristans are always courteous, pleasant and eager to please.

Thank you again for the great support provided to Parish Social Ministry in our effort to assist families both at Thanksgiving and Christmas. These gifts of food and Christmas presents are completed prior to the days of Thanksgiving and Christmas and give families who receive these items a chance to celebrate. Their responses are very meaningful and all those who participate need to know how helpful your generosity and participation is. Our leadership of these efforts does a great job at organizing. The hundreds of parishioners who make donations allow the parish to meet all the requests for help that come to us. The teenagers helping on the Saturday mornings in the snowy, icy parking lot encourage us all about the community spirit present among our young families.

We are counting the Christmas collection this morning. Most likely, as in past years, the collection will exceed two hundred thousand dollars. That is extraordinary and I am very grateful for your generosity. I am also very grateful for the large crowds that attend Christmas. It gives us reason for hope. It also gives us a challenge to help all those who come to Christmas Mass to pray at Mass with us all through the year. That will be one of our challenges for 2018.

Thank you all for the Merry and Blessed Christmas that I was able to share with you.

HOLY FAMILY SUNDAY

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family and tomorrow January 1 we celebrate the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God.

The readings for Sunday reflect the primary place of family in our faith tradition. As the first two readings reflect, the gift of family goes back to the origins of our faith with the story of Abraham, Sarah, and Isaac. The story reminds us that children are gifts of the Lord to the child’s parents. One of my decisions as pastor at St. Anne’s was that I would meet with all the parents to arrange for the child’s baptism. Perhaps it was the best decision I’ve made as pastor. Meeting all the young parents and seeing their infants underscores for me the great joy that new life brings. The birth of a child brings great joy to many people. The celebration of the birth of Jesus last weekend and the celebration of the Holy Family this weekend reminds us that our faith is an incarnational faith—Word Made Flesh. We are not a faith of ideas. Our faith centers on persons and relationships. We need to remind ourselves frequently of that focus of our faith, especially when it comes to matters of disagreement or differing points of view.

The gospel for today recounts the Presentation, when Mary and Joseph bring the child to the temple as a sign of their own faithfulness to the religious tradition of their faith. There, they meet the wisdom figures of Simeon and Anna, who bring great thanksgiving and praise to Mary, Joseph, and Jesus. Praise, gratitude, worship, and fidelity to faith are the hallmarks of this story that we hear on the feast of the Holy Family.

Tomorrow, Monday, January 1, we celebrate the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. Although not a holyday of obligation, we are still encouraged to attend Mass on this day to honor Mary and to begin the new year. Masses will be at 8:30, 10:00, and 11:45AM.

Blessed and Happy 2018!

Fr. Tom
Christmas Nativity at Saint Anne’s

Many children participated in presentations of the Christmas Nativity this year, at our Special Needs Mass, at the Saint Anne’s School Christmas Concert and in an encore for our Senior Scene Christmas gathering. Thanks to Brendan Regan, who constructed the new ambo for his Eagle Scout project and lectored at the Special Needs Mass. Special thanks to all for enthusiastically and lovingly presenting the story the birth of Jesus!

The joy of the angels at our Special Mass is clear for all to see!
Dear Parishioners,

During the past year I have been very concerned about our parish's diminished attendance at Sunday Mass. Perhaps you have observed the same. I believe it is the most pressing and greatest challenge we have at St. Anne's. If you are reading this letter in the bulletin, you are most likely a regular participant in Sunday Mass. Your prayerful presence, support, and participation is helpful to me and all those with whom you regularly pray at weekend Mass. I believe we draw strength and encouragement from each other when we come together to pray. I hope that you share this concern with me about diminished attendance and I hope you experience encouragement and strength when you attend Mass with family members, neighbors and other parishioners with whom you share our faith.

I have thought for a long time about how to address this problem. I feel I have this responsibility as the pastor. I have had many conversations with parishioners, family members, our renewed Pastoral Council, our parish staff, and other clergy. I do not want to be an alarmist, yet we cannot ignore this situation. Our sacristans count the Mass attendance each week and this count confirms that Mass attendance has been in steady decline for many years now and this past year the trend continues. The reasons might be many. The problems and the consequences are many.

One consequence, among others, is that the diminished Mass attendance will in time erode the vitality of parish life. Interestingly, the ministries at St. Anne's are thriving and even growing, so much so that we are addressing our need for increased meeting and ministry space so that we may continue to serve and grow in all sorts of ways. We are blessed with some very generous parishioners and our finances remain very healthy despite fewer contributors to the Sunday collection. Whether we will be able to keep our Sunday collection at the present level is a reasonable question. I wonder if it is a unique experience to have such vibrant parish ministry life and a diminishing Sunday Mass attendance. In time, I think fewer people attending Sunday Mass will have an effect on our parish ministries and activities. Know that with the parish, I hope we can help others return to a more active participation in Sunday Mass.

