

# The Correspondent

## Monthly Newsletter / July & August 2026

### SUMMER WEEKLY CHURCH SERVICES\*

Wednesdays: 11 am (Saint Barnabas Chapel - followed by Grief/Bereavement Group)  
 Saturdays: 5 pm (Church - live streaming on Facebook)  
 Sundays: 9 am (Church - live streaming on Facebook)  
 11 am (Fire Island-see page 15)

### 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** 8:40 am Sundays until Aug 30th  
 ALL WELCOME  
**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](http://www.saint-anns.org)

### Saint Ann's Vestry

#### **Wardens**

Randy Schultz (2027)  
 Roma Busch (2028)

#### **Members**

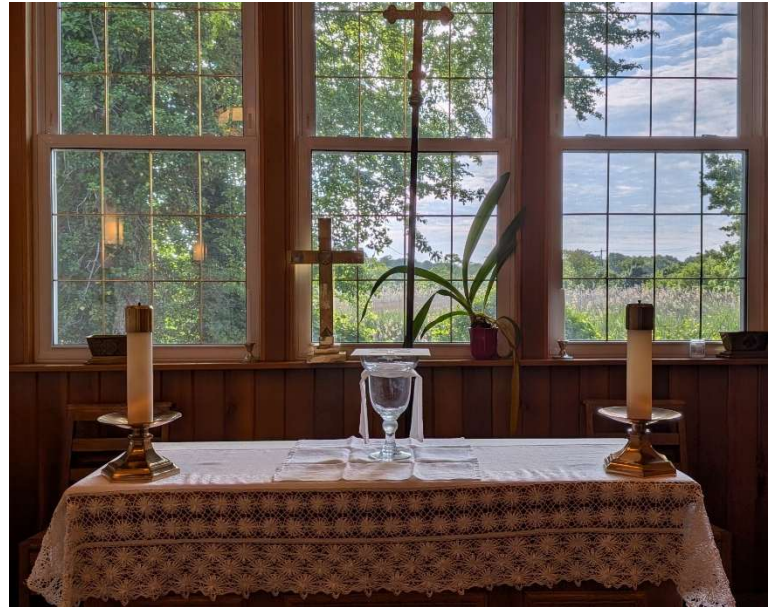
Ray Busch (2028)  
 Joe Castelli (2027)  
 Laurin Clemens (2028)  
 Kaitlyn Crevoiserat (2029)  
 Don Hester (2029)  
 Joan Siedlecki (2029)  
 Rich Maddox (2027)  
 Carol Ann St. Lawrence (2027)  
 Laura Sanchez (2029)

Linda Maddox, clerk of the Vestry

### **Important Dates:**

July 4 No Saturday service due to holiday  
 July 11 Fire Island Lighthouse tour  
 July 17 Shipmates – traditional & contemporary music 7 pm  
 Aug 15 Deadline for next Correspondent  
 Aug 23 Saint Ann's invasion at Cherry Grove  
 Sept 4 Family film night  
 Sept 8 Regular Choir practice resumes 6:45 pm  
 Sept 11 "Journey" a performance by Creative Ministries  
 Sept 27 Rev. Patrick Malloy "The Liturgy & Church Space"

More information about events on pages 8-9



### **Saint Ann's 2026 Summer Program** **Sunday, May 24th through Sunday, September 6.**

Wednesdays at 11:00AM (Saint Barnabas Chapel)  
 Saturdays at 5:00pm (Church)  
 Sundays at 9:00AM (Church)  
 Sundays at 11:00AM (Fire Island ~ alternating between Cherry Grove and The Pines (page 15))

SAINT ANN'S OFFICE

251 Middle Road  
Sayville NY 11782  
Email: office@saint-anns.org  
Web: www.saint-anns.org  
Pho: 631-589-6522  
Mon-Wed 9:00 am – 3 pm  
**Lynne Robinson**  
Parish Administrator  
**Marge Rogers**  
Office Volunteer

CLERGY

The Reverend Dr. Benjamin Brenkert  
**Father Ben**  
Rector  
frbenjamin@saint-anns.org  
929-445-3781  
The Reverend Deacon Susan Ellinghaus  
**Deacon Susan**  
Pastoral & Youth Ministry  
dcnsusan@saint-anns.org  
516-381-5485

THE CORRESPONDENT

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in parish hall, the church  
narthex, and USPS  
(request via church office)  
**Eileen Moran, Editor**  
**Sue Schultz, Roving Reporter**

