

Church of Saint Ann

289 Arch Road * Avon, Connecticut * 06001

860-673-9858

Rev. John W. McHugh, Ph.D., Pastor

www.stannavon.org

WEEKEND ASSISTANTS

Rev. Joseph P. Cheah, OSM, Ph.D.

Rev. Daniel J. Sullivan

DEACONS

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Maureen Fiedler: 860-995-4026

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Tom Stockton: ext. 230

PARISH OFFICE MANAGER

Kris Martino: ext. 221 kris.martino@stannavon.com

CEMETERY SUPERINTENDENT

Mike Gould: ext. 225

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

Meredith Springer: meredith.springer@stannavon.com

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.

Third Sunday of ADVENT



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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

MMP Cenacle: Mondays at 7:15pm

Chaplet of Divine Mercy: Tues.- Fri.

9:30-9:40am in the Sanctuary

Holy Hour: Thursdays at 12noon

MASS INTENTIONS



Third Sunday of Advent

MONDAY, December 16

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

TUESDAY, December 17

9:00 **Hyong-Seok Kim**, requested by his daughter

WEDNESDAY, December 18

9:00 **Robert Palmer**, requested by
John and Alice Kuzia

THURSDAY, December 19

9:00 **Bill Weldon**, requested by
Dick and Anita Sullivan

FRIDAY, December 20

9:00 **Thomas Penzone**, requested by
Roseanne Harutunian

SATURDAY, December 21

4:00 **For Divine Peace, Divine Love and
Divine Will on Earth**, requested by Judith
Stafford and David Woolley

SUNDAY, December 22

7:30 **Christopher Hwang**, requested by the family
9:30 **Paul Aimar**, requested by the Downey Family
11:00 **Michel Gueret**, requested by
the Weissberg 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 worshipping with us and we hope to see you again.

THIS WEEK AT ST. ANN'S

MONDAY, December 16

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: 9:30-10:30am in the church

Advent Reconciliations: 7pm (Confirmation students at 6-7pm)

MMP Cenacle-Rosary Prayer Group: *Not meeting this week*

Unpacking the Advent Scriptures: 7:15pm in Rm. 3

TUESDAY, December 17

Unpacking the Advent Scriptures: 9:30am in Room 3

RCIA: 7pm in Room 3

WEDNESDAY, December 18

Revelation Bible Study (full): 9:30am in Rooms 2 & 3

Knights of Columbus: 7pm in Room 2

THURSDAY, December 19

Holy Hour: 12 noon in the church

Traditional Choir: 2pm in the Choir Loft

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

FRIDAY, December 20

SATURDAY, December 21

Men's Breakfast Group: 8am in Room 3

SUNDAY, December 22

Unpacking the Advent Scriptures: 10:30am in Rm. 3

Cookies with Saint Nicholas

Fr. Bennett Hall

THIS Sunday, December 15th

Immediately after the 11am Mass until 1pm



What a better way to get into the Christmas spirit than to meet and hear the Story of Saint Nicholas, sing Christmas Carols and enjoy delicious Christmas Cookies!

All Families are
welcome to join us !

NEW
THIS
YEAR!



Advent Reconciliation

This Monday, December 16th

Parish: 7:00pm

(Confirmation Students: 6:00pm)

Give yourself the gift of forgiveness and peace as you prepare your heart to welcome Jesus at Christmas.

ImmaCare Update and Collection for the Homeless THIS Weekend!

Thanks to everyone who has asked about ImmaCare and to those of you who have worried about and prayed for the men who used to stay there. The good news is the renovation is going smoothly and hopefully by Spring the shelter will be a safer, more efficient place while still maintaining the welcoming spirit. For many people this winter has been a difficult one with rain and freezing temperatures. Other shelter spaces have been limited and we are told that emergency rooms are often filled with people who have no where else to stay.

We will again be collecting warm socks, hats, gloves, toiletries, and chapsticks to put together Christmas giftbags for the people who are helped through the ImmaCare outreach program, many of whom sleep outdoors until the weather is life-threatening. We will also distribute to people living in supportive housing, and to a women's shelter. Please leave any donations in ImmaCare marked boxes in Fr. Bennett Hall prior to December 16th. More than ever we are hoping to put together lots of bags and are praying that lots of individuals and groups will make this possible.



