



Celebrating
65
Years
| 1953-2018 |



May 2018



Mass+ “The Sunday Experience”

In a recent online article, Cardinal Timothy Dolan talks about a book entitled *Great Catholic Parishes: How Four Essential Practices Make Them Thrive*. The Cardinal sums up qualities consistent with parishes that are striving to be vibrant.

Share leadership – Pastors leading vibrant parishes realize the value of allocating some leadership responsibilities to competent lay staff members. Shared leadership – practiced in various ways – is the optimal model of leadership in today’s complex parishes.

Focus on fostering spiritual maturity. The spiritual growth of a faith community is a flexible, ongoing dynamic that must be continually reevaluated to nourish the spiritual hunger of the people and to give them a real sense of belonging and commitment to the parish.

Excel on Sundays, which requires careful planning all week long. Thriving parishes welcome all comers warmly, are attuned to the needs of children, provide the best music they can afford, offer compelling homilies, and ensure the physical surroundings are inviting. This requires intentional commitment of staff time and financial resources.

Intentionally evangelize, challenging insiders to look outward and providing pastoral care and service programs that invite outsiders into deeper relationship with Christ.

On Divine Mercy Sunday, it was announced that beginning in August we will be adjusting the Sunday morning Mass schedule to provide opportunities for parishioners, particularly the youth and young families, to get more engaged in the life of the parish. We often hear people say they wish they could be more active, but don’t because of their busy schedules during the week. Some parishes around the country have addressed this challenge by including more activities on Sunday mornings between the Masses. It is our goal to do the same. I hope all would agree that we wish that St. Ann had a strong community, where more parishioners were engaged in the parish. The primary goal is always Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, the source and summit of our Christian life. But it is the Mass that instills in us a desire to better serve God and one another, to grow in holiness, to proclaim the Good News, and to foster community within and outside the parish. To remember that Sunday is more than a single hour.

Therefore, beginning in August we will move to two Masses- 9:00 am and 11:30 am - so to best implement this new engagement process. This allows an hour and 15 minutes

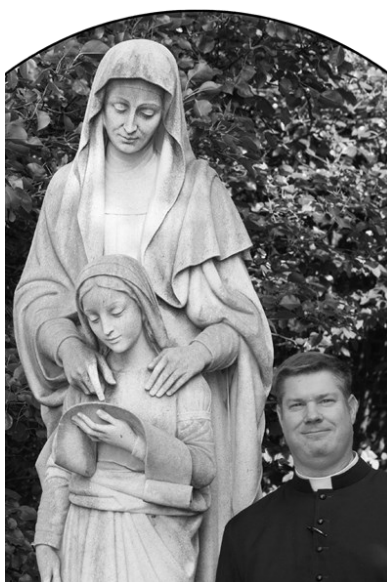
between Mass times, so that more can participate in various activities and events. The hope is that those at the first Mass will stay afterwards and those at the later Mass will come earlier. Such activities might be as simple as breakfast, other weeks it might be participating in a ministry or in faith formation. We plan to offer babysitting during this time to allow parents to be more fully engaged. The exact details are still being worked out and we will be having open forums for parishioner to help formulate and oversee these activities.

We understand that change is not easy and often unwelcomed. Some will not at first be comfortable with changing their Mass time, and a few may decide to leave the parish. This would be unfortunate for several reasons, particularly because we hope everyone would support and take advantages of these opportunities to strengthen their faith. So, if you are struggling or thinking about leaving, I ask you to reconsider and take it to prayer before making a final decision. This decision (resolution?) to move forward was based on the feedback we received from the Parish Surveys, advice from the parish steering committee, and the overwhelming support we received when this was announced at the parish convocation and weekend Masses.

There is still much planning that needs to be done. So, I invite anyone interested in helping to implement this initiative to contact the parish office or your parish council representative. And, like anything new, it will take some time to figure it all out, so we are asking ahead of time for your prayers and patience.

