

The Correspondent

Monthly Newsletter / October 2026

WEEKLY CHURCH SERVICES*

Wednesdays: 11 am (Saint Barnabas Chapel - followed by Grief/Bereavement Group)
 Saturdays: 5 pm (Church - live streaming on Facebook)
 Sundays: 8 am (Church) Resumes 9/13/26
 10 am (Church - live streaming on Facebook)

WEEKLY CAMPUS SCHEDULE*

Grief Group: Following Wednesday Service
Food Pantry: Mondays & Wednesdays 10-12
Thrift Shop: Wednesdays, Thursdays,
 Saturdays 10 am-2 pm
AA meetings: Mondays 7 pm
 Thursdays 10 am & 7 pm
 Sundays 7:30 pm
Choir Practice 1st Tuesday 1 pm
 All other Tuesdays 6:45 pm
Men's Group Tuesdays 8 am Breakfast

MONTHLY SCHEDULE*

Family Service First Sunday (Oct-June)
Senior Lunch October 20
Vestry Meeting Second Monday
Pizza Supper Third Saturday

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

Saint Ann's Vestry

Wardens

Randy Schultz (2027)
 Roma Busch (2028)

Members

Ray Busch (2028)
 Joe Castelli (2027)
 Laurin Clemens (2028)
 Kaitlyn Crevoiserat (2029)
 Don Hester (2029)
 Joan Siedlecki (2029)
 Rich Maddox (2027)
 Carol Ann St. Lawrence (2027)
 Laura Sanchez (2029)

Linda Maddox, Clerk of the Vestry

Important Dates:

Oct 4 Family Service & Blessing of the Animals - outdoor service (page 11 & 20)
 Oct 12 Service at The Bristol - Sayville
 Oct 17 Family Film Night – “Wicked”
 Oct 20 Senior Luncheon
 Oct 21 Young Adult Ministry 6:30 pm (page 18)
 Oct 23 **Father Charles & Laurie Mangano:** A one-night mission concert 7:30 pm
 Oct 26 Service at Bellhaven Nursing – Brookhaven
 Nov 8 Raffle gifts must be received on or before 11/8
 Nov 14 Art Exhibition
 Dec 4 Wine & Cheese / Parishioner Fair Preview 7-9 pm
 Dec 5 Christmas Fair 10 am to 3 pm

More information about events on pages 15-17



Jacqueline Spelman, our new social work intern, with Father Ben

Looking for social work support?

or know someone who is?

Please contact Jacqueline from the Parish Administration Offices.

SAINT ANN'S OFFICE

251 Middle Road
Sayville NY 11782

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

631-589-6522

Mon-Thurs 9:00 am – 3 pm

Lynne Robinson
Parish Administrator

Marge Rogers
Office Volunteer

Please contact Fr. Ben if you are
interested in supporting the
Parish Administration Offices on
Thursdays.

CLERGY

The Reverend Dr. Benjamin Brenkert
Father Ben
Rector
frbenjamin@saint-anns.org
929-445-3781

The Reverend Jae Wan Chung
Father Jae Wan
Associate Rector
Cemetery Operations and Outreach
frjaewanchung@saint-anns.org
631-589-6522

The Reverend Deacon Susan Ellinghaus
Deacon Susan
Pastoral & Youth Ministry
dcnsusan@saint-anns.org
516-381-5485

Jacqueline Spelman
Social Work Intern (Graduate School)

THE CORRESPONDENT

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in parish hall, the church
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(request via church office)

Eileen Moran, Editor
Sue Schultz, Roving Reporter

THRIFT SHOP

268 Middle Road
Sayville NY 11782

Shop Co-Managers:

Cindy Reisert
Linda Maddox

office@saint-anns.org
631-589-6220

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

FOOD PANTRY

257 Middle Road
Fr. Jae Wook Chung Parish Hall
Sayville NY 11782

Pantry Coordinator:
Father Jae Wan
frjaewanchung@saint-anns.org
631-589-6522

Open Monday & Wednesday
10 am - noon

CEMETERY

The Garden of the Unforgotten

251 Middle Road
Sayville NY 11782

Cemetery Manager:
Tim Laffin

cemetery@saint-anns.org
631-589-6522
Open 7 am - sundown

SAINT ANN'S STAFF-MEMBERS*

Minister of Music
Parish Administrator
Cemetery Manager
Finance & Bookkeeping
Treasurer
Webmaster
Sexton
Historian
Editor

Kathy Senese - music@saint-anns.org
Lynne Robinson - office@saint-anns.org
Tim Laffin - cemetery@saint-anns.org
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Timothy Leigh-Manuell - Tim@Kagesolutions.com
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Eileen Moran - correspondent@saint-anns.org

*use 631-589-6522 or office@saint-anns.org unless otherwise noted

A Word from the Rector: *A Faith that Does Justice*



Dear Siblings in Christ,

Isn't the call to action in David Haas's song *We Are Called* infectious? It awakens the spirit of Christian response and inspires us to live and serve for the greater glory of God.