Part of my quandary has been how and when to address this most significant concern. Pope Francis solved my quandary. He chose this past week on the Wednesday of the Second Week of Advent to speak on “Why attend Mass on Sunday?” So some might question raising this issue on the Third Sunday of Advent, so close to Christmas. Since Pope Francis found it to be timely for his address to the Church last Wednesday, I think it’s timely for us. The following are words from Pope Francis:

“Resuming the journey of our catechesis on Mass, today we ask ourselves: why attend Mass on Sunday?

“The Sunday celebration of the Eucharist is at the centre of the life of the Church. We Christians go to Mass on Sundays to meet the Risen Lord, or rather to let ourselves be met by Him, to listen to His word, to be nourished at His table, and thus become Church, or rather His mystical living Body in the world today.

From the first hour the disciples of Jesus understood Him; they celebrated the Eucharistic encounter with the Lord on the day of the week that the Jews called ‘the first of the week’ and the Romans ‘day of the sun’, because on that day Jesus had risen from the dead and appeared to the disciples, talking to them, eating with them, giving them the Holy Spirit.

The great outpouring of the Spirit at Pentecost also took place on Sunday, the fiftieth day after the resurrection of Jesus. For these reasons, Sunday is a holy day for us, sanctified by the Eucharistic celebration, the living presence of the Lord among us and for us. It is the Mass, therefore, that makes Christian Sunday. What kind of Sunday, for a Christian, is one in which there is no meeting with the Lord?

“Some secular societies have lost the Christian meaning of Sunday illuminated by the Eucharist. This is a shame! In these contexts it is necessary to revive this awareness, in order to recover the meaning of the celebration, the meaning of joy, of the parish community, of solidarity, of rest that restores the soul and the body. The Eucharist is the teacher of all these values, Sunday after Sunday.

“Without Christ we are condemned to be dominated by the fatigue of everyday life, with its worries, and by the fear of tomorrow. The Sunday meeting with the Lord gives us the strength to live today with trust and courage and to move forward with hope. That is why we Christians go to encounter the Lord on Sunday, in the Eucharistic celebration.

“The Eucharistic communion with Jesus, Risen and Living in eternity, is a foretaste of Sunday without sunset, when there will be no more effort, nor will there be pain, nor grief, nor tears, but only the joy of living fully and forever with the Lord. The Sunday Mass also speaks to us of this blessed repose, teaching us, as the week flows, to entrust ourselves to the hands of the Father who is in heaven.

“What can we answer to those who say there is no need to go to Mass, not even on a Sunday, why is it important to live well, to love others? It is true that the quality of Christian life is measured by the capacity to love, as Jesus said: ‘By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another,’ but how can we practice the Gospel without drawing the necessary energy to do so, one Sunday after another, from the inexhaustible source of the Eucharist? We do not go to Mass to give something to God, but to receive from Him what we really need.

“In conclusion, why to go to Mass on Sundays? It is not enough to answer that it is a precept of the Church; this helps to preserve its value, but it is not enough alone. We Christians need to participate in Sunday Mass because only with the grace of Jesus, with His living presence in us and among us, can we put into practice His commandment, and thus be His credible witnesses.”

Fr. Tom
Families in Service Christmas Caroling

On Sunday, December 10th, our Families in Service program continued the annual tradition of visiting the homes of our senior parishioners, bringing them a message of good cheer. Families with young children gathered in the cafeteria for some light refreshments and prayed together before going out in groups to sing Christmas carols. It was a wonderful way for families to share the joy of Christmas with their children and with the seniors who remain a vital part of our faith community. Thanks to Shannon Kolenik, Rena Capri and Marianne Huggard for coordinating this event and to all who participated, helping us to share the blessings of Christmas.

Norma Takach is delighted to welcome the carolers
Respite Christmas Party
The Respite community enjoyed a wonderful Christmas Party on Friday, December 1st. As they gathered for dinner, the children and their buddies prayed together and gave thanks for the gift of their shared friendship. Santa Claus made a special appearance (with a "photo op") and presented each child with a gift. We are especially grateful to the silent Santas among us who are so generous, quietly helping to make our Respite celebrations special for everyone!

Fun activities included decorating buddies as Christmas trees and making a 3D Christmas tree tower with solo cups!

Respite Basketball (see below) is always action-packed!
Saint Anne's School Christmas Concert

"Celebrating Christmas at Saint Anne's"
Youth Ministry Sponsors Two Families in Need for Christmas
Next Meeting on Sunday, January 7th at 6:30PM in the cafeteria

Saint Anne’s Youth Ministry came together to sponsor two families in need for the holidays. The families were able to celebrate Christmas this year with a good meal and thoughtful gifts for each person.

