

# The Correspondent

Monthly Newsletter / May 2026

## WEEKLY CHURCH SERVICES\*

Wednesdays: 11 am (Chapel)  
 Saturdays: 5 pm (Church - live streaming on Facebook)  
 Sundays: 8 am (Church)  
 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** 1<sup>st</sup> 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** May 19th  
**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:**

May 3 First Intentional Communion  
 May 3 L'Amour de la Flute – concert at 2 pm (page 16)  
 May 5 High Tea Fundraiser 12:30 pm  
 May 11 Bristol Assisted Living 10:30 Eucharist & healing  
 May 13 Spring blood drive 1 – 7 pm  
 May 15 “Communion” by Matt La Banca 7 pm (page 23)  
 May 19 Senior Luncheon 11:15 am chapel, 12 pm lunch  
 May 24 Summer schedule through 9/6/26 (see below)  
 June 13 Deacon Bob's Ordination 11 am Cathedral of the  
 Incarnation in Garden City  
 June 14 St. Barnabas celebration & picnic  
 June 15 Mobile Mammography  
 Aug 23 Saint Ann's invasion at Cherry Grove  
 Sept 27 Rev. Patrick Malloy “The Liturgy & Church Space”

More information about events on pages 10-11



## **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) & 6PM (Chapel)\*  
 Sundays at 11:00AM (Fire Island ~ alternating between  
 Cherry Grove and The Pines)

\*No Sunday 6PM on 5/24, 6/14, 7/5 and 9/6

SAINT ANN'S OFFICE

251 Middle Road  
Sayville NY 11782  
Email: office@saint-anns.org  
Web: www.saint-anns.org  
Pho: 631-589-6522  
Fax: 631-589-6541  
Mon-Wed 9:00 am – 3 pm  
**Lynne Robinson**  
Parish Administrator  
**Marge Rogers**  
Office volunteer

CLERGY

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

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  
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Editor **Eileen Moran** - correspondent@saint-anns.org

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

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



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

Peace of Christ. Throughout the Easter Season our clergy and lay preachers will focus on the Christian theme of *a faith that does justice*. What does this mean? It means that we are called to live out our faith in service to others and in solidarity with the poor. Saint Ann's and Fire Island Ministries seeks faith, justice and mercy, *e.g.*, through our bi-vocational ministry with the People's Arc (enhancing the lives of people on the disability spectrum), serving others through our food

and housing insecurity outreach programs (Food Pantry and Thrift Shop Voucher Program) and by our presence on Fire Island (Cherry Grove and The Pines), where for many decades Saint Ann's has brought the word of God and inspired action and radical welcome and inclusion through ministering to and with the LGBTQIA+ community. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Please consider the following texts as you pray about a faith that seeks justice.

### Complementary Old Testament Foundations

- **Micah 6:8:** States God requires doing justice, loving kindness, and walking humbly.
- **Isaiah 1:17:** Commands to "seek justice, correct oppression, defend the fatherless, plead for the widow".
- **Select Psalms:** 7, 28, 37, 85, 89, 99, 103, 111, 113 and 139.

### Key Gospel Passages on Justice

- **Luke 4:18-19:** Jesus declares his mission is to bring good news to the poor, release captives, and set the oppressed free.
- **Matthew 23:23:** Jesus rebukes the Pharisees for neglecting the "weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness".
- **Matthew 25:31-46:** Known as the judgment of nations, where Jesus equates faith with feeding the hungry, welcoming the stranger, and visiting the sick and imprisoned.
- **Luke 10:25-37 (The Good Samaritan):** Defines "neighbor" as anyone in need, demanding action over apathy.
- **Luke 19:1-10 (Zacchaeus):** Demonstrates that repentance leads to tangible restitution and justice for those who were cheated.

