



# 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

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## RCIA DIRECTOR & LITURGY COORDINATOR

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## DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Tom Stockton: ext. 230

## PARISH OFFICE MANAGER

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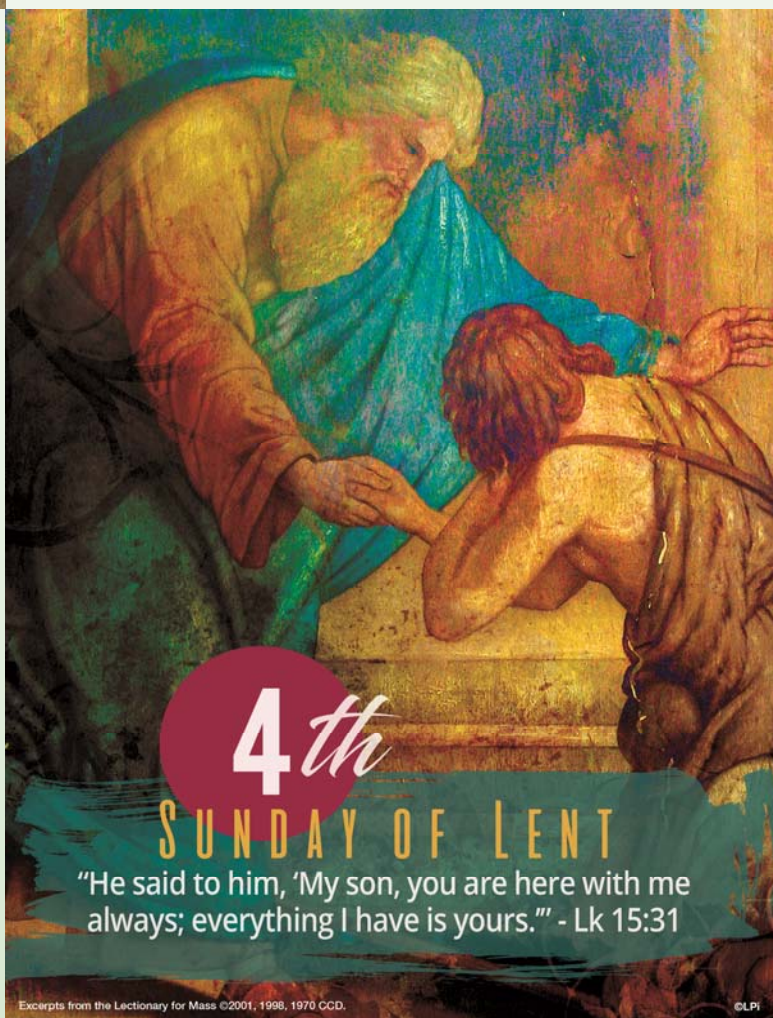
**BAPTISMS:** Registered parishioners call the Parish Office

## 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.



## 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:

Eucharistic Adoration:

Mondays 9:30-10:30am

Rosary: 8:30 am, daily

Chaplet: following daily Mass

MMP Cenacle: Mondays at 7:15pm

Holy Hour: Thursdays at 12 Noon



### 4th Sunday of Lent

**MONDAY, April 1**  
9:00 Special Intentions

**TUESDAY, April 2**  
9:00 Special Intentions

**WEDNESDAY, April 3**  
9:00 Special Intentions

**THURSDAY, April 4**  
9:00 Carol DeVita, requested by  
the DeVita Family

**FRIDAY, April 5**  
9:00 Joseph and Margaret Juliano, requested  
by the Abate Family

**SATURDAY, April 6**  
4:00 Derek Stockwell, requested by  
Maria Rodrigues

**SUNDAY, April 7**  
7:30 Claude Maillet, requested by  
Doris and Lionel Cyr  
9:30 Jack Tromza, requested by  
Mary Jane Jeter  
11:00 Nicholas Dias (18th Ann.), requested by  
the Alphonso Family



## Centennial Celebration

Centennial invitations were mailed to every registered family in our parish. We are looking forward to a wonderful evening and hope to see many of our fellow parishioners enjoying this celebration. If you haven't received an invitation, they are available at the church offices.

**PLEASE BE MINDFUL OF THE  
RESPONSE DATE, APRIL 12.**



*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 1

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:** 9:30-10:30am in the church  
**MMP Cenacle-Rosary Prayer Group:** 7:15pm in the church.

