

Welcome Home!

St. Ann Parish Newsletter

Praying. Loving God. Serving Neighbors.

January 2021

Vol. 2 Issue 1



Saint Ann Catholic Church

113 South Kemp Street, Florence, SC 29506
843.661.5012 Office Hours: M-F 8:00-4:00 PM
<https://stanncatholicparish.com/>

MASS SCHEDULES

WEEKENDS

5:00 PM SATURDAY
8:30 AM SUNDAY
10:00 AM SUNDAY
12:00 PM SUNDAY
(FILIPINO/TAGALOG)
4TH SUNDAY / MONTH

WEEKDAYS

12:00 PM TUES.–FRI.

The New Year Begins!

Praying. Loving God. Serving Neighbors.

As the New Year begins, there are obviously mixed feelings within us. There is joy that we begin a new page in our life's chapter. Likewise, there is also the continuous anxiety as to how this new year will unfold especially, we are not yet sure about the Covid 19.

Experience has shown that the journey has lots of curves and unexpected turns. But we can be assured that as in the past year, there is the loving Father who loves us and provides for us.

As we celebrate the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, our faith is set on firmer ground. Mary was like anyone of us, but God saw in her fitting traits to become the Mother of His Son. She was not spared from the trials and challenges of life. But it was her trusting faith and love of God that made her victorious over them.

As your pastor, my prayers this year 2021 that this community, St. Ann, makes God the center of our lives and let us make this New Year a different experience for all of us. Instead of fearing the Covid 19, power, fame, popularity, gossip, etc., let us spend a moment of prayerful silence. And make sure that the very first minute of the year is a time spent together with the Lord. That is how our whole year should be.

I am proud and happy to announce to you all that one of our friends, David Kahn, will receive his Diaconal Ordination this coming February 6, 2021. Please continue to pray for his new journey as a Deacon. Congratulations Deacon David Kahn and your family. Details about his ordination will follow.

May this new year help us to become closer to Mary, our Mother, as she leads us to her Son and to the Father. We can then be assured of being truly one in God's family.

Happy New Year!

Fr. Noel

Where to Find St. Ann Parish Online...

St. Ann Parish Website

www.stanncatholicparish.com/

St. Ann Facebook Page

www.facebook.com/StAnnFlorence

To Watch Sunday Mass Livestream

www.facebook.com/StAnnFlorence/live

To Watch Sunday Mass on YouTube

www.youtube.com/channel/UCYrMK-sE9ApU6kOGvHwgPOg

DeColores: Cancellation of Men's & Women's Weekends Due to Covid

by Sue Cox

Our Cursillo Secretariat has decided to cancel the previously scheduled Men's (scheduled in March 2021) and Women's (scheduled in April 2021) weekends due to the Covid19 virus.

Our next weekends will be in August 2021 for the Men and in September 2021 for the Women. After discussing the necessary COVID-19 weekend protocol requirements/restrictions including a 14-Day pre-weekend quarantine, limitation on numbers of candidates and team members, cleaning, food preparation, temperature checks, etc...the team and candidate experience...not to mention limited opportunities for post weekend group reunion and Ultreya, it was decided to wait until we return to some semblance of normalcy before we have our next Cursillo weekends.

So assuming a vaccine distribution this winter/spring, we plan to resume our Cursillo weekends in the Summer/Fall. Confirmed dates at Our Lady of the Hills in Columbia are as follows: August 26-29, 2021 for Men's # 75, and September 23-26, 2021 for Women's # 75.

In the meantime, stay safe, pray for the future of our Movement, work to get back to Grouping and Ultreya and "Make a Friend, Be a Friend....and Bring a Friend to Christ"!

Saint Martin dePorres Food Pantry We Need Volunteers in the New Year!

We gave out over 100 bags this week and many of the clients asked us to say Merry Christmas & Happy New Years to everyone!

"Second, we wish to share this with you! Grace picked up the bags for her 5 children. The boys and I along with your generous contributions were able to pack up 5 gift bags for each child--3 got winter coats, they all got 2 hats, a blankets, games they requested, journals, pens, PJ's, Santa hats for the boys and head bands with Christmas ornament antlers for the girls and a candy cane. I also got a tin of fancy cookies and a journal for Grace. The Angel Tree gave us the hats, and blankets as well as an extra bag for Grace's new foster children--a suite case filled with gifts! She will never have to have her entire life in a plastic bag again. Grace could not stop crying. She said she knew God would help her, and we did more then she ever expected. I broke "distance" and gave her a hug I couldn't stop crying."

Wishing **everyone** a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year with prayers that we will soon all be back together again!

Ms. Pat reminds us that more folks are needed to volunteer to cover an hour or two once a week, once a month—make it your New Year's resolution to add this ministry to your prayer life.

SCCCW Annual Deanery Retreat on Jan. 23rd

St. Andrew Women's Club CCW will be hosting the annual South Carolina Council of Catholic Women MB Deanery Retreat, "**Who Do You Say That I Am**" on Saturday, January 23, 2021 in the CLC from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Sister Kathleen Adamski OSF, Director of the Office of Spirituality & Formation for Ministry in the Diocese of Charleston will be the facilitator. All Christian women are invited to attend taking spiritual time to regroup, regenerate and move forward in 2021!

Registration fee is \$15 which includes a continental breakfast and lunch. Deadline for reservations is January 18th. Contact Caroline Paulhus at 843-692-9932 or Marlene Grover at 843-283-4445 for additional details.

