

August 2019





## *What a Difference a Year Makes!*

In last year's August newsletter, I wrote about a priest from Zimbabwe coming to St. Ann while he studied at the seminary. I also wrote about my upcoming sabbatical and a new initiative at St. Ann called **Mass +**, as well as improvements to the school and the grounds, and our hope to erect a digital sign and add a Legacy Garden. Now, those things have all been accomplished, and I am pleased to look back and see how far we've come since last August.

Father John has been with us now for close to a year. He has been of significant help to me and has been embraced by St. Ann parishioners. My sabbatical is long over, but I get another one in 10 more years????

On Sunday, August 4, we will be celebrating the one year anniversary of **Mass+**. The school now has air conditioning in the classrooms, as well as the gym, our electronic sign is a reality, and the Legacy Garden has been established and dedicated. In addition, thanks to the generosity of St. Ann parishioners, both living and deceased, we have been able to beautify our church and grounds.



**Mass+** has been greatly supported by our parishioners. At left is a photo from a Eucharistic Miracles talk I gave last December. We have also had parish breakfasts, family activities, such as making Advent wreaths and palm crosses, as well as outside speakers, including Father Tom Wray and representatives from the Archdiocese Central Office.

At right, you can see how school room 4 has been transformed for babysitting during Masses and **Mass+** events. All babysitters are Virtus trained. Another **Mass+** addition is the Hospitality Room, which serves as a second office and houses the St. Ann Store.

After some interesting conversations with Colerain Township, we were given permission to erect an electronic sign in place of our



concrete sign. At left, the sign extends an invitation to all who pass by.

On June 30th we held the Legacy Garden dedication (right). The Garden, to the left of the church doors, honors those who have given extra generously to St. Ann parish.



Lastly (for now), is the church beautification. What can I say?!



The cover of this newsletter highlights the beauty of the sanctuary. If you look closely, you can see the Holy Spirit in the starry sky. At left is the artist painting our sanctuary ceiling, a work in progress. And that is what we are, both as individuals and as a parish - a work in progress.

As I begin my second term as Pastor of St. Ann, I look forward to continuing to offer opportunities for you to grow closer to our Lord. And, as always, I remain dedicated to providing faith formation, education classes, devotions, socials, and, most importantly, the Sacraments.

May the next six years be the best yet!

In Christ, Fr. McCarthy



# Baptism

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

*Brayden Gael Jimenez Aguilon*

*Katie Magaly Aguilon-Agustin*

*Oliver John Bredestegge*

*Diego Alexander Jimenez Cardona*

*Omar Mateo Jimenez Cardona*

*Yhamilla Y. Marroquin Cosigna*

*Hailey Nayeli Miranda Crisostomo*

*Jefferson Oswaldo Jimenez-Jimenez*

*Junior Omar Miranda Mejia*

*Kevin Crisastomo Morales*

*Jaquelin Coronado Paz*

*Kaylen Alonso Valenciano*

**Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,  
and let perpetual light shine upon them.**

*Barbara Block*

*Shirley Booth*

*Marcia Bryant*

*William Moran*

*Ida Nicastro*

*Thomas Riesser*

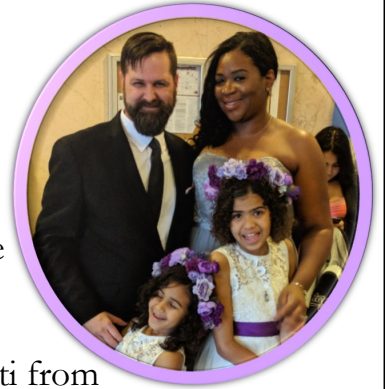
*Brenda Schupp*

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



## **Meet the Novak Family**

The Novaks have been an active, cheerful addition to St. Ann Parish for the past four years. From the moment they relocated to Cincinnati from California, where Richard was a United States Marine, Shyla, Richard, Tiana, and Isla knew they'd found their home church. Shyla was confirmed, and Richard was baptized and confirmed, after they went through R.C.I.A. together in the fall of 2015. The 25 week program taught them much about their faith, raising a family unit focused first and foremost on Christ, and having a marriage where you truly will the good of the spouse. They credit Father McCarthy and their sponsors, Tom and Marty, with helping them grow in their faith, and for their continued guidance during their walk with Christ on the path to being the best versions of themselves.



