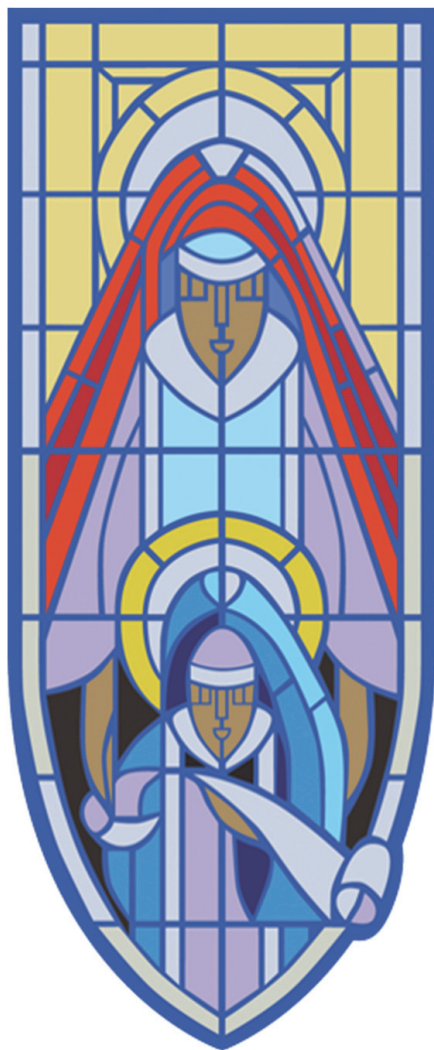


Saint Ann CATHOLIC CHURCH



2017 Guide Book & Directory

2900 W. Galbraith Rd. • Cincinnati, OH 45239

St. Ann Church

2900 W. Galbraith Road, Cincinnati, OH 45239

(513) 521-8440

www.saintannparish.org

info@saintannparish.org

Dearly Beloved,

St. Ann is a vibrant and caring community rooted in the teaching of Christ. We encourage and value the participation of our parishioners. We are called to use the gifts and talents God has given us to be Christ's ambassadors on earth. God has high standards. He calls us to be good stewards of the many, wonderful gifts and blessings He has entrusted to our care. We are here to help you to accomplish this task, for the good of the Church, our parish, and all our brothers and sisters.

I am humbled and blessed to serve as your pastor. The primary task of a pastor is to lead his people to greater holiness, to build up the Body of Christ, and to lead souls to heaven. With God's graces and your prayers and support we can work together to do our part in building up the Kingdom here at St. Ann.

We are pleased to provide you with this directory as a useful aid to know more about the parish and the services it provides. The directory lists the various ministries and organizations currently at St. Ann. In addition, there is a section listing parishioners who have given permission to publish their names. For additional information or assistance, please feel free to call the parish office at 521-8440.

Finally, I ask that you remember to pray for all your fellow parishioners, the staff, and the priests of St. Ann - past, present, and future. May God continue to bless you and our parish!

In Christ,



Fr. Thomas H. McCarthy

Pastoral Staff

Fr. Thomas McCarthy Pastor
Deacon John M. Quattrone Deacon

Liturgies

Weekend Masses

Saturday 4:30 pm
Sunday 8:00 am, 9:45 am, 11:30 am

Daily Mass

Monday 6:45 pm
Tuesday - Friday 8:30 am
Saturday (2nd & 4th) 8:30 am

Holyday Special Schedule consult bulletin

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Monday 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm
Thursday 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm
Saturday 3:30 - 4:00 pm and also by appointment

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Thursday 9:00 am - 7:00 pm
2nd & 4th Saturday 9:00 am - 10:00 am

Stations of the Cross

Fridays during Lent 7:00 pm

StreamSpot

To watch Mass online, log onto the St. Ann website and click the
StreamSpot Link, or
go to www.streamspotonline.com and click St. Ann Church.