FOOD PANTRY

257 Middle Road  
Fr. Jae Chung Parish Hall  
Sayville NY 11782  
Interim Pantry Coordinator:  
**Sal Greci**  
office@saint-anns.org  
631-589-6522  
Open Monday & Wednesday  
10 am - noon

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

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 **Kathy Senese** - music@saint-anns.org  
Parish Administrator **Lynne Robinson** - office@saint-anns.org  
Cemetery Manager **Tim Laffin** - cemetery@saint-anns.org  
Finance & Bookkeeping **Anthony Basile, C.P.A., P.C.**  
Treasurer **Sue Nappo** - treasurer@saint-anns.org  
Webmaster **Timothy Leigh-Manuell** - Tim@Kagesolutions.com  
Sexton **Phil Linbrunner** - st.sexton@saint-anns.org  
Historian **Connie Currie** - RadioGal2@optonline.net | 631-589-2700  
Editor **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*



To the Faithful of Saint Ann's and Fire Island Ministries,

At the June Vestry Meeting, I provided copies of Fr. Kevin O'Brien, SJ's text (2011) *The Ignatian Adventure: Experiencing the Spiritual Exercises of Saint Ignatius in Daily Life*. In it, O'Brien uses the theme of adventure to mark new beginnings, in this case, the drawing deeper into one's spiritual life. New beginnings always have content that is unexpected. As we enter into our second month of our Summer Program I invite each of you to consider: What have I done for Jesus Christ? What am I doing for Jesus Christ? and What will I do for Jesus Christ? (Please see me if you would like a copy of the book.)

I invite you to use the *Anima Christi* prayer to close out your time meditating or reflecting on all of God's creation, especially as you seek to find God in all things.

### *Anima Christi*

Soul of Christ, sanctify me.  
Body of Christ, save me.  
Blood of Christ, inebriate me.  
Water from the side of Christ, wash me.  
Passion of Christ, strengthen me.  
O Good Jesus, hear me.  
Within your wounds hide me.  
Permit me not to be separated from you.  
From the wicked foe, defend me.  
At the hour of my death, call me  
and bid me come to you  
That with your saints I may praise you  
For ever and ever. Amen.

Last month, we celebrated both the 1-year anniversary of our bi-vocational ministry with the People's Arc of Suffolk County and Saint Barnabas Day, there were many festivities, that day an outdoor Service aided us in joying in God's grandeur.

These summer days, take time to find someone who needs a hug, or a conversation, our world is challenging, but together we can make a difference. Be kind. Kindness is prophetic.

If you would like to join us at a Service on Fire Island, please see me for ferry tickets. I hope to see you and your car with the "I survived Saint Barnabas Day!" sticker around town.

With gratitude, joy and in prayer,

Fr. Ben, Rector

## Some thoughts from your Deacon...

"Yours is the day, yours also the night; you established the luminaries and the sun. You have fixed all the bounds of the earth; you have made summer..." Psalm 74:16-17

Oh these lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer...

Now in full disclosure, the psalmist actually ended that thought with "and winter", but I figured we'd had enough of winter...although, I do believe that the winter gave us the gift of all the riotous colors and beauty of our spring and summer flowers. My daughter-in-law commented that "apparently we have roses"...this is their third summer in the house, but thanks to the winter, they have roses in all shapes and colors that they had never noticed before! I always knew the snow was good for more than aggravation and potholes!



And here we sit, in a beautiful space in God's creation. I recently finished a book that repeatedly used the term "Earth School". I think it quite apropos. The earth has much to teach us, creation has much to teach us, we have much to learn!

This fragile earth, our island home, constantly gives us cause to stop and marvel at the beauty which surrounds us. The streams, bay, and ocean...the marshes and fields, the flora and fauna...and it's all for us! Think about that for a minute...God created it all for us! There is a beautiful line about just this from Alice Walker's The Color Purple :

"I think it pisses God off if you walk by the color purple in a field somewhere and don't notice it. People think pleasing God is all God cares about. But any fool living in the world can see it always trying to please us back."

As we travel the paths of summer, let's take a moment each day to thank God for giving us nature. Take a moment to walk barefoot on the grass. Take a moment to listen to the bird song. Take a moment to recite the Lord's Prayer outdoors. Take a moment to refill YOUR chalice! Amen! And may I say, ALLELUIA!

With love and blessings,  
Deacon Susan

Many thanks to our merry band of Christmas Crafters! I am delighted to share that we have made quite a few items for the Christmas Fair. We met every two weeks for May and June and will take a pause for the summer.

