ST. ANN'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Correspondent

Monthly Newsletter | November 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	TBD
Vestry Meeting	Second Monday
Young Adult Ministry	Third Wednesday
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:

Nov 1	Family Service
Nov 8	Raffle gifts must be received on or before 11/8
Nov 9	Service at The Bristal - Sayville
Nov 14	Art Exhibition
Nov 17	Ladies who lunch
Nov 18	Young Adult Ministry 6:30 pm (page 21)
Nov 18	Christmas Fair craft meeting
Nov 24	Service at Bellhaven Nursing – Brookhaven
Nov 25	Thanksgiving service (Chapel) & potluck meal
Nov 28	Christmas Tree Lot open
Dec 2	Christmas Fair craft meeting
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 19-20



Looking for social work support?
or know someone who is?
Please contact Jacqueline Spelman,
our new social work intern 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

THE CORRESPONDENT

631-589-6522
correspondent@saint-anns.org

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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	**Kathy Senese** - music@saint-anns.org
Parish Administrator	**Lynne Robinson** - office@saint-anns.org
Social Work Intern	**Jacqueline Spelman -** socialworkintern@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*



Dear Siblings in Christ,

Across the Anglican and Episcopal traditions, late fall and early winter are seasons of stewardship—a time to offer our time, talent, and treasure in service to God and one another. There is much to say about stewardship, but most of all, I hope you know how deeply grateful I am for your generosity. Thank you. We will celebrate our shared giving at the Services on November 14 and 15.

Saint Ann's will begin hosting monthly community potluck meals. The first will follow our 11 a.m. Thanksgiving Service from the Saint Barnabas Chapel on November 25. The invitation is simple: bring a dish of your choosing to share. We'll provide the plates, napkins, and utensils. Then we'll enjoy conversation and fellowship, *all to the greater glory of God*.

Our major winter events are almost here. The Tree Lot opens November 28; the Christmas Fair Parish Preview is December 4; and the Fair opens to the public on December 5. Please consider volunteering at these community-wide events. You might even enjoy dressing as one of the holiday characters—our celebrations are meant to lift our spirits with joy.

The great season of anticipation and expectation begins with the First Sunday of Advent on November 29. Let us pray together the Collect for that day, from the 1979 Book of Common Prayer:

> Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

An invitation to shape a Rule of Life

During Advent, I invite you to consider how spiritual practices and disciplines might help order your life. A personal "Rule of Life" can offer a flexible framework for nurturing your relationship with God and with others. You might look to Saint Benedict, who wrote the *Rule of Saint Benedict*, or Saint Clare of Assisi, who wrote the *Rule of Saint Clare*. There are many other sources of wisdom; I often turn to Saint Ignatius of Loyola. Common elements include prayer, rest, work and activity, and relationships and hospitality.

A Rule of Life is a living document. It can ebb and flow as your circumstances change. Ask yourself: What practices might be life-giving in my particular context? The aim is not perfection, but a spiritually grounded and emotionally healthy life.

Prayer might include Scripture reading, silence, and study. Rest might include Sabbath, play, and recreation. Work and activity can make room for service, mission, and care for the body. Relationships and hospitality invite us to nurture family, community, companionship, and emotional health. If you would like guidance or

support, please speak with a member of the clergy. Peter Scazzero's *Emotionally Healthy Spirituality* (2014) is also a helpful resource for exploring these practices.

Here is one example: my own Rule includes praying Morning Prayer from the Daily Office and making an Ignatian examination of conscience twice a day. I also spend time in prayerful silence, aiming for an hour of solitude. On the Sabbath, I preside at Mass; on smaller Sabbath moments, I seek recreation with my husband, Willy, such as watching a movie or walking in a park. In my work and daily activity, I continue to seek healthier eating and regular exercise—remember to care for your gut health! To nurture emotionally healthy relationships, I meet with a therapist, take an annual silent retreat, and work with a clergy coach and spiritual director. I also make time for family and friends as my schedule allows. As you might imagine, these parts of a Rule of Life overlap.

As you put your Rule into practice, return to it from time to time and revise it as needed. Try not to become preoccupied with the plan itself; don't let writing the Rule take precedence over living it. As Saint Benedict writes, "Your way of acting should be different from the world's way. The love of Christ must come before all else" (*Rule of Saint Benedict*, 4:20).

I also want to express my gratitude for the many prayers and kind thoughts you sent as I prepared for and recovered from surgery. Knowing that one is loved is heartening; experiencing that love is life-changing. In the *Spiritual Exercises*, Saint Ignatius reflects on love as a mutual sharing of gifts: the lover shares what they have with the beloved, and the beloved shares in return (*Spiritual Exercises*, §§230–231). Your care has been a gift to me.

