



# Church of Saint Ann

289 Arch Road \* Avon, Connecticut \* 06001

860-673-9858

Rev. John W. McHugh, Pastor

[www.stannavon.com](http://www.stannavon.com)

## WEEKEND ASSISTANTS

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

Rev. Daniel J. Sullivan

## DEACONS

Jeffrey Sutherland

Tim Healy

## SPECIAL PROJECTS MANAGER

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

## COORDINATOR OF SOCIAL MINISTRIES

Tom McCabe, ext. 228

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR (K - 8)

Valerie St. Jean: ext. 223 [valerie.stjean@stannavon.com](mailto:valerie.stjean@stannavon.com)

## RCIA DIRECTOR & LITURGY COORDINATOR

Maureen Fiedler: 860-995-4026

## CONFIRMATION & YOUTH MINISTRY DIRECTOR

Joan Gould: ext. 226 [joan.gould@stannavon.com](mailto:joan.gould@stannavon.com)

## DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Tom Stockton: ext. 230

## OFFICE MANAGER

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

## CEMETERY SUPERINTENDENT

Mike Gould: ext. 225

## BUILDING SUPERINTENDENT

Michael Gould: ext. 225

## BAPTISMS (Registered Parishioners):

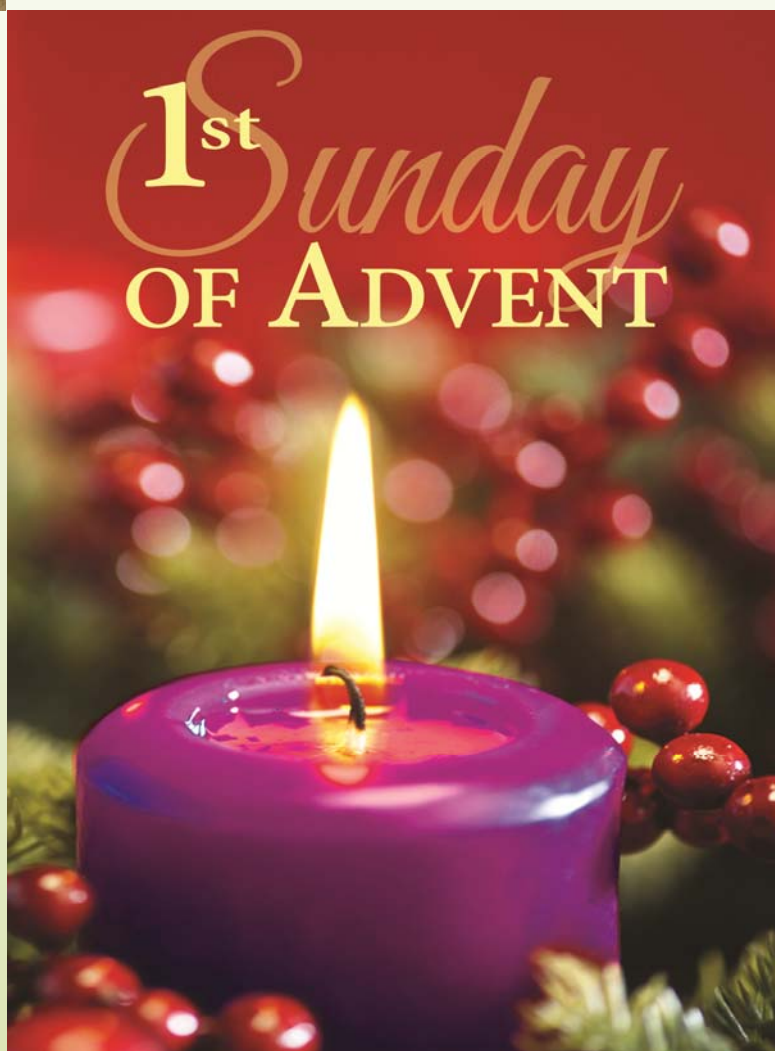
Call the Parish Office

## MARRIAGES

Please set the date with the priest or deacon at least six months prior to the wedding. Weddings cannot be scheduled after the Saturday evening Mass or on Sundays.