Any questions please email
kfinocchio@gmail.com or Twohig7@gmail.com.



YOUTH MINISTRY POINSETTIA SALE *Last Weekend: December 14/15*

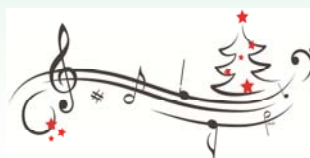
Poinsettia sale time is here again! Please help us decorate our beautiful church for Christmas by purchasing a poinsettia in memory of, or in honor of, a loved one. Plants are \$10 each and will be used to decorate the church. They will be sold in the Gathering Space after Masses the weekends of: Dec. 7/8 & 14/15

WE HAVE OPLATEK

We will also be selling Oplatek Polish Christmas wafers, during the plant sale.



CHRISTMAS SINGING



The combined choirs are beginning to rehearse for the beautiful Christmas liturgies and we want YOU to join us! Please consider offering your musical gifts and voice to your parish for this festive occasion! Extra help is available for those who want it! Please call Tom Stockton at 673-9858 ext. 230. Children grades 5 and up will also be beginning for the special Christmas Eve Mass!

Ladies, You've Spent the Holidays Doing for Others, Now Recharge Yourself!

Please Join Us for a 7-Week Women's Bible Study Based on the Book of Ephesians:

Fearless and Free: Experiencing Healing and Wholeness in Christ

Wednesdays 7-8:30 PM
in Fr. Bennett Hall
Beginning January 8

Gift Yourself a Spiritual Renewal in the New Year!

RSVP to Pat: wallspk@aol.com
Cost: \$35.00

For Women of All Ages and Stages – Bring a Friend!

walking with purpose

Annual Toy /Gift Collection

Drop Off is This Weekend: December 15-16



*God Bless You For Your Generosity
Sponsored by the Social Justice Committee*

Gifts for those in Convalescent Homes

Please 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, & 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 and place in box in the Gathering Space as soon as possible prior to December 22nd!



WEEKLY ORDINARY INCOME

December 8, 2019: \$5,645.26
Online Giving (week ending 12/10/19): \$2,892.00
Next weekend's 2nd collection: none

*The Men and Women of the Church of Saint Ann
 are Invited to a retreat at Holy Family Passionist
 Retreat Center in West Hartford*

Annual Men's Retreat

January 17 - 19, 2020

Annual Women's Retreat

January 10 - 12, 2020

Join Us for a focus on
"Our Deepest Longing"

We spend our time and energy on the necessities of everyday life, which hold so many things that are beyond our control. But what is it that we are longing for in the deepest way? We will explore that deep longing planted inside us by God – a longing for peace, for wholeness, and for relationships that bring us joy and lift us up.

Our Retreat begins with dinner Friday night at 6pm and concludes with Brunch at 11:00am on Sunday

For more information go to the Holy Family Retreat Center website: <https://www.holyfamilyretreat.org>

Call or Email your St. Ann Representatives:

Men: Paul Watson 860-922-0812 (Pgwatson33@gmail.com)
 Bob Yurch 860-675-1366 (byurch@fiainc.com)

Women: Nancy Janiszewski at 860-818-9260
 Eileen DiMauro at 860-930-3046.

Part Time Job Opening at St. Ann: Dir. of Communications

Sadly, Meredith Springer is stepping down as our communications director, due to other work obligations. We will miss her and wish her well. We are seeking a part-time Director of Communications with strong digital media skills. The position features flexible hours and the ability to work remotely.

Please send any inquiries/leads ASAP to
ann.distefano@stannavon.com, 860-673-9858, x228

2019 Christmas Schedule

Christmas Eve

3:00 pm
 6:00 pm
 9:00 pm

Christmas

8:00 am
 10:00 am

Solemnity of Mary (Holy Day of Obligation)

Monday, December 31st: 4:00pm
 Tuesday, January 1, 2020: 8:00 am & 10:00 am



ADULT FAITH FORMATION

ADULT CONFIRMATION - Unlock the Power of the Spirit in Your Life!

