



# 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: [deaconjeff@stannavon.com](mailto:deaconjeff@stannavon.com)

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

Valerie St. Jean: ext. 223 [valerie.stjean@stannavon.com](mailto:valerie.stjean@stannavon.com)

## CONFIRMATION & YOUTH MINISTRY DIRECTOR

Rosemary Neamtz, MSW: ext. 226

[rosemary.neamtz@stannavon.com](mailto:rosemary.neamtz@stannavon.com)

## REGISTRAR & CONFIRMATION ASSISTANT

Jennifer Soucy: ext.227 [jennifer.soucy@stannavon.com](mailto:jennifer.soucy@stannavon.com)

## DIRECTOR OF ADULT EDUCATION

Ann DiStefano, MPS: ext. 228 [ann.distefano@stannavon.com](mailto:ann.distefano@stannavon.com)

## 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)

## CEMETERY SUPERINTENDENT

Mike Gould: ext. 225

## BAPTISMS (Registered Parishioners):

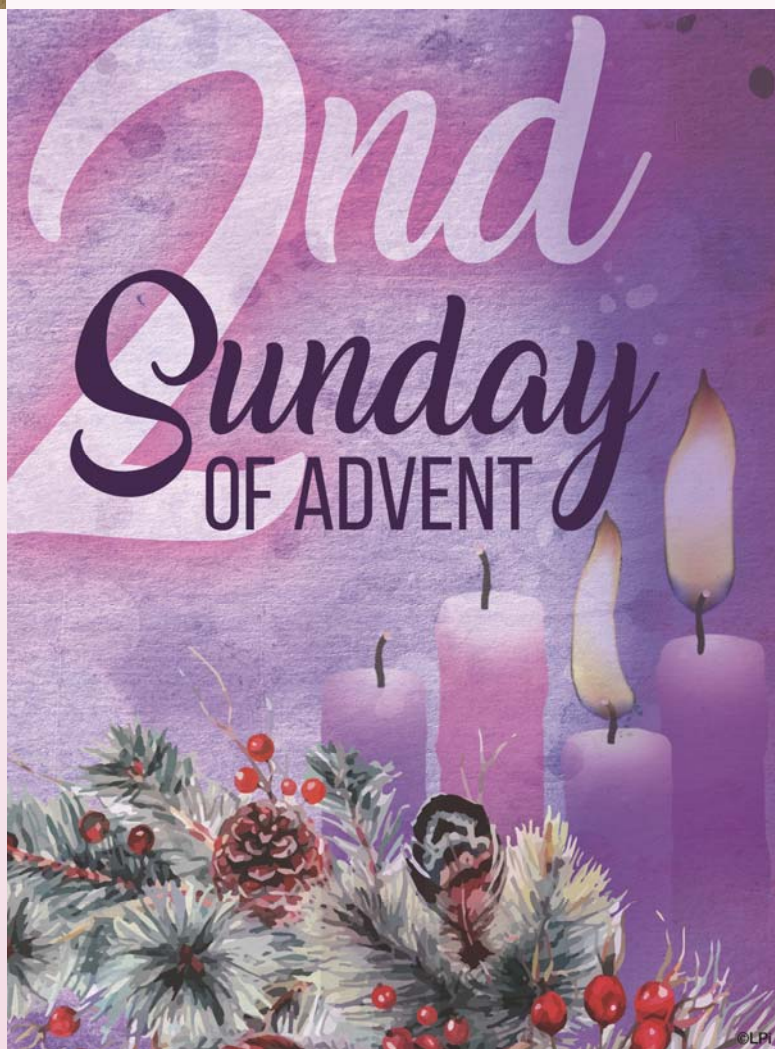
Call the Parish Office

## 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.



## 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



## 2nd Sunday Of Advent

### MONDAY, December 11

9:00 **James Coleman Snyder, Jr.**, requested by  
Dianne Simpson

### TUESDAY, December 12

9:00 **Fr. Thomas P. Quinn**, requested by  
Sandy Bondhus

### WEDNESDAY, December 13

9:00 **Arthur Godbout, Sr.**, requested by the family

### THURSDAY, December 14

9:00 **Anna ZuWallack**, requested by  
the ZuWallack Family

### FRIDAY, December 15

9:00 **Bill & Terry Roderick**, requested by  
Tom & Pat Heavren

### SATURDAY, December 16

4:00 **Carol Bondhus Fitzgerald**, requested by  
the Bondhus Family

### SUNDAY, December 17

7:30 **Christopher Hwang**, requested by the family  
9:30 **John O'Neill**, requested by Heidi O'Neill  
11:00 **For the Intentions of the Hwang and Joo  
Families**, requested by the family