## 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:

Rosary: 8:30 am, daily

Chaplet: following daily Mass

Holy Hour

Thursday: 12:00 Noon



## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

### First Sunday of Advent

**MONDAY, November 30**  
9:00 Special Intentions

**TUESDAY, December 1**  
9:00 Special Intentions

**WEDNESDAY, December 2**  
9:00 Special Intentions

**THURSDAY, December 3**  
9:00 **Marion Zalenski**, requested by  
the ZuWallack Family

**FRIDAY, December 4**  
9:00 Special Intentions

**SATURDAY, December 5**  
4:00 **Dr. Theodore deGroot**, requested by  
his wife and family

**SUNDAY, December 6**  
7:30 Special Intentions  
9:30 **Terry and Bill Roderick**, requested by  
Tom and Pat Heaven  
11:00 **Maria and Frank DiNardo**, requested by  
the Ligato Family



If you are a resident in this area, we hope that you will continue to grace us with your presence and register with our office manager. You may call 860-673-9858 or stop by the parish office to register. If you are a visitor, we thank you for participating in worshipping with us and we hope to see you again.

### THIS WEEK AT ST. ANN'S

**MONDAY, November 30**  
**Marian Movement of Priests Cenacle:** 7:15pm in the church-  
(Enter through door on the left side of the church)

**TUESDAY, December 1**  
**RCIA:** 7pm in Room 3  
**Youth Outreach Meeting:** 6pm in Room 2

**WEDNESDAY, December 2**  
**Lectio Divina:** 3:30pm in Room 3

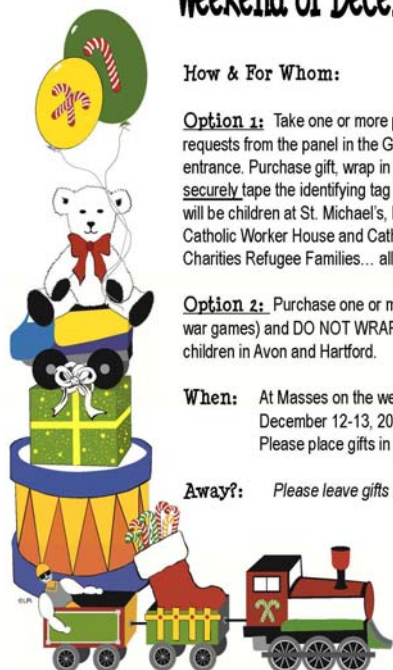
**THURSDAY, December 3**  
**Holy Hour:** 12 noon in the church, weather permitting  
**Traditional Choir:** 2pm in the Choir Loft  
**Children's Choir (grades 4-8):** 4:15pm in the Choir Loft  
**Folk/Contemporary Choir:** 7:30pm in the Choir Loft

**FRIDAY, December 4**  
**Christmas Pageant Rehearsal:** 2:30pm in the church & hall

**SATURDAY, December 5**  
**Men's Breakfast Group:** 8am in Room  
**First Reconciliation:** 11am in the church

**SUNDAY, December 6**  
**Teen Mass:** 4:30pm in the church

## Annual Toy/Gift Collection Weekend of December 12/13



### How & For Whom:

**Option 1:** Take one or more paper Christmas gift requests from the panel in the Gathering Space & side entrance. Purchase gift, wrap in Christmas paper and securely tape the identifying tag to the gift. Recipients will be children at St. Michael's, Family Life Education, Catholic Worker House and Catholic Charities Refugee Families... all in Hartford.

**Option 2:** Purchase one or more gifts (please, no war games) and DO NOT WRAP. Recipients will be children in Avon and Hartford.

