



Saint Anne Catholic Church

Parochial Administrator

Rev. Tom Lawrence
tlawrence@richmonddiocese.org

Interim Principal, St. Anne Catholic School

Mrs. Anne Johnson
ajohnson@stanneschoolbristol.org

Interim Director of Music

Stephanie Yoder
syoder@stannes-bristol.org

Director of Faith Formation

Sarah French
sfrench@stannes-bristol.org

Youth Leader

Laura Cochrane
lauracochrane@stannes-bristol.org

Business Manager

Steve Perkins
sperkins@stannes-bristol.org

Maintenance Manager

Rick Langlois
rlanglois@stannes-bristol.org

Office Manager

Rosie Mansfield
stannes@stannes-bristol.org

Bookkeepers

Rachel Amos
ramos@stanneschoolbristol.org
Sheila Wilson
swilson@stannes-bristol.org

Bingo Manager - Jim Kosinski

stannes-bingo@outlook.com

St. Anne's Cemetery (director):

Greg Chudzik 423-652-7607 or 335-0822

Memorial Bricks: - contact parish office

MISSION STATEMENT

St. Anne's Catholic Community

Aware of our rich Roman Catholic tradition and our own particular parish needs, we commit ourselves to the building of a Christian community in which the Gospel of Jesus Christ might be exemplified and fulfilled.

To accomplish this mission and vision, we covenant ourselves to action in the following areas:

Prayer:

That individually and as a parish, we must create an atmosphere in which we recognize prayer as essential to our lives and liturgical celebrations as public expression of the source and summit of our lives in Christ.

Education:

That individually and as a community, we support Catholic education and a learning environment that addresses the uniqueness of each person by providing opportunity for maximum spiritual, intellectual, physical and social development.

Fellowship:

That individuals, small groups and the parish community recognize our responsibility to welcome all, accept our rich diversity, reverence our uniqueness and reconcile our differences.

Outreach:

That individually and as a community we pledge ourselves to be aware of the needs of others. We must not hesitate to respond to suffering, deprivation, separation or the loss of human dignity.

Parish Address: 316 Euclid Ave.,
Bristol, VA 24201

MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturday (Anticipation of Sunday) ..5:30 p.m.
Sunday: 8:30 am & 11:30 am;
Spanish at 230p
Monday: 6:00pm (NO Mass on 1st Monday)
Tuesday (no 8:30a Mass Dec. 12);
Our Lady of Guadalupe 7p in Spanish
Wednesday..... 8:30 a.m.
Thursday..... (Dec. 14) Mass at 8:30a
Friday.....8:30 a.m.
Saturday/daily Mass..... 9:30 a.m.
Holy Days: Call the office for Mass times

TELEPHONE NUMBERS:

Parish Office (276) 669-8200
Office hours: Monday thru Friday 9a-4p
Parish email: stannes@stannes-bristol.org
Website:www.stannes-bristol.org
St. Anne's School 276-669-0048
email: schooloffice@stanneschoolbristol.org
Address: 580 Oakview Ave., Bristol, VA

Parish Registration - Call the church office.

Confessions:

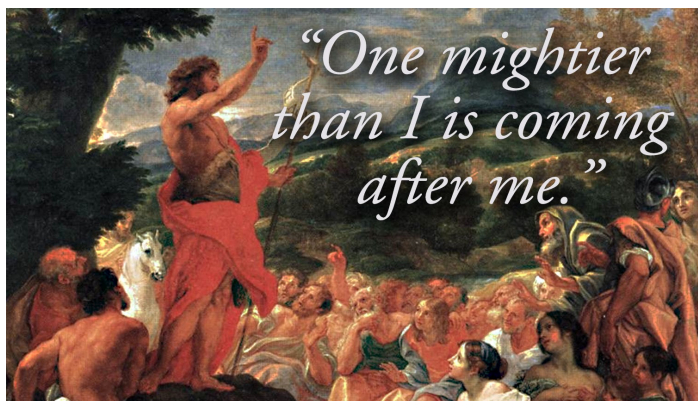
Tues., Wed., Thurs., 5:00-6:00 p.m.,
Sat., 8:45a-9:30a; 415-515p p.m.
or by appointment.

Adoration: Tues. 9-10a; Sat. 8:30-9:30a
"First" Tuesdays, 9a to 9p

Baptisms: Parents must attend Baptism Preparation. Contact the parish ofc.

Weddings: 8 months notice required to complete Marriage Preparation.

