

Parish Email Update – September 29, 2022

Dear St. Ann Parishioners,

We pray that you and your loved ones stay safe and dry this weekend, as we experience the fall out from Ian. Read below for lots of great activities and ministries! We hope to see you at some of the events we have planned for this Fall.

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT MASSES

Word of the Week – Attached to this email is a simple 2-page reflection that will help you and your family prepare the readings for this Sunday.

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



ANNUAL PET BLESSING – Join us **THIS Sunday, October 2** for the annual Pet Blessing in honor of the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi. Gather under the oak tree at 5:00pm where Fr. Ernest will bless your beloved pet. All pets with fur, wings, fins or stuffed are welcome!

FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION – All are invited to join us for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament next Friday, October 7, 10:00am-12:30pm, in the Worship Space. Adoration will end with Benediction after the noon daily Mass.

ALTAR & ARTS – Join the creative and hardworking members of the Altar & Arts ministry, as we prepare for Advent and Christmas in our worship space. Do you love to create? Do you have an eye for beauty? Do you agree that our worship is enhanced by our surroundings? Or do you simply enjoy helping your church? If the answer to any of these is “YES!” then the Altar & Arts Ministry invites you to join them. While an artistic eye and creative vision are great, anyone who is willing to help can join Altar & Arts. We meet the second Thursday of every month, and the next meeting is on **Thursday, October 13, 9:30-11:00am**, in Condon Hall. We are looking for a parishioner who will be willing to chair this ministry – is the Holy Spirit nudging you? If you have any questions, please contact Katie Johnson (kjohnson@stanncc.com; 804-526-2548). Please join us!

SLAVE TRAIL WALK – **Sponsored by the Office of Black Catholics.** There are two opportunities to learn about the history of enslaved persons in Richmond, on October 1 and October 29. They will be led by Rev. Mr. Frank Nelson. The events are free, but space is limited. See the attached flyer for more

information.



LABYRINTH WALK – If you enjoyed walking the Labyrinth that was here at St. Ann during Lent, or you missed the opportunity to walk the Labyrinth, here’s another chance to participate in this ancient prayer practice. The RCIA team and Inquirers invite you to join them on Wednesday, October 5. Meet in the St. Ann parking lot at 6:00pm and carpool to Christ and Grace Church in Petersburg. An overview and guidance of this ancient prayer form will be provided for those who have never walked the Labyrinth. There is no cost for this activity. Wear comfortable shoes and dress for the weather. The return to St. Ann will be at approximately 7:30pm. Contact Linda Mingos if you have any questions (804-526-2548; lmingos@stanncc.com).



CHILDREN’S CHOIR – St. Ann’s Children’s choir is back!! Kids in grades K-5 are eagerly welcome to join and be part of this fun group. Practices are **Thursdays, 6:00-7:00pm beginning September 29**. The children’s choir will sing primarily at the 8:30am Mass, generally once a month. For more info contact *Chris Lothamer* at clothamer@stanncc.com. Or see him after Mass.

YOUNG PEOPLE, WE NEED YOU! Serve Your Church – Serve at Mass! All students in grades 4-12 are invited to become liturgical ministers. We would love to have EVERY student using their gifts in some capacity to serve at Mass, so parents and grandparents, please encourage them to get involved. All are invited to be altar servers; Middle and High School students can also serve as a lector, usher, Eucharistic minister (must be confirmed for EM), and musician. Your student will get up close and personal with the Mass! (It’s much easier to pay attention and participate when they’re involved in some way.) Get to know Fr. Ernest better! Deepen their love of Jesus and the Mass! We work with your student’s/your family’s schedule; you’ll know in plenty of time when your student is scheduled to serve; and they’ll be scheduled for whichever Mass your family prefers to attend. AND they will be really well trained. Students can serve in more than one ministry, too! For more information and to sign your student up, please contact Katie Johnson in the office (804-526-2548; kjohnson@stanncc.com). p.s. – Adults are welcome to serve, too! ☺ And we can coordinate your family’s schedule. Just let Katie know if you’re interested!

YOUTH MINISTRY



MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL CHRISTIAN FORMATION (AKA YOUTH GROUP) continues this weekend, October 2, from 6:30-8:00pm. On the menu for dinner is POLISH KEILBASA, FRIED CABBAGE, PEROGIES, and DESSERT from 5:30-6:30pm. Youth Choir, the Crescendos, will also meet at 5:30pm. All students will gather in the worship space for welcome and opening prayer. Please remember our PICK-UP PROTOCOL (similar to school pick-up) where no students or adults will be allowed to cross traffic during pick-up. Please “follow the leader” and you will be fine! First in line? Park in front of the Office building heading towards the exit near the Heights Baptist church. Elise will be out to assist in

dismissing students. Please DO NOT park in the parking spaces in front as you will have to sit there until all students have been picked up.

SPECIAL THANKS to all those who helped to make our t-shirt sales and Boulevard Flowers fundraisers successful!



CHRISTMAS GREENERY SALES begin the weekend of October 2 & 3 and will continue through October 29 & 30. Watch for your opportunity to get ready for Christmas AND support the Youth Group at the same time. All proceeds will continue to support youth group activities and sponsorships. As always, thank you for your support. Online Ordering can begin now at www.GiftItForward.com using FUNDRAISING CODE: STANNVA001.



As part of our upcoming Homecoming Weekend, the Youth Group will host their 9th annual **FALL FESTIVAL Vendor and Yard Sale** on Saturday, October 29, from 8:00am-2:00pm, followed by **TRUNK OR TREAT** in the evening. Join us for 5:00pm Mass and then the



festivities continue! From 6:00-8:00pm our front parking lot will be filled with opportunities for fun, fellowship, food, and other activities. This is open to the whole parish, not just the kids; so come, be a kid at heart, and enjoy the season! Watch for a SignupGenius link to sign up soon for a variety of opportunities.

PREGNANCY SUPPORT CENTER OF THE TRI-CITIES – Save the date for the Walk for Life 2022, on Saturday, October 29. Register at 9:00am; walk at 10:00am. It starts at the Center – 700 S. Sycamore Street, Petersburg. Ask for sponsors and register early! Contact the organizers at 804-861-5517 or info@pregnancytricity.org.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY – St. Bridget Catholic Church is seeking a full time Director of Religious Education. The Director of Religious Education will recruit volunteers and have direct oversight of the Parish catechetical program for parent Baptism Prep; grades Pre-K-5, Sacramental preparation for First Penance and First Holy Communion; coordinating Children’s Liturgy of the Word; Vacation Bible School, and Christian Formation Committee. The DRE will also support volunteer leaders for: Adult Faith Formation, Inquiry Program for those becoming Catholic, and Nursery. The DRE will work with staff in providing a safe environment for all through VIRTUS, and providing leadership and community in building a solid foundation of catechetical ministry. This position requires evening and weekend hours. Religious Education class will require work on weekends. Candidates should have a Bachelor’s Degree in Religious Studies, Education, or related fields. The Director of Religious Education must be a Catholic in good standing. Interested candidates should send a cover letter, resume, and diocesan application to Joyce Romito at jromito@saintbridgetchurch.org.

Let us pray for all those affected by Hurricane Ian. May lives be preserved; communities, service, and homes restored; and may our brothers and sisters experience God's love through the generosity and support of friends and strangers.