



PARISH STAFF

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YOUTH MINISTRY

Miranda & Eric Marlowe (4-7th)
Lisa & Collin Dibble (8-12th)

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COUNCILS

FINANCE

Bob Gaubert

STEWARDSHIP

Karen Straub

PARISH COUNCIL

Chenjing Fernando
(parishcouncil@st-annas.com)

DAILY MASS

Monday 9:00 AM
Tuesday 12:15 PM
Wednesday 12:15 PM
Thursday No Mass
Friday 9:00 AM
(Adoration every Friday
9:30 AM—3:30 PM)

VIGIL MASS

Saturday 5:00 PM

SUNDAY MASSES

9:00 AM and 12:00 PM

CHRISTMAS MASSES:

12/24: 6:00PM
12/25: 12:00AM & 10:00AM

OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Tuesday,
Wednesday, Friday:
9:00 AM – 3:00 PM
Closed Thursdays
Weekly Staff Meeting:
Tuesdays at 10:00AM
If you need to contact us please
leave a message.

www.St-Annas.com

1401 Alcovy Street
Monroe, GA 30656
GPS: 836 Monroe Jersey Rd

SACRAMENTS

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 3:30-4:30 PM or by appointment.

INFANT BAPTISM

Catholic parent(s) must be active, registered and participate in a Baptism class, please call the office to schedule.

MARRIAGE

Call at least six months before proposed date. Catholics must be active and registered!

RCIA

Open to those inquiring about the Catholic Faith.

Tuesdays (Sept.-April) 7:00PM

Deb Farabaugh: debfarabaugh@gmail.com



If you become aware of or have a reasonable suspicion of abuse you are required to report within 24 hours by Georgia law. **Reports of child abuse and neglect can be made by phone to 1-855-GA CHILD (1-855-422-4453) 24 hours/day, 7 days/week.** Archdiocesan policy **requires** a follow up letter to be sent to your local DFCS office detailing all the information provided to the intake center in order to keep records of our response to allegations of abuse. A copy of the letter also needs to be sent to the Office of Child and Youth Protection.

If an allegation of abuse involves any member of the clergy, employee, or volunteer of the Archdiocese of Atlanta, you must contact the Office of the District Attorney and the Office of Child and Youth Protection in addition to DFCS within 24 hours.

**FOR SACRAMENTAL
EMERGENCIES PLEASE CALL:
706-688-9870**



December 17th 2023 | Third Sunday of Advent



Saturday Vigil 5:00 PM:

Sunday 9:00 AM:

Sunday 12:00 PM:

Monday 9:00 AM:

Tuesday 12:15 PM:

Wednesday 12:15 PM:

Friday 9:00 AM:

Dan & Catherine Melton (D)
Frank Rojas (D)
St. Anna's Parishioners & Families

Brianna Luti (D)
Thomas McClary (D)
Porky DeProspero (D)

OFFERTORY RECAP:

12/3 Recap: In Pew: \$7,910 | Online: \$2,705 Total: \$10,615
12/10 Recap: TBA, Bulletin due early

POPE FRANCIS' DECEMBER PRAYER INTENTION:

For persons with disabilities; We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the center of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation. Amen..

IMPORTANT UPCOMING SAVE THE DATES:

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES:

12/24—6:00PM VIGIL & 12/25—Midnight and 10:00AM

HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSURES: 12/22-1/1

St. Anna's Parish Christmas Party: 12/30 at 6:00PM

Please check back to this list in future weeks for more events that may be added during the holiday season.

ST. CECILIA'S CORNER:

The Third Sunday of Advent represents a shift in the Advent progression. For one, the pink candle is lit. Another is the name many people know it by: "Gaudete" Sunday. Gaudete means to rejoice. One rejoices in the closeness of the Christmas feasts but also that we have made it halfway through the Advent cycle. But there are other shifts inherent to the time. The characters of Advent become more prominent in the progressions. Before Advent finishes, we'll hear about Mary and Joseph, and we will be presented with John the Baptist as the concluding figure that brings us to Christmas. And of course, it is helpful to note that the Church focuses away from the end of time to the actual celebration of Christmas and the implications of that experience. Lastly, as we come closer to the Fourth Sunday, we will hear about the "O" antiphons. These titles given to the Messiah are usually sung at Evening Prayer, but you know them as "O Come O Come Emmanuel". There are seven of them, sung on each day between Dec. 17 and Dec. 24. Don't worry, we'll sing the hymn on the Fourth Sunday. In doing so, we will complete our Advent preparations and proceed with joy to Christmas. And remember, Christmas is 12 days (and for some of us it is 40 days.) We have much to look forward to as the liturgical calendar and the music illuminates our road to the great feasts of the Incarnation and then on to the Resurrection at Easter.



