

Founded 1926

First Sunday of Lent

February 18, 2024

We, the parishioners of the Church of Saint Anne, in the Archdiocese of Newark, are a Eucharistic Family dedicated to spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Our Goal is to be a vibrant Catholic Christian Community. We are caring people. Joyfully, we recognize, encourage and accept each person's gifts.

*Spirit of God, enable us to strengthen our community of Faith for Your honor and glory.*

#### SERVED BY:

Rev. Robert Lamirez, *Pastor*  
Rev. Michael Barone, *In Residence*  
Rev. Bill Morris, *Guest Priest*  
Rochie De Sagun, *Pastoral Associate*  
Joseph Fernandez, *Music Director*  
Veronica Kuczynski, *Bookkeeper,*  
*Director of Religious Education*  
Marie Markovich, *Office Volunteer*

#### MINISTRIES:

Altar Servers  
Beautification  
Extra-Ordinary Eucharistic Ministers  
Garwood Knights of Columbus  
Lectors/Readers  
Hospitality  
Hispanic Apostolate Group  
Line Dancing  
Prayer Network  
St. Anne's Rosary Society  
5 Loaves Pantry



# Church of Saint Anne

325 Second Avenue Garwood, New Jersey 07027

Parish Office: 908-789-0280 Fax: 908-691-9547  
Website: [www.stannegarwood.com](http://www.stannegarwood.com) Email: [stannegarwood@gmail.com](mailto:stannegarwood@gmail.com)



#### PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday - Friday  
9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

#### MASS SCHEDULE

Saturdays:  
4:00 PM  
First Saturday of the month  
8:00 AM  
Sundays:  
8:00 AM, 10:00 AM & 12 noon  
Weekdays:  
8:00 AM  
First Friday of the month  
8:30 pm (Charismatic Mass)

#### ADORATION & ROSARY

First Wednesday of each month  
7:00 PM  
First Friday after 8 AM mass  
First Saturday after 8 am mass

#### RELIGIOUS ED & SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Family Based Religious Education classes are held two Sundays a month at 10 AM

#### RECONCILIATION & SIMPLE ADORATION

Saturdays: 2:30 PM

#### BAPTISM

Baptisms are scheduled every 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month at 1:30 pm. Send an email to the parish office for the requirements and to register for the Baptism Preparation Class.

#### MARRIAGE

Couples are encouraged to contact the parish office to begin the Marriage Preparation Program. Arrangements must be made with the Pastor to ensure there is adequate preparation time for the sacrament.

#### HOLY ORDERS \* RELIGIOUS LIFE

Those who recognize the call to Religious life, the Priesthood or the order of Deacon are invited to contact the Pastor

	<b>Saturday February 17</b>
4:00 PM	+Spata/Spina Family
	<b>Sunday February 18</b>
8:00 AM	+Geraldine Billerman
10:00 AM	+James Donnelly
12:00 Noon	Betty Bilotta <i>(Birthday Thanksgiving)</i>
	<b>Monday February 19</b>
8:00 AM	+Helen Augustine <i>(Anniversary)</i>
	<b>Tuesday February 20</b>
8:00 AM	+Grace Pecelli
	<b>Wednesday February 21</b>
8:00 AM	+Tadeusz Golka
	<b>Thursday February 22</b>
8:00 AM	+Maria Lequizamon
	<b>Friday February 23</b>
8:00 AM	+Maria Narcisa Drummond
	<b>Saturday February 24</b>
4:00 PM	+Davide Giannoble
	<b>Sunday February 25</b>
8:00 AM	+Georgina Martinez
10:00 AM	+Mildred Schweitzer
12:00 Noon	+ Jack Quinn

## Lent is the season of fasting and abstinence... Here's the difference



**What is FASTING vs ABSTINENCE**  
Catholics@Work

<p>One full meal per day and two smaller meals if added together would not exceed one full meal.</p> <p><b>WHEN</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Ash Wednesday</li> <li>✓ Good Friday</li> </ul> <p><b>WHO ARE REQUIRED</b></p> <p><b>18-59</b> years old</p>	<p>Refraining from eating meat. Fish, seafoods, egg, and milk are allowed.</p> <p><b>WHEN</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Ash Wednesday</li> <li>✓ Good Friday and All Fridays of Lent</li> </ul> <p><b>WHO ARE REQUIRED</b></p> <p><b>14</b> years old and above</p>
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Last Wednesday we began the Penitential Season of Lent with the observance of Ash Wednesday (which happened to be also Valentine's day).

This forty day journey should remind us of the graciousness and mercy of our God, and His transformative power, because "he is slow to anger, rich in kindness, and relenting in punishment." (Joel 2:13)

The "ashes" we received on our foreheads was a reminder that we are from dust and to dust we shall return. Our lives are nothing without God. Away from Him, we have no life.