Parish Office Directory

Fr. Thomas H. McCarthy	Pastor.....	ext. 111
tmccarthy@saintannparish.org		
Deacon John M. Quattrone	Deacon.....	ext. 119
jqquattrone@saintannparish.org		
Doug Moore	Director of Finance & Special Ministries.....	ext. 102
dmoore@saintannparish.org		
Tim Clifford	Director of Stewardship.....	ext. 115
tclifford@saintannparish.org		
Chris Schaljo	Director of Music Ministry.....	ext.116
cschaljo@saintannparish.org		
Mary Clare Smith		
.....Director of Faith Formation & Youth Ministry.....		729-2810
mcsmith@saintannparish.org		
Danielle Hart.....	Sacramental Coordinator.....	729-2810
dhart@saintannparish.org		
Diana Reckner	Parish Secretary.....	ext. 110
dreckner@saintannparish.org		
Christy Hamm	Parish Secretary.....	ext. 114
chamm@saintannparish.org		
Amy Crull-Meier.....	Bookkeeper	
ameier@saintannparish.org		
Maria Bolanos	Hispanic Coordinator	
mbolanos@saintannparish.org		
Eric Kuhlmann	Maintenance	
ekuhlmann@saintannparish.org		
Jack Phelps	Stewardship Coordinator	
jphelps@saintannparish.org		
Claudia Sajnog.....	Volunteer Coordinator.....	ext. 103
csajnog@saintannparish.org		

Parish Office Hours

Monday	9:00 am - 8:00 pm
Tuesday - Thursday	9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Friday.....	9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Mission Statement of St. Ann Parish

To know, love and serve the Lord in this life and
to be happy with Him forever in the next.

History of St. Ann Church

Groesbeck, Ohio

Archbishop Karl J. Alter, on June 22, 1953, appointed Father James N. Lunn to organize a parish in the Groesbeck area. It was to be named St. Ann after a church that served well the West End of Cincinnati from 1866 to 1938.

The first Masses were celebrated on June 28, 1953 in the Groesbeck Community Hall which was then located on Colerain Avenue.

Attendance was between 600 and 700 people.

Ground was broken on December 6, 1953 for a school, a portion of which was to serve temporarily as the church. Dedication of the school was held on September 19, 1954. Sisters of St. Francis of Sylvania, Ohio had arrived in August.

The convent and rectory were built in 1955 and 1956, and 1956 also brought St. Ann's first assistant priest.

On August 10, 1958, ground was broken for the Church and cafeteria.

On June 28, 1959, the sixth anniversary of the parish, the Church and cafeteria were dedicated.

A ten room addition was completed to the school in 1961, and in 1963 work was completed on enlarging the convent and attaching it to the school, along with a new wing containing four additional classrooms.

On June 2, 1977, St. Ann Parish began the process of planning which led to the renovated worship area we share today. The renewed Church and Monsignor Lunn Parish Center were dedicated by Archbishop Joseph L. Bernardin on December 4, 1980.

The second church renovation was completed and dedicated October 31, 2004.

On October 31, 2010, the St. Ann Grotto and Prayer Walk were dedicated. The Grotto is at the north end of the lower parking lot, and the beginning of the prayer walk. The prayer walk is a lighted path with fourteen stations. There are also benches along the way so those who want can sit and meditate and pray for a time.

In October, 2013 the St. Francis Center (former convent/friary) went through a renovation. It currently houses the parish offices as well as meeting rooms.



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The Sacraments

The Sacraments are efficacious signs of grace, instituted by Christ and entrusted to the Church, through which Divine life is given. There are seven Sacraments: Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, Reconciliation, Anointing of the Sick, Matrimony, and Holy Orders. The seven Sacraments span all stages of natural life and all important moments of the Christian life. Sacraments that are classified as Christian Initiation are Baptism, Confirmation and the Eucharist. Sacraments of Healing are The Eucharist, Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick. The Sacraments of Service are Matrimony and Holy Orders. The Eucharist occupies a unique place as the Sacrament of all Sacraments because it is Christ Himself, which all other Sacraments are ordered to and which find their end. [Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) 1994 Reference: 1131, 1210, 1211.]