As we await the coming of Jesus Christ, the child in the manger, may the wonder of this season lift our eyes, raise our voices, and fill our hearts with praise. In the Incarnation, God comes among us. *What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul.*

With gratitude, joy, and prayer,

Fr. Ben, Rector

Thanksgiving Food Drive & Turkey Donations:

We will be collecting items for our Thanksgiving Food Baskets. Tags can be found in the Parish Hall, but you don't need a tag to assist in this wonderful ministry. We need turkeys, Stovetop stuffing, instant potatoes, canned yams, green beans, corn, corn muffin mix and gravy.
Many thanks in advance for your assistance!

For more information contact Fr. Ben at 631-589-6522 ext 101 or frbenjamin@saint-anns.org

Insight from your Associate Rector



Dear beloved in Christ,

The word 'November' stems from Latin, *novem*, meaning 'nine' because the ancient Roman calendar started in March and so November is the ninth month of the year. I also think of November is a novumber because *novum* means 'new' in Latin because our new church calendar starts on the first Advent, which is, November 29th. November is a beginning month of our church year.

Our new (novum) "ninth (*novem*)" Bishop of the Diocese of Long Island, The Rt. Rev. Adam Shoemaker, shared his first letter to the Diocese after his consecration, titled, "*A Season of Listening*." When I read it, I was so blessed and grateful that I am convinced that God is leading and guiding our diocese. I strongly recommend you to have a chance to read his letter from our diocesan website (https://www.dioceseli.org/news/season-listening-message-bishop-shoemaker) and want to share with you a part of his letter below.

> "This is not a repeat of past listening; it is a continuation — a chance to understand the heart behind the comments, the stories behind the concerns, and the faith behind the hopes. My desire is to hear how the Spirit has been speaking through you all along, and to discern together what that means for our shared future."

Also, please have a moment of contemplation from his prayer in the letter.

> O God of beginnings and renewals,
> You call us into places we have not yet walked,
> and entrust us with people we have not yet met.
> We come with trembling hands and open hearts,
> ready to be surprised by Your Spirit.
> In our eagerness, keep us humble.
> In our uncertainty, keep us steady.
> In our joy, keep us generous.
> Let this ministry be a place where truth is spoken in love,
> where the weary find rest,
> and where Your justice rolls down like a mighty river.
> We offer our plans, our gifts, and our very selves to You—
> trusting that what You begin, You will bring to fullness.
> Amen.

I ask you to listen to yourself and to God through people around you about the story of this year and for the next year. I want to share a way of listening, Incarnational Listening, that

we may practice in our process of rebuilding the healthy relationships. It comes from the life and ministry of Jesus and summarizes as follows: (1) Enter another's world, (2) Hold on to ourselves, and (3) Live in the tension between two worlds. The purpose of the Incarnational Listening is to listen at a heart level with empathy, attuned to the words and nonverbal communication of another person, i.e., so that the other person feels "felt" by you.

I myself find it difficult to listen to others especially my wife, sons, and friends, and to God because there are so many voices within me. The harder I listen to others, the more I need silence to myself. I hope and pray that our November can be a new month of our season of life that we may love God and our neighbors well especially through listening incarnationally to one another.

Peace in Christ,

Fr. Jae Wan



Some thoughts from your Deacon...



Ephesians 5:20
"Always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Isn't that a beautiful thought; so inspiring. It's something I strive to do every day, though I will admit it's often hard to give thanks for the traffic at the Oakdale merge or yet another rainy Sunday when I had hoped to plant my garlic for next year's harvest...but times like those, times when "the best laid plans of mice and men often go awry" are often times of great spiritual growth. Now before you fall from your chair laughing, and granted, that really does seem a laughable statement, give it a moment's thought. Those times when we are forced to stop, when life has other plans, are truly moments we can connect more deeply with God. Even if it just begins with that simple prayer "HELP", let the simple unfold. What do you need help with? Give it to God. And trust me, He is open to the ordinary and the seemingly mundane. He won't laugh nor will He disregard it. I sometimes find that when I am in line behind the person who is searching for a coupon or needs a price check, rather than sighing deeply or tapping my foot, I begin to pray for them. It does make the time go by and it does turn my exasperation back to love for my fellow man.

As we begin our slow and steady approach into the holiday season, let's take a moment to really be thankful for what we have...and share our bounty with those around us. Remember, you are overflowing with love from God, share it with another!

blessings,
Deacon Susan

Dates to look forward to:
November 17th- "Ladies who Lunch" We will meet in the Parish Hall at noon to chat about books! Please bring your own sandwich. Beverages and dessert will be provided!
November 18th and December 2nd- our last Crafters Nights before the Christmas Fair

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 Deacon Susan to schedule a visit.

