



Church of Saint Ann

289 Arch Road * Avon, Connecticut * 06001

860-673-9858

Rev. John W. McHugh, Ph.D., Pastor

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

COORDINATOR OF SOCIAL MINISTRIES

Tom McCabe, ext. 228

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR (K - 8)

Valerie St. Jean: ext. 223 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

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Tom Stockton: ext. 230

OFFICE MANAGER

Kris Martino: ext. 221 kris.martino@stannavon.com

CEMETERY SUPERINTENDENT

Mike Gould: ext. 225

BUILDING SUPERINTENDENT

Michael Gould: ext. 225

BAPTISMS (Registered Parishioners):

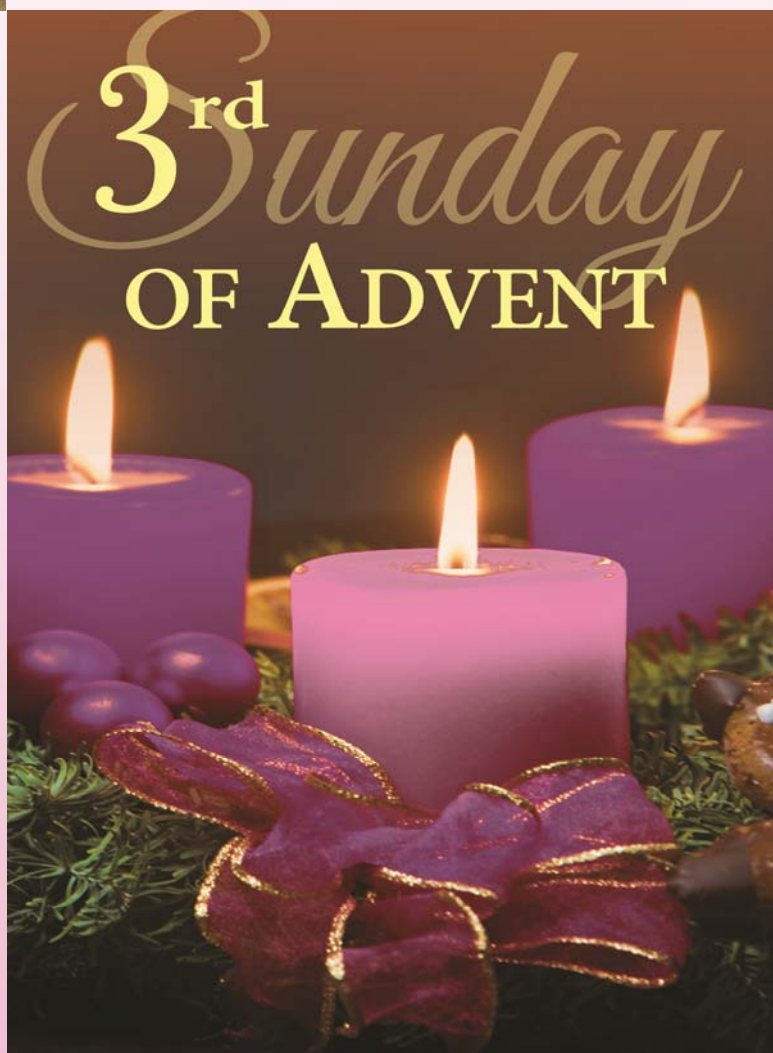
Call the Parish Office

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

Third Sunday of Advent

MONDAY, December 14

9:00 **Fr. Thomas P. Quinn**, requested by
Sandra Bondhus

TUESDAY, December 15

9:00 **Paul Irving**, requested by the Gill Family

WEDNESDAY, December 16

9:00 **Louis & Gina Nascimbeni**, requested by
the family

THURSDAY, December 17

9:00 **Eva Elizabeth Brown**, requested by
Mary and Vinnie Savarese

FRIDAY, December 18

9:00 **James Regan**, requested by the Ryan Family

SATURDAY, December 19

4:00 **Eric Cizek**, requested by
Brian and Ann Beloin & Family

SUNDAY, December 20

7:30 **Special Intentions**

9:30 **Pietro DiTommaso**, requested by
his wife & daughters

11:00 **Joseph Sconzo**, requested by the 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 14

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

TUESDAY, December 15

RCIA: 7pm in Room 3

WEDNESDAY, December 16

Lectio Divina: 3:30pm in Room 3

Knights of Columbus Meeting: 7pm in Room 2

THURSDAY, December 17

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 18

Christmas Pageant DRESS Rehearsal: 2:30pm in the church

SATURDAY, December 19

Men's Breakfast Group: 8am in Room

Christmas Pageant: 6pm in the church

SUNDAY, December 20

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



Council 4376

Knights of Columbus Meeting

Wednesday,
December
16th

at 7-8:30pm
Room 2 (under
Fr. Bennett Hall)



YOUTH MINISTRY POINSETTIA SALE

Last Weekend: Dec. 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 this weekend December 12/13.