Richard works as a logistics specialist at the VA Hospital. Shyla works from home as an author and artisan soap maker. You may recognize her as one of the lectors for the 11:30 Mass. Tiana and Isla both attend Our Lady of Grace. At 9, Tiana enjoys reading, science, and history. A sweet soul who loves the Lord, she dreams of becoming an archeologist and a writer one day. Seven-year-old Isla is an energetic child with an infectious smile. She enjoys ballet and is counting down the days until she can receive her First Communion and partake of the Body of Christ with the rest of her family. You may know her as the little one who always hugs Father McCarthy during Communion.

The Novak family thanks the parish for welcoming them with open arms. They look forward to getting to know others even better as they continue to find ways to serve the parish. Be sure to say "hi" when you see them!





## Mass+...

On May 19, we hosted our 1st annual Multicultural Taste of St. Ann. Parishioners with family heritages from 11 countries prepared a dish to share. Over 200 parishioners took part in the event. The food was delicious and décor and traditional native dress made the afternoon a great success. Thanks to all who participated and those who shared their family traditions.



Easter Sunday morning, the children of the parish were surprised to see the Easter bunny left some eggs on the lawn next to the church. Children of all ages were excited to see the colorful eggs and happy to grab a couple after Mass.



A couple of years ago, Andrew Hess came to our parish as a seminarian, eager to learn about the day in - day out roles and responsibilities of the parish priest. He worked side by side with Father McCarthy, and soon afterward he was ordained a deacon. On May 18th, along with his 10 classmates, he was ordained into the priesthood.

On May 26, Father Andrew Hess celebrated Mass at St. Ann.

In celebration of his ordination to the priesthood, we hosted a reception after Mass on May 26th for Father Hess.

Many parishioners filled the gym to offer congratulations and wish Father Hess much success in his new assignment. Father McCarthy and the St. Ann parish presented him with four vestments in the liturgical colors of green, red, purple and, of course, white.





# Mass+... August, September, October

*August 4*

## **Mass+... Season 2 Kick Off**

Blood Pressure Screenings

Babysitting—During Masses only



*August 11*

## **Catechism -Part 1 - The Creed**

Babysitting

Youth Program

Teen Group

Youth Choir Practice

*August 18*

## **Learn to Play Bunco & Euchre**

Babysitting

Baptism Prep 1

Youth program

Youth Choir Practice



*August 25*

## **Discover our GPS**

Babysitting

Baptism Prep 2

Preschool & Youth Program

Teen Group

Youth Choir practice

*September 1*

## **Devotions, Indulgences & Blessings**

Blood pressure screenings

Babysitting

Preschool & Youth Programs

Youth Choir Practice

*September 8*

## **Draw Your Kids Back to Church**

Babysitting

Preschool & Youth Programs

Teen Group

Youth Choir Practice

*September 15*

## **Respect Life Talk**

Blood pressure screenings

Babysitting

Preschool & Youth Program

Youth Choir Practice

*September 22*

## **Speaker: Faith and Reason**

Babysitting

Preschool & Youth Program

Teen Group

Youth Choir Practice

*September 29*

## **Exposition - 40 Hours Weekend**

### **Speaker: Theology of the Body**

Babysitting

Preschool & Youth Program

Youth Choir Practice

*October 6*

## **Parish Breakfast**

Babysitting during Masses only

Blood pressure screenings



*October 13*

## **Catechism - Part 2- Sacraments**

Babysitting

Preschool & Youth Program

Teen Group

Youth Choir Practice

*October 20*

## **GPS Input Session**

Babysitting

Preschool & Youth Program

Youth Choir Practice

*October 27*

## **Mass++ Tailgate Party Bengals vs. Rams**

Babysitting during Masses only

Activity begins after 11:30AM Mass







# Parish happenings ...



Our **Chicken Dinner** was a great success on April 28; everyone enjoyed the tasty meal we've come to expect at this event.

