



Church of Saint Ann

289 Arch Road * Avon, Connecticut * 06001

www.stannavon.org

860-673-9858

Reverend Alphonso Fontana, Pastor

WEEKEND ASSISTANT

Rev. Joseph P. Cheah, OSM, Ph.D.

DEACONS

Jeffrey Sutherland and Tim Healy

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Kelly McCabe and Kathy Randall Gill

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CEMETERY SUPERINTENDENT

Mike Gould: ext.225



MAY THE SOULS of
the FAITHFUL DEPARTED,
THROUGH the MERCY
of GOD, REST IN PEACE.



1936 - 2025

©LPI

BAPTISM and MARRIAGES:

Please call the Parish Office: 860-673-9858, ext. 221.

Wedding dates should be scheduled at least 6 months ahead.

Weddings cannot be scheduled after the Saturday evening Mass.

BULLETIN DEADLINE & INSERTS

Please submit any bulletin announcements to the Parish Office by 2pm on the Monday prior to the weekend you would like it published. Also, please contact the office to obtain permission to insert fliers into the weekly bulletin.

MASS SCHEDULE:

Monday - Friday:

9:00 am

Sunday Vigil (Saturday):

4:00 pm

Sunday:

7:30, 9:30 and 11:00am

First Friday:

9:00 am

CONFESSIONS:

Saturday: after 4pm Mass

First Friday: Before 9:00 AM Mass

Other times by appointment

DEVOTIONS:

Eucharistic Adoration:

Mondays 9:30 - 10:30am

Tuesdays 6 - 7:30pm

Rosary: 8:25am, daily

MMP Cenacle: Mondays at 7:15pm

Chaplet of Divine Mercy: Tues.- Fri.

9:30-9:40am in the Sanctuary

Holy Hour: Thursdays at 12noon

April 27, 2025



WELCOME TO THE CHURCH OF SAINT ANN

If you are a resident in this area, we hope that you will continue to grace us with your presence and register with our parish. You can do so by stopping by or calling the Parish Office: 860-673-9858, ext. 221. You can also register online at: www.stannavon.org/register-at-st-ann
If you are a visitor, we thank you for participating in worshiping with us and we hope to see you again!



MASS INTENTIONS Sunday of Divine Mercy

SATURDAY, April 26, Saturday within the Octave of Easter

4:00 For birthday blessings for Joseph Theroux
(Living), requested by the Theroux Family

SUNDAY, April 27, Sunday of Divine Mercy

7:30 Antonio Cusano, requested by Edward Cusano

9:30 Sandeve George D'Costa (1st Ann.), requested by
Ashlo and family

11:00 Matthew Griffin, requested by the family

**MONDAY, April 28, Saint Peter Chanel, Priest and Martyr;
Saint Louis Grignon de Montfort, Priest**

9:00 Irene Girard, requested by her daughter, Elaine

TUESDAY, April 29,

Saint Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church

9:00 Art Hennig, requested by the Hennig Family

WEDNESDAY, April 30, Saint Pius V, Pope

9:00 Rose Penzone, requested by Rosanne Harutunian

THURSDAY, May 1, Saint Joseph the Worker

9:00 For the intentions of Sophie Sopolak (Living),
requested by the Sopolak and Burns Families

FRIDAY, May 2,

Saint Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

9:00 John Klish, requested by
Gino and Barbara Calderone

SATURDAY, May 3, Saints Philip and James, Apostles

4:00 Mary S. Patterson, requested by Eileen M. Reilly

SUNDAY, May 4, Third Sunday of Easter

7:30 Virginia Cronin, requested by the Cronin Family

9:30 Elizabeth Candels, requested by
Guy and Jane Ellen Peregrin

11:00 Michael Scibelli, requested by the Adamski Family

*To schedule a Mass Intention, please call/email Kris in the Parish
Office: 860-673-9858, ext. 221 or kris.martino@stannavon.com
Suggested Donations: \$30 Weekends, \$25 Weekdays*



Sanctuary Lamp Memorial

The Sanctuary Lamp burns this week for
the Greater honor and glory of God and:

In loving memory of:

Matthew Griffin
Craig Schortzmann

Requested by:

the family
the Schortzmann Family

Prayers for the living:

Requested by:

**We pray for the safe
return of those currently
serving in our Military**



Contact the Parish Office to have your family members added.