Every year, we are summoned to return to the Lord. To show our sincerity of repentance, we are asked to do penance, to live out the Gospel and to do these three traditional practices - fasting, praying and alms giving.

This reminded me of an experience during my early years here in the United States. CCD students eagerly handed me their "Rice Bowl" boxes. Since it was my first time to hear about the "Rice Bowl" boxes, I really thought the boxes indeed contained grains of rice. Instead, I heard coins clanging inside.

Then the kids shared their personal stories about how they got their boxes filled and how they felt in the process. Because of their ages, getting the boxes filled with pocket change is not an easy task. All of them had to save a quarter (a nice portion of their spending money) every day. Each had to "give up" something just to reach their goal.

The more coins they put in, the heavier the box got and the happier they felt. They realized the value of sacrificing something for a greater cause --- and that is to help feed children like them who barely have anything and are starving every day.

That day, I witnessed how the children were changed for the better by their own experience. I can also tell you that because their sharing, I came out of that classroom a changed person.

This Lent, there are many "little sacrifices" we can do that are very helpful to our souls. As we journey towards heaven, let us remember that the way of the cross does not end in despair, but in the promise of a new life. Let us then open ourselves to the transformative grace of God in our lives.

What will you give up this Lent?

*Fr. Robert*

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**PARISH WEEKLY OFFERING**

February 11, 2024

Weekend in-pew..... \$3,815  
Maintenance..... 148

Total Offering .....\$3,963  
**Weekly ordinary Expenses .....\$7,224**  
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## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION UPDATE

Family Based Religious Ed (FBRE) Schedule:

- February 4 - Family Religious Ed (10 am -12 noon)
- February 11 - 7th Grade, First Communion and Confirmation Candidates (10 am- 12 noon)  
- Reconciliation Practice
- February 16 - Family Fun Night (6:30 pm - 8 pm)
- February 22 - First Reconciliation (6 pm)
- February 25 - Grades 1,3,4, 5 & 6 (10 am - 12 noon)

**The Hispanic Apostolate group here at St. Anne's would like to invite you to attend the mass in Spanish next Sunday, February 25th at 6:00 pm.**

## LENTEN & EASTER COURSE WITH BRO. BILL

The 6-session course, "The Passion Narratives" and the Resurrection will be at 7 pm in the Bethlehem room. There will be a \$20 fee for materials (books). Sign up forms are available at the back of the church or at the parish office. Please register and remit payment as soon as possible so that the books can arrive in a timely manner.

Lenten Course schedule: Feb. 27, March 5, 12 and 19

Easter Course schedule: April 9 and April 16

## THE ROSARY SOCIETY UPDATES

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the St. Patrick's Day Dinner will NOT take place this year.

Executive Board Meeting will be on Feb. 26th at the Bethlehem Room.

*The Saint Helen's Cornerstone Team in Westfield would like to invite parishioners to attend a*

*Spiritual Gathering for Women on Feb. 23-24*

*Spiritual Gathering for Men on March 8-9*

*For more information or to register, go to [www.sthelen.org/ministries/cornerstone](http://www.sthelen.org/ministries/cornerstone)*

## The Church of St. Anne needs you!

Did you know that you can always share your time, talents and skills here at St. Anne's?

Aside from the food pantry, we welcome crocheters to make baby blankets or prayer shawls, catechists, experienced handyman, gardeners, event organizers, office receptionists, decorators for the church and so much more. Just send us an email and let us know your availability.

## PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL CORNER



Tom Karmol, born and raised in Brooklyn, NY, moved to Cranford in 1977 and has been a parishioner of St. Anne's since 1978.

In addition to being member of the Pastoral Council, Tom serves in the Finance Council and the Centennial Committee as well.

He is a member of the Garwood Knights of Columbus where he serves as a trustee.

In the 46 years as a parishioner, Tom has served as a Catechist (when his wife Jacqueline was Director of Religious Education at St. Anne), lector and Eucharistic Minister.

Tom holds a BS degree in Systems Engineering from the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn and an MBA from St. John's University. He is retired after working 35 years in the telecommunications arena in various management positions. Tom claims that his job right now is to do what he can to help Fr. Robert be successful as our pastor.

*Next weekend, Feb.24-25 is the monthly collection for the 5 Loaves Pantry.*

*You can leave your non perishable food donations in the bin by the St. Anne's statue by the Church entrance or at the parish office.*

*Thank you so much for your generous contribution to this project.*



**Lenten Activities**

**Stations of the Cross on Friday, Feb. 23 at 5 pm**

The next **Baptism Preparation Class** is on March 7, 6pm at the Bethlehem room. Parents who wished to have their child baptized must attend a class before they can schedule a date for baptism.

For more info, please email [office.stannegarwood@gmail.com](mailto:office.stannegarwood@gmail.com)



Check our official Facebook Page for updates  
Church of St. Anne Garwood, New Jersey





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