**When:** At Masses on the weekend of  
December 12-13, 2015  
Please place gifts in Fr. Bennett Hall

**Any?:** Please leave gifts in Fr. Bennett Hall.

God Bless You For  
Your Generosity

Sponsored by the  
Social Justice  
Committee

*Immaculate Conception  
of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

**A Holy Day  
of Obligation**

*Tuesday,  
December 8, 2014*



**Masses will be at:**

**9:00am**

**12:10 pm**

**7:00pm**

### 2015 ANNUAL PARISH COLLECTION

We are very grateful for the generosity shown by so many to our "Annual Parish Collection."  
If you have not yet had an opportunity to return your pledge card, please do so as soon as possible. Every gift is welcomed and sincerely appreciated.  
Thank you.

## WEEKLY ORDINARY INCOME

**November 22, 2015:** *will be reported next week*

**Online Giving:** *will be reported next week*

**Next weekend's second collection:**

*Avon Special Needs*

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Grades K-8: UPCOMING CLASSES

December 6<sup>th</sup> and December 20<sup>th</sup>

**Next Family Mass:** December 13th at 9:30am

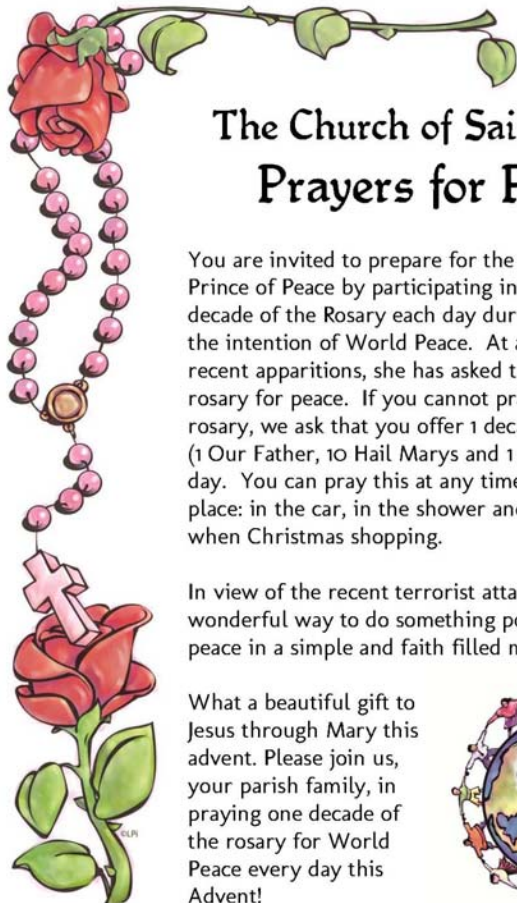
*Grades 5 & 6 sponsor Parish Coffee after the Mass*

### \*Bulletin Announcement Deadlines\*

#### Through the Holidays:

*Due to the holiday season, the bulletins need to be uploaded to the publisher much earlier than usual. Please note the following deadlines for submissions.*

For the weekend of:	Submission Deadline:
December 19/20	Noon, Wednesday, Dec. 9th
December 26/27	Noon, Monday, Dec. 14th
January 2/3	Noon, Monday, Dec. 21st



## The Church of Saint Ann's Prayers for Peace

You are invited to prepare for the birth of the Prince of Peace by participating in praying a decade of the Rosary each day during Advent for the intention of World Peace. At all of Our Lady's recent apparitions, she has asked that we pray the rosary for peace. If you cannot pray an entire rosary, we ask that you offer 1 decade (1 Our Father, 10 Hail Marys and 1 Glory Be) each day. You can pray this at any time and in any place: in the car, in the shower and even in line when Christmas shopping.

In view of the recent terrorist attacks, this is a wonderful way to do something positive for world peace in a simple and faith filled manner.

What a beautiful gift to Jesus through Mary this advent. Please join us, your parish family, in praying one decade of the rosary for World Peace every day this Advent!



