



Saint Anne

Catholic Church

551 Boulder Hill Pass · P. O. Box 670 · Oswego, IL 60543

www.stanneparish.org

EUCHARISTIC LITURGY SCHEDULE

Saturday Evening	5:00 PM
Sunday	7:30, 9:15 & 11:00 AM
Holy Days	Consult Bulletin Sunday prior
Weekdays	Monday, Wednesday and Friday 8:00 AM Communion Service Saturday 8:00 AM Tuesday and Thursday 7:00 AM Wednesday 7:00 PM
Reconciliation	Saturdays 3:30-4:30 PM

REV. DAVID J. HANKUS, D. Min., *Pastor*

frdavid@stanneparish.org

Sr. Margaret Anne Spagnola, OSM, *Pastoral Associate*
pstast@stanneparish.org

Deacon David Brockman,
rcia@stanneparish.org
Deacon Duane Wozek
hsym@stanneparish.org

Mary Bolton, *Director of Music Ministry*
music@stanneparish.org

Rev. Daniel F. Stempora, *Pastor Emeritus*

PARISH OFFICE

Joachim Center
551 Boulder Hill Pass
Oswego, IL 60543
630-554-3331
630-554-0530 (FAX)

PARISH OFFICE SUMMER HOURS

Monday-Thursday 8:30 AM-8:30 PM
Friday 8:30 AM-Noon
CLOSED Saturday/Sunday

FAX NUMBER

630-554-0530

E-MAIL

stanne@stanneparish.org

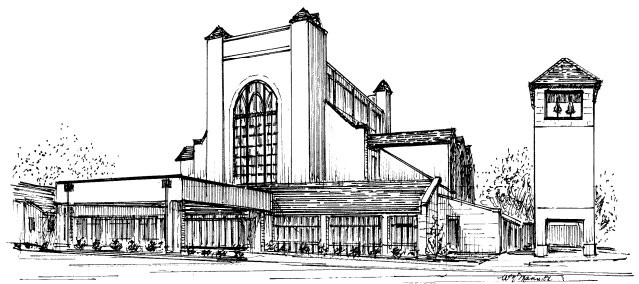
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE PRE-KN—HIGH SCHOOL

Joachim Center
551 Boulder Hill Pass
Oswego, IL 60543
630-554-1425
630-554-9797 (FAX)

Cathy Gillooly, *Director of Religious Education Pre-8*
reo@stanneparish.org
Duane Wozek, *High School Youth Minister*
hsym@stanneparish.org

OFFICE HOURS

Monday thru Thursday: 10:00 AM-7:30 PM
Friday: 8:30 AM-Noon





OUR ADVENT JOURNEY

Let us imagine for a moment what it would be like living during the very first season of Advent, two thousand years ago. Indeed, it would be very different from the Advents of modern times. There were no shopping malls, parking jams, lines at the post office and many other contemporary signs of living in a fast-paced society during the month of December. It was a time of quiet expectation and patient waiting. There was one voice crying out, though. This voice was loud and clear. It was the voice of John the Baptist. His mission was foretold in the Book of Isaiah centuries earlier. "A herald's voice in the desert, crying 'Make ready the way of the Lord, clear Him a straight path.'"

How exciting this must have been! People were waiting for the Messiah and now they were hearing that the time for His arrival was close at hand. This will not be something to be afraid of, but something to rejoice in. Good and wonderful things will happen with the arrival of God's Son, yet people will need to be prepared and properly disposed before the arrival. There would be much to be done, but anticipating the arrival of Jesus would be all worth it.

Perhaps during these busy days of Advent we could find some quiet moments to reflect on John the Baptist's message. Let us prepare our hearts and minds to welcome Jesus every day of our lives, not just at Christmas. Let us anticipate with joy what it is like in the Kingdom of God, begun here on earth, and moving toward fulfillment someday when our Lord comes again.

Father David

PENANCE SERVICE AND IMMACULATE CONCEPTION HOLYDAY

Today at 3:00 PM in the church will be our Parish Advent Penance Service. Several priests will be available for individual confession after a short prayer service. This is an excellent opportunity to be reconciled with the Lord before Christmas.

This coming Thursday, December 8, is the feast of the Immaculate Conception, a holyday of obligation. Masses are at 7:00 AM, 12:00 Noon, 5:30 PM and 7:00 PM in the church. There is NO 7:00 PM Mass on Wednesday, December 7.