The Society of Jesus wrote about a faith that seeks or does justice in the documents from their 34<sup>th</sup> General Congregation in 1974, Decree 4: Service of Faith and the Promotion of Justice:

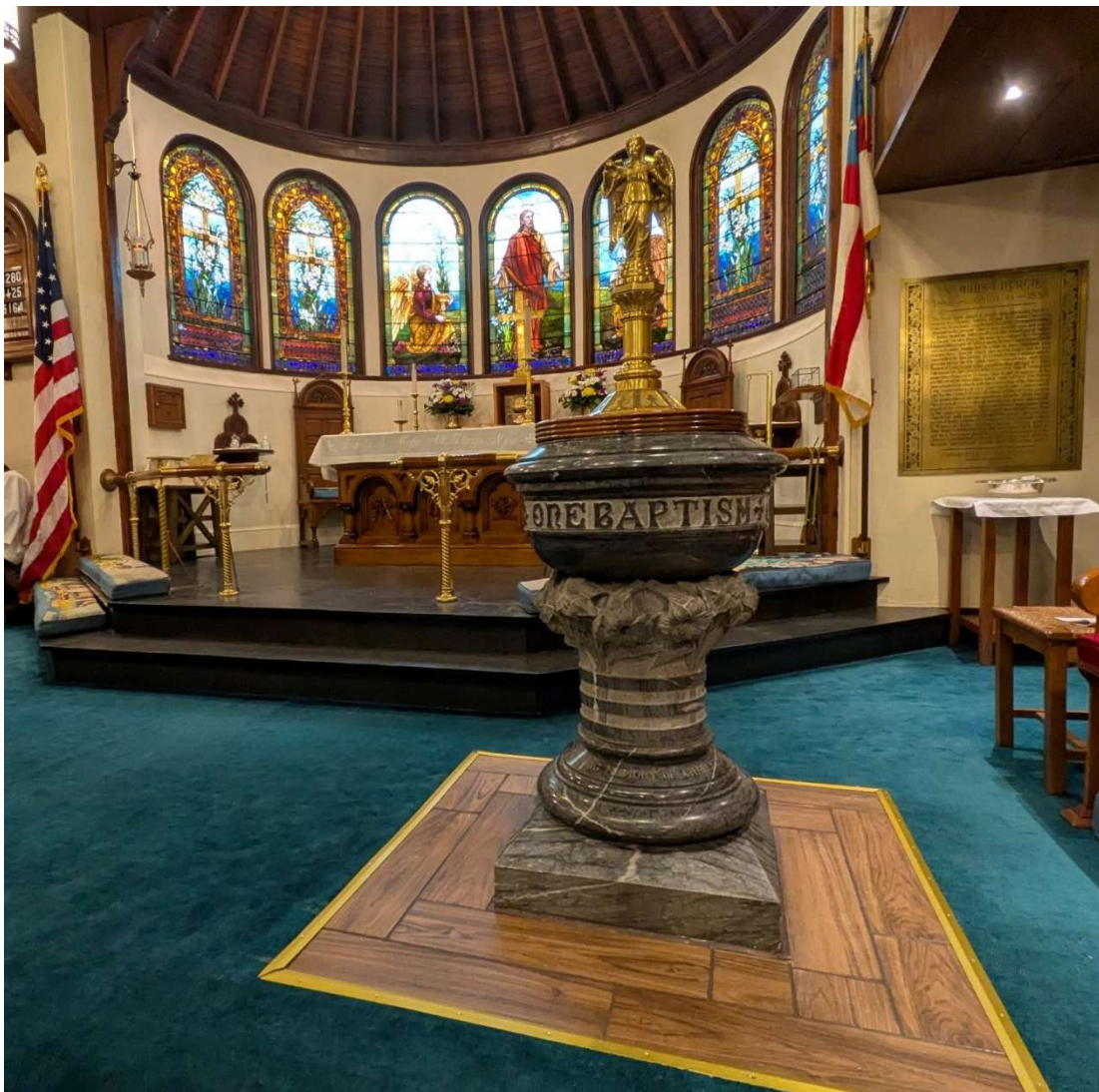
Similarly, solidarity with men and women who live a life of hardship and who are victims of oppression cannot be the choice of a few Jesuits only. It should be a characteristic of the life of all of us as individuals and a characteristic of our communities and institutions as well. Alterations are called for in our manner and style of living so that the poverty to which we are vowed may identify us with the poor

Christ, who identified Himself with the deprived. The same questions need to be asked in a review of our institutions and apostolic works, and for the same reasons. A faith that seeks justice is an action-oriented, interfaith, and religious commitment to addressing societal inequalities by advocating for the marginalized, poor, and vulnerable. Grounded in core spiritual principles, it moves beyond dogma to promote social responsibility, solidarity with the poor, often involving anti-racism, anti-violence, and solidarity with the oppressed.

