



# Church of Saint Ann

289 Arch Road \* Avon, Connecticut \* 06001

860-673-9858

Rev. John W. McHugh, Ph.D., 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):

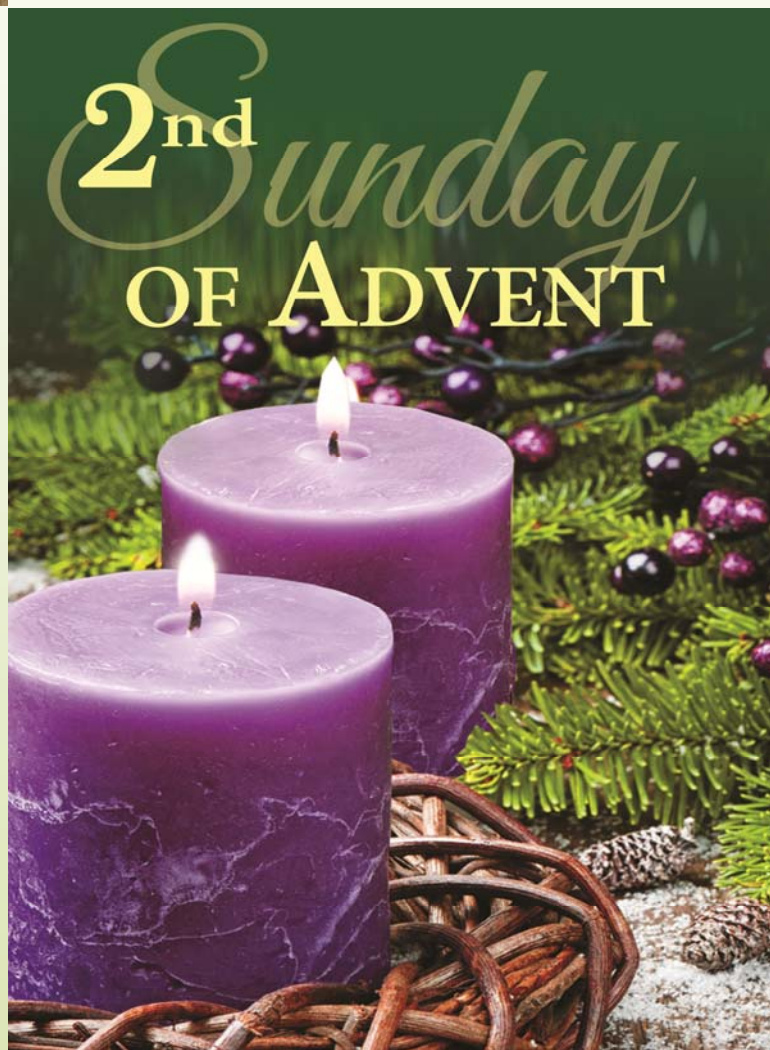
Call the Parish Office

## 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

*Second Sunday of Advent*

### MONDAY, December 7

9:00 **Leonie Lozier**, requested by  
Oscar & Ida Maillet

### TUESDAY, December 8, Immaculate Conception

9:00 **Vera Alft**, requested by Mike & Joan Gould  
12:10 **For the intentions of Marion Rejniak**,  
requested by Our Lady of Guadalupe Prayer Group  
7:00 **Special Intentions**

### WEDNESDAY, December 9

9:00 **Special Intentions**

### THURSDAY, December 10

9:00 **Anna ZuWallack**, requested by  
the ZuWallack Family

### FRIDAY, December 11

9:00 **Leonie Lozier**, requested by the Cyr Family

### SATURDAY, December 12

4:00 **John Reilly**, requested by Lois Sheridan

### SUNDAY, December 13

7:30 **Bill Ryan**, requested by the family  
9:30 **Arthur Godbout, Sr.**, requested by the family  
11:00 **Josephine and Carmelo Sammataro**,  
requested by 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, December 7

**Marian Movement of Priests Cenacle:** 7:15pm in the church-  
(Enter through door on the left side of the church)  
**Prayer Shawl Ministry Meeting:** 7pm in Room 2

### TUESDAY, December 8

**RCIA:** 7pm in Room 3  
**Social Justice Ministry Meeting:** 7:30pm in Room 2

### WEDNESDAY, December 9

**Lectio Divina:** 3:30pm in Room 3

### THURSDAY, December 10

**Marthas + Marys Meeting:** 9:30am in Room 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 11

**Christmas Pageant Rehearsal:** 2:30pm in the church & hall

### SATURDAY, December 12

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

### SUNDAY, December 13

**Parish Coffee:** after 9:30am Mass, sponsored by Grades 5/6

## 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

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

God Bless You For  
Your Generosity

Sponsored by the  
Social Justice  
Committee



## Prayer Shawl Ministry

Monday,  
December 7th  
7-8:30pm  
in Room 2

*All are welcome!  
We can also help teach  
you to knit!  
For more information call  
Pat: 860-673-3747 or  
Tina: 860-674-1541.*