Mark your calendars for Friday night, September 4th which is our first Family Film Night of the season! Film TBA!

Senior Luncheons will resume in October!

If you are away for vacation, send us a postcard...we'll post them (no pun intended) in the Parish Hall! It will be fun to see who has gone where!

### **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,  
Father Ben, Deacon Susan, or Deacon Bob to schedule a visit.

## VESTRY VISIONS

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July is the best month to be on Long Island in my humble opinion. We wait most of the year for Summer with beautiful sunny days, pristine beaches and many outdoor activities. For Saint Ann's it can also serve as the end of the first half of the year reflection. As a parish we have accomplished many good things thus far. Our Tower Restoration capital campaign reached its goal of \$40,000 and the work is looking amazing. What a wonderful achievement! Also, our food pantry has grown tremendously serving our community as well as surrounding communities. You may also have noticed much needed improvements to our campus. All with God's help.

Our celebration for St. Barnabas Day was a huge success. Thank you to everyone who lent a helping hand. We were blessed with a beautiful day for outdoor Eucharist on the Great Lawn. The choir joyfully provided us with some beautiful hymns. The weather was perfect for this annual event. The food was delicious and plentiful and everyone enjoyed the music with Jack's Waterfall Band. If you had time to make a tie die shirt while you were there, hopefully you were able to wear it at Happy Pride Month "celebrate love" coffee hour on Sunday June 28<sup>th</sup>. And if you happen to see Randy Schultz, Warden or Eileen Moran, Correspondent Editor; be sure to congratulate them on receiving the Bishop's Medal for Distinguished Parochial Service for all they do for St. Ann's. We are truly blessed!

Summer is a time to slow down, focus on family, health, and spiritual renewal. That being said, I hope to see you possibly on the beach, on the Great South Bay or in the pews at St. Ann's these next few months. As a reminder, there is a new mass added to our schedule on Sunday's at 6:00 pm in the St. Barnabas Chapel. Wishing everyone a fun-filled, safe and blessed summer!

Joyfully submitted,

*Roma Busch*

for the Vestry

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### **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.

# A Child's Prayer Poem

By Connie Currie

We've read about all the saints  
Who soon were heaven bound  
Each one who did so much good  
Now are heavenly crowned  
Heaven must be very crowded  
With all those saints, oh gee  
I'm really very worried  
Will there be room for me?

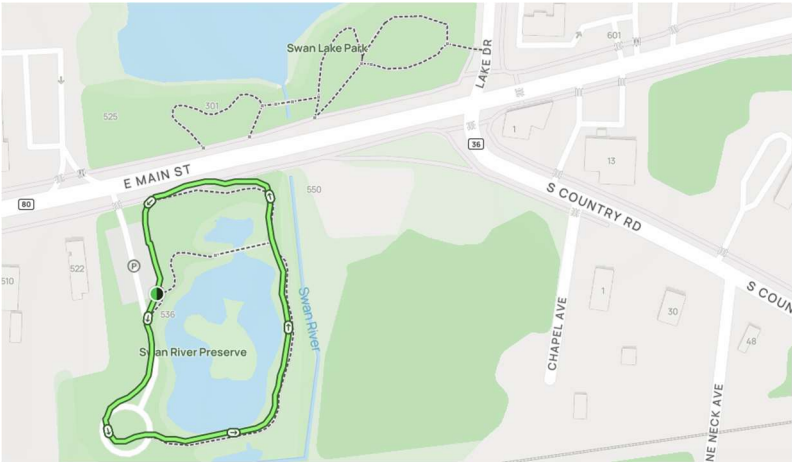
## Thinking About: Green Spaces

This past spring my wife Lisa and I visited a small green space in East Patchogue that was not only pleasant to be in but also performs an important function. The green space we visited is called the Swan River Trailhead – East Patchogue Storm Water Treatment Facility (LID). It's located on the South Side of Montauk Highway, a few hundred feet from where Montauk Highway forks, with one road continuing Montauk Highway and the other road beginning South Country Road. From the name of the green space, it's easy to understand its purpose: controlling and treating stormwater runoff from our urban landscape (roads, lawns, driveways, etc.). This water carries pollutants such as chemicals, fertilizers, and solid debris which can find its way into the Swan River, an estuary that feeds The Great South Bay.