# 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, December 11

**MMP Cenacle:** 7:15pm in the church.

*Enter through door on left side of church. All are welcome!*

**Social Justice Committee Meeting:** 7pm in Room 2

**Advent Reflections:** 7:15pm in Rooms 1 & 3

### TUESDAY, December 12

**RCIA:** 7pm in Rm. 3

### WEDNESDAY, December 13

**Psalms Bible Study:** 9:30am in Rooms 2 & 3

**Matthew Bible Study:** 7:15pm in Room 3

### THURSDAY, December 14

**Advent Reflections:** 9:30am in the Activity Room

**Holy Hour:** 12 noon in the church

**Adult Confirmation:** 7pm in Room 3

**Traditional Choir:** 2pm in the Choir Loft

**Children's Choir:** 4:15pm in the Choir Loft

**Folk/Contemporary Choir:** 7:30pm in the Choir Loft

### FRIDAY, December 15

**Matthew Bible Study:** 9:30am in Room 3

**Christmas Pageant DRESS Rehearsal (ALL PERFORMERS):**  
4-6pm in the church

### SATURDAY, December 16

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

**The Living Nativity Christmas Pageant:** 6pm in the church

### SUNDAY, December 17

**Divine Mercy Holy Hour:** 2:30pm in the church

**Advent Reflections:** 10:30am in Room 3



## YOUTH MINISTRY POINSETTIA SALE December 9/10

This is the Poinsettia Sale's last weekend. Please help us decorate our beautiful church for Christmas by purchasing a poinsettia in memory of, or in honor of, a loved one. Plants are \$10 each and will be used to decorate the church. They will be sold in the Gathering Space after Masses this weekend Dec. 9/10

**WE HAVE OPLATEK**  
We will also be selling Oplatek,  
Polish Christmas wafers,  
during the plant sale.



## The Living Nativity

A Christmas Pageant

Saturday, December 16th

6:00 pm in the church

This magical, musical retelling of the Christmas story is a feast for eyes and ears; an inspiring all-ages performance.

All parishioners are cordially invited to join our child-performers in singing for Joy!

**Admission is free.**

## Christmas Pageant DRESS Rehearsal



**Full Cast**  
**Friday, December 15th**  
**4:00 - 6pm**

Please consult your rehearsal schedule or contact Susan Rietano Davey if you are unsure whether your child(ren) should attend, or if you have any questions: [srietano@gmail.com](mailto:srietano@gmail.com).

## Divine Mercy Holy Hour



**Next Sunday, Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>**  
**2:30 - 3:30pm in the church**

Our Lord told St. Faustina, "For the soul that trusts much will be given." Please join us as we place our trust in Jesus!

## How We Can Help the Homeless During the Holidays...

Once again we will be collecting socks, gloves, and hats to make gift bags for the men at ImmaCare shelter. Also, Chapsticks and toiletries. Hopefully, we will get enough to also have some distributed to those men and women who remain outside until the weather becomes life threatening. Please drop off any donations in the kitchen & label for Immacare. Our thanks & wishes for a blessed holiday season.



## Gifts for those in Convalescent Homes

Once again St. Ann's would like to remember those in Convalescent Homes for the holiday with:

**Ladies/Gentlemen:** Small blankets, combs, nail clippers, picture frames, sweat pants & tops, eyeglass holders, sweaters (prefer button front style), writing paper, envelopes & stamps, large faced watches & clocks, slippers, socks, bathrobes, PJs, hats, bird feeders that attach to windows, large-face playing cards, wall decorations, wicker baskets for odds and ends, and artificial flower/plant arrangements

**Ladies:** Costume jewelry, pins, necklaces earrings, hair picks, perfume, powder, cosmetic bags, emery boards, nail polish, nightgowns, knee-highs, bed jackets & easy to open pocketbooks

**Gentlemen:** Flannel shirts, after-shave lotion.

Please mark each package for size, ladies or men.