This month, I will be making a retreat at Camp DeWolfe—my first visit to our diocesan campsite. I will also be preparing for and recovering from surgery, a preventive treatment following the diverticulitis that affected me in August, and then taking some well-earned vacation time.

Throughout my life—as a Jesuit seminarian and now as an Episcopal priest—I have participated in many kinds of retreats: days of repose and reflection; liturgical and seasonal retreats; formation retreats; clergy days of retreat; vestry retreats; vocational “Come and See” weekends; annual five- or eight-day silent retreats; and the 30-day retreat in the *Spiritual Exercises of Saint Ignatius of Loyola*.

Wherever they take place—at a retreat house, in a parish hall, at home, or virtually—retreats are intended to draw us closer to God, to ourselves, and to one another. Some include profound silence; others involve workshops and shared activities. In every case, the work of retreat is prayer.

Saint Ignatius writes in the *Spiritual Exercises* (Annotation 5, “The Fundamental Disposition”):

“It is highly profitable for the exercitant to begin the Exercises in a magnanimous spirit and with great liberality towards their Creator and Lord, and to offer God all their powers of desire and all their liberty, so that the Divine Majesty may avail himself of their person and of all they possess, according to his most holy will.”

Yes, retreats are serious. Yet everyone can make a retreat—or find a form of retreat—that helps deepen their friendship with God. A retreat can be a practical tool for strengthening one's prayer, discerning a new direction in life, or learning more about what it means to be an Episcopalian. The clergy of Saint Ann's, along with the clergy serving Fire Island Ministries Summer Chapel in Cherry Grove and The Pines, are available to help you find a retreat suited to your particular needs and desires.

The poet Mary Oliver's 2014 poem, “Such Silence,” reflects on nature, stillness, and mindfulness. She writes of discovering an ancient stone bench in a forest clearing, where the silence seemed to suspend the ordinary rules of time and the world. Sitting there, she waited for something—a possible glimpse of the magical, the holy, or even an angel. She concludes that she saw none of these things, perhaps simply because she did not stay long enough.

Oliver writes,

As deep as I ever went into the forest
I came upon an old stone bench, very, very old,
and around it a clearing, and beyond that
trees taller and older than I had ever seen.

Such silence!
It really wasn't so far from a town, but it seemed
all the clocks in the world had stopped counting.
So it was hard to suppose the usual rules applied.

Sometimes there's only a hint, a possibility.
What's magical, sometimes, has deeper roots
than reason.
I hope everyone knows that.

I sat on the bench, waiting for something.
An angel, perhaps.
Or dancers with the legs of goats.

No, I didn't see either. But only, I think, because
I didn't stay long enough.

My siblings in Christ, may you find this October a joyful opportunity to seek some silence, set aside time for prayer, or consider reserving a retreat. If a formal retreat is not possible, find a bench—or another quiet place—and stay a little longer. Wait. Listen. There is much to pray about as our world so sorely needs peace and mercy rather than war.

With gratitude, joy, and prayers,

Fr. Ben



Fire Island Ministry

Insight from your Associate Rector



Dear parishioners and friends of Saint Ann's and Fire Island Ministries,

After Labor Day, we usually have a feeling of seasonal change, even when we would have still hot days in September or October. Summer has gone, kids went back to school, and we feel cool breeze in the morning and evening. I have already many leaves fallen from the big trees in front of the house and need to take one day for brooming them away. The rhythm of our life follows not only the natural and social change, but rather also the God's rhythm. As a part of the creation, we are called to take a time with God and one another in our community.

Back in my home country, Korea, they would celebrate the time of harvest on September or October, which is called "Chu-Seok," a kind of Korean Thanksgiving Day. It falls on the same day as Sukkot, Jewish holiday of harvest, because both are set up by the lunar calendar. As you know, the Jewish tradition of Sukkot is observed as having a tent on their yard and contemplating the time in the wilderness of their ancestors before coming into the Canaan. We, the Koreans, celebrate the fruits and grains of the year, and give thanks to their ancestors and God for the blessings. We all need this time of rhythm for our well-being in our emotionally healthy spirituality and relationship.

Not only for our communal rhythm, I want to share a way for our personal and individual rhythm – the Daily Office. In doing so, I ask you to take a moment of silence at least twice a day for just being in the presence of God. You may have a moment of silence in the beginning with slowly breathing in and out. When you breathe in through your nose, you can pray in silence, "Abba, Father" or "Jesus, Son of God." As you breathe out through your mouth, "Be present with me" or "Have mercy on me." You do not have to say something or think anything in your silent prayer, but you can put focus on your breathing and seek for God's presence. After a moment of silence for one or two minutes, you can read the Scriptures of Morning or Evening Prayer, or the portion of any devotional you might use. Or you can just meditate on one or two verses of the Bible as your reading schedule.

The main motif of the prayer of silence is that we accept that we are not in control of our life but God is in charge of it, and admit it in our silence. Sometimes, we find ourselves busy in doing too much and distracted in many things to do, however, as Mary sitting before Jesus, we need to be just present with God and ready for listening. Our fruits of loving God and loving our neighbors are not produced from us alone, but naturally found throughout our life as we remain in Jesus. In this time of change and fruition, we may be frustrated with the fact that we might not be satisfied with the results or accomplishments of our performance. Please be reminded that your presence with God and us is a blessing and this is what we live with the rhythm of God, particularly in the Daily Office and gathering for the worship. May God, the source of abundant life and love, be with you all in this time of blessing! Amen.