LCDR Jack Hamel, USCG
LCDR Victoria Hamel, USCG
1LT Brian J. Heaven Jr., USArmy

Capt. Matthew Mascoli, USMC
1LT Andrew Mascoli, USMC
ME3 Luke Hobbs, USCG

TRUST IN THE LORD 2025 ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

We are excited to share our parish's progress so far in the 2025 Archbishop's Annual Appeal. Each parish has received a goal for this year's Appeal. This goal is our parish's offering to the overall Appeal effort. By reaching or exceeding our goal we support the many "Good Works" and ministries our Archdiocese offers to those who seek religious education, pastoral support, and charitable care – all made possible by the Appeal.

As of last week, 64% of our goal has been raised in our parish with gifts from 204 individuals and families. Already, we have accomplished so much. Thank you to those who have made a pledge to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal. If you have yet to make your commitment, your generosity is very much needed. We again ask that you please participate in this year's Appeal according to your means. Gifts of all sizes will make the Appeal a success. Please join us in supporting Trust in the Lord the 2025 Archbishop's Annual Appeal, and help our parish to reach its goal.

All funds contributed to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal are used exclusively for the purposes outlined in the Appeal literature, which can be found at: archdioceseofhartford.org/appeal/.

No Appeal funds are ever used for legal fees or settlements.

THIS WEEK AT ST. ANN

SATURDAY, April 26

Men's Breakfast Group: 8:00am in Room 3

SUNDAY, April 27

Lectio Divina: 10:30am in Room 3, and via ZOOM

Divine Mercy Holy Hour: 2:30pm in the church

MONDAY, April 28

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: 9:30-10:30am in the church

Faith Study for Moms: 10-11:15am in the Activity Room

MMP Cenacle-Rosary Prayer Group: 7:15pm in the church

Lectio Divina: 7:15pm in Room 3

TUESDAY, April 29

Walking With Purpose: 10:15am (ZOOM only)

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: 6-7:30pm in the church

WEDNESDAY, April 30

Biblical Walk Through the Mass Study: 9:30am in Fr. Bennett Hall

Walking With Purpose: 7pm in Fr. Bennett Hall

THURSDAY, May 1

He Leadeth Me Book Study: 9:30am in Room 1

New Day Seminar: 9:45am in Room 3

Holy Hour: 12 noon in the church

GATHER Ministry Meeting: 6pm in Room 3

FRIDAY, May 2

Lectio Divina: 9:45am via Zoom

SATURDAY, May 3

Men's Breakfast Group: 8:00am in Room 3

First Communion

SUNDAY, May 4

Parish Coffee: after 9:30am Mass in Fr. Bennett Hall,
sponsored by our GATHER Ministry

Lectio Divina: 10:30am in Room 3, and via ZOOM

WEEKLY ORDINARY INCOME

Weekend of Sunday, April 13, 2025

Weekly In-person: \$4,063.00

Weekly Online: \$2,752.50

Weekly TOTAL: \$6,815.50

Little Sisters of the Poor TOTAL: \$6,516

Votive Candles and Sanctuary Lamp: \$313.74

Weekend of Sunday, April 20, 2025

Weekly In-person: \$14,580.25

Weekly Online: \$2,459.50

Weekly TOTAL: \$17,039.75

Easter/Parish Charities In-Person: \$5,853.00

Easter/Parish Charities Online: \$316.00

Easter/Parish Charities TOTAL: \$6,169.00

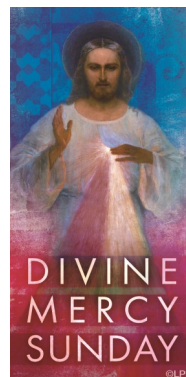
Votive Candles and Sanctuary Lamp: \$211.83

Other Online Donations (total for both weekends):

2025 Annual: \$46, Ash Wednesday: \$75,
Avon Food Pantry: \$20, Catholic Elementary
Schools: \$23, Catholic Worker House: \$20,
Cemetery: \$20, Church Services: \$100,
Easter Plant/Flowers: \$200, Helping Haitian
Children: \$150, Holy Land (Good Friday): \$620,
ImmaCare: \$20, Monthly: \$894.50,
Peter's Pence: \$35, Prison Ministry: \$40,
Prudence Crandall Shelter: \$20, Solemnity of
Mary: \$20, Utilities: \$46,

Next Weekend's 2nd Collection: none

Divine Mercy Sunday
April 27, 2025
2:30-3:30pm



Divine Mercy Sunday will be celebrated here at St. Ann this Sunday, April 27th with a Holy Hour from 2:30- 3:30pm.