Back by popular demand!

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



WEEKLY ORDINARY INCOME

December 6, 2015: \$8,629.51

Online Giving (week ending 12/8/15): \$2,321.00

Next weekend's second collection:
Monthly

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Grades K-8: UPCOMING CLASSES

December 20th and January 10th

Next Family Mass: January 3rd at 9:30am

Grades 7 & 8 sponsor Parish Coffee after the Mass



The Living Nativity

A Christmas Pageant

**Saturday, December 19th
6:00 pm in the church**

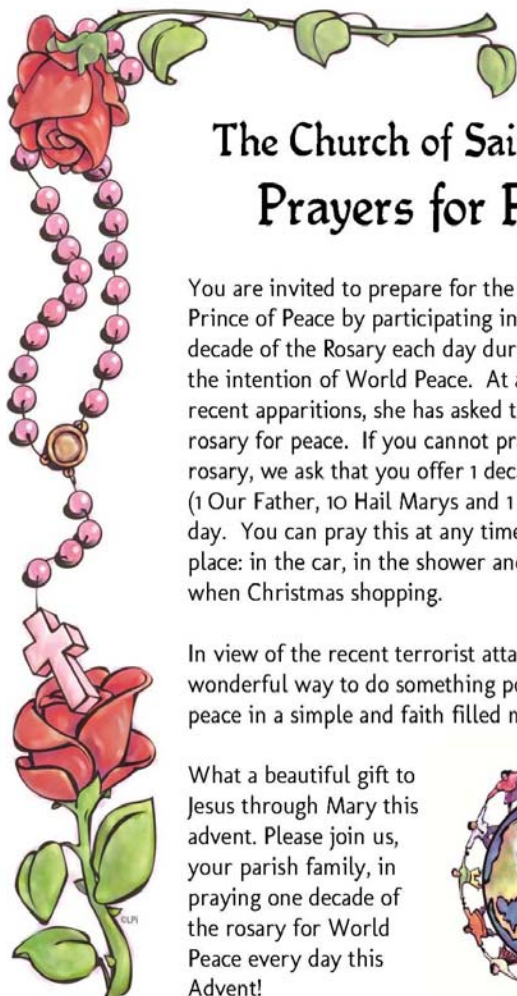
This magical, musical retelling of the Christmas story is a feast for eyes and ears; an inspiring all-ages performance. All parishioners are cordially invited to join our child-performers in singing



**Divine Mercy
Holy Hour
Next Sunday,
December 20th
2:30 - 3:30pm.**

In His revelations to Saint Faustina, Our Lord asked for special prayer and meditation on His Passion. He said, "aching mankind will not have peace until they turn to My Mercy"

Please join us for this powerful devotion!



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





Christmas Schedule

Christmas Pageant

Saturday, December 19th at 6:00pm

Parish Penance Service

Monday, December 21st 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 31st: 4:00pm Vigil

Friday, January 1st: 9:00am and 12:10pm

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

Bob Yurch 860-675-1366
byurch@fiainc.com

Peter Zikowitch 860-603-9459
peterzikowitch@att.net



Welcome to our Newest Altar Servers!

Please welcome St. Ann's newest altar servers as they have recently completed their training. They are:

**James Tolin, Bridget Soucy, Owen Soucy,
Cecily Termeer and Jack McDermott**



Thank you...

To all who contributed to Project Wish List. What a blessing to be a part of such a caring parish. Many children will be smiling on Christmas morning thanks to your generosity. And thank you to Gina Aube for coordinating Project Wish List again this year.

Upcoming Youth Outreach Activities

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE FOR CHRISTMAS CAROLING AT RIVER RIDGE - THIS 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!

