



# 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

Tom McCabe: [tom.mccabe@stannavon.com](mailto:tom.mccabe@stannavon.com)

## 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.



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

"But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness." —Mt 6:33a

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

**8th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

## MONDAY, February 27

9:00 **Betty and Carmon Caddell (10th Ann.),**  
*requested by the Yu Family*

## TUESDAY, February 28

9:00 **Joan McCluskey,** *requested by*  
*John McCluskey, Sr. and family*

## WEDNESDAY, March 1, Ash Wednesday

9:00 **Special Intentions**  
12:10 **Special Intentions**  
5:30 (Prayer Service)

## THURSDAY, March 2

9:00 **Special Intentions**

## FRIDAY, March 3

9:00 **Special Intentions**

## SATURDAY, March 4

4:00 **Sheila Vachris,** *requested by the family*

## SUNDAY, March 5

7:30 **Special Intentions**  
9:30 **Janet Garger,** *requested by*  
*the Contemporary Music Ministry*  
11:00 **In Thanksgiving,** *requested by*  
*Ajoy and Nina Alphoso*



***Stations of the Cross***  
***Fridays During Lent: 7:00 pm***

*\*except on Friday, March 24th \*  
due to Confirmation*

## ***Confessions to Be Heard on Monday Evenings During Lent***

If you have gotten caught up in the busyness of life and have fallen away from the Sacrament of Reconciliation, you can change that. This Lenten season, the Archdiocese of Hartford is initiating an Archdiocesan-wide effort to inspire Catholics to experience God's love and mercy offered in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Every church in the Archdiocese will be open on Mondays from 6 to 7pm during Lent for confessions.

***To help you prepare for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, visit: [Lightforyou.today](http://Lightforyou.today)***

# 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 worshipping with us and we hope to see you again.*

## THIS WEEK AT ST. ANN'S

### MONDAY, February 27

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

### TUESDAY, February 28

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

### WEDNESDAY, March 1, Ash Wednesday

**Acts of the Apostles Bible Study:** 9:30am in Room 2 & 3 (*filled*)

### THURSDAY, March 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, March 3

**Lenten Pasta Dinner:** 5:30pm in Fr. Bennett Hall  
**Stations of the Cross:** 7pm in the church

### SATURDAY, March 4

**Men's Breakfast Group:** 8am in Room 3

### SUNDAY, March 5

**Prayer Banquet Lent Series:** 12 noon in Fr. Bennett Hall



**ASH WEDNESDAY**  
***MARCH 1, 2017***

9:00 am Mass with Distribution of Ashes  
12:10 pm Mass with Distribution of Ashes  
5:30 pm Prayer Service w/ Distribution of Ashes

## ***Lenten Fast & Abstinence***

- Ash Wednesday is a day of fast and abstinence: likewise Good Friday.
- Fasting means limiting oneself to one full meal. Two light meals are allowed, but no solid food should be taken between meals.
- Fasting binds those between the ages of 18 and 59; those who have reached the age of 14 are bound by abstinence.
- All Fridays in Lent are days of abstinence; that is, days on which no meat is to be eaten.



## WEEKLY ORDINARY INCOME

February 19, 2017: \$7,581.75  
 Online Giving (week ending 2/22/17): \$2,331.00  
 Next weekend's 2<sup>nd</sup> collection:  
*St. Ann Cares*

## ADULT *Faith* FORMATION

### PARENT ENRICHMENT:

Join us for a mini-Bible Study based on the Sunday readings. We meet in Room 228 upstairs at Avon Middle School, while the kids are in Youth Faith Formation - 9-10:30am and 5:45-7:15pm. Sundays, Feb 12<sup>th</sup> & Feb 26. Come to one or both! Register with Ann, [ann.distefano@stannavon.com](mailto:ann.distefano@stannavon.com) and indicate morning or evening session. No experience necessary! Materials provided.

### 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. Note: Contributions to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal are mailed separately from the Archdiocese.



