



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

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Rev. Daniel J. Sullivan

DEACONS

Jeffrey Sutherland

Tim Healy

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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.

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



Cover design © Liturgical Publications Inc.
Image of Adoration of the Magi by Andrea Mantegna
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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

The Epiphany of the Lord

MONDAY, January 4

9:00 Special Intentions

TUESDAY, January 5

9:00 Special Intentions

WEDNESDAY, January 6

9:00 **Joseph & Rosemarie Wallick**, requested
by their daughter, Joanne

THURSDAY, January 7

9:00 Special Intentions

FRIDAY, January 8

9:00 Special Intentions

SATURDAY, January 9

4:00 **Fr. Maynard Kearns (6th Ann)**, requested
by his sister, Julie

SUNDAY, January 10

7:30 Special Intentions

9:30 **Joseph O'Connor**, requested by
the Wall Family

11:00 **Fatemeh Peyghambari**, requested by
Walter & Joni Suski and family

*"It is what you read when you don't have
to that determines what you will be
when you can't help it."
- Oscar Wilde*



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, January 4

Marian Movement of Priests Cenacle: 7:15pm in the church wing.
All are welcome! (Enter through door on the left side of the church)

TUESDAY, January 5

M+M Moms: 9:30am in the Activity Room
RCIA: 7pm in Room 3

WEDNESDAY, January 6

Book Sale Drop Off: 9:30am - 6pm in Fr. Bennett Hall
Lectio Divina: will resume January 13, 2016

THURSDAY, January 7

Book Sale Drop Off: 9:30am - 6pm in Fr. Bennett Hall
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, January 8

Book Sale Drop Off: 9:30am - 11am in Fr. Bennett Hall
Book Sale: 5-8pm in Fr. Bennett Hall (\$5 adult admission)

SATURDAY, January 9

Men's Breakfast Group: 8am in Room 3
Book Sale: 9:30am - 6pm in Fr. Bennett Hall (no admission fee)

SUNDAY, January 10

Book Sale: 8am - 12:30pm in Fr. Bennett Hall (no admission fee)

Eighth Annual Used Book Sale

In Father Bennett Hall...All proceeds go toward Catholic High School Student Scholarships



Donations:

*Please donate books ONLY during the
following book sale collection dates/times:*

Wednesday, January 6th * 9:30am-6pm

Thursday, January 7th * 9:30am-6pm

Friday, January 8th, between 9:30am-11:30am

Please donate books in good condition in the following categories:
best sellers, fiction, non-fiction, religious, classics, biographies,
memoirs, self-help books, vintage books, cookbooks, collectibles,
large print, children's books, young readers, and sports. Books-on-CD
are good, but please do NOT donate encyclopedias, magazines, VHS
movies, records, albums or cassette tapes (as they do not sell).
In addition to books, please donate sturdy computer-paper boxes and box
tops.

Sale Information

Friday, January 8, 2016

5pm - 8pm

\$5 adult admission
(Friday only)

Saturday, January 9th

9am - 6pm

Sunday, January 10th

8am - 12:30pm

SUPER SALE

20 books for \$5:
Sat. 5-6pm &
Sun. 8am-12:30p

WEEKLY ORDINARY INCOME**December 20, 2015: \$6,228.31****December 27, 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: Fuel****HEARTS & SOULS**

Ministering to body, mind and spirit, the Health Ministry offers blood pressure screening, health counseling and referrals to our community of faith. Office hours are the 2nd Sunday of each month from 8:15-11am in the Sacristy (2nd door on the left as you enter the vestibule of the church). No appointment necessary. *

Marian Movement of Priests -Cenacle of Prayer
Monday evenings at St. Ann's from 7:15 8:15pm

The Cenacle format is very simple:

1. Invocation to the Holy Spirit, 2. Recitation of the Holy Rosary,
3. Prayers for our Holy Father, 4. Prayers for our Priests and Seminarians, 5. Reading and meditation on one of the messages given in the book—"To the Priests, Our Lady's Beloved Sons",
6. Act of Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Please visit the official website of the MMP at www.mmp-usa.net for additional information.