Father David



Monday, December 5th

8:00 AM-Ambrose and Gertrude Kennedy req. Evans Family

Tuesday, December 6th

7:00 AM-Purgatorial Society

Wednesday, December 7th

8:00 AM-Stanley Rogers req. Family

NO 7:00 PM Mass

Thursday, December 8th

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

7:00 AM-Dominick Petrone req. Petrone Family

12:00 Noon-Coughlin & Best Families req. Family

5:30 PM-Deborah Boban req. Jim boban

7:00 PM-The Parishioners of Saint Anne Parish

Friday, December 9th

8:00 AM-For the Fathers of the Parish

Saturday, December 10th

8:00 AM-Communion Service

5:00 PM-D'Adam Family req. Family

Sunday, December 11th

7:30 AM-For the Parishioners

9:15 AM-Kathleen Rice req. Bob and Kathy Braband

11:00 AM-Frank Koza req. Mary Bolton

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 35:1-10; Lk 5:17-26
 Tuesday: Is 40:1-11; Mt 18:12-14
 Wednesday: Is 40:25-31; Mt 11:28-30
 Thursday: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38
 Friday: Is 48:17-19; Mt 11:16-19
 Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Mt 17:9a, 10-13
 Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11; Lk 1:46-50, 53-54; 1 Thes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

MONDAY

4:30 & 6:00 PM-RE K-6 classes.

7:00 PM-Blue Army meets for Rosary and Holy Hour. All are invited.

7:00 PM-Celebration Ringers.

7:00 PM-HS Leadership meeting.

7:30 PM-RCIA

TUESDAY

9:30 AM-AFF: Women's Scripture study.

4:30 & 6:00 PM-RE K-6 classes.

5:00 PM-Angels Choir.

7:30 PM-Chancel Choir.

7:30 PM-Charismatic Prayer Group meets. All are welcome to attend.

7:30 PM-Baptism Coordinators meeting.

WEDNESDAY

9:00 AM-Rosary.

9:30 AM-Moms Group.

9:30 AM-AFF: Advent Reflection.

4:15 PM-Youth Choir.

4:30 & 6:00 PM-RE K-6 classes.

5:00 PM-Joyful Ringers.

7:30 PM-Contemporary Adult Choir.

7:30 PM-Social Committee meeting.

SATURDAY

7:30 AM-Men's Cursillo.

7:30 AM-Women's Cursillo.

8:30 AM-Arts & Environment outside Nativity set-up.

4:30 & 6:30 PM-Religious Article Sales.

5:00 PM-Religious Retirement collection.

5:00 PM-Reverse Food collection.

5:00 PM-Giving Tree gift return.

SUNDAY

All Masses-Religious Retirement collection.

All Masses-Reverse Food collection.

All Masses-Giving Tree gift return.

7:15 AM-12:30 PM-Religious Article Sales.

8:00 AM-Men's Spirituality.

9:15 AM-Wee Worship classes.

9:15 AM-Nursery.

9:15 AM-Liturgy of the Word for Children.

10:30 AM-SpiritSong.

11:00 AM-RCIA Rite of Dismissal and Breaking Open.

4:30 & 6:30 PM-RE 7-8 classes.

6:00 PM-Evening Prayer, Holy Hour and Benediction.

7:00 PM-HS Godparent Home sessions.



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 gifts. Thanking, however, is not done in word only, but in deed, also.

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>
Parish Offering, November 20th		
Sunday Offering	\$22,433.93	\$26,000.00
E-Giving	\$ 2,324.50	45 Transactions
Children's Offering	\$ 72.39	
Money not in envelope but in above figure	\$ 1,161.04	
Parishioners registered for envelopes as of October 31, 2011	3,879	
Average Regular Envelope Users	623	16% Participation
Number of envelopes used last Sunday	639	16% Participation
Number of Children's envelopes used	79	05% Participation
Parish Offering, November 27th		
Sunday Offering	\$22,172.88	\$26,000.00
E-Giving	\$ 1,214.50	38 Transactions
Children's Offering	\$ 96.04	
Money not in envelope but in above figure	\$ 1,522.33	
Parishioners registered for envelopes as of October 31, 2011	3,879	
Average Regular Envelope Users	623	16% Participation
Number of envelopes used last Sunday	666	17% Participation
Number of Children's envelopes used	80	05% Participation
Campaign For Human Development Officer November 20, 2012	\$ 4,390.61	

✠ Contributions may be made directly to the Church Construction Fund. Please contact the parish office, 554-3331, for information.

