

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



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

"Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father." - Mt 13:43a

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

July 23, 2017



16th 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 24 Marian Movement of Priests Cenacle: 7:15pm in the church. Enter through door on left side of church. All are welcome!

**TUESDAY**, July 25

WEDNESDAY, July 26

THURSDAY, July 27 Holy Hour: 12 noon in the church

FRIDAY, July 28

SATURDAY, July 29 Men's Breakfast Group: 8am in Room 3

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

MONDAY, July 24

9:00 **Rev. Thomas E. McCarthy,** requested by the Parish of St. Ann

TUESDAY, July 25 9:00 Special Intentions

### WEDNESDAY, July 26

9:00 **For the health of Robert Guile (Living),** requested by the Faillace Family

THURSDAY, July 27

9:00 Special Intentions

FRIDAY, July 28 9:00 Special Intentions

### SATURDAY, July 29

4:00 In celebration of the 50th wedding anniversary of John and Alice Kuzia

### SUNDAY, July 30

- 7:30 **Donald Studley (12th Ann.)**, requested by Patricia Studley
- 9:30 John Vallee, requested by Ajoy and Nina Alphonso
- 11:00 **Marilyn Clavenna**, requested by Joan and Mike Gould

# (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** at a

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 16, 2017: \$5,812.71 Online Giving/Payments (week ending 7/19/17): \$2,469.00 Next weekend's 2<sup>nd</sup> collection: none

none

# 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.



Visit our website for news, events, to learn about our many ministries and for great resources: stannavon.org

# **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



"He replied, "No, if you pull up the weeds you might uproot the wheat along with them. Let them grow together until harvest; then at harvest time I will say to the harvesters, "First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles for burning; but gather the wheat into my barn." '" - Mt 13:29-30

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**

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.



# WHY DO WE DO THAT? CATHOLIC TRADITIONS EXPLAINED

## Question:

July 26 is the feast of Joachim and Anna. Who are they and what do we know about them?

### Answer:

Joachim and Anna are the parents of Mary, the mother of Jesus, yet there is absolutely no biblical reference to them whatsoever. So where do we get their names, and what is their story? Their names are found in an apocryphal gospel known as "The Infancy Gospel of James." Apocryphal, or hidden, gospels consist of accounts of Jesus' life that were ultimately not accepted as inspired works, and thus were not included in the Bible. However, they sometimes captured the Christian imagination, spilling into the devotional dimension of the community.

James' infancy gospel begins with the parents of Mary and their desire for a child. In their prayer and petitions to God, they are heard and given the blessings of a child, whom they named Mary. The fact that we celebrate the feast of Joachim and Anna indicates that the bond of family love is important in the Christian life. Long before Grandparents' Day was established, the church had a feast that honored the presumed grandparents of Jesus. While their names are part of non-inspired apocryphal legends, the Savior's human ancestry is not. Christ, the incarnate Word, dwelt among us in the flesh in a human family. In honoring the grandparents of Jesus we really proclaim our faith in the Incarnation--God becoming human!

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## JULY 23, 2017 – 16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### **EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP** Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments

How time flies! This coming year I will have one child graduate from college, one from high school, and one starting high school. I am exhausted thinking about it. My prayer for all my children is that they take the Holy Spirit with them in all that they do, and call on God to aid them in discerning their future. That is my prayer, but I know that it will not always be easy for them to follow this path. The key will be for each of them, if they choose, to be what God intended them to be, as opposed to trying to be what they want to be.

It sounds great to say to a child, "You can be anything you want to be." But at the core of this statement is often the lie that true happiness lies in fulfilling your will for your life. I have seen many people in my life that reached their goals only to find an emptiness and longing for something more. The reality is that our ultimate fulfillment and joy is becoming the person, not that we wanted to be, but the person that God created us to be. This does not mean that we are stuck in some predestined situation. There are many ways we can live out our destiny and use fully use the gifts God gave each of us. But it does mean that we have chosen a path based on where God is leading us and informed by an insight of the distinct gifts with which we have been created. At the end of that path is a life filled with joy, peace, and contentment.