*Immaculate Conception  
of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

**A Holy Day  
of Obligation**

*Tuesday,  
December 8, 2015*



**Masses will be at:**

**9:00am  
12:10 pm  
7:00pm**



**WEEKLY ORDINARY INCOME**

November 22, 2015: \$8,000.74

November 29, 2015: \$7,955.51

Online Giving (week ending 12/2/15): \$2,346.00

Next weekend's second collection:

*Retired Religious Fund***RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**Grades K-8: UPCOMING CLASSESDecember 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****The Living Nativity****A Christmas Pageant****Saturday, December 19th  
6:00 pm in the church***

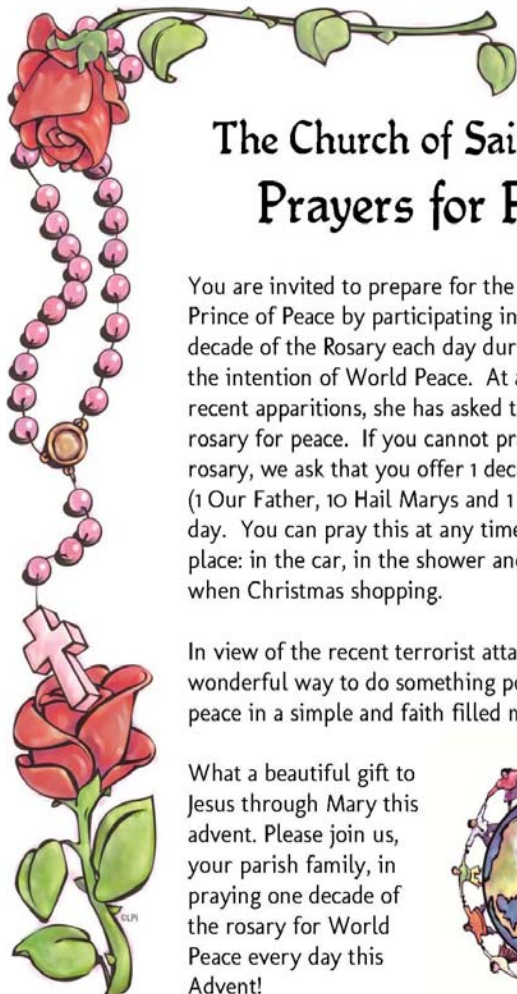
This magical, musical retelling of the Christmas story is a feast for eyes and ears; an inspiring all-ages performance. All parishioners are cordially invited to join our child-performers in singing

**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.*

**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*



# 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

- PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE FOR CHRISTMAS CAROLING AT RIVER RIDGE - Mark your calendars for Sunday, December 13 from 2:15 - 3:30 pm at River Ridge in Avon 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!



- Project Wish List** items will be collected at Faith Formation classes on Sunday, December 6. Thank you for living out God's love by providing for others in need this Christmas season.

- Be well and God bless, The Youth Outreach Committee



## Christmas Pageant Rehearsal

**Friday, December 4th**  
**2:30 - 5pm**

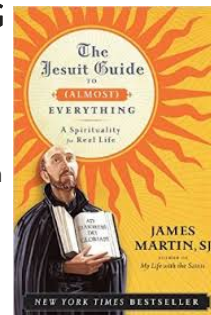
**Fr. Bennett Hall**  
**(refer to your practice schedule)**

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For more information, please contact Susan Rietano  
Davey at [srietano@gmail.com](mailto:srietano@gmail.com) or 860-673-7544.

## ADVENT READING SUGGESTION

It is not too early to prepare for the Marthas + Marys Book Discussion in Feb. and at the same time enjoy peaceful reflection for Advent. THE JESUIT GUIDE TO (ALMOST EVERYTHING) written by James Martin, SJ.





## FAITH FORMATION FOR THE FAMILY



### Puzzle

Circle these words from today's Gospel:

BAPTIZED  
FORGIVEN  
ISAIAH

JOHN  
DESERT  
STRAIGHT

CROOKED  
SMOOTH  
ROUGH

C	I	F	O	R	G	I	V	E	N
R	O	U	G	H	L	O	Y	U	L
O	N	B	D	I	F	T	S	M	V
O	I	A	S	M	O	O	T	H	E
K	C	P	T	W	S	H	R	I	J
E	Y	T	O	U	M	Y	A	S	O
D	U	I	L	I	S	A	I	A	H
R	J	Z	O	C	E	T	G	K	N
O	Y	E	M	K	Y	I	H	I	W
H	A	D	E	S	E	R	T	O	U

©LPI

### QUESTION OF THE WEEK...

IN WHAT WAYS WILL YOU  
USE YOUR VOICE TO  
PREPARE THE WAY OF THE  
LORD?