Please join us to honor our Lord's request that the Sunday after Easter be the Feast of Divine Mercy. He promised that the floodgates of heaven would open and extraordinary graces would be poured out among us.

All are welcome to the next
Gather Ministry planning meeting,
Thursday, May 1, 6pm in Room 3.
Join our lively group!



Please join us on
Mother's Day, May 11th,
at the 11am Mass
for the
Crowning of our
heavenly Mother, Mary.

This year's First Communion
recipients are encouraged to
wear their communion outfits.



St. Ann's Scholarship Committee's Annual
PERENNIAL PLANT SALE

Sat., May 17, 2025 from 8am - 12 noon
St. Ann's Parking Lot

DONATIONS NEEDED:

As you start to work in your gardens this spring, please consider sharing some of your perennials that are ready for dividing. Also, we would appreciate the donation of any Easter plants, such as tulips and daffodils, if you don't plan to use the bulbs in your own flower beds. In addition to plants, we would welcome the donation of small, gently used gardening accessories (e.g., tools, flower pots, statuary).

Drop off plant donations in the parking lot (West Avon Rd side, under tree) on:

Thursday, May 15, from 8:30-10am and 5-7pm

Friday, May 16, from 8:30-10am and 1-2pm

Please IDENTIFY plants (name, color, sun/shade).

If you have questions, or would like to volunteer, please call
Jean Frey: 860-673-1949. We happily welcome any new volunteers join us!

Proceeds will Support the Social Outreach Ministry's
Scholarship Program, which provides deserving urban
students with partial scholarships to local Catholic High Schools.



JOIN US IN A CELEBRATION!

St. Ann's Second Ever
Baptism Reunion

SUNDAY, APRIL 27, 2025
FOLLOWING THE 9:30AM MASS
FR. BENNETT HALL

*For Parents with children baptized in the
last five years. Meet, play, and enjoy getting
together with other families with recently
baptized children!*

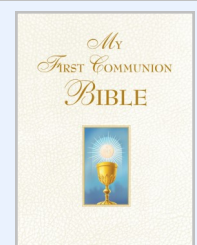
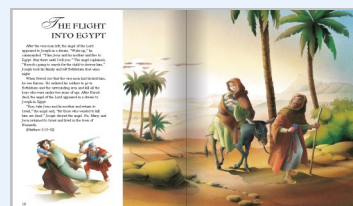
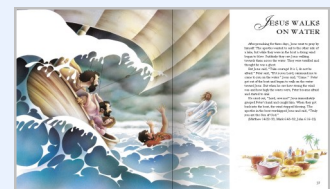


Dear Parishioners,

This year there will be 51 candidates receiving the sacrament of First Holy Eucharist. Due to the many years of positive response, we would like to continue to gift each child with a First Communion Bible. We are asking that you sponsor any child or children, with this gift. It will be presented to them on their First Communion Day. In return, we will be asking the children to pray for the person who gave it to them *every time they read their Bible*.

If you are interested in being part of this beautiful event, please pick up a form in the Gathering Space and return it with your payment of \$15.00 per Bible (made out to Church of St. Ann). Please mail to the church in an envelope clearly marked **"for First Communion Bible"** or drop it off at the Parish Offices. *You may also order online at our website: stannavon.com.* How pleased Jesus must be to know that both the children of this year's First Eucharist class and the adults of our Parish are praying for each other!

Thank you so much for your consideration and for your prayerful support of these beautiful children! **To order & pay online, use QR code or go to: www.osvhub.com/stannavon/forms/first-holy-communion-bible-gift**



The Holy Eucharist DID YOU KNOW?

Today is Divine Mercy Sunday. It is the celebration of God's greatest attribute: His Mercy. Jesus revealed this to St. Faustina in the 1930's. He showed her streams of grace flowing from His Heart and also streaming out from the Blessed Sacrament. One of the things which Our Lord impressed upon her was His Divine Presence in the Holy Eucharist. As a result of this and of her virtue of humility, she wrote, "Whatever good that is within me is because of the Holy Eucharist."