VESTRY VISIONS

One of God's greatest gifts is our ability to be creative. Throughout our existence on Earth, art has been used to record history, verify events, spark our curiosity and fill our lives with beauty. As I sat at service this past Sunday morning, I was amused by the activity of two children sitting in the pew in front of me and noticed how much these young artists enjoyed sketching on their tablets. My eyes were also drawn, as they usually are, to the glorious stained-glass windows glimmering around us. I began to wonder whose brilliant mind possessed the skills and talent to create them. Later, at home, I did a little research and discovered that the original windows were designed by the muralist and sculptor J.A. Holzer for Tiffany. The beauty of fine art never seems to diminish with age. He was a true master of color.

While we may not all possess the creative talent of J.A. Holzer, I have witnessed the talents of many of our parishioners at our Annual Art Exhibit. Each year, members of our church family share their love of art by exhibiting their drawings, paintings, quilts, poetry and more in our Upper Parish Hall. This year's presentation will be held on Saturday, November 14th from 1:00-4:00 pm. We invite you to join us in celebrating the gift of creativity. If any member of your family would like to submit up to two examples of their own creation, please contact Kathy Senese at music@saint-ann.org or stop by the organ after service and speak with her directly.

Mark your calendar. Our Christmas trees and wreaths will arrive on Saturday, November 28 and go on sale starting at 9:00 am. How time flies!

A gentle reminder: Please try to be as generous as your family budget allows with your donations to Saint Ann's, so that we may keep our Church thriving and capable of giving others much to be thankful for as they sit down to their Thanksgiving dinners.

Wishing you happiness,

Joan Siedlecki, for the Vestry

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

FERVENT PRAYER

How can you explain
The shadow in your mind
A feeling that's so intense
Someone listening and kind
Prayers are often such
As you speak a fervent wish
You ask that it's not much
As your emotions unleash
And then comes the result
The answer starts to come
It's not all that difficult
To know from where it's from.

HIS FIRST SUNDAY

The organ rocked the little church
thank God it was built of stone
Everyone raised their voices
Sopranos, tenors and baritones
Like Phantom of the Opera
The organ music swelled
Parishioners paid attention
On daydreams no one dwelled
The service finally over
The organist received praise
It was a memorable day
The new organist was in a daze

CHOIR, OH NO

I knew a special person
We called him Jaunty Jim
He had his own versions
Of all the Sunday hymns
He sang in the choir
To much of our dismay
He drowned out the organ
Oh, an unhappy day
At last, he retired
We all said How sad
But then he said buck up
I'm bringing my little lad.

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!

CREATION CARE CORNER
By Joe Castelli

Thinking About:

Playing Sam Again Every November…….

I'm sure some of you recognize this article from last November's Correspondent. I've decided to make this my default November article each year to help bring attention to an issue that truly makes me nuts. That's putting out our cardboard boxes with the regular trash rather than recycling it on the correct paper/cardboard pick-up day. Our WRAP refuse (plastic/metal and paper/cardboard) isn't processed the same as our regular trash. Don't believe me? Read on my friend! 😊

I imagine myself sitting, glass in hand, at Rick's Place. You know, that smoke filled joint in Casablanca, feeling depressed because I see that dame who just walked back into my life after all these years. But in reality, I'm actually at my kitchen table sipping some lukewarm tea and munching on a pie shaped wedge from yesterday's quiche. I'm staring aimlessly at the cardboard box in front of me from Chewy – feeling depressed because I know what's in store for Nya (my 14-year-old K9 pal) and I as we walk the streets of Sayville this pre-holiday season. So, in response to this I say: Play my last year's November Correspondent Cardboard article again, Sam! (or should that be, Joe? or Eileen?). If they can stand it, so can I!

Let's face it: Around this time of year many of us do our Christmas shopping online, which means the number of boxes we collect increases substantially. And although it's important to put these boxes out with the paper recycled trash year-round, it's especially important around the Christmas holidays because of the volume of cardboard we collect. Cardboard, when put out on our paper recycling days, is processed differently than our regular trash. No, paper and regular trash don't end up in the same place. Once again, they're processed differently.

So, what happens to the boxes when we throw them into the regular trash? They end up getting burnt with our regular garbage in a Waste to Energy Plant. These plants use the heat generated by the garbage to turn water into steam. This steam is then used to turn a turbine, which rotates a generator to produce electricity. On the other hand, when we combine our corrugated boxes with our recycled paper trash, it all gets baled and sent to a papermill. Here the papermill uses a process which reconstitutes the paper trash into huge rolls of new paper, which can then be used to make all kinds of paper products (including corrugated boxes!).

