



# Church of Saint Ann

289 Arch Road \* Avon, Connecticut \* 06001

[www.stannavon.org](http://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

## CHURCH OF SAINT ANN TRUSTEES

Kelly McCabe and Kathy Randall Gill

## SPECIAL PROJECTS MANAGER

Russell Koch: [russ.koch@stannavon.com](mailto:russ.koch@stannavon.com)

## DIRECTOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (K - 8)

Deborah Benson, MA, CAGS: ext. 223 [deborah.benson@stannavon.com](mailto:deborah.benson@stannavon.com)

## CONFIRMATION, OCIA, ADULT CONFIRMATION

Rosemary Neamtz, MSW: ext. 226 [rosemary.neamtz@stannavon.com](mailto:rosemary.neamtz@stannavon.com)

## CHURCH ACCOUNTANT

Jennifer Soucy, CPA: ext.234 [jennifer.soucy@stannavon.com](mailto:jennifer.soucy@stannavon.com)

## DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Mercedes Featherston: ext. 230 [mercedes.featherston@stannavon.com](mailto:mercedes.featherston@stannavon.com)

## PARISH OFFICE MANAGER

Kris Martino: ext. 221 [kris.martino@stannavon.com](mailto:kris.martino@stannavon.com)

## DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

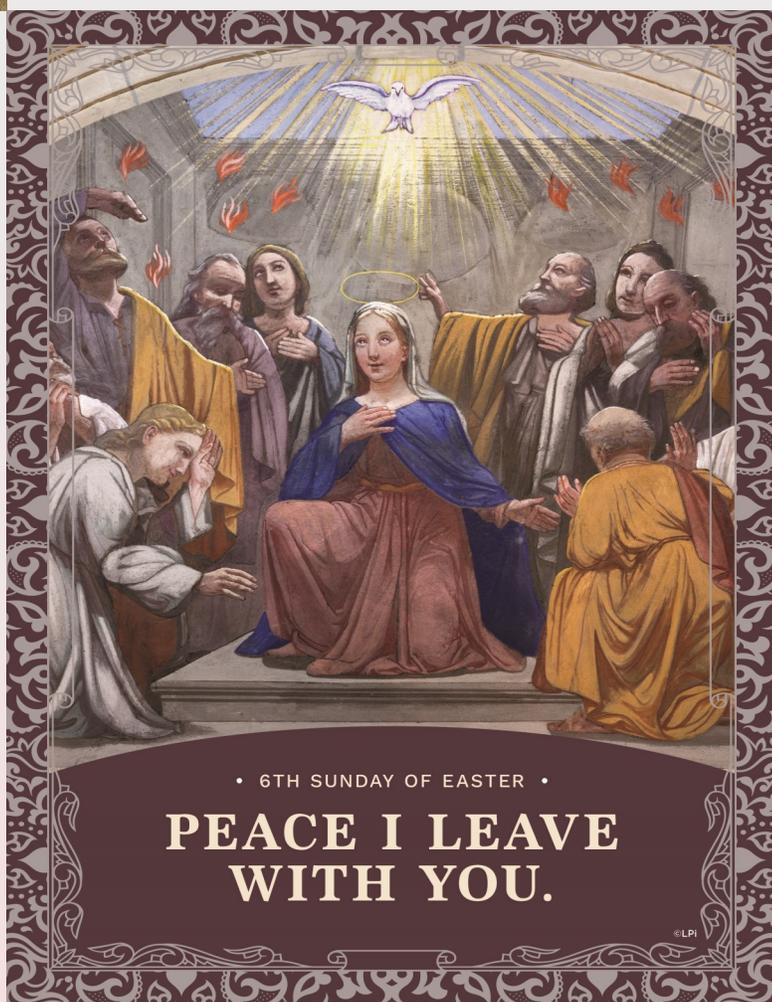
Kerry Magrini: [kerry.magrini@stannavon.com](mailto:kerry.magrini@stannavon.com)

## MINISTRIES COORDINATOR

Chip Janiszewski: [chip.janiszewski@stannavon.com](mailto:chip.janiszewski@stannavon.com)

## CEMETERY SUPERINTENDENT

Mike Gould: ext.225



• 6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER •

# PEACE I LEAVE WITH YOU.

©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

May 25, 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](http://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