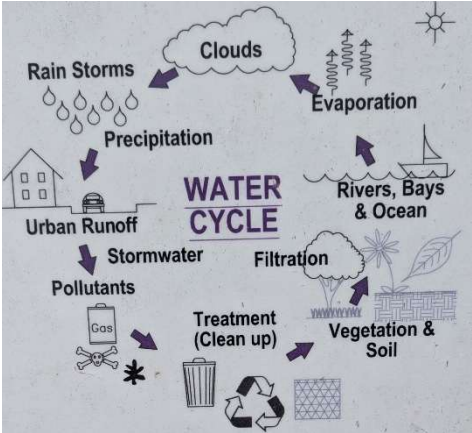
What makes this space a pleasure to be in is that it's a LID (Low Impact Development) facility or green space. What LID green spaces do is use both natural landscapes (such as marsh and meadow wetlands) along with engineered landscapes (such as permeable pavements) to collect and filter stormwater to minimize or eliminate the contaminants entering Swan River. This green space is not large and was built on property that was once was an auto dealership. It consists of four naturally constructed marsh ponds with a variety of native plants, shrubs and trees which populate the space. A short, looped walking path (which takes about 15 minutes to walk and includes benches and picnic tables) winds around the ponds giving views of the natural landscape which provides habitat for a wide variety of wildlife. The path also includes educational signs which explain how this small oasis in a busy area snuggled between Montauk Highway and tracks of the Long Island Railroad uses a combination of nature and technology to help protect our Great South Bay. It's definitely worth a visit!

Peace and Fellowship,

Joe Castelli



From Google maps





## 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](mailto:correspondent@saint-anns.org) by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.  
Please submit announcements to the office by Wednesday each week.*

Called to the Lord: **Jeffrey Bond Richards, Kathie Vazquez and Tom Munkelwitz.**

May all those who have passed from this life, find peace in heaven and may their loved ones on earth be comforted by cherished memories.

We welcome  
**Sophia Hartmann** baptized on June 13 and  
**Michelle Frisenda** baptized on June 21.  
Congratulations to their parents  
**Kate & Nick Hartmann** and  
**Allison & Michael Frisenda.**  
God bless you all.



**Michelle Frisenda**



Congratulations to **Deacon Susan** on her graduation from The George Mercer, Jr. Memorial School of Theology.

July, **Bloomin' 4 Good bouquet sales** at Stop and Shop (Sayville) - proceeds go toward our Food Pantry Ministry.

Congratulations to **Father Bob** who was ordained to the Priesthood on June 13, 2026.

**July 11th, Fire Island Lighthouse Tour**, starts at 9:30am. Please contact the Parish Administration Offices for more information.

**SHIPMATES** ARE COMING TO St. Ann's! **Friday July 17 at 7 pm.**

They play a mix of traditional and contemporary music. Please be sure to invite family and friends!!!

August 23 is **Saint Ann's invasion @ Cherry Grove**. All are Welcome to attend; Ferry Tickets will be provided to support our gathering. A reception will follow the Service. Please let the Office know if you can attend.

RESCHEDULED TO SEPTEMBER 27th

A presentation from **Rev. Patrick Malloy**, former Dean, Cathedral of Saint John the Divine and Professor, General Theological Seminary. Topic: **The Liturgy and Church Space**. 11:15am from the Fr. Jae Chung Parish Hall or by ZOOM. Join the ZOOM via <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84496353075> and Meeting ID: 844 9635 3075.

Many thanks to the following clergy who will preside at Services with us this summer on Fire Island:

Rev. Leslie Hague  
Rev. Tony Lewis  
Rev. Eva Bogino  
Rev. Michael Delaney  
Rev. Fred Thayer  
Rev. Mark Collins

And Many thanks also to the clergy who will be at Saint Ann's during the summer:

Fr. Hickman Alexandre  
Fr. Elliott Conrad  
Fr. Fred Thayer

The People's Arc is now helping with our **Food Pantry Ministry**. This has enabled us to open an extra day. We are now open on **Mondays & Wednesdays** from 10 am to noon. Donations placed in the little red wagon in the Fr. Jae 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.



The People's Arc celebrating 1 year with us!

We need individuals and families to sign up for the **Sunday Coffee Hour**. The list is in the Fr. Jae 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.

**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](mailto: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.

The May "Doing" was the a Sunday afternoon concert featuring "L'Amour De La Flute". This was held on May 3, 2026, inside Saint Ann's Church. The concert was performed by a local flutist group named "L'Amour De La Flute", which has appeared at other local community events such as garden tours.