I invite you to pray and ask for the grace(s) you desire this Easter Season. Take time for spiritual self-care, pray before our relocated Baptismal font (One Lord, one faith, one baptism, cf. Ephesians 4:5), practice the Examen Prayer of Ignatius Loyola, engage in spiritual conversation with a friend. Find someone from the pews who may be new to you or our community and speak with them over coffee or lunch. Welcome the stranger. All are welcome. You belong here.

Seek a faith that does justice. All for the greater glory of God. A.M.D.G. With gratitude, joy and in prayer,

Fr. Ben  
Rector Elect



## A Message from your Transitional Deacon

### A Spiritual practice to do after lent

In the forty days of Easter, we as Christians are invited to continue reflecting of the meaning of the Resurrection. During lent we focused on penitence, sacrifice, self-denial, self-examination and spiritual renewal in preparation for Easter.

We have just celebrated the Resurrection of the Lord, and we are still in the Easter Season so how can we live into renewal, joy and a deeper communion with God?

One meaningful way to engage this time is through Lectio Divina, which means spiritual reading. It is an ancient spiritual practice of prayerful scripture reading. There are four steps to this prayerful process. Instead of trying to understand a lot of the text take a short passage and spend time with it.

First read the passage slowly several times.

Secondly notice a word or a phrase that stands out and feels meaningful. Repeat that word or phrase quietly and hold it and let it sit with you.

Next, ponder and meditate on the words that seem to be addressing your life directly. Talk to God about what you are seeing. That could be a prayer or a question. Then rest quietly in God's presence, sitting in receptive silence. This practice, even if it's just for a few minutes each day or week, can create a rhythm of stillness and awareness. In our busy world. Lectio Divina offers a simple but powerful way to remain rooted in the joy and transformative power of Easter.

Blessings,

Deacon Bob+



#### **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.

## Some thoughts from your Deacon...

"I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a deacon of the church at Cenchrae, so that you may welcome her in the Lord as is fitting for the saints, and help her in whatever she may require from you, for she has been a benefactor of many and of myself as well." Romans 16:1-2

During one of the gatherings after a Holy Week service, a congregant from another parish called me over, "Hey, Deacon Susan, when is your next ordination? When are you going to be a priest?" I gave her a big smile and said, "Never!" She almost fell off her chair!

I calmly explained that I was called to be deacon, that "special ministry of servanthood." My "job" is to serve all people, especially those in need.

In the early church, deacons were ordained, "...not to priesthood, but to servanthood." They acted as intermediaries and were agents for the Bishops, taking care of charity. Deacons set the table, proclaim the Gospel, and lead the intercessions. During the examination leading up to my Ordination, I promised to "serve all people, particularly the poor, the weak, the sick, and the lonely." Further, I was charged to, "interpret to the Church the needs, concerns, and hopes of the world." And perhaps what meant most to me, "At all times, your life and teaching are to show Christ's people that in serving the helpless they are serving Christ himself."

So no, I won't be ordained as a priest, which is exactly as God has ordained it. I will continue to love what I do, serving as your Deacon!



