

The Correspondent

Monthly Newsletter | JUNE 2023

WEEKLY CHURCH SERVICES*

Saturdays: 5pm
Sundays: 8am & 10am

Summer Church Schedule
(beginning **June 18**)

Saturdays: 5pm
Sundays: 9am
(with an 11am service held on Fire Island)

WEEKLY CAMPUS SCHEDULE*

Food Pantry: Mondays 10am-Noon

Thrift Shop: Wednesdays,
Thursdays,
Saturdays 10am-2pm

AA meetings: Mondays 7pm
Thursdays 10am & 7pm
Sundays 7.30pm

Choir Practice Tuesdays 7pm

Men's Breakfast Tuesdays 8am

MONTHLY SCHEDULE*

Family Service First Sunday

Senior Lunch Tuesday (rotating)

Vestry Meeting Second Monday

Pizza Supper Third Saturday

**check our website for details, changes, and updates
www.saint-anns.org*

IN THIS ISSUE

In this interim version of the Saint Ann's newsletter, you will find Mother; Lilo's Mother's Day sermon as well as a recap of announcements made through email & at services during the previous month.

Look forward to the next Editor-in-Chief to take up the baton to give the newsletter the time and attention it deserves.

In the meantime, send submission ideas to office@saint-anns.org

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

JUNE 2023

5/28: Pentecost

5/29: Memorial Day (church office closed)

6/4: Family Service Sunday

6/11: St Barnabas Day!

6/18: Summer Schedule begins

6/19: Juneteenth (church office closed)

6/20: Senior Luncheon

St Ann's Episcopal Church | Sayville NY

SAINT ANN'S OFFICE

262 Middle Road
Sayville NY 11782

Email: office@saint-anns.org
Web: www.saint-anns.org

Pho: 631-589-6522
Fax: 631-589-6541

Mon-Fri 9:30am – 2pm

volunteers: Tim Laffin,
Diane Miller-Magnani,
Marge Rogers, Noah Stetzer

CLERGY

The Reverend Jeffrey Neal
Stevenson, Rector

Father Jeff
frjeff@saint-anns.org
202-904-0531 (mobile)

The Reverend Lilo Carr
Rivera, Curate-Asst Rector

Mother Lilo
mtrlilo@saint-anns.org

THE CORRESPONDENT

262 Middle Road
Sayville NY 11782
631-589-6522

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Ann's Episcopal Church.
Copies available at website, in
Parish Hall, the church
narthex, and USPS (by
request). Request copies via
church office.

FOOD PANTRY

262 Middle Road
Sayville NY 11782

Pantry Coordinator:
Lynette Schultz

Email: office@saint-anns.org
Pho: 631-589-6522

Open Monday 10am - noon

THRIFT SHOP

268 Middle Road
Sayville NY 11782

Shop Manager:
Nanci Guerri

Email: office@saint-anns.org
Pho: 631-589-6220

Open Wednesday, Thursday, &
Saturday 10am – 2pm

CEMETERY

The Garden of the Unforgotten

257 Middle Road
Sayville NY 11782

Cemetery Manager:
Janet Croce

Email: kiwi272626@aol.com
Pho: 631-563-8203

Open 7am - sundown

SAINT ANN'S STAFF-MEMBERS*

Minister of Music

Finance Manager

Treasurer

Sexton

Historian

Webmaster

Parish Administrator

The Correspondent/editor *open*

Kathy Senese | music@saint-anns.org

Gayle Brady

Tom Munkelwitz

Lou Linbrunner

Connie Currie | constancec@optonline.net | 631-589-2700

open

open

**contact via office phone & email unless otherwise noted*



A Word from the Rector Father Jeffrey Stevenson, HoSM

Pentecost signals the completion of our Easter Season and the beginning of what is sometimes called Ordinary Time. The term Ordinary comes from “ordinal number” which we use to mark a thing's position in a series, such as “first,” “second,” or “third”. And so on June 1 we have entered the “first” week after Pentecost, and we will continue to mark the liturgical year by where we are in relation to Pentecost. But of course, we know the word “ordinary” also can signify “no special or distinctive feature” or maybe “just normal”. Which this season is also: it is not the anticipation and joy of Advent/Christmas nor the penitential and exuberance of Lent/Easter.

I like to think of this time as one in which we go about the work of being Disciples of Christ out in the world. Pentecost marks the blessing of the Holy Spirit upon all of us with everything we need to spread the good news of Jesus: his life, his teachings, his death, and his resurrection. That might sound like a tall order. Who among us considers themselves a latter-day Apostle: planting churches, healing the sick, casting out demons, and introducing Jesus to an unknowing world?

