



# 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):

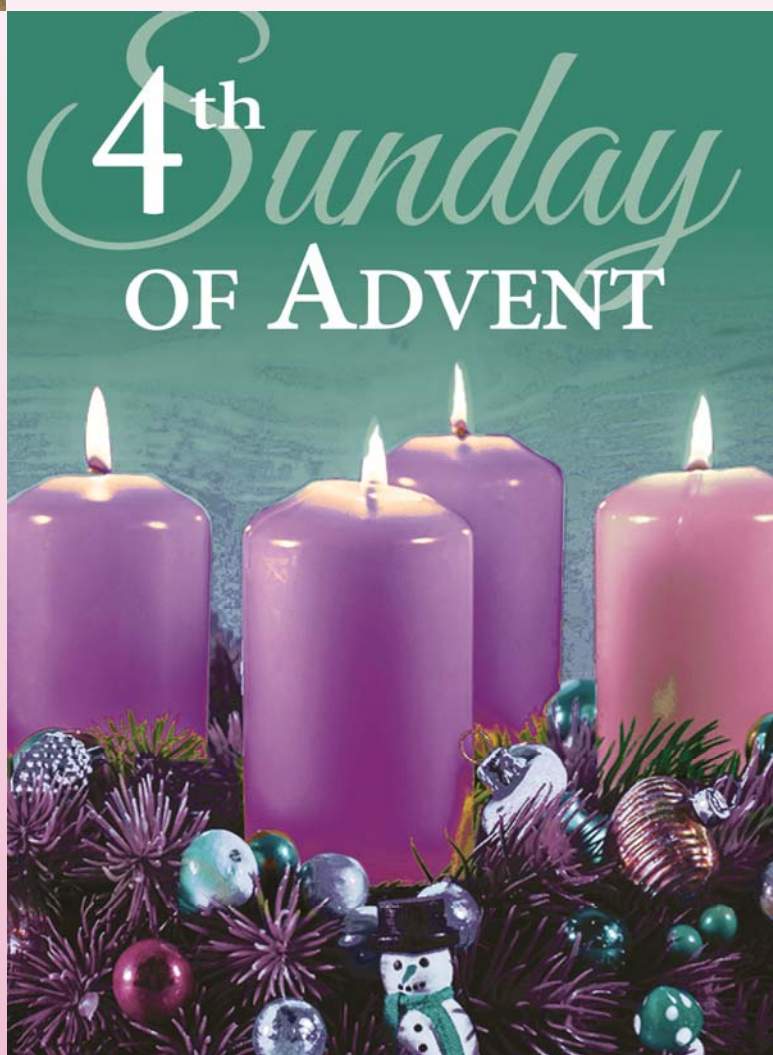
Call the Parish Office

## 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

### Fourth Sunday of Advent

#### MONDAY, December 21

9:00 For the family of Donald Goett (living),  
requested by Mike and Rosemary Madden

#### TUESDAY, December 22

9:00 Camille and Peter Angelina &  
Michael Nay, requested by the family

#### WEDNESDAY, December 23

9:00 Carol Bondhus Fitzgerald, requested by  
the Bondhus Family

#### THURSDAY, December 24, Christmas Eve

9:00 Special Intentions  
4:00 For all those in whose memory or honor the  
altar plants have been donated  
6:00 For all those in whose memory or honor the  
altar plants have been donated  
10:00 For all those in whose memory or honor the  
altar plants have been donated

#### FRIDAY, December 25, Christmas

8:00 For all those in whose memory or honor the  
altar plants have been donated  
10:00 For all those in whose memory or honor the  
altar plants have been donated

#### SATURDAY, December 26

4:00 Joseph Savidge, Jr., requested by the family

#### SUNDAY, December 27

7:30 Special Intentions  
9:30 For the deceased members of the  
DeLoreto, Ardenski and Martel Families,  
requested by the family  
11:00 Special Intentions



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 21

Marian Movement of Priests Cenacle: not meeting this week  
Parish Penance Service: 7pm in the church

#### TUESDAY, December 22

RCIA: will resume January 5, 2016

#### WEDNESDAY, December 23

Lectio Divina: will resume January 13, 2016

#### THURSDAY, December 24, Christmas Eve

#### FRIDAY, December 25, Christmas

*For unto us  
a child is born*

#### SATURDAY, December 26

Men's Breakfast Group: not meeting this week

#### SUNDAY, December 27

**please  
NOTE:**

Due to the early date that this bulletin had to be uploaded to our publishing company we were not able to print the names of the poinsettia donations this weekend. These will appear in next weekend's bulletin.