Blessings,

Deacon Susan

### **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.

Looking ahead:

Spring Blood Drive - Wednesday, May 13th; Parish Hall from 1pm to 7pm

Spring Senior Luncheon - Tuesday, May 19th; quiches, salads, and Ice Cream Sundaes

St. Barnabas Day- Sunday, June 14th; lots of old-time fun, games, music, and food

Mobile Mammography Van- Monday, June 15th; make an appointment, it's important

## VESTRY VISIONS

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This month I will discuss the Tower Project with the members of the congregation. This has been a long-term consuming project. I have been on the vestry for four years and the previous vestry had been discussing what to do about the water damage occurring in the tower, structure and sacristy. At that time, it was suggested that the leaks were occurring from the window frames and that the mortar needed to be repaired. The search began to find a qualified contractor to quote for the proposed project, after several unsuccessful attempts the project was on hold. Approximately 1 ½ years ago the Vestry voted to proceed with hiring an architect, identifying the scope of the project of repairing the leaks in the tower, sacristy. Interviewing contractors and initiating the Tower Fund Campaign to pay for this important project. The Vestry members jumped into committing to supporting the Tower Fund campaign with 100% supporting this effort, and you as members of the parish have stepped up and at this time, we are very close to obtaining our goal to fund this project. But we need everyone to try to support this very important work, please the Vestry understands things are tough right now but every dollar donated will support this important project to protect this historic building and the important work done within its walls.

After hiring an architect and establishing the scope of the project needed, the Vestry hired Kings Stone Restoration from New Jersey to complete the restoration work. Kings Stone Restoration has been in business for twenty plus years specializing in historic stone building restorations, they are currently completing extensive restorations at our cathedral in Garden City, which are beautiful, on time and on budget. The work on the tower should commence this month (May 2026). Depending on the temperature, it is expected to be completed within 6 to 8 weeks. The vestry is working closely with the contractor to ensure the least amount of disturbance to the life of this vibrant parish.

So, in closing, I want to thank our Rector-Elect Father Ben, our clergy Deacon Bob, Deacon Susan, and our wardens Randy and Roma, as well as our vestry Carol Ann, Don, Laura, Laurin, Joe, Kaitilyn, and the parish members for their support for this important project.

Now, onto the next project...

For the Vestry,

Richard C. Maddox

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## Thinking About: Moving Forward from Earth Day

With Earth Day in the rear-view mirror and the month of May upon us, let's not forget the important message of Earth Day. It was a day that not only reminded us, but also challenged us, to do our part to support our fragile ecosystem throughout the entire year. And what better place in the year to start than in Spring! Spring is that time when we're working on our outdoor spaces – making them places we can retreat to when we need some relaxing down time, or enjoying quality time with our family, friends or neighbors. So, as we work on these outdoor spaces, let's do it in a way that helps our ecosystem. An important way to do this is to use native plants. Also, if possible, try to eliminate or reduce the amount of invasive and ornamental plants in your green spaces. An important reason for doing this is best explained by Julie Sullivan in an article from '*Go Native Long Island*' and linked below. She explains "Long Island's landscapes are changing, especially since invasive plants outcompete native species. When native plants disappear or are replaced by alien exotics, many food sources and habitats for beneficial pollinators, birds, and other animals that co-evolved with them are lost." A good thing is that certain species of native plants will also attract pollinators such as bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds.

Other ways to help our ecosystem is to eliminate the use of insecticides on our lawns (which also kill our all-important pollinators), and fertilizers that have a high nitrogen content (greater than 12%). Also, try to minimize storm water runoff which collects whatever we apply to our lawns, and through various channels eventually deposit them into The Great South Bay.

The good news is that if you want to make your outdoor spaces nature friendly, there's a ton of resources to help you on the web. Here's a few of them:

- **Save The Great South Bay** Lots of info on the different programs they have to help revitalize The Great South Bay including a downloadable E-Book on '*A Beginners Guide to Native Planting*' and much, much more. <https://savethegreatsouthbay.org/take-action/bay-friendly-yards-pledge/>
- **Long Island Natives** Although this is a company that sells native plants, the resources and how to videos are Great! <https://www.longislandnatives.com/long-island-native-plants/>
- **Go Native Long Island** Very good and informative information <https://gonative.com/>