There's a great resource from the town of Islip (Google: Town of Islip Waste and Disposal Guide PDF). It's a downloadable twenty-one-page document which explains how to dispose of 157 (and I counted them!) common and not so common items. Basically, everything from the kitchen sink (literally!) to various types of batteries, and even horse manure (Ugh!). It also states that you can throw out un-corrugated clean cardboard boxes (shoe boxes, gift boxes, cereal boxes, and pasta boxes, etc.) with your recycled paper trash (but please, no pizza boxes stained with oil!). And you can also recycle plastic coated cardboard and boxes with attached cellophane. That gets removed at the papermill during the process that turns the recycled paper into those giant, new paper rolls. So, what are you waiting for?

In closing, ("As Time Goes By") if we can all do a better job recycling our cardboard, I think I would say (in the spirit of "Bogie"): "Nya, I think this will be the beginning of some beautiful walks together."

Here's looking at you, Kid!
Joe Castelli 😊

Our annual Christmas Fair is just around the corner!

Save the dates

Friday December 4th 7pm – 9pm
Wine & Cheese Parishioner Fair Preview
Come and enjoy a relaxing evening with fellow parishioners, food and music.

Saturday December 5th 10am – 3pm Annual Christmas Fair

We are looking for donations to be raffled at the Christmas Fair. If you have a new item, gift basket, gift card, or other donation that you would like to contribute, we would be very grateful for your generosity. Every donation helps make our Christmas Fair a wonderful celebration for our parish community and helps support our parish activities. Please have the donations delivered to the Parish Hall or Parish office by November 8th.

Thank you for your continued generosity and support. We look forward to celebrating the Christmas season together at our Annual Christmas Fair & Wine and Cheese event!



Stewardship

"Stewardship Sunday" is November 14-15 !

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. 'The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light within you is darkness, how great is that darkness! No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.'" – Matthew 6:21-24

May we feel inspired and comforted by these familiar phrases from Matthew-inspired to turn to Jesus in prayer as we discern our love offering for 2027, and comforted in knowing that as we take that leap in faith to give more in gratitude for all he has given us, our Lord will provide us all things necessary in this life and beyond.

We can give to Saint Ann's with gratitude and thanksgiving! Nowhere else can we give more effectively knowing that our friends and neighbors in need benefit directly from our support. The number of clients served at our Food Pantry ministry has doubled in the past 12 months, and is poised to increase again in 2027… The Thrift Shop is a regional staple, as featured in local media and Instagram. Because we give, worship is held and God's Word is proclaimed. Thanks to us, Coffee hours, Senior Luncheons, Lenten Soup Suppers, and Men's Group fellowship happens. With our support, the next generation of Saint Ann's faithful are baptized, receive First Intentional Communion, Confirmations, and are married at Saint Ann's….and they share with their kids fond memories of enjoying Despicable Me and Polar Express at Movie Night…

Because we care, Community ministry happens via the Christmas Tree Ministry, Saint Ann's Fair (December 4-5 this year) and through ***"Journey Cross and Crucifixion***", and "**Behold the Moment"** offered by Creative Ministries. We enjoy musical entertainment from "The Shipmates", "Father Charles and Laurie Mangano", and many others. We are the ones, through our generosity that make Saint Ann's Art Showcase and the upcoming February Fish Fry popular events anticipated by the Community.

Nowhere else can we get a more gratifying return on our investment than by giving to Saint Ann's. And may we do so knowing that we are joining fellow parishioners who share in supporting what Saint Ann's represents as a ***Beacon of Christ's Light in the World***. And may we remember that the rich heritage of generous and faithful giving by our parish Forefathers and those who followed have allowed us to worship in the Father's House that they envisioned in 1888…May we continue in their footsteps to enrich the thriving ministries of Saint Ann's for future generations to come.

"Stewardship Sunday" is November 14-15. Please pray about what you are able to give in 2027 in Time, Talent and Treasure…As the Biblical standard is the Tithe (10%) maybe we take a step towards that tithe. (thank you!). For those of us over 70 ½, we can consider making a Qualified Charitable Distribution from our Traditional IRAs that are tax deductible, or may we remember Saint Ann's in our wills and estate plans as well.