This is what I want for my kids. May they find their success by discerning God's will and becoming the wonderful people that God intended.

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Tracy Earl Welliver, MT

**QUOTES** Words to Inspire the Faithful The word of God is a light to the mind and a fire to the will - St. Lawrence of Brindisi

### SUNDAY'S READINGS

#### First Reading:

But though you are master of might, you judge with clemency, and with much lenience you govern us; for power, whenever you will, attends you. (Wis 12:18)

#### Psalm:

Lord, you are good and forgiving. (Ps 86)

#### Second Reading:

Brothers and sisters: The Spirit comes to the aid of our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes with inexpressible groanings. (Rom 8:26)

#### Gospel:

"The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all who cause others to sin and all evildoers. They will throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father." (Mt 13:41-43a)

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### WEEKLY READINGS

#### Readings for the Week of July 23, 2017

Sunday:	Wis 12:13, 16-19/Ps 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16/Rom 8:26-27/
-	Mt 13:24-43 or 13:24-30
Monday:	Ex 14:5-18/Ex 15:1bc-6/Mt 12:38-42
Tuesday:	2 Cor 4:7-15/Ps 126:1bc-6/Mt 20:20-28
Wednesday:	Ex 16:1-5, 9-15/Ps 78:18-19, 23-28/Mt 13:1-9
Thursday:	Ex 19:1-2, 9-11, 16-20b/Dn 3:52-56/Mt 13:10-17
Friday:	Ex 20:1-17/Ps 19:8-11/Mt 13:18-23
Saturday:	Ex 24:3-8/Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15/Jn 11:19-27 or
-	Lk 10:38-42
Next Sunday:	1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12/Ps 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-130/
5	Rom 8:28-30/Mt 13:44-52 or 13:44-46

### **GOSPEL MEDITATION**

"The weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sows them is the devil." This is not a pretty picture. Jesus shares a parable in today's Gospel that reminds us of a truth we would rather forget: evil is real, and the devil is at work. The bountiful harvest of our faith is something that Satan wants to destroy. And he has a host of diabolical tactics to help him carry out his wicked plans. But there is one strategy in particular that we must be on guard against.

As the French poet Charles Baudelaire put it, "The devil's finest trick is to persuade you that he does not exist." Sneaky as it may be, this approach is effective! And, unfortunately, the attitude of our modern era is very conducive to buying the lie. Too often we dismiss the idea of the invisible spiritual reality of angels and demons. It doesn't seem "scientific" enough for us because it can't be seen or "proven." But neither can our faith! We believe in a host of invisible realities starting with God himself. We should not be fooled into thinking that the devil is a make-believe cartoon character with red horns and a pitchfork on his shoulder. Alas, no. As the "Catechism of the Catholic Church" reminds us, "Scripture witnesses to the disastrous influence of the one Jesus calls 'a murderer from the beginning" (CCC 394) and, as we read in the Bible, "Indeed, the Son of God was revealed to destroy the works of the Devil" (1 Jn 3:8). This is not pretend, and so it must be taken seriously. But so too, the reality of Satan must be situated within the broader context of God's supreme power. The devil "cannot prevent the building up of God's reign" (CCC 395). The influence of evil can never defeat the power of our faith, unless we let it do so.

### **INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK** Live the Liturgy

Today we are presented with the parable of the weeds and the wheat. We struggle with the imperfection that exists in our world. This imperfection shows itself in human sinfulness with its consequences--disease, natural disasters, suffering, and even death. We wonder why God did not simply make everything perfect right from the beginning so that harmony, peace, and tranquility would be the norm. God builds free will into us and into our world so that we can learn to freely love him. Anything less than this would not provide the freedom to choose to acknowledge and develop our relationship with our Creator. For now, the weeds and the wheat must coexist. Our faith teaches us that we live and walk in hope that when the harvest comes only the wheat of God's love will remain.

