



For the past year, St Anne's Shrine in Sturbridge, MA has been celebrating its 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and the uninterrupted celebration of its annual Novena to Saint Anne which begins July 18<sup>th</sup> and runs through her feast day on July 26<sup>th</sup>

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Begun in 1887, visitors and pilgrims have come to honor Saint Anne as patroness, mother of the Blessed Virgin, grandmother of Jesus, and wife of Saint Joachim. Participants enjoy the beauty and rich tradition of this Catholic tradition in solidarity with many pilgrims of all faiths, diverse cultures and generations. They come seeking physical and spiritual healing, and in this peace-filled atmosphere they find hope, strength and comfort for themselves and their loved ones.

The schedule includes daily Mass and the recitation of the Rosary. The music complements the wide range and variety speakers, celebrants and homilists. On the last day there is a Mass and Anointing of the Sick in the morning and a closing Mass and candlelight procession.

Fr. Peter Precourt, A.A., Director of the Shrine, invites everyone to join him at this year's 2013 Novena. This year's theme, "With Grateful Hearts," will touch a meaningful and spiritual chord within all people who come. For further details and the schedule of events and activities contact the Saint Anne Shrine website at: [www.stannestpat.org](http://www.stannestpat.org)