E-Giving: If you would like to participate in E-Giving, please log on to the Saint Anne website: www.stanneparish.org and click on the E-Giving link. Please follow link for instructions.

STEWARDSHIP NOTE FOR TODAY

We must be good stewards of God's gifts to us, receiving them gratefully and cultivating them with care lest we be the ones about whom John the Baptist speaks: "Every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire."

AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DIFIBRILLATOR AED
Located Across from Parish Offices

BEREAVEMENT AND BUTTERFLIES MINISTRY

What does it mean to Mourn?

And what does it mean to mourn? I asked the multitude, and an elder stepped forward. To mourn, he said, is to be given a second heart. It is to care so deeply that you show your ache in person. To mourn is to not be ashamed of the tears. It is to be broken, to be built up and to be healed all in the same moment.

PLEASE PRAY.....

Kirsten Bohr	Mary Lou Clark
Daisy Delgado	Kerry Anne Engdahl
Elizabeth Gebe	Vicky Gibson
Charlotte Messing	Renee Olsen
Alberta Toma	Elijah Valero
Genevieve Wozek	Joseph Zacher
Janet Zakosek	

And all who are experiencing illness and are not listed by name.

THE POWER OF PRAYER

A prominent cardiologist recently conducted a rigidly controlled scientific study of 393 patients at San Francisco General Hospital. About half were prayed for by home prayer groups; the other half were not.

The results were striking: the prayed for patients differed from the others remarkably in several areas:

- 5 times less likely to require antibiotics
- 3 times less likely to have lungs fill up with fluid
- no need for artificial tubes in throat
- and fewer patients in the prayed for group died.
-

Conclusion: the power of prayer to aid in healing cannot be denied. Saint Anne's Prayer Tree puts this belief into action. To join us or to request prayer, please call Jackie Johnson, 554-1591.

PRAYER LIST

Recently, people have come up to the priests, the deacons, ushers and cantors and have asked to have the name of a person put on our prayer list. Often the person making this request is a family member. Sometimes it is a friend or acquaintance of the one needing prayer. Due to privacy laws now in place, we must be very careful who is put on the list, especially when a name is publicly announced. Even though the intention we have concerning the making a request for prayers for someone is a good one, we must consider that the person may wish his or her privacy to be respected.

The person or immediate family member should communicate to us the request to be put on the sick list or an immediate family member for the deceased list. Please keep this in mind in making the request for adding names to our prayer lists. The list is typed on Friday morning. All are asked that if you have a person in your immediate family (spouse, parent, next of kin) to be put on our prayer list for the weekend that you call the parish office first. We are aware that sometimes illness occurs suddenly and may occur over the weekend. Please do not put the name on the list yourself or ask cantors or ushers. Rather, please ask Father David, Deacon David, Deacon Duane, or Sr. Margaret Anne to do this.

Saint Anne Parish continues to be committed to pray for those who are sick and suffering, even if we are unable to list everyone by name.

COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND

If you know of someone unable to attend Mass regularly due to age or illness and wishes to receive Communion at home, please have them contact the parish office, 630-554-3331, so that arrangements can be made to have a Pastoral Care Minister bring the Eucharist to their home.

THE RITE OF DISMISSAL WITHIN THE MASS

WHY?

Beginning the First Sunday of Advent and continuing thru the Lenten Season, there will be a “dismissal” after the Liturgy of the Word of our Catechumens and Candidates.

The dismissal of catechumens and candidates, in and of itself, **is** a most powerful sign to the assembly of the baptized. It instantly raises questions about why the baptized Catholics are allowed to stay, about the gift that the Eucharist is to them and about their appreciation of their own baptisms.

We are reminded in the Second Vatican Council’s Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation: “The Church has always venerated the divine scriptures as it has venerated the Body of the Lord, in that it never ceases, above all in the sacred liturgy, to partake of the bread of life and to offer it to the faithful from the one table of the Word of God and the Body of Christ. (Verbum Dei, 21)”

From this point of view, the dismissal of catechumens and candidates after the liturgy of the word performs a ministry in the worshipping community. It points to Christ’s real presence in the word and helps the assembly appreciate the gift of the word.

Aidan Kavanaugh, OSB goes even further: “Catechumens occupy an overt place in church structure and discharge a real ministry to the church by witnessing in their own lives to the never-ending need of conversion in Christ that is requisite for the whole church, universal as well as local.

When catechumens (and candidates) are dismissed, they do not simply leave an assembly that is going to do something they are not allowed to do. They are performing a ministry to the baptized, the ministry of witnessing to the centrality of the word as a means of transformation. This witness is at the heart of the weekly dismissal.

