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Church: St Ann
243 Neponset Ave.
Dorchester, MA 02122

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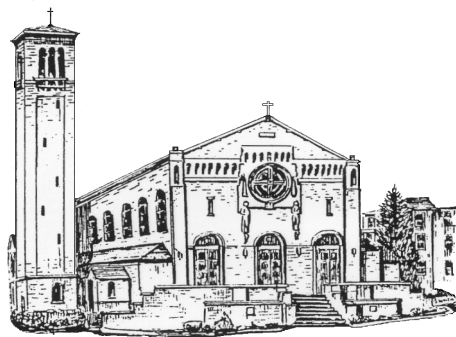
Contact Information: Jean Hayward (617) 825-6180

SAINT ANN PARISH

Web: www.stannparishneponset.com

RECTORY AND OFFICE

243 Neponset Avenue
Dorchester, Massachusetts 02122
Phone: 617-825-6180
EMAIL: saintannneponset@aol.com



CONVENT -MERCY HOUSE
Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy
241 Neponset Avenue
Phone: 617-288-1202
www.sisterfaustina.org

SCHEDULE OF MASSES

Sunday: Vigil (Saturday Evening) 4:00 p.m.
8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., (Folk Group)
11:30 a.m. (Choir) 5:30 p.m. (Teen
Choir)
Daily: 9:00 a.m. Monday - Saturday
7:00 a.m. in convent Monday
Saturday
Holy Day: Vigil 5:30 p.m., Day 9:00 a.m. &
7:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Sean M Connor, Pastor
Rev. Ronald C. Lawson, M. Ed., BCC Senior Priest
Rev. Michael C. Harrington, In Residence
Rev. Hung Pham. In Residence

Mrs. Jean F. Hayward, Business Manager
Mr. Jack O'Connor, Parish Pastoral Council Vice
President

Mr. Bob Collins, Rel Ed Director/Youth Minister
Mrs. Carol Abel, Director of Music
Mrs. Terry Owens, Folk Group Director

SACRAMENTS

Confessions: Saturday 9:30 - 10:00 a.m.
(lower church) & 3:00 - 3:45 p.m.
(upper church)
Baptism: Third Sunday of the month at 2:00
p.m. Instructions on preceding
Sunday at 12:30 p.m.
Call the rectory to register.
Marriages: Arrange with one of the priests at
least six months in advance
**Anointing
of the Sick:** Call the rectory for Sacraments
and visits to the sick and
homebound

DEVOTIONS

Eucharistic Adoration: Saturdays 9:30am-3:30pm
Rosary: 8:30am Monday-Saturday lower church
Our Lady of Fatima: First Saturdays 8:00am
lower church
Divine Mercy Chaplet: M-F 2:30-3:30pm convent chapel
Sat. - 2:30-3:30pm lower church
Mass 3rd Friday at 6:00PM

PROGRAMS

Religious Education Classes: Sunday 10:30 am
Grades 1-6 and 6:30pm Grades 7- Confirmation
St Vincent de Paul: Mondays 6:00 - 7:00pm in School
CYO Basketball, Mr. Michael Doyle
Color Guard, Ms. Eileen Cunningham 617-775-6644

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

The Parish Community of Saint Ann's in Neponset is in the tradition of the Roman Catholic Church. We believe that this tradition is a sacred gift given to us in Baptism and the inheritance bequeathed to us by those who have gone before us through the ages. With our Archbishop and Pastor we are united with our Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI, in our commitment to- and we are indeed shaped as a people by- the Eucharistic Assembly especially on the Lord's Day. We are strongly committed to maintaining our parish school and religious education programs. We are equally committed to the spiritual needs of those who are grieving or who are ill or because of advanced age are unable to celebrate the Sunday Eucharist. Through the Liturgy we hope to inspire and motivate our parish family to respond to the physical needs of the less fortunate of Christ's brothers and sisters. We are a parish that is deeply committed to the family.

We are a parish with a long and rich history and take great pride in celebrating our Catholic traditions.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

SAT 9/27 4:00 Maureen King, 3rd Anniv
 SUN 9/28 8:00 Pro Populo: For the People
 9:30 Patrick & Dorothy Mulvey
 Barbara Brennan, Mem
 11:30 Johanna & Peter Shortell, Mem
 5:30 Barbara Kain, 4th Anniv
 MON 9/29 9:00 Josette A. Verrochi, Mem
 TUES 9/30 9:00 Roger Tougas, Mem
 WED 10/1 9:00 Mrs. McCormick, Mem
 FRI 10/3 9:00 First Friday Mass
 SAT 10/4 9:00 Special Intention
 4:00 John Aveni, Mem
 SUN 10/5 8:00 Pro Populo: For the People
 9:30 Philip P. Milan
 Evelyn M. Milan
 11:30 Joey Holloran, Mem
 Mary McCoy & Helen Holloran
 Anniv
 5:30 James Hession, 13th Anniv