When Pope St. John XXIII implemented the Second Vatican Council he said, “Open the windows of the Church to let in some fresh air”. By this he meant that the Church at times should be open to living out the unchanging truths in new ways. Our Mission and purpose as Catholics will also be the same, but we should at least be open to seeing new ways to carry it out when possible. The “Sunday Experience” is a good example, we are doing what we have always done, coming to Mass on Sundays, but we are seeking a new approach to promote engagement. To be honest, it is really going back to the early Church, and the not too distant decades when the parish was the center of one’s life. By working together and taking a more active role, we can make St. Ann a model that other parishes will want to emulate.

In Christ,
Fr. McCarthy, Pastor

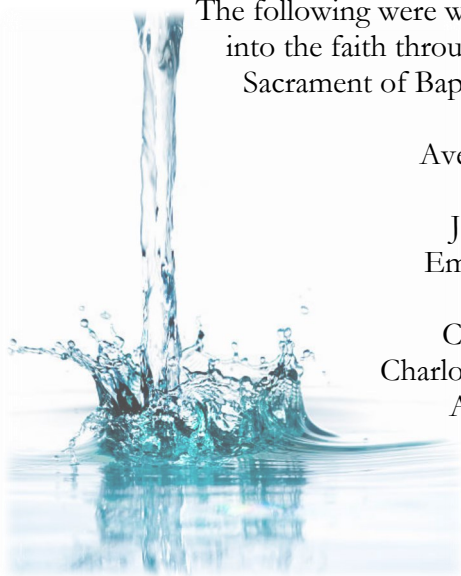


We warmly welcome these families who have recently joined our parish community!

welcome

Jose and Natalia Aguilar Family
Mike & Azelia Mills Family
Monico and Ana Ortiz Family
Robert Scherel
Robert (Bob) Sheley
Betty Simon

The following were welcomed into the faith through the Sacrament of Baptism:



Avery Jeanne Beuerlein
Jaxon Asher Byrd
Josslyn Cynthia Byrd
Emma Nicole Metzner
Ameera Lane Reed
Charles David Schorr
Charlotte Marie Stallworth
Abigail Grace Walter

Please remember in your prayers the families of the following parishioners who recently passed through death:

*Mildred Barhorst
Mary Bruening
Rose Carrara
Bob Dangel
John Metzger
Dorothy Middendorf
Betty Naber
Anita Otten
Helen Steinhauer*

May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace." Amen.



Meet Bryan and Karen Kramer

In this corner

On March 31, 2018 at St. Ann, Karen Kramer entered the One, True, Holy and Apostolic Church. That evening she received the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and First Holy Communion. It was a big night for Karen, and has been a big year overall. In October 2017, she and Bryan Kramer were married by Father McCarthy here at St. Ann as well. This sacrament not only united Karen and Bryan as man and wife, but united seven persons together as family. Karen and Bryan have five beautiful children between them: Justyn 20, Austyn 19, Grace 17, Devyn 17 and Maggie 15.

Bryan entered the Catholic Church here at St. Ann eight years ago, and after a brief lapse returned to Mass in 2014, bringing Karen with him. After attending Mass and marriage preparation classes with Bryan over the last few years, Karen knew she was ready to embrace the Catholic faith. She states that Father McCarthy has had a tremendous influence on their lives and their faith. Karen also credits Father McCarthy for being very helpful to her as she navigated the RCIA process. During the 25 weeks of RCIA classes, she testifies to have learned more about the Christian Faith and Christ than she had during her previous 40 years of life. Karen works as a Family Support Specialist for the Kentucky Department of Community Based Services and Bryan works as sprinkler fitter. They both love what they do.

Karen and Bryan are very thankful to the St. Ann Community for all the love, welcome and support they have received. Make sure to say "Hi" when you see them, and congratulate them on the lives of Faith they have forged for themselves as a part of our family. Also, recognize that these two are a brother and sister in Christ, and that the beacon of light shining forth from our St. Ann Family into the greater community has embraced and changed. They both are examples of people who have entered a way of life that, though not easy, is truly the only way to live, because in the end the only destination worth reaching is the one with God in Heaven for Eternity.