The parish and our religious ed. students honored Mary with a beautiful **May Crowning** on May 6.



We had 19 religious ed. students achieve **Perfect Attendance** this year. They were rewarded with an evening of bowling at Colerain Bowl.



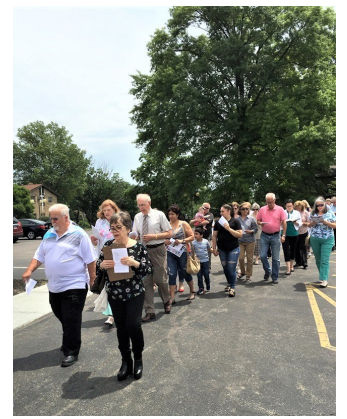
Our Hispanic community celebrated Pentecost with a special **Prayer Meeting** on June 11.



Fr. Jose Luis (pastor) and Paulina (laity coordinator) from Our Lord of Hope visited from Peru this June. They shared the good works that they do with the assistance they receive from St. Ann and signed a new covenant to continue our relationship as sister parishes.







The rain stopped just long enough on June 17 to make our **Golf Outing** a lot of fun and a great success.



We celebrated the feast of **Corpus Christi** on June 23 with a eucharistic procession around the grounds.



On June 30 we celebrated the anniversary of St. Ann Parish with an **Ice Cream Social** and the **Dedication of the new Legacy Garden**.



Much of June was spent working on various projects to **Beautify the Church**.



We had over 65 students participate in a fun and exciting week at our **Totus Tuus Summer Camp** July 14-18.



*Come and See!*

Saint Ann Quarterly







### **First Communion**

Congratulations to the children from our parish who made their First Communion this spring. We had 42 children receive Jesus in the sacrament of the Eucharist on May 4th and 5th.



### **Confirmation**

Congratulations to the parishioners from St. Ann who made their Confirmation this spring. We had 22 people sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit at St. Peter in Chains Cathedral on May 8th.



### **Religious Education**

Religious Education classes will begin on Monday, September 9. We will have registrations in the Gathering Space following all Masses on the weekends of August 17th and 18th and August 24th and 25th.



### **Totus Tuus Summer Camp**

We had a great week with our Totus Tuus summer camp! We had 42 youth participate in the day program and 26 youth participate in the evening teen program. The youth of our parish received a week of fun and formation, learning about the sacraments and the mysteries of the rosary. Thank you to all who participated and prayed for our children this week!



### **Back to School**

Welcome back to school!

Northwest first day: Aug. 15

Our Lady of Grace first day: Aug. 22

Religious Ed. first day: September 9

Lord our God, in your wisdom and love you surround us with the mysteries of the universe. Send your spirit upon these students, teachers, and staff and fill them with your wisdom and blessings. Grant that they may devote themselves to their work and draw ever closer to you, the source of all knowledge. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



### Return

"When I went off to college, I went to Mass for the first couple of months. **Then I just sort of stopped going.** It didn't take long. By the end of my first semester I was totally away." - **Mark**

Does this sound familiar? Do you wish your child or grandchild would **return** to the Church? You need a game plan.