Fr. Jae Wan

Some thoughts from your Deacon...

"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens..."
Ecclesiastes 3:1

Is there? Is there really?

I complained to husband Bob, not too long ago, that my summer chores were taking up way too much time...watering plants and emptying the dehumidifier and weeding the gardens and the list seemed to go on and on. Every time I turned around, something needed to be done. It was kind of like the Byrds song which was based on Ecclesiastes 3, "To everything, turn, turn, turn, there is a season, turn, turn, turn; and a time to every purpose under heaven..."



Leave it to good old Solomon to so succinctly tie it all up; there IS time for everything that needs to get done. I know that the program year is exciting and wonderful, lots of things to partake in and even more things to get involved in! But how to fit that in as the children return to school, as do many of you? Meetings have begun again. How can we ever fit it all into the course of a day and still find time to worship God? It can be done. Yes, it can!

We are the ones who seem to feel that God wants a prescribed form of prayer each day, but guess what...He doesn't!

Anne Lamott, one of one favorite authors, wrote two slim volumes which are often purchased together. One is entitled *Stitches, A Handbook on Meaning, Hope and Repair*. It's very good, but it is the second volume that really helps on those crazy days...*Help, Thanks, Wow, The Three Essential Prayers*. That's it! Lamott makes a case that sometimes those three words are all we need to pray. And guess what- you can do it in the car, while brushing your teeth, before you go to sleep...

Just remember in the course of your day to take a moment to thank God for all the goodness in your life, to ask for the help that you need when you need it, and never ever forget to stop and admire the beauty of the world that surrounds you...allow yourself some "wow" moments!

And remember, you will always have enough time...

With blessings and love to you all,
Deacon Susan

Don't forget:

The first **Senior Luncheon** of the season will be held on Tuesday, October 20th beginning with Holy Eucharist in the St. Barnabas Chapel at 11:00 and then proceeding to the Parish Hall for our Chrysanthemum Casserole Luncheon!

Our **Family Film Night** will be held on Saturday evening October 17th after the 5:00 service and pizza fellowship (approximately 7:00 pm) Feel free to wear costumes! The film is "Wicked"! Sugary snacks and popcorn will be served!

Christmas Craft Nights will continue...dates TBA!

Communion where you live

If you are unable to attend church,
regardless of the duration, and would like a Lay Eucharistic visitor to
bring communion to you at home or in a facility,
please call the church office,
Fr. Ben, Fr. Jae Wan, or Dcn Susan to schedule a visit.

We Are Called: Living Our Baptismal Covenant

October invites us to notice the changing world around us. The leaves turn colors, the days grow shorter, and creation reminds us that change and renewal are woven into the rhythm of life. It is also a good season for us as a congregation to pause and remember who we are and what we are called to be.

The hymn “We Are Called” gives voice to that calling. Its message is simple yet challenging: God calls us to be people of compassion, justice, courage, and love. And as Episcopalians we have already promised to live out that calling in a particular way-through our Baptismal Covenant.

When we renew our Baptismal Covenant, we begin by affirming our faith in the God revealed to us in Jesus Christ. But the covenant does not stop with what we believe. It asks us how we will live.

“Will we continue in the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?”

Every Sunday when we gather for worship, we are reminded that faith is not something we practice alone. We are part of a community. We learn together, share the Eucharist, and support one another. Our worship sends us beyond ourselves and prepares us to recognize God’s presence in the world around us.

“Will we persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever we fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?”

To be called by God does not mean being perfect. It means being willing to begin again. We all fall short. We make mistakes, hurt others, and sometimes lose our way. The covenants remind us that God’s grace is always inviting us back-to repentance, reconciliation, and a renewed relationship with God and one another.

“Will we proclaim by word and example the good news of God in Christ?”

The hymn “We Are Called” and our Baptismal Covenant meet most clearly. We are called to see Christ in the people around us-not only in those who are easy to love, but also in those whose experiences, opinions, backgrounds, or circumstances may be different from our own.

October gives us many opportunities to practice this calling. We might welcome someone new to our congregation, visit someone who is homebound, participate in a ministry that serves our community, offer a listening ear to someone who is struggling, or simply pay greater attention to the people God places in our path.

“Will we strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?”

These words remind us that Christian discipleship extends beyond the walls of the church. We are called to be people who care about our neighbors and our wider community. We are called to notice when people are hurting, where dignity is threatened, and where reconciliation is needed. We may not be able to solve every problem, but we can choose to be people who bring compassion rather than indifference, peace rather than hostility, and hope rather than despair.

And finally, we promise:

“Will we strive to safeguard the integrity of God’s creation, and respect, sustain, and renew the life of Earth.”

As the colors of October surround us, this promise feels especially appropriate. The beauty of creation is not something simply to admire; it is a gift entrusted to our care. Our calling includes gratitude for the Earth and a willingness to protect it for generations to come.