### 6th Sunday of Easter

**SATURDAY, May 24, *Easter Weekday***

4:00 Dale Delfino, requested by Fr. Al Fontana

**SUNDAY, May 25, *Sixth Sunday of Easter***

7:30 Selene Southard, requested by  
Andy Welter and family

9:30 Anne Checovetes, requested by  
Laurie and Steve Gondek

11:00 Sean Kealy, requested by Fiona and David Tolin

**MONDAY, May 26, *Saint Philip Neri, Priest***

9:00 Joseph Savidge, Jr., requested by the Savidge Family

**TUESDAY, May 27, *Saint Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop***

9:00 Art Hennig, requested by a friend of the family

**WEDNESDAY, May 28, *Easter Weekday***

9:00 Jeremy Savidge, requested by the Savidge Family

**THURSDAY, May 29, *The Ascension of the Lord***

9:00 Mike Gilotti, requested by the Savidge Family

12:00 Matthew VanBlerkon, requested by  
the Savidge Family

7:00 Joseph Savidge, Jr., requested by the Savidge Family

**FRIDAY, May 30, *Easter Weekday***

9:00 In celebration of Claudia Sielski's 18th Birthday  
(Living), requested by her family

**SATURDAY, May 31, *The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary***

4:00 In celebration of the 28th anniversary of  
Fr. Fontana's ordination, requested by the  
Parish of Saint Ann

**SUNDAY, June 1, *Seventh Sunday of Easter***

7:30 ---

9:30 Salvatore and Yvette Garro, requested by  
Doris and Lionel Cyr

11:00 Henrietta Angelina, requested by her daughters  
and grandchildren

To schedule a Mass Intention, please call/email Kris in the Parish  
Office: 860-673-9858, ext. 221 or [kris.martino@stannavon.com](mailto: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:

Maria Consuegra  
Henrietta Angelina  
Alice Kuzia  
Ann Matthes

### Requested by:

Bill and Janet Newman  
Bill and Janet Newman  
Bill and Janet Newman  
Bill and Janet Newman

### Prayers for the living:

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### 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

Thank you to the parish families who have made a gift or  
pledge commitment to the 2025 Archbishop's Annual  
Appeal. If you have not yet had the opportunity, please  
consider prayerfully supporting the many "Good Works"  
of the Archdiocese. Every gift will be gratefully received  
and sincerely appreciated.

*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/](http://archdioceseofhartford.org/appeal/).  
No Appeal funds are ever used for legal fees or settlements.*

## THIS WEEK AT ST. ANN

### SATURDAY, May 24

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

### SUNDAY, May 25

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

### MONDAY, May 26

**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, May 27

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

### WEDNESDAY, May 28

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

### THURSDAY, May 29

**Holy Hour:** 12 noon in the church

### FRIDAY, May 30

**Lectio Divina:** 9:45am via Zoom

### SATURDAY, May 31

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

**Flea Market:** 9am—2pm in Fr. Bennett Hall

### SUNDAY, June 1

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

**Parish Coffee:** after 9:30am Mass in Fr. Bennett Hall

## WEEKLY ORDINARY INCOME

### Weekend of Sunday, May 18, 2025

Weekly In-person: \$4,242.02

Weekly Online: \$2,625.50

**Weekly TOTAL: \$6,867.52**

### **The Children Foundation of Myanmar:**

In-person: \$8,013.67

Online: \$1,010.00

**TOTAL: \$9,023.67**

**Votive Candles and Sanctuary Lamp:** \$239.05

### **Other Online Donations:**

2025 Annual: \$23, Helping Haitian Children: \$50,

Monthly: \$218, Parishioner Gift: \$2, 500,

Utilities: \$23

### **Next Weekend's 2nd Collection:**

*Catholic Communications Campaign*

  
**LECTORS WANTED** **Have you ever wanted to help participate in the Mass?**

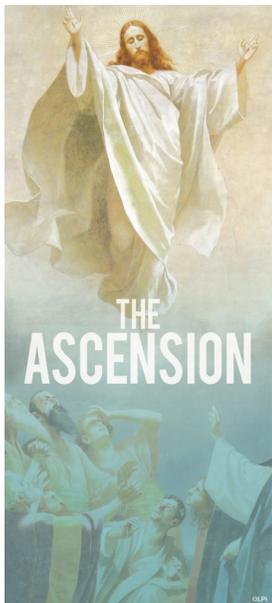
Consider joining our Weekend Lector Ministry. Lectors proclaim the readings at Mass. This is a wonderful way to serve. Training is provided.