## Gifts for those in Convalescent Homes

Once again St. Ann's would like to remember those in Convalescent Homes for the holiday with:

**Ladies/Gentlemen:** Small blankets, combs, nail clippers, picture frames, sweat pants & tops, eyeglass holders, sweaters (prefer button front style), writing paper, envelopes & stamps, large faced watches & clocks, slippers, socks, bathrobes, PJs, hats, bird feeders that attach to windows, large-face playing cards, wall decorations, wicker baskets for odds and ends, and artificial flower/plant arrangements

**Ladies:** Costume jewelry, pins, necklaces earrings, hair picks, perfume, powder, cosmetic bags, emery boards, nail polish, nightgowns, knee-highs, bed jackets & easy to open pocketbooks

**Gentlemen:** Flannel shirts, after-shave lotion.

*Please mark each package for size, ladies or men.*

**Please place in box in the Gathering Space**

**by Sunday, December 20th**

*For more information, call Ida Maillet at 860-673-4861*



## Advent Music

*On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry  
Announces that the Lord is nigh;  
(from hymn 356, Red Hymnal)*

The first group of hymns in our hymnal, numbers 355 to 373, contains the hymns which we use to prepare ourselves in church to celebrate Christmas. While the commercial world of shopping malls and TV ads encourages us to use Christmas music to "get in the mood", the Church through the ages has developed its own repertoire of music specifically suitable for the season of Advent. We are fortunate to have contained in our hymnal beautiful poems of faith from many different countries and centuries, including a 9th century hymn (*Creator of the Stars of Night* #368) and one of the most famous European Advent hymns (*Savior of the Nations, Come* #372), which we will be singing during this season. If you have the opportunity to spend some quiet time in the church during Advent, consider reading some of the hymns in the Advent section, and use these lovely poems to help you to prepare spiritually for the Feast of Christmas.

# SAVE THE DATE

&  
Please Save Your Books to Donate to the  
**8<sup>th</sup> Annual Book Sale**  
**at the Church of Saint Ann**

*All proceeds go toward scholarships for deserving Hartford students attending local Catholic High Schools.*

**Please donate books in good condition during the following book sale collection dates/times:**

Wednesday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, between 9:30am - 6pm

Thursday, January 7<sup>th</sup>, between 9:30am - 6pm

Friday, January 8<sup>th</sup> between 9:30am - 11:30am

*Please donate best sellers, fiction, non-fiction, religious, classics, biographies, memoirs, self-help books, vintage books, cookbooks, collectibles, large print, children's books, young readers and books-on-CD. Please do NOT donate encyclopedias, magazines, VHS movies, records, albums or cassette tapes. In addition to books, please donate sturdy computer paper boxes and lids. Thank you!*

## **January 2016 Book Sale dates:**

Friday, January 8<sup>th</sup>: 5pm - 8pm (\$5 adult admission)

Saturday, January 9<sup>th</sup>: 9am - 6pm (no admission fee)

Sunday, January 10<sup>th</sup>: 8am - 12:30pm (no admission fee)

## **Volunteers are needed for collection and sale week!**

To volunteer at the January 2016 Book Sale, please contact Nancy Casey (860.673.3141) or Constance Rotondo (860.404.0204)  
[constance.rotondo@comcast.net](mailto:constance.rotondo@comcast.net)



## **The Men of Saint Ann's Annual Retreat**

**January 22-24, 2016**

At Holy Family Passionist  
Retreat Center  
West Hartford, CT

## **Join Us!**

For more information go to the Holy Family Retreat Center website,  
Click on Retreats,  
then Themed Retreats

## **Questions?**

### **Call or Email us:**

Paul Watson 860-922-0812

[Pgwatson33@gmail.com](mailto:Pgwatson33@gmail.com)

Bob Yurch 860-675-1366

[byurch@fiainc.com](mailto:byurch@fiainc.com)

Peter Zikowitch 860-603-9459

[peterzikowitch@att.net](mailto:peterzikowitch@att.net)



## **Upcoming Youth Outreach Activities**

A new family activity we are doing this year is Christmas Caroling at River Ridge in Avon. Mark your calendars for Wednesday, December 9 at 6:30- 7:30pm to sing Christmas Carols to seniors. If any of your children have a musical talent and would like to perform a solo that evening, please let us know!



