



# Church of Saint Ann

289 Arch Road \* Avon, Connecticut \* 06001

860-673-9858

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

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

## WEEKEND ASSISTANTS

Rev. Joseph P. Cheah, OSM, Ph.D.

Rev. Daniel J. Sullivan

## DEACONS

Jeffrey Sutherland: [deacon.jeff@stannavon.com](mailto:deacon.jeff@stannavon.com)

Tim Healy: [deacon.tim@stannavon.com](mailto:deacon.tim@stannavon.com)

## SPECIAL PROJECTS MANAGER

Russell Koch: [russ.koch@stannavon.com](mailto:russ.koch@stannavon.com)

## COORDINATOR OF SOCIAL MINISTRIES

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## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR (K - 8)

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## CONFIRMATION & YOUTH MINISTRY DIRECTOR

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## REGISTRAR & CONFIRMATION ASSISTANT

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## DIRECTOR OF ADULT EDUCATION

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## RCIA DIRECTOR & LITURGY COORDINATOR

Maureen Fiedler: 860-995-4026

## DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Tom Stockton: ext. 230

## OFFICE MANAGER

Kris Martino: ext. 221 [kris.martino@stannavon.com](mailto:kris.martino@stannavon.com)

## BUILDING & CEMETERY SUPERINTENDENT

Mike Gould: ext. 225

## BAPTISMS (Registered Parishioners):

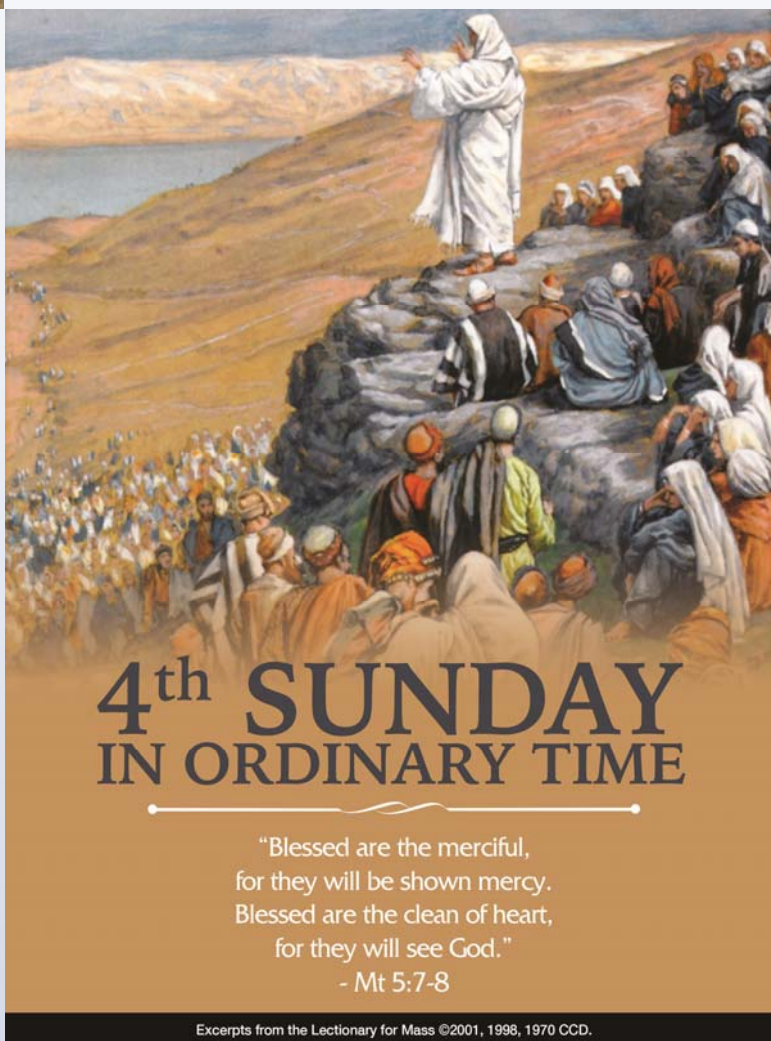
Call the Parish Office

## 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.



## 4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Blessed are the merciful,  
for they will be shown mercy.  
Blessed are the clean of heart,  
for they will see God."  
- Mt 5:7-8