Baptism

The Sacrament of Baptism is the foundation of Christian life, the entrance to the life in the Spirit and access to the other Sacraments. Through Baptism we are freed from original sin, become heirs to the Kingdom of God, are incorporated into the Church and become sharers in the Mission of the Church. [CCC: 1213]

Baptisms of infants and young children are celebrated, for families who are members of the parish. Baptisms can be celebrated within the context of Mass. Normally Baptisms occur at St. Ann on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the Month at 12:45 pm. Parents must attend a preparation session before the baptism can be scheduled. Baptismal Preparation Classes are offered on the second Sunday during the months of Sept., Nov., Jan., Mar., May and July, from 1:00 pm-2:30 pm in the Blessed Mother Hall in the St. Francis Center (lower level). Please see the website for registration information.

Baptism of school age children may need to be arranged through our religious education program. Children can be baptized before the age of 7. After a child is 7 she/he must receive all three Initiation Sacraments at the Easter Vigil. Please contact the Religious Education Office (513) 729-2810 for more information.

Baptisms of adults are arranged through our adult education programs, RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults). Contact the Parish Office at (513) 521-8440 for more information.

Reconciliation

The Sacrament of Reconciliation or Penance was instituted by Jesus, the physician of our souls and bodies, who forgave the sins of the paralytic and willed that his Church continue, in the power of the Holy Spirit, His work of healing and salvation. Jesus has willed that the life and actions of his Church be a sign and instrument of forgiveness and reconciliation. [CCC: 1442]



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Children are generally prepared to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time when they reach the second grade. Please see the Youth Religious Education section of this booklet for more information.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is offered on Monday evening prior to Mass from 5:30-6:30 pm; Thursday evenings during Exposition from 5:30-6:30 pm and Saturday afternoon prior to the Vigil Mass from 3:30-4:00 pm. Parish penance services are held during Advent and Lent and are announced in the parish bulletin. Individuals may also arrange for a personal appointment with the pastor. Please call the parish office at (513) 521-8440 to arrange an appointment.

Eucharist

The Sacrament of the Eucharist has its origin at the Last Supper, on the night when Jesus was betrayed. On that night Jesus instituted the Eucharistic Sacrifice of His Body and Blood as well as ordained His Apostles to priesthood, so to perpetuate the sacrifice of the cross throughout the ages until He comes again.

In this Sacrament, Jesus entrusts to His Church a memorial of His death and Resurrection, the Sacrament of Love, a Sign of Unity and a Bond of Charity, in which Christ is consumed, and our minds are filled with grace and a pledge of future glory. The Eucharist is the sum and summary of our faith through the actions of the Holy Spirit and the Real Presence of Jesus; His Body and Blood become present under the form of bread and wine. It is through the Eucharist that each of us is nourished by Jesus to seek God's Will. [CCC: 1323, 1327]

Holy Communion is only received by faithfully-practicing Catholics who are in good standing with the Church and who are not in a state of grave or mortal sin. One who is in an invalid marriage or divorced and remarried (without receiving an annulment) cannot receive the Eucharist. They should speak to the pastor to seek the possibility of a Declaration of Nullity (annulment) so he/she can resume the practice of receiving Holy Communion.

Non-Catholics are welcomed and encouraged to come to Mass, but are never allowed to receive the Eucharist. If they are interested in being able to receive Communion, they should inquire about the RCIA Program in order to become Catholic.

Children are generally prepared to receive their first Holy Communion when they reach the age of reason which is 7 years old. Please see the Youth Religious Education Sacramental Preparation section of this booklet for more information.



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Confirmation

The Sacrament of Confirmation perfects Baptismal grace; it is the sacrament which gives the Holy Spirit in order to root us more deeply in the divine filiation, incorporate us more firmly into Christ. The Sacrament strengthens our bond with the Church, associates us more closely with her Mission and helps us bear witness to the Christian faith in words and deeds. [CCC: 1316]

Confirmation is offered every year generally in 7th/8th grade. Students who request this Sacrament are prepared through a special program. The child must be either attending the parish Religious Education Classes, attending a Catholic school or Home Schooled under the supervisor of the pastor. For more information, please contact the Religious Education Office (513) 729-2810.

