

November 2011

Dear friends,

As we approach Thanksgiving and look forward to the beginning of the season of Advent and a new ecclesiastical year, we look back with gratitude for all of the blessings we have received at St. Ann's Church and Shrine over the past year. Taking time to count our blessings always reminds us that no matter how bleak things may become, we can always be certain that God loves us and wants what is the best for us—even if in the heat of any given moment we think we have our own ideas about what is the best for us. And that is reason enough to live life with gratitude. As one person once put it, "When I pray, I thank God. I'm sure that the 'Thanks' line is always much shorter than the 'Gimme' line."

As always, we have been busy...and trying to find the proper balance our prayer and our work. We have much news to report. Be sure to read on!

Over the last 17 years, we have stayed in touch with *Fr. Tom Green, S.J.*, who was one of our pastors. You'll be happy to know that he has been reassigned to Buffalo at St. Michael's Church. He has been here to visit with us on several occasions.

Adam Hudymniak has been busy enabling us to peruse through many new photographs and other memorabilia that have been placed in *The Archive Room*. Do take some time to browse through on your next visit to St. Ann's.

In a church the size of St. Ann's there are literally thousands of angles from which you can take photographs. We feel very fortunate to be able to share some of these new views with you, some you might not see unless you come on certain special occasions or really make the effort to find. You can again behold the beauty of this holy place and the warmth it brings to so many in our *2012 St. Ann's Church & Shrine Art Calendar*. (See **Flyer to order**)

A 1000-year-old Christian tradition will take place at St. Ann's on Saturday, December 10 at 10:00 AM. *Fr. Secondo Casarotto C.S.*, pastor of St. Anthony of Padua Church in Buffalo, will celebrate an Advent *Rorate Mass*. This Latin Tridentine Mass will be sung by *The Harmonia Choir*. What a great way to prepare spiritually for Christmas!

The *Sanctuary Candle* remains burning above the altar except on rare occasions when something not necessarily of a religious nature is happening. If you are interested in having it lit for a special intention, please contact Gloria Hirschbine, 632-8748. The donation would be \$10 and the intention will be listed in our Bulletin.

Please continue to contact Eleanore Morley at 835-9020 if you would like to schedule a Mass intention for a loved one or a special intention.

Our last *First Friday Adoration of 2011* will be held on Friday, December 2, with Adoration from 4-6 p.m. and a Holy Hour from 6-7. Adoration will resume in the spring.

Thanks for your continued support in our *Florida Citrus Fruit Sale*. Sales were way up, so that was great, thanks to you! You will be able to pick up your orders *after 10 o'clock Mass on Sunday, November 20, until 1:30*.

We are in the process of creating a database of e-mail addresses of our parishioners and friends. If you wish to be included, please be sure to get that information to us.

Please be sure to make us a part of your Christmas season plans. Hope to see you then!

There are many ways that you can stay abreast of what's happening at St. Ann's. You might want to put this information in a prominent place. *Please note that our official website address has changed*. We have spent a good amount of effort in creating a really nice new website. Be sure to check it out. We're sure you will be impressed.

St. Ann's Contact Information

Fr. Roy Herberger, Pastor 852-2076 Information Line: 852-0100

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