Saint Anne’s Youth Ministry is founded on three main values: faith, community and service. At our regular meetings there are games and activities that encourage teens to form new friendships and have conversations with many different people. Teens come from various high schools and all are always welcome. New members are invited to join at any time. For more information, please contact Bill Leone @ bleone@stannesgc.org. Our next meeting will be on Sunday, January 7th at 6:30PM in the cafeteria.
Saint Anne’s MOMs group are mothers of Saint Anne’s parish whose mission is clearly stated: “Together with our children, we seek to grow spiritually, create friendships, provide support, and connect with the community through faith, fellowship, family, recreation and service.”

Our Wednesday morning playgroup that we fondly call Coffee & Kids includes arts & crafts and circle time with music. Our families are connected with each other through Couples’ Nights and family events. We also use our energy to support efforts in the Parish. We proudly sell mums each year at Spirit Day. Through the Loaves & Fishes Ministry, we collectively provide food and gifts for families at Thanksgiving and Christmas. We offer assistance to Catholic Charities’ Regina Residence, a women’s shelter for young expecting moms. We send meals to the homes of our new mothers. We also have an active social calendar for the year ahead. Parishioners who are interested in joining may contact Melanie Unterstein, our membership chair mom, at stannesmoms@gmail.com. Even if you are not available for Wednesday mornings, you are welcome to join as a social member.

Wishing all our families a very Merry Christmas!

MOMs Host a Breakfast with Santa Claus for the Parish
**Saint Anne’s Senior Scene**

Senior Scene members enjoyed a wonderful presentation of the Nativity by Saint Anne's 3rd grade students with Christmas carols provided by Saint Anne’s School Chorus. A delicious hot luncheon followed. Sincere thanks to Irene Costabile, Marilyn Fabio, Mary Kostal, Lauren Molloy, Elizabeth Mueller, Kathleen Nufer, Evelyn Schwantner and Debbie Sweeney for their assistance throughout the year and to all the seniors who make our meetings so special for everyone!

Saint Anne’s Senior Scene group meets every other week and new members are always welcome. The next meeting will be on **Wednesday, January 3rd at 1:30PM in the cafeteria.** If you would like more info, please contact **Susanne Blum at 352-5904.**

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**Resilience … You are not alone**

**Meeting - Wednesday, January 3 at 7:30PM**

Research shows that many parents don’t discuss concerns about their children’s mental health with anyone due to fear of the stigma that is often attached. Just when parents are vulnerable and in need of support, they tend to withdraw. If you have a son or daughter who is experiencing psychological or emotional challenges, do you hesitate to speak with trusted friends or relatives because of the concern that at best they would not understand or perhaps they would be critical or judgmental? As a result, do you often feel isolated, as if you are alone in dealing with this issue? Do you wonder at times where God is in the midst of your child’s struggles?

Saint Anne’s has formed a group to support parents of teens and young adults who are experiencing challenges, either psychological, emotional or both. Our group is called **Resilience.** We respect the confidentiality of each person and offer a safe environment to meet with other parents who are facing similar challenges. You are not alone! Our next meeting will take place on **Wednesday, January 3rd at 7:30PM**

For more information, please contact Linda Leone at lindaleone@stannesgc.org or 516-352-5904.

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**Saint Anne’s Is Here For You…**

If you’re struggling with something and not sure where to turn, Saint Anne’s Parish provides confidential support & assistance.

Serious illness, economic problems, marital difficulties, mental health concerns and coping with caring for those who are ill or elderly are issues we may all face at different times in our lives. If you would like to know more, please call **Parish Social Ministry at 352-5904.**

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**Celebrating Christmas at Saint Anne's**

We are all simple but important instruments of God; we have not received the gift of faith to keep it hidden but rather to spread it so that it can illuminate a great many of our brethren on their journey.

~ Pope Francis
Saint Anne’s Parish Social Ministry - In Giving, We Receive

Cancer Support
Where there is life, there is hope...
Saint Anne’s has a support group for people whose lives are affected by cancer. Those who have joined are at different points in their journey, but all share a common bond of faith. If you would like more information, please contact Linda Leone at 352-5904.

Saint Anne’s Professional Networking Group
Saint Anne’s Professional Networking Group on LinkedIn can help you expand your business network while also helping fellow parishioners with career guidance. If you’ve been thinking of joining the group but haven’t yet done so, the new year is a great time to get started. We offer monthly meetings at Saint Anne’s, with informative speakers and ongoing opportunities to network with fellow parishioners.

One-to-One Support: Anyone who might benefit from one-to-one support, please contact Linda Leone at 352-5904 or lindaleone@stannesgc.org and you will be connected to an appropriate person. All information shared remains confidential.

Offer A Ride
There are parishioners in Saint Anne’s who, by circumstance of their age or health, are unable to drive to church, but who would very much like to be present at Mass. Would you consider offering to drive someone in this situation, on an occasional basis, perhaps once a month? There are many ways we can reach out to help those with special needs; offering a ride to Church can be a simple gesture, but one that is heartfelt by those who would have no other way to join us at Mass. Drivers are also needed to provide on occasional ride to parishioners for doctor’s appointments, etc. If you would like to join us in offering assistance to our senior parishioners or if you wish to request rides to Church, please contact Kim DeMaro at 741-4760 or Parish Social Ministry at 352-5904.