The name of this group, L'Amour De La Flute, translates from French to English as "The Love of the Flute". The group, composed of 9 female flutist and 1 conductor, are passionate performers, who just love to play their instruments and to perform the beautifully appealing and challenging music. Their repertoire included music played solely by flute, whether solo or in concert, from classical numbers such as "Hopak" by Modesto Mussorgsky, performed with bass flute, to sound tracks such as "Moon River" (popularized by the voice of Audrey Hepburn for the 1961 film, *Breakfast at Tiffany's*), arranged by Henry Mancini, to "work songs" such as "I've Been Working on the Railroad.

This concert of approximately one and a half hours proved to be a lovely respite from weekend projects/activities as well as using the beautiful setting of Saint Ann's altars, flanked by stained glass Tiffany windows. Over an average of 80 people were in attendance.

Minister of Music, Kathy Senese, has been arranging occasional free performances by such groups or individual performers to use Saint Ann's grounds.

The program of the flute concert included a number of songs, such as "Blue Skies" by Irving Berlin; "Amazing Grace" by Ricky Lomb; the quirky "Puttin On The Ritz" written by Irving Berlin. Incidentally, the "The Ritz" was the first song to be recorded on film as sung by an interracial performing group, back in the 1930's. "Let There Be Peace On Earth" by Sy Miller was the appropriate finale.

As reported by Sue Schultz

# SAINT BARNABAS DAY 6/14/26



The Bishop's Medal for Distinguished Parochial Service is presented to Randy Schultz (above) and Eileen Moran (below)



The June 2026 Doing was the annual Saint Barnabas Day held on June 14, 2026 and incidentally was the 168<sup>th</sup> Saint Barnabas Day event to be held over 168 years! This year, the weather, which is always iffy on any Sunday in June, actually turned out to be pleasant, not too hot, not too humid, not too chilly, not too windy and not too buggy as well! Over 75 people came to sit on chairs provided for this event as well as some bringing their own preferred equipment (camping chairs, children's wagons, child and dog blankets). In addition to the 75 plus people, there were approximately 2 well behaved dogs to be blessed. The Eucharist took place below the huge American Basswood tree at the north side of the Great Lawn. The tree, incidentally, has been undergoing treatment for tree disease by Jolly Green Giant Tree Care, and is looking very well.

Several people were honored at this Saint Barnabas Day: any and all graduates of school programs, two new Eucharistic Ministers/ Ushers (**Karen McGorty and Chris Gerard**) and two recipients of the Bishop's Medal (Correspondent Editor **Eileen Moran** and Senior Warden **Randy Schultz**).

After the service, the lunch and free festivities immediately commenced, as well as the arrival of the performers providing music. Groups held Tee Shirt Tie Dye and encouraged asphalt chalk painting; food was quickly set up to provide hot dogs, corn, & salads. And then the Pie Eating Contest commenced, with four brave young and older men eating a whole apple pie using only their mouths with their hands clasped behind their backs. This event was closely watched by over 30 people and took about 15 or more minutes. Joe Castelli was the winner and later admitted his experience came from having to participate in Pi Day (March 14) at his school. As reported by **Sue Schultz**.







**Women Sharing Art inc**

Sharing Energy & Exploring Artistic Passions

# Members! Keep creating for these exciting **2026** Exhibits

## Suffolk County Historical Society Museum

**“Visions of Freedom”**  
*NOW ON DISPLAY*

**Reception:** 6/25 (6-8 p.m.)

**Pick-up:** 8/26-8/28 (Time TBD)

**Now - August 22**

## BAFFA

**“Awakening”**

**Drop-off:** 4/28 (6 p.m.)  
or 4/29 (10 a.m.-12 p.m.)

**Reception:** 5/2 (1-4 p.m.)

**Pick-up:** 5/31 (4 p.m.)  
or 6/1 (9-10 a.m.)

\*Members Only

**May 1 - 31**



## Port Jefferson Village Civic Center

**“Creative Currents”**

All mediums accepted  
Multiple pieces may be accepted  
Size limit: *Larger pieces welcome!*

**Drop-off:** 6/1 (9:30-11 a.m.)

**Reception:** 6/11 (6-8 p.m.)

**Pick-up:** 6/30 (12 p.m.)

\*Associates Invited

**June 2 - 30**

## Bayard Cutting Arboretum

**“Dahlia Inspirations”**

All mediums accepted  
Size limit: TBA

**Drop-off:** 8/17 (10 a.m.)

**Reception:** 8/23 (1-4 p.m.)

**Pick-up:** 9/13 (4 p.m.)  
or 9/14 (10 a.m.)

\*Members Only

**Aug. 20 - Sept. 13**

I wanted to pass on the above announcement which includes various community art galleries exhibiting my photographs during the months of May to August 2026, with additional exhibits in months to follow. Stop by and see the wonderful art of different genres including painting, mosaic art, glass works, photography etc.

