

WEEKEND ASSISTANTS Rev. Joseph P. Cheah, OSM, Ph.D. Rev. Daniel J. Sullivan

DEACONS

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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.

Church of Saint Ann

289 Arch Road * Avon, Connecticut * 06001

860-673-9858

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

SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"But the seed sown on rich soil is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold." - Mt 13:23

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

July 16, 2017



15th Sunday in Ordinary Time



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, July 17 Marian Movement of Priests Cenacle: 7:15pm in the church. Enter through door on left side of church. All are welcome!

TUESDAY, July 18

WEDNESDAY, July 19

THURSDAY, July 20 Holy Hour: 12 noon in the church

FRIDAY, July 21

SATURDAY, July 22 Men's Breakfast Group: 8am in Room 3

SUNDAY, July 23 "Unpacking the Sunday Scriptures": 10:30am in Rm. 3

 MONDAY, July 17
9:00 Angelo and Giuseppina Fera, requested by Frank and Franca Aquino

TUESDAY, July 18 9:00 Edwin Lysak, requested by the family

WEDNESDAY, July 19 9:00 Special Intentions

THURSDAY, July 209:00Special Intentions

FRIDAY, July 21 9:00 Special Intentions

SATURDAY, July 22

4:00 For the deceased members of the Napolitano Family, requested by the family

SUNDAY, July 23

- 7:30 Lewis Affelder, requested by Tom and Susan McCabe
- 9:30 Mary DiVenere, requested by the family

11:00 Michael D. Gentile, requested by Mr. and Mrs. James Samia

(alling All Parishioners!

The Confirmation Program is looking for a couple of parishioners to assist with our large group events and the Confirmation ceremony in March... about 4-5 times total throughout the school year. This is a small time commitment with a great reward. If interested please contact Rosemary Neamtz: rosemary.neamtz@stannavon.com or 860-673-9858, x. 226.



Please join the family of

Rev. Michael Donahue

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Memorial Service

or

Saturday, August 5th at 11:00 am

Fr. Donahue is a local priest who served in Bolivia for over 30 years. He passed away in Bolivia earlier this year on May 4th. His obituary will be featured in the Summer 2017 NEXUS which will be mailed this month. The NEXUS is also available right now on our website at:

http://www.stannavon.org/documents/2017/7/Nexus_Summer2017-1.pdf

A reception will follow in Fr. Bennett Hall

WEEKLY ORDINARY INCOME

July 9, 2017: \$7,114.41 Online Giving/Payments (week ending 7/12/17): \$2,589.00 Next weekend's 2nd collection: Parish Special Needs

Announcing St. Ann's Good Summer Reads!



Summer is a great time to relax and enjoy a good read or two. Choose from the following selections, and join us for discussions at summer's end:

"The Joy of the Gospel" (*Evangelii Gaudium),* Pope Francis

The Holy Father discusses the blessings and challenges of sharing the good news of Jesus Christ with others in today's world. The writing is at times earnest, but always inspiring, and the theme is perfect for the US Church's faith formation focus for 2017-2018: "Living as Missionary Disciples". The work is available in book form, or you may download it for free via stannavon.org/book-discussions-1.

The Five Love Languages, Gary Chapman, PhD.

Years of practice as a Christian psychologist/Marriage Counselor led the author to the discovery that there are five primary ways that people receive and express love. Gain wisdom about yourself and others that can inform ALL your relationships.

For Parents & Godparents:

The Five Love Languages of Children Gary Chapman, PhD, and Ross Campbell,MD

Learn how to express love to each of your children in a language that they understand.

15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



ADULT EDUCATION & ENRICHMENT

By Poplular Demand...

We will continue to offer "Unpacking the Sunday Scriptures" on most* Sundays through the summer, from 10:30am- 12pm in Room 3. Come discover what the Sunday readings meant when they were written, and what they mean to you personally today (*Lectio Divina*) Please register with Chip Janiszewski, <u>chip@chipj.com</u>, however, **DROP INS ARE WELCOME!** This is the perfect time to try out a Small Group Bible Study experience – join us! All materials are provided – bring your own Bible, if you like. *Check <u>www.stannavon.org</u> for the updated schedule.