*Sept. 8 10:10 am, Sept. 12, 19, 26, Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24 7:00 p.m. | Trinity Rooms*



### RCIA

We all know someone who asks us about our faith. We all know someone who admires our ability to be positive and have joy and hope in spite of life's trials. We all know someone who desires a closer relationship with Christ. **Invite them to come learn more about Jesus and the Church He founded.**

Monday, August 26 | 7:30 pm



### Mobile Mass+

Do you know someone who lives in a nursing home? Maybe a family member or close friend? Wouldn't it be a blessing to have someone you may know from your parish come to visit your family member or friend or even yourself someday to learn more about your Catholic faith and continue to have a connection with the parish that you have been a part of for years? Join our Mobile Mass+ team! You will have an opportunity to meet new people – learn something about your faith – and share yourself with fellow parishioners and others who desire to grow closer to our Lord and maintain a feeling of belonging with the St Ann community.

Monday, August 12 | 7:30 pm | Trinity Rooms



### St. Ann Hispanic Ministry

This summer has been a very active one for the Hispanic community at St. Ann. In May: our tutors hosted a picnic for the Hispanic children to celebrate the last day of school, a Christian concert took place, and we had the participation of 7 different Latin American nationalities for the Multicultural Taste of St. Ann. In June, the Hispanic community celebrated Pentecost with a prayer meeting where everyone came dressed in red, there was a big celebration to honor the fathers of the community on Fathers' Day, and the "Big Event" which started with the celebration of Holy Mass by Padre Ariel and Fr. Hess, followed by exposition and a reception where Guatemalan tamales were served to everyone; 200 people participated.

For July and August, the celebrations continue! On the 23<sup>rd</sup> of July we celebrated the 6 year Anniversary of the Hispanic Community with Mass celebrated by Father McCarthy followed by a parish dinner.

In August, we will celebrate the marriage of two Hispanic couples on Tuesday August 6<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm. The couples would like to extend an invitation to everyone in the parish.







# 40 Hours

And behold,  
I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS,  
until the end of the age.

Matthew 28:20

5:00 p.m. Friday, September 27 with closing service at 3:00 p.m. Sunday, September 29  
40 Hours sign-ups in early September

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Adoration is essentially an embrace with Jesus in which I say,  
"I am yours, and I ask you, please stay with me always."

Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI





## EUCHARISTIC EXPOSITION ~ REMEMBERING OUR FAITH & 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... is 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 God here on earth, who offers 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 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, "And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age." (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: Thursdays 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.  
(Benediction at 6:45 p.m.) and on 2nd and 4th Saturdays,  
9:00 to 10:00 a.m.



Before you read on, I ask you to ponder two questions: What does sacred music mean to you? Does the music in liturgy bring you closer to God?

I have always had a sort of unique relationship with music. When I was really young, I would attend

Latin Mass with my family on Sundays. The music I heard was sung by the choir in the loft, and I remember the music itself was so wonderful, but the words were in Latin and I was often frustrated. However, by the way they were sung and articulated, it wasn't difficult, even at a young age, to figure out that these pieces were very special and whatever was happening on the altar was extraordinary. The lyrics AND the melodies make sacred music a tool we use to pray to God, our Father. It connects our minds, bodies, and souls to the words of Scripture and helps deepen our prayer life.

In my first year of college, my choir sang a lot of sacred music. These words that came from Scripture were put to a beautifully written melody with lush harmonies. Whomever wrote that particular piece was writing for the Lord! One of my favorite pieces we performed was Mozart's *Requiem*. Mozart wrote that piece just before he died. He actually didn't even get to finish it! But he wrote it to praise God and to be sung at his own funeral. This whole new world of sacred music - it wasn't about me anymore. I was purely the messenger singing His praises with my mind, body, and soul. That is what we are all meant to do- praise God with our entire beings.

Music in the liturgy is meant to enhance the celebration of the Mass. It shouldn't be the most important thing, and it should not distract us from the Passion of our Lord. It should be prayerlike and encourage participation among the congregation. That is what I hope to cultivate at St. Ann. I would like the liturgical music we use to strengthen our prayers to God. Mass shouldn't be about how it makes us feel, but what we can do to give thanks to our Lord. In giving thanks, we are filled with His presence and healing. We come to church to worship and praise God with our minds, bodies, and souls. What is one of the best ways to do that? SING!