Adults wishing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation are prepared according to a process designed specifically for their needs. They may contact the parish office, (513) 521-8440, for more details.

Matrimony

The Sacrament of Matrimony signifies the union of Christ and the Church. It gives spouses the grace to love each other with the love with which Christ has loved His Church. The grace of the Sacrament perfects the human love of the spouses, strengthens their indissoluble unity, and sanctifies them on the way to eternal life. [CCC: 1661]

To celebrate the Sacrament of Matrimony at St. Ann, one of the parties must be a registered member for at least one year. Couples must contact the parish at least six months prior to the wedding date for proper assistance. Weddings will not be booked until the couple reads, completes and returns the Parish Marriage Guidelines to the Parish Office. The Marriage Guidelines are available on the Parish website. The link can be found under Sacraments.

Marriage Preparation is a requirement for all who are preparing for marriage. There is also a requirement that all couples take an additional class outside the parish, generally NFP - Natural Family Planning. Check guidelines for a list of options.

Anointing of the Sick

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick has as its end the conferral of a special grace on people experiencing a grave illness or old age. The Church exhorts the Christian who is ill to unite with the Passion and Death of Christ. [CCC: 1511, 1499, 1513]

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The Sacrament of the Sick may be received by any Catholic who is facing serious illness or is of advanced years. Individuals who are planning to enter the hospital are particularly encouraged to receive the sacrament before their admission by calling the parish office at (513) 521-8440 to arrange for an appointment with a priest. The Deacon and other volunteers are willing to visit those who are in the hospital, nursing home, or confined to their own home. Please notify the parish office whenever someone enters the hospital or desires a pastoral visit. Hospitals no longer call us with this information!

As anointing is the sacrament of the sick, receiving the Eucharist as Viaticum is the authentic sacrament for the dying, the crown of completion of the Christian life. The need for Viaticum should be evident. When calling the office for these sacraments, please state the urgency of the situation.

Holy Orders

Through the Sacrament of Holy Orders, the mission entrusted by Christ to his apostles continues to be exercised in the Church until the end of time. It is precisely because of Apostolic Succession that Bishops and Priest receive the same authority and power of Christ given to them by Christ to speak in His name and to confect the Sacraments thus united the Body to its Head. The Sacrament's three degrees (Episcopate, Presbyterate, and Diaconate) are conferred as follows:

Bishops (Episcopate) receive the fullness of the Sacrament of Holy Orders, which integrates them into the Episcopal college and makes them visible heads of the particular Church entrusted to them. As successors of the apostles and members of the college, the bishops share in the apostolic responsibility and mission of the whole Church under the authority of the Pope.

Priests (Presbyterate) are united with the bishop in sacerdotal dignity and called to be the bishop's prudent co-workers in the exercise of their pastoral functions. They gather around their bishop who bears responsibility with them for a particular church. They receive from the bishop the charge of a parish community or determinate ecclesial office.

Deacons (Diaconate) are ordained into the ministry of service to the Church. Deacons do not receive the ministerial priesthood, but ordination confers on them the functions of the Ministry of the Word, Divine Worship, and Service of Charity under the pastoral authority of their bishop. [CCC: 1536, 1595, 1596]

For additional information on vocations, please contact the pastor or call the Vocation Office of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati (513) 421-3131.

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Parish Pastoral Council

Parish Pastoral Council is a group of elected members of St. Ann Parish representing the needs and concerns of the parish. The role of Pastoral Council is an advisory role to the pastor; to keep him informed of issues going on in the parish, to provide recommendations on planning for the future needs and direction of the parish. In doing so, they are helping to set priorities and goals to carry out the mission of the parish and the vision of the pastor. They also serve as oversight to the various commissions, committees, ministries, and organizations of St. Ann.