Senior Ministry
Our parish is happy to offer support to our senior parishioners. We help them stay connected to Saint Anne’s through the dedicated efforts of our Homebound Visitors, Telephone Network, EM’s who bring Holy Communion, nurses, volunteers who deliver flowers and send cards, and our Senior Newsletter.

If you’re interested in getting involved, please contact Parish Social Ministry at 352-5904.

Middle Years
If you would like to spend time with old friends or to meet new ones, Middle Years is for you. We meet the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30 in the Thomas Merton Room (cafeteria). Our next meeting is January 10th. Come and enjoy an evening of pleasant conversation and relaxation. No need to reserve a spot! Please call Helen Capece for info at 327-9179.
Saint Anne’s Parish Social Ministry - In Giving, We Receive

Share-A-Meal

Saint Anne’s Share-A-Meal program offers parishioners the opportunity to reach out and help persons in need by preparing a meal for them. A simple act, cooking dinner for someone who is not able to do so, but one that offers a great message of support. Parishioners who participate in Share-A-Meal offer to prepare a meal on an occasional basis, perhaps once a month, depending upon their availability. The families who receive these meals are truly grateful. More than food alone, the message being delivered is that there are parishioners who care and are willing to give of themselves in reaching out to help.

For more information about how you can become part of Share-A-Meal, please call Suzannah Breglio at stannesgeshareameal@gmail.com or Parish Social Ministry at 352-5904.

PSM Advisory Committee

Our PSM Advisory Committee is composed of the leaders of the various ministries of support and service at Saint Anne’s. Monthly meetings are held during which the leaders share their ideas and pray together. Many thanks to these leaders who help make Saint Anne’s the wonderful caring faith community it is!

Disabilities Awareness

Our Church is fully accessible to persons with disabilities, thanks to our elevator. Inside the Church, there are specially designated areas with comfortable upholstered seats intended for persons with disabilities. Eucharistic Ministers bring Communion directly to those who are seated in these special areas. For those who are hearing-impaired, there is a digital sound system with assistive listening devices available for use by parishioners. If you or someone you care for has a disability, we hope to be of assistance in any way possible.

Ministry of Consolation

Saint Anne’s helps to bring comfort to those who mourn through our Ministry of Consolation. Some members serve as companions who help guide recently bereaved families through the planning and celebration of the funeral Mass for their loved one. Others serve as greeters at the Mass and still others offer to bake cakes and deliver them to the homes of the next of kin. Volunteers in the Ministry of Consolation are known for their compassion and we are grateful for their service to our faith community. For any information, please call Linda Leone at 352-5904.

Nurse Ministry

Volunteer nurses in Saint Anne’s Parish assist people with health care needs by providing information, assessment, possible referrals and advocacy. They also work with caregivers of the sick in providing health guidance and assessment as needed. Please call Parish Social Ministry at 352-5904.

Ministry of Consolation volunteers:
(L) Anne Irwin & Joe Ferrick  (R) Pat Esculish & Carol McNichols

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Maria Clark and Mary Ann Miller

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Ministry of Consolation volunteers:
Maria Clark and Mary Ann Miller
Our Faith Formation team wishes you a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!

The past few months have seen a few wonderful enhancements that were brought to our Faith Formation program. Students attending classes on Monday through Wednesday afternoons are now meeting in the Church for prayer before class. Father Tom, in addition to praying with your children, teaches them about different aspects of the Church focusing on the Sanctuary and windows. Sister Judy joins us to teach songs, prayers, and short lessons. Listening to the children’s voices in prayer and song is beautiful. Our 7th grade students are also meeting in the Church before class on several nights. Father Tom introduces the students to the lesson for the class by tying the theme to their everyday life. Not to be left out, the 8th grade students and their parents have had two very meaningful meetings with Father Tom as part of their preparation for Confirmation.

We had an overwhelming response to our service projects our students participated in this Christmas. Grades 1-6 participated in the parish Toys for Tots drive, our Confirmation prep program in grades 7 & 8 participated in NYU Winthrop Hospital Holiday project and Comfort Cart at Cohen’s Children’s Hospital. We are blessed to be part of such a caring and generous a parish.

The Faith formation office will reopen on January 2nd.

Class Schedule—Week of December 31

**Tuesday, January 2**
4:00 to 5:10pm Grades 1-6

**Wednesday, January 3**
4:00 to 5:10pm Grades 1-6
7:00pm 7th Grade Class (Christian Autobiography Due)
7:00pm Grade 8 Group A Interview with Student and Parent
Faith Formation students donated toys and food for children in need.
LITURGY AND WORSHIP

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

“When the days were completed for their purification according to the law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord.”