R.C.I.A.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (R.C.I.A.) is a spiritual journey in faith to discover what it means to follow Jesus as a Catholic Christian and the joy and freedom that can result from journeying with Christ. Every year adults are welcomed into the Catholic Community through R.C.I.A.. It is a learning and loving process in which conversion of the heart brings you to Jesus Christ who is our Lord and Savior. *Come to me, all you who are weary and find life burdensome, and I will refresh you. Take My yoke upon your shoulders and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble of heart. Your souls will find rest, for My yoke is easy and My burden light.* Matthew 11:28-30

If you or anyone you know have any questions and are high school age or older,

please contact Deacon David Brockman

at 630-554-3331.

**ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE
TODAY****Sunday, December 4th --- 3:00 PM --- Church**

Next Sunday, December 4th at 3:00 PM, we will have our
Advent Reconciliation Service.

We will have many priests available for individual confession.
Come, let us prepare our hearts for the coming of Jesus.

2012 CHURCH CALENDAR

The 2012 Church calendars will be available next weekend, December 10th and 11th. They will be in the narthex area of the church near the literature rack. Please take one per family this first weekend that they are available.

OPLATKI

Oplatki (Christmas Wafers) are available in the Saint Anne Religious Article store which is open after all Masses Saturday evening and Sunday morning, or in the parish office.

There is no offering for these wafers. We are able to make them available through your Sunday Stewardship. We are happy to provide them to families who wish to continue this tradition with their families.

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**SAINT ANNE GIVING TREE**

If you have not already done, so please choose an ornament from the Giving Tree. Please return your wrapped gift with the ornament attached to the back (we must be able to read the back of the ornament). All gifts must be returned Saturday/Sunday, December 10th and 11th.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE BISHOP
2011 RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,


In 2010, while visiting a senior-care facility, our Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI, noted, “Indeed, the provision of care for the elderly should be considered not so much an act of generosity as the repayment of a debt of gratitude.” Soon, our parishes will be taking up the annual collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious, an opportunity to honor and thank thousands of senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests for their faithful service.

Whether or not we realize it, we are all beneficiaries of the tremendous contributions these women and men and have made to the Church in the United States. Through hard work, prayer, and sacrifice, they built Catholic schools and hospitals, initiated programs to promote social justice, and ministered to the neediest among us. As I reflect on the dedication of elder religious, I remain grateful for the ways that they have shaped my own faith and for the tremendous service that they have offered our diocese. I hope that you, too, can recall a sister or brother who made a positive difference in your life.

Today, many religious communities struggle to care for their elderly members. Skyrocketing health care costs and decreased income make it increasingly difficult to provide necessary medications, nursing care, and basic services. Aging convents and other facilities pose additional challenges in terms of safety and handicap accessibility.

I recognize this is but one of numerous worthy causes in need of support and that many in our own community face financial difficulties. I ask you simply to give what you can. In thanksgiving for all that senior religious have done, please join me in supporting the Retirement Fund for Religious and in praying for God’s continued blessing on our nation’s elderly sisters, brothers, and religious order priests.

God bless you,

+ 

Most Reverend R. Daniel Conlon
Bishop of Joliet



If you have any questions, please contact:

Deacon David Brockman; 630-554-3331 Ext. 31;
rcia@stanneparish.org

or

Sister Margaret Anne Spagnola, OSM; 630-554-3331 Ext. 36
pstast@stanneparish.org

***IN WATCHFUL HOPE
EVENING PRAYER FOR ADVENT
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11TH 6:00 PM - Chapel***

If there is a time of the year when we might easily be tempted to say we're too swamped to pray, it is Advent.

But the warning, "If you are too busy to pray, you are too busy" is especially apt for Advent. Advent is the season of hopeful prayer that nourishes our spiritual renewal, and helps us turn this time into something so much richer than a mere shopping-days-till-Christmas countdown.

(James E. Adams, editor)

Vespers, or Evening prayer, is part of the Divine Office, the prayer of the Church. The Divine Office finds its roots in the ancient Jewish practice of praying three times a day: morning, noon, and evening. The early Christians continued that practice, following the example of Jesus, going off pray at the various times of the day as was his custom. In the early monastic communities, St. Benedict developed the Divine Office to include all 150 psalms to be prayed by the monks throughout the week.