Our organization is a women artists organization to support and promote women’s art and to provide scholarships to young high school women artists going on to college.

Check our website Women Sharing Art, Inc. and find us on Facebook and Instagram.

Blessings and thank you for supporting the arts.

Lisa Marie Scrima-Castelli

Member of Women Sharing Art

With joy and gratitude: **The Fire Island Ministries Program** begins Memorial Day Weekend and ends Labor Day Weekend. Fr. Ben along with Supply Priests will preside at the Services. If you want to join the Fire Island Ministries Committee, please see Fr. Ben.

## ~ Fire Island Ministries Schedule of Services, Summer Program 2026 ~

Remaining dates:

July 5, 11am: Cherry Grove, Community Center

July 12, 11am: The Pines, Whyte Hall Community Center

July 19, 11am: Cherry Grove, Cherry Grove Fire Department's Meeting Room

July 26, 11am: The Pines, Whyte Hall Community Center

August 2, 11am: Cherry Grove, Community Center

August 9, 11am: The Pines, Whyte Hall Community Center

August 16, 11am: Cherry Grove, Community Center

August 23, 11am: Saint Ann's Sayville Invasion @ Cherry Grove, Cherry Grove Fire Department's Meeting Room

August 30, 11am: The Pines, Whyte Hall Community Center

September 6, 11am: Cherry Grove, Community Center (Summer Program Ends)



Philomena the Turtle laid her eggs in the grass outside the church office on May 21<sup>st</sup>.



The eggs are expected to hatch sometime between August 9<sup>th</sup> to August 29<sup>th</sup>. The incubation usually takes between 80 and 100 days. But it could take up to 140 days which would be on October 8<sup>th</sup>. Most times the eggs hatch at night or very early in the morning to avoid predators. Anybody want to try for a watch party? If you are the lucky one to see the hatchlings please send some photos.



## St. Ann's Cemetery News

For those that don't know me, my name is Tim Laffin. I'm St. Ann's Cemetery manager. This article is a bit overdue, so please let me share some important information about our parish cemetery.

- 1) We have nearly 1,200 graves available. The majority are double-depth graves which can accommodate up to two caskets, or up to three cremains.
- 2) We also have ash plots which are half the size of a full grave and can accommodate up to two cremains.
- 3) We are currently out of niches but are in the early planning stages of constructing several new columbariums.
- 4) If you have loved ones in our cemetery but have not purchased a headstone or some other type of monument, **please consider doing so**. Monuments improve the looks of the cemetery, and they also make locating graves much easier. Please contact me for a list of local monument companies.
- 5) A partial list of the rules and regulations for the cemetery can be found on signs at both entrances to the cemetery. I'd like to highlight some here:
  - a. We allow artificial flowers in the cemetery, year-round now. If you plant live flowers, please be sure they are **deer resistant**.
  - b. Bouquets of cut flowers are also allowed, but once wilted, they will be removed.
  - c. The only flags we allow in the cemetery are American flags and fire department flags. Garden flags and personalized custom flags are not allowed. Please remove them.
  - d. Solar lights on the graves are not allowed. Please remove them.
  - e. Please, no pets in the cemetery.
- 6) For a complete list of cemetery rules and regulations, please contact me.

My office hours are Monday through Wednesday, from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. For times other than my office hours, please call or email me for an appointment.

My office phone number is (631) 589-6522 ext. 1.

My email address is address is [cemetery@saint-anns.org](mailto:cemetery@saint-anns.org).

Thank you. Tim Laffin

**Find us on Instagram: [saint\\_anns\\_sayville\\_new\\_york](https://www.instagram.com/saint_anns_sayville_new_york) and Facebook:  
St. Ann's Episcopal Church, Sayville, NY**



Our coffee hour hosts were **Steph Pierce and Dani Knight** for our LGBTQ+ Pride Celebration on 6/28/26. Thank You for making the day so special and thank you for your service to our community in your work as paramedics for Brentwood Ambulance.



