

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

DEACONS

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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

UNDAY OF EASTER

am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever - remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, , because without me you can do nothing." - Jn 15:5

MASS SCHEDULE:

Monday - Friday: 9:00 am

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Man 62001 1998, 1970 CCD.

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

April 29, 2018

5th Sunday

of Easter



MONDAY, April 30

9:00 Edward J. Hanley, requested by his wife, Frances

TUESDAY, May 1 9:00 Special Intentions

WEDNESDAY, May 2

9:00 Jonathan Gaddis, requested by the ZuWallack Family

THURSDAY, May 3

9:00 Gerald deSimas (6 mo. Ann.), requested by Cathy deSimas

FRIDAY, May 4

9:00 **Joseph and Margaret Juliano**, requested by the Abate Family

SATURDAY, May 5

4:00 Sam Riela, requested by the family

SUNDAY, May 6

- 7:30 Linda and Salvatore Bonini, requested by the family
- 9:30 Sheila O'Hagan Jadovich (1st Ann.), requested by her sister, Evelyn O'Hagan
- 11:00 Jane Walczak and Janet Pendergast, requested by the Osiecki Family



Day of Caring: May 5th

Come join St. Ann Cares on May 5th. Our project this year is for a parishioner in Avon. Project includes: bathroom remodel, window and door replacing painting and landscaping. We will need carpentry help prior to May 5. For those

interested in learning about our project or volunteering, contact Steve Rose at 860–250–5355 or at <u>sjrose1088@gmail.com</u>





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, April 30

MMP Cenacle: 7:15pm in the church. Enter through door on left side of church. All are welcome!
Young Adult Bible Study: 7pm in the Activity Room
"Unpacking the Sunday Scriptures": 7:15pm in Rm. 3

TUESDAY, May 1

RCIA: 7pm in Room 3 Falling Upward Book Discussion: 7:15pm in Room 2

WEDNESDAY, May 2 Matthew Bible Study: will return April 18th

THURSDAY, May 3

Falling Upward Book Discussion: 7:15pm in Room 3 Holy Hour: 12 noon in the church Folk/Contemporary Choir: 7:30pm in the Choir Loft St. Ann Cares Ministry Meeting: 7pm in Room 1

FRIDAY, May 4

Matthew Bible Study: 9:30am in Room 3 Traditional Choir: 2pm in the Choir Loft

SATURDAY, May 5

Men's Breakfast Group: 8am in Room 3 First Communion: 10am in the church

SUNDAY, May 6 "Unpacking the Sunday Scriptures": 10:30am in Rm. 3

2018-2019 Faith Formation School Year Registration



It's time to plan for our 2018-2019 Faith Formation school year. Again this year, we will automatically enroll all existing students into the next grade level assuming all requirements have been met. Please visit our website for the registration form and return with your payment on or before June 1, 2018. Registrations received after June 1st will be charged a \$40 late fee. Please do not hold up your child(ren)'s registration due to financial issues. We are happy to make payment arrangements that work for your family. All information is confidential.

CENACLES of the Marian Movement of Priests



Question: Is the cenacle primarily for priests? Answer: No. In Message #34 (1-17-74), Our Lady 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 childrenpriests, 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.



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 (2nd 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**.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

This Spring, Let God Breathe New Life 9nto Your Relationship With Him!

"Unpacking the Sunday Scriptures"

Helps you connect the Bible to your daily life, and enhance your experience of Mass. Join us for community, refreshments, prayer and conversation featuring the popular Lectio Divina practice. All materials are provided. **Drop-ins are welcome!**

- Sundays, 10:30am-12pm in Rm. 3 with Chip Janiszewski
- Mondays, 7:15-8:45pm in Rm. 3 with Jim Serruta *Register with Ann DiStefano, (860)673-9858, x. 228 Or ann.distefano@stannavon.com*

"Falling Upward-A Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life" Book Discussion

Whether you're in the first or second half of life, this book by Fr. Richard Rohr is for you! Explore how "falling down" at times helps us move upward in spiritual growth. You'll find hot coffee, a warm welcome, and rich conversation.

- Tuesdays, began April 17th, 7:15-8:45pm in Rm. 2
- Thursdays, began April 19th, 9:30-11am in Rm. 3



Please join us on May 6th as we crown Our Lady at the 11:00am Mass.