Hope this article helps inspire you to **Go Native!**

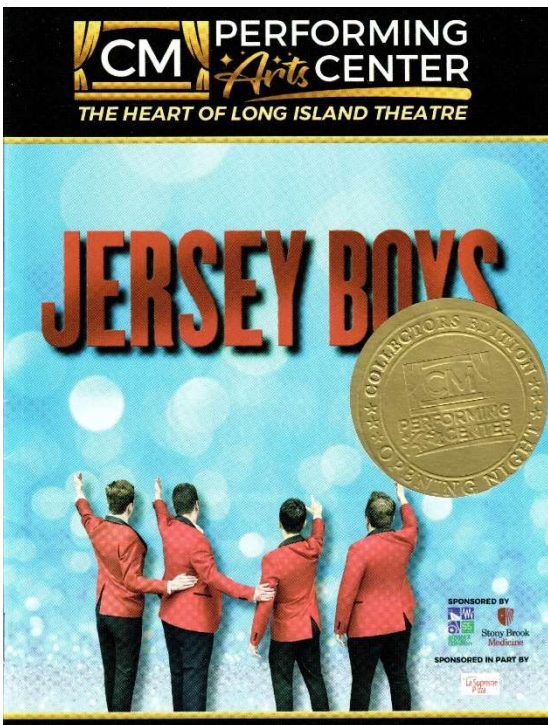
Peace and Fellowship to All,

Joe Castelli 😊

I attended a wonderful performance of “Jersey Boys” at the CM Performing Arts Center on opening night. It’s the story of Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons. The singing and acting were quite good and I enjoyed myself immensely.

Saint Ann’s is allowing the Center to use our facilities to rehearse and in exchange they are giving our parishioners free tickets. There will be 25 free tickets for each main stage run of each show. In order to get in on this deal, call the box office at 631-218-2810, identify yourself as a Saint Ann’s parishioner and ask for the complementary tickets. Upcoming shows include “Hairspray”, “Rocky”, “The Addams Family”, and “White Christmas”. They are all musicals. How great is that?

Reported to you by Eileen Moran



More information about their shows, can be found on their website: [www.CMPAC.com](http://www.CMPAC.com)





## 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: **Caroline Schiller**. See more about Caroline on page 15.

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 Brady Del Re who was baptized on April 12, 2026. Congratulations to his parents Nick and Jillian Del Re. God bless you all.  
(See additional picture on the cover)



May 3rd: **L'Amour de la Flute** – concert. Everyone is welcome!! Please invite family and friends!!!

May 5<sup>th</sup>: **High Tea** in the Father Jae Chung Parish Hall at 12:30 pm. Reservations are required; \$10.00 per person payment at the door. There is a sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall or you can call the Church Office. Peggy Flanagan is the Chair of the event.

May 7th, **Long Island Day of Prayer**, hosted by LiFaith - an ecumenical breakfast prayer service, starting at 9 am at LIU-Post's Interfaith Chapel.

May 13<sup>th</sup> **Spring Blood Drive** in the Father Jae Chung Parish Hall from 1:00pm to 7:00pm. Give the gift of life and enjoy the Lorna Doone cookies!

May 14<sup>th</sup> **Deanery Ascension Day Eucharist** at St. Andrew's, Mastic Beach. Details will be announced.

May 15<sup>th</sup> 7pm, The Off-Broadway play "**Communion**" by **Matt La Banca** from the Father Jae Chung Parish Hall, RSVP at the Office, suggested donation \$40.00. If you are not able to give the suggested donation, please come anyway.

May 16th, Diocesan **Farewell to Bishop Provenzano**, Garden City.

May 17, **Confirmations and Receptions at Emmanuel Episcopal Church**, Great River, 10 am. The 10 am Service at Saint Ann's will be presided by the Rev. Douglas Mohrmann, Curate, St. John's Church, Cold Spring Harbor.

May 19<sup>th</sup> **Senior Luncheon** in the Father Jae Chung Parish Hall. Starts in the St. Barnabas Chapel at 11:15 with lunch served at noon. There will be Quiches and salads followed by an ice cream social. **Please bring a donation for the food pantry. Thanks!**

June 13th, the **Ordination of Deacon Bob** and others to the Priesthood, 11 am, from the Cathedral of the Incarnation in Garden City.

