



PARISH STAFF

PASTOR

Fr. Randy Mattox: 770.267.7637
fatherrandy@st-annas.com

DEACON

John Duffield: 404.423.7988
jpduff@bellsouth.net

PARISH SECRETARY

Delilah Tanner: 770.267.7637
secretary@st-annas.com

DIR. OF RELIGIOUS ED.

Heather Gardner: 770.267.7637
hgardner@st-annas.com

OFFICE MANAGER

Betsy Jourdan 770.267.7637
bjourdan@st-annas.com

YOUTH MINISTRY

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

SACRED MUSIC DIRECTOR

Kevin Faulkner: 770.267.7637
kfaulkner@st-annas.com

MAINTENANCE

Tom Golden & Jenny Wachsmann:
770.267.7637

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

LENTEN PENANCE

2/22/2024—7:00 PM
*LENTEN RECONCILIATION
Every Wed. 10:00 AM –
12:00 PM (In Parish Office)

OFFICE HOURS

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

www.St-Annas.com

1401 Alcovy Street
Monroe, GA 30655
GPS: 836 Monroe Jersey Rd

SACRAMENTS

RECONCILIATION

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

INFANT BAPTISM

Catholic parents 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) 7:00 PM

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**



February 18th 2024 | First Sunday of Lent



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:

Wednesday 6:00 PM:

Friday 9:00 AM:

Alma & Victor Lopez 25th Anni.

Joan Dumford (L)

St. Anna's Parishioners & Families

Shirley Hartl (D)

Monsignor Henry Gracz

IN PEW OFFERTORY RECAP: 02/11/2024: \$9,695

You can give online by scanning the QR code or visit:

<https://giving.parishsoft.com/App/Giving/PS-993>



POPE FRANCIS' FEBRUARY PRAYER INTENTION:

For the terminally ill: We pray for those with a terminal illness, and their families, that they receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment. Amen.

IMPORTANT UPCOMING SAVE THE DATES:

2/21: Ecumenical Luncheon 12:00PM (First Presbyterian)

2/21: Dr. Edward Sri 7:00PM

2/22: Lenten Penance Service 7:00PM

2/23: Friday Fish Fry 5:00PM with Stations of the Cross at 6:00PM

ST. CECILIA'S CORNER:

I came across this wonderful meditation on receiving the Eucharist, and thus I am happy to pass it on to you. It is not my work, but I found it quite beautiful.

Getting your PhD in the reception of the Eucharist:

There are many ways and prayers that people have done over the years regarding the reception of the Eucharist. However, one might think that one needs a PhD in theology. However, here is the real PhD that anyone can do when receiving the Blessed Sacrament: Prayer, Humility, and Devotion.

It's quite a simple formula. To pray is to open one's heart to the real presence in the Eucharist. That real presence needs to be acknowledged not only in the mind, but also in the heart.

Humility is the stance taken as one receives Communion. Humility is the realization that though we are small, we are loved in the eyes of the Lord, and we receive his Son into our bodies and our hearts. Devotion is to understand the power of the Eucharist and to adore our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. Devotion requires both prayer and humility.

So, the only real PhD that one needs is composed of prayer, humility, and devotion. Anyone can obtain that degree. I pray that in this Lent you may easily obtain it and discover the great gift of the Eucharist.

A PRAYER FOR PREGNANT MOTHERS:

O Blessed Mother, you received the good news of the incarnation of Christ, your Son, with faith and trust. Grant protection to all pregnant mothers facing difficulty.

Guide us as we strive to make our parish communities a place of welcome and assistance for mothers in need. Help us become instruments of God's compassion.



Mary, Mother of the Church, graciously help us build a culture of life and a civilization of love, together with all people of good will, to the praise and glory of God, the creator and lover of life. Amen.