Congratulations to Karen and Bryan, on their marriage and on Karen's entry into full communion with the Church. We are happy that they have chosen to join the universal family of Catholics, as well as our own local family here at St. Ann Parish!





Parish happenings ...

We were blessed to have Fr. Ben Cameron of the Fathers of Mercy join us for our **Parish Mission** February 5-8.



St. Ann's celebration of **Mardi Gras** was a big success and lots of fun for everyone on February 13.



At our **Parents' Night Out** on Feb. 2 and April 6 the children of our parish had a fun night while their parents enjoyed a quiet night out.



Our second graders and their parents had fruitful **1st Reconciliation & 1st Communion Retreats** on February 24 and April 14 to prepare to receive these sacraments.





We celebrated a beautiful, joyful **Easter** at St. Ann this spring which began with the **Easter Vigil Mass** on March 31 where we welcomed five new members of the Church.



Fr. McCarthy finished up his very popular and very educational **Class on Church History** on April 12. Everyone left with more knowledge of the faith and greater fellowship.

A great time was had by all at St. Ann's first **Euchre Tournament** on April 14.



Come and See!



Summer Youth Program



Faith, Friends, Fellowship, & Fun

Totus Tuus (a Latin phrase meaning “totally yours”) was the motto of Pope St. John Paul II. It signifies our desire to give ourselves entirely to Jesus Christ through the hands of our Blessed Mother Mary.

The mission of Totus Tuus is to inspire in young people a true longing for holiness. Seminarians and college students from the Archdiocese of Cincinnati carry this mission to every young person and participant of Totus Tuus.

The youth see that these young adults are joyful and on fire with the Catholic faith, which encourages them to strive for the same thing in their lives.



Dates: June 11-15

Location: Trinity Rooms

Grade School Program

Students entering grades 1-6

Monday-Friday 9:00am-2:30pm

Join us for a fun, faith-filled day with games, skits, songs, sacraments, class, lunch, & recess

(Bring a sack Lunch)

Cost: \$15 per child/\$30 family max.

Register by:

Tuesday, May 29 at
www.saintannparish.org

Teen Program

Students entering grades 7-12
(graduated seniors may also attend)

Sunday-Thursday 7:00-9:00pm

Join us for a week of engaging discussions, prayer opportunities, learning, games, and live changing witnesses of how to give yourself totally to God

Cost: FREE

Questions:

Contact:

Danielle Hart

(513) 521-8440

dhart@saintannparish.org



ENGAGEMENT PROCESS A HUGE SUCCESS!

We started back in September with information gathering and interviews. In October, we did in-pew surveys. We formed the Steering Committee, which developed the 7 challenges (below) facing St. Ann from the over 740 responses from the surveys. We then formed the Development Advisory Committee which, through two workshops, addressed the 7 challenges and possible solutions and strategies. A Parish Convocation was held on March 20 where every parishioner was invited to come and address the 7 challenges as we broke out into small groups to solve these challenges.

1. How can St. Ann better engage the young people of our parish and serve as a “gateway for involvement” as they move from adolescence into adulthood? (i.e. ages 15 – 30)
2. How can St. Ann Parish and Our Lady of Grace Catholic School better communicate and collaborate with each other and thereby build a stronger relationship for the future?
3. How can St. Ann continue to reach out and engage the diverse groups of people (i.e. ethnic, age, socio-economic) in our parish and thereby build a stronger faith community for all?
4. How can St. Ann Parish offer more opportunities and at the same time make it easier for young families to become more involved?
5. How can St. Ann Parish continue to build a strong communication system (both internally and externally), with clear messaging and, in so doing, determine the best communication vehicles for the parish?
6. How can St. Ann Parish better focus on service and mission and thereby make a more positive impact on the surrounding community?
7. How can St. Ann Parish best manage change (Sunday Mass Experience, changing Mass times, music, etc.) and continue to grow in our faith?