Finance Council

The purpose of this Council is to provide advice and expertise in administrating the financial concerns of the parish. They evaluate and provide recommendations on the physical facilities to determine the general financial health of the parish. They work with the Pastoral Council to advise the pastor as it relates to financial matter and implications of policies and decisions. They also prepare the annual budgets and provide quarterly financial reports. In general, anything related to the financial concerns of the parish are addressed by this Council. Both Councils work together for the good of the parish.

Worship Commission

The purpose of this committee is to advise and help the pastor to instill a prayerful environment that enhances the liturgical, spiritual, and devotional life of the parish with the hope of leading the People of God to a deeper spiritual renewal both personally and communally. The committee studies the liturgical documents to ensure that the parish is keeping with the teachings, norms, and traditions of the Universal and local Church. They also coordinate and oversee the various liturgical ministries.

Christian Outreach Committee

The purpose of this committee is to encourage and facilitate ways in which we as a parish can help assist in meeting the needs of the poor and vulnerable within the local area. They coordinate various activities and fundraisers to help local charities. They are the committee responsible for maintaining a relationship with our sister parish in Lima, Peru. In addition, they work with other parish ministries such as Social Justice and St. Vincent de Paul in coordinating activities within the parish. They also serve as representative to these ministries on Pastoral Council.

St. Ann

Ministries and Activities

Altar Servers

Altar servers are trained to assist at the celebration of Mass on Sundays and weekdays. All are welcome to serve. Those interested in becoming a server should contact the pastor.

Art and Environment

A group of parishioners who execute the seasonal liturgical décor of the church and gathering space under the guidance and direction of the pastor and worship committee.

Bereavement Group

The Bereavement Group has been in existence at St. Ann since 1976. This group fulfills a very important need during a painful time in the life of a family. People involved in this ministry assist those who are grieving in the planning and implementation of the funeral liturgy for their loved one.

Boy Scouts

The Boy Scout program is open to boys between the ages of 11 and 18. They have a troop meeting once a week and a camp-out once a month where the boys hike, fish, cook and have a good time in the great outdoors. They also attend a Council Camp-out where they compete with other troops. The main purpose of scouting is to teach the boys to be self-sufficient, to get along with others, to learn different skills, to have responsibility and to be polite and helpful to others. Eagle Scout is the highest award in scouting. Activities with the parents and whole family are held. The Ad Altare Dei Award is the highest Catholic Award for Boy Scouts.

Bunco

The annual Bunco/Ladies Night Out is held in the winter. There is a Basket Auction and a Split the pot raffle. Space is limited for this popular event. Watch the bulletin and website for details.

Centsible Shopping

While Centsible Shopping is no longer being sold after Masses, the program is ongoing and orders can be made online. Go to www.shopwithscrip.com to place your order. Thank you for supporting this fundraiser.

Chair Volleyball

We invite anyone 55 years or older, men and women, to join us on Wednesday mornings from 9:30 to 11:30. Senior Chair Volleyball is a great way to meet new friends and connect with other older adults in our community. It improves cardiovascular fitness, increases joint and overall flexibility and reduces stress. Please come and check us out. We are very handicapped accessible!

Christ Renews His Parish

Christ Renews His Parish is a renewal process to bring parishioners together as the Body of Christ. Christ Renews His Parish is an exciting spiritual renewal process that creates a strong community within the Parish. Come prepared to renew your heart and have an enjoyable experience. The retreat has reflections and witness talks given by team members, with small group discussion and activities. Mass is celebrated on Sunday and Reconciliation is Saturday evening. Men and Women retreats are held throughout the year. Check the bulletin and web site for information.

Chicken Dinner

This fundraiser is held in the spring. A group of firemen from Indiana come to fry the best chicken ever. A wonderful meal with an exciting raffle has become one of our most popular events for parishioners and the entire community. Enjoy an Indiana style chicken dinner and a day of fun and fellowship for all. Watch the newsletter and bulletin for details.

Communion to the Sick/Homebound

For those confined to their homes wishing to receive communion, contact Doug Moore at 521-8440 ext. 102 or dmoore@saintannparish.org. Communion calls are made the 1st Friday of every month.

