

Saint Ann Church

481 Brewster Street Bridgeport, CT 06605
Phone (203) 368-1607 Fax (203) 336-4233

Admin@StAnnBlackRock.com www.StAnnBlackRock.com

MISSION STATEMENT OF THE PARISH OF ST. ANN

We, the parishioners of St. Ann Church of Black Rock, Bridgeport, are called by God through the Holy Spirit and our Savior Jesus Christ, to praise, love and worship God through the celebration of the Sacraments and especially the Eucharist. Under the patronage of our beloved St. Ann, Mother of Mary and Grandmother of Jesus, we hope with deep humility to be a loving, caring, giving and forgiving community in the service of all whom we touch in our daily lives. Guided by the teaching of Our Lord found in the Good News and in the traditions of the Church, we strive to be a Beacon of Faith, Hope & Love, and a Harbor of Peace.

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday-Saturday: 8:00 AM
Sunday Vigil Mass: 4:00 PM
Sunday: 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:00 AM
Holy Day Vigil: 4:00 PM
Holy Day Schedule: 8:00 AM & 7:00 PM

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday, 3:00-3:45 PM
15 minutes prior to all daily & Sunday Masses,
and/or by appointment.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Please join us for Eucharistic Adoration on the first Friday of each month from 8:30 AM until 5:00 PM.

MARRIAGES

Arrangements should be made at least one year in advance. A Diocesan Marriage Preparation Course is required. Please call the Parish Office to make an appointment.

BAPTISMS

By appointment. 1st time parents must attend our pre-baptismal program. Call the Parish Office to schedule.

FAITH FORMATION

To register for Faith Formation classes, please contact our Coordinator of Religious Education, Ms. Martindale.

HOSPITALIZED AND HOME BOUND

The priests of St. Ann Church are happy to visit any parishioner who is in the hospital or who is confined to home. Please call the Parish Office to make arrangements.

PRAYER TRADITION AFTER MASS: *It has been a long-standing tradition of St. Ann Parish to kneel after the closing hymn (before leaving the church) and to offer three Hail Marys: one Hail Mary is said for yourself; one Hail Mary is said for the person present in the church who is most in need; and one Hail Mary is said for the parishioner most in need. May God bless us as we continue to pray for one another.*

PARISH STAFF

Phone 368-1607

Rev. Peter J. Towsley, Pastor ext. 102
Mrs. Theresa Tillinger, Principal 334-5856
Ms. Regina Martindale, CRE ext. 101
Ruth Anne Parker, Music Director
Mark Tillinger, Finance Council Chairperson
Maureen Pelletier & Jim Brewster, Lay Trustees

PARISH HOURS

The Parish Offices are open Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Parish Offices are closed on Holy Days and Civic Holidays.

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Old Navy Youth Group: Sunday 6:00 PM
Senior Meeting: Monday, 12:00 PM (Convent)
Men's Group Monday, 7:30 PM
Bible Study Tuesday, 10:00 AM and 7:00 PM
Cub Scouts: Wednesday, 6:00 PM
Boy Scouts: Wednesday, 7:30 PM
Public School Religious Ed.: Wednesday, 4:30 PM
Men's Bible Study: Saturday, 6:30 AM

PARISH CALENDAR

Visit us at www.StAnnBlackRock.com for more information on events and activities in our parish.

PARISH RENTAL

Our parish center and gymnasium are available for rental. Call the Parish Center for more information.

FOOD FOR THE NEEDY

Many families benefit from your generosity to the Food Pantry. Our contributions of non-perishable foods, are brought to both St. Stephen's Food Pantry and Black Rock Food Pantry. Please bring your donations to the vestibule of the Church each week.



Fr. Timothy Kennedy tells a wonderful true story that is perfect for Ash Wednesday. It was told to him by a colleague, Fr. Chris Mietlowski. It concerned a baptism that Mietlowski once performed on an infant named Eric. Mietlowski took Eric in his arms and traced the cross of Christ on Eric's forehead using a special anointing oil.