Our world knows the name of Jesus. And I think many have some idea of what his teachings ask of us. But what this world needs—and what I believe we are called to do as disciples today—are examples of living out the Great Commandments to love God with our whole heart, minds, and soul and to love our neighbor as ourselves.

Not only Sundays, but every day. Not only the neighbor we know, but the strangers all around us. In our cars, on the internet, where we work, where we run errands, and certainly in our families: we are called again and again to show mercy, compassion, and Love.

See you at worship—Fr Jeff+

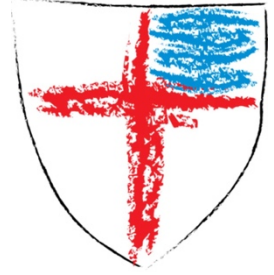
2023
Saint Ann's Episcopal Church
**FIRE ISLAND
MINISTRY**
Sundays 11am

May 28 Cherry Grove	July 23 Cherry Grove
June 4 The Pines	July 30 The Pines
June 11 Cherry Grove	August 6 Cherry Grove
June 18 The Pines	August 13 The Pines
June 25 Cherry Grove	August 20 Cherry Grove
July 2 The Pines	August 27 The Pines
July 9 Cherry Grove	September 3 Cherry Grove
July 16 The Pines	September 10 Cherry Grove

Cherry Grove Community House
Whyte Hall - The Pines

Saint Ann's Junior

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." (Matthew)



Do you know what a SAINT is? A saint is a holy person. A saint is a hero of the church. But did you know that we are also saints? Jesus makes it possible for us to be saints because we share his life through being Baptized.

Do you know why we celebrate Saint Barnabas Day (June 11) every year? Our church of Saint Ann's was first built a long time ago—over hundred years! At that time, it was just a small church called a *chapel* and it had a different name, *Saint Barnabas*. So, in the beginning, Saint Ann's was first built with the name Saint Barnabas, and we keep that name near and dear in our hearts because that's part of where we are all from as a church.

The story of Saint Barnabas is in the bible, mostly in the Acts of the Apostles. He was an early follower of Jesus that helped to spread the word about Jesus's life and message of love. Saint Barnabas helped to start little churches that were for followers of the teachings of Jesus. So, when they first built our church, they named it after Saint Barnabas.

When the time came to build a new and bigger church here in Sayville, the church folks back then renamed the church *Saint Ann's*. Ann is the mother of Mary and the grandmother of Jesus. The chapel next to the Parish Hall was built from what was left of that first little church building long ago and so we call that the *Barnabas Chapel*. We still hold a special connection with Saint Barnabas because that was our name at the beginning.



PRAYER FOR SAINTS

*Holy Spirit, thank you for all the saints
in our lives who have been filled
with your holiness and love. Thank you
for giving us the opportunity to be saints
as well. Today we celebrate by making
a joyful noise. Amen.*

Mother Lilo's Sermon

"Yours are the feet with which He walks to do good, yours are the hands, with which He blesses all the world. Yours are the hands, yours are the feet, yours are the eyes, you are His body."



TODAY IS MOTHER'S DAY.

And I wish a very happy Mother's Day to those who are mother's or have mothers. And I also want to acknowledge that this day is not always joyful for many people for many reasons. This was case for me for many years until I became a mother myself. As many of you know, my own mother died of leukemia when I was fourteen, But I am tremendously grateful to many women who have mothered me over the years.

I am especially grateful to Nancy Penland, who lived up the street from us, who took very seriously Jesus' commandment to love thy neighbor by taking my sisters and I into her home, by loving and caring for us after the death of my mother.

I'm also grateful to my stepmother, Ginny Kilpack, who has also been an extraordinarily loving presence in my life. Ginny has been my stepmom for over 20 years and I'd like to share a specific story about her today on Mother's Day because I think it embodies what Jesus is talking about in our Scripture today: About his love for us, And his promise to leave us with an Advocate: the Holy Spirit which guides us, and loves us, and walks besides us always.

When my father was planning his wedding to Ginny many years ago he asked me to sing at the wedding. I love to sing. My father asked to me sing two songs; one was "I Know that my redeemer liveth" from Handel's Messiah and the other was Schubert's "Ave Maria."

Though these are both beautiful songs, I was feeling a bit torn about them. Now, these songs were like – my mom's songs. My mother had a beautiful voice, and these are songs she was famous for singing in my family.

As I prepared the songs and the wedding drew closer, I started to feel really uncomfortable about singing these songs... that my dead mother used to sing. I felt like a stand-in for her which made me feel sad because it made me remember her death, and this was for an event that was supposed to be joyful.