Vatican II, Constitution on the Liturgy, describes the Office as "the very prayer of which Christ himself, together with his body (the Church), addresses to the Father."(CL,84)

Advent Vespers (Evening Prayer), with Exposition and Benediction, will be celebrated at 6:00 PM in the chapel on Sunday, December 11th. All are invited to gather for prayer during this Advent Season.



**FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
A Holy Day of Obligation**

Thursday, December 8th

The *Feast of the Immaculate Conception* occurs this Thursday, December 8th. The holyday Mass schedule is as follows:

NO Vigil Mass—Wednesday, December 7th

Holy Day Masses—Thursday, December 8th

7:00 AM

12:00 Noon

5:30 and 7:00 PM

MOMS GROUP

The mission of the Saint Anne Moms Group is to nurture our growth and formation as women, wives and mothers by providing support for each other through fellowship, discussion and prayer. Through this ministry we hope to create a place where supportive friendships are formed and women are uplifted. Most importantly we strive to integrate our families and ourselves more completely into the richness of the Roman Catholic faith.

Wednesday meetings are located in the Joachim Center from 9:30 AM to 10:30 AM (unless otherwise noted). The Nursery opens at 9:15 AM. There is also weekly Rosary on Wednesdays at 9:00 AM in the Chapel; children are welcome to attend with their mother! For more information about Moms' Group, contact Susie Guglielmi, 630-264-2617 or Gretchen Heiar, 630-636-6044. If you would like to attend Ladies Night Out, please R.S.V.P. to Maggie Kinn, 630-301-7230.

December

- 07 WED Advent Reflection** - Andrea Berger will present from 10:00 AM-Noon. We will end with lunch for those who can stay. If you are able to join us for lunch, please bring a sack lunch along for your child(ren).
- 14 WED Rosary/Bring-A-Meal Wednesday**
Please join us as we pray the Rosary together. If possible, bring a meal for the Elizabeth Ministry freezer today or to any meeting.
- 21 WED NO MEETING** - Christmas Vacation - meetings resume January 4, 2012
- 28 WED NO MEETING** - Christmas Vacation - meetings resume January 4, 2012

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

"I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." Have you invited the Holy Spirit into your marriage? Attend the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend February 17-19, 2012.

Contact Tim and Pat Doyle, 630-577-0778. For more information visit our website at: wwmejoliet.org.

SAINT ANNE RELIGIOUS GOODS STORE

Thanksgiving and Christmas are fast approaching. The store is currently stocking Thanksgiving items, Advent calendars, Advent wreaths and candles, Nativity sets and Christmas gifts. We have the new Roman Missals in stock and will have children's Mass books in stock soon.

Come browse through our stock of Baptism and baby gifts, children's books, rosaries, crucifixes, prayerbooks, Bibles, holy cards, rosary bracelets, holy water fonts, statues, pet medals, First Holy Communion and Confirmation items, and more. We have something for everyone.

The Store is located across from Anniversary Hall and is open before and after all the weekend Masses:

Saturday 4:45-6:30 PM Sunday 7:15 AM thru 12:30 PM

CLOSED THANKSGIVING WEEKEND - November 26th/27th
CLOSED CHRISTMAS WEEKEND - December 24th/25th

If you have questions, please contact Jane Getty 630-554-0989 or Margaret Spitz, 630-896-2748.

THE WORLD APOSTOLATE OF FATIMA

The *World Apostolate of Fatima (The Blue Army)* is answering our Blessed Lady's request at Fatima to spread the devotion of praying the Rosary daily. Also, to make reparation and sacrifice for the souls of many to acquire peace, love and freedom for all the world.

Remember our beautiful Statue of our Lady of Fatima that resided in the Chapel? Come and visit her every Monday evening at 7:00 PM as we pray the Rosary. The Statue of Our Lady of Fatima is traveling from family to family throughout our parish community.

Schedule a time when "*Our Lady*" can visit in your home. Call Joanne, 630-554-2065, to make your reservation. You will be glad you did.

WELCOMING YOUR CHILD
Saint Anne Parish
Baptism Preparation Program

Baptism Preparation classes are usually held the first and third Wednesday of the month at 7:30 PM in the Joachim Center. You will need to attend both sessions before scheduling a Baptism. We encourage you to sign up for Baptism Preparation before the birth of your child. Baptisms are scheduled after the birth of your child and after you have attended both sessions.

To register for Baptism Preparation, please contact Sr. Margaret Anne Spagnola, 630-554-3331. We ask that you be a registered member of the parish in order to have a Baptism at Saint Anne Parish.