Following mass, Eric's family celebrated with a big backyard party. Family and friends ate burgers and chips and played volleyball under a summer sun. Eric, being only six months old, was left to nap in his backyard stroller. When Mom got him up, whoops! Basted on Eric's forehead was the image of the cross. Mom had forgotten to wash Eric's face following his baptism, and the oil that the pastor had traced onto his forehead acted the opposite of a sun screen. The Cross of Christ was imprinted on Eric's forehead. "For several weeks until it completely disappeared," says Fr. Kennedy, "that cross was a wonderful reminder as to the meaning of Baptism and a reminder that the Cross of Jesus was 'written' upon Eric's forehead."

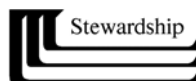
If I read the little book of Joel right, God's desire is not that we wear a cross on our forehead, but that it be basted on our hearts. "Rend your heart and not your garments," says Joel 2:23. That's much harder to do, isn't it? It's much easier to rend your clothes than to rend your heart. It's much easier to wear a cross around your neck than it is to bear it daily in everything you do.

A large cross on your chest does not make you a follower of Jesus Christ. It's much easier to wear your piety outwardly than it is to love God and love your neighbor in the privacy of your own heart. In fact, some people substitute the outward show for the inner devotion. No wonder Jesus counseled, "And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by men. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full . . ."

And so, we entered this 40 days of Lent with caution. This is not 40 days for a sham kind of religion. It is 40 days for focusing on the meaning of our lives in the light of the cross of Jesus Christ, 40 days for basting the cross on our hearts, even as we had it placed on our foreheads. Someone gave His life on our behalf!

Questions? Email AskFather@StAnnBlackRock.com

OFFERTORY

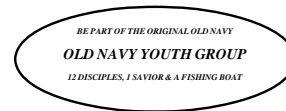


Regular Weekly Offertory 02/21/10	\$	4,384.00
LAST YEAR	\$	5,707.00
2 nd Collection – Fuel	\$	653.00
LAST YEAR	\$	383.00

Thank you for your continued generosity. Please consider remembering the parish and school in your will.

CHILDREN/YOUTH MINISTRIES

High School Ministry



Old Navy High School Youth Group **will meet on Sunday, February 28.**

Convivio High School Congress

Convivio Congress for high school students will be held at Sacred Heart University March 12, 13, and 14. For more information visit, www.convivio.org/connecticut.

Faith Formation

Weekly Faith Formation Classes for Public School students



Wednesdays, at 4:30 p.m.
March Reconciliation Classes:
March 6 & 13 at 9:00 a.m.

Children's Liturgy



Upcoming Dates (all are at 9:30 a.m.):

Sunday, March 14

Bits & Bytes for Youth

Is it possible to meet God in the tangled maze of cyberspace? To this question a Vatican spokesman answers: Yes, of course, but it also depends on us. Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, director of the Vatican press office, reflected on the conditions for evangelization on the Web during the most recent edition of Vatican Television's "Octava Dies."

The Jesuit priest based his remarks on Benedict XVI's message for the 44th World Communications Day. The message was released Jan. 24, though the day will be celebrated in May. In his message the Pontiff affirms that "God's loving care for all people in Christ must be expressed even in the digital world not simply as an artifact from the past, or a learned theory, but as something concrete, present and engaging." Father Lombardi characterized the Holy Father's message as "clear and encouraging." But he offered a word of caution: "The believer who ventures with enthusiasm and with courage into the world of social communications -- boiling over every day with extraordinary technological novelties, from the iPod to the iPhone to the iPad -- must know well the goal that guides him so that he is not taken captive by fascination for the means and thus loses his way."

"And the goal," the spokesman recalled, "is encountering God, who is the ultimate meaning of the relationships of dialogue, friendship and sharing that the Web makes possible today." "The traps that fill the pathways of cyberspace are countless," Father Lombardi acknowledged, "from superficiality to falsehood to perversion. But there are also many users who seek friendship, truth and goodness."

ADULT MINISTRIES**Men's Ministry**

THAT MAN IS YOU – Will NOT meet on March 1.
BOOK OF REVELATION – Saturdays at 6:30 a.m.

