July 25 will mark the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Blessed Paul VI's landmark encyclical, *Humanae Vitae*, which reiterated the Church's long-standing prohibition of contraception, but *encourages* couples to use modern methods of *natural family planning (NFP)*, should they have a good reason to avoid pregnancy at a particular time in their marriage. NFP is often mistaken for the old unreliable "rhythm method". Modern methods of *NFP* are based on Biology and offer an organic alternative to harmful chemical contraceptive methods. For more information on Natural Family Planning, please visit: www.fertilitycarekc.com or www.ccli.org

NFP, the Theology of the Body, and Our Marriage

Michael and Alysha Chambers

Many will tell you that the responsibility of being permanently faithful to one person is too great and that being open to life is too much of a burden. They say contraception brings with it freedom and life; however, we have found that it is in openness to God, to each other, and to new life that true freedom is obtained. This is what living Natural Family Planning (NFP) can help couples to experience.

Alysha was in college when she first heard NFP mentioned. All she knew then was that it existed and the Catholic Church considered it a good thing. Michael, a convert to Catholicism, grew up believing that contraception was good and that all couples should use it. Our first real understanding of what NFP is, and what the Church teaches came during our marriage preparation program. We learned that NFP at its core is simply knowledge of the physical changes one can observe in the woman's fertility cycle. It gives couples a way to measure and chart their fertility signs. We also learned how responsible parenthood is the virtuous application of this fertility knowledge.

One unexpected aspect of NFP that impressed us was how it fosters communication between spouses. Couples practicing NFP discuss the future of their family with every cycle. Knowing how to discuss such important matters has proven a great blessing to many marriages. Michael decided that blessing, by itself, was enough of a reason to learn NFP.

Another theme we discussed in marriage preparation was the Theology of the Body. It helped us understand who we are and how God created us. It is through our bodies that we express who we are spiritually. Also, because we were made in the image and likeness of God, our bodies are supposed to reflect who God is which means we are to act as He acts. How does God act? He loves. God's love is a total gift of self. God's love is life-giving. As husband and wife one way we love like God is through our sexuality. If NFP is studied in this context, our appreciation of each other as man and woman increases because the uniqueness and dignity that God has imprinted in our bodies is revealed. It was at this point that Michael realized NFP was not moral birth control; rather, it is a complete way of life honoring one's spouse's sexuality and fertility. It is loving naturally – the way God designed it.

In studying NFP in the context of the Theology of the Body, both of us have become more open to each other, to God, and to children. We truly believe that "children are the crown of marriage" and we pray that God will bless us with children some day. Until then, we will "make our plans but hold them lightly." For us, that means planning to use NFP both when we are attempting or delaying pregnancy, all the while striving to hear and do God's will!

Michael and Alysha Chambers, Diocese of Arlington, Va., were married September 24, 2005. This article first appeared in the Couple to Couple League's *Family Foundations* (Jan/Feb. 2006). It has been edited to fit this publication and is printed with permission.

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## ST. ANN'S PARJSH

# Sunday, July 15, 2018 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

This Week's Mass Times:

Tuesday 6pm Traditional Latin Mass followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesday, & Thursday: 8 am

No Mass on Friday

Saturday: 4:00 pm Sunday: 10 am

Confessions: Tuesday 5:30pm; Saturday 3pm

#### Legion of Mary

Sherry Kutz, President
Hank Lagerman, Vice President
Carleen Miller, Secretary
Eileen Lagerman, Treasurer

#### **Faith Formation Team**

Teresa Marie Koch–Leader Roxanne Durando Greg Kittelson Terry Miller

#### **Knights of Columbus**

Grand Knight
Steve Van Horn



#### **Parish Council**

Paul Broderick
Randy Dalinghaus

Carole Harris

Diane Hon

Marge Kinney

Iulie Moran

Eric Niemann

Claudia Ziegler

#### **Altar Society**

Loretta Broderick, President
Pat Clingan, Vice President
Shirley Schwery, Secretary
Lori Broderick, Treasurer

Email: stann001@centurytel.net

Website: www.stannplattsburg.org

Business Manager: Marge Kinney

Coordinator of PSR - Roxanne Durando (816) 724-9478

Hall Rental: Leave a message on the office phone

#### To Protect our Children:

Report Abuse
Ombudsman: Jenifer Valenti – 816.812.2500
Diocesan Victim Advocate, Kathleen Chastain,

at 816.392.0011 or chastain@diocesekcsj.org



### Ministry Schedule

Saturday, July 14: 4 pm

Ushers: Open

Clare Pelzel & Judy McKowen Lectors: EMHC: Della Mallen & Elaine Stoll

Sunday, July 15: 10 am

Ushers: JC Roberts, Vince Seiler, Herman Gillotte & Eric Niemann

Lectors: Karen Trotter & Bill Lueckenotte **EMHC:** Pat Clingan & Mary Ann Garton

#### NURSING HOME MINISTRY

Mary Ann Garton

#### **MONEY COUNTERS**

Karen Trotter & Chris Koch

## Mass Intentions

Saturday, July 14: 4 pm People of the Parish

Sunday, July 15: 10 am + Bonnie Gillotte

By: Herman Gillotte

Tuesday, July 17: 6 pm **Private Intention** 

Wednesday, July 18: 9 am + Mark Schwery

By: Rose Maples

Thursday, July 19: 8 am + Jean Gassman

By: Helen Pipes

Friday, July 20: 8 am **NO MASS** 

By:

Saturday, July 21: 4 pm People of the Parish

Sunday, July 22: 10 am + Mark Schwery

By: Al & Shirley Schwery

#### YEARLY BOX ENVELOPES

Don't forget to pick up your box of 2018-19 envelopes.