Cub Scouts

The Scout Motto is "Be Prepared." Scouting rounds out a person. The Cub Scout program is open to boys between the ages of 7 (or in the first grade)-11. Their motto is "Do Your Best". This program's purpose is to teach boys to work together. A den leader usually has from eight to ten boys in the den where they work on different projects, play games and sing songs. Den meetings are held once a week from September through May. A pack meeting is held once a month. Summer activities are also planned. Parent cooperation is very essential.

Daily Raffle

This Raffle is held daily. There are daily winners and special drawings. Prizes range from \$40.00 to \$1,000. Tickets can be purchased at the Parish Office.

Extra-Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

A priest or deacon is the ordinary ministers of Holy Communion. The Church has given permission for lay men and women to distribute the Body and Blood of Christ during Mass when there is a pastoral need. Those involved in this apostolic work also bring Holy Communion to those who are sick, homebound, or in nursing homes. Guidelines can be found on the Parish web-site.

Girl Scouts

Girl Scouting is the world's preeminent organization dedicated solely to girls where, in an accepting and nurturing environment, girls build character and skills for success in the real world. In partnership with committed adult volunteers, girls develop qualities that will serve them all their lives, like leadership, strong values, social conscience, and conviction about their own potential and self-worth. Girl scouting is open to all girls in kindergarten through 12th grade.

Hispanic Ministry

The Hispanic Ministry began in December 2013. The ministry consists of Latino parishioners from Mexico, Peru, Guatemala and San Salvador and possible other countries, plus St. Ann parishioners. The Mission of the Hispanic Ministry is to assist the Latino adults and children to become fluent with Catholic religious practices in order for them to be fully enrolled in the sacramental communion of the Catholic Church. We are attempting to provide opportunities for the Latino parishioners to receive religious education for all sacraments and to attend Mass. English as a Second Language (ESL) classes are held weekly. Please consider joining the Hispanic Ministry so that our Mission can more fully assist our newest members to the St. Ann Community. They meet on Sundays at 8:00 pm and Tuesdays at 8:00 pm. Spanish Mass is held on the 4th Sunday of each month at 7:00 pm with Spanish confession at 6:30 pm. For more information, contact Maria Bolanos, Hispanic Coordinator at 521-8440 or mbolanos@saintannparish.org.

Kroger Rewards

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Lectors

Parishioners who proclaim the Word of God at Mass and other liturgical celebrations. Training takes place prior to being scheduled.

Legion of Mary

This is an international group of Catholic women and men who in emulation of Mary, their Queen and Mother, hold their faith as a precious gift to be shared and in the sharing find new meaning in their own lives and fulfillment of their baptismal commitment to live Christ and bring Him to the world. The members visit those returning from the hospital, attend funerals and visit nursing homes. They meet every Tuesday at 9:15 am. They also have auxiliary members who promise to say the daily rosary and the legion prayer.

L.I.G.H.T. (Living in God's Help Together) St. Ann Senior Outreach

Mass and lunch for seniors hosted in October and May. Watch bulletin for details.

Minister of Ushers

These people volunteer to make others feel welcome at our liturgies, to escort them to a seat when needed, to take up the collection, and other duties.

Ministers of Music

Music Ministers enhance our liturgies through the gift of music using their own musical talents and by encouraging the congregation to participate more fully. If you would like to be a part of the Music Ministry, as a Cantor or a member of the Choir, please contact Chris Schaljo, Director of Music Ministry, at cschaljo@saintannparish.org.

New Life Prayer Group

Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, this group helps its members to come to know Jesus and the Father, and to develop a closer relationship with God. This in turn results in an increased interest in Scripture, personal prayer and a closer community spirit. They meet every Thursday at 7:30 pm in the Little White Schoolhouse.

Over 55 Group

This group is open to all men and women age 55 and over. They meet to share each other's friendship and companionship. They meet on the second Tuesday afternoon of the month at 12:45 pm, in the St. Francis Center.