June 14th, **Saint Barnabas Day**. Holy Eucharist at 10 am on the great lawn followed by lots of old-time fun, games, pie eating contest, blessing of the bicycles and music. Hot dogs, corn, watermelon, lemonade and iced tea will be provided (please fill out the form in the bulletin so we know how many to plan for) or bring your own picnic. Music will be provided by Jack's Waterfall consisting of Rorie Kelly, Bob Barta and others. Everyone is encouraged to wear red, white and blue.

June 15<sup>th</sup> **Mobile Mammogram** at Saint Ann's. Appointments are required.

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 from April 19th,

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.

### **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>



Cathy Baker, Joy & John Shepherd, Gerry Pagels and Don Hester

**John Shepherd and his wife Joy** were here on April 12<sup>th</sup> to visit their old parish. John was a curate and organist/choirmaster here in the '70s, and Joy sang professionally with the Trinity (NY) church choir. They lived in the Bayport House.

**John Shepherd** is the Emeritus Dean of Perth, Western Australia. He was previously Chaplain of Christ Church Oxford and Chaplain of the University of Western Australia. He has a doctorate in sixteenth-century theology and music from Cambridge University, a Master of Sacred Music degree from Union Theological Seminary in New York, and degrees in arts (history and philosophy) from the University of Melbourne. Whilst in New York he taught electronic composition at Hofstra University. He has served in parishes in Melbourne, Manchester, Long Island, Cambridge and Perth.

In 2019 Dr. Shepherd was Interim Director of the Anglican Centre in Rome and the Archbishop of Canterbury's Representative to the Pope and the Holy See.

**Joy Shepherd** was the Principal of St. Hilda's school in Perth...

[Joy Shepherd Performing Arts Centre - St Hilda's Anglican School For Girls](#)

The **Rev. Dr. Adam J. Shoemaker** was elected **ninth bishop** of the Episcopal Diocese of Long Island on April 18 by nearly 300 clergy and lay delegates, at the Cathedral of the Incarnation in Garden City, New York.

Can you find **Saint Ann's Adopt-a-Highway sign**? We participate in this program as part of our outreach and community service.



Tom Dwyer  
President & Executive  
Director  
tdwyer@faith-justice.org  
<https://faith-justice.org/>

Tom Dwyer gave a presentation on "The Signs of the Times Are Leading Us Where?"

From their website: "A Faith That Does Justice is an interfaith organization that challenges people to experience God by living their faith intentionally in service to others. We do this by showing how unjust societal structures marginalize people and by acting to help those in need. Our vision is people intentionally living their faith in action."

On Monday 4/27/26, our County Legislator, **Anthony Piccirillo** donated a new AED Device to our Thrift Shop. Thank you to everyone who made this possible.



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

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.

Our website now has a **calendar of events** to review. Check it out: <https://www.saint-anns.org/>

**Wednesday services**, at 11 am in our Saint Barnabas Chapel, includes **Anointing of the Sick and Eucharist**. It is followed by the **Grief 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).

**Need a Helping Hand: *Just call Joe Libardi!***

631-804-3064 or 631-563-5131.

Twenty-five years of serving the community. Transportation available, personal care and light cooking.

# St. Ann's food drive

## A CONFIRMATION PROJECT: BY LEO & LUCAS CHUNG

Collecting **C**ereal, **C**ondiments & **C**anned Food



♡ Help Those in need ♡

Cash donations are welcome.

100% will go toward purchasing food items.

**Venmo: @ShinChung** ("CCC Project" in the note)

Food donations may be dropped off at **59 Pine St, Sayville**

Thank you for your support!



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



Carl & Carrie Schiller at his great grandparents' memorial window.



Plate below the window



Donations from Caroline Schiller's House.  
Thank you for sharing these treasures with us.



Wooden cross made from the original roof of Saint Ann's Church in 1887

Caroline, daughter of Eva (Kreiser) and William L. Meek, was called to heaven in March at the age of 93. Caroline was a Bayport resident since 1948 and taught in the Bayport School District for 41 years. God bless her and her family.

## L'Amour de la Flûte Choir in Concert

Sunday, May 3, 2026

2:00 p.m.