YOUTH GROUP (8-12TH)

JANUARY MEET UPS

Wednesdays at 6:30PM

2/21 ; 28

ldibble@st-annas.com

RISING YOUTH (4-7TH)

FEBRUARY MEET UPS

Sundays at 1:00PM

2/18 ; 25

emmarlowe@st-annas.com

SCHOOL OF RELIGION LITURGICAL LIVING NEWS:

February 18th-February 25th

February 18th: *Third Sunday of St. Joseph*

See devotion instructions on the blog!

February 21st, 23rd, & 24th: *Spring Ember Days*

What are Ember Days???

From Kendra Tierney's book, *The Catholic All Year Compendium*:

"Before the second Vatican Council, Catholics observed Ember and Rogation Days as special times of penitence. These days arose from the agrarian lifestyle of European Catholics and were linked with planting and the harvest of certain crops. As of the 1983 Code of Canon Law, observance of these penitential days is no longer mandatory, and they are no longer universally marked on the General Roman Calendar. They do, however, still appear on the calendar for Masses according to the Extraordinary Form.

Ember Days were observed four times per year for three days over the course of a week: Wednesday, as the day Judas betrayed Jesus; Friday, as the day Jesus was crucified; and Saturday, as the day He was in the tomb. The traditional dates for the Ember Days were the Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday after these days: St. Lucy's Day, December 13th; The first Sunday of Lent; Pentecost; and Holy Cross on September 14th.

Historically tied to agriculture, these days were for giving thanks to God for the seasonal harvests. The spring days were offered for the flower harvest and recalled Baptism. The summer days were offered for the wheat harvest in thanksgiving for the Holy Eucharist. The fall days were offered for the grape harvest in thanksgiving for the Precious Blood. The winter days were offered for the olive harvest in anticipation of the holy oils used in anointing the sick. Priestly ordinations were traditionally performed on the Saturday Ember Days, so these days were also offered as a prayer for priests and for vocations.

Formerly, these were days of required fasting and abstinence, allowing one full meal and two collations, with meat allowed at the principal meal only, except on Fridays, when complete abstinence from meat was required."

In my family, we traditionally reserve the principal meal for dinner on these fasting days, so we can all eat together. And, I like to make a meal with each of the four harvests represented. For example: pasta (wheat) with a meat-free sauce, broccoli (flowers), fresh bread (wheat) and olive oil (olives), and wine (grapes) for adults or grape juice for the kids.

SCAN ME

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-4/>



SERVICE HOURS: We have volunteer opportunities available for 9th and 10th grade students. We need teens to help with the Lenten Fish Fry. Please contact Heather Gardner or Nancy Sykes if you would like to volunteer.

February 18th 2024 | First Sunday of Lent

REDCROSS BLOOD DRIVE: Thank you to everyone who signed up to donate! Your contributions, help save lives! Our Parish donated: 31 pints! Thank you again for your life saving donations!

ST. ANNA'S LENTEN FISH FRY IS BACK!!!

Join us **Fridays during Lent, February 16th—March 22nd** in the Parish Hall for our annual Fish Fry sponsored by the Knights of Columbus! **This year the Fish Fry will start at 5:00PM with Stations of the Cross, led by Deacon John and Father Randy, at 6:00PM in the Sanctuary.** The menu will include fried cod or fried southern catfish, french fried potatoes, hush puppies, and coleslaw. Iced tea, lemonade, water, and Coke products to drink. Two types of cookies are also included in the price. **The cost is \$15.00 for adults and \$10.00 for children under 12.**



5K & FUN RUN: Please consider being a sponsor and runner/walker for the St. Patrick's 5K & Fun Run! Saturday, March 16, 2024 **Knights of Columbus #14425** See one of the Knights after Mass to sign up.



COME and SEE: Join St. Joseph Seminary College for a seminary visit and discernment weekend! This is open to men ages 16-30 on March 22-24. Lodging, transportation, and meals are provided.

