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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.

Church of Saint Ann

289 Arch Road * Avon, Connecticut * 06001

860-673-9858

Rev. John W. McHugh, Ph.D., Pastor www.stannavon.org



SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

"PEACE I LEAVE WITH YOU; MY PEACE I GIVE TO YOU. NOT AS THE WORLD GIVES DO I GIVE IT TO YOU. DO NOT LET YOUR HEARTS BE TROUBLED OR AFRAID. YOU HEARD ME TELL YOU, 'I AM GOING AWAY AND I WILL COME BACK TO YOU.' IF You loved Me, you would rejoice that I am going to the father; For the father is greater than 1." – JN 14:27-28

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass @2001, 1998, 1970 CCD

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



Sixth Sunday of Easter



- 9:00 Special Intention
- **TUESDAY**, May 3
- 9:00 Evelyn Byrnes, requested by the Ledwidge Family

WEDNESDAY, May 4

9:00 **Rev. James Cronin (4th Ann.)**, requested by Joan Tyler

THURSDAY, May 5, Ascension of the Lord

- 9:00 Special Intention
- 12:10 Special Intention
- 7:00 Special Intention

FRIDAY, May 6

9:00 **Michael Sumers,** requested by Rosanne Harutunian

SATURDAY, May 7

4:00 **Manda Koch,** requested by Russell and Diane Koch

SUNDAY, May 8

- 7:30 For all mothers, living and deceased
- 9:30 For all mothers, living and deceased
- 11:00 For all mothers, living and deceased

The Men of St. Ann present the event of the year:



Out Friday, May 6 6:30pm Fr. Bennett Hall

Price: \$25

Ladies Night

Ladies, save this date on your calendar! The Men of St. Ann once again want to treat the ladies of the parish to a special night out. This is a well attended event so be sure to get your reservations in early. Reservations can be made with John Kuzia: 860-284-0020 or email at kman@kuzia.com.

Seating is limited so reservations are a must.



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 worshiping with us and we hope to see you again.

This Week at St. Ann's

MONDAY, May 2

Marian Movement of Priests Cenacle: 7:15pm in the church wing. All are welcome! (*Enter through door on the left side of the church*) Prayer Shawl Ministry Meeting: 7pm in Room 2

TUESDAY, May 3

RCIA: 7pm in Room 3

WEDNESDAY, May 4

Lectio Divina: 3:30pm in Room 3

THURSDAY, May 5

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 St. Ann Cares Ministry Meeting: 7pm in Room 2

FRIDAY, May 6

SATURDAY, May 7 Men's Breakfast Group: 8am in Room 3 St. Ann Cares Day

SUNDAY, May 8

Mercy Opportunity:

Mercy Purses

Enjoy *LADIES' NIGHT OUT* and help women in need, too!

Ladies, please bring to the dinner a GENTLY-USED PURSE FILLED WITH TOILETRIES for homeless/refugee women cared for by Mercy Shelter and Catholic Charities. For a list of items, visit <u>stannavon.org</u>, or contact Ann DiStefano, <u>ames.distefano@gmail.com</u>, (860) 463-7495.





Masses will be at:

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

WEEKLY ORDINARY INCOME

April 24, 2016: \$6,758.55 Online Giving (week ending 4/27/16): \$2,389.00 Next weekend's second collection-Helping Haitian Children



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 Sacristry (2nd door on the left as you enter the vestibule of the church). No appointment necessary.

Save the Date Wednesday, May 11, 2016

Dining for Dollars at Bertucci's Italian Restaurant (Avon)

For Amigos De Los Niños Excepcionalas Tarija (ANET)

In honor of Fr. Michael Donahue

Fr. Michael Donahue, a native of Avon in his youth, has been a missionary priest for decades serving poor-handicapped children in Tarija, Bolivia. Many babies and children with special needs are abandoned to group homes because of the level of care required and the lack of Bolivian government financial support. The yearly Bolivia collection at the Church of St. Ann's Bolivia supported Fr. Donahue's work with the poor, handicapped children in group homes in Tarija, Bolivia. Funds were used for surgeries, transportation, and clothing for the children. Their handicaps include intellectual and physical including muscular dystrophy, hearing or visually impairment, cleft lip, or club foot. (Please see the <u>2016 NEXUS</u> winter or full report.)

