

St. Anne: The Saint Anne Window to the right of Stephen was donated in memory of George B. Sofranko, Sr. by Anne M. Sofranko and their children. Saint Anne was the mother of the Blessed Virgin Mary. We know nothing about Anne or her husband Joachim, and we cannot be completely sure of their names, though a long-standing tradition has given them the names by which we know them. We can safely assume that they created a loving home for their daughter Mary. Anne is often represented in paintings teaching Mary, and in our window she is depicted as an older woman holding the Scriptures, which would have been the main source of Mary's education. We know she is holding a copy of the Bible, because the book has a cross on its cover, even though the Christian Bible would not be completed until centuries after Anne's life on earth. Artists in the Middle Ages, in the Renaissance, and in our own day have often depicted items from their own times in order to convey a message about the past, and that is what our artist has done as well. The feast day of both St. Anne and St. Joachim is celebrated on July 26. Since they were Jesus' grandparents, this is a day when we may want to honor our own grandparents.