St. Ann's Episcopal Church

257 Middle Road

Sayville, NY 11782



### Featured Works

Blue Skies

Moon River

Irish Aire

Der Mirjambrunnen

Hopak

Amazing Grace

Arirang

Let There Be Peace On Earth

With joy and gratitude: **The Fire Island Ministries Program** begins Memorial Day Weekend and ends Labor Day Weekend. Fr. Ben and soon-to-be-Fr. Bob, along with Supply Priests will preside at the Services. There will be an 11am Service on June 14th in The Pines for those that cannot join us for Saint Barnabas Day. If you want to join the Fire Island Ministries Committee, please see Fr. Ben.

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

May 24, 11am: Cherry Grove, Community Center (Summer Program Starts)

May 31, 11am: The Pines, Whyte Hall Community Center

June 7, 11am: Cherry Grove, Community Center

June 14, 10am, Saint Barnabas Day ~ Cherry Grove and The Pines Invade Saint Ann's Sayville

June 21, 11am: Cherry Grove, Community Center

June 28, 11am: The Pines, Whyte Hall Community Center

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)

## Did You Know...

By Sue Schultz



Did you know Shin Chung (aka Shin Young Kang Chung) grew up in Jangheung, South Korea, an area in the lowest parts of South Korea known for farms, fields, mountains and for growing Boseong green tea? According to Wikipedia, this region has produced green tea for 1600 years due to excellent soils, and cool weather climate. Shin recommends Osulloc green tea to drink for its fine tastes.

Asked about the typical faiths of Korea, Shin explains as follows: "In Korea, the religious landscape is predominantly Presbyterian and Methodist. J (her husband Jae Chung) grew up Presbyterian, and I was

raised Methodist; in fact, I knew almost nothing about the Episcopal Church back then. J's connection began during his college years when he visited "Abbey" (Jesus Abbey) in the mountains of Gangwon Province. The Abbey was founded by Fr. Archer Torrey (Fr. Dae-cheon-deok), a renowned American missionary. J was deeply inspired by Fr. Torrey's theology and his "faith-in-action" community balancing prayer and labor.

After moving to the U.S., we both attended a Presbyterian church. During that time, J spent five years quietly discerning a calling to the priesthood. He kept the Episcopal Church in his heart but waited for a sign. He prayed, "If this is truly Your Will for me to become a priest in the episcopal Church, please let Shin show interest in the Catholic/Anglican/Episcopal tradition first, as a sign of Your confirmation. "

Then, one day amidst the challenges of immigrant life, I was reading Henri Nouwen's "The Only Necessary Thing: Living a Prayerful Life." This book was deeply moving and drew me toward more traditional, contemplative, and liturgical forms of prayer. Completely unaware of J's secret five-year prayer, I unexpectedly suggested to him, "Let's try the Korean Episcopal Church nearby."



The Chung's first year at Saint Ann's in 2014

J was absolutely shocked. He later told me that at that moment, he had almost forgotten about his own prayer, but my suggestion was the sudden and clear answer he had been waiting for.

The very next week, we visited the church. After the service, the priest, Fr. Ninian Kim, called us over and asked J out of the blue, "Have you ever thought about becoming a priest?" When J said yes, Fr. Kim simply told us,

"Then start coming here from next week." Even our Presbyterian pastor, who was initially hesitant, called us the next day saying he felt a strong peace about "letting us go."

The miracles continued. Our landlord suddenly decided to sell our apartment and we found a brand-new apartment right next to the Episcopal church. However, the path wasn't always easy. Fr. Kim retired a year later, and the church went through a five-year period without a resident priest. During those years, J served the community faithfully as a youth leader and lay minister without any compensation.

Following the election of Bishop Provenzano, J was chosen as a postulant and then entered the General Theological Seminary, completing his Master's degree. After graduation, he came to St. Ann's, where Rev Jae Chung was finally ordained as a priest.

To us, the Episcopal Church is incredibly special. We are deeply moved by its "Middle Way" (Via Media) that welcomes everyone, and its focus on a lay-centered community rather than just the clergy. We love the Episcopal Church for its beautiful harmony of Tradition, Reason, and Scripture—a generous church that embraces the present and welcomes all."