Interested in Joining the Catholic Church?
Join our INQUIRY sessions to learn more about the Catholic faith. Please contact the parish office.



“Make straight his paths”, Isaiah cried out, prophesying that the Lord would come to rescue and comfort the people of God. Centuries later, St. Mark quotes this call at the very beginning of his Gospel, presenting John the Baptist as the prophet who took this to heart, preparing the way for the Lord. Now, two millennia later, during this season when we prepare for the Lord’s coming into our lives and into our hearts, how can *we* **“make straight his paths”**?

Readings for this Week (Dec. 11-16)

- Monday:** Isaiah 35:1-10; Luke 5:17-26
- Tuesday:** (*Feast: Our Lady of Guadalupe*)
Zec. 2:14-17 *or* Rev. 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab
Luke 1:26-38 *or* Luke 1:39-47
- Wednesday:** (*Memorial: Saint Lucy*)
2 Corinthians 10:17-11:2; Matthew 25:13
Wkday: Isaiah 40:25-31; Matthew 11:28-30
- Thursday:** (*Memorial: Saint John of the Cross*)
1 Corinthians 2:1-10a; Luke 14:25-33
Wkday: Isaiah 41:13-20; Matthew 11:11-15
- Friday:** Isaiah 48:17-19; Matthew 11:16-19
- Saturday:** Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11; Mt. 17:9a, 10-13

**Sacramental Preparation
Parent Meeting**

For parents of children Grade 2 or older who are in need of Sacraments of Initiation (*Baptism, First Reconciliation and First Communion*) If you wish your child to receive First Communion this spring, and you weren't able to attend the meeting last Sunday, please plan to attend the parent meeting **TODAY: SUNDAY (Dec. 10) at 12:45 p.m. in the Great Room** Questions? Please contact Sarah French: sfrench@stannes-bristol.org

TAKE NOTE!! Items for next Sunday's (Dec. 17) bulletin must be in to the parish office NLT this Monday, December 11th at **9 a.m.**



A Message from Father Tom...

“Make straight in the wasteland
a highway for our God!”

Often times, it is our hearts that are the wasteland. We become embroiled in the tasks and rhythms of the workaday world and we forget that we are made for eternal friendship with God. We walk the Pilgrim Road externally, which we do step-by-step, gradually, trying to perfect ourselves so that we are as ready as we can be for life with Him who was and is and is to come. It's easy to lose sight of how far we've drifted outwardly and how arid and in disrepair our interior life has become.

But we have Advent and Lent to give us time to refocus and prepare; to prepare the way for the Lord. What would it look like if we ordered/aligned everything in our lives with God at the center and as the destination? How would our years, months, weeks, and days be different? How does such a goal rank amidst other more commonplace goals of leisure/hobbies, career, or family life? Should it not be that which circumscribes and gives value to each of those other things?

Indeed it should. Let us begin anew.



Senior High & Junior High
YOUTH MINISTRY

- ♦ Dec. 10— Fun Night! 12:30pm-6:30pm
 - *Masterpiece Mixers*
- ♦ Dec. 17 — Youth Ministry (BYC 6-8pm)
 - **Journey to Confirmation! (BYC 6p-8p)**
- ♦ Dec. 24—NO Youth Ministry
 - Merry Christmas!
- ♦ Dec. 31—NO Youth Ministry
 - Happy New Year!



DIOCESAN YOUTH CONFERENCE
February 9-11, 2024
Open to all youth in 9th - 12th grade

The Diocesan Youth Conference (DYC) is an annual weekend event in Richmond, VA that gathers high school youth from the Diocese of Richmond parishes in one central location. It is a highly energetic and engaging opportunity for our high school teenagers to gather as a larger Church community and celebrate the richness of our Catholic faith. Registration is now open! We have a limited number of spots available and will be a first-come, first-served basis.

Registration \$210

Registration deadline—January 7, 2024

*If you have questions or to register,
contact Laura Cochrane at:*

276-492-3095 / lauracochrane@stannes-bridol.org

Lighthouse Catholic Media
CD of the Week:

Full of Grace, The Message of the Angel

Renowned speaker, author and musician Vinny Flynn makes the angel's message at the Annunciation come alive with meaning and relevance by delving into Scripture, the Catechism of the Catholic Church, and the writings of St. John Paul II. Vinny Flynn helps listeners understand the deeper significance of the words of the Hail Mary prayer and the angel's greeting, offering penetrating insights into the role of our Blessed Mother in God's plan of salvation. Find this CD and many other new titles at the display on the table in the commons.