## Christmas Schedule

### 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

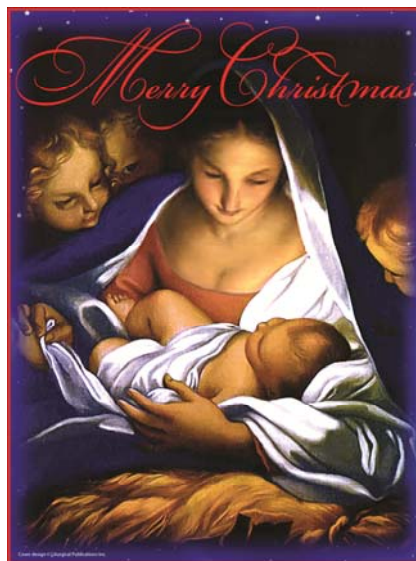
8:00am and 10:00am

### 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



## EMMANUEL

Because of his boundless love, Jesus became what we are that he might make us to be what he is.





## WEEKLY ORDINARY INCOME

**December 13, 2015:** *will be reported next weekend*  
**Online Giving:** *we will resume reporting this after the New Year weekend because bulletins need to be uploaded so early*  
**Next weekend's second collection:** *none*

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Grades K-8: UPCOMING CLASSES

December 20<sup>th</sup> and January 10<sup>th</sup>

**Next Family Mass:** January 3<sup>rd</sup> 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**

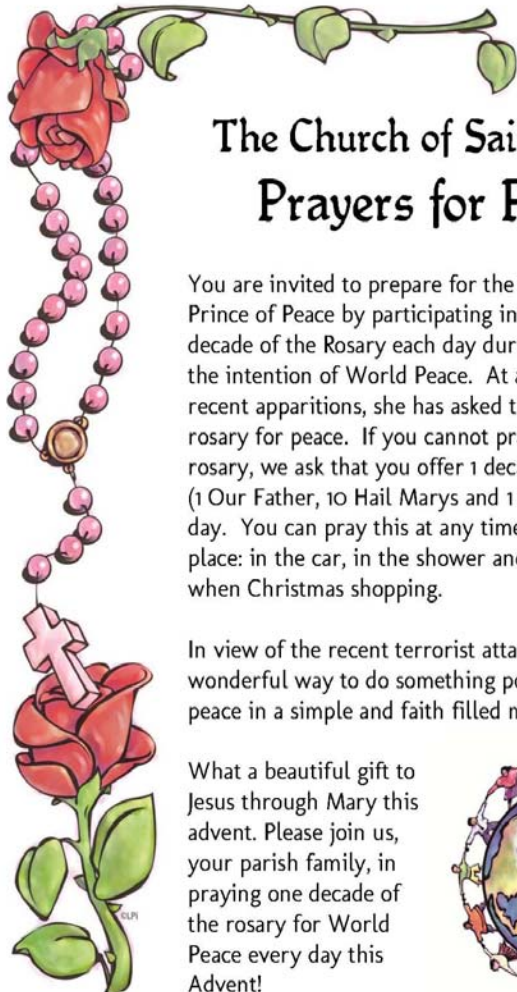
This magical, musical retelling of the Christmas story is a feast for eyes and ears; an inspiring all-ages performance. All parishioners are cordially invited to join our child-performers in singing



**Divine Mercy  
 Holy Hour  
 THIS 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

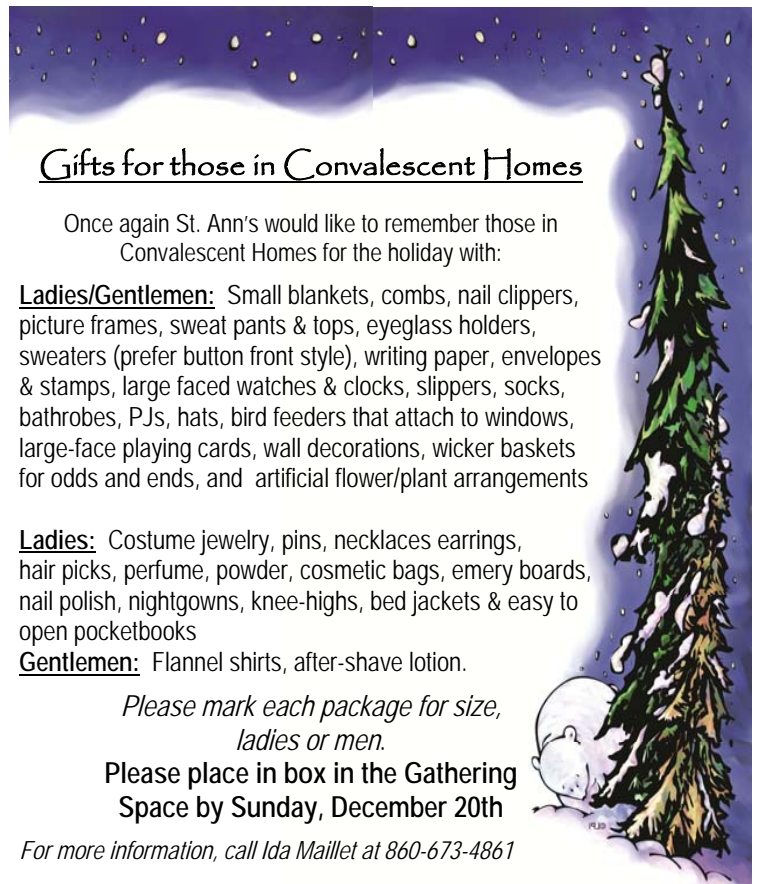
**Ladies:** Costume jewelry, pins, necklaces earrings, hair picks, perfume, powder, cosmetic bags, emery boards, nail polish, nightgowns, knee-highs, bed jackets & easy to open pocketbooks