The beautiful truth is that the Baptismal Covenant does not say “I am called.” It says, in effect, “WE ARE CALLED “

As we enter this October season, perhaps we can hear the words of “We Are Called” as more than a hymn we sing. Perhaps they can become a prayer for our congregation.

Where is God calling us?

Who is God asking us to notice?

Whom are we being called to serve?

Where can we be agents of reconciliation, justice, peace and hope?

And how can we, together, live more faithfully into the promises we made at our baptism?

We are called- not to be perfect, but to be faithful. Not to do everything, but to do what God places before us. Not to walk alone, but to walk together.

We are called. We are sent. And we go together, trusting in God’s grace.

Yours in Christian Love and Service,
Laura Sanchez, for the Vestry



Happy Volunteers at the Volunteers BBQ

Will you help?

We are in need of volunteers to support our **live stream ministry**, which nourishes the spiritual life of our parishioners who cannot make it to the Church for the service.

Please see Joe Castelli or Father Ben to learn more about this important ministry.

We are also looking for more Ushers, Lectors, Acolytes/Crucifers, Singers, Eucharistic Ministers, Coffee Hour hosts and Altar Guild members. Talk to Fr. Ben or Text the word SERVE to: 929-445-3781 to sign up.

Poems By Connie Currie

SAINT ANN'S PEANUT AND JELLY GANG

Make those crunchy sandwiches
Pack up the donated goods
Train whistle, wheels clatter
On to city neighborhoods
Here's the Peanut Butter & Jelly
Crew
Riding forth to show they care
Wash cloths, towels and clothes
Each one pays his own fare
They minister to the down and out
With items and lots of warm hugs
When all is gone they pack up
Have lunch with laughs and hot mugs

THE ANGEL

The angel with the soft coat
Snuggled up to the sick child
He eased her pain, her fear
Soon they would again be wild
The angel with the soft coat
Slowly wagged his tail
The child hugged him so
The angel's love didn't fail

TO A CHILD

Fold your hands
Say your prayers
Soon your eyes will close
Dream of Teddy Bears
God will bless you
God will hold you tight
He watches all the time
So dream throughout the night

A SMILE

You can make a difference
It really isn't very hard
All you have to do is smile
That smile can travel yards
You can lift the saddest heart
With just that heartfelt smile
You can turn that sour frown
So make a smile your style

Thanks, Connie, for your wonderful poems!

Thinking About: The Great Migration

As October greets us, we're in the middle of the fall bird migration months of September, October and November. That's when, according to the Cornell Lab website *All About Birds*, 'On a single autumn night with favorable winds, there can be more than one billion birds in the air over the United States alone.' These bird migrations don't only occur in the Western Hemisphere but also occur around the world along aerial paths called flyways. Depending on how you categorize these flyways, there are anywhere from four to nine globally. Flyways are huge territorial corridors, which can span continents, and used by vast numbers of bird species (although not all) during the spring and fall. In the spring birds fly north to locations which provide optimum resources for breeding (namely food and longer daylight hours) and in the fall they fly south taking advantage of locations with optimum food sources. Although huge numbers of birds migrate long distances (the record held by the Arctic Tern which flies as far as 50,000 miles per year) some species (like our local house sparrows) don't migrate at all. If you're interested in viewing migrating birds that transit Long Island, some good places to do this are at Wertheim National Wildlife Refuge in Shirley, Jones Beach State Park in Wantagh and Montauk Point State Park in Montauk.

At our home here in Sayville, we treasure all the birds that visit our yard throughout the year such as Robins, Blue Jays and Chickadees – just to name a few. One of our favorite birds is the Ruby-throated hummingbird. They measure approximately three inches in length and migrate from their breeding grounds in the eastern part of North America to their wintering habitats in Mexico and Central America. On their journey these small Hummingbirds fly Nonstop over the Gulf of Mexico, which takes approximately 18 to 22 hours and is roughly a distance of 500 miles* (clearly, they have much more energy than me!). In addition to attracting the hummingbirds to our yard, my wife Lisa also selects native plants that also attract Monarch butterflies and several types of bees: namely Bumble Bees, Honeybees and the occasional Carpenter bee. We feel it's essential to support these all-important pollinators at a time when more and more people are spraying chemicals to rid their lawns of mosquitoes and other insect pests. These toxic chemicals are negatively impacting the populations of these important pollinators.

Enjoy the migrating birds as well as our local avian neighbors this fall!

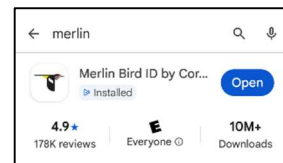
Peace and Fellowship to All,

Joe Castelli 😊

* nectarbloom.org

Editor's Note:

If you like birds, check out the Merlin Bird ID app by Cornell Lab. It allows you to identify a bird by recording them singing or by a photo. Available for android or apple phones. See screenshot ----->





The Feast of Saint Francis

Blessing of the Animals

Pets of
all kinds
are welcome!


Dogs
Cats
Birds
Small Animals
(and their
humans, too!)