**We joyfully welcomed five people
into the Church at the
Easter Vigil on March 31st.**

Karen • Alyse • Sofia • Santiago • Gerardo

**Please keep them in your prayers, that the Lord
may continue to work in their lives through
these gifts they have received.**

**And when you see them,
say hi and welcome them!**



First Communion

Saturday, May 5 // 4:00 pm
Sunday, May 6 // 11:30 am

May Crowning

Monday, May 7 // 6:45 pm Mass
First Communion photos and
blessing of items following
May Crowning

*Please have your child wear
their First Communion attire to
May crowning.*

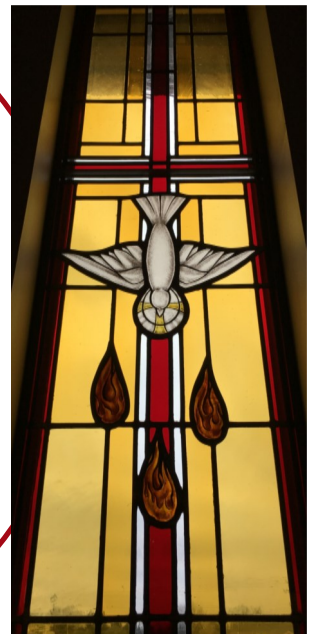
Confirmation

Practice

Monday, May 14
7:15 following 6:45 pm Mass
St. Ann Church

Confirmation

Tuesday, May 15
7:00 pm | arrive 6:15 pm
St. Peter in Chains Cathedral



Sacramental Prep

Please be aware that the preparation for Reconciliation, First Communion, and Confirmation is a two-year process. It is our goal that when your child receives the gift of these sacraments, they are equipped to live a life of faith and appreciate the gift and graces they are receiving; we know that that is your goal as well. This is why we invest two years in the preparation. If you have a child who will be entering 1st or 6th grade, please be sure that they are enrolled in either a Catholic school or our parish religious education so that they will be properly prepared to receive the best gifts they will ever receive: God's grace in the sacraments.

Adult Education

Fr. McCarthy just finished his class, The Birth, Growth, and Development of the Church. This class covered the history of the Church, from its very beginning following Christ's life through Vatican II. The classes were very well-attended, averaging 60 people on each of the 11 evenings.



Watch the website and bulletins for future classes.



May Crowning

Monday, May 7 after the 6:45 p.m. Mass



Why is May the month of Mary?

The Church all over the world celebrates a special devotion to Mary during the month of May; why May? Traditionally, May is celebrated as a month that welcomes in a season of new life and rebirth, and cultures all over the world celebrate motherhood in May. This connection between new life, motherhood, and the month of May naturally led early Christians to honor the Blessed Mother during this time. We also celebrate many Marian feast days in May, which lend the entire month to her honor. These feasts include: May 1, Queen of Heaven; May 13, Our Lady of Fatima; May 24, Mary Help of Christians; and May 31, Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

In 1967 Pope Paul VI wrote, "This is the month in which, in the churches and individual homes, the most affectionate and fervent homage of prayers and devotions from the hearts of Christians are raised to Mary. It is also the month in which from his throne descend upon us the most generous and abundant gifts of the Divine Mercy."

Many families will take time to do a special devotion to Mary during this month. These can include: praying the rosary together, setting up a Marian altar in your home, crowning a statue of Mary in your home, or taking time to learn more about the Blessed Mother as a family.

What is a May Crowning?