Reflection: St. Faustina recognized that in the reception of Jesus in Holy Communion, Christ was sanctifying her and molding her into an image of Himself. Are you aware that Jesus is working within you in the same way each time you receive Him in Holy Communion? If you are open to Christ's merciful Presence, you should be growing in holiness.

Easter Plant Sale Correction

Sincere apologies for missing the following names on the list of people in whose memory the altar plants were donated:

John G. Bernetich
The O'Hagan & Bernetich Families
Sheila O'Hagan Jadovich



Parish Coffee Sunday, May 4th After 9:30am Mass

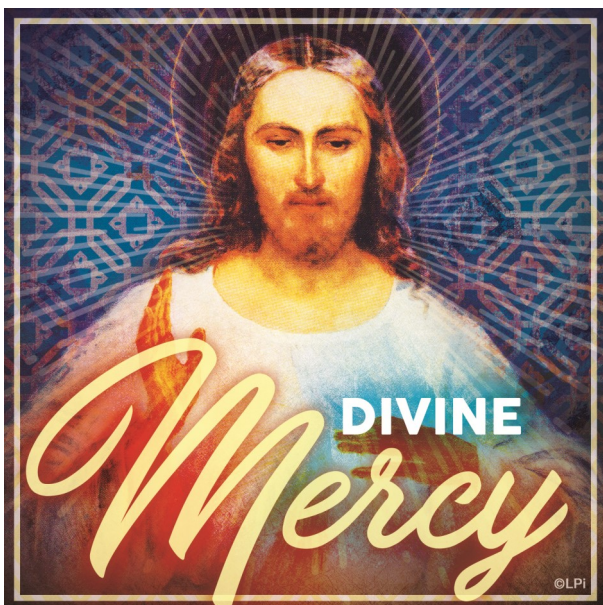
Please join fellow parishioners and guests after all Masses on Sunday, May 4th, for coffee, and refreshments in Fr. Bennett Hall.
Sponsored by our Gather Ministry.



Have you ever wanted to help participate in the Mass?

Consider joining our Weekend Lector Ministry. Lectors proclaim the readings at Mass. This is a wonderful way to serve. Training is provided.

If interested, please contact
Andrea Pizzuti, Liturgical Coordinator:
andreapizzuti333@gmail.com



Church of St. Ann Food Pantry Garden

For several years, The Church of St. Ann had maintained a parish garden to support the Avon Social Services Food Pantry that is in the lower level of the church.

We are reaching out to invite volunteers to help care for this year's garden. We are also in need of a new Ministry Leader. Maintaining the garden includes: a spring clean-up; weeding and watering; planting and tending vegetables and flowers; and any other gardening tasks that you enjoy. We invite you to watch this video from a couple years ago that showcases the Food Pantry Garden: www.youtube.com/watch?v=cqXKZy5z0YE

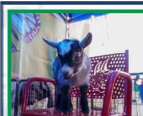
If you are interested in helping or have any questions, please reach out to Chip Janiszewski, Ministries Coordinator: chip.janiszewski@stannavon.com. Thank you for considering the opportunity to oversee our church garden grow and thrive.



YARD GOATS FAITH & FAMILY NIGHT



CHURCH OF SAINT ANN'S
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25th 2025



EVENT DETAILS:

GAME TIME: 7:10 PM—GATES OPEN: 6:00 PM
NEW HAMPSHIRE FISHER CATS (Toronto Blue Jays AA-affiliates)
vs HARTFORD YARD GOATS (Colorado Rockies AA-affiliates)



Join the Church of Saint Ann's for the Faith + Family Night at Dunkin' Park!



Featuring:
A pre-game panel on faith with players
Faith based musical performances
On field community leadership ceremony!



YardGoatsBaseball.com



860-246-GOAT (4628)



CHURCH OF SAINT ANN

Wednesday June 25th, 2025
Game Time: 7:10 PM—Gates Open: 6:00 PM

TICKET TYPE	PRICE
FIELD BOX	\$17

Purchase tickets until **Sunday, June 8th** through the QR Code

Questions? Contact **Karen Edgar**
at the5edgars@comcast.net



ALL TICKETS WILL BE SENT ELECTRONICALLY TO THE EMAIL PROVIDED WITHIN A WEEK OF GAME DATE.