PLEASE PRAY

**The Saint Ann's and Fire Island Communities pray especially this week for:  
Amy, Barbara, Beth, Daniella, David, Debi, Dennis, Diana, Donna, Gladys, Hal, Jasmine,  
Joni, John, Karen, Lauren, Luciano, Scott, Sharon, Steven, Susan and Wilma.**

Please pray for our Bishop-Elect, Rev. Adam Shoemaker and his family as they begin their transition to Long Island. 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](http://saint-anns.org)*

Or use this direct link: <https://www.saint-anns.org/request>

July Anniversaries:

- 6 Bo & Dennis Messina
- 6 Jessica & Adam Shelton

August Anniversaries:

- 17 Judith & Darroll Meyer
- 21 Elise & Philip Alloy
- 21 Nancy & Scott Leuly
- 21 Whitney & David O'Donnell
- 25 Cynthia & David MacDonell

If you want to see your birthday or anniversary on this page, send an email to [correspondent@saint-anns.org](mailto: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](mailto:office@saint-anns.org) or by phone: 631-589-6522



July Birthdays:

- 3 Doreen Greci
- 11 Taylor Schmittzeh
- 13 Rich Maddox
- 18 Bob Immoor
- 22 John Schulz
- 24 Susanne Schultz
- 26 Arthur Gerards
- 27 Rachel Ferzola
- 27 Gerhard Pagels
- 31 Connie Currie

August Birthdays:

- 2 Leo Chung
- 2 Lucas Chung
- 2 Samara Madigan
- 8 Sue Nappo
- 10 Ellen Garofolo
- 11 Gary Schaum
- 11 Andrew Schultz
- 12 Philip Alloy
- 14 Thomas Clarke Jr.
- 14 Kevin Mattimore
- 15 Cindy MacDonell
- 17 Adam Shelton
- 24 Aline Koinoglou
- 29 Lily Dadabo
- 30 Donald Hester

## Saint Ann's Episcopal Church's Community and Food Pantry Garden

Reported by Sue Schultz



On May 2, 2026, a team of over twenty Boy Scouts from Troup 130 of Bayport/Blue Point, along with their fathers, helped **John Finn MacInnes**, of Boy Scout Troop 130, create a Community Garden in Bayport for his **Eagle Scout project**. Completing an Eagle Scout project is a requirement toward becoming an Eagle Scout, assuring that the Scout has demonstrated leadership, organization, and commitment by planning and implementing a specific project enhancing quality of life towards his community at large. Such projects can involve structures such as useful benches, wildlife houses, memorials, including the 9/11 memorial and labyrinth both on Saint Ann's parish grounds. In this newest case, the project is the construction of the Community and Food Pantry Garden, located behind the Bayport House. This project, besides the necessary fund raising, includes donation of 6 metal raised beds, land clearing of the overgrown lot just north of the Bayport House, planting, irrigation and mulching.



Rector Benjamin J. Brenkert conceived the idea of developing an accessible community garden where fresh produce would be grown and made available to anyone needing food at St. Ann's Parish. He reached out to the Boy Scout troop to see if any member was interested in making the garden vision a doable reality. John Finn MacInnes who is a sophomore at Bayport Blue Point High School, began the work of constructing a plan to develop this garden. St. Ann's was the site of a successful car wash generating more than \$2,000 toward the project on April 12, 2026. Over 30 cars were made clean at this wash!

Local landscape contractor, Tom Hakes, donated his services in clearing this lot that had been filled with vines and overgrown trees as well as supplying mulch later. To date, all 6 beds are fortified with irrigation hookups,

are filled with soil backfill, covered with fiber blanket mulch and planted. The beds are easily accessible with minimal “bend-over” requirements. They are neatly filled with vegetable plants including melon, cantaloupe, cucumber, sweet peppers, strawberry, zucchini, herbs as well as the always popular tomato plants.

Parishioners and members of the community are welcome to come down and help maintain as well as harvest the vegetables when ready! **Interested volunteers should contact Fr. Ben about getting involved in the cultivation.**



Our **2026-2027 Saint Ann’s and Fire Island Ministries Program Year** kicks off **Friday, September 11th** with the acclaimed outdoor production from **Creative Ministries of “Journey”**. Admission is free, bring your lawn chairs and refreshments. That same weekend, we start our regular program year worship schedule, with Holy Eucharist on

**Wednesdays** 11AM (followed by Grief/Bereavement Group)  
**Saturdays** 5PM  
**Sundays** 8AM  
10AM

For those of us with children in grades K-12, please consider registering them for our **Youth Program**, which starts in September, led by Deacon Susan and Kaitlin Crevoiserat.