Because May is a special month dedicated to our Blessed Mother, many traditions have developed over time to honor her. One of the most prevalent traditions is a May Crowning. This tradition began in the Eastern churches where they would add ornamentation to an icon of Mary in the month of May. Pope Clement VIII borrowed this idea in the late 16th century when he placed two ornate crowns on the Blessed Virgin at St. Mary Major Basilica in Rome. Those two crowns and the tradition were eventually lost, only to be brought back by Pope Gregory XVI in the mid-1800s. **According to the Council of Trent, images are venerated 'not because of a belief that these images themselves possess anything of divinity or power, but because the honor shown them is directed to the prototypes they represent.'** Today, the tradition typically consists of prayers, hymns, and adorning Mary with a crown of flowers and stems of flowers at her feet, a beautiful and fitting honor for the Queen of Heaven.

Remembering our Faith and our Teachings

In Psalms, Chapter 63, King David in the wilderness of Judah prays, "O God, you are my God, it is you I seek! For you my body yearns; for you my soul thirsts... You indeed are my savior, and in the shadow of your wings I shout for joy. My soul clings fast to you; your right hand upholds me."

King David sought solitude and turned to God - just as you can at St. Ann's Eucharistic Exposition. A true mystery of our Church, the Blessed Sacrament is God here on Earth, offering you the same peace, inspiration and motivation King David sought so long ago.

The history of our faith and our traditions teach us many saints turned to God in appreciation and for His help - teaching us to do the same. We can all use time like that, can't we? We all work hard each day, each week, each year doing the best we can for ourselves and those around us.

We work hard for others because that is what we are taught in our Catholic teachings. Sometimes, we can forget our teachings and believe we are working for a bigger house or nicer car or other possessions.

God knows you though. He wants you to re-connect with Him and your Catholic teachings, remember the meaning of our faith and find the inner strength, true inner strength, to meet our daily challenges.

"Behold I will be with you always even to the end of the world," because "I have loved you with an everlasting love, and constant is My affection for you" (Matthew 28:20).

And all He asks in return is for us to gather as a community, to honor Him through prayer and to ask for His care. Eucharistic Exposition is an affirmation of our faith. Through this vigil of prayer, we give witness to our belief that God is truly dwelling with His people..

How would you spend that hour in prayer? Reflect on the blessings in your life. Read from the literature available to those attending Exposition. Say the rosary thinking about the words you pray to Mary so she will intercede for us. Or, simply gaze upon the monstrance and speak to God.

Join us at Eucharistic Exposition to renew your faith in God's Presence: Thursday 9:00 am to 7:00 pm with Sacrament of Reconciliation 5:30 to 6:00 pm and Benediction at 6:45 pm. Eucharistic Exposition is also Saturday 9:00 am to 10:00 am.





How You Can Stay Connected to Saint Ann and Your Catholic Faith

Saint Ann enables you to stay in touch with your parish, your faith, and all aspects of your life with Mass schedules, daily readings, prayers, sacraments and devotions, youth and adult education, and social activities. We offer many communication options in order to accommodate how you prefer to receive your St. Ann information and provide you with the best resources for you to strengthen and learn about our Catholic faith.

Web Site Visit our newly updated Saint Ann Parish web site at www.saintannparish.org. Find just about everything you need related to the parish. Updates and additions are frequent so be sure to visit often.

Parish App Go to your “Smart Phone’s” app store and download “My Parish App”. On your downloaded app search for “St. Ann Catholic Church” and upload to your phone. OR Text APP to 88202 to download “My Parish App” and search for “St Ann Catholic Church.” Our App provides you with the daily readings and Gospel readings at your fingertips. It also includes information about the parish and related links.

Flock Notes Sign up for your choice of regular email or text reminders, or Flock Notes, by going to www.saintannparish.org and clicking the “Flocknote” icon on the home page. These reminders are of events that are happening in the near future, liturgical events, community events....

Social Media See regular posts of Saint Ann parish life, educational opportunities, events and activities by going to our Facebook page (St. Ann Catholic Church Cincinnati, Santa Ana Iglesias Catholic), Instagram Account (stanncommunitygroesbeck) and Pinterest Page (Saint Ann).