Please know that gifts to Saint Ann's may be made from the Billpay feature of our checking accounts according to a schedule we choose, online thru the Tithely giving portal on Saint Ann's website, or by weekly plate giving… If you do not receive giving envelopes and wish to receive a set for next year, please call or email the

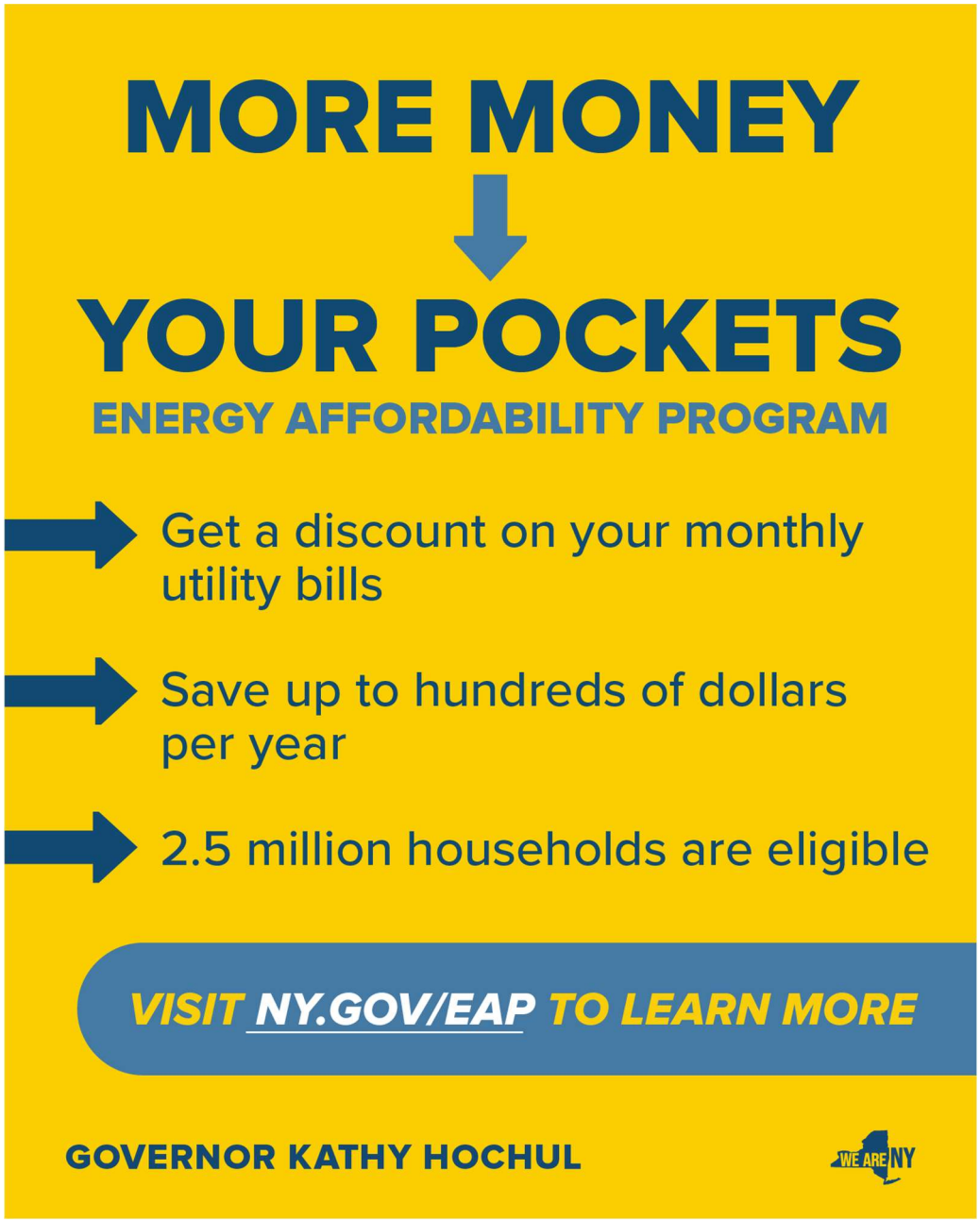
Church office and envelopes will be ordered for you. (If you already receive envelopes, no worries- they will be continued for the New Year!)

And…***Thank you, thank you, thank you*** for your generous and sacrificial support of Saint Ann's. Please always know that our support *changes lives for the better*, and, like our 1888 forefathers, opens the door to the Father's House for those who come after us!

With gratitude and thanks,

The Stewardship Committee

Randy Schultz, Stewardship Chair



Congratulations Vanessa Sanchez



Vanessa Sanchez, the daughter of **Laura & Ron Sanchez**, has received the Toyota Programmable System Innovation Fellowship. She is an assistant professor of mechanical engineering at Rice University.

She will be developing "Programmable 3D-Knitted Soft Robotic Textiles for Human-Centered Mobility." She explains "We're asking what happens when the textile becomes the device itself with sensing, movement and mechanical function built directly into its structure."