Unfortunately, Fr. Donahue is severely ill. He suffers from a lung disease, and is on oxygen 24/7. As a result, he is unable to leave his apartment in Bolivia and perform his daily responsibilities. In his honor, on Wednesday, May 11th, the Church of St. Ann is invited to participate in a Dining for Dollars Fundraising Event at Bertucci's Italian Restaurant in Avon for ANET to help sustain the work that Fr. Donahue supported all his life in Bolivia. On May 11th Bertucci's in Avon will donate **15 percent** of every dining check—IF the party specifies they are from the Church of Saint Ann.

Please plan to support this worthy cause by going to go to Bertucci's on Wednesday, May 11th, anytime, between 11:30 AM - 9:00 PM. Meet friends for lunch, happy hour, or order a meal "To Go," and please tell them you are from the Church of St. Ann. Thank you!

- The Social Justice Committee

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

2016/17 Religious Education Registration Has Begun!

Our Faith Formation classes have come to an end for this school year and it is time to plan for our 2016/2017 year. Again this year, we will automatically enroll all existing students into the next grade level assuming all requirements have been met. Please complete a registration form (downloadable on our website: www.stannavon.com) on or before June 1, 2016. Forms with payment can be dropped off at the information table during class time on April 3rd or April 17th (please do not give payment to the Catechists), mailed or dropped off at the Office.

The Faith Formation Program Grades K-8 will begin Sunday, September 19, 2016. Grades K-4 will attend Avon Middle School Sunday mornings from 9:00 AM to 10:30 AM. Grades 5-8 will attend Avon Middle School Sunday evenings from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM.

The Confirmation Program will begin Sunday, September 11, 2016. Confirmation classes will meet Sunday evenings at the Church of Saint Ann <u>Grade 9 and 10 Registrations end on 09/02/2016, as activities are already</u> <u>scheduled.</u>

After June 1st we will assess a \$40.00 late fee and send an invoice via email.

<u>NOTE:</u> Please do not hold up your child(ren)'s registration due to financial concerns, we will happily work with you, all information is confidential.

2016 Archbishop's Annual Appeal Gad's Mercy at Work



It is important that when you give to any charitable organization, you are confident that the funds are used wisely. Be assured that your gift to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal only supports the ministries and programs indicated in the 2016 Appeal literature. For more information please visit the Appeal website at archdioceseofhartford.org.





Upcoming Youth Outreach Activities

Thank you to all who participated in the Walk for Water and/or the Rails to Trails clean up last weekend! They were both purposeful activities that made a difference.

- Sunday, May 22 at 3 pm Planting Day for the Garden
- If you are interested in helping tend the garden through the spring and summer, please send Shawn George an email at segeorge12@gmail.com to be put on the Garden Committee email distribution list. Thank you!

Please join us for our next Youth Outreach meeting on Tuesday, May 3rd from 7- 8 pm in room 2 to help finalize plans for our planting day on May 22 and to map out our calendar for Youth Outreach activities for next school year.

Have a blessed week! Be well and God bless, Youth Outreach Committee



St Ann Cares projects for this year will be Immacares Shelter and Open Hearths. We will be doing some carpentry, landscaping and painting. A team of pre-work volunteers will go in on April 30. We are looking for someone who is good with plantings to help with the landscaping. We are inviting you to sign up and experience the joy of helping others. We need you. Thanks for helping out I this year!



For further information contact Steve Rose at 860-250-5355 or rose_sp@sbcglobal.net

Saturday, May 14th 8am - 12noon St. Ann Parking Lot **Perennial Plant Sal**

The proceeds from the sale will benefit the Social Justice Committee's Scholarship Program, which provides partial Tuition support for deserving Hartford students who attend local Catholic High Schools.



I am delighted to announce that Karen Finocchio is this year's recipient of the St. Joseph Medal for her outstanding work with St. Ann's Social Justice Committee and the Immaculate Conception Shelter. Archbishop Blair



awarded her the medal on April 16th at a diocesan ceremony at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph in Hartford. We thank Karen for her years of service to her parish church of Saint Ann and to those in need at ImmaCare Inc. in Hartford. Congratulations Karen! -Fr. McHugh

Plant Donations Needed!

Please consider sharing some of your perennials that are ready for dividing this spring. Donations of purchased perennials would be welcome if you are unable to donate from your own gardens.

Donations may be dropped off in the parking lot (W. Avon Rd. side, under tree) on Thursday, May 12, from 8:30-10 a.m. and 5-7 p.m., and Friday, May 13, from 8:30-10 a.m. and 1-2 p.m. Please IDENTIFY plants (name, color, sun/shade). Donate a plant or plants during drop-off hours and be entered in a drawing to win a garden tote full of gardening accessories.

If you have any questions or would like to help, please call Jean Frey at 860-673-1949. New helpers would be most welcome!