If interested, please contact

Andrea Pizzuti, Liturgical

Coordinator:

[andreapizzuti333@gmail.com](mailto:andreapizzuti333@gmail.com)



## THE FEAST OF THE ASCENSION

Thursday, May 29<sup>th</sup>

HOLY DAY OF  
OBLIGATION

Masses will be at:

**9:00 AM**

**12:00PM**

**7:00 PM**



## Parish Coffee

**Next Sunday,**

**June 1, 2025**

**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 Rosary Group, MMP Cenacle and Pro-Life Ministry*

## St. Ann's Flea Market

Saturday May 31, 9am-2pm

Church of St. Ann: Fr. Bennett Hall

To Benefit:  
**Two Hearts Pregnancy Care Center**

Mission: to assist mothers throughout the Northwest corner, who are facing an unplanned pregnancy or severe economic difficulties trying to provide for their infants and young children.

- Opened in October 2012
- To date: 1,000 mothers and their children have been served
- 20,400 visits during this time
- Committed to empowering these women through education, material support, comfort and love

They have recently purchased a new building in Torrington, and hope to move in by August, but need to do renovations first. Please support this fundraiser to help provide financial support so Two Hearts can continue the much-needed prenatal and postnatal help to their young mothers.



DISCOVER HIDDEN TREASURES AT OUR FLEA MARKET! FROM VINTAGE FINDS TO UNIQUE CRAFTS. THERE WILL BE SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE. SOME OF THE ITEMS FOR SALE INCLUDE: RIDING LAWN MOWER, LE CREUSET CASSEROLE SET, MONOCULAR MICROSCOPE, PRECIOUS MOMENTS ORNAMENTS, PEWTER COFFEE/TEA SET AND SO MUCH MORE!

If interested in participating in the flea market, you or a group can reserve a table for \$10. Please reach out to Tina Dibble, 860-331-1673, for more information and to receive a reservation form.

JOIN US FOR OUR SUMMER WATCH PARTY  
WEDNESDAY MORNINGS  
for THE CHOSEN - Season 4

**Dates:** June 25, July 9th, 16th, and 23rd  
**Where:** Fr. Bennett Hall  
**Time:** 9:30 am - 11:30 am  
**RSVP:** [andreapizzuti333@gmail.com](mailto:andreapizzuti333@gmail.com)



### The Holy Eucharist DID YOU KNOW?

In today's Gospel Jesus teaches us about the indwelling of the Blessed Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. (John 14: 23-29) He tells us that "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them." In a later verse, Jesus promises to send us the Holy Spirit, who by dwelling within our souls "will teach us everything".

Each time we receive Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, God the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit are also present. (Recall that there is only ONE God, but three Divine Persons.)

**REFLECTION:** Are you aware that the Blessed Trinity is present to you in the Holy Eucharist and has come to dwell within you? This should fill us not only with a holy fear, but also with an awesome wonder that we are so intimately loved by God. How do you spend your time with the indwelling Blessed Trinity right after receiving Holy Communion?



## Thank You from Father Joe

for the generous donations to his Foundation

On behalf of the sisters, I extend my heartfelt gratitude for your generous support in helping them care for the orphans in Kyauktan, Myanmar. Your donations have made it possible to repair the kitchen and cafeteria, enabling the sisters to continue their ministry to the abandoned with renewed strength and hope. God bless you all!

Fr. Joe

## A MESSAGE FROM FATHER AL

It is with mixed feelings that I announce the departure of Rosemary Neamtz as the Director of Confirmation and Youth Ministry, effective May 18, 2025. After prayerful reflection, Rosemary has decided to step down from this role.

Over the past nine years, Rosemary has been a tremendous blessing to the young people of St. Ann. Through her care, guidance, and dedication, she has helped the youth of our parish grow into a fuller maturity in the Catholic faith. Rosemary has been an outstanding mentor, empowering our young adults to recognize and use the gifts of the Holy Spirit to make a positive impact on the world around them.

While Rosemary looks forward to new adventures, she has shared with me how deeply she will miss the community of St. Ann. She is a woman of deep faith, and there is no doubt that she will continue to serve the Lord in beautiful and meaningful ways.

On behalf of the entire Parish of St. Ann, I offer our heartfelt gratitude and prayerful best wishes to Rosemary.

Thank you and God bless you, Rosemary!  
Father Al Fontana, Pastor



## Thank You!

Thank you to all who contributed to the success of St. Ann's Perennial Plant Sale, which was held on May 17th. Once again, we had a lovely, healthy selection of plants from which customers could choose. The selection of over 500 plants included flowers, groundcovers, shrubs, herbs, trees, and even some house plants and small gardening accessories. Our 16<sup>th</sup> and most profitable sale to date, \$2,983.50 was raised to benefit the Social Outreach Scholarship Program, which supports deserving urban students by providing partial tuition to area Catholic high schools. Whether you donated plants, purchased plants, or volunteered your time, your support is greatly appreciated!