Please do not choose Godparents until you receive the established Church guidelines for Godparents.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION Pre-K thru GRADE 8**2nd Sunday of Advent**

This weekend we hear the story of John the Baptist, the one crying out in the desert, "Prepare the way of the Lord; make straight his paths." John is calling for us to prepare our hearts for the Lord and to confess our sins so that we may follow the path to Christ. And so we pray:

Father, in the wilderness of the Jordan, you sent a messenger
to prepare people's hearts for the coming of your Son.
Help me to hear his words and repent of my sins,
so that I may clearly see the way to walk, the truth to speak,
and the life to live for Him, our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen

Religious Education Calendar of EventsSunday, December 4

All 7th and 8th graders meet from 4:45 to 6:30 PM for class and to celebrate Reconciliation

- If you usually attend at 4:30: Go to your classroom at 4:45
- If you usually attend at 6:30: Go to the Church at 4:45

Thursday, December 8

No Classes; RE Office open 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM

Sunday, December 11

7th and 8th grade classes as usual

December 12-15

Reconciliation Room Tours for 2nd Grade and RCIA2 during regular class time. Parents are welcome to participate.

Sunday, December 18

No Wee Worship or 7/8 Grade Classes

Religious Education Office Christmas Break Hours

Monday, December 19: 8:30 to 5:00

Tuesday, December 20: 8:30 to 5:00

Wednesday, December 21: 10:00 to 7:30

Thursday, December 22: 8:30 to 5:00

Friday, December 23: 8:30 to Noon

Monday, December 26: Offices Closed

Tuesday, December 27: 8:30 to 5:00

Wednesday, December 28: 8:30 to 5:00

Thursday, December 29: 8:30 to 5:00

Friday, December 30: 8:30 to Noon

Monday, January 2: Offices Closed

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY**RECYCLING FOR WORLD YOUTH DAY 2011**

In order to help offset the cost of the trip we invite you to participate in a **RECYCLING PROGRAM** for used computer ink cartridges and cell phones. We will receive a percentage of each item collected.

Donations may be brought to Deacon Duane in the Religious Education Office during regular Religious Ed office hours. For more information call Deacon Duane, 630-554-1425. Your participation is greatly appreciated.

**AURORA CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL**

1255 N. Edgelawn Drive • Aurora, IL 60506

(630) 907-0095 • fax (630) 907-1076

www.auroracentral.com

Aurora Central Catholic High School will host an Open House for students and their families on Sunday, December 4 from 1 until 3 p.m. All students are invited to tour Aurora Central Catholic's state-of-the-art campus and meet with ACC's faculty and staff. All visitors will have the chance to meet with representatives from various clubs and athletic teams at the school.

Aurora Central Catholic High School, a college-preparatory high school with an enrollment of 560 students, offers students a spiritual and educational foundation for life-long learning.

Please contact Admissions Director, Brian Casey at (630) 907-0095 ext. 109 or bcasey@auroracentral.com for more information or to schedule a personal tour.

LISTENING TO GOD'S CALL
Gatherings for Young Adult Women and Men
Considering Their vocation

† Are you a young adult interested in serving God?

† Would you like to discern your call with other young men and women?

The Joliet Area Vocation Association will offer a discernment series for adults ages 18-40 meeting monthly on Sunday afternoons from 3:00-5:00 at Loretto Center in Wheaton.

Discussion will cover discernment, exploring your vocation, and various elements of religious life. You may attend any or all sessions in which you are interested and the cost is free.

Upcoming dates and topics:

January 8th	<i>Religious Life</i>	February 12th	<i>Vows - Chastity/Celibacy</i>
March 11th	<i>Vows - Poverty</i>	April 15th	<i>Vows - Obedience</i>
May 20th	<i>Bumps in the Road</i>	June 10th	<i>Explore Religious Orders</i>

For more information and registration information please contact Sr. Claire Vandborg, 630-868-2904 or clvand@aol.com. A brochure with dates, topics and registration information can be found in the literature rack in the church or Joachim Center or visit the Joliet Vocations website www.vocations.com.

SEMINARY TRIPS

Major Seminary Visits - Men who are seniors in college or who already are college graduates are invited to visit one of the major seminaries that the Diocese of Joliet uses for theology: Mundelein Seminary and St. Meinrad Seminary. There is no cost for these trips.

College Seminary Visits - The Vocation Office sponsors trips for men who are juniors in high school and older to Conception Seminary College. There is no cost for this weekend visit.

During seminary visits participants have the opportunity to meet current seminarians and see seminary life first hand.