Adult Bible Study

Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. beginning Feb. 16.
 We will meet on 2/16, 2/23, 3/2, 3/9, 3/16, 3/30, 4/6, 4/13,
 4/20, and 4/27.

PARISH NEWS**Save the Date!**

Save some time on June 5 and June 6 for the school's Vines and Vignettes event. More details will be coming. In the meantime, visit the website, www.vinesandvignettes.com.

For Your Information-Parish Committee Meetings

Parish Finance Council meets on March 1 at 7:00 p.m.
 Vision Committee meets on March 2 at 7:00 p.m.
 Parish Council meets on March 18 at 7:00 p.m.
 Liturgy Committee meets on March 23 at 5:30 p.m.
 All interested parishioners are invited to attend Finance Council, Liturgy Committee, Children's Liturgy Committee, Parish Council, and Vision Committee meetings. They are all open forums. Meeting dates and times are published in the calendar section of the bulletin and on our website.

Weekly Lenten Activities**Confession**

Tuesdays, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
 Saturdays, from 3:00 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.
 15 minutes prior to each Mass

Stations of the Cross

Fridays at 1:15 p.m. (with the school) and 7:00 p.m.

Weekly Food Donations for the Black Rock Food Pantry

2/27 & 2/28: 16.3 oz jar peanut butter or
 16 oz jar of jelly
 3/6 & 3/7: 1 box of dry cereal or
 1 box of instant hot cereal

Eucharistic Adoration

On the first Friday of each month, we are blessed to host Eucharistic Adoration here in our church from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. All are welcome to come sit in the quiet and pray, read, meditate, or just spend time communing with Our Lord. Benediction follows at 5:00 p.m. Sign-up sheets for Friday, March 5 are in the church vestibule. Please consider spending an hour in the presence of Our Lord

**SPOTLIGHT ON SAINT ANN**

"The parish goal was achieved with the dedication of St. Ann's Church on Sunday, April 20, 1952, with the Most Reverend Henry J. O'Brien, Bishop of Hartford, presiding. Erected under the direction of Rev. Walter J. McCarthy, 'The new St. Ann's embodies the hopes of the parishioners for many years. It expresses the ideals of the spiritual leaders who constructed it.'" (Commemorative Book 1952)

Please submit your memories about St. Ann's

AROUND THE DIOCESE**Lenten Confession Campaign**

The Gospel reminds us to have conversations in prayer to God. Conversing with God in prayer changes us. It widens our vision and with God's grace it often makes us experience the transcendent. Jesus wants his disciples to be people of prayer. Prayer is something we must do regularly to find out its meaning. Only by listening will we hear God's voice. A good form of prayer is an examination of conscience. Take time this Lent to do that and then receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation as part of the Lenten Confession Campaign. Resources are in Church or can be found at www.bridgeportdiocese.com, including Bishop Lori's Pastoral Letter. The website also contains resources on how to make a good confession. Confession is available every Tuesday at every parish from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

High School Junior & Senior Boys

Consider adding St. John Fisher Seminary to your list of college visits. For more info and to schedule your visit, please contact Father Robert Kinnally at 203-416-1513 or e-mail vocations@HearTheCall.org.

Shadow Days at Lauralton Hall

Lauralton invites all 7th grade girls to spend a day as a shadow student between March 8 and April 23. For more info., call the Admissions Office at (203) 877-2786 ext. 144.

Kolbe-Cathedral Entrance Exam

The Kolbe-Cathedral entrance exam is Saturday, March 13 from 8:00 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. The test fee is \$50 payable that morning. To register, call 203-335-2554.

Adult Confirmation

Are you a practicing Catholic over the age of 18 who has not been Confirmed? On Pentecost Sunday, May 23 at 3:30 p.m., the Diocesan celebration of Confirmation for Adults will be celebrated at Saint Augustine Cathedral, Bridgeport. For more info., contact Gina Donnarummo at the Diocesan Office for Pastoral Services at (203) 416-1446.

REFLECTION – YEAR OF THE PRIEST

"Our Lord carried His Cross – surely I can do as He did."

from Thoughts of the Curé D'Ar

St. Ann Parish Prayer Line

Beginning this Sunday evening, our Prayer Line rep. is **Patty Merola @ 333-6169**. Calls are welcome anytime but preferred between 5:00 & 6:00 PM.