PRAYERS REQUESTED

We ask your prayers for *Mary Elizabeth Heath*, the step-daughter of John Flanagan, who passed away recently in Arkansas. Notes may be sent to John at NHC Healthcare, Room 201, 245 North St., Bristol, VA 24201.

Please note: There will not be a morning Mass Tuesday, but we **will have a Holy Hour** of Eucharistic Adoration Tuesday from 9a to 10a.

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe—Tues., Dec. 12

This Tuesday, December 12, we will celebrate a Spanish Mass at **7 p.m.** for the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe (*you know all the parts and the homily is in English and Spanish*). A fiesta follows in the Great Room. All are welcome. This feast recalls the apparitions of Mary at the hill of Tepeyac from Dec. 9-12, 1531 to the native convert, Juan Diego; known to the Aztecs at *Tecoatlaxope* (or *de Guadalupe* in Spanish), meaning "*she will crush the serpent of stone*"; declared patroness of the Americas by Pope Pius XII on October 12, 1945 and raised to the rank of Feast for all the countries of the Americas by the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, March 25, 1999. On July 31, 2002, Pope John Paul II canonized Saint Juan Diego.

ROSARY: Pro-life rosary in the Saint Augustine Center at 12:15 p.m. on Wednesday December 13.

Bible Study: There will be Bible Study at the Saint Augustine Center at 1 p.m. on Wednesday discussing a general overview of the New Testament. There are no books to buy and no homework to do with each session as an independent topic in itself.

Prayer Shawl meeting is this Wednesday, **Dec. 13, 10a** in the St. Augustine Center. Please bring finished shawls and scarves to be blessed by Father Tom.

ADVENT MATERIALS are available for you to take home—stop by the table in the commons!



Special Choir for Christmas (for Grades 2-8)

If you'd like to sing in our Special Choir **Christmas Eve** (Sun., Dec. 24) at the **5:00 p.m. Mass** plan to come to the next two rehearsals at 3:15p in the church on **Dec. 13 & 20**. (*If you don't attend St. Anne's School and getting here by 3:15 is not possible due to distance from your school, please talk with Stephanie Yoder: 276-669-8200 or email her at syoder@stannes-bridol.org*.)

*Mass Intentions
for the Week* 

Saturday, December 9 (2nd Sunday of Advent)
5:30 p.m. †Tony Orobona

Sunday, December 10 (Second Sunday of Advent)
8:30 a.m. †JoAnn Schatz
11:30 a.m. †Gailya Rasnic
2:30 p.m. Parishioners (Spanish Mass)

Monday, December 11 Mass at 6p

Tuesday, December 12 (Feast: Our Lady of Guadalupe)
(no Mass at 8:30 a.m.)
7:00 p.m. †Emilia Cruz (Spanish Mass)

Wednesday, December 13
8:30 a.m. †Slawomir Lendzioszek

Thursday, December 14
8:30 a.m. †Patty Sheppard

Friday, December 15
8:30 a.m. †Richard J. Davis

Saturday, December 16—Mass at 9:30 a.m.

Saturday, December 16 (3rd Sunday of Advent)
5:30 p.m. †Diane Blackburn

Sunday, December 17 (Third Sunday of Advent)
8:30 a.m. †Bill Burriss
11:30 a.m. †Sharon Mooney
2:30 p.m. Parishioners (Spanish Mass)



Stewardship

E-Giving (Nov. 23-30)

Regular/Operating	\$2,948
Bldg/Maintenance Reserve	\$ 53

Collection Report (Dec. 2/3)

Regular/Operating	\$14,170.21
St. Anne School/diocesan Schools	\$ 3,669
Immaculate Conception Holy Day	\$ 150
Christmas Holy Day	\$ 150
Social Ministry/Outreach 2nd coll.	\$ 100
Commonwealth Catholic Charities	\$ 100
Bristol Faith In Action	\$ 75

Many thanks for your support and generosity to Saint Anne's!

Second Collection next Sunday (Dec. 17) is for St. Anne's Social Ministry/Parish Charities/local outreach fund. Thank you for your generosity to those in need.