Family life is at the heart of faith life. It is in the family that we first experience unconditional love. Our image of God’s love for us grows out of this love. The experience of family is sacred. Jesus experienced this love with Mary and Joseph. They made the visit to the temple as prescribed by the law a priority of their family life. The scriptures tell us that they returned from the temple to their home and it was in that home that Jesus grew strong with God’s favor. We are reminded today of the sacredness of our own families and homes. With God’s love and grace we grow in our relationships and share this unconditional love. Do something today as a family!

Readings for
Feast of the Solemnity of Mary
January 1st
Numbers 6: 22-27
Galatians 4: 4-7
Luke 2: 16-21

Readings for
Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord
January 7th
Isaiah 60: 1-6
Ephesians 3: 2-3a, 5-6
Matthew 2: 1-12

Liturgical Ministers – Thank You

The parish is very grateful to all those who served as Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, Altar Servers and Ushers at the Masses for Christmas. The liturgies were welcoming and went smoothly. A blessed New Year to all of you!

Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers are needed for the holyday, Monday, January 1st, the Feast of Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother.

Please contact Sr. Judy (srudy@stannesgc.org or 352-5904) with your availability. Thank you!

Family Mass – Sundays at 10:30AM in McCloskey Auditorium

There will be no Family Mass today December 31st.

Join us for Family Mass on Sunday, January 7th, the Feast of the Epiphany. We will be having hospitality after Mass – bring something to share. Remember, no nuts or nut products.

The Family Mass Choir is always looking for more voices and instruments! Rehearsal is on Sundays at 10:00AM in the school music room. Join us!!

Children’s Choir

The Children’s Choir

The Children’s Choir will sing on January 7th, Feast of the Epiphany, at the 8:30AM mass. The choir sings at one Sunday Mass a month and on special occasions. For more information contact Sr. Judy at srudy@stannesgc.org or at 352-5904.
**First Friday is January 5th**  
*We invite you to spend time in prayer...*

**Holy Hour**  
There will be a Holy Hour with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on **Friday, January 5th at 7:00PM in the St. Therese Chapel.** At the January 5th Vigil, special prayers will be for the volunteers of the Nurse Ministry.  
**COME JOIN US!** - The Nocturnal Adoration Society is a group of parishioners who spend one hour in Adoration of The Blessed Sacrament on the first Friday of every month.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**  
The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be offered on **Thursday, January 4th at 4:30PM** and **Saturday at 4:00PM.**  
If you are unable to make it at the scheduled time, please call the rectory office at **352-5904** to make an appointment with a priest.

**Anointing of the Sick**  
The Sacrament is available to those who are ill, bringing God’s healing and strength. Anointing of the Sick is especially appropriate for anyone with serious illness, whether physical, emotional or spiritual, those who are being admitted to the hospital, or anyone who is elderly. In this sacrament, Jesus asks, “Do you want to be healed?” Through this sacrament, God offers us the gift of peace. The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick is celebrated on the **first Saturday of each month at the 8:30AM Mass.** If a loved one is unable to come to church, please call the rectory to arrange for a home visit.

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**PARISH SACRIFICIAL GIVING SUMMARY**  
Due to an early bulletin deadline for Sunday, December 31st, the offering information for Christmas will be in next Sunday’s bulletin.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH**

**WeShare For Online Giving**  
You don’t have to worry about forgetting your envelope again.  
**Electronic giving has been made easy!**

Donating online is made easier than ever with St. Anne Church’s online giving and registration system, WE SHARE. Donate today using your debit card, credit card, checking, or savings account. **You can use it for your Weekly and Special Collections.**

**TO START GIVING ONLINE TODAY:**

- Visit [https://stannesgc.weshareonline.org/ws/opportunities](https://stannesgc.weshareonline.org/ws/opportunities) and click on any collection.
- Select the **YOUR DONATION AMOUNT** and **FREQUENCY.**
- Enter in your account and payment information.  

**Or scan the QR code!**

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**Catholic Daughters of the Americas**  
**Court St. Anne # 1077**

**MEETING**  
The next meeting of the Catholic Daughters will be on **Sunday, January 7th at 1:00PM** in the school cafeteria. Members should bring finger food (little sandwiches, fruit, muffins, cake, etc.) to share.

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**Let us pray for those who have died**

**Giuseppina Cordio**  
**Stella Marie Muntzner**  
**Camilla Cox**
SAINT ANNE’S Celebrates CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK
SAVE THE DATE...
**Sunday, January 28th - 11:45AM Mass**
**School Open House immediately following**

We are a school community where the Gospel is taught through word and example and the focus is on seeing Christ in one another. Lessons in faith are taught by dedicated faculty and learned through active service, as students and their families answer God’s call to serve those in need through our School Service Initiative.