Sunday, October 4, 2026
10:00 AM
Outdoor Service
All are welcome — bring your pets!

Saint Ann's Episcopal Church
257 Middle Road
Sayville, New York 11782

*"All creatures
are God's
creatures."*
~ Saint Francis
of Assisi

*Celebrating
the beauty
of all
God's
creation*

*"Praised be You, my Lord, through all Your creatures."
— Saint Francis of Assisi*

Stewardship - is an Act of Faith!

“Guard the good treasure entrusted to you with the help of the Holy Spirit entrusted within us.” (2 Timothy 1:14)

Every morning, we collectively gather at the breakfast table, open up our phones and iPads (maybe we used to read the newspaper, but that's so ...old news.) and get caught up on stuff we missed while sleeping...Our attention is captured by... “kitchen table” events - rising prices, the cyclospora outbreak that recently affected lettuce, perhaps the cost of gasoline in California... **and we worry.**

Maybe we more than worry, we become uncertain, perhaps fearful that we may not be able to afford the things we think we need. Perhaps that old car is going to have to last another year, or we will need to cut back on spending....

And on and on it goes...We become so focused on the here and now, the temporal needs of the moment offering pleasure, wealth, status and power that we totally lose sight of the eternal perspective that **knowing God is the greatest pleasure.** While we may feel reluctance to trade the tangible pleasures of here and now for those yet unseen, we can take comfort in knowing that God is at work in this world, and we need only to channel our hearts and minds to what He is doing (think beauty in nature, bountiful garden harvests, joy found in every shape and form...)

We remember that God is preparing a place for us in his Heavenly Kingdom...therefore, we are only here for a time. *He entrusts us to be his stewards of our temporary home.* Through our tiny faith, we trust in God. Per Hebrews 11:1, ***faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.*** And, as we recall from Jesus' parable of the mustard seed, it is not how much faith we have, but what we do with it that counts!

With an eternal perspective, we realize that our earthly lives are akin to a week at a hotel...we worry less about the interior design of our hotel room because we recognize its transitory nature... In focusing on things that will endure, we have no concept of the heavenly kingdom, but we get glimpses of the hopes and purposes in our lives that really matter. They come in the form of beauty, intimacy, and adventure. We recall the most profound of these experiences as hints of a greater good that points to something beyond themselves that we cannot see....

As we change our worldview from temporal towards eternal, our perspective changes. We choose to not see the trees for the forest, ignoring those day-to-day soundbites that are intended to make others angry. Instead, we realize that what we have - our money, that old car, that yard full of weeds, our spouse, are not ours, but gifts from God that He entrusts to our care, and we are **THANKFUL AND JOYFUL** for His trust in nurturing them guided by His Will.

And our eternal perspective prioritizes our thinking towards giving. A worldly perspective places God last in line for receiving perhaps a token offering. An eternal view includes generosity, joy and thanksgiving to God as the centerpiece of a proper stewardship plan, for we realize **God provides “all things necessary for Salvation.”** That plan also includes an appreciation that our precious time and life experiences as talents are also gifts to be shared with our Christian community.

The time is fast approaching when we will be asked to offer our personal stewardship plan for next year as a pledge to Saint Ann's. ***I pray that we may choose God, Joy, and Thanksgiving***, and use our pledges as acts of faith that proclaim our gratitude for the bountiful Gifts of our lives, to His Glory! Our 2027 Pledge Offerings of Time, Talent and Treasure will be mailed in late October with an invitation to return them, in gratitude, on All Saints Weekend October 31-November 1. Please know that our offerings support the Christ-centered outreach ministries our Community focused Church provides while stewarding the campus as an inviting beacon of Christ's Light in the World.

To the Glory of God! Amen.

Randy Schultz
Stewardship Chair

30 years of serving the community
Need a helping hand...



Transportation available,
Showers, light cooking.

Just call Joe Libardi
631-804-3064



Blessing of the backpacks. We wish all students, teachers,
and school staff a blessed school year.

Did You Know...

By Sue Schultz



Did you know that Chris Elton's family goes back quite a while in Saint Ann's parish history? Chris' grandfather, Reginald Elton, was a Lay Reader during the tenure of Reverend Wiltshire; back in those days, Lay Readers had to take a diocese approved course in reading Scripture aloud from the podium during worship services. His son, USN Bruce Elton, was Chief of Davis Park Fire Department, as well as president of Sayville Rotary Club, and chaired St Ann's Christmas tree sales. Chris himself was an active member of Episcopal Youth Council (EYC) along with Don Hester, Bart Lamens, and Kathy Ott while attending Sayville High School. (FYI: EYC, according to Google, was a group for young teen aged parishioners, started by Reverend Frederick Thayer, supported by Reverend Robert Schwarz. "The ministry was defined by a mix of service, spiritual growth, social gatherings, hosting pancake breakfasts, helping out at church fundraisers, even going on beach outings and ski trips.")

Linda's paternal grandfather was Eugene Sgroi, born in Catania, Sicily in the early 1900's and arrived on Ellis Island, NY, in 1920. He met Mary, recently landed in New York from Ireland, and they made a family home in Manhattan. Eugene, after Mary's death in 1966, lived with the Eltons in Sayville for the rest of his life.