Scan the QR code to sign up or visit: www.calledbychrist.com/events



ECUMENICAL LUNCHEONS: Each Service begins at 12:00PM and includes a welcome, singing a song, and sharing a 15-20 minute message. Lunch is served at 12:30PM with a love offering to FISH. The schedule is as follows:

2/21: First Presbyterian	3/20: First Methodist
2/28: First African Baptist	
3/6: Lighthouse World Outreach	<i>* They encourage those working to eat first in order to honor their time.</i>
3/13: First Baptist	



MARDI GRAS CELEBRATION: Thank you to everyone who came out to celebrate! We had a great turn out and lots of fun and laughter. We look forward to getting together next year!

WEEKLY MEETINGS FEBRUARY 18TH— FEBRUARY 24TH:

Sunday:

Mass—9:00AM
Mass—12:00PM
Rising Youth—1:00PM

Monday:

Mass—9:00AM
Girls Choir—4:00PM

Tuesday:

Mass—12:15PM
RCIA—7:00PM

Wednesday:

Open Reconcil.—10AM-12PM
Ecumenical Luncheon—12:00PM
(First Presbyterian)

Mass—12:15PM
Dr. Edward Sri—7:00PM

Thursday:

OFFICE CLOSED
NO MASS

Lenten Penance—7:00PM

Friday:

Adoration 9:30AM-3:30PM
Fish Fry—5:00PM
Stations of the Cross—6:00PM

Saturday:

Reconciliation—3:30PM
Vigil Mass—5:00PM

DR. EDWARD SRI IS COMING TO ST. ANNA'S:

Dr. Edward Sri is a theologian, author, and well-known Catholic speaker who presents to tens of thousands of people from around the world each year, including clergy, parish leaders, catechists, and laity. Join us for an amazing and informative one night event with two talks by Edward Sri on February 21st at 7:00PM. He will be speaking on "The Art of Living: The Cardinal Virtues and Freedom to Love", followed by "Vibrant Faith in a Secular Age: Today's Challenges for Parents and Families" at 8:00PM. Invite your friends and family! We have invited the other area parishes to attend with us! Dr. Sri will have two of his books available for purchase. There is no cost to attend, but we will be taking up a "love donation" to help offset costs. Join us for this awesome one night event!



SYNODAL: For the next stage of the Synod on Synodality, the Archdiocese is hosting five Regional Listening Sessions throughout Lent attended by one of the bishops of Atlanta:

Domingo, 25 de febrero, 5PM Thursday, March 7, 7PM
San Miguel, Gainesville (Focus on college students & young adults) Saint Thomas More, Decatur (español)

Tuesday, February 27, 7PM Saint Philip Benizi, Jonesboro

Wednesday, March 6, 7PM Chancery in Smyrna

Monday, March 18, 7PM Virtual

Please visit www.archatl.com for more information.

LENTEN PENANCE SERVICES: During Lent we should take on some extra penitential practices in order to grow in holiness and be free from the bondage of sin. Because of this, it is fitting that many Catholics choose to receive the sacrament of Reconciliation during this holy season. **We will be offering our Lenten Penance Service on Feb. 22nd at 7:00PM.** Father Randy will also offer Reconciliation **every Wednesday** during Lent from 10:00AM—12:00PM. Just come to the office to be seen. No appointment is necessary. We will continue to offer Reconciliation every Saturday from 3:30-4:30PM in the Sanctuary as well.

LIVE THE LITURGY: In the desert, Jesus endured forty days of hardship and temptation. But, He did not endure it alone: "the angels ministered to Him," the Gospel tells us. Remember that you do not face Lent alone. God is beside you in your journey through the desert.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 18TH 2024

Sunday: Gn 9:8-15/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 (see 10)/1 Pt 3:18-22/Mk 1:12-15 (**First Sunday of Lent**)

Monday: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15/Mt 25:31-46

Tuesday: Is 55:10-11/Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19/Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19/Lk 11:29-32

Thursday: 1 Pt 5:1-4/Ps 23:1-3a, 4, 5, 6/Mt 16:13-19

Friday: Ez 18:21-28/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8/Mt 5:20-26

Saturday: Dt 26:16-19/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8/Mt 5:43-48

Next Sunday: Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19 (116:9)/Rom 8:31b-34/Mk 9:2-10

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

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