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

# MASS INTENTIONS

**4th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

## MONDAY, January 30

9:00 **David Kraus**, requested by  
Lou & Eileen DelPrete

## TUESDAY, January 31

9:00 **Joseph Cunningham, Sr.**, requested by  
the family

## WEDNESDAY, February 1

9:00 **Hera (Hedy) Droste**, requested by the family

## THURSDAY, February 2

9:00 **Michael Bruno (1st Ann)**, requested by  
the Bruno Family

## FRIDAY, February 3

9:00 **Joanna Puma**, requested by  
Josine and Alex Kennedy

## SATURDAY, February 4

4:00 **Special Intentions**,

## SUNDAY, February 5

7:30 **Edmund Sikora (12th Ann)**, requested by  
his wife and family

9:30 **Alan McIlveen**, requested by  
Robert & Alice Oliva

11:00 **Richard A. Simonick**, requested by  
his loving children, grandchildren & family

*It's Not Too Late To Join Us!*

*Are You Ready to  
Encounter the Sunday Scriptures in a  
Life-changing Way?*

Join St. Ann's Adult Small Groups for prayer, fellowship and a lively discussion of how God's word in the Sunday scriptures applies to your life. Our resource is the **Quest** reflection book. Dates are Jan 15-Feb 24. Choose one of three convenient meeting times: **Sunday's, 10:30am; Mondays, 7:15pm or Fridays, 9:30am.** We meet in Rooms 1 and 3, lower level of FB Hall. Register with Ann ASAP:  
[ann.distefano@stannavon.com](mailto:ann.distefano@stannavon.com);  
(860) 673-9858, x. 228.  
Books are \$6.

**All are welcome!**

**No Bible study experience required.**

Want to form your own at-home Small Group instead? Contact Ann.



# WELCOME!



*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, January 30

**Marian Movement of Priests Cenacle:** 7:15pm in the church.  
Enter through door on left side of church. All are welcome!  
**Quest:** 7:15pm in Room 3

### TUESDAY, January 31

**RCIA:** 7pm in Room 3  
**Saint Ann Cares Ministry Meeting:** 7pm in Room 1

### WEDNESDAY, February 1

### THURSDAY, February 2

**Holy Hour:** 12 noon in the church  
**Traditional Choir:** 2pm in the Choir Loft (per director)  
**Youth Choir:** 4:15pm in the Choir Loft (per leader)  
**Folk/Contemporary Choir:** 7:30pm in the Choir Loft

### FRIDAY, February 3

**Quest:** 9:30am in Room 3

### SATURDAY, February 4

**Men's Breakfast Group:** 8am in Room 3  
**Wine Tasting:** 7pm in Fr. Bennett Hall

### SUNDAY, February 5

**Quest:** 10:30 am in Room 3

# Saint Ann cares

St. Ann Cares is currently  
looking for projects for this coming  
St. Ann Cares Day on May 6th.  
Contact Steve Rose with ideas at  
860-250-5355 or  
e-mail: [rose\\_sp@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rose_sp@sbcglobal.net)



### It's That Time of Year Again...

If you are a registered parishioner using envelopes or online giving, and would like a copy of our records of your weekly envelope contributions, please e-mail Kris in the Parish Office: [kris.martino@stannavon.com](mailto:kris.martino@stannavon.com) or call 860-673-9858, ext. 221. Please note: Contributions to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal are mailed separately from the Archdiocese.