Parish Picnic

The St. Ann Parish Family Picnic is held annually on the 1st Friday in August. It is held at Stricker's Grove from 5:00 pm-10:00 pm. Rides open at 6:00 pm. Bring your own picnic basket or take advantage of the SAMA grill team who will have food items for sale. Admission is free as are the rides including the big roller coaster! The evening is full of fun and fellowship!

Respect Life

This group is committed to promoting the sacredness of all life, from conception to natural death. We sponsor the 40 Days for Life, Pennies for Possibilities and the Baby Bottle Campaign to support various grass roots charities that support Life! We also help sponsor youth to attend the Rally for Life in Washington, D.C.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

Meets Mondays at 7:30 pm, beginning in September and ending sometime during the Easter Season. If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about the Catholic Faith, please contact Mary Clare Smith in the Religious Education Office - 729-2810.

Rosary Guild

The purpose of the St. Ann Rosary Guild is to teach people how to make rosaries. The rosaries are made for the missions all over the world in places like India, Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia and Africa to name a few. The rosaries are sent free of charge. Rosaries are also donated to the poor in Cincinnati through St. Francis Church. Rosaries are sold for First Communion, Christmas and R.C.I.A. and that money is used to buy material to make the Mission rosaries. The Guild is also a member of Our Lady's Rosary Makers in Louisville, Kentucky. The Rosary Guild meets on the 3rd Friday of each month.

St. Ann Men's Association (SAMA)

SAMA was created to provide a place and time for men to gather with the purpose of bettering the parish, community and themselves in the light of Christ, the guidance of the Holy Spirit and the obedience to the Father. Open to any man age 18 and older.

St. Vincent de Paul

This ministry works very hard to assist the poor and those facing financial difficulties within the parish as well as the local community. They give out food to families as well as provide materials to help people with the basic needs of life. They take up a monthly collection to accomplish their mission. This is a long standing ministry within the parish and has been well supported by parishioners.

Wedding Anniversaries - 25th, & 50th

Each year, couples celebrating their 25th & 50th wedding anniversaries receive the Archbishop's Wedding Anniversary Certificate. A special Mass is held at St. Ann to celebrate these anniversaries. Couples celebrating their 50th Anniversary are invited to an annual celebration at the Cathedral. Watch the bulletin for details.

Religious Education

Adult Religious Education

Adult education programs provide an opportunity to continue to learn and grow in faith. We offer a variety of programs including book discussion, Lectio, Theology of the Body, The Wild Goose, Return, just to name a few. The majority of our education programs will take place on Mondays and Thursdays and will be offered in the morning as well as the evening. Check the bulletin and website for schedules. Please call the religious education office with any ideas you may have for future programs at 729-2810.

FORMED

Augustine Institute's Symbolon: The Catholic Faith Explained is now available to our parish! It is a beautifully crafted teaching and state-of-the-art video, filmed on location in Rome, the Holy Land and other sites with Dr. Edward Sri and others providing a clear and comprehensive explanation of the Catholic Faith. See the Parish website for registration information.

VIRTUS

If you serve, or desire to serve, the youth of our parish in any capacity, you must be VIRTUS trained and certified. This is an Archdiocesan requirement in place to help protect our children. You must have cleared a background check and stay current with monthly training bulletins. To see a list of classes offered, information on the background check process, and training bulletins, please visit virtus.org. Additional information on the Decree on Child Protection can be found on the Archdiocesan website www.catholiccincinnati.org.

Youth Religious Education

Religious Education Options

Educating our children in the teachings and practices of the Catholic faith can be accomplished several different ways. The involvement of parents is essential in each of the three options.

1. Catholic School
2. Home School
3. Parish Religious Education Program

Catholic School

Our Lady of Grace Catholic School (OLG) provides students (K-8 grade) with an education rooted in our Catholic faith. Located at St. Ann Parish, Our Lady of Grace Catholic School serves the parishes of St. Ann, Assumption, St. Margaret Mary, and St. Therese, the Little Flower. In addition to classroom education, OLG provides weekly opportunities to celebrate Mass, receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation during Advent and Lent, have an all school retreat each year, participate in Stations of the Cross, walk-a-thon, field day, and various service projects to help those in need throughout the year. For more information on Our Lady of Grace, call the school office at 931-3070.