FORMED (*Catholic Netflix*) Provided free, features Catholic videos, audio talks and eBooks. Sign up by going to www.saintannparish.org, click the “FORMED” icon, create your account with our parish code (81f12b). FORMED provides 24/7/365 access to some of the best Catholic media in the world., as well as related materials for every life situation.



2018 ST. ANN GOLF OUTING

As the golf season kicks off, be sure to get with your golf partners and get your foursome ready for the 2018 St. Ann Golf Outing.

JUNE 18, 2018

CLOVERNOOK COUNTRY CLUB

Come join us at one of Cincinnati's premier country clubs!

Registration forms and sponsorship opportunities can be found on our website: www.saintannparish.org or in the Gathering Space at church.

You may also call the parish office (521-8440).

Scramble format with plenty of games and prizes, great lunch after the outing and a special deal from Clovernook CC to come back and play again!

(Special offer guaranteed to first 72 golfers registered.)

Shotgun start is scheduled for 9:00 a.m.

\$10,000 Hole in one contest, putting contest with great prizes, split the pot games!

Clovernook CC has hosted the Cincinnati Metro Tournament and has been a location for US. Open Qualifiers.



The Changing Landscape of Giving

The excitement over the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act was met with a thud by many in the non-profit and charity world who believe in the theory that charitable philanthropy is primarily motivated by the tax code and the marginal value of the dollar that is deductible. However, there is a contrary viewpoint that is more in line with the Catholic value of Stewardship.

A Summary of the U.S. Bishops' Pastoral Letter on Stewardship

"As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace" (1 Pt 4:10).

What identifies a steward? Safeguarding material and human resources and using them responsibly are one answer; so is generous giving of time, talent, and treasure. But being a Christian steward means more. As Christian stewards, we receive God's gifts gratefully, cultivate them responsibly, share them lovingly in justice with others, and return them with increase to the Lord.

The key stewardship points above are cultivating our gifts, sharing our gifts and returning those gifts with increase to the Lord. There is no mention of what we are getting in return.

"A rising tide lifts all boats" is a description of the economic approach to describe the willingness to share our blessings as our overall financial condition is improved. The naysayers want to hang their hats on the tax law reform for 2018, where the increase in the standard deduction will lessen the number of taxpayers who will itemize and thus, they fear, eliminate the incentive to give.

However, between the upturn in the stock market, the bonuses being handed out by companies to their employees, and increased paychecks as a result of the drop in tax rates, the overall feeling of financial wellness is likely to provide motivation to share our financial improvements with favorite charities.

One can't be so naïve as to believe that the value of a tax deduction does not play a role when considering how generous to be when deciding how much to give to charities. But there is belief and trust that as the children of God are given more that they, in turn, will be more willing to share that blessing with those less fortunate or with their church to further the Kingdom of God.



The St. Ann Legacy Society

Your Saint Ann family is practicing its faith, united by the sacraments, inspired by our gatherings and practicing the lessons learned over the years.

What will keep Saint Ann a vibrant parish? Knowing our tasks are not complete. We recognize we must continue to grow and reach out challenging ourselves to assist everyone in understanding the relevancy of our Catholic Faith, advocate for the participation in the sacraments. increase opportunities for devotion and welcome new-comers to a vibrant community with whom to practice and grow in their faith.

Throughout our lives, we plan for the future as best we can hoping to make the most of our time with family and friends. Saint Ann has played a significant role in your family's life. It is your spiritual home, a place for devotion, the sacraments and spiritual growth. Just as you plan to leave something of value to family and friends upon your passing, please consider a legacy gift to your parish as well.

In recognition of your generosity, you will be remembered through the Saint Ann Legacy Society. And, the gift you make available upon your passing will assist generations to come. Different levels of gifts can have different levels of impact and for that reason we characterize them in different ways. As you discern your contribution to the future of Saint Ann, please consider one of the various levels that can be found on the website or in the Gathering Space.