Please place in box in the Gathering Space From Sunday, Dec. 10th through Dec. 17th

Questions? Call Ida Maillet: 860-673-4861



## Annual Toy/Gift Collection

**Weekend of**  
**December 16/17**

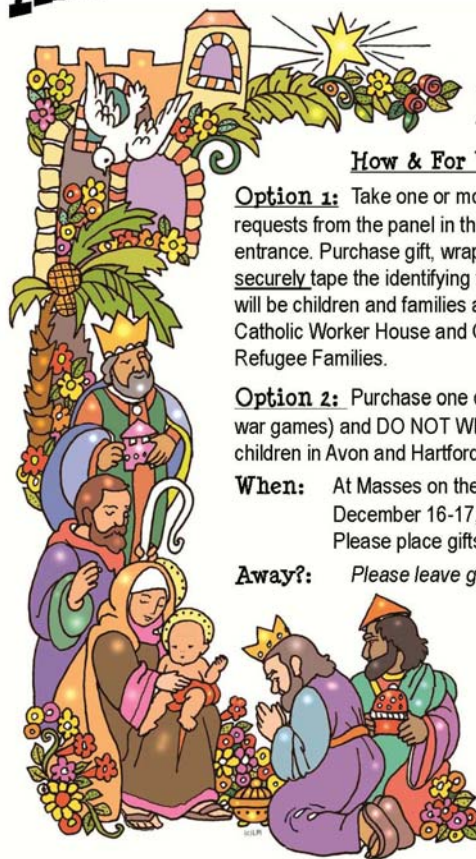
### How & For Whom:

**Option 1:** Take one or more paper Christmas gift requests from the panel in the Gathering Space & side entrance. Purchase gift, wrap in Christmas paper and securely tape the identifying tag to the gift. Recipients will be children and families at Family Life Education, Catholic Worker House and Catholic Charities Refugee Families.

**Option 2:** Purchase one or more gifts (please, no war games) and DO NOT WRAP. Recipients will be children in Avon and Hartford.

**When:** At Masses on the weekend of December 16-17, 2017  
 Please place gifts in Fr. Bennett Hall

**Away?:** Please leave gifts in Fr. Bennett Hall.



God Bless You  
 For Your  
 Generosity

Sponsored by the  
 Social Justice  
 Committee

## ADULT FAITH FORMATION

### Join our Advent Reflection Series for Small Groups!

- Gather with friends weekly at home or at church
- Read and discuss insightful, inspiring reflections on the Christmas story
- Explore the connections between the Sunday readings and your life, via *Lectio Divina*



Church-based Small Groups are meeting Nov 26-Dec 21. Come when you can!

**Sundays, 10:30am-12pm, Room 3**  
**Mondays, 7:15-8:45pm, Rooms 1 & 3**  
**Thursdays, 9:30-11am, Activity Room**

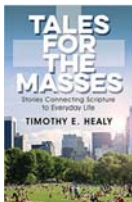
Our resource is *"Do You See What I See?"*.

the Advent booklet from The Word Among Us, available in the Gathering Space. The Discussion Guide is online at [stannavon.org](http://stannavon.org).

To register for one of the church-based groups, or learn how to form your own home-based small group with friends, contact Ann: [ann.distefano@stannavon.com](mailto:ann.distefano@stannavon.com) or (860) 673-9858, x228

## WEEKLY ORDINARY INCOME

**December 3, 2017:** \$8,287.38  
**Online Giving (week ending 12/6/17):** \$2,522.00  
**Next weekend's 2<sup>nd</sup> collection:**  
*Monthly*



### Deacon Tim's New Book!

Deacon Tim's book of homily stories has just been published by CSS Publications. If you've enjoyed his homilies you'll likely enjoy this collection of stories, taken from his homilies over the last sixteen years. If you can't stand his homilies, Deacon Tim suggests you consider buying a copy for someone you don't like, just to annoy them. Who knows – they might be converted! You can find the volume on Amazon.com, directly from the publisher at: <http://store.csspub.com/prod-0788028464.htm> or you can just ask Deacon Tim to get one for you (less expensive).

## December Bulletin Announcement Deadlines

Sunday Bulletin:	Announcement Deadline:	Bulletin Upload Date:
December 17	Friday, 12/8	December 12
December 24	Tuesday, 12/12	December 18
December 31	Monday, 12/18	December 22

## CENACLES of the Marian Movement of Priests



**Question:** Is the cenacle primarily for priests?

**Answer:** No. In Message #34 (1-17-74), Our introduces this question, "Why do I want them to come together in cenacle with me?" In this message she addresses herself to the priests, but what she tells them is also applicable to the laity. She wants all her children—priests, religious, laity, families, to gather together with her in cenacles of prayer, to pray with her and to learn how to love one another. Also, the cenacle helps us to deepen our understanding and live the obligations we have undertaken through our consecration to her

Immaculate Heart. We refer you to the message dated Nov. 1, 1973, "my Faithful Cohort." (#25)

*Excerpt from Cenacles of the Marian Movement of Priests Purpose/Guide*

Our cenacle meets every Monday at 7:15pm in the church.  
 Come pray the Rosary with us.