Home School

Parents have the right to educate their children at home. There are many children who receive their general education at home already. You may be asked to provide updates to show what your child is learning and how well they comprehend the material. The pastor is still the overall supervisor and thus he has the responsibility of making sure the children of the parish are receiving proper religious education. If you need materials or suggestions for materials, the parish can provide recommendations or materials at cost.

Parish Religious Education Program

The religious education program is for students in grades 1-8 and meets on Mondays during the school year from 6:30-8:00 pm. We will be using a comprehensive religious education curriculum beginning with basic lessons from the catechism and using the Faith and Life Textbook Series from Ignatius Press. The classroom education time will be enhanced with opportunities to attend Mass, receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation, participate in a May Crowning Service, learn about vocations, and participate in service projects. If you would like to register your child or volunteer with this program, please contact Mary Clare Smith at mcsmith@saintannparish.org or 729-2810.

Pre-School Program

The pre-school program is for children ages 3-6, who are not yet in 1st grade and meets on Sundays during the school year during the 9:45 am Mass. The students are split into 3 groups, by age level. We will be using a comprehensive religious education curriculum beginning with basic lessons from the catechism. The classroom education time will be enhanced with opportunities to sing in Mass, make crafts, celebrate the Liturgical Seasons, and participate in service projects. If you would like to register your child or volunteer with this program, please contact Mary Clare Smith at mcsmith@saintannparish.org or 729-2810.

Sacramental Preparation

Sacraments are received through the parish: school aged children should receive Reconciliation, Eucharist, and Confirmation. Children receiving religious education through attending a Catholic school, home schooling, and the parish religious education program are required to come to additional meetings and retreats in order to assist in preparing them to receive these Sacraments.

RCIA for Children

If the child desiring baptism is over the age of reason (7 years old), the child would go through the RCIA process for children. Contact the Director of Faith Formation to make arrangements for an initial meeting, mcsmith@saintannparish.org or 729-2810. There will be a series of classes for the child to attend in order to receive education regarding the Sacraments. The child will be receiving all three Sacraments of Initiation and enter into the Church at the Easter Vigil.

Weekly Stewardship of Treasure

Giving money to the church is a symbolic act-the offering of ourselves in service and devotion to God. Offertory envelopes are mailed on a quarterly basis. If you prefer, the parish has an online giving option for you to make your donations automatically either via your banking account or credit card. See the online giving link on the Parish website or call the Parish Office at 521-8440.

Stock Transfer

The donation of common stock can be made to St. Ann Parish for regular stewardship, debt reduction or as a special gift. Contact: Doug Moore at dmoore@saintannparish.org or 521-8440 ext. 102.

Leave a gift in your will

By leaving a portion of your assets to St. Ann Parish, you continue the practice of good stewardship. Even a modest dollar or percentage amount can accomplish great things. Contact: Tim Clifford at tclifford@saintannparish.org or 521-8440 ext. 115.

Miscellaneous

Marriage Encounter

This Worldwide Marriage Encounter Community is concerned with strengthening the sacrament of Matrimony. A Marriage Encounter is a weekend experience for couples with good solid relationships who want to deepen and grow in their awareness of one another. See www.wwme.org for dates and locations.

Your Community Offers

Colerain Township

Check the township website www.colerain.org for details on township events and activities.

Colerain Parks

See www.colerain.org for details.

Farbach Werner Nature Preserve - Colerain and Poole Roads

Hamilton County Park System unit providing nature walks, bird watching and nature programs for children and adults. Park sticker required.

Groesbeck Public Library - W. Galbraith next to St. Ann Church

A branch of the Hamilton County Public Library system, this unit has one of the largest circulations per month in the county. It contains many types of reference materials, slides, films and records.

Knights of Columbus

Madonna and Northside Councils

These adult organizations, in the spirit of Christianity in action, cover a wide spectrum of activities. Each group is involved in support of sports programs, thereby instilling Christian attitudes in the children they reach.