Are you an ADULT CATHOLIC who has been baptized and received First Communion, but were NEVER CONFIRMED? We're delighted to offer an 8-week preparation program here at St. Ann's for you, leading to your receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation on May 5, 2020 at 7pm at St. Joseph Cathedral in Hartford.

WHEN: Thursdays, Feb 13-Apr 2; 7-8:30pm

WHERE: Room 3, lower level of Fr Bennett Hall

FACILITATOR: Deacon Jeff Sutherland

TO REGISTER: Contact ann.distefano@stannavon.com;
 860-673-9858, x228

Parents: Tired of Small Talk? Try ALPHA!

December 15th at Avon Middle School
 (while children are in class, both AM & PM sessions)
 Childcare provided at morning session

*To register for childcare, contact Lisa Giarratana by the Thursday prior to the session: lrg1010@comcast.net; 860-471-3776.



This Weekend is the **FORWARD WITH FAITH** Commitment Weekend!



This weekend is Commitment Weekend for our diocesan-wide campaign, **Forward with Faith**. During all Masses, we will invite all families who have not yet been contacted to join us in participating in the **Forward with Faith** campaign. We ask you to consider a sacrificial gift to the campaign – one that is right for you.

Archbishop Blair has asked each of us to consider a small amount each month over a three-to-five year period. Pledging allows each of us the opportunity to make a sacrificial gift that will help to shape the Church we leave for future generations of Catholic families in our community.

Our parish community will utilize its **50%** to address the following needs:

EDUCATION: Establish a need-based scholarship fund for students from our parish to attend area Catholic High Schools
Expand our Adult Education and Faith Formation programs to include guest speakers and family events encouraging parish participation

SERVICE: Form a new ministry to aid families and individuals in distress with a special focus on addiction, mental health, and suicide prevention. Emphasis would be placed on a faith-based support system.

INNOVATION/TECHNOLOGY: Advance the use of communications tools, technologies, and strategies to: connect with a younger and more widespread audience, reach lapsed Catholics, enhance communication with parishioners, and improve parish processes. Update the Audio and Video system in Fr. Bennett Hall.

<u>Suggested Gift Plans (3 Years)</u>			<u>Suggested Gift Plans (5 years)</u>		
\$139	Per Month over 36 Months =	\$5,000!!	\$334	Per Month over 60 Months =	\$20,000!!
\$ 84	Per Month over 36 Months =	\$3,000!!	\$250	Per Month over 60 Months =	\$15,000!!
\$ 42	Per Month over 36 Months =	\$1,500!!	\$167	Per Month over 60 Months =	\$10,000!!

We, parishioners of **St. Ann** in **Avon** are blessed as people of faith and vision, who embrace and celebrate Catholic truth, transform communities, and make known the love of Christ throughout Connecticut. Not only are these blessings of the parish but also of our Archdiocese.

Thank you for your generous pledge!

Save the Dates: January 17- 19, 2020 **Church of St. Ann Used Book Sale**

Donation Dates:

Wednesday, January 15th: 9:30am—6pm
Thursday, January 16th: 9:30am - 6pm
Friday, January 17th: 9:30am - 11:30am



Please donate books: *best sellers, fiction, non-fiction, religious, classics, biographies, memoirs, self-help books, vintage books, cookbooks, children's books, young readers, books-on-CD, etc.*

January 2020 Book Sale Dates:

Friday, January 17th: 5pm - 7:30pm (\$5 adult admission)
Saturday, January 18th: 9am - 6pm (no admission fee)
Sunday, January 19th: 8am—12:45pm (no admission fee)

Volunteers are needed for collection & sale week

To volunteer at the January 2020 Book Sale, please contact
Nancy Casey 860.673.3141 Thank you!

Proceeds go to Catholic High School Student Scholarships

How To Support St. Ann and Reduce your Tax Liability!

What's a QCD... and Why Taxpayers Need to Know Now

Looking for a way to support the Church of Saint Ann and reduce your tax liability? If you are at least 70.5 years, donate to charities, and don't like taxes—you may be very interested in qualified charitable distributions. Although this instrument has been around since 2006, big changes in deductions on federal income tax returns mean that QCDs are attracting a lot more attention.