Second Graders are welcome to wear their 7irst Communion outfits!



Ladies, save this date on your calendar! The Men of St. Ann once again want to treat the ladies of the parish to a special night out. This is a well attended event so be sure to get your reservations in early. Reservations can be made with John Kuzia: 860-284-0020 or email: kman@kuzia.com

Seating is limited so reservations are a must.



WEEKLY ORDINARY INCOME

April 22 2018: not available at time of upload Online Giving/Payments (week ending 4/25/18): \$4,623.00 Next weekend's 2nd collection: none

Perennial Plant Sale Saturday, May 19th St. Ann's Parking Lot Calling All Gardeners!

As the weather grows warmer and you start to work in your yards this spring, please consider sharing some of your perennials that are ready for dividing. We would elcome the donation of purchased perennials if you are unable to donate from your own gardens.

> If you enjoy gardening, we would love to have you join us. We are a small committee and could use some additional hands for our 10th annual sale.

> > Further information will follow about plant drop-off dates. If you have any questions or would like to help, please call Jean Frey at 860-673-1949.

The proceeds from the sale will benefit the Social Justice Scholarship Program, which provides partial tuition support to deserving urban students who attend area Catholic high schools.

Our Faith, Our Future Archbishop's Annual Appeal

Thank you to the parish families who have made a gift or pledge commitment to the 2018 Archbishop's Annual Appeal. If you have not yet had the opportunity, please consider prayerfully supporting the many "Good Works" of the Archdiocese. Every gift will be gratefully received and sincerely appreciated.



THE 25-23

st. Ann's Summer Bible Camp





website and there are some outside of the

Faith Formation Office.

Looking For A Fun ♦ Simple Way That Your Family Can Help Others?

The St. Ann Community Garden provides fresh, healthy produce to

the Avon Food Pantry located at our church. The garden was started as a way for kids & families to help others in need. Eagle Scout Ian D'Archangelo built the garden, and St. Ann families maintain it. We plan, plant, tend and harvest the garden. In the process, we have lots of **fun** together, **pray** about the people we are helping, and learn a few things about growing veggies.

Here's How Your Family Can Get Involved:

- Planting Day is Saturday, May 12th at 11am. Meet us at the garden, behind the church. All are welcome, no experience necessary!
- Families are needed throughout the growing season (May - September) to water and tend to the garden. Many hands make light work!
- Contact: Leo leo.distefano@comcast.net to sign up or for more information

Dear Parishioners,

This year there will be 53 candidates receiving the sacrament of First Holy Eucharist. They received their First Reconciliation on January 20, 2018, and are preparing for reception of the Blessed Sacrament in the Spring. Soon we will putting out the Little Lambs for you to select a child and pray for them while they prepare for their sacrament.

Due to the overwhelming positive response, we would like to continue to gift each child with a First Communion Bible. We are asking that you sponsor any child or children, with this gift anonymously and it will be presented to them on their First Communion Day. In return, we will be asking the children to pray for the person who gave it to them every time they read their Bible.

The Bibles are reasonably priced and if you are interested in being part of this beautiful event, please pick up a form on the tables in the Gathering Space and return it with your payment of \$15.00 per Bible (made out to Church of St. Ann). Please mail to the church in an envelope clearly marked "for First Communion Bible" or drop it off at the Parish Offices. How pleased Jesus must be to know that both the children of this year's First Eucharist class and the adults of our Parish are praying for each other!

Thank you so much for your consideration and for your prayerful support of these beautiful children!

Yours in Christ, Father McHugh





APRIL 29, 2018 – 5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments

When I was a teenager, I had an experience that truly changed my life and helped me to give Jesus all of myself. I had been baptized Catholic and always had faith, but it took a specific event to really shake me out of the comfort of my life and set me on a path devoted to God. I didn't get knocked off a horse or find an open tomb, but for me it was powerful enough to make a huge impact.

Testimonies of how people came to live as intentional disciples have great power. Often the stories do not include singular events or people; instead they speak of a gradual unfolding of faith. It is often the culmination of several events and the work of more than one person that brings a person to the point of real decision.

