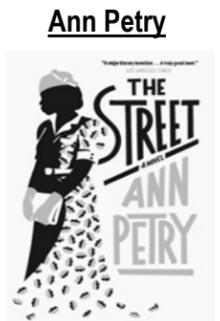


THIS WEEK IN BLACK HISTORY



Ann Petry

The late **Ann Petry** holds the distinction of being the first Black woman writer to sell over 1 million copies of a book. Her 1946 bestseller, *The Street*, focused on a single mother living on 116th Street in Harlem and was inspired by her time living in the famed New York borough.

Petry was born Anna Lane on October 12, 1908 in the town of Old Saybrook in Connecticut. Her father worked as a pharmacist, and her mother worked in several fields, including hairdressing and owning a store. Peter and Bertha Lane sheltered their children from discrimination as much as they could. While they experienced less hardships than most, they were still the Black minority in their middle-class neighborhood.

Petry's family businesses didn't find success until she was an adult. By that time, she earned her Graduate in Pharmacy degree from the Connecticut College of Pharmacy, now known as the University of Connecticut School of Pharmacy. From 1931 to 1938, she worked as a pharmacist, yet the pull of creative writing would prove to be strongest after she left medical field.

Petry married George Petry in 1938, relocating to Harlem, New York. Petry always harbored dreams of becoming a writer, and the move was a huge step in nurturing her desire. Early on, she penned pieces for *The Amsterdam News* and *The People's Voice*, while also contributing to the NAACP's *The Crisis* magazine. Petry also wrote short stories, writing under the pen name Arnold Petri.

It wasn't until her move to Harlem, that Petry witnessed Black people living in abject poverty. It was also a revelation that many Harlem residents lacked the means to dig out of their unfortunate situations. *The Street* focused on single mother Lutie Johnson and her harsh attempts at survival while living on 116th Street.

The book was a success, making Petry the first Black woman to have a best-selling novel. Petry ultimately returned to her hometown and wrote other books, including works for children and a collection of short stories. None of her work surpassed the success of *The Street*, but she continued to write until the early '70's.

Petry worked as a visiting lecturer at several schools, and was awarded a National Endowment of the Arts creative writing grant in 1978. She died in Old Saybrook on April 30, 1997.

Sacraments

RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION):

Saturdays 3:00 PM and by appointment.

BAPTISMS: To arrange and prepare for the celebration of Baptism, please call the Pastor to schedule an appointment. Baptisms are usually celebrated on Sunday afternoon.

FUNERAL: Please call the parish as soon as possible to make arrangements for the Mass of Christian Burial.

VISITING THE SICK: If you or a family member are sick or in the hospital, please call the parish so that a pastoral visit can be arranged. The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick may be celebrated in the parish before hospitalization. Please call also to arrange for a Eucharistic minister to bring Communion to the sick. If you would like to request prayers for someone who is sick, please call the parish so that the name may be placed in the bulletin.

MARRIAGES: Preparation must begin at least six months prior to the wedding. **Please** make arrangements with the parish before scheduling the reception.

ANNULMENTS/CONVALIDATION: Please arrange a meeting with the Pastor to begin the process of celebrating your marriage in the Church.

NEW PARISHIONERS: Catholics who would like to be registered as parishioners of Immaculate Conception and receive stewardship envelopes should call the parish secretary or fill out a form in the vestibule of the church.

RCIA: Adults who desire to explore the possibility of becoming a member of the Catholic Church should contact the RCIA (Rite for the Christian Initiation of Adults) team. Preparation usually begins in September and Baptism or Reception is celebrated at the next Easter Vigil.

TUITION ASSISTANCE: Some financial aid for tuition assistance to Catholic schools is available to registered members of the parish. This is a one time grant of no more than \$1,000.00 to needy families to assist them during a time of financial crisis. Eligible families should write a letter to the Pastor who will evaluate the request with the Financial Advisory Committee.

To Whom Do We Go

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| Adult Formation: Lovenia Watson..... | 778-1977 |
| Altar Servers: Bradley DeRouen | 218-8292 / 284-5970 |
| Child Protection Coord:..... | Andrea Toles |
| Eucharistic Ministers: Beulah Decuir..... | 229-6076 |
| Gospel Choir/Adult: Daphne Alex..... | 936-4051 |
| Gospel Choir/Youth: Tara Winder | 428-5981 |
| Hall Rental: Juliet Betts..... | 775-7067 |
| Ministry Council/Chair: Georgia Jenkins..... | 775-5824 |
| Pantry/Food and Vouchers: | 774-3661 |
| Sacristan: Rogers Jackson, Jr. | 362-0907 |
| Traditional Choir: Theresa Carmen..... | 921-7315 |
| Usher's Coordinator: Walter Ennis..... | 775-7332 |

This Week's Prayer

This week, give me the wisdom to see my own imperfections clearly and the strength to transform them for the better. Amen.





FATHER JOSHUA JOHNSON INTERVIEW



Father Joshua Johnson has given an excellent interview with Church Life Journal on *Communal Guilt and the Black Catholic Experience in America*. Fr. Josh speaks authoritatively and movingly about the need for reparation of the grave sin of racism. The interview is full of important historical facts about the sin of racism in the American Catholic Church. You may find the interview at: <https://churchlifejournal.nd.edu/articles/communal-guilt-and-the-black-catholic-experience-in-america-an-interview-with-fr-joshua-johnson/>

REMEMBERING OUR BELOVED DEAD DURING THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER



Because of the need for social distancing, we will not have our annual Blessing of the Graves at Southern Memorial. In its place we will have a prayer in the church on Sunday, November 1 at 2:00 PM in which we ask God to bless the graves of our loved ones everywhere and to bring them to the joys of heaven.