If you know someone that is no longer coming to St. Ann's please mark the box and leave it on table. Thank you...

#### Saturday, July 21: 4 pm

Ushers: Open

Clare Pelzel & Bill Lueckenotte Lectors: **EMHC:** Charlie Harper & Judy McKowen

Sunday, July 22: 10 am

Ushers: Mindy Beall, Eric Whitlow, JC Roberts & Vince Seiler

**Lectors:** Karen Trotter & Dino Durando EMHC: Mary Ann Downey & Joan Seiler

#### **NURSING HOME MINISTRY**

Mary Ann Garton

#### **MONEY COUNTERS**

Paul & Lori Broderick

#### Weekend Collection July 8, 2018

Envelopes: \$1,704 Plate: \$88 Candles: \$11

Memorial: \$75

Total Parish: \$1,878

2nd Collection: July 20 & 21 - Missionary Plan of

Cooperation

**Collections:** 

July to Date: \$ 5,127.00 July Budget: \$11,831.42

Year-To-Date: \$ 5,127.00 Yearly Budget: \$141,977.48

Thank you for supporting St. Ann's Parish

#### **MEETINGS**

Parish Council: Wed. August , Parish Hall - 6:00pm Adoration: 1st Friday of month - August 3, 8:30am - 12 Altar Society Meeting - Next mtg in Sept.

Knights of Columbus: 3rd Tues. of the month 6:45 pm

**Church Cleaning: July - Group 2** Donut Sunday: July 22 - Open

**LEGION OF MARY** will be meeting on Monday evenings at the home of Sherry Kutz.

Please see Terry or Carleen Miller for directions.

#### **Diocesan Visioning Process**

You are invited to Share and Be Heard

Bishop Johnston recently instituted a "visioning" process to develop a Mutually Shared Vision for our diocese.

The purpose of the process is to create a compelling Vision Statement (unifying theme) for the diocese. It will include three priorities—major areas of focus -for the diocese for the next 3 years and six goals that will lead to specific outcomes in the next 2-3 years. Bishop Johnston invites every member of our local church to participate in their regional listening sessions in July. The locations have been chosen to reach as much of the diocese as possible in the time frame available. You may attend any one of the sessions.

Throughout the process Bishop Johnston asks everyone to join him in prayer (prayer following) for the fruitfulness of this effort.

#### Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph Mutually Shared Vision **Development Process** Listening Sessions Locations

Wednesday, July 18, 7-8:30 pm: St. Joseph, Mo., Our Lady of Guadalupe \*\*

Tuesday, July 31, 7-8:30 pm: Liberty, Mo., St. James \*\*

\*\* These locations will hold the listening sessions in English and Spanish.



Donut Sunday Sign-Up Sheet on table in Narthex. We need volunteers! Hosting is very easy!



YARD SALE - Good Shepherd Parish Smithville

Head to the huge Indoor Good Shepherd Garage Sale!

Thurs. July 19, 8 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Fri. July 20, 8 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Sat. July 21, 8 – 11:30 a.m.

Kitchenware \* Home Décor \* Toys \* Furniture \* Homeschool Materials \* Clothes for the Whole Family \* Tools \* Seasonal \* DVDs \* Books \* Framed Art \* SO MUCH MORE!

Plus – shop The Boutique for 'upscale' items!

Shop in air-conditioned comfort in the Parish Center.

Convenient parking in back by doors!

#### **Prayer Corner**



"...a time to heal."

JB Lile, Tricia Wolf, Breanna Beall, Donald O'Connor, Sandy Mathewson, Nancy Totton, Amy Spriesterbach

"...a time of war and a time of peace..."

We pray for the safety of all our service men and women who serve our country, especially:

**Cpt. Matthew Solomon** 

Sgt. Jeremy S. Clingan



#### SAVE THE DATES

#### Thursday, July 26th - 6 pm

Fr. Totton will be joined by several priests in the celebration of a Solemn High Mass in the Extraordinary Form (Traditional Latin Mass).

#### Sunday, July 29th After 10 am Mass

Celebrating our Parish Feast Day Saints Ann & Joachim Pot Luck and Cookout

Knights will provide hot dogs, buns and drinks.

All other food will be pot luck.

Mark your calendars, dust off your lawn chairs and come and have some fun with your parish family!

Missionaries of St Charles—Scalabrinians

Next weekend a representative of the Missionaries of St. Charles - Scalabrinians, Fr. Aldo Vendramin, will be in our parish preaching at all the Masses.

He will share with us the concerns and longings of the missionary activity that his Religious Order was entrusted in the Church: the care of migrant and refugee people.

He is sent by the Catholic Mission Office with the purpose of reminding each baptized Catholic of our common responsibility to teach all nations about God's salvation plan in Christ lesus.

A collection will be taken for the needs of the Missionaries of St. Charles Scalabrinians. Your generous donation will enable many missionary works to be accomplished in the world.

> Thank you for your prayers and financial support. To learn more about the Scalabrinians visit: www.scalabrinians.org