

# 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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## DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Tom Stockton: ext. 230

## PARISH OFFICE MANAGER

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## CEMETERY SUPERINTENDENT

Mike Gould: ext. 225

## DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

Meredith Springer: [meredith.springer@stannavon.com](mailto:meredith.springer@stannavon.com)

## BAPTISMS:

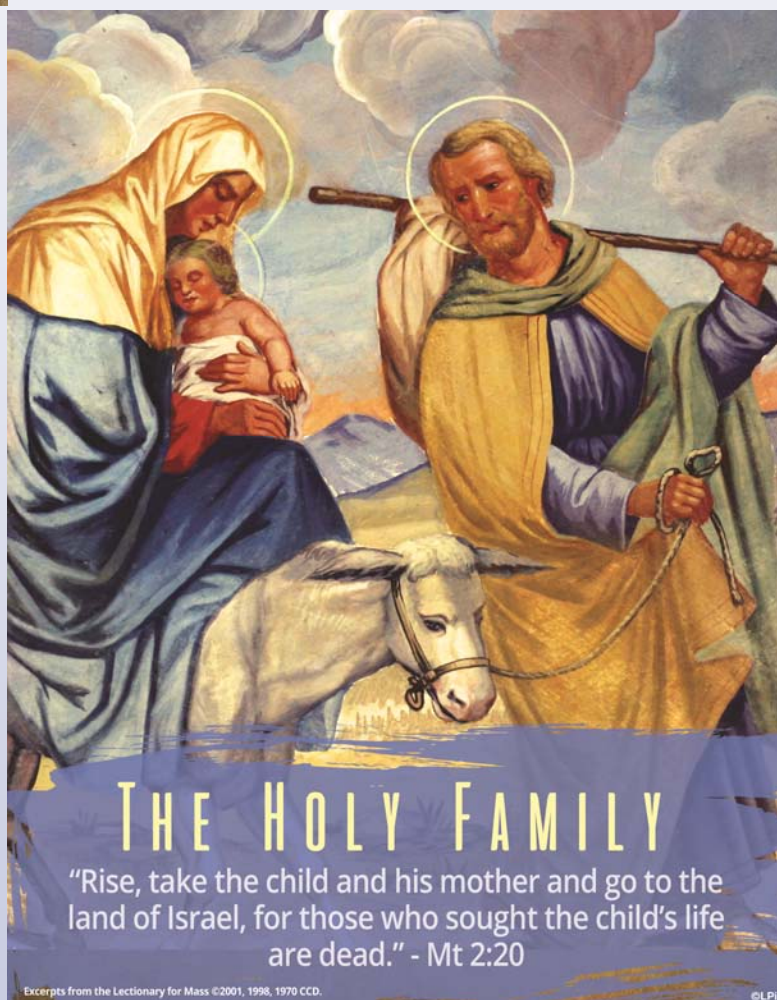
Registered parishioners call the Parish Office

## 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.



## 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



**The Holy Family  
of Jesus, Mary  
and Joseph**

## MONDAY, December 30

9:00 For Divine Peace, Divine Love & Divine Will on Earth

## TUESDAY, December 31

9:00 For Divine Peace, Divine Love & Divine Will on Earth  
4:00 Special Intentions

## WEDNESDAY, January 1, Solemnity of Mary

8:00 Special Intentions  
10:00 Special Intentions

## THURSDAY, January 2

9:00 Edward Janiszewski, requested by Lou and Eileen Del Prete

## FRIDAY, January 3

9:00 Claude Maillet, requested by Ida and Ron Maillet

## SATURDAY, January 4

4:00 Henry Hojnowski, requested by Russell and Diane Koch

## SUNDAY, January 5

7:30 Marie Ahern, requested by Tom McCabe  
9:30 Edward J. Janiszewski, requested by a friend  
11:00 Diane McKinney, requested by the Anderson 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 30

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: 9:30-10:30am in the church  
MMP Cenacle-Rosary Prayer Group: 7:15pm in the church .  
All are welcome! (Enter through door on the left side of the church)

### TUESDAY, December 31

### WEDNESDAY, January 1, Solemnity of Mary

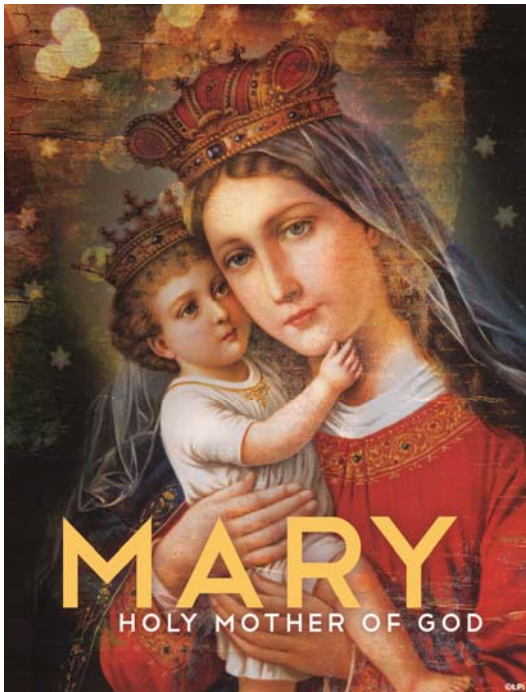
### THURSDAY, January 2

### FRIDAY, January 3

### SATURDAY, January 4

Men's Breakfast Group: 8am in Room 3

### SUNDAY, January 5



January 1, 2020

**Mary, the Holy  
Mother of God**

*Holy Day of Obligation*

### Masses:

*Tuesday, December 31st*

**4:00 pm**

*Wednesday, January 1st*

**8:00 am**

**10:00 am**





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.