## **Join us for the next Youth Outreach meeting on Tuesday, Dec. 1st from 6-7 pm in Rm. 2.**

Kids of all ages are welcome! If you are unable to make the meeting but would like to learn more about Youth Outreach activities, please email Shawn George at [segeorge12@gmail.com](mailto:segeorge12@gmail.com) to be placed on the email list.  
- Be well and God bless, The Youth Outreach Committee



## **YOUTH MINISTRY POINSETTIA SALE** *December 5/6 and 12/13*

Poinsettia sale time is here again! Please help us decorate our beautiful church for Christmas by purchasing a poinsettia in memory of, or in honor of, a loved one. Plants are \$10 each and will be used to decorate the church. They will be sold in the Gathering Space after Masses the weekends of December 5/6 and 12/13.

### **Back by popular demand!**

We will also be selling  
Oplatek, Polish  
Christmas wafers,  
during the plant sale.



## FAITH FORMATION FOR THE FAMILY

### Sharing the Gospel

One day Jesus will come back to take us home to live with him in heaven. So when scary things happen around us, we do not need to be afraid. We can stand up tall, because we know heaven will be so much better than this world.

### Prayer

Dear God, when I am afraid, help me to be brave and trust in you. I know heaven will be wonderful.

### Something to Draw

Draw a picture of Jesus coming back in the clouds, ready to take you to heaven.

### Mission for the Week

Write down one thing that scares you. Tell God about it, and ask him to help you  
To be brave.

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### QUESTION OF THE WEEK...

HOW DO YOU KEEP  
WATCH FOR THE  
LORD?

## 1st Sunday of Advent

Tough economic times weigh on everyone. While some people seem to be able to afford everything, go everywhere, and enjoy what they want, there are so many people that have come to a point in their lives where every penny is pinched and every purchase scrutinized.

Data released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics shows that consumers are spending less on big-ticket items to afford basics. Households hit by layoffs, the tight job market, and heavy debt burdens are holding back on spending. The savings rate has dropped, indicating that consumers are using up scant resources to stay afloat. Even people who might be able to spend a little more are being cautious, because the economic mood is so gloomy. The words of Jesus in today's Gospel could well characterize the overall global experience, "on earth nations will be in dismay."

It might seem a bit odd that we begin Advent, which is a season of hope, with a rather dismal and disturbing Gospel. The end of time is not something that we usually think about to any great extent. We are often more concerned with the anxieties of daily life, as the Gospel puts it. Those daily worries seem like enough for most of us. We don't need to add the end of the world on top of it.

But for many people today, in this economic environment, daily anxieties can seem like the end of the world. Bills mount up, tensions grow, jobs or homes are lost. We need this season of hope to renew our own longings and expectations. The prophet Isaiah reminds us that God fulfills his promises. God's mercy endures in every generation, including ours. The actions we take to assist others become an expression of God's mercy and a sign of God's renewing hope. In the weeks to come even a small kindness to someone could help to ease anxiety, and help that person believe that redemption is at hand.

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## Defending Our Religious Liberty

As we prepare to celebrate the *Jubilee Year of Mercy*, which Pope Francis will inaugurate on December 8<sup>th</sup>, let us pray that our religious liberty is upheld when the Supreme Court rules on the pending cases challenging the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) mandate.

All are invited to join Archbishop Leonard P. Blair on Sunday, December 13 for the opening ceremony of the archdiocesan *Jubilee Door of Mercy* at the Cathedral of St. Joseph at 3 p.m.

If you haven't done so already, please voice your opposition to the federal health care mandate by calling U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Sylvia Mathews Burwell at 202-205-5445, and your elected representatives. Let them know that the mandate is in violation of our First Amendment right to religious freedom.