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

**Prayer Shawl Ministry Meeting:** 7pm in Room 2

**Getting More Out of Mass Lent Program:** 7:15pm in Rm. 3

#### TUESDAY, April 2

**RCIA (morning group):** 9:30am in Room 3

**RCIA (evening group):** 7pm in Room 3

#### WEDNESDAY, April 3

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

**1 Corinthians Bible Study:** 6:30pm in Room 3

#### THURSDAY, April 4

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

**St. Ann Cares Meeting:** 7pm in Room 2

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

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

#### FRIDAY, April 5

**Getting More Out of Mass Lent Program:** 9:30am in Room

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

**Stations of the Cross:** 7pm in the church

#### SATURDAY, April 6

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

#### SUNDAY, April 7

**Getting More Out of Mass Lent Program:** 10:25am in Rm. 3

**The Mass Video Series:** 12pm in Fr. Bennett Hall



## Youth Ministry Easter Plant Sale Starts This Weekend!

**March 30-31 & April 6-7**

Please help beautify our Church for Easter by supporting the Youth Ministry Easter Plant Sale. Plants are \$10 and can be purchased in honor of, or in memory of a loved one after Masses. The plants will decorate our altar for Easter.



## ADULT FAITH FORMATION

More details are at [stannavon.com](http://stannavon.com), or contact Ann DiStefano

### *Adult Enrichment for Lent 2019: The Mass: An Invitation from Jesus*



The Mass is a divine banquet. This Lent, let's DIG IN to the Mass and explore its beauty, meaning and power.

### **Bishop Robert Barron's "The Mass" 6-part Video Series (come when you can!)**

*An in-depth, engaging walk through the Mass with brilliant, personable Bishop Barron. Lite brunch, video, prayer, discussion.*

RSVP to Ann

**Sundays, March 10<sup>th</sup> - April 14<sup>th</sup>  
12-1:30pm in Fr. Bennett Hall.**

### **"Getting More Out of Mass" Small Group Reflection Series (come when you can!)**

*A fresh, relatable look at what the parts of the Mass mean, and how that can enrich your life. Register with Ann.*

(Booklets available at church entrances)

**Sundays, 10:25-11:55am; Mondays, 7:15-8:45pm;  
Fridays, 9:30-11am  
March 8<sup>th</sup> - April 15<sup>th</sup>  
Room 3, lower level of Fr. Bennett Hall**

**At Parent Enrichment 9-10:30am (with babysitting)  
and 5:45-7:15pm  
Sunday Mar. 31<sup>st</sup>  
Room 228 at Avon Middle School**

### **At-Mass Engagement: Fourth Sunday of Lent**

The fourth Sunday of Lent is called Laetare Sunday, which means "rejoice!" It is a bright spot in the otherwise solemn season of Lent.

Let's notice the signs of joy we experience in this Mass. Let's also remember what has brought us joy lately, and thank God for that. Can we inject a little extra joy into our participation in the Mass today? How might God help you sustain a spirit of joy in the week ahead?

### **"Meaningful Mass Moments" Interactive display**

*Read about what inspires others and share what inspires you.  
(in the Gathering Space)*

## *Corporal Works of Mercy 2019*

During this Lenten season, our Parish family Lenten commitment is to practice the corporal works of mercy, both individually and as a community. Donations should be placed in the labeled boxes in the Gathering Space. Anything you can donate is appreciated!

*In imitation of our Master, we Christians are called to confront the poverty of our brothers and sisters, to touch it, to make it our own, and to take practical steps to alleviate it. - Pope Francis*

### *This Weekend: March 30/31 Clothe the Naked*

Collection of clothing for Hartford Catholic Worker Youth Outreach.

### *Next Weekend: April 6/7 Visit Those in Prison*

Please help fund religious periodicals that are distributed to incarcerated persons in CT. These periodicals (Word Among Us) enrich faith, and the recipients are very grateful.



### *Lenten Confessions Mondays during Lent: 6-7pm*

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

## **Divine Mercy Holy Hour**



**This Sunday, March 31st  
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!

## ***Communion Dress Drive***

The Cardia family will once again be collecting new and gently used dresses, suits, blazers, shoes, and veils for children preparing to receive their First Holy Communion. These donations will benefit the First Communicants at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Hartford and other area parishes in need. *Thank you in advance for your support!* Donations can be dropped off at the following locations:

- Avon Middle School during Faith Formation class time ONLY on March 31
- Room 1 (lower level parish hall) at the Church of St. Ann. Please leave donations in the marked box. Donations will be accepted here until April 7.



## WEEKLY ORDINARY INCOME

March 17, 2019: \$5,713.95

March 24, 2019: \$8,295.40

Online Giving (week ending 3/27/19): \$2,521.00

Next weekend's 2<sup>nd</sup> collection: none



## Prayer Shawl Ministry

Monday, April 1st

7-8:30pm in Room 2

*Come be a part of our ministry!*

All are welcome...including brand new knitters!  
For more information call Tina: 860-674-1541



## VACATION BIBLE CAMP

JUNE 24-27, 2019

9:30AM - 12:30PM

Registration opens April 1<sup>st</sup>  
Online ONLY at [www.stannavon.org](http://www.stannavon.org).