Sprouting Change Together
 April 2025
 To Benefit the St. Ann Food Pantry Garden

STOP&SHOP
 UNIONVILLE, CT

We have been selected again! Let's Fight Hunger Together One Bouquet at a Time.

For the month of April, the Church of Saint Ann Food Pantry Garden has been selected to receive a \$1 donation for every Bloomin' 4 Good Bouquet (pictured here) sold at the store located in Unionville, CT.

Thank you for your support!



ADORATION
of the Blessed Sacrament

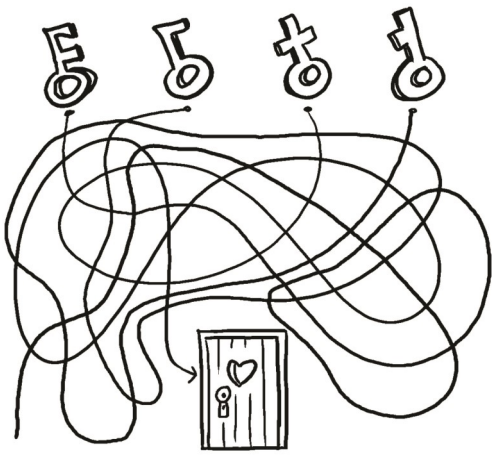
Mondays
 9:30-10:30 AM

Tuesdays
 6:00 - 7:30 PM



For the Kids... 

PUZZLE
 Which key can unlock the Door?




MISSION
 I will talk to God whenever I am afraid.


Special Second Collection to Benefit Fr. Cheah's Foundation in Myanmar Weekend of May 17/18, 2025

As you may know, there was a devastating earthquake in Myanmar this March. Father Joe Cheah is a co-founder of The Children of Myanmar. "This orphanage provides a home to girls in a country beleaguered by civil war and poverty. Despite the many charged conflicts in the region, St. Mary's provides a safe and equitable home for girls of all nationalities and religions" The mission of the Foundation is to "...provide financial support to St. Mary's Home in Kyauktan, Myanmar....St. Mary's provides a safe and equitable home for girls of all nationalities and religions." We will be having a special second collection for Father Cheah's foundation the weekend of May 17/18.

If you'd like to donate online, you can scan the QR code or go to: www.osvhub.com/stannavon/giving/funds/the-children-charitable-foundation-of-Myanmar.

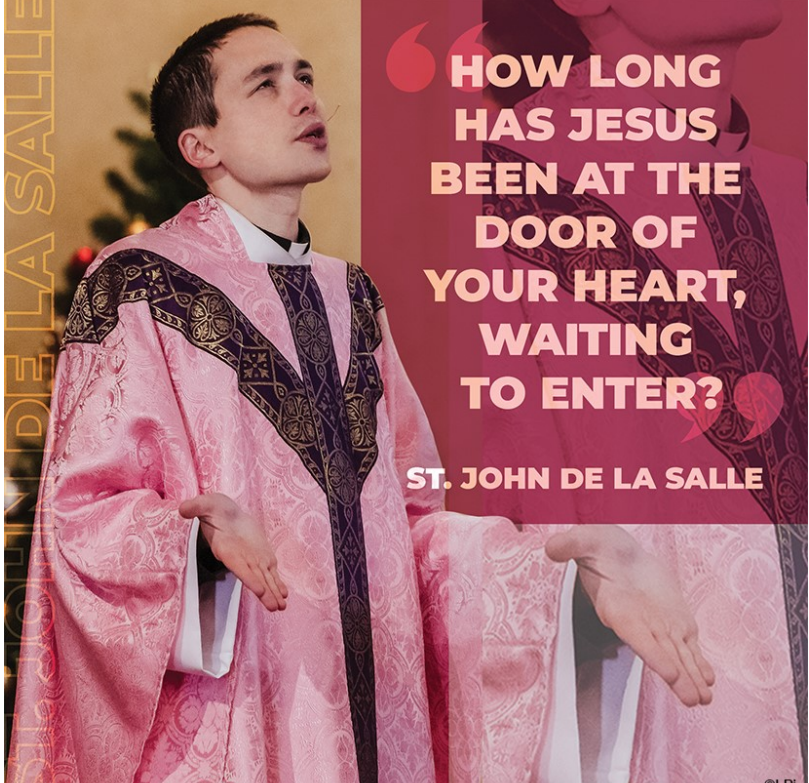
You can also donate directly on the Foundation's website: <https://childrenofmyanmar.org/>

 **The Children Charitable Foundation for Myanmar**



HOW LONG HAS JESUS BEEN AT THE DOOR OF YOUR HEART, WAITING TO ENTER?