Chrysalis Center: An Extended-term Residential Treatment Facility

by Sue Cox

One of the community facilities supported by St. Ann Catholic Parish over the years is the Chrysalis Center located in Florence. The Chrysalis Center is a unique, extended-term residential treatment facility for chemically dependent women. Children up to age 10 can live on-site with their mother during the entire treatment process. The Chrysalis Center is one of a few programs in the state that allows children to join their moms in treatment. This gives the woman the opportunity to parent her own child/children in a learning yet nurturing environment. During Covid, the Center has had to limit the age of children staying with their mothers to preschoolers.

One of our parishioners has recently installed bookcases at the Chrysalis Center and we would like to keep the shelves full of books, education games and puzzles. If you would like to help support the Chrysalis Center, they are always in need of books, puzzles, and education games. You can either drop the items off at the front door of the Chrysalis Center, 1430 S. Cashua, Florence, or leave them at the St. Ann Parish office and we will deliver the items to the Chrysalis Center. Thank you for your generosity!

Legion of Mary Meet on Mondays

Members of the Legion of Mary will resume Monday meetings at 9:30 AM in the St. Ann Parish Life Center, on Monday, January 4, 2021.

St. Ann Prayer Group to Meet

Members of the St. Ann Prayer Group will resume meeting on Wednesday, January 6th, 2021, at 12:30 PM, following daily Mass in the St. Ann Parish Life Center.

We'd like to thank Karen Parker and her 'elves' for all their hard work in organizing the Angel Tree Project for this year—it has been some year, hasn't it!

Thank you to all our families, donors & benefactors who have made it possible to provide hats, blankets and gifts for our children and youth in our Outreach Programs this Christmas! Imagine the smiles on these faces you will have given this year! Thank you for your support!

RCIA Classes at St. Ann Resume

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults continues weekly at St. Ann Parish. Classes will resume from the Christmas break on Thursday, January 7th, at 7:00 PM, in the St. Ann Parish Life Center.

For more information, contact Deacon Bob Cox, Mary Barcomb, Pat Weaver, or the Church Office.

Jan. 1st: We Celebrate

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

A holy day of Obligation for Catholics

Many Christian communities around the world annually observe the **Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God** on January 1st. This day is a **holy day** of obligation in which many Christians, particularly of the Catholic faith, attend special church services for this occasion.

This year, Masses in honor of the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God will be available at 5:00 PM (Vigil Mass on December 31st) and at 9:00 & 10:30 AM on January 1st, 2021.

For centuries, Mary has been praised because she believed. She is Mother of God because of her faith in God. The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, celebrates Mary's faith and trust in God alone. The Church wants us to imitate her faith. When Elizabeth welcomed Mary, she recognized both the great privilege God had given Mary and Mary's great faith in accepting it.

Legion of Mary to Hold Novena to Our Lady of Lourdes

by Sue Cox

Since the Jubilee Year in 2008, when we celebrated the 150th Anniversary of the Blessed Mother appearing to Bernadette at Lourdes in France, the Legion of Mary has held the Novena to Our Lady of Lourdes at St. Ann from February 2-10, with Our Lady of Lourdes Feast Day Mass on February 11th. We will continue that tradition in 2021 with maintaining the safety of everyone and will offer the Novena in person or a live stream option for anyone who has the capability to watch this at home.

In preparation for the Novena, please fill out the prayer request cards located at the back of the church next to the statue of Mary and the votive candles or mail your prayer requests to the church to the attention of Diana Gibson, St. Ann Catholic Church, 113 S. Kemp Street, Florence, SC 29506. We will have a special intention for everyone who needs healing from the Coronavirus and those administering medical care.

What's Happening?

Dec. 21st Simbang Gabi Celebration continues-5:30 PM

Dec. 22nd Annual Hanging of the Greens after Mass.
"Many hands needed to help decorate the church."

Dec. 23rd SimBang Gabi Celebration continues-5:30 PM

Dec. 23rd- Jan. 4th St. Ann Parish Office closes at 1:00 PM in observance of Christmas / New Year's & will reopen on Monday, January 4th, 2021. On behalf of Rev. Noel P. Tria, Deacon Bob Cox & the St. Ann Parish Staff, we wish you a most blessed Christmas season!

Dec. 24th & 25th Christmas Eve Services are 3:00 PM, 4:30 PM and 6:00 PM (midnight Mass **not** scheduled). Christmas Day Services are 8:30 AM and 10:00 AM (also livestream).

Dec. 28th – 30th No Daily Mass

Dec. 31st & Jan 1st Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, a holy day of obligation for all Catholics. Vigil Mass (Dec. 31st) at 5:00 PM; Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, (Jan. 1st) 9:00 AM & 10:30 AM.

Jan. 23rd SCCCW Annual Myrtle Beach Deanery Retreat at St. Andrew's, "*Who Do You Say That I Am*".

Feb. 2nd-10th Legion of Mary to Hold Annual Novena to Our Lady of Lourdes at St. Ann's Parish, Florence, SC



From the Vicar General's Desk

I am pleased to announce that the fundraising efforts by our schools and ministries during #iGiveCatholic and #GivingTuesday were very successful. Our participants were able to raise \$270,471 in support of their work.

Special congratulations go to Bishop England High School in Charleston and St. Andrew School in Myrtle Beach, which placed in the top 100 nationally for this charitable giving day.

The diocese appreciates everyone's support, encouragement and investment into our schools and ministries, and I hope that many more will participate in next year's efforts.