May Crowning

will take place during the 11am Mass May 8, 2016



FAITH FORMATION FOR THE FAMILY

The Church of Saint Ann Lives the Year of Mercy

MercyQuest Bible Study for Adults

MercyQuest is a FRESH LOOK at the Mercy parables of Jesus, and what they mean for us today. Four consecutive Monday's - **May 2-23, at 9:30am or 7:15pm, in Rooms 1, 2 & 3**, lower level of Fr. Bennett Hall. **No homework – just come read, pray and discuss.** No experience necessary! Books are FREE, while supplies last. Register ASAP with Ann DiStefano, <u>ames.distefano@gmail.com</u>, (860) 463-7495.

Parish-wide "Good Summer Read" Kick-Off/Author Meet & Greet.

Join us after Masses May 14th & 15th to meet author and parishioner Shawn Elizabeth George and purchase your signed copy of *My Journey to Live from the Inside Out*. Spend the summer reading this compelling memoir of spiritual and personal growth, and practicing its suggestions for allowing faith to help us show MERCY to self and others in relationships, parenting, and even finances! Refreshments served. Gather for a book talk in September. RSVP for the Meet & Greet: Ann DiStefano, (860) 463-7495, <u>ames.distefano@gmail.com</u>.

<u>Save the Date</u>

Service Project/Pilgrimage to Cathedral of St. Joseph, Hartford Saturday, June 11th from 1-5pm

Make sandwiches for the homeless, then board buses to the Cathedral, where we'll deliver the food, take a guided tour, pass through the Holy Door, & attend 4:00 Mass. Nominal fee to cover bus rental. More details to come. RSVP: Ann DiStefano, <u>ames.distefano@gmail.com</u>, (860) 463-7495.

"By crossing the threshold of the Holy Door, we will find the strength to embrace God's mercy and dedicate ourselves to being merciful with others." - Pope Francis

Readings for the Week of May 1, 2016

Sunday:	Acts 15:1-2, 22-29/Ps 67:2-3, 5-6, 8/ Rv 21:10-14, 22-23/Jn 14:23-29
Monday:	Acts 16:11-15/Ps 149:1-6, 9/Jn 15:2616:4a
Tuesday:	1 Cor 15:1-8/Ps 19:2-5/Jn 14:6-14
Wednesday:	Acts 17:15, 2218:1/Ps 148:1-2, 11-14/
	Jn 16:12-15
Thursday:	Ascension: Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-9/
	Heb 9:24-28; 10:19-23 or Eph 1:17-23/
	Lk 24:46-53
Friday:	Acts 18:9-18/Ps 47:2-7/Jn 16:20-23
Saturday:	Acts 18:23-28/Ps 47:2-3, 8-10/Jn 16:23b-28
Next Sunday:	Acts 7:55-60/Ps 97:1-2, 6-7, 9/Rv 22:12-14,
	16-17, 20/Jn 17:20-26

QUESTION OF THE WEEK ...

WHO ARE THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE HELPED YOU BELIEVE? WHOM DO YOU HELP?

6th Sunday of Easter

The housing market is often used as a leading indicator of economic recovery because so much money is invested in this segment of the economy. Construction of new homes provides jobs, and the purchase of existing homes leads to additional consumer spending as homeowners move in, repair, and renovate. Analysts use a baseline that they consider a "normal" market, and then measure improvement from there. In the dark days of the housing collapse five years ago new construction starts were less than one-third the desired level of 1.5 million a month. Just three years ago, mortgage delinquency and foreclosure rates were almost triple what is considered an acceptable rate of 5.25%. These are dark and dismal figures if you are a banker or construction worker.

In the Gospel this weekend Jesus is speaking to his disciples at the Last Supper describing the relationship between himself and the Father and the Holy Spirit. Those who love Jesus will keep his word and he and the Father will come and make their dwelling with the disciple. This image of dwelling speaks to the abiding presence of God in the followers of Jesus. God is always with them.

Owning a home was long considered a part of the American dream. If a family could purchase a place of their own, then they would consider themselves to have "made it." Home ownership is still a value many people cling to, but its luster has dimmed since the collapse of the housing market. We are six Sundays away from Easter now, and maybe the joy of that feast has also dimmed a bit in our hearts. Maybe we've slipped back into some of our usual patterns and lost some of the fervor of our baptismal commitment. Even the Christian life is occasionally subject to a certain buyer's remorse. Jesus tells us in the Gospel not to be troubled or afraid. He and the Father are with us in a dwelling that is forever.

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