So, about a week before the wedding, I called my father to talk it over with him. Basically, to complain: **Why was he asking me to sing these very emotionally loaded songs?**

**Summer Service
Schedule**
5pm Saturdays
9am Sundays
with an 11am Sunday service
on Fire Island until Labor Day
begins 18 June 2023
come as you are! shorts, sandals, t-shirts
Saint Ann's Episcopal Church | Sayville NY | saint-anns.org

My father listened patiently. And like a good father, he tried to solve the problem. He said, “Ok. Why don’t you sing something else.” But I was upset with this very practical solution! Because it did really address the feelings I had. Also, the wedding was a week away! What was I going to sing? I had no time to learn anything else. Then my dad did what he still does with some frequency, usually when he doesn’t know what to say. He said, “Here, why don’t you talk to Ginny” ...and hands her the phone.

Ginny gets on the phone. And says something to me that is to this day perhaps the single most loving thing anyone has said to me. With great gentleness and kindness... she said:

“Hi Lilo. I overheard what your conversation with your father... You know, I’ve been a stepparent before,” (this was true, her late husband had been married twice before he married her, and she already had four adult stepchildren). She said: “I’ve been a stepparent before and sometimes when your parent gets remarried you can have all sorts of feelings about it. I just want you to know that whatever you feel; there is room for it.” This sort of love is what Jesus means when he tells us to keep his commandments. This is love of others that flows from the love of God.

Ginny could have reacted in all sorts of ways about my feeling upset about these songs. She could have judged me. She could have gotten defensive. She could have been annoyed because I wasn’t expressing enthusiasm about her upcoming wedding. She could have changed the subject and ignored me altogether. But what she offered was love and acceptance; an assurance that I was seen and accepted by her no matter what. And I know for certain that her love was rooted in her deep faith in Jesus Christ.

This passage in John is when Jesus is saying a long goodbye to the disciples. He is saying that Holy Spirit – the Advocate will come to us, to comfort us, guide us, to be the presence of Jesus and God here on earth when he is gone physically.

The Holy Spirit is not some sort of floaty ghost drifting around. The Holy Spirit works through US — if we let it. The Gospel says: *The Holy Spirit abides with you, and he will be in you.*



I believe the Holy Spirit worked through Ginny that day because what she said healed me. Just being given the permission to feel whatever it was I was feeling about my father being remarried (because that really was the root of it all), just being given the space to feel whatever I felt and be loved no matter what. Well, that was like 10 years of therapy right there.

And I did go on to sing those songs at the wedding – happily.

This love lived out is what Jesus means when he says *because I live, you also will live*. He’s talking about the fullness of life that we have when we allow him – through the Holy Spirit – into

our hearts, and into our actions. He's talking about the generosity and expansiveness that happens with presence of God's love.

The Holy Spirit is in each and every one of us. We actually can't escape it. We can't escape God, who Paul describes in our reading from Acts as: *the God in whom we live and move and have our being*.

We can't escape God. But we can choose to turn toward God. Or turn away from God.

Imagine what this divided world would be like if we could say to people with whom we disagree, to people who were coming at us with things we didn't want to hear, and say: *Hey, whatever you are feeling, there is room for that*.

That is radical peacemaking.

This is not to say that we should tolerate all actions, things like violence and discrimination and bigotry and abuse. But how many of these destructive actions could be healed and avoided if we could just give others the room to feel what they feel, to be seen and understood with love and compassion. Maybe then those feelings could be acted out constructively.

Today I ask you: Where in your life can let the Holy Spirit open your heart to create room for someone else to have feelings that you find inconvenient? Where can you and I let go of judgement and control toward someone else? Maybe it's someone with different politics than yours? Maybe it's a relative you have a lot of opinions about? Where in your life can you let the God of love give you the grace to be more loving and less reactive?

I leave you today with words that are attributed to the great saint, Teresa of Avila:

*Christ has no body but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,
Yours are the eyes with which He looks with
Compassion on this world,
Yours are the feet with which He walks to do good,
Yours are the hands, with which He blesses all the world.
Yours are the hands, yours are the feet,
Yours are the eyes, you are His body.
Christ has no body now but yours,*

Amen.

—Mother Lilo Carr Rivera, Mother's Day Sermon, 2023

SAINT ANN'S VESTRY

Senior Wardens

Nancy Koineglou (2024)
Randy Schultz (2023)

Members

Rich Acierno (2024)
Don Hester (2026)
Christine Kelly-Smimmo (2026)
Pat Osarchuk (2026)
Carol Ann St. Lawrence (2024)
Laura Sanchez (2025)
Wendy Schmittzehl (2024)
John Smith (2024)

*Vestry normally meet once a month on
Monday night.*



In the News

A round-up of items announced in last month's parish emails and at weekend services.