I am also planning to celebrate a Mass on Saturday, November 7 at 10:00 AM to remember in a special way those who died during the pandemic from any cause and especially for those for whom we did not have the opportunity to celebrate a Funeral Mass. I will be sharing more details of this commemoration as the time approaches.

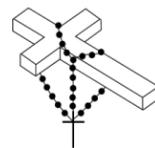
As always, we will have the Book of Remembrance in the church during November in which you may write the names of your beloved dead.

PRAYERS FOR SAFETY DURING THE STORM



As the bulletin is being prepared on Wednesday, October 7, we are praying that God will protect and bless everyone as Hurricane Delta approaches. God has been good to us during this very active hurricane season and so we trust in his continued goodness.

OCTOBER IS THE MONTH OF THE ROSARY



October 7 is the feast of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary and the month of October is dedicated to the Rosary. The Rosary is a form of prayer that has deep roots in Catholic tradition. Its origin is rooted in a desire to bring the Bible to those who could not read or did not have personal copies of the Bible. Remember that in the Middle Ages, the ability to read was not common and Bibles had to be reproduced by hand. In the monasteries, the 150 Psalms were prayed weekly along with the reading of Scripture. The Rosary was designed to bring this prayer to ordinary people. The 150 Hail Mary's of the 15 decades stood for the 150 Psalms. The mysteries of the Rosary guided a person through the life of Christ as recorded in the Bible. As we pray the Rosary, let us remember its deep Scriptural roots.



CONTINUED GRATITUDE FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

We want to continue to express gratitude to all the parishioners who have been so generous in their faithful support of the church during this pandemic. We truly appreciate how you have made the extra effort to drop off your contribution through the mail slot of the rectory or to the office or through USPS or online. You are awesome!

WANT TO JOIN THE VIDEO TEAM?



Gerald Berzat is inviting members of the parish to become part of our video broadcast team and help with the videoing and sound control of our daily and Sunday Masses. If you are interested in becoming part of this ministry, please contact Father Clark at (225)773-2036 or Gerald at (225)276-4674.

Happy Birthday

| | | |
|-----------|---------------|-------|
| WILLIAMS | DAVIS | 10/11 |
| CATHY | GRAY | 10/11 |
| SADIE | THIBODEAUX | 10/11 |
| BENNIE | BELL, JR. | 10/12 |
| ETHEL | COLEMAN | 10/12 |
| DANIEL J. | RICHARD, III | 10/12 |
| MAZIE | ROBERSON | 10/12 |
| ALBERT | BELLANGER | 10/13 |
| CHAD | DYER | 10/13 |
| BRENNON | RAMI | 10/13 |
| JOHN | BOUDREAUX | 10/14 |
| MELLISA | DARGIN | 10/14 |
| MARK | DEBOSE, JR. | 10/14 |
| LAURA | LEONARD | 10/14 |
| GAILE | OKOYE | 10/14 |
| JAMES | THOMPSON, III | 10/14 |
| SHANA | WILSON | 10/14 |
| JA'MIYAH | ODOM | 10/15 |
| ETHEL | SCOTT | 10/15 |
| RAYON | SCOTT | 10/15 |
| CHASE | BROWN | 10/16 |
| JEREMY | BROWN | 10/16 |
| TANGANIKI | JOHNSON | 10/16 |
| LAUREN | SHELMIRE | 10/16 |
| ELAINE | SIMMS | 10/17 |

BE PREPARED TO VOTE THIS NOVEMBER!



Make sure you have given thought and preparation for how and when you will vote on November 3. Will you vote by mail? Will you vote early? Will you vote on the day of the election? Here are important dates and information.

OCTOBER 13: Deadline to register to vote if registration is done online

OCTOBER 30: Deadline to request an absentee (mail-in) ballot

OCTOBER 16-27: Early voting each day excluding Sundays from 8:00 AM to 7:00 PM.

NOVEMBER 2 AT 4:30 PM: Absentee (mail-in) ballot must be received.

NOVEMBER 3: In person voting at polls at 6:00 AM to 8:00 PM. There is a wealth of voting information at <https://voterportal.sos.la.gov/> Click on Search by voter and enter your name, zip code and date of birth.

Choose ten people and coach them through the voting process!

FALL BACK ON OCT 31-NOV 1 WEEKEND



Daylight Savings Time ends and we return to Standard Time on Sunday, November 1 at 2:00 AM.



Mass Readings

October 11th - October 18th

Sunday

Is 25:6-10a; Psalm 23; Phil 4:12-14, 19-20

Gospel: Matt 22:1-14

Monday

Gal 4:22-24, 26-27, 31--5:1; Psalm 113

Gospel: Luke 11:29-32

Tuesday

Gal 5:1-6; Psalm 119

Gospel: Luke 11:37-41

Wednesday

Gal 5:18-25; Psalm 1

Gospel: Luke 11:42-46

Thursday

Eph 1:1-10; Psalm 98

Gospel: Luke 11:47-54

Friday

Eph 1:11-14; Psalm 33

Gospel: Luke 12:1-7

Saturday

Eph 1:15-23; Psalm 8

Gospel: Luke 12:8-12

Sunday

Is 45:1, 4-6; Psalm 96; 1Thes 1:1-5b

Gospel: Matt 22:15-21

Forms for new parishioners or changes are located in the vestibule of the church.