YOUTH GROUP (8-12TH) DECEMBER MEET UPS

Wednesdays at 6:30PM

12/20

ldibble@st-annas.com

cdibble@st-annas.com

RISING YOUTH (4-7TH) DECEMBER MEET UPS

Sundays at 1:00PM

12/17

emmarlowe@st-annas.com

HELP OUR YOUTH GROUP WITH FOOD DONATIONS!

We are continuing our meal train for both the Rising Youth and Youth Group! Our youth group meets on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-8:00 in the parish hall and Rising Youth on Sunday afternoons from 1:00-2:30PM. Meals should be dropped off, ready to serve, at 6:00PM. Visit our website to sign up for a date that's convenient for you!

****PLEASE DO NOT FEED ELIJAH****

SCHOOL OF RELIGION LITURGICAL LIVING NEWS:

December 17th-December 24th

December 17th: Third Sunday of Advent

It's Gaudete (Joy) Sunday, and it's time to light the pink candle! In my family, we put up our live Christmas tree during the third weekend of Advent. My girls and I all wear pink to Mass on Gaudete Sunday, and we get to wear our pink mantillas. This year I convinced my son to wear a pink dress shirt for the Easter Vigil, so I'm hopeful it will make a reappearance for Gaudete Sunday!

December 20th, 22nd, & 23rd: Winter Ember Days

What are Ember Days???

These are recommended days of seasonal fasting. Please, visit the Liturgical Living blog for a complete description of the whys and how-tos.

December 24th: Fourth Sunday of Advent; Christmas Eve

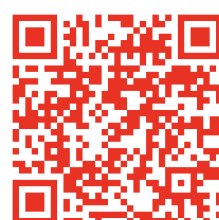
Quickly! Light that fourth candle because it only gets one day this year! Christmas Eve, as with the vigils of all great feasts, was traditionally observed as a day of fast and abstinence. There's an Italian tradition called the Feast of the Seven Fishes that's always seemed really cool to me, but it's WAY too much for me to try to get together on Christmas Eve. I normally prep breakfast for Christmas Day on Christmas Eve, and I almost always have presents left to wrap, cleaning to do, plus making sure five kids have bathed and put on their Christmas clothes for Midnight Mass. So, last year, I made slow cooker seafood stew instead. I used, I think, six types of fish in the stew, and then we had calamari or clam strips as an appetizer. It was pretty tasty! Recipes for the stew and the full feast are linked on the blog.

As I alluded to above, we *always* go to Midnight Mass. It's my favorite Mass of the year, and I have never let having young children (even new babies and toddlers) stop us from observing this tradition. The little kids take a disco nap from their regular bedtime to around 10:00 PM. Then, we get them up, get dressed for Mass, take a few obligatory pictures, and head out to the Church. Sometimes the little ones fall back to sleep during Mass, and that's fine. When we get home, they all get to eat one Christmas cookie, and they put out their cookies and milk for St. Nick. They're usually out pretty quickly by the time they go back to bed. Then, I turn on A Christmas Story and watch a little bit while St. Nick is dropping off the gifts. I normally don't get to bed until about 3:00 AM. I know the kids will wake me at 7:00 AM. I'm okay with that. It's a holy and joyful kind of tired.

You can access the blog by scanning the QR code with your phone or visiting the following web address: <https://www.st-annas.com/liturgical-living-2/>

Live your faith out loud!

SCAN ME



December 17th 2023 | Third Sunday of Advent

KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS POSTER CONTEST:

The KoC is sponsoring a Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest open to all children of the parish from Kindergarten through 8th grades. All Posters must be submitted by 12/20. Winners in the three categories will be announced at the Church Christmas Party and will each receive a \$25 prize. The winning posters will be sent on to the District Judging. Please see one of the ushers for an entry form that must be submitted with the poster or Heather Gardner, Director of Religious Education. Rules and regulations are listed on each entry form.