## Calling All Artists!

**WHO:** Artists of all ages  
**WHAT:** Your art work as a donation to the 8th Annual St. Ann Art Show and Sale  
**HOW:** Use contact information below. All mediums accepted: watercolor, acrylic, oil, pencil, collage, photography, sculpture, artisan crafts, fabric art, etc.  
**WHEN:** Receiving or picking up donations the week of March 20-24 but, of course, late gifts will be happily accepted.

### CONTACT:

Inez Faillace: 860.673.5579 or [faillace1@comcast.net](mailto:faillace1@comcast.net)  
 Meg Kundahl: 860.521.1051 or [mkfk@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mkfk@sbcglobal.net)

## WHY DO WE DO THAT?

### CATHOLIC TRADITIONS EXPLAINED

#### Question:

Carnivale and Mardi Gras celebrations are linked to Ash Wednesday, Lent, fast, and abstinence. What are the connections between these events?

#### Answer:

Ash Wednesday is the beginning of the forty days known as Lent. The recommended practices of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving become the focus of Lenten activity and ritual. Each of these spiritual practices is aimed at personal discipline as well as continued concern for the other, especially the poor or alienated. Relying on God's providence and care, no matter how difficult life becomes, is crucial to Lenten spirituality. Fasting was initially stricter, permitting only one simple meal a day without meat, fish, or other delicacies.

Such things were not even allowed in the house. So in order to prepare for this in an age of no refrigeration, people gathered to consume whatever was not allowed during Lent. This led to parties or celebrations originally referred to as Carnivale, literally meaning "goodbye to meat," or Mardi Gras, literally meaning "Fat Tuesday." The eating and celebrating ended on the Tuesday just before Ash Wednesday.

Save  
the  
Date  
St. Patrick's Day  
Party  
Saturday  
March 18th



# LENT 2017 at the Church of Saint Ann

## REFLECTION SERIES ON PRAYER

- + Do you ever feel like something's missing in your prayer life?
- + Do you have a way to pray that you'd like to share with others?
- + Would you like to learn how Catholic prayers can give you peace, strength & clarity?

JOIN US FOR OUR SERIES:

**The Prayer Banquet - Nourish Your Soul and Get Strength For Life's Journey**

## PARISHWIDE PROGRAM:

Five weekly sessions offered Sundays, 12:00-1:30pm & Mondays, 7:15-8:45pm  
March 5 – April 3, 2017 in Fr. Bennett Hall  
Featuring guest presenters, discussion, refreshments and PRAYER!  
RSVPs appreciated - Contact Ann: [ann.distefano@stannavon.com](mailto:ann.distefano@stannavon.com)

## PARENT PROGRAM:

Three sessions offered while the children are in Youth Faith Formation  
Sunday Mornings, 9-10:30am or Sunday Evenings, 5:45-7:15pm  
March 5, March 19, April 2  
Room 228, Avon Middle School  
Featuring presentations, discussion, refreshments and PRAYER!  
RSVPs appreciated - Contact Ann: [ann.distefano@stannavon.com](mailto:ann.distefano@stannavon.com)

## INTERACTIVE DISPLAY:

Think "Yelp" review! Share your favorite way to pray with us! Send Ann a brief descriptor, including the prayer, where & when you like to pray it, and why it's meaningful to you.

## THE WORD AMONG US DEVOTIONAL/BIBLE STUDY

Copies available in the Gathering Space.

- Read on your own
- Reflect on with your Small Group (Contact Ann for Small Group discussion guide)
- Reflect on with our Friday Morning Study Group, Fridays, 9:30-11am, March 3- April 7, Room 3.

## Lenten Pasta Dinners

The Men of St Ann will be serving Pasta Dinners during Lent again this year. There will be both Marinara Sauce and Clam Sauce. Come and enjoy!

Upcoming dates:

**March 3<sup>rd</sup> and March 31<sup>st</sup>**  
**5:30 ~ 7pm in Fr. Bennett Hall**

Come alone or bring the family!

**Adults: \$5**  
**Kids under 18: \$3**  
**Family Max: \$15**

Why not feed your soul as well? Come to **Stations of the Cross at 7pm** following the Pasta Supper.