**submit announcements to the office by Wednesday each week*



<— From Family Service on Sunday May 7. Next Family Service will be June 4.

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EPISCOPAL MINISTRIES OF LONG ISLAND

In May, Episcopal Ministries of Long Island made their Annual Appeal. Thank you for your generosity in supporting the efforts of the valuable ministry. Some background:

In the past year, parish-based ministries have served over 115 thousand meals, volunteered for nearly 20 thousand hours, and reached 25 thousand neighbors in need with financial support from Episcopal Ministries.

During this appeal, you can play a vital role in equipping this network of ministries to serve even more of our siblings in Christ in the coming year by

making a gift before May 21st. Your gift right now helps to ensure that parishes in our diocese can respond with compassion to the needs of their neighbors. Your support transforms parishes, transforms lives, and transforms our diocese into the Body of Christ across Brooklyn, Queens, Nassau, and Suffolk. Please, make your gift today at episcopalministries.org/donate.

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THE CORRESPONDENT EDITOR POSITION

The latest issue of our parish newsletter *The Correspondent* is now available. I want to again express my heartfelt thanks to Rodney Dudley for her enthusiasm and passion as editor. And I ask again that you consider helping to continue to tell our story by becoming the next editor of *The Correspondent*. -Fr Jeff+

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ON MOTHER'S DAY

This weekend is Mother's Day; on this weekend I am often reminded of the story of Ruth and her mother-in-law Naomi. You know of my love for the Book of Ruth. In it, Ruth commits herself to her mother-in-law, saying "For wherever you go, I will go, and wherever you live, I will live; your people will be my people, and your God will be my God." On Mother's Day we stop for a moment and appreciate that person or persons in our life that mothered & cared for us. Like Ruth we make an effort to say out loud the nature of our love and commitment to the mother figures in our lives.

For some of us, this day can also bring sadness for some who have lost their mothers. For those faced with a sadness on this Mother's Day let me lift a prayer: *Almighty God, we entrust all who are dear to us to thy never-failing care and love, for this life and the life to come, knowing that thou art doing for them better things than we can desire or pray for; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen* -Fr Jeff+

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PARISH ADMINISTRATOR POSITION

You may see or hear that we have begun accepting resumes for the Parish Administrator position here at the Saint Ann's office. Interested applicants are directed to submit their resume via email to [frjeff@saint-](mailto:frjeff@saint-ann.org)

anns.org and cc office@saint-anns.org. In the meantime, let me again thank the volunteers who have been doing tremendous work to keep things running smoothly. -Fr Jeff+

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VESTRY UPDATE

Welcome Randy Schultz and Laura Sanchez to Saint Ann's Vestry. The vestry has unanimously voted for both Randy & Laura to fill two positions vacated on the vestry. All my thanks to John O'Neil and to Greg Domoff who have stepped down from Vestry—Saint Ann's continues to be blessed by their time & talents.

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CEMETERY NEWS

A note from Janet Croce our cemetery manager: spring cleaning has begun at the cemetery and so worn-out mementos and wilted flowers will be collected. Remember that with the return of warmer weather, the local wildlife is also returning and they will eat just about any plant or flower—even those normally known to be unappealing to animals. Any questions please contact Janet at 631-563-8203 / kiwi272626@aol.com.

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PRAYER LIST

As the office volunteers continue to organize and update records, they will be tending to the Saint Ann's Prayer List. If you notice a name has fallen off that you wish to be included, please resubmit that name. The best way to be sure is to fill out the online form available by texting the word PRAYER to 631-212-2320.

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2023 ARTS EXHIBITION

21 October 2023 we'll host a showcase of visual, fabric and written arts created by Saint Ann's parishioners. Unlike the Christmas Fair, this is an exhibition only (no sales). Send word to the church office if you would like your work considered for the show.

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AGING WELL MINISTRY

The goal of St. Ann's Aging Well Ministry (part of the Village-to-Village Network) is to build the body of Christ by helping our aging parishioners and neighbors lead healthy, safe and secure lives as they age in their own homes. We will do this by organizing a volunteer network which leverages the gifts of our parishioners and community members. We are currently assessing what kinds of services might be helpful to our aging parishioners and neighbors. Your feedback is tremendously helpful in this process. Please follow this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/JTGR3SD>. Paper copies of this survey are also available in the Parish Hall and Narthex. (You may fill out this form on behalf of someone who might need our services and help.)

