Welcome to St. Ann’s

Throughout this booklet, we take this opportunity to introduce you and warmly welcome you to our St. Ann Catholic Church family.

One of St. Ann’s outstanding characteristics is its open, friendly, and caring people. We would like you to get to know us and join with us in the many liturgies, educational programs, service and fundraising projects, and social and recreational events.

Gathering at the weekend Masses for worship and celebration of the Eucharist is only one aspect of our parish life together. At St. Ann, there is something of value and interest for everyone! Perhaps you feel greater involvement in the spiritual and social life of the Church. This booklet may serve to help you discover an area in which you would like to participate in order to experience a closer friendship with the Lord and with our parish family.

MASS SCHEDULE:  
Saturday Vigil: 5:30 p.m.  
Sunday: 8:30 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.  

Weekdays: see Sunday bulletin for Schedule
From Sunday Mass in a small log cabin room to numerous services in a large and beautiful structure—this is the story of St. Ann Parish in Chesapeake, Ohio.

This origin of St. Ann seems almost legendary in its tale of dedication and unselfish determination. It began in early 1949, when the late Bishop John King Mussio sent the late Father Maurice Smith to survey the area concerning the possibility of establishing a parish within certain boundaries. On March 22, 1949, the parish was officially established, and was to be called St. Ann.

The first administrator of the newly formed parish was Father Donald Nuss, who quickly initiated plans to build a church and rectory on property purchased from the Kellerman family. Build on the rear of the property, the church was ready for occupancy in April 1950. This achievement could not have been possible without the inspiration and diligent efforts of many.

Following that period for many years there was a succession of priests assigned to St. Ann. Time and space prohibits mentioning all of them by name, but each one contributed uniquely and immeasurable to the development of the parish. However, three accomplishments in particular deserve individual attention:

- The formation of the Catholic Woman’s Club in 1955 by Father Harold Goschke.
- The first Mortgage Burning Ceremony and establishment of a building fund by Father William Cornelius in the early 1960’s.
- An extensive remodeling program to update the church and rectory in 1964 by Father Francis X. McCarthy. This remodeled structure served St. Ann’s congregation for years.

Father Richard Truszcynski brought the parish into the 70’s. Father Truszcynski was succeeded by Father Terrance Travis in 1974. Father Travis accelerated plans for building a new and larger church at the front of the property facing Third Avenue. In 1976, a Ground-Breaking Ceremony was held, truly setting the gears in motion toward the fulfillment of a long awaited dream. The first mass in the beautiful new edifice was celebrated in August 1977, with the dedication by Bishop Mussio. The following month, after some remodeling the “Old Church” was converted to a parish hall—our very first.

In September 1978, Father Thomas Graven was assigned as St. Ann’s first full-time pastor. On August 9, 1980, the second Mortgage Burning celebration in St. Ann’s history was held.
History of St. Ann Church
Continued

Our parade of progress continued, and plans for an elaborate expansion program was devised. In June 1983, construction began to modernize and expand the parish hall and rectory structures to include an upper level addition, larger living quarters for the rectory, and renovation of the lower hall. Dedication of our new building by Bishop Albert H. Ottenweller took place on December 3, 1983.

In 1991, Father Thomas R. Nau succeeded Father Graven and made extensive updates to the sound system and lighting in the church. He also purchased the back lot in front of the rectory.

In 1996, Father James M. Bryant was assigned to St. Ann. Under Father Bryant, the lot next to the church was purchased and the rear lot was paved.

Next Father James Dunfee was assigned, and during his brief tenure, extensive renovations to the sanctuary were made: the floor was lowered, carpet was replaced with tile, a ramp was installed, and the side altar and tabernacle were placed behind the main altar under the crucifix. In addition to acquiring new kneelers, the pews were refurbished new missal racks were added, and there was new carpeting for the floor. New lights were installed and existing ones were enhanced for better illumination throughout the church.

Father Charles E. Moran, our present Pastor, is an inspiration to all who know him. Beside daily mass and Wednesday evening prayer and rosary, there is adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on First Fridays of each month. He shepherds his people with gentle strength, compassion and affectionate understanding-reaching out to us and our needs with his own style of sensitive spirituality.

Today, St. Ann is a thriving parish, with its parishioners experiencing a close community relationship. Yes, St. Ann has grown physically, but more importantly, it has matured in wisdom and spiritual sensitivity, to become a parish vibrantly alive.