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

OFFERTORY

Collected, Sept 21st\$2,939.00

RETIRE THE DEBT

Collected, Sept 21st..... \$1,705.00

*Next week's second collection will be for the
 Renovation and Maintenance Fund*

BANNES OF MARRIAGE

Bann I Jennifer Pasch James Trabucco

LECTORS/EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

10/4 4:00 Anne Juliano John F. Downey
 Gerry Cardinal
 10/5 8:00 Charlie Carmody Mary Lou Braudis
 Cathy McPartlin
 9:30 Jim English Mary Browne
 Evelyn Dunne
 11:30 Tim Lewis Nohra Follett
 Bill Follett

ALTAR SERVERS

10/4 4:00 B. Mannion M. Mannion
 S. Mannion T. Mannion
 10/5 8:00 S. Murphy J. Murphy
 9:30 A. Mannion E. Mannion
 M. Mannion
 11:30 A. Carle J. Connolly
 5:30 S. Akalinski V. Strojwas

OCTOBER 3, 2008

FIRST FRIDAY MASS

The Neponset Campus of the Pope John Paul II Catholic Academy will be attending our First Friday 9:00AM Mass. Please join us as we welcome them for their first Mass of the school season.

RCIA

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults

Do you know someone interested in becoming a Catholic?

An orientation meeting will be held on **Monday evening, October 6th at St. Gregory's Rectory beginning at 7:30PM**. The weekly program will begin on Monday evening, October 20th at 7PM until at 8:30PM. The instruction program will conclude several weeks after the Easter Vigil on Saturday, April 8, 2009.

If interested in participating in the RCIA program please call St. Gregory's Rectory at 617-298-2460 and contact Father John O'Donnell for a preliminary meeting.

SAINT ANN CYO COLOR GUARD

New Member Registration

Monday, September 29, 2008

4-8PM Victory Road Armory, 70 Victory Road

No experience necessary for 5 year olds and up. Any questions please call Eileen Cunningham at 617-775-6644.

**NEIGHBORS IN DEED
 VOLUNTEER PROGRAM**

*Annual Mass of Thanksgiving
 & Remembrance*

*For the Volunteers & Older Adults Service
 Saturday, October 4, 2008 at 9AM
 St. Gregory Church*

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Dorchester Council 107

Soccer Challenge

*Sunday, September 28th @ 3:30PM
 Pope John Paul II Park
 Ages 10-14, boys & girls*

Dear Friends;

Instead of my usual format of reflection on the Gospel, I would like to offer an invitation to reflect on the past few months and update you on a few projects, changes, and renovations. I must begin by telling you how happy and honored I am to be here with you, as a brother in Christ and as your priest and pastor. After consultation with the parish staff and a sampling of parishioners I have moved some of the moveable furniture in the church space back to its original design. This is done to assist us all to enter our house of prayer and move us clearly and cleanly to the Eucharist. If anyone has any concern about accessibility or liturgical questions, please feel free to speak with me at your convenience.

I will be seeking your continued support to assure that our liturgical acts and sacramental celebrations are the best we can give to honor our God and grow in His likeness. I am very impressed with the quality of worship here and the dedication of the many volunteers and extraordinary ministers who offer their time and talents. Please feel free to contact the rectory with any questions and support in these areas.

I would like to talk about our parish history to help us to continue to move forward. As most of you know from the history of our parish, Fr. Murphy, the first pastor, working with our ancestors “wisely and prudently, had built a physical parish upon the spiritual, intellectual and social growth of the laity.” History records this reflection in the aftermath and unveiling of the completed church and parish properties at Minot Street, the first settlement of Saint Anne parish. As you also know the hard work, dedication and faithfulness of the people of Saint Anne was almost immediately extinguished. On Ash Wednesday of 1895 the church caught fire and was destroyed.

We have all greatly benefited from the sacrifices of our ancestors in creating this parish community and supporting and maintaining the parish buildings, most especially the two church buildings. The construction of the current church building in 1915 and dedicated in 1920 is a marvel and monument to the faith and dedication that we have all inherited.

The next generation of parishioners and priests added works, monuments of adorations and enhanced the tenor of the foundations of prayerfulness that we know today. Each subsequent generation has had challenges, successes and pastoral needs and the beauty of the goodness and faith here, it is time for

us to focus anew on both our spiritual and physical needs.

As I have announced over the past few weeks, the Archdiocese has invited a national program of renewal into Boston, called ARISE. I am happy to be able to work with those who have generously offered to be leaders in the program. I will speak to you in more specific detail next week on the ARISE program. This “three year, parish centered process of spiritual renewal and evangelization that enables people to deepen their faith, develop a closer relationship with Christ, grow in community, and reach out in service to others. All people of the Archdiocese of Boston are invited to come together to form a renewed community of laity and clergy, to welcome back those who may have been distanced from the Church, and to spread the Good News through active commitment to charity and justice.”