### 2nd Sunday of Advent

"Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths."

Today's Gospel reading references an ancient text from the Old Testament Book of Isaiah. There, a prophecy was made that John the Baptist would fulfill many years later; John is the "voice of one crying out in the desert." And the message that John's voice proclaimed, in preparation for the coming of the Messiah, was a message of repentance.

The passage from Isaiah gives us some clues into what this repentance is supposed to do. It is meant to change us into people who can properly welcome the Lord when he comes. Using the poetic image of a path, the text describes the kind of path that is suitable for the Lord. He shouldn't have to navigate valleys, scale mountains, wind around twists and turns on the road, or traverse rough, difficult terrain. Instead, he should be able to move easily on smooth ground. Residents preparing to welcome an honored guest ought to do what they can to make the journey pleasant. The analogy relates to our souls.

As we prepare to welcome the Lord this Advent season, we should make the "path" of our souls level, straight, and smooth. We should "fill" the valleys of laziness or despair with diligence and joy. The mountains of pride and greed should be made low with humility and generosity. The winding roads of dishonesty and manipulation "shall be made straight" with commitment to the truth. And the rough ways of our selfishness and stubbornness should be made smooth through charity and docility to the Holy Spirit. When we live our faith with sincerity and devotion, our souls are transformed. This Advent, may our souls become a pleasant path for Christ.

Lpi



### \*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

### Readings for the Week of December 6, 2015

Sunday: Bar 5:1-9/Ps 126:1-6/Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/  
Lk 3:1-6

Monday: Is 35:1-10/ Ps 85:9-14/Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1-4/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/  
Lk 1:26-38

Wednesday: Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10/Mt 11:28-30

Thursday: Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1, 9-13/Mt 11:11-15

Friday: Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-4, 6/Mt 11:16-19

Saturday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/  
Jdt 13:18-19/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Next Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a/Is 12:2-6/Phil 4:4-7/  
Lk 3:10-18

## THE BULLETIN BOARD



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



### 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.

## Quilts2Heal

Come and have delicious flatbread pizza and support Quilts2Heal as we continue to create quilts for veterans and those in need.

Bring your family, friends, neighbors!

**Tuesday**

**Dec. 8**

**4:00 – 9:00**

**Flatbread will donate % of all flatbread sales to Quilts2Heal**



<http://www.flatbreadcompany.com/>

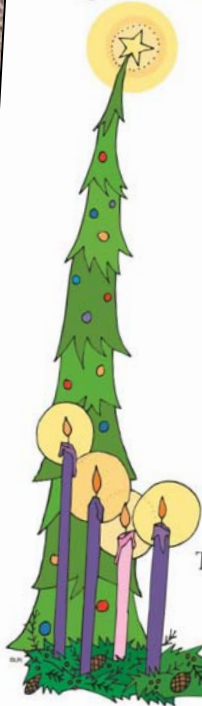
110 Albany Tnpk, Canton  
Shoppes @ Farmington Valley

The Mission of Quilts2Heal, Inc. is to provide comfort and healing through quilts created for those individuals and families who have suffered a loss, illness or challenge in their lives.

Quilts2Heal, Inc. is a nonprofit, 501 (c) (3) tax exempt organization  
860-675-8215

[quilts2heal@comcast.net](mailto:quilts2heal@comcast.net) <https://www.facebook.com/quilt2heal?fref=ts>

## Christmas Schedule



**Immaculate Conception**

• **Holy Day of Obligation** •

Tuesday, December 8th  
9:00am, 12:10pm and 7:00pm

**Christmas Pageant**

Saturday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm

**Parish Penance Service**

Monday, December 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00pm

**Christmas Eve**

4:00pm, 6:00pm and 10:00pm

**Christmas Day**

8:00am and 10:00am

**Solemnity of Mary**

• **Holy Day of Obligation** •

Thursday, December 31<sup>st</sup>: 4:00pm Vigil

Friday, January 1<sup>st</sup>:

9:00am and 12:10pm

## CATHOLICS COMING HOME

There is a wonderful website for people looking for information on returning to the Catholic Church or becoming Catholic. Check it out..

[www.catholicscomehome.org](http://www.catholicscomehome.org)

## 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**