Chris and Linda were married in 1985 at Saint Ann's by Reverend Peter MacLean, who, while Rector of St. Mary's on Shelter Island, was a family friend of Chris' parents. The new Eltons moved to Babylon Village shortly after, becoming members of West Islip and Babylon Episcopal parishes. The Eltons returned after meeting with former Rector Jeffrey Stevenson to facilitate beautiful Celebrations of Life for Linda's parents, Bob and Barbara Sgroi, and for Bruce Elton, that year. Linda had lost both of her beloved parents within four months. The kindness and compassion demonstrated by Father Jeff and parishioners encouraged the Eltons to consider returning to Saint Ann's parish. Both sets of parents are now at rest in Saint Ann's Cemetery.

During the years before returning to Saint Ann's, both Chris and Linda served on Vestry, Building & Grounds, and Day School Board of Directors for both Christ Church, Babylon, and St. Peter's in West Islip. Their two daughters, Elizabeth and Julianna, attended those schools until grade 3, and then attended Woodhull/Fire Island schools up to grade 6. The daughters have since graduated, with honors, from University of Vermont and Marist University. Elizabeth, the Marist graduate, is currently a graduate student in International Relations at a university in Barcelona, Spain. Julianna is working toward Environmental Studies and Research.

Chris has just retired from public service in 2025, after having served as Director of Babylon's Animal Shelter. And Linda is semi-retired, herself having been involved in the fashion industry for the past 46 years. These days, both Linda and Chris very much enjoy traveling and visiting. In lieu of seasonal shopping and holidays, they all travel together as a family to any one of many new places. They also still maintain a home on Ocean Beach.

"Returning to Saint Ann's has been a joy as reconnecting with old friends and meeting with new friends has been a true blessing."



In the News

Parish news and a round-up of items announced in emails and at weekend services.

Send stories and/or photos for *The Correspondent* to correspondent@saint-anns.org by the 15th of each month.

Please submit announcements to the office by Wednesday each week.

God bless
Grayson Liberatore
Who was baptized on 9/20/26

Congratulations to his parents
Taylor & Lou Liberatore
And big sister Gemma!
God bless you all.



Congratulations to
Alisha Becher & Christopher Palagye
who were joined in marriage on 9/26/26

May **June Schlock** who recently passed from this life, find peace in heaven and may their loved ones on earth be comforted by cherished memories.

Benjamin McInnes's Eagle Scout Project is working on the second phase in the expansion of Saint Ann's community and food pantry garden. It will include clearing of brush and weeds, laying down fabric and wood chips, adding more garden beds with water systems and building a bench for the community to enjoy. The purpose of the project is to ensure people with food insecurities and those served at the food pantry have access to sustainable, low-cost supply of fresh produce. The many benefits include having a localized garden, lowered grocery costs and high-quality healthy nutrition for the community being served. He's planning a **car wash fundraiser** which hopefully will happen when we get a Sunny Sunday. He's been rained-out twice.

A service will be held at the **Bristol** Sayville each month on the 2nd Monday at 10:30 am.

On the last Tuesday at 2:30 pm a service will be held at **Bellhaven Nursing Facility** Brookhaven. See the first page for current dates.

If you haven't already registered your children, in grades K-12, for our **Youth Program**, please see one of our leaders Deacon Susan or Kaitlin Crevoiserat.

The **Parish Administration Offices** are now open Monday through Thursdays from 9 am to 3pm.

Fr. Ben is in the Parish Administration Offices on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Please contact Fr. Ben if you are interested in supporting the Parish Administration Offices on Thursdays.

Looking for social work support? or know someone who is? Please contact our graduate student of social work intern, Jacqueline from the Parish Administration Offices.

Please join us in recognizing **Sal Grenci**. He has been the temporary Food Pantry Coordinator for many months. Sal, thank you for all the time, care, and hard work you've given to the Food Pantry. Your dedication and generosity have made a real difference to many people in our community. We truly appreciate everything you've done! A.M.D.G.

The new Food Pantry Coordinator is **Fr. Jae Wan**. Our Food Pantry Ministry is open on **Mondays & Wednesdays** from 10 am to noon assistance from **The People's Arc**. Donations placed in the little red wagon in the Fr. Jae Wook Chung Parish Hall are always appreciated. Donations for the blessing box are also appreciated and may be made anytime. The blessing box is on the west side of the driveway. **Our Food Pantry** now partners with LI Cares and Whole Foods. Please see Fr. Jae Wan, Fr. Ben, Deacon Susan or a Vestry Member with any questions.

Please contact Fr. Ben if you would like to join a committee, learn about our Parish Finances, or about attending a Vestry Meeting. All committee meetings are in person, and meet in the Lower Parish Hall or the Parish Administration Offices.

Vestry: Upcoming Vestry Meetings: no October meeting); 11/9 and 11/21 (Vestry Retreat) and 12/14. All Vestry Meeting Minutes are posted to our website and available for your review. Please pray for the members of our Vestry by name.