This is a good place for us to start, as we do at the beginning of Mass, each time we gather for the Eucharist, we stop, present ourselves before our God and ask for pardon, peace and grace. What a great opportunity for us to do this so as to deepen how we live our faith from Eucharist to Eucharist.

Secondly, it is important for me to offer an evaluation of the state of the state, to borrow a phrase. Each of my three immediate predecessors, like all of you, have had tough times to live in. We also know very well today that many of our brothers and sisters have silently suffered as a result of the horror and sin of sexual abuse. My three immediate predecessors have all exercised their duties here and I am sure to the best of their abilities brought you closer to the Lord while serving you. But in each administration pastoral and financial decisions were made to fix particular situations, while not being ready or able to fix others. It is necessary for us to work to spiritually renew our parish and it is necessary to complete the maintenance of this property, to restore, repair and renew. I have recently met with the Parish Finance Council and the Parish Pastoral Council as well as having received the gift to be able to meet with many of you and your families individually. I have also met with Archdiocesan contracted auditors who have closed the books for Saint Ann School. The balances of all other parish finances were audited prior to my arrival.

Our current financial situation is that we owe the Archdiocese of Boston \$ 208,000 for the parish property renovations and maintenance.

Technically this includes both loans taken out for the renovation of the church and school (the faced brick maintenance and school waterproofing and repointing). These loans were rolled into one in 2002 and we continue to make monthly payments. This past year a line of credit loan was established to balance the books for Saint Ann School. The debt incurred last year assuming all previous liabilities and the annual budget comes to \$ 164,000. I have met with the Chancellor for the Archdiocese and requested that this amount be forgiven in light of the closing of the school and the pastoral decision to maintain services current while the school completed its last year. I will continue to meet with the Chancellor to seek his continued support and remove this burden from the parish.

Understanding our history is important and necessary. I will assure you that I will release all appropriate records concerning the financial status of the parish. I will continue to work with parish councils and financial staff to assure that you receive our records in a clear and transparent format.

This past week I have had to contract with two contractors to immediately fix building issues and to prevent further damage from occurring. As you would imagine a church building and campus of this size and design requires consistent maintenance. In the past another vendor was used to patch the area; unfortunately, this and other factors have resulted in problems with the roof, drainage and its aftermath. A new vendor will repair and update the roof to fix the problem and perform necessary maintenance to secure the drainage issues. A second vendor was contracted to repair, restore and upgrade the windows in the church. These windows, all of which are original - some of which are broken, need to be secured and weatherized to maximize their efficiency and usability. We are also installing storm windows as a preventative measure. The cost of both projects is over \$ 15,000 which pretty much eats up our savings account. We have also received approval from our Insurance division of the Archdiocese for a claim filed to replace the damaged rod iron fence on the Ashmont Street side of the property which was damaged during a hit and run accident in July costing \$ 10,000. As you'd imagine, there are more projects, routine maintenance and enhancements that need to be done to maintain what we have been given.

I am working with our Parish Council and Finance Council to inaugurate a parish stewardship plan to eliminate our debt, complete the necessary repairs on the property and assure that we remain a leader in the Catholic community. This stewardship proposal would eliminate the need for any 2nd collections, annual collections and maintenance collections. Essentially we would tithe as a parish family, both to the parish and the diocese.

For us to remain here with the level of services requires us to complete, restore and renovate our property. I am going to be ambitious and target a fundraising goal that exceeds \$500,000. This will allow us to pay off our debt, update our heating system with an efficient natural gas system, and dare I say - air condition the church. I also want to restore and fix the stained glass windows, restore the marble altar and marble floor, update the electrical and utility services on the property and renovate the choir area and sound system. This will help to assure that our descendants will be able to have and receive the gift and glory that we are privileged to share in today. While we work to restore our parish faith and reclaim what we have received, built as; "a physical parish upon the spiritual, intellectual and social growth of the laity." This means a true and solid expression of community and responsibility.

I will continue to provide you with updates and look forward to your continued support and generosity. May we always seek to give God Glory, honor and worship in our church and community.

Thank you again for all you do. I recommit and entrust our work to the care and protection of Saint Ann, our patron, and to her daughter, Mary, our blessed Mother. May they help us to always know the Lord's Love and great Mercy.

In His love, Fr. Sean

READINGS TO REFLECT UPON

Below please find the readings for next Sunday that you may wish to reflect upon before Mass next weekend.

Reading I **Is 5: 1-7**
Responsorial **Ps 80:9, 12, 13-14, 15-16, 19-20**
Reading II **Phil 4:6-9**
Gospel **Mt 21: 33-43**