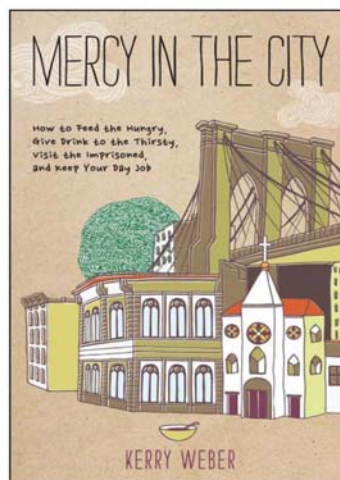
## WEEKLY ORDINARY INCOME

January 22, 2017: \$7,170.92  
 Online Giving (week ending 1/25/17): \$.00  
 Next weekend's 2<sup>nd</sup> collection:  
*Snow removal*

Feast of St. Blaise  
 and the  
 Blessing of Throats  
 Friday, Feb. 3rd  
 9am Mass



Please join us at the 9am Mass on Thursday, February 3rd for the Feast of Saint Blaise and the Blessing of Throats. If you'd like to know the origin of the Blessing of Throats, see the "Why Do We Do That" section on the next page.



Marthas  
 Marys

TUESDAY,  
 FEBRUARY 21, 2017  
 7:00 PM  
 ACTIVITY ROOM  
 (BELOW THE WING OF THE CHURCH)

All women are invited to join us on  
 Tuesday, February 21st to discuss the book:  
*Mercy in the City* by Kerry Weber.

❄️ Snow Date: Tuesday, February 28th

RSVP:

Nancy Casey - nancekc@gmail.com

Mary Healey - maryfromavon@gmail.com

The Men of Saint Ann invite you to a

# Wine Tasting

Presenting Wines from France, Germany, Italy and Spain

Saturday, February 4th at 7:00 pm

Fr. Bennett Hall \* \$10 per person

This evening we will be comparing wines from France, Germany, Italy and Spain. We plan to have (4) sparkling, (4) white and (8) red varieties. Come enjoy some wonderful wine, nosh on hors d'oeuvres & gain in your wine knowledge with your friends.

For reservations contact: John Kuzia at kman@kuzia.com or 860-284-0020



It is hard to look outside and think about summer camp, but we all know how time flies!



"Many hands make light work" and **MANY** hands are need to continue making VBC at the Church of St Ann the most popular in the Farmington Valley!  
 "For surely I know the plan I have for you, says the Lord." (Jeremiah 29:11)

Please join me at our kick off planning meeting  
**Wed., February 8<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in FBHall**

Please RSVP via email : [Valerie.stjean@stannavon.com](mailto:Valerie.stjean@stannavon.com)

**Our planning agenda will include:**

Revisit last year's session to determine what worked and what could be better, review the theme and brain storm ideas, set camp dates and schedule, station Leader assignments...Other?



4th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



For the Children...

## Puzzle

Unscramble words from today's Gospel:

|         |       |         |
|---------|-------|---------|
| blessed | mercy | kingdom |
| meek    | pure  | reward  |
| filled  | peace | heaven  |

|         |                      |
|---------|----------------------|
| bsedles | <u>b l e s s e d</u> |
| pacee   | _____                |
| meke    | _____                |
| kidomng | _____                |
| filedl  | _____                |
| reardw  | _____                |
| mecyr   | _____                |
| hevena  | _____                |
| peur    | _____                |

©LPI

## Thank You . . .

to all the  
parishioners of the  
Church of St. Ann  
who remembered  
the residents at  
Avon Health Center  
& Apple Rehab this  
past Christmas.  
The many gifts were  
greatly appreciated.

## Thank you! Our 2017 parish Book Sale was a great success!

Thank you, Parishioners, for supporting the 9th Annual Book Sale! We appreciate every donation, volunteer, and shopper! Thank you for inviting your friends and family to this winter event. With your help, the parish Book Sale brought in \$4,362.25 for Catholic High School Student Scholarships. A big shout out goes to the many dedicated Volunteers who worked during the week sorting books and on the weekend of the sale. We could not have done this without you. God bless you!

The Church of St. Ann  
Book Sale/Scholarship  
Committee

## WHY DO WE DO THAT?

### CATHOLIC TRADITIONS EXPLAINED

#### Question:

A special blessing of throats occurs on the feast of St. Blaise, February 3. What is the origin of this?