You can read all about Vanessa's incredible work on the Rice University website:
https://news.rice.edu/news/2026/rices-sanchez-exploring-future-where-fabric-itself-becomes-robot

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 Wook 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.

Flower Memorials for 2026

November 26, 2026 - Thanksgiving Holiday (due by November 17th)
December 25, 2026 - Christmas (due by December 22nd)

Please use the form below to remember a loved In Memoriam or In Thanksgiving. Don't forget to choose which flower memorial you want.

Name of Person(s) requesting the donation:_____

Telephone #:_____

Donation in Memory of: _____

_____

_____

Donation in Thanksgiving of: _____

_____

Amount of Donation:_____ Online:_____Cash:_____Check #_____

We will capture the names of donors and their loved ones in the respective Flowers Memorial Booklet in our Liturgical Program and Weekly Bulletin

Nota Bene: To update your entry in the Parish Directory, please call the Parish office at 631-589-6522. A.M.D.G.

SAINT ANN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, CEMETERY AND FIRE ISLAND MINISTRIES
257 MIDDLE ROAD, SAYVILLE, NY 11782
PARISH ADMINISTRATION OFFICES
251 MIDDLE ROAD, SAYVILLE NY 11782
Office: 631-589-6522 | Text Line: 929-445-3781 | WWW.SAINT-ANNS.ORG
For Pastoral emergencies please contact Fr. Ben at 929-445-3781.

View from Behind the Pole



We welcome our newest choir scholar Lilly Turk! Her beautiful voice is much appreciated.

Lilly is a senior in Bayport-Blue Point high school with a strong passion for music and the performing arts. She was recommended for the Choir Scholar program by her music teacher and is excited for the opportunity to continue growing as a musician in a new setting. Outside of music, Lilly enjoys theatre, writing, and other creative pursuits. She is grateful for the opportunity to join the choir and looks forward to a wonderful year of music, fellowship, and learning. Congratulations Lilly on your Summa Cum Laude award and Ap Scholar with Honor award.

Congratulations also to our soprano choir scholar, **Kaylee Doris**, who received a Summa Cum Laude award, AP Scholar with Distinction, and AP Capstone award.

Our Choir family is very special. It's not just singing hymns but having each other's backs. We celebrate our good news and share our sorrows. We pray at the end of each choir practice for our members, their families and their friends.

We practice (September through June) on Tuesdays at 6:45 p.m. in the church. **All are invited**. If you have any questions, you can call Kathy Senese at the church office or email her at music@saint-anns.org

Lessons & Carols

An Advent Service of Lessons and Carols will be on Saturday, **December 12** at the 5pm service.
Followed by a reception.
All are welcome!

Did You Know...

By Julie MacDonell

Did you know that Arthur and Harriet MacDonell are fourth-generation parishioners of Saint Ann's Church?



Their great-grandparents, Edward and Romayne Lyon and Beverly and David MacDonell, were members of Saint Ann's Church. Their grandparents, David and Cynthia MacDonell, both attended Saint Ann's as children and were later married there in 1973 by Father Wiltshire. Their mother, Julie, and her siblings, Scott and Kate, were all baptized at Saint Ann's Church (Kate by the Reverend Joseph Bond and Julie and Scott by Father Bob).



Julie has fond memories of Saint Ann's events, such as dressing up for the Thrift Shop Fashion Show with her sister, playing hide-and-seek with her brother at the Christmas tree sale, and helping out (and occasionally sneaking treats) at the Country Kitchen baked goods table with her mother and grandmother at the Christmas Fair. To this day, Manhattan clam chowder (Beverly MacDonell's recipe) and split pea soup evoke nostalgia for the soup sale at the fair. Another highlight of growing up in the Saint Ann's community was being part of Kathy Senese's Cherub Choir alongside one of her childhood best friends, Angharad.

After college, Julie moved to Munich, Germany, to work as a software engineer at a start-up. She initially intended to stay for only a couple of years to explore Europe. However, not long after moving, she met Chris in Munich, where he was attending journalism school at the time. Originally from a small village in the Eifel region of Germany, just outside Aachen, Chris was new to the city too. The pair bonded over discovering Germany's "village of a million people" and the surrounding Alpine countryside through hiking, trail running, and cross-country skiing. After graduating from journalism school, Chris became a sports reporter and later a screenwriter for a television show.



In 2019, Chris and Julie were married at Saint Ann's by Father Hugh. One of their favorite wedding photos shows them at the entrance to Saint Ann's, posed to mirror a similar photo of Julie's parents on their wedding day. In 2021, Chris and Julie's son, Arthur, was born in Munich. Wishing to spend more time closer to family and seeking the sense of belonging that comes with a small-town community, the family moved to Sayville in 2023. The family was growing, too—Harriet was born in 2024.