*"So do not worry and say, 'What are we to eat?' or 'What are we to drink?' or 'What are we to wear?' Your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness."*

- Mt 6:31, 32b-33a

*Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass*  
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## ASH WEDNESDAY



## EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments

*We often say in the Church that stewardship is about the three Ts, time, talent, and treasure, but really, stewardship is about the big "E," which is everything. We are made up of more than just our time, talent, and treasure, and the gifts that come from God are overwhelming. All that we have, from the obvious to the not so obvious, is a gift from God. We are called to cultivate them all and offer them back to God with increase.*

*But that also means holding nothing back. That requires a stepping out in faith. Our trust then cannot be in the gifts God gives, since we have hopefully given them all over to God. Only in God can we place our trust. Our homes, our 401(k)s, our family, and our bodies all belong to God. With nothing left, we have nothing and no one else to put our trust in but God.*

*If you find yourself unable to place all of your trust in God, perhaps you are still holding something back. Is your comfort found in something other than God? It is pretty common for Christians to "hide something away" while saying they are all in. But of course, nothing is hidden from God. Pray about it and ask God to grant the strength to surrender all to him. We are asked to trust in God, but really, true trust is a fruit that comes about when we have had the courage to surrender it all. Trust is just a word if we continue to serve two masters. The great thing is that not only will God not turn away from us, God will also help us turn toward him. You may be asked to surrender it all, but you are never alone.*  
--Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

## QUOTES

Words to Inspire the Faithful

*It is a lesson that we all need—  
to let alone the things that do not concern us.  
He has other ways for others to follow Him;  
all do not go by the same path.*  
- St. Katharine Drexel

## SUNDAY'S READINGS

### First Reading:

Can a mother forget her infant, be without tenderness for the child of her womb? Even should she forget, I will never forget you.  
(Is 49:15)

### Psalms:

Rest in God alone, my soul. (Ps 62)

### Second Reading:

Brothers and sisters: Thus should one regard us: as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. (1 Cor 4:1)

### Gospel:

"So do not worry and say, 'What are we to eat?' or 'What are we to drink?' or 'What are we to wear?' Your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness." (Mt 6:31, 32b-33a)

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## WEEKLY READINGS

*Readings for the Week of February 26, 2017*

Sunday: Is 49:14-15/Ps 62:2-3, 6-9/1 Cor 4:1-5/Mt 6:24-34  
Monday: Sir 17:20-24/Ps 32:1-2, 5-7/Mk 10:17-27  
Tuesday: Sir 35:1-12/Ps 50:5-8, 14, 23/Mk 10:28-31  
Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18/Ps 51:3-6ab, 12-14, 17/2 Cor 5:20--6:2/  
Mt 6:1-6, 16-18  
Thursday: Dt 30:15-20/Ps 1:1-4, 6/Lk 9:22-25  
Friday: Is 58:1-9a/Ps 51:3-6ab, 18-19/Mt 9:14-15  
Saturday: Is 58:9b-14/Ps 86:1-6/Lk 5:27-32  
Next Sunday: Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7/Ps 51:3-6, 12-13, 17/Rom 5:12-19  
or 5:12, 17-19/Mt 4:1-11



## GOSPEL MEDITATION

"Can any of you by worrying add a single moment to your life-span?" No, indeed we can't. But evidence does suggest that worrying can subtract time from our life span! Clearly, we are not meant to worry. It's not healthy and it's not useful. But for many of us, it's quite difficult not to be anxious and concerned about matters that are important to us. So what is the secret to letting go of this unnecessary anxiety?

Jesus gives us an answer in today's Gospel. "Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given you besides." In other words, our focus should be on being faithful followers of God. When we put our trust in the providence of the One who "clothes the grass of the field," and stop trying to rely on our own (meager) powers, then things will be taken care of: "Your heavenly Father knows that you need them all."