ST. JOHN DE LA SALLE



CHURCH OF SAINT ANN Avon, CT PARISH LIFE

March 2025



CORPORAL WORKS OF MERCY

Sponsored by our Social Outreach Ministry



LENT
20
25



LENTEN PASTA DINNER

FRIDAY, APRIL 4, 2025

Hosted by the Men of St. Ann



CELEBRATE

CONFIRMATION

MARCH 30, 2025

Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Hartford



PARISH LIFE *(continued)*




PARISH COFFEE
SUNDAY, APRIL 6, 2025
Hosted by our Bereavement Ministry



EASTER FOOD BASKET COLLECTION

APRIL 12/13, 2025

*Part of the Corporal Works
of Mercy sponsored by our
Social Outreach Ministry*





Branches on the Vine

APRIL 26 - MAY 2, 2025



PHOTO BY SHELLEY WOLF
Father James M. Sullivan, pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish in Waterbury, poses with his book, *23 1/2 degrees Away from God: Returning to the Light*, in the rectory of the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception.

LOCAL PRIEST PUBLISHES BOOK **EXPLORING PATHS TO CONVERSION**

- Story by Shelley Wolf

In his book *23 1/2 Degrees Away From GOD: Returning to the Light*, Father James M. Sullivan traces his family's history back to the town in Ireland where his father was born. He's on a mission to discover whether the seemingly tall tales his father told about traveling to church on Sunday were really true.

That's the charming start to Father Sullivan's book, which sold all 1,500 copies of its first printing in 2024. Now in its second printing, the book is expected to be available again in time for the Easter season.

The book is sprinkled with fond recollections and lessons learned from his parents, siblings and time spent as a building contractor. However, Father Sullivan, now rector of the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception and pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish in Waterbury, insists the book is not a memoir.

"I didn't want it to be a memoir," he says in an interview with Catholic Transcript Online. "I just tied it to the small things in real life. God is big on the little." The book's purpose, he says, is to explore the many paths to conversion in adults of all ages.

Published by Highbury Press in Waterbury, the book features a cover photo of Waterbury's Holy Land USA at sunrise, which was taken by Father Sullivan's brother, John Sullivan. The second printing includes a forward written by Archbishop Leonard P. Blair.

Written in accessible language, the paperback book discusses human nature and conversion through the eyes of a priest, drawing inspiration from personal anecdotes and various perspectives on conversion.

A first-time author, Father Sullivan took three years to complete the manuscript, writing on his days off and while on retreat. Before he became a priest, he always wanted to write a book on human nature, he says, but never did.

"And then, as a priest, you see conversions all the time, people coming back to church and their reasons why, and what touched them and how their life was affected," he says. "So, I decided to write a book on conversion because every person ultimately desires it, to become closer to the source of all love and life.

"I have a special calling for those who are somewhat lost," Father Sullivan adds. "Maybe because I was in the building profession for so many years

and in the working world, I feel like I really know the heart of the average person. Many have good hearts but don't know God. I want to show them who Christ is."

And everyone needs ongoing conversion, the priest says, to avoid "spiritual stagnancy."

In the pages, Father Sullivan also shares a priest's thoughts on the importance of Christian marriage, Catholic confessions, Mass attendance and vocations to the priesthood and religious life. And he doesn't forget to share the joy of the priesthood. "I believe a lot of vocations are out there. They just need to be encouraged and touched," he says.

The book urges all readers to find their calling and to pray for guidance. It prompts readers to pray and to listen in prayer, with special emphasis on listening.

All proceeds from the book go to Immaculate Conception Parish. The second printing will be available sometime after Easter. To order a copy, keep checking the publisher's website at highburypress.com and highburypress.com/fatherjimbook.





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FINANCING

St. Ann Church

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Scan this QR code, submit the application, start saving money on electric and heating bills.

(We encourage sharing this QR code with family, neighbors, and friends to maximize your church donation. This promotion ends October 31st, 2025.)



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time for those who
matter most



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