

Weekly Email Update – May 19, 2022

Dear St. Ann Parishioners,

Happy Easter! The school year is rapidly coming to a close, which means that our summer planning at St. Ann's is in full swing! Please read below for timely reminders and for invitations to join us for a variety of ministries and activities.

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT MASSES

Parish Bulletin – Click the link to read this weekend's bulletin: <https://www.stanncc.com/sunday-bulletin>



Mass Time Change – After Memorial Day, we will change to our summer Mass schedule. The 11:15am Mass will move to 10:30am through Labor Day weekend. Don't be late! 😊

MAY CROWNING – The Catholic Daughters of America invite all to join them for the traditional May Crowning of Our Lady, this Sunday, May 22, after the 11:15 Mass. If you would like to bring flowers to honor the Blessed Mother, you are welcome to do so. Meet in the Commons after Mass.

THIS SUNDAY: SYNOD ON-GOING – We are continuing our conversation about input and decision-making at St. Ann's at a meeting this Sunday, May 22, between the Masses in Condon Hall. We will review ideas that have been shared and perhaps generate more ideas about how members of St. Ann can be actively involved in ministry planning and decision-making in our parish. We will plan to start at about 9:45am (depending on when the 8:30 Mass ends) and will wrap up by 11:00, in time for the 11:15 Mass. Please join us and make your voice heard!

RAFFLE BASKET – The Catholic Daughters are at it again! Purchase raffle tickets after Masses or online for a bountiful basket of goodies – just in time for Memorial Day get-togethers! Proceeds go to support the Catholic ministry at McGuire Veterans Hospital. See the attached flyer for more information.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2022 will be held the week of July 18 – 22. It's going to be a "Monumental Celebration!" Here is the link to register your kids from kindergarten to 5th grade: <https://vbspro.events/p/32b873>. We still need volunteers to lead the pre-school group and more people to help with the different stations. Please consider if you can be one of them and register using the same link, or let Silvana Lucero know at slucero@stanncc.com.

MOTHER'S DAY & FATHER'S DAY CAN BE HARD – For parents who have lost children, these days can be sad and difficult to get through; your parish community can be a place for you to grieve and pray. We are planning a special prayer service for parents and grandparents who have lost children or grandchildren at any stage of life: during pregnancy, childhood, or adulthood, for any reason and at any time. Perhaps your loss was many years ago or perhaps it is more recent. In order to have a meaningful, prayerful, and supportive liturgy, we are asking for a few folks to volunteer to help plan. You need not have any experience with liturgy; your caring and compassion are all that are necessary. If you are willing to help, please contact Katie Johnson in the church office (804-526-254; kjohnson@stanncc.com).

MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

Congratulations to all who are newly Confirmed! Raphael, Daniel, Logan, Austin, Meera, Brayden, Oge, Aiden, Isabella, Anny, Gerardo, Ava, Natalie, Rachel, Sam and Aiden! May you continue to invite the Holy Spirit to guide you in your life! We're so proud of you! Special thanks, too, to our catechists, retreat team, sponsors, parents, and all those who walk this faith journey with our young people!

SUPER SENIORS – Join us as we celebrate our graduates at all levels on Sunday, May 29. A special blessing will be given at all Masses and our Super Seniors will be recognized at the Graduation Mass at 11:15am on May 29. Our young people do so much, it's time we acknowledge all that they do!



SPRING BAZAAR is coming June 4 from 8:00am-2:00pm. Please check the Youth Board for an application to reserve your spot! A completed application and \$30 claims two parking spaces to sell your treasures! Crafters and yard sale folks, come one, come all. Specialty sellers (31, Tupperware, Scentsy, etc.) – only 1 per business. So far we have Partylite, Scentsy, and Colorstreet.

STEPHEN MINISTRY – Do you know someone who is caring and compassionate, who loves to help others and is a good listener? That person could be a great Stephen Minister! (Maybe that person is YOU!) Tell them about Stephen Ministry: Stephen Ministers receive 50 hours of in-depth training in order to meet one-on-one in confidential, faith-filled conversations with someone who is having a tough time because of the loss of a loved one, financial stress, difficulties at work, family issues, or long-term illness – almost any of the “curveballs” that life throws at all of us. A class is forming to begin in the Fall, currently planned to take place on Tuesday evenings and a few Saturdays. Applications are available in the Commons after Masses; stop by to ask questions and to pick up an application. Check out this video to learn more about what Stephen Minister training is like (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vidccLRIGR4>), or feel free to ask a current Stephen Minister any questions you may have. And you can contact Laurel Rothenberger (804-898-1684; ldrothenberger@comcast.net) or Katie Johnson (804-526-2548). And please encourage those you know to prayerfully consider becoming a Stephen Minister!

Older Adult Planning – All Older Adults are invited to join in planning for activities and events! We’re meeting on Friday, June 3 at 10:30am in the school, and we’ll be sure to finish up in time so you can attend the noon Mass. Contact Katie Johnson if you have questions (kjohnson@stanncc.com; 804-526-2548).



Theology on Tap – All Are Welcome! Join Tri-Cities Theology on Tap on **May 25, 7:00pm**, at the Dancing Kilt Brewery (12912 Old Stage Road, Chester). Deacon Bob Young will be talking about “Truths from the Upper Room” – Pentecost and the power of the Holy Spirit; why the Church places such importance on Pentecost; why the power of the Holy Spirit is important in our lives; and what we receive from the Holy Spirit when we are open to it. Come, have a drink, eat some food, and grow in your faith!



Rice Bowls – Are being collected beginning Palm Sunday through Pentecost. Simply drop your Rice Bowl in the basket located in the Commons. Thank you for your Lenten almsgiving and the support it will provide impoverished families!

Catholic Daughters of the Americas at St. Ann's is sponsoring a Baby Bottle Campaign to benefit the Pregnancy Support Center of Tri-Cities in Petersburg. The campaign runs from Mothers' Day to Fathers' Day. To participate simply pick up a baby bottle from the decorated box in the Commons, take it home or to work, and fill it with your loose change or a donation of any amount. Then return the bottle to the same box and Catholic Daughters will take them to the Pregnancy Center. Contributions are tax deductible. Thank you!

We pray for all who are struggling with mental health issues. May they find the resources they need, accept help from others, and be returned to health and wholeness. May they know the love of God through the compassionate care of family, friends, and medical professionals.