Memorial and Building Fund



Mass is said monthly for all members. Contact the Rectory to enroll a loved one.

Seven Day Vigil Candle



This week our candle burns for: Donations can be made at the Rectory **Victims of the Haitian Earthquake**



MARK YOUR CALENDARS



Our parish website always has the most up-to-date meeting information. Visit <http://www.stannblackrock.com/calendar.html>

Day	Date	Time	Event
Sun.	2/28	6:00 p.m.	Youth Group
Mon.	3/1	7:00 p.m.	Finance Council
Tues.	3/2	10:00 a.m.	Bible Study
Tues.	3/2	7:00 p.m.	Vision Committee meeting
Tues.	3/2	7:00 p.m.	Confessions (until 9 p.m.)
Tues.	3/2	7:00 p.m.	Bible Study
Wed.	3/3	4:30 p.m.	Public School Religious Ed.
Fri.	3/5	9 a.m.-5 p.m.	Adoration & Benediction
Fri.	3/5	1:15 p.m.	Stations of the Cross
Fri.	3/5	7:00 p.m.	Stations of the Cross
Sat.	3/6	6:30 a.m.	Men's Bible Study
Sat.	3/6	9:00 a.m.	First Reconciliation Class
Sun.	3/7	6:00 p.m.	Youth Group

Altar Linens Schedule

Feb. 28: Pam Barnum March 7: Ida Hunter

Liturgical Minister Schedule

Date/Time	Lector	Extraord. Minister	Extraord. Minister	Altar Servers
3/6 4:00	Kelly	Bouchard	Raytar	Team 3
3/7 8:00	DeVita	McCaffrey	Ross	Team 4
3/7 9:30	McGann	Pinheiro	Quiles	Team 5
3/7 11:00	Sachs	Duffy	Simpson	Team 6

Note: This is the original schedule. If you have swapped with someone else, the office would not be aware of the change



- SAT. FEB. 27 VIGIL, 2nd SUNDAY OF LENT**
4:00 PM Deanna Kelly by Bob Kelly
- SUN. FEB. 28 SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**
8:00 AM Angelo Manzo by Jacqueline Piccirillo
9:30 AM Dan & Margaret McCarthy by Family
11:00 AM Walter Sych by Anna Gurrieri
- MON. MAR. 1 LENTEN WEEKDAY**
8:00 AM Judith McCormick by Bob & Justine Markham
- TUE. MAR. 2 LENTEN WEEKDAY**
8:00 AM Vocations
- WED. MAR. 3 SAINT KATHARINE DREXEL**
8:00 AM Patricia Poirier by Theresa Bouchard
- THU. MAR. 4 SAINT CASIMIR**
8:00 AM Deceased members of the Turley & Martindale Families
- FRI. MAR. 5 LENTEN WEEKDAY**
8:00 AM Students in Sacramental Prep. Program
- SAT. MAR. 6 LENTEN WEEKDAY**
8:00 AM St. Ann Parishioners, Living & Deceased
- SAT. MAR. 6 VIGIL, 3rd SUNDAY OF LENT**
4:00 PM Carl C. Raytar by Family
- SUN. MAR. 7 THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT**
8:00 AM St. Ann Parishioners, Living & Deceased
9:30 AM Barbara Crisanti by McCarthy Family
11:00 AM Walter Sych by MaryAnn Sych



Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my chosen Son; listen to him." After the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. They fell silent and did not at that time tell anyone what they had seen. - Lk 9:35-36

Readings for the Week of February 28, 2010

- Sunday: Gn 15:5-12, 17-18/Phil 3:17---4:1 or 3:20---4:1/Lk 9:28b-36
- Monday: Dn 9:4b-10/Lk 6:36-38
- Tuesday: Is 1:10, 16-20/Mt 23:1-12
- Wednesday: Jer 18:18-20/Mt 20:17-28
- Thursday: Jer 17:5-10/Lk 16:19-31
- Friday: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
- Saturday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
- Next Sunday: Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15/1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12/Lk 13:1-9