ST. ANN 65TH ANNIVERSARY

Come join us in celebrating 65 years as a parish, from the formation of the parish on June 22, 1953, the first Mass on June 28 at the Groesbeck Community Hall, to today.

Some of the activities to attend will be:

June 16 - A “Founders Dinner” at Lakeridge Hall. Join us for reuniting with old friends, cocktails, dinner, video and much more. Learn more about the “Sunday Experience.” Details available on line at www.saintannparish.org, in upcoming bulletins, in the Gathering Space, and by calling the parish office at 521-8440. We are inviting past religious, pastors, associates and charter members to the dinner. This invitation is open to all parishioners, past and present. RSVPs required.

June 18 - St. Ann Golf Outing (see page 11 for more information)

June 24 - Coffee and Donuts after the 8:00 & 9:45 Masses. Ice Cream Social after the 11:30 Mass.

July 18 - 26 - St. Ann Novena activities. Watch bulletin and website for details.

Fall of 2018 - All school reunion and open house. Get ahold of your St. Ann classmates and join us for a fun evening of food, story telling and an open house to see all that is going on at St. Ann.

Watch for further details in the next newsletter and future communications.



Mark your calendars for upcoming Parish Activities

FIRST COMMUNION WEEKEND

May 5, 2018 at 4:00 pm Mass | May 6, 2018 at 11:30 am Mass (*see page 8*)

LIGHT LUNCHEON & MASS

Monday, May 7, 2018 | Shut-ins and seniors are invited to join Fr. McCarthy for Mass, Rosary, and Anointing of the Sick, followed by lunch in the Trinity Rooms.

MAY CROWNING

Monday, May 7, 2018 following 6:45 pm Mass (*see page 8*)

MOTHER'S DAY FLOWER SALE WEEKEND

Saturday, May 12 & Sunday, May 13 ~ Flowers will be sold after all Masses

CONFIRMATION

Tuesday, May 15 at 7:00 pm ~ St. Peter in Chains Cathedral (*see page 8*)

PARISH STAFF RETREAT

Tuesday, May 22 & Thursday, May 24 ~ Parish Office Closed

MEMORIAL DAY

Monday, May 28 ~ Parish Office Closed

TOTUS TUUS SUMMER CAMP

Monday, June 11– Friday, June 15 ~ Trinity Rooms (*see page 6*)

ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

Monday, June 18 ~ Clovernook Country Club (*see page 11*)



*July
and
August
2018*

The Saint Ann Parish

YARD SALE

Where: St. Ann Parish Parking Lot

**When: Sat July 21st 8am-8p and
Sunday July 22nd**

For more information be sure to visit
www.saintannparish.org or look for information
after mass in the gathering space.

St. Ann Parish Family Picnic

The St. Ann Parish Family Picnic will be held on the Friday, August 3rd.. As in former years, it will be at Stricker's Grove (on Route 128 outside of Ross) from 5:00 to 10:00 p.m. Rides open at 6:00pm. Admission is free as are the rides **including** the big roller coaster!

Don't forget - we will be drawing for our 2018 Daily Raffle \$1000 winner at the end of the evening and the 2019 Daily Raffle tickets will be available for purchase.

Please join us for an evening of fun and fellowship!

Congratulations to Deacon Andrew Hess, who was Ordained to the Order of Deacon on Saturday, April 28, at St. Peter in Chains Cathedral. All St. Ann parishoners are invited to hear Deacon Andrew preach at the 11:30 am Mass on Sunday, May 6, and attend a reception following Mass.



Saint Ann

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Supporting Your Family's Future and Your Family of Faith.

Learn more about the St. Ann Legacy Society and
Planned Giving on the website at saintannparish.org.

*"As each one has received a gift,
use it to serve one another."*

1 Peter 4:10

If you would like to talk to someone, call Tim or Doug
at the parish office at 521-8440.