**Prayer Shawl Ministry**

*Next Meeting:*  
**Monday, June 2nd**  
7-8:30pm in Fr. Bennett Hall

*All skill levels are welcome!  
For information call Tina at 860-331-1673*

## Vacation Bible Camp 2025: TRUE NORTH

This June, kids at Saint Ann will explore what it means to trust Jesus in a wild world during our **True North** Vacation Bible Camp (June 16-19). Each day is filled with fun, faith, and adventure!

To support our campers and volunteers, we've created a **Prayer Calendar** for the month.

Please join us in lifting up everyone involved as we prepare for a Christ-centered week of learning and joy.

## Church of Saint Ann True North • VBS • June 2025 • Prayer Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b> For our planning committee	<b>2</b> For our decorating team	<b>3</b> For our Imagination Station Leaders	<b>4</b> For our Sticky Scriptures Leaders	<b>5</b> For our Puppy Playhouse Team	<b>6</b> For our Jr. Counselor Trainers	<b>7</b> For our Jr. Counselors
<b>8</b> For our Bible Adventures Team	<b>9</b> For our Glacier Games Team	<b>10</b> For our Tundra Treats Team	<b>11</b> For our New Crew Leaders	<b>12</b> For our Returning Crew Leaders	<b>13</b> For the Church	<b>14</b> For our Families
<b>15</b> For a Beautiful Week						

# CHURCH OF SAINT ANN Avon, CT PARISH LIFE

May 2025



## BLESSING OF THE FOOD

Holy Saturday, April 19th



## EASTER VIGIL SACRAMENTS

Holy Saturday, April 19th



## HE IS RISEN CELEBRATION

following the Easter Vigil Mass  
Holy Saturday, April 19th



# PARISH LIFE *(continued)*

## TRIVIA NIGHT

AT LISA LUNA PIZZA, SIMSBURY  
THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 2025

Hosted by our Gather Ministry



## FIRST COMMUNION RETREAT SATURDAY, APRIL 26TH



*Our First Communion candidates recreated the Last Supper during their retreat.*



## DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY, HOLY HOUR SUNDAY, APRIL 27TH



# PARISH LIFE *(continued)*

## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MAY 3, 2025

Congratulations to our 50 students who made their First Holy Communion this month!



## PARISH COFFEE SUNDAY, MAY 4, 2025 Hosted by our Gather Ministry



## PERENNIAL PLANT SALE

SATURDAY, MAY 17, 2025  
Sponsored by the Scholarship Committee,  
part of our Social Outreach Ministry





# Branches on the Vine

MAY 24 - 30, 2025



PHOTO BY JOE PISANI  
As a child growing up in India, Father Ajeesh Ouseph learned how to make rosaries.

## OUR LADY'S ROSARY MAKERS

- Story by Joe Pisani

When Ajeesh Ouseph was a boy growing up in India, his family would gather before dinner to sing religious songs, read the Bible and pray the rosary. His mother's devotion to Mother Mary had a strong influence on him. "From childhood, she used to pray the rosary, and she told me to carry it with me all the time," he says. "It is insurance that Mary is with you."

He has prayed the rosary every day since he was a boy and believes his devotion to the Blessed Mother and the influence of his parents led him to the seminary and his love of making rosaries, a skill he learned from a family in his hometown.

He still recalls when 54 seminarians would kneel in the grotto before the statue of Our Lady of Lourdes, praying together for Mary's guidance and protection.

Ordained on Jan. 5, 2018, in the Syro-Malankara Catholic Church in India, Father Ouseph came to the Archdiocese of Hartford in 2023. Today, he serves as parochial vicar of St. Elizabeth of the Trinity Parish, with churches in North Haven, and St. Ambrose Parish, with churches in Northford and North Branford.

"I introduced the rosary and explained its importance and told "them (the participants) it's a spiritual weapon that gives us Mother Mary's protection," Father Ouseph says. "Then, I showed them step-by-step how to make one."

When he celebrated his first daily Mass at St. Barnabas Church in North Haven, about 15 to 20 women stayed afterward to pray the rosary; so, he joined them. This gave him the idea to share his love of the rosary with parishioners and teach them how to make their own handcrafted rosaries from materials that came from his native India.

"We shared our intentions and prayed," he recalls. "Then, one day the thought came to me, 'Why don't I teach them how to make a rosary?'" When Father Ouseph later returned to his hometown in Konni, India, he purchased the necessary materials to make rosary beads -- including wooden beads and pieces of cord.

However, due to the weight restrictions on his flights, he was only able to transport half of the rosary materials. He also had to leave behind some food his mother made him.