#### Answer:

St. Blaise was a bishop of Sebaste, Armenia, in modern Turkey, who was martyred for witnessing to the faith. He was tortured and beheaded for his beliefs by the local Roman governor around AD 316. This is all that is known about him, the rest being legend. We know much more about devotion to and the popularity of St. Blaise than historical facts.

The special blessing of throats associated with St. Blaise is due to a miracle attributed to him. While in prison, he miraculously saved a boy choking on a fish bone. Early in the sixth century, evidence exists in the Eastern Church that Blaise was prayed to for ailments of the throat. To this day, his feast is a holy day in the Eastern Church. In the ninth century, veneration of St. Blaise came to the Western Church and became very popular. Blessing of the throats with crossed candles began in the 1500s, the height of devotion to St. Blaise, and that blessing is still part of the devotion of the Catholic Church.



## EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments

Sometimes I wonder what this world will look like when my children get to be my age. Everything seems to be changing so rapidly and much of that change doesn't seem to be for the good. I do think in some ways the Church is experiencing resurgence and a strengthening, but it will have to in the face of an increasing culture of atheism and selfishness.

Of course, I bet my parents wondered the same thing when I was a child. As much as things change, they remain the same. When Jesus gave his Sermon on the Mount, I would guess some parents there were having the same kind of worries. But Jesus proposed a way of life in the beatitudes that was countercultural then and is countercultural now.

In his book, "Life of Christ," Fulton Sheen said this: "The Sermon on the Mount is so much at variance with all that our world holds dear that the world will crucify anyone who tries to live up to its values." Living a stewardship way of life means bringing the beatitudes into our daily lives in a profound way. However, it also means living in a way that others may not understand or they may even turn away from us because of it. But with the reward in the end being the kingdom of heaven, the choice is really a matter of life and death, eternally speaking.

--Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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### QUOTES

Words to Inspire the Faithful

*Everything and everyone is won by the sweetness of our words and works.*

- St. John Bosco

## SUNDAY'S READINGS

### First Reading:

But I will leave as a remnant in your midst a people humble and lowly, who shall take refuge in the name of the LORD.

(Zep 3:12)

### Psalm:

Blessed the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs! (Ps 146)

OR: Alleluia.

### Second Reading:

Rather, God chose the foolish of the world to shame the wise, and God chose the weak of the world to shame the strong, and God chose the lowly and despised of the world, those who count for nothing, to reduce to nothing those who are something. (1 Cor 1:27-28)

### Gospel:

"Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God."

(Mt 5:7-8)

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

The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

## WEEKLY READINGS

Readings for the Week of January 29, 2017

Sunday: Zep 2:3; 3:12-13/Ps 146/1 Cor 1:26-31/Mt 5:1-12a  
Monday: Heb 11:32-40/Ps 31/Mk 5:1-20  
Tuesday: Heb 12:1-4/Ps 22/Mk 5:21-43  
Wednesday: Heb 12:4-7, 11-15/Ps 103/Mk 6:1-6  
Thursday: Mal 3:1-4/Ps 24/Heb 2:14-18/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32  
Friday: Heb 13:1-8/Ps 27/Mk 6:14-29  
Saturday: Heb 13:15-17, 20-21/Ps 23/Mk 6:30-34  
Next Sunday: Is 58:7-10/Ps 112/1 Cor 2:1-5/Mt 5:13-16



## GOSPEL MEDITATION

"Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven." Here, in a nutshell, is the Christian belief about the afterlife. We trust that heaven is open to believers who accept the gift of salvation and follow the way of the Lord, even (or especially) when that way is difficult!

The beatitudes in today's Gospel give us a program for following the path to heaven. These famous words offer a kind of twofold image. There are, on the one hand, the beatitudes about what we should do and be: poor in spirit, meek, merciful, clean of heart, and peacemakers. Such qualities are reflections of the nature of God in whose image we are meant to live. When we embrace and reflect this image to the world, there is no doubt we are walking on the path of God's will.