Please contact Fr. Ben if you would like to discuss our **Young Adult Ministry, being Confirmed or Received into the Episcopal Church**. All are welcome. You belong here.

## Construction Update



Exterior and interior construction on our Historic Tower (masonry/woodwork) and Apse continue, our north campus roadway entrance will be finished in the coming weeks, the Burgess Building will be assessed and evaluated by CTA Architects for future use, lighting and irrigation are being enhanced around campus. The NYSERDA campus energy study is now being completed. Please see Fr. Ben, Deacon Susan or a Vestry Member with any questions.



### Saint Ann's is a cooling & heating center

Saint Ann's is recognized by the [Town of Islip and Suffolk County as both cooling and heating stations and centers](#). Whether extreme heat or cold, community members may find comfort in the Fr. Jae Chung Parish Hall - hours are consistent with those of our Parish Administration Offices, currently **Mon – Wed 9 am to 3 pm**. Please join me in welcoming any of our neighbors who come to our campus to find relief from weather events.

### New York State Essential Plan Cooling Program:

As extreme heat events continue to rise across New York State due to climate change, NY State of Health is taking action to protect our most vulnerable residents through the Essential Plan Cooling Program. This initiative is designed to support individuals with health conditions that are worsened by extreme heat. Through the Essential Plan Cooling Program, eligible Essential Plan members may receive a free air conditioner to help keep their homes cool and reduce health risks associated with rising temperatures. Applications are now open as of April 15, 2026, and will be accepted through August 31, 2026, or until funding is exhausted.

This important initiative aims to protect vulnerable communities from increasingly frequent and severe heat waves, with a focus on those whose health conditions are disproportionately impacted by extreme heat.

Please see the website below for more information and to sign up.

<https://info.nystateofhealth.ny.gov/CoolingProgram>

## View from Behind the Pole



### SUMMER CHOIR

In July and August, the choir will be casual and open to all.  
There won't be Tuesday rehearsals and there won't be choir robes!  
Just show up at 8:40 on Sunday mornings to go over a favorite hymn or two.  
Then we'll sing those during the service at 9 am.

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

If you have any questions, you can call Kathy Senese at the church office or email her at [music@saint-anns.org](mailto:music@saint-anns.org)

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



Transportation available,  
Showers, light cooking.



Just call Joe Libardi  
631-804-3064  
Or 631-563-5131



One of the over-looked benefits sometimes available to us through our health insurance is a low cost, or free, gym membership. Check your policy. For those of us that have traditional Medicare with an additional Medi-gap plan – the “Silver Sneakers Program” is often included. I can highly recommend it. The program allows you to sign up for multiple gyms for free. The gyms I signed up with, Profit in Bohemia and L.A. Fitness in Patchogue, both include free classes. It’s really helped with my knee recovery and my over-all fitness. Did you know that L.A. Fitness has a very large pool? They even have aqua fit classes.

When you are young you take it for granted that your body will stay strong but in reality if you don’t use it, you will lose it.

And if a gym is not your style how about a stroll through the neighborhood or a walk in the park?

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Have your kids longed to see their photo or story in The Correspondent? Have you? There is a very easy fix: email me at [correspondent@saint-anns.org](mailto:correspondent@saint-anns.org). I am always looking for kids to feature in our Saint Ann’s Stars page and people for our “Did You Know” page.

This is OUR newsletter so let’s make it the best we can.

Send your birthday & anniversary dates. Share your good news about births, baptisms, graduations, weddings, new jobs, awards or anything else you think the parish would enjoy reading about. Send a photo. Contribute a poem or short essay. Write your reaction to a sermon or a hymn.

Send ideas for “Creation Corner” to **Joe Castelli at [53jcas@gmail.com](mailto:53jcas@gmail.com)**  
**subject: Creation Care**

Everything else should be emailed to [correspondent@saint-anns.org](mailto:correspondent@saint-anns.org).

Documents should be in **Microsoft Word format or as text in the email.**

Photos can take many formats but be sure to send them as “large files” or originals depending on your equipment. These options will produce the best printed photos.

Please observe the deadline which is **always the 15<sup>th</sup> of the previous month.** Exceptions may be made for events that happen after the 15th – just ask.

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*Eileen Moran*

Deadline for the next issue:  
8/15/26

# The Correspondent

## MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to spread the gospel of Christ in thought, word, and deed to our community and the world.



[www.saint-anns.org](http://www.saint-anns.org)

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