During Father Charlie’s tenure, updates to the outside lighting continue, a three-bay garage was constructed, renovations were made to the rectory kitchen and flooring, improvements were made in the church cry room, and a stair chair lift that allows parishioners to move easier between the three levels in the parish hall was installed.
--added November 2012
Sacrament Information

**BAPTISM:** The means of welcoming new members into God’s family. Infants and children – Parents are required to attend an instruction session on baptism. Adults who have received baptism in another Christian denomination are required to submit a copy of their Baptismal Certificate.

**EUCHARIST (FIRST COMMUNION):** The action of celebrating the community’s oneness of faith, life and worship through the reception of Christ’s body and blood. This sacrament is held yearly in the spring.

**CONFIRMATION:** The sign of our commitment to live through the power of the Holy Spirit. For youth (9th grade and above) – Requirements include faithful attendance and participation in the Confirmation program and weekly masses. Confirmation is administered every four years by the Bishop.

**RECONCILIATION:** A moment of healing by the Lord as we share our needs with Him through the church. This sacrament may be received 20 minutes before all Masses or by appointment. Preparation classes to receive First Reconciliation for children (2nd grade and above) begin in September and end with a special Communal Reconciliation service during Lent. This sacrament is held yearly.

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK:** The gifts of prayer and holy oil for those who are suffering. Contact the pastor when a member of the family is hospitalized or confined in the home or a nursing home. When a person is seriously ill or undergoing serious surgery, the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick may be requested. In the case of the death of a loved one, please call us so our community can join with you in prayer as well as share in your grief and pain.

**MARRIAGE:** The Sacrament of Life-giving oneness. Arrangements must be made at least six months in advance with the pastor.

**HOLY ORDERS:** Ministerial priesthood of Christ which certain members of the Church receive. Men who are interested in joining the priesthood may contact the pastor.

**PLEASE NOTE:** RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) classes held every year prepare non-Catholic adults for the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Communion. Refer to the Education section of this booklet.
PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION (PSR): Students ranging from preschool to 12th grade meet weekly during the school year. Classes meet in the parish hall from 9:45 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. each Sunday morning. Students participate in various liturgies and service projects and end the year with a Super Sunday Sundae Picnic.

DISCOVER THE SAINTS (DTS): Through understanding the lives of saints, this group seeks to grow in faith and knowledge about Jesus Christ and His Church. Imitating the saints through service, spiritual, and recreational activities, teens build Christian friendship within the group and reach out to others with Christian love and service.

ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (ARE): These Sunday morning adult classes provide a wide range of topics for those wanting to deepen and grow in their faith. Adult Religious Education is welcome to all adults over 18. Discussions include different programs and topics throughout the year that relate to the power of Christ in the world around us. Format for these sessions include lecture, audio visual presentation, private reflection, small group discussion, and shared prayer. Adult classes also meet Sunday mornings from 9:45 a.m. until 11:00 a.m.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA): Non-Catholic adults who wish to become a Catholic Christian are encouraged to attend our RCIA program. In a relaxed atmosphere, the pastor, RCIA teachers and guest speakers provide informational sessions on the beliefs and practices of the Catholic Church.

A special celebration, with the Bishop presiding, is held in Marietta, Ohio, for all those deciding to come into full communion in the Catholic Church. Sacraments are conferred to candidates during Easter Vigil Mass.
Parish Organizations

PARISH COUNCIL: Eight members of the parish are elected for a two-year term. Members are responsible for heading up committees within the church that include areas of:

- Building and Maintenance
- Education
- Finance
- Liturgy
- Social Concerns

COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN (CCW): St. Ann’s CCW is an organization designed for Catholic women who are 18 years and older. This organization holds different programs monthly relating to Christian living and service. It also works with other church programs and sponsors projects to further promote a spirit of true faith in the community. Sponsored programs include an annual rummage/bake sale.

COMMUNITY MISSION OUTREACH (CMO): CMO is located within the Chesapeake community. People of our parish along with neighboring parishes/churches provide clothing and food to help those in need. On the LAST Saturday of each month, members help in the morning hours to distribute items at CMO. During the Christmas season, donations of food, clothing and toys are contributed to CMO to provide food baskets and gifts for the needy of our community. Volunteers are always welcome.