Last autumn, the priest held two rosary-making classes at St. Barnabas Church Hall, attracting some 65 people. "As we made the rosaries, we listened to a Gregorian chant, and I explained that making the rosary is not a craft project but a spiritual activity," he adds.

Last year, Father Ouseph made 100 rosaries and was able to sell them for \$5 apiece at one of the church's Christmas bazaars. The revenue benefitted the parish. He gave away a few remaining rosaries as gifts.

Since coming to the United States and getting his first car, Father Ouseph says he always keeps a strand of rosary beads in the vehicle. Before driving, he says a "Hail Mary" to seek Our Lady's protection on the road.

Rosary-making classes are held regularly for parishioners of St. Elizabeth of the Trinity Parish and St. Ambrose Parish. For more information and to sign up, call parish offices at **203.239.5378** or **203.484.0403**.

For class dates later this year, visit [stelizabethofthetrinity.org](http://stelizabethofthetrinity.org) or [nbcatholics.org](http://nbcatholics.org).



# Upcoming Events



05/31 SATURDAY 9AM - 2PM

## ST. ANN FLEA MARKET

St. Ann Church, Fr. Bennett Hall,  
289 Arch Rd, Avon

Discover hidden treasures at the St. Ann's Flea Market. From vintage finds to unique crafts there will be something for everyone. All proceeds go to support Two Hearts Pregnancy Care Center, which recently moved into a new building, have additional expenses and needs financial help to provide much-needed prenatal and postnatal help to their young mothers.



05/30-06/1 WEEKEND 6PM

## IN MY LOVE, ABIDE: WOMEN'S RETREAT

Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center,  
303 Tunxis Rd, West Hartford

Jesus calls us to remain in love as the branches remain with the vine for life and sustenance. We know that Jesus prayed often and taught his disciples to do the same. Pope Francis has named this year a "Year of Prayer." He described it as "a year dedicated to rediscovering the great value and absolute need for prayer in one's personal life, in the life of the Church, and in the world." Since prayer is a means of holding that connection between humanity and God, we invite you to come and explore the depths of a life of prayer and learn ways to maintain the sacred connection to God through Christ, the true vine. Conferences and workshops will be offered along with the Sacrament of Reconciliation and the Celebration of the Eucharist.

The retreat begins with a buffet dinner from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. on Friday evening and concludes Sunday with the celebration of Mass at 10:45 a.m., followed by a hot brunch at noon. Families of retreatants are most welcome to attend the Sunday Mass and brunch at no extra charge.

Visit [www.holyfamilyretreat.org/calendar/women06](http://www.holyfamilyretreat.org/calendar/women06) to reserve your spot.



06/07 SATURDAY 9:30AM - 3PM

## PENTECOST RETREAT DAY

Sacred Heart on the Lake Retreat Center,  
194 Candlewood Hill Rd, Higganum

This Retreat Day is open to all men and women of Faith. On the Eve of PENTECOST SUNDAY we will spend time in Prayer like the 12 Apostles, Mary and the other Disciples awaiting the Coming of the Holy Spirit. We will pray with the 7 Gifts and the 12 Fruits of the Holy Spirit that they might penetrate us so deeply that the Holy Spirit, once again, might set us & the world on Fire with Jesus' Spirit of Love, Power and Might.

Presenter- Sr. Lany Jo Smith, ASCJ- Donation asked \$35.- Includes a Continental Breakfast and a Full Lunch.  
To register online go to [sacredheartonthelake.org](http://sacredheartonthelake.org) or call Sr. Lany Jo at 203-606-9102.



06/18 WEDNESDAY 10AM

## 4TH ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC

Country Club of Farmington  
806 Farmington Ave, Farmington

Our Lady of Knock Parish will be hosting the 4th Annual Golf Classic, great time to be had by all! Great prizes, fun competitions, exciting raffle prizes and great silent auction items! If you are interested in joining us on June 18th, register by heading over to our website [ourladyofknock.org/golf](http://ourladyofknock.org/golf).

10:00 AM - Registration/check-in (free range availability)

11:00 AM - Lunch served

12:00 PM - Shotgun start (scramble format)

5:00 PM (after a full day of fantastic golfing) - Cocktails (cash bar) with dinner to follow at 5:30 PM

## 2025 ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

Scan the QR code  
to learn how you  
can make a  
lasting impact!



SCAN ME

Total Goal: \$10M

73.34% as of 5/13/25  
\$7,334,049.65 pledges from  
21,869 generous donors

[www.archdioceseofhartford.org/appeal](http://www.archdioceseofhartford.org/appeal)

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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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