## HEARTS & SOULS

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 generally the 2nd Sunday of each month from 8:15-11am in the Sacristy (2<sup>nd</sup> door on the left as you enter the vestibule of the church). No appointment necessary.

## 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**.

# SAVE THE DATE

## The 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Book Sale January 12-14, 2018

All proceeds go to Catholic High School Student Scholarships.

**Please donate books in good condition during the following book sale collection dates/times:**

Wednesday, January 10<sup>th</sup>: between 9:30 AM - 6 PM

Thursday, January 11<sup>th</sup>: between 9:30 AM - 6 PM

Friday, January 12<sup>th</sup>: between 9:30 - 11:30 AM

**Please donate:** best sellers, fiction, non-fiction, religious, classics, biographies, self-help books, vintage books, cookbooks, collectibles, large print, children's books, young readers, memoirs, books-on-CD, music CDs, movies on DVD, and (new this year) record albums.

**Please do NOT donate:** encyclopedias, textbooks, magazines, VHS movies, records, or cassette tapes.

In addition to books, please donate sturdy computer paper boxes and box tops.

### January 2018 Book Sale dates:

Friday, January 12<sup>th</sup>: 5-7:30pm- \$5 adult admission

Saturday, January 13<sup>th</sup>: 9am- 6pm (no admission fee)

Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup>: 8am- 12:30pm (no admission fee)

**SUPER SALE: From 5-6pm on Saturday and during all Sunday hours, you can choose 20 books for \$5**

### Volunteers are needed for sorting books

To volunteer at the January 2018 Book Sale, please contact

Nancy Casey (860.673.3141) [nancekc@gmail.com](mailto:nancekc@gmail.com) or

Constance Rotondo (860.404.0204) [constance.rotondo@comcast.net](mailto:constance.rotondo@comcast.net)

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## Calling All Artists!

**WHO:** Artists of all ages

**WHAT:** Your art work as a donation to the 9<sup>th</sup> 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:** Donations happily accepted, preferably by January 26, 2018

### 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)

## EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

### Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments

*Sometimes you have something to share with people that causes you to well up inside with excitement to the point of going crazy. A pregnancy test, a pay raise, a college acceptance, and wedding engagement are all examples of moments in life when we might be bursting at the seams to tell somebody the good news. When we finally get the chance to tell somebody, joy just seems to flow through us with ease. We literally want the entire world to share in our jubilation.*

*When was the last time you shared with a friend or loved one how much your faith in Jesus means to you? You don't feel the same motivation to share? Are you not overwhelmed with a desire to spread the good news?*

*Don't feel bad. You are not alone. As Christians, we often fail to grasp the powerful implications of being a disciple of Jesus Christ. We can become complacent and lose sight of what matters the most. That is when sharing with others about our faith seems uncomfortable.*

*Faith is a gift. As everyday stewards we are called to share with others what God has given us. Advent is a great time to grow in our faith and love of the Lord. The more we cultivate our faith and the closer we draw to him, the more we will want to share about him. We might not have the impact of John the Baptist in the course of human history, but our proclamation of the Gospel to others might be the gift that changes their history.*  
Tracy Earl Welliver, MT

## QUOTES

Words to Inspire the Faithful  
*In the evening of life, we will  
be judged on love alone*  
- St. Francis Xavier

## SUNDAY'S READINGS

### First Reading:

A voice cries out: In the desert prepare the way of the LORD!  
Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God! (Is 40:3)

### Psalm:

Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation. (Ps 85)

### Second Reading:

The Lord does not delay his promise, as some regard "delay," but he is patient with you, not wishing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. (2 Pt 3:9)

### Gospel:

John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins... John was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He fed on locusts and wild honey. And this is what he proclaimed: "One mightier than I is coming after me." (Mk 1:4, 6-7a)

*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 December 10, 2017

Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 [8]/2 Pt 3:8-14/  
Mk 1:1-8  
Monday: Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [Is 35:4f]/  
Lk 5:17-26  
Tuesday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/  
Jdt 13:18bcde, 19 [15:9d]/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47  
Wednesday: Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10 [1]/Mt 11:28-30  
Thursday: Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab [8]/  
Mt 11:11-15  
Friday: Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [cf. Jn 8:12]/  
Mt 11:16-19  
Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19 [4]/  
Mt 17:9a, 10-13  
Next Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54 [Is 61:10b]/  
1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

## GOSPEL MEDITATION

"People of the whole Judean countryside and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem were going out to him." John the Baptist commanded quite a crowd. What was the attraction? Was it his unusual appearance--clothed in camel's hair? Perhaps it was his bizarre eating habits--feeding on locusts and wild honey. Or maybe people were captivated by the Baptist's remarkable humility in the face of such huge popularity--"I am not worthy."