Saint Anne’s School offers:
- A rigorous academic curriculum with motivated NYS certified teachers
- Ongoing in-house staff development to enhance instructional skills of teachers
- Accelerated math program for all students starting at the 6th grade
- Smart Boards in every classroom enabling teachers to create unique and interactive lessons with web links to the most up-to-date information
- An After-School Child Care program
- A fully equipped Science Lab for all grades
- A dedicated computer lab as well as 30 Chrome Books in our media center
- IEP Resource Room services provided onsite
- Special-Ed certified academic support teacher on staff
- Individual class Masses in the Saint Therese Chapel

Extracurricular activities include swim team, track and basketball, a school band and Children's’ Choir, school newspaper and yearbook, Student Council, annual Talent Show and a school play, as well as after school enrichment activities. Special traditions at Saint Anne’s include the annual Christmas and Spring Concerts, the 1st Grade Saint's Parade, 2nd Grade May Crowning and the 3rd Grade Christmas Pageant. The upper grade students participate in a Rube Goldberg project, Living Legends and Project Adventure as well as a faith-based retreat for each grade.

We invite you to come and see if our caring environment is best for your child. Catholic Schools Week is just around the corner, beginning on **Sunday, January 28th**. We look forward to sharing the good news of Saint Anne’s School with you.

Please contact our principal, Mr. Gene Fennell at 352-1205 or gfennell@stannesgeschool.org.
THE LIFE CENTER OF LONG ISLAND
Did you get a gift you didn’t like? No worries, you can REGIFT it! The Life Center is accepting new donations starting January 2018 for our Regifting Sale. Please see next month's newsletter for details regarding the date and time of sale to be scheduled in 2018!

www.lifecenterli.org

Men’s Bible Study
Men’s Bible Study Group meets around the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month from 7:30-9:00PM in the St. Theresa Chapel in the school basement. For details and schedule - contact Joe Parisi at 516-526-3757 or by email at jparisi@financialguide.com. Learn God’s will by studying His Word.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter
The 2018 search is underway for Longest Married Couple in the U.S.

Do you think you know who they are?
Nominating a couple is easy! Just send their names, wedding date and where they live and your contact information to:

Email: bkberland@gmail.com
Regular mail: Bryan & Karen Berland
530 S. Academy Guthrie, OK 73044
Or by special phone number 405-850-4274
Nominations accepted until January 10, 2018

Winners will be announced February 2018 to celebrate World Marriage Day.

CYO Basketball Clinic
Boys & Girls – Grades 1, 2 & 3
Seven (7) consecutive Saturdays starting January 6th in the St. Anne’s Gym (McCloskey Auditorium)
Registration Fee $50 (T-shirt included)

Schedule
8am to 9am – 2nd grade boys
9am to 10am – 3rd grade boys
10am to 11am – 1st grade boys
11am to 12noon – 1st grade girls
12noon to 1pm – 2nd and 3rd grade girls

Adult volunteers needed as assistant coaches.
Any questions contact Jack Kiley at 516-818-5619 or jkiley@sheppardmullin.com.

Are you or someone you know having family or interpersonal problems due to drinking ALCOHOL and/or using DRUGS?

CATHOLIC CHARITIES / Talbot House, a Chemical Dependence Crisis Center, located in Bohemia provides withdrawal and stabilization services on a voluntary basis to males and females over the age of 18, who are seeking to stop and/or withdraw from alcohol and/or other drug use. The medical and clinical staff at Talbot House will assess the kind of care the person needs, to begin his/her journey in recovery.

For more information, please call 631-589-4144. Talbot House staff is available 24/7. Each call is confidential. Talbot House is a NO fee for service program.

The gift of Hope this Christmas For couples struggling with infertility and miscarriage

The Gianna Center for Women’s Health & Fertility
at Good Samaritan Hospital provides general gynecological care, FertilityCare education, and infertility services – all with a deep commitment to honoring a woman’s dignity and the sanctity of human life. We are pleased to be the first medical practice in the community to feature two new women’s health services:

• FertilityCare Services
• NaProTechnology

These two unique services allow us to provide you with a natural, restorative, scientifically based approach to monitoring your health and managing your fertility. Please call today 631-376-3232.

CUB SCOUT FUN AND FAITH DAY
SATURDAY, JANUARY 20, 2018
SACRED HEART CHURCH, MERRICK
8:30 AM – 12:00 NOON

SAINT PATRICK’S CHURCH, SMITHTOWN
10:30 AM – 3:00 PM

A special day of prayer, handicrafts, and games.
For information, contact the Catholic Scouting Office 516 678-5800, ext. 245 or scouting@drvc.org
THANK YOU TO OUR SPIRIT DAY SPONSORS!
Each year we have many companies who generously support Spirit Day as a sponsor. During this Christmas season we wish to thank them for their participation in our wonderful annual event. We hope that should you have a need for any of these services that you will consider supporting these vendors with your business. We are grateful for the support they provide to our faith community throughout the year!