The Feast of Saint Francis Blessing of the Animals, Sunday, October 4th. An outdoor Service at 10am, in the Fr. Jae Wook Chung Parish Hall if weather does not cooperate. All furry, feathery, scaly, etc., pets are welcome. Bring a lawn chair, and remember to keep some space between our animal guests.

Our **Family Film Night** will be held on Saturday evening October 17th after the 5:00 service and pizza fellowship (approximately 7:00 pm) Feel free to wear costumes! The film is "Wicked"! Sugary snacks and popcorn will be served!

Father Charles and Laurie Mangano: A one-night mission concert at Saint Ann's, Friday, October 23, 7:30pm. Free will Offering. A selection of songs featuring the theme of divine providence.

Save the Date: **Art Exhibition!** November 14! Save the date for our Annual Art Show which will be held on Saturday, November 14th. Everyone is welcome to participate.

Friday evening December 4th - **Wine & Cheese / Parishioner Fair Preview** from 7 pm – 9 pm.

Christmas Fair on 12/5 from 10:00 am – 3 pm

It would be greatly appreciated if you would consider making a **Raffle Gift donation** for the Christmas Fair. Gift donations will need to be received no later than Sunday, November 8th.

The Claws Fish Fry at Saint Ann's has been **rescheduled to February 6th, 2027**. Questions? Please contact your clergy or vestry.

Thank you to all who helped make the 2026 **Fire Island Ministries Summer Chapel in Cherry Grove and The Pines** a success! See you in 2027. All for the greater glory of God. A.M.D.G.

We need individuals and families to sign up for the **Sunday Coffee Hour**. The list is in the Fr. Jae Wook Chung Parish Hall. Thanks!

Wednesday services, at 11 am in our Saint Barnabas Chapel, includes **Anointing of the Sick and Eucharist**. It is followed by the **Grief and Bereavement Group**. Through pastoral counseling, many will receive the graces they need to find God in all things, and to begin to find in others a community of love and mutual support.

Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings: @ Saint Ann's Mondays at 7PM, Thursdays at 10AM & 7PM and Sundays at 7:30PM. Meetings take place in the Upper Parish Hall.

The Saint Ann's Tree of Life/Wall of Remembrance, located outside the Chapel, is a great way to acknowledge a loved one, friend, neighbor or colleague. For more information call us at the Parish Administration Offices.

Saint Ann's seeks members for the **Altar Guild** and a **Counter** to join our volunteers who account for our stewardship, tithing: various offerings and plate giving. Please contact Lynne at the Parish Office if you would like to learn more about how to get involved, her email is office@saint-anns.org.

Are you feeling called? The George Mercer School of Theology is offering trainings for Lay Eucharistic Visitors. Please contact Fr. Ben for more information.

Please remember to contact **CM Performing Arts** for complimentary tickets to one of their Main Stage events. Thank you, CM Performing Arts!



Shipmates concert at Saint Ann's

SAINT ANN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

JOIN US FOR YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

*Get to learn more about the Episcopal faith and
participate in fellowship!*

MONTHLY MEETINGS HELD
THIRD WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH
6:30PM

PARISH OFFICES

Adults in their 20s and 30s welcome to participate
in monthly literature studies, game nights, days of
service, and more! Please fill out interest form
below!



**Find us on Instagram: [saint_anns_sayville_new_york](#) and Facebook:
Saint Ann's Episcopal Church, Sayville, NY**

PLEASE PRAY

**The Saint Ann's and Fire Island Communities pray especially this week for:
Balnis Family, Baby Sofia, Beth, Bill, Billy, Cameron, Chris, Colette, Colleen, Colleen E.,
Darroll, David, Debi, Doug, Hap, Judy, Kimberly, Lauren, Luciano, Margie, Marie,
Maryann, Mickey, Mischelle, Patricia, Paul, Richelle and the family of Terrie Hawkins.**

Please pray for our new Bishop, Rev. Adam Shoemaker and his family. Let us pray for God's vision, mission and prayer for each of us and especially for our universal mission in Christ, there is One Lord, One Faith and One Baptism. (Ephesians 4:5)

And please pray for an end to wars, for peace in the Ukraine, Somalia, Venezuela, Iran and the Middle East, for those affected by addiction and violence involving guns, and for the least and the marginalized, the poor and the scapegoats amongst us.

*Please submit the name(s) of a loved one to the parish office,
text PRAYER to 929-445-3781,*

*submit the form on the Saint Anns website - saint-anns.org
Or use this direct link: <https://www.saint-anns.org/request>*

October Anniversaries:

- 7 Donna & Charles Romano
- 18 Doreen & Salvatore Grenci
- 21 Cara & Thomas Clark
- 21 Susan & Bob Ellinghaus
- 26 Sue & Gary Nappo
- 28 Lisa & Joseph Castelli
- 28 Amy & Lisa Ann Schmidlin



October Birthdays:

- 1 Lauren Inmoor
- 3 Kathy Senese
- 4 Donna Romano
- 5 Jessica Shelton
- 7 John Smith
- 14 William Verneer
- 18 Shin Kang-Chung
- 18 Katherine Elton
- 19 Emma Chung
- 21 Janet Adam
- 21 Christine Mulroy
- 21 Virginia Spiess
- 29 Brooke Mattimore
- 30 George Koinoglou

If you want to see your birthday or anniversary on this page, send an email to correspondent@saint-anns.org

Birthday and anniversary photos are appreciated too. Your photos can be current or past celebrations.