Unlike our modern fascination with standing in the presence of superstars, the crowds who flocked to John weren't looking for a thrill. They weren't lining up for autographs. They were lining up for baptism. And they were acknowledging their sins at the same time. John was proclaiming "a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins." And people came because they were longing to experience the freedom of that forgiveness.

John called them to conversion. To convert means to turn, in this case to turn away from sin. And the crowds were anxious to do so in order to "prepare the way of the Lord." For these first-century Jews, the imminent approach of the Messiah came with a call for conversion and they took this call very seriously.

Now, for us, as twenty-first century Christians, the Church, like John the Baptist, calls us to prepare and repent during this season of Advent. Will we take the call seriously? Will we examine the areas of our lives that need to change? Will we pray for God's help to overcome our habitual sin and to make choices based on generosity instead of selfishness? Now is the time to heed the message. Now is the time to "prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths."

## INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK


### Live the Liturgy

John the Baptist announced, "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." Does preparing a way for the Lord have priority in our lives? Often we spend more time preparing paths for ourselves rather than a path for God. Advent calls us to take the focus off ourselves and put it on God. We prepare a path for God by practicing and living the virtues, being holy and devoted, patient and repentant, and attentive and humble. We are asked to bring comfort and healing to people and to show others by the way we live our lives that we have a higher calling and purpose.

## THE BULLETIN BOARD

**DAILY**  
**ADVENT CHALLENGE**

In the next few days,  
determine to spend some  
extra time with someone who  
needs you. It could be a son or  
daughter, a parent, a friend,  
or a co-worker.



### Shrine of Lourdes in Litchfield, Grotto Gift Shop

Beginning Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup> until December 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Grotto Gift Shop at the Shrine of Lourdes in Litchfield will be open from 10:30 am to 4:00 pm Monday to Saturday & Sunday, 11:30 am (after Mass) until 4:00 pm. The Shrine is located on 50 Montfort Rd., Rte. 118, Litchfield, CT.

There is a varied selection of Advent wreaths and candles along with many new Christmas ornaments, cards & Fontanini Nativity sets. Also, unique gifts and books are available for all occasions, particularly baby & children's items.

**Coping with Grief and Loss  
During the Holidays**

Joe Colletti, Bereavement Consultant,  
will present at two locations.

**Monday, December 11**  
**2:00 – 3:30 P.M.**  
The Lodge 130 Deerfield Road, Windsor, CT

**OR**  
**6:30 – 8:00 P.M.**  
Carmon Funeral Home & Family Center  
Family Center Entrance  
301 Country Club Road  
Avon, CT

*Light refreshments will be served.*

This program is free and open to the public,  
but **please R.S.V.P. by December 7th** to let us know if you would  
like to attend and which location you will be attending.

**860-688-2200** Windsor  
**860-673-8610** Avon

Offered by—  
**CARMON** Community Funeral Homes  
Funerals • Cremation • PrePlanning

and **MARY'S PLACE**  
A center for grieving children & families

### THIS WEEKEND! Catholic Bethlehem Christian Families Will Be at St. Ann Next Weeked With Their Lovely Olive Wood Items from the Holy Land

**December 9/10**

Representatives from Catholic Bethlehem Christian Families will be with us on the weekend of Dec 9 & 10, 2017, to ask for your help and blessing for the native people of the Holy Land in Bethlehem. These families, sixty years ago, made up 18% of the population. Due to recent events in the Middle East, it has caused these families to face devastating economical strain, and caused the population to decrease to less than 2% in the Holy Land. These families have relied on the income from their religious hand carved olive wood artifacts to tourist. So we have come to the USA to try to help support these families by bringing their artifacts here to sell in the USA. All the proceed from sales will be send back to the families of the Holy Land so that they may be able to keep their homes and provide their families. The last few years were very tough for the Christian families, and this is the only source of income for them.

Please browse their items and  
consider gifting loved ones  
something from the Holy Land!