-Becky Schoenfeld, Music Director





## What the Catholic Church Needs: Witnesses!

During a recent evening class, Father McCarthy asked everyone what the Church really needed right now to grow and spread the faith – do you think the answers were money, priests, evangelists? No – the answer is “witnesses.” Being a witness to others to testify to the joy and peace of a faith-filled life is the real secret to spreading the Catholic faith. It is through living our lives as faithful followers of our Lord Jesus Christ and drawing closer to Him that we can motivate those around us to seek the same joy!

We tend to shy away from opportunities that present themselves to speak out in defense of our Catholic faith and what it truly means to be Catholic. We’re afraid of confrontation or ridicule from others and not knowing what to say in response (apologetics).

In this day and age, people listen more willingly to witnesses than to teachers, and if they do listen to teachers, it is because they speak more like witnesses. It is therefore primarily by the way we conduct our lives that we will evangelize the world; in other words, by being a living witness of fidelity to the Lord Jesus - a witness of poverty and detachment from worldly things, and even of freedom in the face of the negative powers in this world.

So don’t get down on yourself when you wonder how you can possibly make a difference when asked to “evangelize” – just be a faithful, practicing Catholic and express the joy that your faith brings to your life and the peace of mind and heart that is available to others when they open themselves up to the heart of Jesus!

This nugget of spirituality, and many others, can be yours when you join us for an evening of education with Fr. McCarthy. Please watch the bulletin and website for future scheduled events.



# 1st. Annual St. Ann Car, Truck and Craft Show

## Saturday, Sept. 7

### 9am - 2pm



## Cars & Trucks from 1920 - 1980

### Show Information:

- **Registration: 9am - noon, awards at 2pm**
- **\$15 Entry fee**
- **Dash Plaques to first 50**
- **Split the Pot**
- **Free Admission for Spectators**
- **Family Friendly - kids activities**
- **Concessions and indoor facilities**

**For information or pre-registration for  
the car show or craft show contact  
Cindy or Tim at 521-8440 or at  
[info@saintannparish.org](mailto:info@saintannparish.org)**

**Shop inside our air conditioned facility  
at the Craft Show  
Vendors wanted!**







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# GENEROSITY PRAYER SERVICE

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“Prayer is at the center of everything.”

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**Generosity** — the giving of our time, talents and treasure. We, as good Stewards of our God given gifts, are called to share all that we have with each other and live life with an attitude of gratitude.

**Prayer** — the center of all we do. A talent we all possess.

*“My secret is simple, I pray.” - St. Teresa of Calcutta*

**Service** — to the Lord and others as we are commissioned and commanded to do.

Anyone who has been at Mass at St. Ann in the last month knows a lot has changed in church. For those who have not or cannot make it, you might have seen pictures via the website, bulletin, Flocknote or Facebook, but you really cannot feel the new atmosphere during the Mass. These beautiful, prayerful enhancements add to the Mass experience in growing closer to our Lord and Savior.

It is through the **Generosity** of several active, current parishioners and the gifts left by parishioners who thought of St. Ann through their Legacy gift that enabled us to complete these projects. As we have mentioned in previous articles and communications, this completes the vision of what the church should or could be from our engagement process back in the early 2000's. Fr. McCarthy has led this effort with the strong backing and input from you.

The goal back then was to “Make church feel more like church.” Now, as you walk in from the

Gathering Space into the body of church, you feel the presence of our Lord immediately. We have always talked about making the building a more prayerful environment, and we have been able to achieve that goal.

Thanks to your **Prayers**, input and support, it is safe to say that a vision that was put forth nearly 20 years ago has been accomplished. One parishioner commented on the beauty and changes, “*You can't help but feel His presence as soon as you sit down.*” We hope everyone feels that way.