Spaces for campers and junior counselors are limited, please include payment to secure your spot.



## 2019 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!

**Last Dinner for Lent is on April 12th  
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.*



## Cemetery Notice:

*All Christmas &/or winter decorations at the  
St. Ann Cemetery need to be removed by  
April 7th in preparation for Spring cleanup.*

*Sharing the Joy of the Gospel for Generations*

## 2019 Archbishop's Annual Appeal

In these trying times, the need of our surrounding community grows and the assistance provided by the Appeal becomes all the more crucial. If you have not yet made your gift to this year's Appeal, please consider doing so in the days ahead. Your gift to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal will help continue the vital services, ministries and programs that help so many throughout our Archdiocese.

All funds contributed to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal are used exclusively for the purposes outlined in the Appeal literature, which can be found at <https://archdioceseofhartford.org/aaa-2019-last-years-appeal-impact/>. No Appeal funds are ever used for legal fees or settlements.

Dear Parishioners,

This year there will be 70 candidates receiving the sacrament of First Holy Eucharist. They received their First Reconciliation on January 19, 2019, and are preparing for reception of the Blessed Sacrament in the Spring. Soon we will be putting out the Little Lambs for you to pick up & pray for all candidates while they prepare for their sacrament.

Due to ongoing 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



## EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments

*So you never have been that serious about a stewardship way of life? It's not that you have been greedy or unloving toward others. You give of yourself when you determine there is a real need. However, you haven't intentionally worked toward surrendering all you are, all you have, and all you do to your God. It's hard because when you compare yourself to others, you seem pretty good. You aren't some prodigal child who needs to return to God because you have lived a life full of sin and selfishness.*

*Yet, there lies the problem. We can easily feel we aren't so bad, so why change anything? We can lull ourselves into a belief that we will probably get to heaven, therefore why do more? Assurance of salvation is another topic, but basically we can look at our life as a series of transactions with God.*

*However, we shouldn't determine our actions based upon what we get. The actions of a loved one are due to the love for one's beloved. Jesus gave his life out of love for us. He has shown us what complete surrender looks like. He does not need our surrender but wants it because that is what those in love do. This Lent, perhaps our prayer should not be to simply be better stewards, but to love Him more. Then our motivation will not be based upon what we should do but on what we are moved to do out of love.*

- Tracy Earl Welliver, MT

## QUOTES

Words to Inspire the Faithful

*The more one does what is good,  
the freer one becomes.*  
-CCC 1733

## SUNDAY'S READINGS

### FIRST READING:

No longer was there manna for the Israelites, who that year ate of the yield of the land of Canaan. (Jos 5:12b)

### PSALM:

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord. (Ps 34)

### SECOND READING:

All this is from God, who has reconciled us to himself through Christ and given us the ministry of reconciliation. (2 Cor 5:18)

### GOSPEL:

"Now we must celebrate and rejoice, because your brother was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found."  
(Lk 15:32)

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

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## WEEKLY READINGS

### Readings for the Week of March 31, 2019

Sunday: Jos 5:9a, 10-12/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [9a]/2 Cor 5:17-21/  
Lk 15:1-3, 11-32  
Monday: Is 65:17-21/Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a and 13b [2a]/  
Jn 4:43-54  
Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9 [8]/Jn 5:1-16  
Wednesday: Is 49:8-15/Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18 [8a]/Jn 5:17-30  
Thursday: Ex 32:7-14/Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23 [4a]/Jn 5:31-47  
Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Ps 34:17-18, 19-20, 21 and 23 [19a]/  
Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30  
Saturday: Jer 11:18-20/Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-10, 11-12 [2a]/Jn 7:40-53  
Next Sunday: Is 43:16-21/Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 [3]/Phil 3:8-14/  
Jn 8:1-11



## GOSPEL MEDITATION

Repentance. Envy. Joy. Hope. Have you felt these human emotions? Today's Gospel offers a rich story, one we can all find our place in. As we reflect on our own spiritual lives this Lenten season, it can be helpful to imagine ourselves in the story of the Prodigal Son.

"I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as you would treat one of your hired workers." The younger son has sinned greatly, betraying his father's trust and squandering his money in sin. Yet the parable turns on his deep repentance and humble return to his father. Is there any area of your life you have been wandering from God or you've squandered good gifts? This Lent, return to the sacrament of Confession! God, a merciful Father, waits for you there.

"While he was still a long way off, his father caught sight of him, and was filled with compassion. He ran to his son, embraced him and kissed him." The father in the parable sees his son's selfishness, perhaps even suspects what he might do, but gives him the inheritance anyway. After his son's departure, the father waits with hope for his son's eventual return. Has someone you love left the Church, made poor decisions, or abused your trust? This Lent is a time to let go of bitterness and to live in hope. Prepare your heart to be merciful!