Curious about the benefits of a small group Bible Study? Here's what one participant has to share:

"As a stay at home mom to four young children, Bible study has never been a priority. I had been pushing away the idea of attending St. Ann Bible Study for some time. I was too busy, too scared and felt like I lacked adequate knowledge of the Bible. But I felt like there was something absent from my life.

I have been to Bible studies at other churches, but attending St. Ann's "Unpacking the Sunday Scriptures" has given me something more than what I feel like I was getting anywhere else. This group leaves me feeling uplifted, recharged and giving something back just for me!

Being surrounded by a loving community and caring individuals helps me learn more about myself and my faith. Becoming more actively involved within my church has helped me make deeper connections with others, myself and my relationship with God. These relationships have developed into some life-long friendships. I feel beyond blessed to be part of St. Ann's Bible Study!" - Callie Barnes



And he spoke to them at length in parables, saying: "A sower went out to sow? Some seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it. But some seed fell on rich soil, and produced fruit, a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold. Whoever has ears ought to hear." - Mt 13:3, 7-9

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

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.

Marian Movement of Priests Prayer Cenacle Monday evenings in the church from 7:15-8:15pm

The MMP is for priests and laity who are devoted to Our Lady and her Rosary. The Prayer Cenacles are gatherings of prayer that consist of the Holy Rosary and Consecration to the Blessed Virgin Mary. A Message from the MMP Book "To the Priests, Our Lady's Beloved Sons" is read at every Cenacle. We are praying for an outpouring of The Holy Spirit, and for Our Lady's intercession. For more information on the Marian Movement of Priests, please visit the official website at www.mmp-usa.net

Come and see, come pray with us. All are welcome.

Communion For Shut-Ins

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The Eucharistic ministers would be happy to bring Communion 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**.



There will be no office hours in July and August. See you in September!

Free Rosary Repair Service Leave your rosary for repair in the box in the gathering space. Mark repair and return to me or this is a donation. Repaired rosaries will be returned within the week. Old and broken rosaries may be left for the missions. They will be repaired and then sent on. For more information call Dick at 239-463-3993 or Email holdenbnd@gmail.com.



My heartfelt thanks to Lorraine Zuwallack, Constance Rotondo, Tom Stockton, Mary Lou Connors, Ann Koe, Ann Matthes, Marcia Lysak, Alice Kuzia and all others who made the celebration of my 25th Anniversary of Ordination a truly memorable one. You have made this a special celebration by enhancing the power of the liturgical celebration as part of the choir or by sharing a part of yourself in the baking of goods for the reception. This celebration represents for me one of the high points of life at the Church of Saint Ann. The sharing of your talents, service, and generosity are greatly appreciated.

With Appreciation in Christ, Fr. Joe

WHY DO WE DO THAT? CATHOLIC TRADITIONS EXPLAINED

Question:

July 22 is the feast of Mary Magdalene. Who was she and is it true that she was a prostitute who followed Jesus around in His ministry?

Answer:

Recent biblical scholarship has been trying for a long time to correct Mary Magdalene's misconstrued reputation as a prostitute. Biblical information reveals her as one of the most important disciples of Jesus, following and financially supporting him during his ministry. She is also a faithful witness both to the Crucifixion and the first to see the risen Jesus.

Her reputation as a prostitute arose from the misunderstandings of certain texts in Luke. Luke 8:2 reports Mary as being a follower of Jesus "from whom seven demons had gone out." This passage follows Luke's story of the sinful woman, a prostitute, who bathed Jesus' feet with her tears and dried them with her hair. Since that woman is not named, there came to be an association of that woman with Mary Magdalene, "from whom seven demons had gone out." Thus Mary became known as a prostitute. The readings and prayers for her feast day make no mention of her reputation as a sinner. Rather, they emphasize and highlight her role as the first witness to the risen Lord, and the first one commissioned by Jesus to tell of the good news to the disciples. Let us continue to be Mary Magdalene to the world.

JULY 16, 2017 – 15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments

Over the years I have wasted a lot: a lot of money, a lot of time, and a lot of talent. Sometimes I didn't realize I was wasting these things but, after reflection, I realized I could have done more and accomplished much greater things. Of course, I think that is part of our imperfect humanity. It truly is easier for us to waste our gifts than grow them into something more.

The parable of the sower speaks about the word of God that gets planted in our hearts. If the soil of our heart is rich, than the word will grow and change us. If that soil is rocky or full of weeds, the word will lie there without any impact, bearing no fruit.