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FATHER JEFF'S CONTINUING EDUCATION

In June, Father Jeff will travel to Virginia Theological Seminary for three weeks of classes as he pursues his Doctorate in Ministry. He will be away from June 18 until July 7. We are blessed to have Mother Lilo on-site to preside at worship services, administer Sacraments, and to respond to the pastoral needs of our parish.

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Calls to Service

Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth. (1 John)



The laity (*group of people who are regular members of the parish and not clergy*) of the Saint Ann's parish are woven into the life, worship, and leadership of our church. In fact, without the laity our church would have no life at all. Therefore, the laity are essential to the overall health of Saint Ann's.

Lay persons participate in worship as musicians, choir members, Lay Eucharistic Ministers, readers, acolytes, chalice bearers, altar guild members, ushers, vergers, and greeters. Others do simple tasks—that often go unnoticed—that enhance our worship.

Each worship service is an enactment of the kind of community Jesus calls us to create here on earth: spreading God's Word, sharing the Peace, breaking Bread together, and recommitting ourselves to what we believe. You are invited to step further into Sunday worship in deep & meaningful ways:

Usher: serve at church services throughout the year, assisting and monitoring the safety and needs of all attendees: handing out bulletins, collecting offerings, directing communion, assisting elderly & infirm, etc.

Lector: read the Old Testament, Psalm, & New Testament scriptures during the service.

Acolyte/Crucifer: bear the Cross into and out of the church for the liturgy, assist in the setting of the altar for the Eucharist and carry torches in the gospel procession; hold the gospel book during the gospel reading.

Eucharistic Minister: serve as chalice bearers at Eucharist; distribute the bread & wine to the congregation during communion.

Coffee Hour: set up & take down coffee hour (providing snacks is optional).

Altar Guild*: prepare the altar at St. Ann's for Saturday evening & Sunday services as well as baptisms, weddings, funerals, Holy Days & special services.

**some weekday commitment needed*

**When you're ready to join in,
text the word *Serve*
to 631-212-2320**



People of the Parish

Almighty and ever living God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, bear our prayers for this parish family. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church: through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

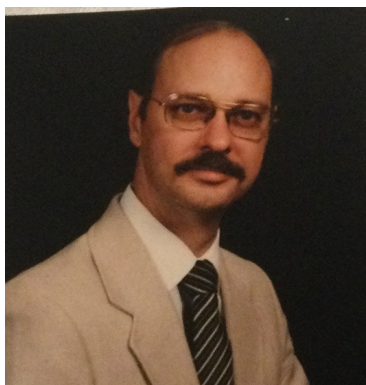
SAINT ANN'S PRAYER REQUESTS

AnnMarie, Brandan, Carmen,
Charlotte, Christy, Connor, the
Dewar Family, Greg, the Hlavac
Family, Jackie, Jim, Johanna,
Josephine, Judy, Kate, Kathie, Kevin,
Liz, Loken, Marty, Michael, Mimi,
Nolan, Ray, Scott, and Terry.

**Text the word *Prayer* to
631-212-2320 to add names to the
Saint Ann's Prayer List**

WE REMEMBER

Darrell K. Lichtenberger
November 6, 1944 ~ May 18, 2023 (age 78)



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

1: Ann Demott | Jacqueline Gandolfo | Judith Hester
6: Barbara King | Wayne Tampellini
8: Francis Bodkin Jr | Hannah Smith | James Romeo
10: Oliva Greci
11: James Hughes
14: Irene Bodkin
16: David Close | Christopher Kudlek
17: Arlene James
22: Anthony Lico
23: Jessica Brett
28: Abigail Hynes | Alex Lasot | Lynette Schulz
30: Helen Deegan | Noah Stetzer



JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

1: Joseph & Ellen Garafolo | Mark & Barbara Leuly
2: Paul & Allision Golofaro
5: Robert & Joan Bellfield | Anthony & Andrea Sanseviro
8: Raymond & Maureen Echevarria
10: Edward & Eileen Moran
15: Frank & Peg Costanzo | Francis Rivera & Lilo Carr Rivera
20: Robert & Peg Flanagan
22: Ken Smyrk & Scarlet Marrugo
26: Daniel Henn & Theresa Labella-Henn
30: James & Jill Hughes | Susan Knoepffler & Chris Mulroy

The Correspondent

Saint Ann's Episcopal Church
262 Middle Road
Sayville NY 11782
—change service requested—

‘LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART
AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND.’

THIS IS THE FIRST AND GREATEST COMMANDMENT.

AND THE SECOND IS LIKE IT:

‘LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.’

ALL THE LAW AND THE PROPHETS HANG ON THESE
TWO COMMANDMENTS.

Matthew 22