*Join us for the next Youth Outreach meeting on
Tuesday, January 5 from 7-8 pm in Room 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 to be placed on the email list. Thank you for doing what you can, when you can:-)

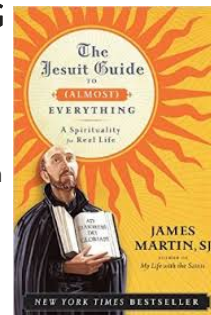


**Christmas Pageant
DRESS Rehearsal
Friday, December 18th
2:30 - 5:45pm
Fr. Bennett Hall
(refer to your practice schedule)**

For more information, please contact Susan Rietano
Davey at 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

Sharing the Gospel

Today John the Baptist is visiting your church. You ask him, "What should my family do to serve God?" He answers, "If you have two winter coats, give one to someone who doesn't have any. If you have food, share it with someone else." You tell him, "I can give away a coat and a pair of shoes that's too small for me. I can share a can of carrots from our shelf at home."

Prayer

Help me share what I have with others, Lord.

Something to Draw

Draw a coat, a hat, and shoes, and a can of carrots.

Mission for the Week

This week I will give money, canned food, and/or clothing to the poor.

©2008 - PO Box 510817, New Berlin, WI 53151-0817 - 1-800-950-9952 x2469 - LPiResourceCenter.com

QUESTION OF THE WEEK...

WHEN YOU ASK 'WHAT SHOULD WE DO?' HOW DOES JESUS RESPOND?

3rd Sunday of Advent

Holiday magazines are well known for providing quick, practical ideas for trimming the house, welcoming guests, and preparing enticing food. The suggestions that are offered are designed to help the host and hostess show off a stunning atmosphere without spending days and weeks preparing for a party or dinner that may only last an hour or two. Often everyday items are transformed with a swatch of fabric, a candle, or some evergreens. Ingenious cutting makes plain vegetables or ordinary hors d'oeuvres into holiday delights. The operative concepts in getting people to buy these idea books and read them are: quick, easy, and practical.

In the Gospel today, John the Baptist offers quick, easy, and practical ideas for those who would prepare for the coming of the Christ. As St. Luke tells us, people in his day were filled with expectation. John was pretty straightforward in what he thought they should do: If you have two coats, give one away to somebody who doesn't have one; be equitable in your dealings with others; don't push people around; don't lie about people. In modern parlance, we might say that John the Baptist was asking people to act justly in the world.

Unfortunately, today we don't often think of justice as quick, easy, or practical. Our understanding of justice is more often colored by the contemporary legal system than by the divine laws of the covenant that binds God and his people. There was a reciprocity and equanimity in the covenantal relationship. There were duties to be fulfilled on each side. John was asking that those who were filled with expectation for the coming of the Messiah would set themselves aright with one another so that God's covenant would find full expression in the relationships that bind people to God and to one another. Justice is really about leveling things out. And when you think about it, that is pretty easy. If you have more, then you share.

©2012 Liturgical Publications Inc

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 (deadline has passed)
December 26/27	Noon, Monday, Dec. 14th
January 2/3	Noon, Monday, Dec. 21st

Readings for the Week of December 13, 2015

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

Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-9/Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-19, 23/
Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday: Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21b-25/Ps 85:9-14/
Lk 7:18b-23

Thursday: Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-4, 7-8, 17/
Mt 1:1-17

Friday: Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19/
Mt 1:18-25

Saturday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-6, 16-17/
Lk 1:5-25

Next Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19/
Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45

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.

Marriage Enrichment Celebration

Hartford Catholic Engaged Encounter and the Office of Family Life will hold its 9th annual Marriage Enrichment Evening on Sat., Feb. 6, 2016, from 5:00-9:00 p.m. at Mary Our Queen Church and Parish Center, 248 Savage St., Plantsville, CT. This year's program will begin with Mass, include dinner, prayer, reflection, and fun centered on the theme: "A Sign for Our Times: The Witnessing Power of Sacramental Marriage." Our keynote address will be given by Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus Peter A. Rosazza. The cost is \$25.00 per couple and includes dinner. To register or obtain more information, contact Tom and Donna Finn at 860-302-1110, or email to dfinnmspt@sbcglobal.net. Please R.S.V.P. by Feb. 2, 2016.

SAVE THE DATE

Please Save Your Books to Donate to the
8th 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 6th, between 9:30am - 6pm
Thursday, January 7th, between 9:30am - 6pm
Friday, January 8th 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 8th: 5pm - 8pm (\$5 adult admission)
Saturday, January 9th: 9am - 6pm (no admission fee)
Sunday, January 10th: 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

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

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