Living as good stewards, we can help move people forward in their journey with God. Giving of ourselves freely can move human hearts like few other forces. God working through us can bring others to see that simply saying that Jesus is the Savior of the world does not mean we live our lives differently. It takes more thought and reflection on our part to move past words to intentional acts with intentional results. I don't know if all those involved in that event when I was a teenager knew what an effect their good stewardship would have on me, but I am so thankful they provided a way for God to touch me. I have spent my entire life trying to pay them back by allowing God to touch others through me. Just what person might God touch through you today? -Tracy Earl Welliver, MT

QUOTES Words to Inspire the Faithful

I think that if any ood thing shall go forward, something must be adventured - St. Thomas More

SUNDAY'S READINGS

First Reading:

The church throughout all Judea, Galilee, and Samaria was at peace. It was being built up and walked in the fear of the Lord, and with the consolation of the Holy Spirit it grew in numbers. (Acts 9:31)

Psalm:

I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people. (Ps 22)

Second Reading:

Children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth. (1 Jn 3:18)

Gospel:

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He takes away every branch in me that does not bear fruit, and everyone that does he prunes so that it bears more fruit." (Jn 15:1-2)

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

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WEEKLY READINGS

Readings for the Week of April 29, 2018		
Sunday:	Acts 9:26-31/Ps 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32 [26a]/1 Jn 3:18-24/	
	Jn 15:1-8	
Monday:	Acts 14:5-18/Ps 115:1-2, 3-4, 15-16 [1ab]/Jn 14:21-26	
Tuesday:	Acts 14:19-28/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21 [cf. 12]/Jn 14:27-31a	
St. Joseph the	Worker: Gn 1:26-2:3 or Col 3:14-15, 17, 23-24	
	/Ps 90:2, 3-4, 12-13, 14 and 16 [cf. 17b]/Mt 13:54-58	
Wednesday:	Acts 15:1-6/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5 [cf. 1]/Jn 15:1-8	
Thursday:	1 Cor 15:1-8/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 [5]/Jn 14:6-14	
Friday:	Acts 15:22-31/Ps 57:8-9, 10 and 12 [10a]/Jn 15:12-17	
Saturday:	Acts 16:1-10/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5/Jn 15:18-21	
Next Sunday:	Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 [cf. 2b]/	
	1 Jn 4:7-10/Jn 15:9-17	

GOSPEL MEDITATION

Are you ready for a trim? In today's Gospel, we hear the familiar teaching of the vine and the branches. Jesus reminds us that if we remain close to him-living in humility, following God's law, loving our neighbor-we will notice a positive change in our life and the lives of those around us. "Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit." The Holy Spirit is life-giving. He is fruitful. The Spirit of God won't refuse grace to a heart that is open.

As we progress through life, learning how to live and love, we grow. Our personalities flower. We discover what it is to be a blessing to others. We also experience lack, loss, and the results of our failures. We know what it is like to "wither" at times, particularly the times when we willingly separate ourselves from Jesus. "Just as a branch cannot bear fruit on its own unless it remains on the vine, so neither can you unless you remain in me." For most of us, this experience of being disconnected and off track generates a desire to return to what is right and good, to return to the vine.

But this Gospel is more than "Are you in or are you out?" Even when we remain in God, when we follow Jesus, we are not exempt from the challenge, the pruning. "Everyone that [bears fruit] he prunes." A prudent trim is necessary in the natural world of trees and vines. Dead wood, broken shoots, and diseased branches need to be cut back in order for the plant to bear fruit. Jesus wants us to be healthy! He says as much himself: "By this is my Father glorified, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples." Take a look at your life today. Where are you bearing fruit? Where do you need to be pruned?

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK Live the Liturgy

"Let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth." Real love, especially unconditional love, cannot exist apart from action. We are called to bear much fruit and become Jesus' disciples. We live in a world that is suffering so badly. By our actions and the way we organize our lives, we can model the Gospel values that many no longer see as important. We can be healers who put mercy into action. We can choose to unconditionally respect human life and challenge those who do not. We can live nonviolent lives, resist the lust for power, and avoid greed in all its forms. It is difficult to live the Gospel message of love. We will often be met with rejection. We need to allow God to prune away everything that makes it difficult to love. Then we have to take the risk and call others to a higher standard, no matter the price.

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