More Did You Knows: Shin Chung's favorite dinner out is Café Joelle's risotto with grilled shrimp and broccoli rabe? A very good reason to try Café Joelle, which is only one large block away from St Ann's. Did you know that Rev. Jae amused Shin with ideas about conspiracy stories and aliens? She describes him as having boundless curiosity. In Korea, the people do not celebrate Mother's Day; rather, their special holiday is Parents' Day, honoring both mothers and fathers. Children pin real and paper carnation corsages to their parents. In addition to honoring her mother (in Korea), Shin sends a bouquet to the Chung's own Mama Bear, aka Mother Diane Britt who is now retired and resides in North Carolina, in honor of Mother Diane's helping Shin and her four little children to manage after Rev. Jae's sudden death in 2015. Together, Rev Jae and Shin had four children: Ian, Emma, Leo and Lucas. Ian is in his senior year at Sayville High School, Emma is next, and the twins are 12 years old. The family takes much cheer in their dog, a terrier.



Hosting Family Breakfast

PLEASE PRAY

**The Saint Ann's and Fire Island Communities pray especially this week for: Amy, Baby Dallas John, Barbara, Beth, Billy, Bob, Christine, Charlotte, Cindy, Colton, Daniella, David, Debi, Dennis, Donna, Emily, Florence, John, John B, Jon, Joni, June, Karen, Kathy, Kyle, Lauren, Linda, Lynn, Mark, Marlin, Megan, Robert, Russ, Scott, Sharon, Steve, Sue, Thomas and Wayne.**

Let us also pray for peace in the Ukraine, Somalia, 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>*

May Anniversaries:

- 4 Kaitlyn & Mike Crevoiserat
- 10 Ann & Eugene DeMott
- 14 Wendy & Mark Schmittzeh
- 16 Laura & Ron Sanchez
- 18 Julie MacDonell & Christopher Gerards
- 27 Nancy & George Koinoglou

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

May Birthdays:



- 1 Dina Madigan
- 2 Ian Chung
- 4 Luca Cesarino
- 4 Shelia Jones
- 4 Marie Wipper
- 6 Ethan Madigan
- 6 Marie Madigan
- 6 Randy Schultz
- 7 Raymond Graunke
- 8 Linda Maddox
- 9 Dow Moran
- 10 Anthony Palmieri
- 14 Thomas Munkelwitz
- 16 Michele Marcley
- 16 Lisa Scrima-Castelli
- 20 Bob Ellinghaus
- 24 Josephine Leuly
- 27 Barbara Leuly
- 28 David MacDonell
- 30 Sandie Immoor

## View from Behind the Pole



Another choir perk: private prayer just before the service

**Come worship with us!  
We would love to have some new voices!**

Choir practice in the church runs September through June. On the first Tuesday of each month, we practice at 1 pm, all other Tuesdays we practice at 6:45 pm.

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)



*Let There Be Peace On Earth*



*Tuesday, May 5th at 12:30 in the afternoon*

*In the Fr. Jae Chung Parish Hall.*

*Reservations are required*

*Cost is \$10.00 per person collected at the door*

*Funds raised will support Breast Cancer Research*

*Only 42 cups and saucers are available!*

*The sign-up sheet is in the Parish Hall or call the Church Office at*

**631-589-6522**

SAINT ANN'S CHURCH • SAYVILLE, NY

# COMMUNION

A STORY OF FAITH, IDENTITY & LOVE



WRITTEN & PERFORMED BY

**MATTHEW LABANCA**

**LOVE. FAITH. HOPE.**

**MAY 15, 2026 • 7pm**

**SAINT ANN'S CHURCH**

**SAYVILLE, NY**

SEATING IS LIMITED • **\$40** SUGGESTED DONATION

RSVP FOR SEATS BY **MAY 10:**

**office@saint-anns.org**



I'm praying for wonderful weather this spring. It's always easier to have hope for whatever you are longing for when the weather is bright and cheerful. I continue to pray for love and peace throughout the world.

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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 15<sup>th</sup> – just ask.

*Eileen Moran*

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Deadline for the next issue:  
5/15/26

**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**

# 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