December 23/24/25:

- ♦ *Our Regular Sunday Dec. 24 collection will be taken up at the 4th Sunday of Advent Masses (5:30p Mass Sat., Dec. 23 and 10 a.m. Mass on Sunday Dec. 24)*
- ♦ **Dec. 24/25**—at the **Christmas Holy Day Masses**, there is the Holy Day collection (for operating) and also the 2nd collection for Commonwealth Catholic Charities.

POLAR EXPRESS PAJAMA PARTY
(for Children Pre3 thru 5th grade)

St. Anne Catholic School is hosting a Polar Express Pajama Party on **Wed., December 13**, from **5:30-6:30 p.m.** in the Great Room. All parish and school families are invited to join us for story time and hot chocolate.

AMEN—The Appalachian Men's Ensemble
Christmas Around the World

All are invited to this special music concert
Saturday, Dec. 16 at 3 p.m. - Central Presbyterian
(across the street from St. Anne's!).
Bearl Jenkins, a member of St. Anne's Choir, is one of the members of this men's chorale ensemble.
(General Admission: a suggested donation of \$10/adults and \$5/students at the door.)
AMEN will also present their concert at 7:30 p.m. at Gray United Methodist Church in Gray, TN Saturday evening.

Scripture for next Sunday
3rd Sunday of Advent—Gaudete Sunday
Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11

I rejoice heartily in the Lord.

Luke 1

"My soul rejoices in my God."

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

May you entirely, spirit, soul, and body, be preserved blameless for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

John 1:6-8, 19-28

There is one among you whom you do not recognize.

On **Gaudete Sunday** a theme of joy runs through our readings. Isaiah, returning to the promised land after years of exile, describes the wonders God will accomplish. In the psalm we sing that our souls rejoice in our God. Saint Paul closes his letter to the Thessalonians by reminding them to rejoice always. Finally, we hear John the Baptist testify that he is not worthy to even untie the sandal strap of the One who is coming, the light, the Christ. May the joy we hear in God's word rub off on us!

**Part-Time
Office Manager Position**

St. Mary Catholic School in Johnson City, TN is accepting applications for a part-time Office Operations Manager/Bookkeeper. The role includes bookkeeping, managing and improving processes, collaborating with administrators in the school and church offices, and working with families and staff. If interested, contact Becky Frye at becky.frye@stmarysjc.org or call 423-282-3397.

PRAY for VOCATIONS

"A voice is calling."

Is Christ calling you to let Him manifest His love in you as a priest or consecrated religious? Talk to your priest or reach out to the Office of Vocations at 804-359-5661 or email vocations@richmonddiocese.org.

PREPARE

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE—Thurs., Dec. 14

Prepare your hearts for the coming of the Christ-child this Christmas! Our Reconciliation Service is **Thursday at 7p.**

Several priests will be here for individual confessions.

(**Note:** Mass Thursday will be at 8:30a instead of 6p due to the Penance Service. No confessions at 5p Thursday.)

Upcoming Bulletin deadlines...

- For Dec. 17 bulletin, NLT 9A on Monday, Dec. 11
- *We will not be printing a bulletin Dec. 24 weekend. Thank you for your understanding.*
- For Dec. 31 bulletin, NLT 9A on Tuesday, Dec. 26

POINSETTIAS: If you would like to make a donation toward our Christmas flowers in memory of, or in honor of a loved one, please notify Rosie in the parish office **NLT 4p on Wednesday, Dec. 20.** These will be listed in our bulletin on Dec. 31 (the Feast of the Holy Family).

GIVING TREE: If you took any tags from the Giving Tree, be sure to bring the wrapped gifts (or in gift bags) back with the tag attached to the outside — **NLT next Sunday, Dec. 17.**

Bethlehem Christians/Crafts next weekend—Dec. 16/17

Plan to stop in the Great Room when you come to Mass next weekend (Dec. 16/17). Olive wood carvings and crafts from Christian artists in the Holy Land will be offered for sale after the Masses. Sales of olive wood carvings support Christian families in the Bethlehem area who rely on this and on tourism as primary sources of income.



Did you know that Christians make up less than 2% of the population of the Holy Land? Your support helps keep these native Christians rooted in their homeland. Thank you for your support and prayers.

Looking Ahead —

- * Masses for the **4th Sunday of Advent:**
Sat., Dec. 23 5:30p & Sun., Dec. 24 10a
in the gymnasium.
- * **Christmas Holy Day Masses:**
Sunday, Dec. 24 at 5p, 8p, 12midnight
Monday, Dec. 25 at 10 a.m.
(Incense at all Christmas Masses except the 5p)