This parable can be applied to living a stewardship way of life as well. As sowers, we have been given the seeds of our time, talent, and treasure. We have a choice of where to plant these gifts. As good everyday stewards, we are called to plant them wisely and prudently. Oftentimes it is not enough to simply give away what we have. We need to discern the best places to sow these gifts so the maximum harvest can grow. This takes prayer, reflection, and study. Without a solid discernment process, we can find ourselves sowing seeds endlessly without much to show for it. But joyful is the person who has used one's gifts wisely, for the bounty of the harvest is great. Tracy Earl Welliver, MT

QUOTES Words to Inspire the Faithful

I am not my own; I have given myself to Jesus. He must be my only love. - St. Kateri Tekakwitha

SUNDAY'S READINGS

First Reading:

My word shall not return to me void, but shall do my will, achieving the end for which I sent it. (Is 55:11b)

Psalm:

The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest. (Ps 65)

Second Reading:

Brothers and sisters: I consider that the sufferings of this present time are as nothing compared with the glory to be revealed for us. (Rom 8:18)

Gospel:

"The seed sown among thorns is the one who hears the word, but then worldly anxiety and the lure of riches choke the word and it bears no fruit. But the seed sown on rich soil is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold." (Mt 13:22-23)

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WEEKLY READINGS

Readings for the Week of July 16, 2017

Sunday:	Is 55:10-11/Ps 65:10-14/Rom 8:18-23/Mt 13:1-23 or 13:1-9
Monday:	Ex 1:8-14, 22/Ps 124:1b-8/Mt 10:3411:1
Tuesday:	Ex 2:1-15a/Ps 69:3, 14, 30-31, 33-34/Mt 11:20-24
Wednesday:	Ex 3:1-6, 9-12/Ps 103:1b-4, 6-7/Mt 11:25-27
Thursday:	Ex 3:13-20/Ps 105:1, 5, 8-9, 24-27/Mt 11:28-30
Friday:	Ex 11:1012:14/Ps 116:12-13, 15, 16bc-18/Mt 12:1-8
Saturday:	Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17/Ps 63:2-6, 8-9/
	Jn 20:1-2, 11-18
Next Sunday:	Wis 12:13, 16-19/Ps 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16/Rom 8:26-27/
5	Mt 13:24-43 or 13:24-30

GOSPEL MEDITATION

"But some seed fell on rich soil, and produced fruit, a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold." In the parable of the sower that Jesus tells in today's Gospel, the ideal is to be "the seed sown on rich soil" that yields an abundant harvest. As Jesus explains, this means we should strive to be "the one who hears the word and understands it."

So how do we place ourselves in this category? How do we assure that we will hear God's voice (i.e., the word) and actually understand what he's saying to us? The answer comes in the parable itself. Jesus explains what we need to avoid in order to make sure our seed bears fruit. First, we must beware of "the evil one" who comes and steals away the seed of God's word. Faithfully praying the Lord's Prayer, with its request to "deliver us from evil," is a good starting point here. Placing ourselves under God's protection every day is like taking up a shield against the forces that would seek to derail us.

Secondly, we must be committed enough to God's word that "tribulation or persecution" do not uproot us or make our faith wither and die. Here, too, sincerely praying the petition in the Lord's Prayer--"Thy will be done"--can prepare us to accept whatever comes our way without waffling or wavering.

Finally, we must be careful that "worldly anxiety and the lure of riches" do not "choke" us. Again, we turn to the Lord's Prayer and find an antidote built in: "Give us this day our daily bread." We pray not for a new car or a winning lottery ticket, but for our basic needs.

So let us embrace the prayer Jesus gave us, indeed the words he himself gave us to say, as we seek to truly hear and understand God's word.

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK Live the Liturgy

We are reminded today that the seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest. What kind of soil do we have? God's word needs to take root in our lives so that we can remain faithful not only when life is easy but when it gets challenging and difficult. Anxiety, worldly cares and concerns, personal challenges, experiences of loss and death, and even fear and disappointment can prevent us from trusting God's promise. We can even find ourselves doubting God's fidelity and lose touch with his presence. Our soil can easily become rocky, hard, and unyielding. Open your eyes and ears today and let all that is around you lead you to God's presence. Then, do all in your power to cultivate and nurture a life that is eager to receive him and fertile for growing the seeds of God's kingdom.