HOLIDAY MASS UPDATE: This year Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday, our Saturday Vigil and Sunday morning Mass times will be the obligation for the 4th Sunday of Advent. We will NOT have our 12:00PM Mass on Christmas Eve. Our Holiday Schedule is as follows;

4th Sunday of Advent Mass:

Saturday Vigil, 5:00PM

Sunday, 9:00AM

Christmas Eve Mass:

Sunday Vigil, 6:00PM

Christmas Day Mass:

Midnight and 10:00AM

New Years Day Mass:

Monday, 9:00AM

Our obligations will require us to attend Mass twice for the 4th Sunday of Advent and for Christmas please choose 1 Mass to attend for each Holy Day.

If you would like to serve at a Holiday Mass, please sign up at the Ushers Station today! Sign ups are posted on the cork board and are on a first come basis.

LITURGY SCHEDULES JAN-FEB: We are now using Signup.com to schedule our volunteers at the Masses. You may sign up on your own for which masses you would like to serve, or you may email Delilah the dates you are unavailable and she will add you to the schedule accordingly. Please make sure to make your adjustments and requests no later than December 31st. The schedule will be posted on the website on January 5th. You may view it anytime at Signup.com

JESSE TREE: Please take a tag and help someone in need this Christmas season. We have tags for children, veterans and FISH Ministries. People like you, make all the difference for those less fortunate. Thank you for supporting such a wonderful cause!

Jesse Tree Meeting: 12/19 at 10:00AM

WEEKLY MEETINGS DECEMBER 17TH — 23RD:

Sunday:

Mass—9:00AM & 12:00PM

Rising Youth—1:00PM

Monday:

Mass—9:00AM

Girls Choir—4:00PM

Tuesday:

Staff Meeting—10:00AM

Jesse Tree—10:00AM

Mass—12:15PM

RCIA—7:00PM (PH)

Wednesday:

Senior Luncheon—1:00PM

Boys Choir—4:00PM (Choir RM)

Youth Group—6:30PM (PH)

Parish Council—7:00PM

Adult Choir—7:00PM

Thursday:

OFFICE CLOSED

Friday:

OFFICE CLOSED

Mass—9:00AM

Adoration 9:30AM-3:30PM

Respect Life—7:00PM

Saturday:

Reconciliation—3:30PM

Vigil Mass—5:00PM

SENIOR LUNCHEON: Join us for FOOD, FUN & FELLOWSHIP on Wednesday, December 20th at 1:00PM in the Parish Hall. Please RSVP to: patgreen@windstream.net by Monday, December 18th.



LITURGY VOLUNTEERS: As you know, we are using signup.com to volunteer for serving in the Masses. We encourage all of our volunteers to check the group page. You may access our sign ups easily by visiting our website; www.st-annas.com and clicking "Liturgy Schedules" on our home page. This is an easy way for us to give our volunteers more control of your schedules and allows you to sign up, swap and make requests on your own accord. If you have any questions, please contact the office for assistance.

ST. ANNA'S CHRISTMAS PARTY: We are having a Parish Christmas Party!! Join us on December 30th following the 5:00PM Mass, for a night of FUN for the whole family. We plan to have parishioners bring double batch sides in pot luck fashion while we will be providing the main meat course. Please plan to bring your item based on the first letter of your family name.

A-F: Veggie Side

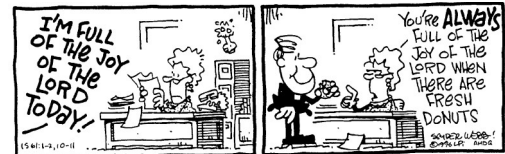
G-O: Salads of ANY kind (greens, potatoes, macaroni, etc.)

P-Z: Desserts.

We will need assistance with decorating the parish hall. If you would like to help please email the office.

We are excited to celebrate Christmas with you! We will have a cookie decorating station for everyone to make cookies! We are so excited to celebrate with YOU!

DONUTS AFTER MASS: During our SOR schedule, donut and coffee are provided after Mass to offer fellowship to our families. Please consider offering a love donation to this social ministry!



LIVE THE LITURGY: God sends a John the Baptist into every person's life—someone who prepares His way, who calls out His truth. Look for the John the Baptist in your life. Pray you can be this person for someone else. It is an intrinsic truth that we walk together in faith.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 17TH, 2023

Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54 (Is 61:10b)/ 1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Monday: Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19/Mt 1:18-25

Tuesday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17/Lk 1:5-25

Wednesday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 1:26-38

Thursday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21/Lk 1:39-45

Friday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Lk 1:46-56

Saturday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14/Lk 1:57-66

Next Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 (2a)/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38

DONATE WHILE YOU SHOP! VISIT: WWW.KROGER.COM/ACCOUNT/COMMUNITYREWARDS/