Then, there are also the beatitudes about what we are called to endure: mourning, hunger for righteousness, persecutions and insults due to our belief in Jesus. These are the trials that often beset the life of a faithful Christian--admittedly more so in some ages and areas than in others. But Jesus makes it clear that even these trials and struggles are a sign that a Christian is on the right path, not that God has abandoned him or her, but that the reward of heaven lies around the corner.

One of the greatest consolations of our faith is that even when life does not unfold according to our own perfect designs, even when there is suffering to deal with, even when we do not have great success in the eyes of the world, we can maintain hope and peace as we await the "reward" of the just. The eternal happiness of heaven will be worth every ounce of temporary trial here on earth.

## INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Live the Liturgy

In today's competitive world, many people do not see justice and humility as virtues to acquire. Yet Jesus makes a big point of giving us the beatitudes as the blueprint to follow for our lives. Being poor in spirit, meek, thirsting and hungering for righteousness, being merciful, clean of heart, and peacemakers are all hallmarks of the true disciple and a child of God. After doing all these things, however, the true disciple must be prepared for persecution. Are you really ready to become a true disciple?

## THE BULLETIN BOARD

### ***"Come And Follow Me"***

Are you following **Archbishop Blair** and the **Archdiocese of Hartford** on social media?

🐦 @ArchbishopBlair

📷 @ArchdioceseOfHartford

📘 Facebook.com/ArchdioceseOfHartford

\*\*\*\*\*

Also follow the **Cathedral of Saint Joseph**,  
the Mother Church of the Archdiocese of Hartford!

🐦 @HtfdCathedral

📷 @CathedralOfSaintJoseph

📘 Facebook.com/CathedralOfSaintJoseph

### **Black History Mass**

### **"Strength in Unity"**

**Sunday, February 19, 2017**

**Saint Michael Roman Catholic Church**

**7 Clark Street, Hartford**

**10:00am**

**Principal Celebrant and Homilist**

**Rev. Canon A. Gerard Jordan, P. Praem**



### **Northwest Catholic High School OPEN HOUSE**

There will be an Information Session for prospective families, who were unable to attend the November Open House, on February 2nd at 7pm at Northwest Catholic.

*For more information go to: [NorthwestCatholic.org/Admissions](http://NorthwestCatholic.org/Admissions)*

### **RACHEL'S VINEYARD WEEKENDS FOR HEALING AFTER ABORTION**

If you are suffering from an abortion, experience the healing love of Jesus Christ on a Rachel's Vineyard Retreat weekend **March 3-5, 2017 in Litchfield, CT**. The weekend healing process includes discussions, Living Scriptures with meditations, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, a Memorial Service and Mass of Entrustment. Participation is totally confidential and offers a beautiful opportunity to experience God's love, forgiveness and compassion. Both women and men have participated in past retreats and have ranged in age from teens to mid-eighties. The fee for the weekend is \$175.00 for meals, private room and all retreat materials. Scholarships are available for financial assistance. For more information contact Marie at 203-631-9030, e-mail her at [mlaffin@prolifeministry.org](mailto:mlaffin@prolifeministry.org), or visit our website at [www.rachelsvineyard.org](http://www.rachelsvineyard.org).

### **Women's Retreat being offered at Our Lady of Calvary Retreat Center**

On the weekend of April 21-23, the women of St. Ann's are invited to Our Lady of Calvary Retreat Center in Farmington, CT. This year's theme is *"Embracing Joy: Learning to Bear the Beam of Love."* You will have an opportunity to reflect on this year's theme, hear conference talks, participate in the sacraments, and share with other women. Come and experience a weekend of rest, relaxation and spiritual renewal. For information call: Chris Healy at 860-693-8562

### **January is Human Trafficking Prevention Month**

"Human trafficking is an open wound on the body of contemporary society, a scourge upon the body of Christ...It is a crime against humanity." Pope Francis/2014 Human Trafficking is modern-day slavery. With 21 million victims worldwide, there are more slaves today than at any time in history. It occurs across the globe and next door.

To learn the signs visit:

<http://www.catholicsocialjustice.org/humantrafficking.html>