Chief Equipment
Andrew J. Mollica, Attorney at Law
JVL Open
Knights of Columbus

Garden City Orthodontics - Denise Emma, DDS
Seventh Street Gourmet Deli
The Church Bulletin Inc.
Tulip Caterer

Park Funeral Chapels
Sharon Redmond & Monica Kiely – Coach Realtors
GC Alarm
Fairchild Funeral Home

Marge Leder – Signature Premier Properties
West Hempstead Animal Hospital
Dalton Funeral Homes
Michele Meyer – Beauty Counter

Court St. Anne—Catholic Daughters of America
Rosen & Federico, CPA’s
Quality A/C & Heating Inc.
Tobin Dental Care – Ann Tobin, DDS

St. Anne’s Home School Association
Toscano & Associates
Manor Delicatessen
B&P Chimney Cleaning & Repair Co.

Our Lady of Mercy Academy
The Sullivan Group—Merrill Lynch
Eileen O’Hara – Daniel Gale Sotheby’s International Realty
Cinelli’s Pizzeria & Restaurant

Mallozzi & Dwyer, C.P.A
Prime Fine Catering
Repeal Bar & Restaurant
Valley Stream House of Carpets

Miller Brothers Plumbing & Heating
Krauss Funeral Home
Olivetto Pizzeria & Ristorante
Level 10 Fitness

Andriola, Goldberg & Associates
TD Bank, Kathleen Petronis
Balsamo Contracting
E.F.D. Cleaning

SAVE THE DATE! SPIRIT DAY 2018
Saturday, September 15th
Mass Intentions

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31
7:00AM  Brunel Ulysses
8:30  Parishioners of St. Anne, Anna Ryan, Sal Balestiere, Robert Leonard, Giuseppina Cordio
10:00  Bridget Mulvihill
11:45  Philip Liantonio
5:30PM  Helen & Harry Michalski

MONDAY, JANUARY 1
8:30  Vera Glynn
10:00  Eugene Brodecki
11:45  Luisa Cecora & Antonia Lina Giambanco

TUESDAY, JANUARY 2
7:30  Stephen Pfail
9:00  Mose' Ghiraldi

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3
7:30  Margaret Crotty
9:00  Neil Calandrillo

THURSDAY, JANUARY 4
7:30  Florence Rogers
9:00  James Hall

FRIDAY, JANUARY 5
9:00  Michael Miller

SATURDAY, JANUARY 6
8:30  Salvatore DeStasio
5:00PM  Benjamin Bletsch

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7
7:00AM  Carolyn Wade
8:30  Audrey & Richard Lohse, John Prince
Paul Poje - 10th Anniversary,
Joan Flynn - 5th Anniversary
10:00  Parishioners of St. Anne
10:30  Dorothy Shannon
11:45  Det. Steven McDonald
5:30PM  Paul J. Wesoly

Our Faith Community offers prayers this week on their first anniversary for:
January 1, 2017 - John J. Connolly
January 2, 2017 - Catherine McPartland
January 4, 2017 - Mildred Mastrorocco
January 5, 2017 - Maureen F. Dahler

The Altar Bread & Wine for this week is in loving memory of my sister-in-law,
Frances Reed
Donated by Carolyn McBride

Please remember in your prayers family members of Saint Anne's parishioners who are serving in the military:
1st Lt. William Allen, US Army;  Sgt. Christopher Aubin, USMC
Thomas Brown, US Army;  L/Cpl. Neal T. Burke, USMC
Capt. Anthony F. Califano, US Navy
Master Sgt. Denis Cashin, USMC;  Capt. Matthew Clements, US Army
Lt. Cmdr. Brian Cunningham, Navy SEAL
Capt. Christopher Dar Conte, USAF
Lt. Corporal James Harkin, USMC;  Major Kevin Joyce, US Army
Sean Kelly, US Navy
Michael Koster, Military Police, US Army Reserves
Lt. Corporal James Harkin, USMC;  Major Kevin Joyce, US Army

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK - Please remember the following people in your prayers:

Victor Abrahamsen  Claire Decker  Henry Lynk  Kathleen Picha
Catherine Amato  Denise DeCrescito  Patricia Maher  Silvio Pironi
Jodi Arciere  Margaret Donaldson  Michelle Marooney  Ellen Redding
Garth Atchley  Patricia Durecko  Danny Marquino  Maggie Mae Rizzi
Mary Bagnato  Rosemary Ecker  Dorothy McAleavy  Dan Roepers
Denise Bedeian  Janet Fellingham  Tommy McCann  Melissa Sarfin
Kim Bily  Dennis Gallery  Kerry McCarrher  Vinny Scheppa
Tim Brown  Anthony Greco  John McCloskey, Jr.  Dr. Lester Schnell
William Brown  Sean Green  Michael Meoni  Sharon Sharp Elliot
Deacon George Browne  Rhett Hemingway  Barbara Mohan  Michael Sigwalt
Theresa Browne  Patrick Hughes Sr.  Gabriele Monastero  Kathleen Smith
Gail Calma  Will Hughes  Jimmy Mulligan  Mary Spadaro
Charles Cangelosi  Joan Kalbacher  Lauren Munafio  Catherine Sullivan
Lissette Cantara  Terese Karcher  Philip O'Connell  Jean Thompson
Kenneth Carpenter  Carolyn Kast  Thomas Onorato, Jr.  Giuseppina Valenti
Mary Caruana  John Kelsh  Andrea O'Halloran  Debbie Ventura
Elizabeth Castellano  Klavdia Krieg  Vincent Panarella  Callie Williams
Barbie Cervoni  Carole Langan  Adelaine Parks  Susan Williams
Anthony Corrao  Ricky Loew  Brian Pfail  Augustine Xavier
Anthony Cuccia  Chris Lynch
**Pastoral Staff**