This is the time of year when every nonprofit sends an appeal while you are still evaluating what charitable gifts you will make before the tax year ends. The Church of Saint Ann sincerely hopes to make it onto your priority list.

*If you have any questions, please contact
Russ Koch at 860-673-9858, ext. 234 or russ.koch@stannavon.com.*

THE BULLETIN BOARD

Northwest Catholic \$10K Raffle!

Tickets will be available for purchase after all the Masses during the weekend of December 7 & 8, 2019 for Northwest Catholic High School's \$10K Raffle fundraiser, to benefit the Northwest Catholic Fund. Tickets are \$20 each and only 3,000 tickets are available for sale. The grand prize is \$10,000, with a second prize of \$2,500 and a third prize of \$1,000. The drawing will be held on Thurs., Dec. 19, 2019 at 9:00 pm during the finale of NWC's Christmas Concert. Ticket holders do not need to be present to win.

Visit www.NorthwestCatholic.org/Raffle for more information.

Thank you for your continued support of Northwest Catholic High School and our students!

Looking for yearend giving ideas?

This may be your last chance to help the Archbishop's Annual Appeal achieve the goal of \$10 Million for the 2019 tax year!

Please visit the Appeal website at www.archdioceseofhartford.org and follow the link *Sharing the Joy of the Gospel for Generations*, to learn more and make your gift today. All pledges can be paid through December 31st 2019 towards this year's Appeal.

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.

Archdiocesan Marriage Enrichment Celebration

The Archdiocesan Office of Family Life will hold its 13th annual marriage enrichment evening on Sat., Feb. 1, 2020, from 5:00-9:00 p.m. at Mary Our Queen Church and Parish Center, 248 Savage St., Plantsville, CT. This year's program will begin with Mass, include dinner, prayer, reflection, and fun centered on the theme: *"The Name is Bond... Marriage Bond: The Agents of Unity in Sacramental Marriage."* The cost is \$25.00 per couple and includes dinner.

To register or obtain more information, contact Tom and Donna Finn at 860-302-1110, or email to tfinnphd@gmail.com. Please R.S.V.P. by Jan. 28, 2020.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

Give your spouse a special gift this Christmas by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next Weekends are Mar 27-29, 2020 in Albany, NY and Jul 10-12, 2020 in East Windsor, CT.

For more information, call Pat & Mary Jo McLaughlin at 860-315-2127 or visit them at <https://www.mectw.org/>.

"The ABCs of Annulment"

Sponsored by the Metropolitan Tribunal, Bloomfield

The Rev. Daniel Keefe, pastor of St John Bosco Parish at 731 Main St, Branford, in collaboration with V. Rev. George Mukuka, the Judicial Vicar from the Metropolitan Tribunal in Bloomfield, will host "The ABCs of Annulment" on Friday of January 10 from 7-9 PM in the St Mary's Church Hall. An updating of the process initiated by Pope Francis as well as updates made in the Archdiocese of Hartford will be discussed by Br. Larry Lussier CSC, Deacon George Frederick and Jim Tottenham who make up the Annulment Team. Team members also include two Spanish speaking members - Lisandra Martinez and Marian Guzman. They will help participants in writing their application in the follow-up workshop on Fridays - January 17, 24 from 7-9 P.M., also in the church hall.

The "ABCs of Annulment" event is open to all. Participants will receive a folder with the required printed materials. No registration is required. For further information call Br. Larry @ 475-221-8464 or email him at larlus300@sbcglobal.net.

Grotto Gift Shop Stocked up for the Advent/Christmas Season!

The Grotto Gift Shop at the Shrine of Lourdes in Litchfield, Rte. 118, Litchfield has stocked up for the Advent and Christmas season. Available are rosaries, medals, unique jewelry and Christmas cards. And there is a large selection of Fontanini creches and Willow Tree items. The shop is open Tuesday to Saturday, 10:30-4:00 and Sunday, 11:30-4:00. On Monday, December 23rd, the shop will be open from 10:30am-4:00pm. For further information, call 860-567-0891 or email: lourdesshrinect@gmail.com.