### Readings for the Week of November 29, 2015

Sunday: Jer 33:14-16/Ps 25:4-5, 8-10, 14/  
1 Thes 3:12--4:2/Lk 21:25-28, 34-36  
Monday: Rom 10:9-18/Ps 19:8-11/Mt 4:18-22  
Tuesday: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/  
Lk 10:21-24  
Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-6/Mt 15:29-37  
Thursday: Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27/  
Mt 7:21, 24-27  
Friday: Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Mt 9:27-31  
Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-6/  
Mt 9:35--10:1, 5a, 6-8  
Next Sunday: Bar 5:1-9/Ps 126:1-6/Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/  
Lk 3:1-6

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## THE BULLETIN BOARD



**McLean Hosts**  
Our  
**Tenth Annual Community Craft Show and Sale**

*Featuring Unique Holiday Gift Items*


**December 4, 2015**  
**10:00 am — 4:00 pm**  
**McLean Health Center Lobby**  
**75 Great Pond Road, Simsbury**

The McLean community has created a beautiful selection of unique, handmade items — perfect for gift giving and holiday entertaining.

knitted items • fleece and silk scarves • jewelry • cards  
desk calendars • exquisite ornaments • coiled baskets  
• baked goods • and many more surprises!



McLean is a not-for-profit senior living community in Simsbury, CT offering a continuum of services including independent living, assisted living, and memory care assisted living on adult day programs, short and long-term skilled nursing, independent rehabilitation and wellness, and private care, home care and hospice.



**GIVE YOURSELF AN EARLY  
Christmas Present**

**REDISCOVER GOD'S MERCY**

Join Matthew Kelly and six other influential Catholic voices of our time on a life-changing journey through *Best Advent Ever™ Rediscover Mercy*. Each day you will receive an inspirational email with simple tools that will help you rediscover God's great mercy so you can be an instrument of mercy to others.

This program is simple and free! Let mercy transform your relationships, work, and ability to embrace and experience all of life.

TO LEARN MORE OR SIGN UP, VISIT  
**BestAdventEver.com**

**DynamicCatholic.com**  
Be Bold. Be Catholic!

### **Ireland Pilgrimage with Fr. Philip Scarcella, PhD. J.C.D.**

Join Fr. Scarcella and fellow diocesan Catholics on an amazing 10 day Pilgrimage to Ireland on May 11-20, 2016. Prices start at \$3,599\* per person with only a \$350 per person deposit. For further info, contact Terri DeLuca at [tdelucamusic@gmail.com](mailto:tdelucamusic@gmail.com) or visit: [www.ctscentral.net](http://www.ctscentral.net) and search "scarcella". Space is limited. (\*price reflects early registration & cash/check discount)




Many Hartford area companies will soon begin their United Way Campaigns. Last year, many parishioners were generous designating St. Ann's as the beneficiary of their United Way pledge, and for that I am most grateful. Please consider designating St. Ann's Church (**United Way code #AG0723**) for your United Way pledge. Thank you for your generosity  
-Fr. McHugh

### **Northwest Catholic H.S. Entrance Exam**

Northwest Catholic High School will administer its entrance exam on December 5<sup>th</sup> at 8 a.m. You can apply and register for the exam by going to [www.NorthwestCatholic.org/Apply](http://www.NorthwestCatholic.org/Apply). Please contact Andrew Selig at [aselig@nwcath.org](mailto:aselig@nwcath.org) with any questions.

### **THANK YOU FROM RICK DADDARIO**

*I am genuinely grateful to all who attended and supported my recent piano concert at St. Mary Star of the Sea Church, Unionville, which raised funds for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) and its committed quest for finding a cure for Type 1 Diabetes. Through your generosity, a total of \$2,821.00 was collected and donated to JDRF. Thank you so very much for your generosity. Rick*

## **corner Grocery**

For our convenience, a labeled bucket is now in the Gathering Space to collect non-perishable food for the Town of Avon Food Pantry located below Fr. Bennett Hall. Many local families are helped and are grateful for this assistance. We plan to have this section in the bulletin often to list items that are needed in the pantry. Check back often!



### **Grocery list**

**any  
non-perishable  
food items**