**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*



# 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)



Thank you for Thanksgiving we provided enough food supplies and turkeys for 300 families in Hartford. By your generosity we totally met the requests of Sacred Heart and St. Michael churches and the Catholic Worker House. A special "thank you" also to Mrs. Judy Gonsalves and her confirmation students for their help collecting donations at the truck (and for the hand warmers, coffee and donuts). We are honored to serve the wonderful people in our St. Ann parish Family

- Your Social Justice Committee



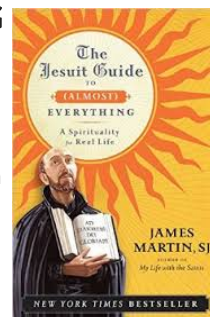
**Thank You...** To all the families who participated in the Christmas Caroling at River Ridge. It was so much fun! The residents loved it so much they want us to come back again soon to do another program!

**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](mailto:segeorge12@gmail.com) to be placed on the email list. Thank you for doing what you can, when you can:-)

## 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

Find and circle these words from today's Gospel:

MARY  
JOSEPH  
HOLY SPIRIT

WEDDING  
ANGEL  
DREAM

BABY  
JESUS  
VIRGIN

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

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### QUESTION OF THE WEEK...

HOW WILL JESUS BE  
PART OF YOUR  
CHRISTMAS VISITS?

### 4th Sunday of Advent

Thanksgiving weekend, with its compressed timeline, is the busiest time for travel. But Christmas is not that far behind. The days immediately before Christmas involve people returning home to be with family for the holiday. The days after Christmas are packed with families traveling for a quick vacation while the children are out of school for a week. The 1844 poem "Over the River and through the Woods" by Lydia Maria Child was originally about journeying to grandfather's house for Thanksgiving Day. Later recorded versions turned it into a Christmas song describing the sleigh ride to grandmother's house. Either way, for a long time these winter holidays have involved traveling.

This weekend's Gospel is another traveling story. Pregnant with Jesus, Mary leaves the confines of Nazareth in Galilee and heads south, up into the hill country of Judea. Is she fleeing because she has no husband yet? Is she going to seek the counsel of an older kinswoman? Or is she just heading off on a friendly little visit? We don't really know. Luke doesn't tell us, and so her journey is open to speculation. But Mary's arrival is the first occasion of an expression of joy about the birth of the Savior. Elizabeth proclaims that the infant in her own womb leaped for joy because of the nearness of salvation.

We know that experience. Think of what happens when family or friends finally arrive after a long journey to spend some time over the holidays. They are welcomed and greeted and made to feel at home. This is our natural reaction to seeing folks who have not been around for a while. We are glad that they are here. Now, take that very natural human reaction and imagine what it will be like to welcome Christ. Through baptism, we are his brothers and sisters. We are family. And when he returns we will welcome him with great joy!

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### \*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:
<b>December 26/27</b>	Noon, Monday, Dec. 14th <b>Deadline has passed</b>
<b>January 2/3</b>	<b>Noon, Monday, Dec. 21st</b>

### Readings for the Week of December 20, 2015

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

Monday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12,  
20-21/Lk 1:39-45

Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-8/Lk 1:46-56

Wednesday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5, 8-10, 14/  
Lk 1:57-66

Thursday: Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/  
Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29/Lk 1:67-79

Friday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29/  
Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25  
Night: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-3, 11-13/Ti 2:11-14/  
Lk 2:1-14  
Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7  
Lk 2:15-20  
Day: Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1-6/Heb 1:1-6/  
Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

Saturday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3-4, 6, 8, 16-17/  
Mt 10:17-22

Next Sunday: 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28 or Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/  
Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24 or Col 3:12-21  
or 3:12-17/Lk 2:41-52

## 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

**BEST  
Advent  
EVER™**

### 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](mailto:dfinnmspt@sbcglobal.net). Please R.S.V.P. by Feb. 2, 2016.



### We Wish You All

A glad and peaceful  
Christmastide  
With all its memories sweet;  
May hope and love and  
joy be yours  
With kindly friends to greet;  
The echo of the angel's song,  
The star's clear guiding light,  
The Christ child in your  
heart and home,  
To make this  
Christmas bright.

### 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

**MERRY  
CHRISTMAS**