Not all in the parable invite the mercy of God into their hearts. The self-righteous older brother dishonors his father with his pettiness. "My son, you are here with me always, everything I have is yours." Do you covet what others have? Do you feel as if you've been taken advantage of or that your work goes unseen? This Lent is a time to grow in gratitude. Take a close look at the blessings in our life that you might be missing.

We are all called to repentance. Open your heart to God's personal invitation to growth!

## INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

### Live the Liturgy

God does not coerce us into anything. Rather, He gives us the freedom and the means to live like adults, taking responsibility for our choices and the direction our lives take. As our loving Father, He desires that our home be made with Him but understands when we choose to pursue our own passions and desires, which lead us away from Him. We have to learn our own lessons if conversion is to be tangible and real. We cannot return to God simply because we are told to or because we are expected to. We have to come to God freely, and when we do, God is there with loving, open arms ready to welcome us back home. We can celebrate because we were dead and have found life again!



## THE BULLETIN BOARD

### 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL BISHOP ROSAZZA SOCIAL JUSTICE CONFERENCE

#### Save the Date

10th Annual Bishop Peter Rosazza

Social Justice Conference

***"Rooted in Faith-Reimagining Charity"***

Saturday, June 8, 2019

The Pastoral Center, Bloomfield CT

Sponsored by the Office for Catholic Social  
Justice Ministry of the Archdiocese of Hartford

Contact us for more information

Phone: (860)242-5573 Ext 2688

Email: [info.ocsjm@aohct.org](mailto:info.ocsjm@aohct.org)

CatholicSocialJustice.org

### St. Timothy Middle School hosts *The Concert That Never Was*

The school's largest fundraiser is Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are \$75.00 and include food from Rooster Co, open bar of signature cocktails, wine, and beer, two performance sets by a marvelous Barbara and Frank tribute duo, and a live and silent auction. Visit [www.biddingforgood.com/stmswh](http://www.biddingforgood.com/stmswh) to purchase your tickets and support our school!

### Registered Nurses Needed for Catholic Home Health Care Agency

Are you looking for a mission-based position in home health care? Franciscan Home Care and Hospice Care, a licensed, faith-based home health care agency serving central Connecticut, seeks full-time RN to work in its home health care program. Join our team of home health care professionals. RN License. Computer skills required. Call Marie Laffin, RN, at 203 238-1441

### JEWISH, CHRISTIAN, AND MUSLIM PERSPECTIVES ON THE LANGUAGE OF SCRIPTURE

MONDAY, APRIL 1, 2019 @ 7PM  
MEETING ROOM

HEAR FROM TOP SCHOLARS AT THIS  
SPECIAL HARTFORD SEMINARY SYMPOSIUM

**A Compassionate Response:  
What it Means to be a Neighbor**  
Father Joseph Cheah  
University of Saint Joseph

With our own  
Fr. Cheah!

**Exploring Jewish and Christian Translations  
of Scripture: Practical Applications**  
Dr. Deena Grant  
Associate Professor at Hartford Seminary

**The Book of Job, Islamic  
Thought, and the Gospels**  
Dr. Steven Blackburn  
Retired from Hartford Seminary

**Does Everyone in Heaven  
Speak Arabic?**  
Dr. Suheil Laher  
Adjunct Professor at Hartford Seminary

Join Capital City Education Alliance and paint alongside a middle school or high school student while engaging them in conversation through this hands-on workforce readiness program. Students will teach you commercial painting techniques while you share your education, work experiences and wisdom with them! Our newest collaboration is with Catholic Charities! We will be painting their Administrative Offices located at 839 Asylum Avenue in Hartford. Join us as we transform their offices, hallways and a community room the week of April 8<sup>th</sup>. No supplies needed, come ready to paint! We are in need of up to 10-15 adult volunteers on the following days:  
**Monday, April 8: 9am-3pm, Tuesday, April 9: 9am-3pm**  
**Wednesday, April 10: 9am-3pm, Thursday, April 11: 9am-3pm**  
Contact Colleen Corriveau at Capital City Education Alliance at 860-206-3778 ext 2 or [colleen@cceahartford.org](mailto:colleen@cceahartford.org)

### CT CATHOLIC PUBLIC AFFAIRS CONFERENCE Call to Action!

Promote a culture of life. **Reject the Physician-Assisted Suicide bill at the State Capitol.** We need you and all people of faith to tell your legislators that you value life and **oppose CT House Bill 5898.**

**Please call the Public Health Committee now at (860) 240-0560** and leave a message for your State Senator and State Representative. Tell them this legislation would be a disaster for the health and well-being of every Connecticut citizen, especially the elderly, the chronically ill, the underinsured, and disabled among us.

To e-mail your state legislators, please go to: <https://tinyurl.com/NoDrSuicide>

Thank you for all of your efforts!

### 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.