**Pastor**
Msgr. Thomas Harold

**Associate Pastor**
Rev. Rudy Pesongco

**Sacramental Ministry**
Msgr. Peter Pfloynn

**Priest in Residence**
Rev. Johnny R. Mendonca

**Deacons**
George Browne, James O’Brien, Basil Bliss, Robert McCarthy

**Parish Staff**

**Faith Formation**
Vivian Flood
488-1032
vflood@stannesgc.org

**Saint Anne’s School**
Gene Fennell, Principal
352-1205
gfenell@stannesgcschool.org

**Parish Social Ministry**
Linda Leone, Pastoral Associate
352-5904
lindaleone@stannesgc.org

**Liturgy and Worship**
Sister Judith Golden, OP
352-5904
srjudy@stannesgc.org

**Music Ministry**
Timothy Brown
599-5448
lbrown4749@aol.com

**Parish Operations**
Mary Lou Engrassia
352-5904
mlengrassia@stannesgc.org

**Program Administration**
Susanne Blum
352-5904
sblum@stannesgc.org

**Youth Ministry**
Bill Leone
352-5904
bleone@stannesgc.org

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**We Celebrate the Sacraments**

**Eucharist**
- Saturday Evening: 5:00PM
- Sunday: 7:00, 8:30, 10:00, 11:45, 5:30PM
  - 10:30AM Family Mass (October—May)
- Monday thru Thursday: 7:30AM, 9:00AM
- Friday: 9:00AM
- Saturday: 8:30AM

**Reconciliation**
- Saturday: 4:00 - 4:45PM / Thursday before First Friday: 4:30 - 5:00PM

**Baptisms**
Infant Baptisms are celebrated the first and third Sundays of each month at 1:30PM. Parents are asked to call the parish office for more information.

**Marriage**
Couples should contact the parish office to arrange an appointment with a priest or deacon at least six months prior to their wedding.

**Anointing of the Sick**
The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick is celebrated on the first Saturday of the month at the 8:30AM Mass. If a loved one is unable to come to church, please call 352-5904 to arrange for a home visit.

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**Opportunities for Prayer**

**Rosary**
- 9:30AM Mondays-Fridays-Church
- 9:00AM Saturdays-Church

**Miraculous Medal Prayers**
- 9:30AM Tuesdays-Church

**Saint Anne’s Prayer Group**
- 10:00AM Tuesdays-Church

**Eucharistic Adoration**
- 8:00AM Thursdays-Church

**Legion of Mary**
- 9:45AM Thursday-Church

**Divine Mercy**
- 9:30AM Fridays-Church

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**This Week at Saint Anne’s**

**Tuesday, January 2nd**
- 5:00PM CYO - McCloskey Auditorium

**Wednesday, January 3rd**
- 9:30AM Mom’s Ministry - Cafeteria
- 1:30PM Senior Scene - Cafeteria
- 7:00PM Confirmation Interviews - Cafeteria & McCloskey Auditorium
- 7:30PM R.C.I.A. - SJVR
- 7:30PM Men’s Bible Study - St. Therese Chapel

**Thursday, January 4th**
- 5:00PM CYO - McCloskey Auditorium
- 7:30PM Families Anonymous - Music Room

**First Friday, January 5th**
- 6:00PM Respite Care Program - Cafeteria & McCloskey Auditorium
- 7:00PM Nocturnal Adoration Society - St. Therese Chapel

**Saturday, January 6th**
- 8:00AM CYO - McCloskey Auditorium

**Sunday, January 7th - Epiphany**
- 11:30AM Family Mass Hospitality - Cafeteria
- 1:00PM Catholic Daughters - Cafeteria
- 1:30PM Baptisms
- 6:30PM - Youth Ministry - Cafeteria

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**Wedding Banns**

**First Time**
Thais Pearce Figaro & Timothy Konstanty Malon
St. Anne’s

**Second Time**
Jennifer Liantonio & Brian Titterton
St. Anne’s

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**WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE**

**Saturday, January 6**
- 5:00PM - Fr. Peter

**Sunday, January 7**
- 7:00AM - Fr. Rudy
- 10:30AM - Fr. Johnny
- 8:30AM - Fr. Rudy
- 11:45AM - Fr. Tom
- 10:00AM - Fr. Tom
- 5:30PM - Fr. Johnny

_Celebrant subject to change_