In the coming months, you will be hearing about our next **Service** project for our parishioners and community. We are currently forming our “Neighborhood Networks.” We are looking to form small groups within our neighborhoods for support of each other in many ways. Some of them are for assisting homebound folks to Mass, fellowship, small group studies and socials.

Watch for more information and if interested, contact Tim Clifford at 521-8440.





## St. Vincent de Paul 2019 2nd Quarter Report (April, May, June)

*"The vocation of the Society's members, who are called Vincentians, is to follow Christ through Service to those in need and to bear witness to His compassionate and liberating love. Members show their commitment through person-to-person contact. Vincentians serve in hope."*

*Rule of the Society*

The generosity of the Parish of St Ann allowed the local SVDP Conference to help 101 families by providing 123 bags of food. Additionally, we assisted our neighbors with utilities and rent totaling \$9,233 during this period.

You can join in these good works by continuing to give your treasure (food goods and money) and you can join the Conference to visit the neighbor in distress. We need persons to pick up food from stores, deliver food, visit a home, take telephone calls and be a neighbor. Please contact Stephen Lang, 513.481.8575,

should you be interested in more understanding of the Vincentian mission.

**"...TO SERVE THE POOR  
IS TO GO TO GOD..."**  
St. Vincent de Paul



**Men – A call to the annual  
*Christ Renews His Parish* retreat!**

**November 16th & 17th**

Do you ever feel alone in your spiritual journey? Are you even experiencing a spiritual journey to Christ? Christ Renews His Parish is a fellowship of parishioners (separate groups for men and women) that can help enhance your spiritual life.

Men and women establish and react to relationships in different ways. For men, just the word "relationship" can create a barrier. Christ Renews His Parish (CRHP) for men provides a confidential environment for men to share their concerns. During the annual *retreat weekend*, some past participants give witness to their own spiritual journeys. Often, new participants will internalize what they hear and use it to renew or sharpen their own spiritual journey toward Christ. From this, men will often see hope for themselves and seek additional enrichment.

Knowing and better loving Christ is the opportunity and challenge at hand. Join us at the annual retreat given by men of the parish. The retreat will be on November 16 & 17, Saturday 8:00 a.m. through Sunday 1:00 p.m.

For more information or to register, call Ron DeNamur at 513-746-0213  
or call the parish office at 513-521-8440.



## August



### St. Ann Parish Family Picnic

Friday, August 2 | Stricker's Grove | 5:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

### Archdiocese of Cincinnati Golden Anniversary Mass

Saturday, August 3 | St. Peter in Chains Cathedral | 4:30 p.m. | Bishop Binzer

### **Mass+** Season 2 Weekend | Saturday, August 3 & Sunday, August 4

### Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary ~ Thursday, August 15

Wednesday, August 14 | Vigil Mass at 4:00 p.m.

Thursday, August 15 | Holy Day Masses at 8:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Mobile **Mass+** Information Session | Monday, August 12 | See page 9.

Baptism Classes | Sunday, August 18 & 25 | Call parish office to register.

## September

Labor Day | Monday, September 2 | 8:30 a.m. Mass | No Confessions

### Car and Craft Show | Saturday, September 7

Rain Date: Saturday, September 21



Bunco, Ladies Night Out | Saturday, September 14 | 7:00 p.m.

40 Hours | September 27-29 | See page 10.



## October

Parish Convocation | Wednesday, October 2 | 7:00 p.m.

LIGHT Luncheon | Monday, October 7 | 10:00 a.m. | Trinity Rooms

Euchre Tournament | Saturday, October 19 | 7:00 p.m.

Respect Life White Cross Display | October 26 | St. Ann front lawn

### All Saints Day ~ Friday, November 1

Thursday, October 31 | Vigil Mass at 4:00 p.m.

Friday, November 1 | Holy Day Masses at 8:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.





# *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](http://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.