If you are interested in joining us to pray a holy rosary, please come to the church on Monday evenings at 7:15. All are welcome! Come pray with us.

Communion For Shut-Ins

The Eucharistic ministers would be happy to those in our parish who are unable to come to church. Please call the Parish Office and leave your name and address if you wish to receive Communion **860-673-9858**.

Free Rosary Repair Service...

Free Rosary Repair Service at St. Ann's will resume in May. If you should need rosaries repaired from November to April, please send to Betty and Dick Holden, 7930 Estero Blvd. #502, Fort Myers Beach, FL 33931. For more information you may call: 239-463-3993 or email them at: HoldenBnD@comcast.net

St. Ann's Re-Employment Group

meets every other Wednesday from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. in the Activity Room at St. Ann's. For more information, or if any working member of the parish hears of **JOHN DRAKE**, **860-989-2377** or email at: johndrake.humancapital@live.com.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**Grades K-8: UPCOMING CLASSESJanuary 10th and January 24th**Next Family Mass: January 3rd at 9:30am***Grades 7 & 8 sponsor Parish Coffee after the Mass***Epiphany of the Lord**

Stars are amazing-not the people who claim star-status because of their work in sports or entertainment-but the stars that populate the universe. Most are between one and ten billion years old, a time span impossible to comprehend. Other than the sun, the closest star to Earth is Proxima Centauri, about twenty-five trillion miles away, another calculation that is impossible to comprehend. The exponential numbers scientists use when working with stars, whether it is age, distance, weight, composition, luminosity, or any other characteristic, race beyond our everyday calculations of hundreds and thousands. Stars are just too big for us humans.

No wonder Matthew's infancy narrative included a star as the sign for the newborn king. Everything about this child's birth seemed unimportant: born in Bethlehem instead of the big city, Jerusalem; unknown to the important people of the day; the pregnant woman taken into Joseph's home quietly so as not to cause scandal; a quiet, unremarkable birth in an unimportant country in the empire.

But then there's that star! Big, shining, revealing that there is more to this event than meets the eye. Visitors come from afar, and upset the balance of power as they seek the child who would be king. Epiphany is the manifestation of Christ to the world. And the star shows him to be who he really is-king of the universe and Lord of all. So it shouldn't seem so strange to us that Matthew would point out one of those incomprehensible entities in the night sky as the signifier of the One who is beyond all human understanding. What is remarkable is that that One came to be one of us so that we could understand him.

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They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. - Mt 2:10-11

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.



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 to be placed on the email list. Thank you for doing what you can, when you can:-)



**Divine Mercy Holy Hour
Sunday, January 17th
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!



Readings for the Week of January 3, 2016

Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/
Mt 2:1-12
Monday: 1 Jn 3:22--4:6/Ps 2:7-8, 10-12/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-4, 7-8/Mk 6:34-44
Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13/Mk 6:45-52
Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19--5:4/Ps 72:1-2, 14-15, 17/Lk 4:14-22a
Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-15, 19-20/Lk 5:12-16
Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-6, 9/Jn 3:22-30
Next Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11 or Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 104:1b-4,
24-25, 27-30/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7 or Acts 10:34-38/
Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

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

EPIPHANY





Q & A with Archbishop Leonard P. Blair of Hartford

In Celebration of the Jubilee Year of Mercy



Question: What is the “Jubilee Year of Mercy” proclaimed by Pope Francis and when does it begin?

Archbishop Blair: *A Holy Year is essentially a year during which the Pope grants a special indulgence, called the Jubilee, to all the faithful who participate by certain devotional acts, especially by making a pilgrimage to the Rome basilicas or to local cathedrals and their symbolic “holy doors,” and doing so with a true spirit of faith and repentance, of charity and prayer. On December 8, 2015, Pope Francis will inaugurate a “Jubilee Year of Mercy” by opening the traditional Holy Year door of St. Peter’s Basilica in Rome. The Bishops of the world will do the same in their cathedrals the following Sunday. In the words of Pope Francis, it is the opening of a “Door of Mercy through which anyone who enters will experience the love of God who consoles, pardons and instills hope” (Misericordiae Vultus, 3). In addition to celebrating the gift of divine mercy that we receive, Pope Francis also challenges us to be agents of mercy toward others.*

Question: When and why did the Holy Father declare a Jubilee Year of Mercy?