AA and AL-ANON: AA and Al-Anon meet year round on Friday evenings in the parish hall.

OTHER INFORMATION ABOUT ST. ANN’S PARISH:

- Our parish holds an annual summer picnic usually in September.
- Parishioners enjoy the annual Christmas dinner in December or January.
- Volunteers coordinate a weekly schedule to clean our church.
- Building & Grounds Committee have “Cleanup Day” in the spring and fall.
ST. ANN CATHOLIC CHURCH STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM:
The scriptural sense, stewardship means managing our lives in accord with God’s plan. Because we are stewards of God’s gifts of time, talent, and treasure, we have a responsibility to share our gifts from God with our parish and with other charitable organizations. By returning a portion of our time, talent, and treasure, we are accepting the call to stewardship and maintaining the life of Christ.

TIME: In appreciation for the time God has given us, we should return a fair share of this time to Him through our church and through service to others. Many of us have never thought about the importance of giving our time, but there are numerous ways that we can make a meaningful gift of time to our parish and to other organizations.

We give our time to our parish by joining in the celebrations of Mass on Sunday, Mass during the week, and prayer services. In addition, we can share our gift of time by greeting newcomers, visiting shut-ins, joining parish communities, providing transportation for fellow parishioners and volunteering for the many other ministries of St. Ann’s.

TALENT: God blessed us with potential talents and abilities when we were born. It is our responsibility to develop these talents and to use them wisely. All of us have talents that we can share with our parish and other groups with worthy causes. St. Ann’s would benefit greatly if each of us gave a gift of our talents.

If you have speaking abilities, you could be a lector or lead discussion groups. If you have musical talents, you could help as a choir director, choir member, or instrumentalist. Talents in any of the following areas also would be very useful to St. Ann’s: accounting; painting; teaching; phoning; carpentry; lawn care; secretarial; electrical; art skills; and skills in many other areas.

TREASURE: God has blessed us all with time and talents for earning a living, or treasure. One way that we can show our appreciation for these gifts is to return a fair portion of our earnings to God through our parish and other charitable organizations. If this is done, our parish and philanthropic groups would be more financially prepared to perform their works of religion and charity.

Every parish family is being asked to return regular and realistic financial support to St. Ann’s. Passages in scripture suggest the use of tithing or giving that is proportionate to your blessings and income.
Volunteer Opportunities

This page contains a list of volunteer opportunities which are available in our parish and community. Please feel free to share in your parish life with your time and talents.

GOD ASKS FOR EQUAL SACRIFICE – NOT EQUAL GIFTS:

SPIRITUAL LIFE AND LITURGY COMMITTEE
Committee Member: Eucharistic Minister
Serve as Usher
Serve as Lector
Be a Server at Liturgy
Organist/Pianist
Sacristy Work (cleaning and decorating)

ADMINISTRATION CMTE

BUILDING
Committee Member
Do Minor Carpentry Repairs
Do Minor Electrical Repairs
Do Minor Plumbing Repairs
Snow Removal
Do Minor Painting
One-Time Projects
Building Projects
Landscaping/Lawn Work
Furnish Trucking Service

FINANCE
Committee Member
Keep Parish Records
Financial Planning/Review
Typing
Help with Newsletter
Help with Website
Census Work

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE
Committee Member: Adult Education
PSR Catechist: RCIA Participant
Attend Adult Education Program
Participate in Bible Study
Special Youth Programs

SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE
Committee Member: Woman’s Club
Volunteer at CMO: Help Plan Parish Events
Visit the Sick: Pot Luck Dinners
Hospital Visitation: Provide Home in Emergency
Rest Home Visitation: Telephone Contact
Visit the Elderly: Welcome Committee

“Each of you has received a special grace: so like good stewards responsible for all these different graces of God, put yourselves at the service of others.” (1 Peter 4:10) Since God has given us time and talents, we have a responsibility to manage properly all aspects associated with them, including the benefits we have received from these gifts of time and talents.

We bring nothing into this world, and we take nothing out of it. Everything that we have while we are here comes to us as a Gift from God. By returning a portion of God’s gifts, we maintain the ministry and the life of Christ within our parish community. The call to Stewardship begins within ourselves by recognizing the needs of others and expressing a willingness to share our time, our talents, and our treasures.