If interested in a major seminary or college seminary visit, please contact Vocation Director Father Burke Masters, 815-834-4004 or vocations@dioceseofjoliet.org.

VOCATION PRAYER CALENDARS/CARDS

Reminder. . . Brochures listing our Diocesan priests, religious life and diaconate for September through December 2011 are available in the literature racks of the church and parish center. Our prayers are appreciated for all. Prayer cards of the seminaries that were distributed on Vocation Awareness Sunday are still available in the literature racks as well.

COME, EAT AND PRAY - Single Catholic Women
 Servants of the Holy Heart of Mary, 717 N. Batavia Avenue, Batavia, IL

Come to a dinner and pray with the Sisters and *See What our Life is all About!* Monday: December 26th from 5:00-8:00 PM. For more information please call Sr. Marie Mason, sscm, Vocation Minister, 815-370-7228.

REVERSE FOOD COLLECTION - EARLY COLLECTIONS

Once a month, along with the regular collection basket, a separate basket is distributed filled with slips listing non-perishable food items. Parishioners are encouraged to take slips from the basket, purchase the items, and then return them to the narthex of the church the following weekend at any of the Masses. Normally this collection is done on the fourth Sunday of the month. All donations are taken to the Kendall County Food Pantry.

Due to Christmas weekend falling on the fourth Sunday, the Kendall County Food Pantry has requested that we have our food collection before the Christmas holiday so they can get food to their families before each holiday.

In December, the food slips will be distributed this weekend of **December 3rd/4th and the collection will occur next weekend December 10th/11th.**

Without the support and generosity of Saint Anne Parish, the Kendall County Food Pantry would not be able to serve as many families in need throughout the County as they do. For more information on our Reverse Food Collection or to become a volunteer, contact Willie or Jay Vidmar, 815-436-6664 or email: ladywil@aol.com; vidacres@aol.com. Please list reverse collection in the subject line of email.

Thank you for your generosity.

SAINT ANNE SPECIAL TRUST FUND

Our trust fund was established to assist parishioners in time of financial need. During these difficult financial times, we have had a great demand on the fund. Through the generosity of our donors, we were able to help fellow parishioners through their time of need. In the most recent months we have assisted many parish families with utilities, mortgages and taxes. These families would be facing foreclosure or sale of property if it were not for your generosity.

Let us all continue to pray for those who are struggling financially and with employment.

If you wish to donate to the fund, you may do so by depositing your donation directly at any Old Second National Bank to the attention of the Saint Anne Trust Fund. You may also send your donations through the parish office. Thank you for caring about your fellow parishioners.

ATTENTION USHERS

Your new schedules (Christmas 2011 through March 2012) are now available. If you did not receive one via email, please pick up the schedule in the Usher closet of church over the weekend.

Thank you for your continued service as Usher/Greeter for Saint Anne Parish. Your presence in welcoming and assisting parishioners and visitors is a very important role at weekend Liturgy.

BOOK GROUP

St Anne Book Group will be reading the following books for discussion:

January 2012 - 9:30 AM - THE ULTIMATE GIFT by Jim Stovall

A wealthy man realizes that he has made life too easy for his family and feels that his great nephew will not really benefit from the inheritance but from the "ultimate gift". Take the journey with this young man and see if you, too, will be touched by the ultimate gift.

Read these delightful books, come to our discussions and get to hear what others think and feel about these subjects. Contact Judy Benjamin, 630-551-1176

MEN'S SPIRITUALITY***As Iron Sharpens Iron, So Man Sharpens His Fellow Man***

Come, contemplate and discuss the week's Readings and the Gospel. Hear and share spiritual experiences and challenges that the men of our parish are facing and relate your own personal stories as you feel comfortable doing so.

When/Where: Every other Sunday in the Joachim Center at 8:00 AM

Watch the Bulletin for dates of the meetings.

For more information, please call Smokey White, 630-639-0992.

No Commitments - No Homework - No Additional Burdens

Come Rest in the Lord and Hear the Word of God



Oswego Council #7247 Knights of Columbus
For Information and Hall Rentals: Contact: Jim Boban, 630-554-9813 or
E-mail: kc7247il@yahoo.com
Web Page: www.oswegokc.org
Become a Knight: Contact Leo, 630-554-3755

TOYS TOYS

This year the toys drive is taking place December 1st-7th at Brier Hall. There is still time to donate. Used toys in good condition and new toys are welcome. Thank you for your support.