Since settling in Sayville, Arthur and Harriet have grown quite a lot, as many at Saint Ann's have surely witnessed. Arthur is now in kindergarten. He is a curious, determined, and exuberant child. Currently, he is especially



interested in putting together geography puzzles and drawing maps of the U.S. He also loves to sketch in his drawing pad; with great probability, he can be found drawing under a pew at any given Saint Ann's family service. Little sister Harriet is a joyful, observant, and active two-year-old. She loves to do whatever Arthur is doing. Most of all, she loves to climb, whether it's the climbing wall at the playground or the dense rhododendron bushes in front of the family's home. Both Harriet and Arthur speak German at home with Chris and English with Julie.

As a family, they enjoy traveling. A recent highlight was their trip this past summer, when they cycled from Passau, Germany, along the Danube River to Vienna. Chris and Julie took turns pulling Harriet and Arthur in the pull-behind trailer, while Arthur and Harriet generously offered Chris and Julie extended rest breaks as the duo toured every playground along the Danube. On Long Island, the family enjoys spending time outdoors, whether hiking in local parks, visiting nearby playgrounds, or visiting Fire Island aboard Grandma and Pop Pop's boat. They are also avid cyclists who use their bicycles as their primary form of transportation. Perhaps you've seen their red cargo bike around town? When the weather forces them indoors, they love visiting the local libraries and enjoying cozy days at home, inviting friends and family over for Sunday afternoon dinners.



These days, Julie continues to work as a software engineer, now for a nonprofit whose mission is to lift coffee farmers worldwide out of poverty. After moving to the U.S., Chris stepped away from his writing career to become Arthur and Harriet's primary caregiver while completing a master's program in political science. He also teaches German on Saturdays in Stony Brook to a class of young heritage speaker children.

In the little spare time remaining between work and child-rearing, Julie and Chris pursue several hobbies. Julie enjoys knitting, crocheting, playing the French horn in the BAFFA orchestra, and sailing the family's Flying Scot with her parents. Chris is a dedicated long-distance runner and will be running in this year's NYC Marathon.





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
Lennon Mae Conboy
Who was baptized on 10/10/26

Congratulations to parents
Joanna & Michael

God bless you all.

Congratulations & God bless
Brittany Curtin & Anthony Varricchio
Married on 10/16/26

Called to the Lord. May **Steve Purrington and Florence Mulroy** who recently passed from this life, find peace in heaven and may their loved ones on earth be comforted by cherished memories.

Nov 28 - Christmas tree lot opens - Volunteers needed to bring inventory of trees into the lot from delivery truck. Please see Christine Cesarino or Fr. Ben for more information.

Calling all bakers – we'd appreciate it if you would make one or more of your delicious creations for the Christmas Fair. Just bring then to the Fair on December 5th any time after 9:30 am. Thanks in advance for your help!

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.

A **Thanksgiving service** from the Saint Barnabas Chapel, with anointing of the sick, will be held Wednesday 11/25 at 11 am. This will begin our **monthly community potluck meals**. Cook a dish of your choice for 4-6 people - or bring dessert. We will supply the paper goods, utensils and drinks. Leftovers will be taken home. We'll enjoy conversation and fellowship, *all to the greater glory of God*. All are welcome. Please invite family & friends.

Vestry: Upcoming Vestry Meetings: 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.

Art Exhibition! November 14! Please attend 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

Lessons & Carols – December 12th at 5 pm.

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!

Cemetery News: Please note. During the winter months when there is snow in the cemetery, only the paved roads will be plowed. The side roads that are only gravel will not be plowed. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Tim Laffin. Cemetery@saint-anns.org.

Save the date – Jan 17th is our annual meeting.

A service will be held at the **Bristal** 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 Jacqueline**, our graduate student of social work intern, from the Parish Administration Offices.

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.

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.