The office would appreciate updates on address, phone numbers, birthdays & anniversaries too. Contact them via email office@saint-anns.org or by phone: 631-589-6522

Saint Ann's
Episcopal Church

Family Service Sundays

JOIN US ON

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4 AT THE
10AM SERVICE**

WHAT TO EXPECT

- Go over the readings
- A fun activity
- Learn a song

CONTACT US

email
office@saint-anns.org



Father Charles and Laurie Mangano

~ a brother & sister ~

Present a One-Night Mission

A Night of Song.....Night of Inspiration..... Night of Reflection

Saint Ann's Episcopal Church

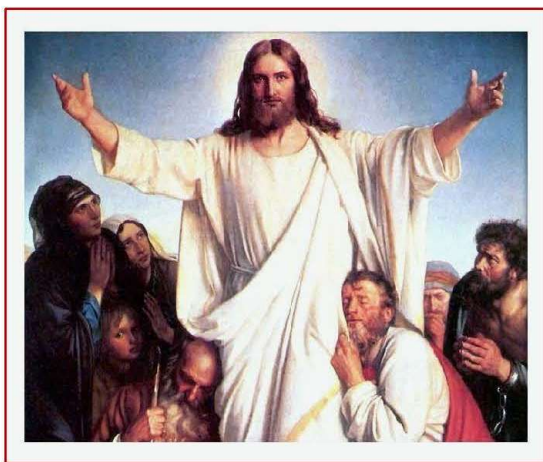
257 Middle Road, Sayville, NY
631-589-6522

Friday, October 23, 2026

7:30 p.m.

~ free will offering ~

Topic: Divine Providence



*Come to Me, all you who are weary and
burdened, and I will give you rest.*

-Matthew: 11:28

Discover how our fears and toxic guilt prevent us from living in the freedom of peace that God desires for us. We share examples of these fears that bind us and ways in which we can let go and see God's providence in our lives. This outstanding program is supported by scripture, song and personal reflection and is designed to comfort and inspire those facing struggles of any kind and who seek to refresh their souls and rejuvenate their spirits. If you've ever wondered:

Where Is God in this struggle?

Why is God allowing this to happen?

How can God love me if....?

Then this evening is for YOU!

You will have an opportunity to participate in a symbolic offering of your fears and have them prayed over. Come and refresh your soul and rejuvenate your spirit knowing that God's Divine Providence is at work every day in your life.

Father Charles and Laurie have united their gifts to praise God and minister to His people in a very special way. They have been singing for the Lord since childhood, and together they have touched the hearts of thousands with their meditative and inspirational music. In addition to producing 13 albums, a DVD and music video, Father Charles and Laurie have also co-hosted their own TV show on Telecare for many years. They have sung at countless venues and benefit concerts. In addition, through their music ministry, they continue to donate to many charities. This beautiful One-Night Mission on Friday, October 23, 2026 is **guaranteed to be most uplifting!** It is our hope that through this experience we will come to know, love and trust the Lord Jesus in a deeper and more intimate way, leading us to serve the Lord with gladness.



Approximately 100 guests
joined the fun at
“Gin & Sin –
A Murder Mystery Play.”

This fundraiser supported
three non-profit
organizations:
CM Performing Arts Center,
The People’s Arc,
and Saint Ann’s Church.



Father Jae Wook Chung
Parish Hall was transformed
into a dark & mysterious
speakeasy complete with a
piano player and vocalist.

A delicious buffet dinner
was served while a murder
mystery story was
portrayed. From what I saw,
everyone had a wonderful
time.





Photo by **Connor Patton**, Reporter, Suffolk County News

**Saint Ann's
Family Film Night**
PRESENTS
WICKED
Saturday, October 24
AFTER THE 5PM SERVICE
Upper Parish Hall
MOVIE STARTS AT 6:15PM

PLEASE CONSIDER BRINGING A DONATION TO THE FOOD PANTRY

SAINT ANN'S ANNUAL

ART EXHIBITION 2026



Saturday, November 14, 1-4 PM
Upper Parish Hall

Visual, Fabric and written arts created by Saint Ann's Parishioners

MORE MONEY



YOUR POCKETS

ENERGY AFFORDABILITY PROGRAM



Get a discount on your monthly utility bills



Save up to hundreds of dollars per year



2.5 million households are eligible

VISIT [NY.GOV/EAP](https://ny.gov/eap) TO LEARN MORE

GOVERNOR KATHY HOCHUL



The Correspondent

MISSION STATEMENT

To the Glory of God, the Family of Saint Ann's Parish in response to the promises made at Baptism and inspired by the Holy Spirit, strives to share Christ's reconciling love, by our witness and ministry in Stewardship, Worship, Education, Pastoral Care and Service.



www.saint-anns.org

Saint Ann's is a member of the Sayville Chamber of Commerce