CHRISTMAS BREAKFAST

Today - December 4th - Brier Hall 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM
Ham, Eggs, Breakfast potato, Toast, Juice, Coffee and Milk
Proceeds benefit Knights of Columbus Charities

COUNCIL EVENTS IN DECEMBER

Council Family Christmas Party - Saturday evening, December 10th - Brier Hall
Council Planning meeting - Thursday evening, December 15th

Please plan to attend both events.

PROLIFE

Thank you to all who attended the "Culture of Life Series" on November 21st and to those Knights and friends who join together on the 4th Saturday of the month at 9:00 AM to pray the Rosary at the Planned Parenthood Center in Aurora.



SAINT ANNE SENIORS —S.A.S.

January 12th, 2012 - SAS meeting 1:30 PM. Meeting and BINGO. Sign up for February Pot Luck Lunch.

Saint Anne Seniors group meets the 2nd Thursday of every month at 1:30 PM in the Joachim Center. Please join us for fun and companionship. All registered parishioners 55 and older are invited to join the Saint Anne Seniors (SAS) group.

Send payment to Doris Wright, treasurer, 630-264-3023.

MARMION ABBEY CHRISTMAS TREE FARM**For your Marmion Grown Christmas Tree!**

Start or continue a family tradition at Marmion Abbey! Hunt out, choose and cut your perfect tree this year from over 120 acres of Marmion grown Christmas Trees. Your purchase helps to support the Monks of Marmion Abbey.

Choose from Scotch Pine, Austrian Pine, Blue and Norway Spruce, White Pine and a Variety of Fir Christmas trees all ranging from 6-9' tall in fields and 12' in pre-cuts! U-cut-\$40. Pre-cut \$6-\$10/foot.

Open through December 23rd

9:00 AM to 7:00 PM

Marmion Abbey Farms

850 Butterfield Road, Aurora

Visit online: www.abbeyfarms.org or call 630-897-6936

**DIOCESE OF JOLIET
CATHOLIC CONSTRUCTION CORP
Mission to the Navajo Reservation**

Ever wanted to go on a mission?

Then, please join us at the St. Charles Pastoral Center in Romeoville at 7:00 PM on either Tuesday, January 17th, 2012 or Thursday, January 26th, 2012 for an information session on the eleventh annual mission to the Navajo Reservation. The trip is planned for June 9-22, 2012. We repair homes for the poor of the Navajo Reservation around Chinle, Arizona as well as other meaningful work that is identified by the people on the reservation.

Although it is helpful to have carpentry, plumbing, painting, electrical and/or general construction skills or experience it is not necessary. Anyone who is willing to learn and assist in a variety of construction tasks should apply. There will be opportunities to meet the people and to learn the local culture during this mission.

For more information Sr. Mary Carr, Missions Coordinator at 815-834-4072 or contact (evenings) either Deacon Tom Goebel (630-782-9577) or Deacon Larry Lissak (630-629-9234).

MISSION STATEMENT

God has called us to be Christian witnesses by the precious gift of our Catholic faith through Baptism. Just as Saint Anne had a role in God's plan so do each of us. We are called to faithfully teach and live the message of Jesus. We listen to God's word, grow in our understanding of it and respond to it through outreach and service in our own parish as well as the wider community. We exercise our responsibility to develop and see the gifts God has given us for the common good and to insure that our Eucharistic celebrations are truly joyful and meaningful.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Baptisms are held the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month 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 six months before the marriage date. A Marriage date cannot be given until the couple has talked with the parish priest.

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.

RCIA (Rite 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.

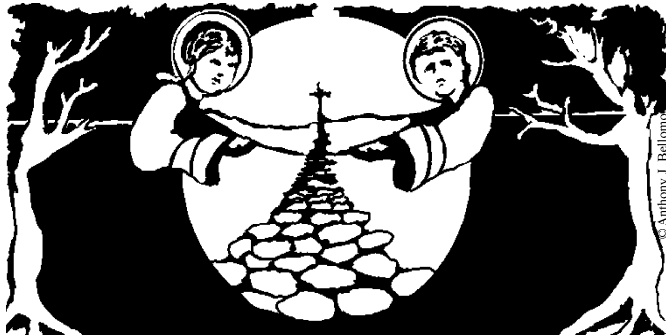
STEWARDSHIP PARISH

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 by calling the parish office during office hours.

Parish Office — 630-554-3331; stanne@stanneparish.org



**Second Sunday of Advent
December 4, 2011**

*Prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight his paths.*

--Mark 1:3