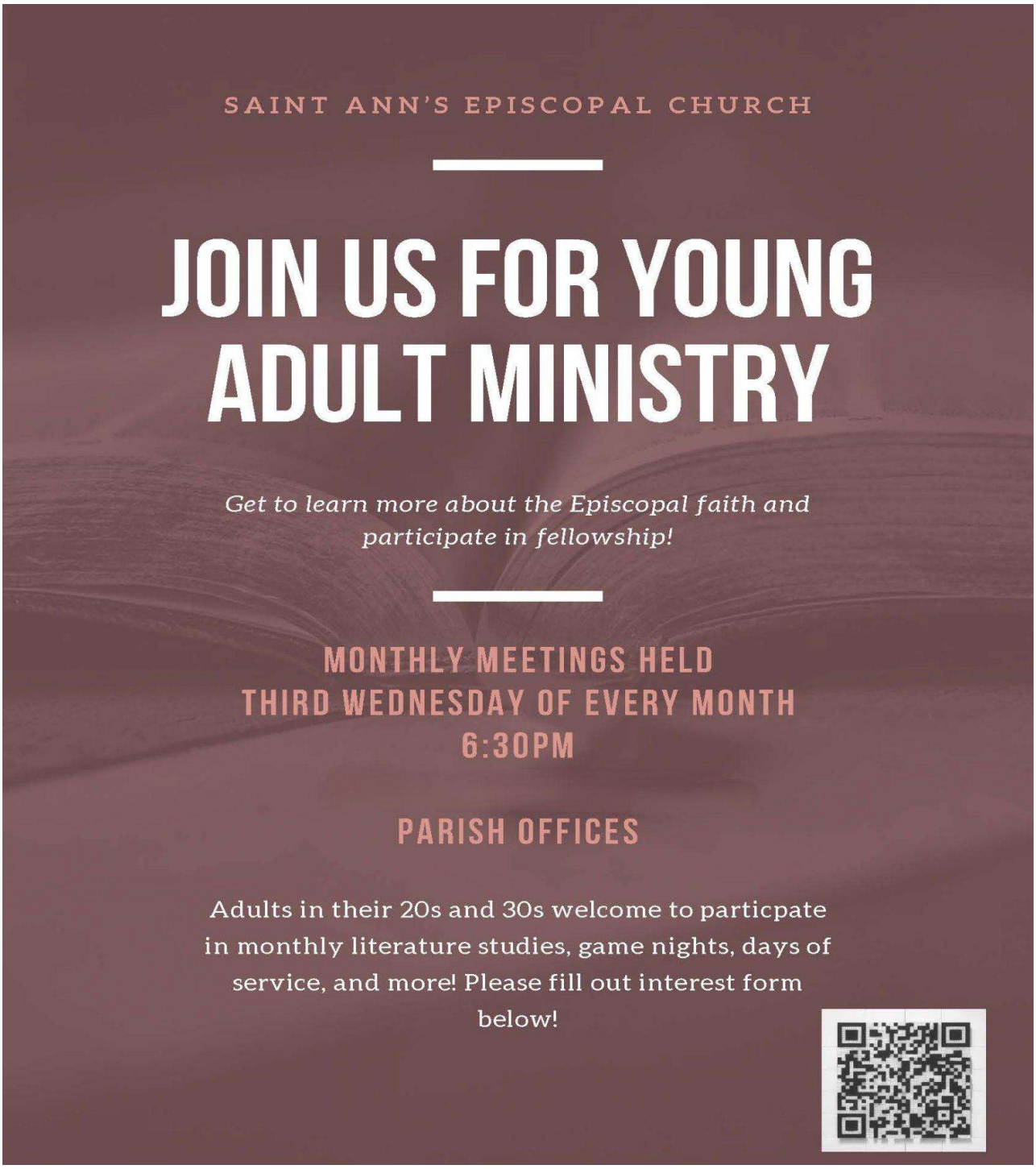
Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings: @ Saint Ann's Mondays at 7PM,
Thursdays at 10AM & 7PM and Sundays at 7:30PM. Meetings take place in the Upper Parish Hall.

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.

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





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 month for:

Baby Sofia, Balnis Family, Beth, Beth C., Bernadette, Billy, Cameron, Colette, Colleen, Darroll, David, Debi, Gabby, Hal, Hap, Jim, John, Judy, Kimberly, Lauren, Lois, Luciano, Margie, Mariah, Maryann, Mickey, Mischelle, Patricia Scott, Sharon, Sue and Xavier.

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

November Anniversaries:

4	Jean & Nicholas Arena
21	Linda & Rich Maddox
27	Lynette & John Schulz



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

November Birthdays:

3	Lucian Hagenlocher
5	Mary Clark
5	Kathleen Krakaur
6	Bo Messina
7	Steven Vander Borgh
8	Don Baker
12	Kaitlyn Crevoiserat
17	Barbara Stahlberg
19	Zachary Schulz
21	Patricia Romeo
24	Tim Laffin
27	Susan Knoepffler
27	Marjorie Rogers
28	Cara Clark
29	Cathy Baker
29	Dennis Messina


Saint Ann's Episcopal Church
Family Service Sundays
JOIN US ON
THE FIRST SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH AT THE 10AM SERVICE
WHAT TO EXPECT
Go over the readings
A fun activity
Learn a song
CONTACT US
email
office@saint-anns.org
Children of all ages welcome!

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

Saint Ann's Episcopal Church
251 Middle Road
Sayville NY 11782

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