Part of the secret here, of course, is coming to accept God's will for us, even when it doesn't perfectly match what we may have been envisioning. There is a kind of surrender involved that puts God's plan first. Instead of getting worked up that things aren't going our way, this kind of reliance upon God enables us to relax and accept the way things are going. The great spiritual writer, Jean-Pierre de Caussade, put in well in his work, "Abandonment to Divine Providence," when he said, "To escape the distress caused by regret for the past or fear about the future, this is the rule to follow: leave the past to the infinite mercy of God, the future to His good Providence, give the present wholly to His love by being faithful to His grace." God takes care of the birds, the flowers, even the grass! He will also take care of us.

## INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Live the Liturgy

The providential love of God is without end and God's eternal mercy is shown to every creature. Even in times of pain and difficulty, we are called to trust in God's mercy and love. In the Gospel today, Jesus reminds us that we are worth more than the birds of the air or the flowers of the field.



## THE BULLETIN BOARD

### Women's Retreat Weekend! Our Lady of Calvary, Farmington April 21-23, 2017

Women of St. Ann's! Give yourself a weekend! Sign up now for our parish retreat at Our Lady of Calvary Retreat Center in Farmington, CT on the weekend of April 21-23.

"Embracing Joy: Learning to Bear the Beams of Love" is this year's theme. For information, contact Chris Healy at 860-693-8562 or email [sonesinger@gmail.com](mailto:sonesinger@gmail.com).

### Lenten Bible Series at St. Mary's in Simsbury

Fr. Frank Matera will present a Bible Study on the Epistle to the Hebrews, entitled, *Entering God's Rest*, on the Thursdays of March 9, 16, 23, 30 in the Lower Church of St Mary's, 942 Hopmeadow St, 7:00 to 8:30 PM. The series is open to the public.

### Women's Day fo Reflection with Amy Ekeh

"Finding your Strength in the Weakness of my Cross" will be Saturday, March 4 from 8:00 am (Mass) – 12:00pm in the Parish Center. Spend the morning with your sisters in Christ as we explore, discuss and pray while we examine this Lenten Theme. Take the time for yourself and bring a friend- we are sure you will find something special in this morning of reflection. Contact Susan Falkner: 860-651-4655 or [falknerr@comcast.net](mailto:falknerr@comcast.net) to RSVP.

## Good Grief

*Growing through loss and grief in the light of faith.*

This insightful presentation will be offered by  
Chaplain Geri Cappabianca, MA, LPC, BCC on  
March 11, 10:30 am

McGivney Hall, 25 Prospect St., Waterbury

The event will conclude with the 12:10 Mass  
at the Basilica for those who can stay.

Based on the bestselling book, "Good Grief," this presentation will lead one to understand how to use grief as an opportunity to develop spiritually and grow through the experience of loss.

For information contact Jason at 203-910-2234 or [iccpastoraldirector@gmail.com](mailto:iccpastoraldirector@gmail.com)

### "I Phone Fast! Will U"

For the first time ever, the Archdiocese of Hartford is inviting people to "fast" from using cell phones on Ash Wednesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, and Good Friday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, in an initiative called: "I Phone Fast!"

Silencing our busy phones, gives God a chance to call our hearts. Please consider including this practice in addition to fasting from food, almsgiving and prayer, which are traditional disciplines by which the Church observes Lent. Visit: [archdioceseofhartford.org](http://archdioceseofhartford.org).

### Fish & Chips/Mac & Cheese Dinner KoC Hall in Unionville on Friday, March 3rd

Come and have a great family Friday night out March 3<sup>rd</sup> and March 31<sup>st</sup> sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. A fish and chips dinner or mac & cheese with cole-slaw, drink, coffee, and dessert will be served. The event is being held at the Knights of Columbus Hall at 301 New Britain Ave. in Unionville. Tickets are \$10.00 for adults and children 6 and younger are free. Tickets available at the Council home from 4-7pm week days or by calling Bob 860-673-3404, Maury 860-677-2922 or Gary 860-676-0652. A limited number of tickets will be available at the door. Take outs will be available. Come one come all and enjoy!