Archbishop Blair: *Pope Francis announced his intention to proclaim a Jubilee Year of Mercy during a Lenten penance service in March, 2015. His stated purpose was for the Church to “make more evident her mission to be a witness of mercy.”*

Question: What is expected of individuals and the Church during the Holy Year of Mercy?

Archbishop Blair: *Pope Francis encourages us to go out of ourselves and our comfort zones, individually and as a Church, to address the misery of others – those who are suffering spiritually, morally and materially. The Holy Father has placed special emphasis on what the Church has traditionally called “works of mercy,” both corporal and spiritual. The corporal works of mercy are charitable actions by which we help our neighbors in their bodily needs. These include feeding the hungry, giving drink to the thirsty, sheltering the homeless, clothing the naked, visiting the sick and prisoners, burying the dead and giving alms to the poor. The spiritual works of mercy are actions that help our neighbors in their spiritual needs. These include counseling the doubtful, instructing the ignorant, admonishing the sinner, comforting the sorrowful, forgiving injuries, bearing wrongs patiently and praying for the living and the dead. Remember that the three “T’s” of Christian stewardship include giving **time**, **talent** and **treasure**.*



Question: Could you say something about the symbolic Holy Door and the year-long observance of the Holy Year in the Archdiocese of Hartford?

Archbishop Blair: At the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Hartford, a Holy Door has been designated and suitably decorated. There will be an opening ceremony for the Jubilee Year of Mercy at the Cathedral on December 13 at 3:00 P.M. The liturgy will consist of a blessing and opening of our Holy Door, evening prayer, and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. All the clergy, men and women religious, and laity of the Archdiocese of Hartford are invited, and we hope to see our beautiful mother

Church filled <http://www.cathedralofsaintjoseph.com/>. In addition, our Archdiocese will devote itself to a full calendar of year-long prayer, community outreach, activities and celebrations to help our neighbors with their spiritual and material needs. You can stay abreast of and learn how to engage in these far-reaching merciful acts by visiting www.ArchdioceseofHartford.org.



Question: What does it mean for someone to walk through the Holy Door?

Archbishop Blair: The Holy Door is what the Church calls a sacramental – not a sacrament, which can only be instituted by Christ himself – but rather something instituted by the Church and resembling a sacrament to signify and obtain spiritual effects through the Church's intercession with God. When Pope Francis says that “anyone who enters will experience the love of God who consoles, pardons and instills hope,” he does not mean something magical or superstitious.

The person who passes through the door has to be sincerely disposed in faith to receive God's mercy and to amend his or her life through God's grace. The sacrament of penance and reconciliation is a significant part of the Jubilee of Mercy. Again, in the words of the Pope, going to confession has to be “at the center once more in such a way that it will enable people to touch the Grandeur of God's mercy with their own hands” and be “a source of interior peace” (*Misericordiae Vultus*, 17).

Question: Does the Jubilee Year of Mercy have a motto?

Archbishop Blair: Yes, the motto is “Merciful like the Father.” This is inspired by the Gospel passage in Luke which reads: “Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful” (6:36). These powerful words of Christ teach us that we are to imitate our Heavenly Father by not judging or condemning, but by forgiving our neighbor, and by offering love and forgiveness without measure.

Question: Is there an official website dedicated to the Jubilee Year of Mercy?

Archbishop Blair: An official website may be accessed at www.im.va. The site is available in seven languages. In addition, our Archdiocesan website www.ArchdioceseofHartford.org has a prominent section on its Homepage where a calendar of activities and celebrations will be updated throughout the year. Beyond these websites, you may find updates on www.usccb.org and <http://www.catholic-transcript.org/>. The Archdiocese will also use its full array of Social Media platforms – Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, Instagram and more – to keep the public informed of happenings and opportunities for community engagement. On Twitter, please follow me @ArchbishopBlair.

Question: When does the Jubilee Year of Mercy conclude?

Archbishop Blair: The Jubilee Year of Mercy concludes on November 20, 2016.