This page aims to help revive or maintain devotion to Saint Anne, glorious mother of Mary, grandmother of Our Lord Jesus Christ, protector of Christian mothers, and patroness of our parish.

There is not the slightest reference to the mother of the Virgin Mary in Sacred Scripture; however, information is provided by the apocryphal Protoevangelium of St. James, dating back to the second century and widespread, especially in the East.
The historical elements of this narrative are not easy to determine.
According to the Protoevangelium, Anne (from the Hebrew Hannah, "grace") was the daughter of the Bethlehemite priest Mathan.
Her sisters Mary and Sobe married men of Bethlehem and became mothers of Mary Salome and Elizabeth, respectively.
Anna, on the other hand, married the Galilean Joachim.
After repeated prayers, she experienced the joy of motherhood at a very advanced age.
The Virgin Mary was then consecrated to the service of the Temple of Jerusalem at the age of three. Both her parents died shortly thereafter.

The first manifestation of the cult in the East dates back to the time of Justinian, who built a church in Constantinople in honor of Anne (c. 550).
The Greeks celebrated her feast three times a year (July 25, September 9, and December 9).
In the 8th century, St. John Damascene delivered a sermon "On the Nativity of Mary," in which he enthusiastically praises the Virgin's parents.

In the West (feast on July 26), the cult emerged later; a reference to it can be found in the fresco of Santa Maria Antiqua (7th century), but only in the late Middle Ages did the liturgical feast begin to be more widespread (10th century in Naples; 12th century in various other locations).

Urban VI, with the papal bull Splendor aeternae gloriae (June 21, 1378), permitted her worship in England; in the 14th and 15th centuries, this cult became more intense, prompting Gregory XIII to insert the celebration into the Missal in 1584, extending it to the entire Church.
John Trithemius, with his book *Tractatus de laudibus sanctissimae Annae* (Mainz 1494), contributed greatly to spreading her veneration.
The mother of the Virgin Mary enjoys widespread devotion, especially in the northern countries; famous are the sanctuaries of Dùren in Germany, of Auray in Brittany and that of Beaupré in Canada, where the Bretons spread her cult.

May Saint Anne, to whom we turn with trust and devotion, protect Christian families.
May she intercede for parents, that they may provide a healthy education for their children; and may she also pray for their children, that they may be obedient to the example and teachings of those who gave birth to them.