Women of St. Ann's  
ARE YOU READY TO WALK WITH PURPOSE, AND BE  
**FEARLESS & FREE**  
PLEASE JOIN US TO CONNECT,  
SHARE & BECOME CLOSER TO GOD.  
Begin 2020, with friendship.  
WHILE BEING WRAPPED IN THE  
EMBRACE OF THE ONE WHO  
LOVES US ALL COMPLETELY.

Wednesdays: Jan 8-Feb 19 at 7-8:30PM

Cost: \$35 includes book

Please contact

wendyarcher@comcast.net to register

## Church of St. Ann's Annual Used Book Sale

January 17 - 19, 2020



### 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., and vinyl records.

### January 2019 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



## WEEKLY ORDINARY INCOME

**December 15, 2019: \$4,738.70**

**December 22, 2019:** not available at time of upload

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

## 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 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.

## WHY DO WE DO THAT?

### CATHOLIC TRADITIONS EXPLAINED

**Question:** I'd like to make some new resolutions about practicing the faith in our family during the new year. Do you have any suggestions?

**Answer:** The family is the most essential space for the formation of values and character. Practicing your faith as a family can happen both internally and externally. Consistent prayer together builds habits that can last a lifetime. With younger children, praying together as a family in the evening or at dinnertime could be fairly doable most nights. In the evening, select a few common prayers such as the Our Father, Hail Mary, or Guardian Angel prayer. Ask each of your children to thank God for three things that day and include a time for children and adults alike to pray out loud for special needs in your family. This practice could be done with older children, committed to intentional efforts in the midst of increasingly busy schedules.

Look for other opportunities to practice the faith outside the home as well. Sunday Mass should already be part of your family's weekly routine. Consider setting other monthly goals as well. This could be a family service project in your city, attending the sacrament of Confession together, or hosting a hospitality night in your home. Get your children involved in the planning process. Ask them where they'd like to volunteer or who they think is having a hard time and might need a special night just for them. Rather than simply imposing new practices, your whole family can have a dynamic role understanding and integrating faith and life.

-LPi

## 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 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](mailto:ann.distefano@stannavon.com); 860-673-9858, x228

### Parents: Tired of Small Talk? Try ALPHA!

January 5th 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](mailto:lrg1010@comcast.net); 860-471-3776.

### Video Series:

#### "Who am I to Judge - Responding to Relativism with Logic and Love"

Beginning the week of January 6, join us for this 5-week video series so appropriate for our times. Learn how Catholic morality is all about love, how making a judgment is not judging a person's soul, and how, in the words of Pope Francis, "relativism wounds people." Gain greater confidence in God's moral law, greater clarity in how to explain it effectively to our secular friends, and greater compassion for those with whom we disagree.

Register ASAP with Ann DiStefano (see bulletin front) for one of the following sessions:

**Thursdays, 7-9pm, Room 3**

**Fridays, 9:30-11:30am, Room 3**



## EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments

### God's GPS Never Fails

*I use GPS wherever I go, and it serves me well most of the time. However, sometimes it leads me to a place that does not exist. Then there are those times when I am about to turn, and the man inside my phone shouts out, "GPS signal lost!" or "Rerouting!" The problem is, when the area is unfamiliar to me, I have no choice but to listen. I could try to get where I am going by simple intuition or by pulling over to look at a paper map, but I don't trust my sense of direction. And I haven't bought a paper map in close to a decade!*

*Many people move through life without any direction. They find themselves constantly rerouting and wondering when they will ever get to a satisfying final destination. What they need is a compass and a companion for the journey. Yet they have no idea how to get either.*

*Prayer can serve as a compass, and it connects us to a companion for the journey. Stewardship living is impossible without prayer. If we count on our own will and believe we can become fruitful without daily contact with the Divine, we can find ourselves looking for directions more than moving toward a destination. God, through prayer, will help us see all we have as a gift. God, through prayer, will lead us away from materialism and selfishness and toward freedom and generosity. Even when we fall to sin, the path back is clearer. God's GPS signal is never really lost.*  
-Tracy Earl Welliver, MT

## QUOTES

Words to Inspire the Faithful

*The feeling remains that  
God is on the journey, too.*

-St. Teresa Avila

## SUNDAY'S READINGS

### First Reading:

Kindness to a father will not be forgotten, firmly planted against the debt of your sins — a house raised in justice to you. (Sir 3:14)

### Psalm:

Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways. (Ps 128)

### Second Reading:

And let the peace of Christ control your hearts, the peace into which you were also called in one body. And be thankful. (Col 3:15)

### Gospel:

When the magi had departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I tell you." (Mt 2:13a)

*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 29, 2019

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/ Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Mt 2:13-15, 19-23  
Monday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [11a]/Lk 2:36-40  
Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13 [11a]/Jn 1:1-18  
Wednesday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [2a]/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21  
Thursday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [3cd]/Jn 1:19-28  
Friday: 1 Jn 2:29—3:6/Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6 [3cd]/Jn 1:29-34  
Saturday: 1 Jn 3:7-10/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9 [3cd]/Jn 1:35-42  
Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/ Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

## GOSPEL MEDITATION

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

"Rise, take the child and his mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I tell you." 725 kilometers. That's the distance on modern roads from Bethlehem to Cairo. Assuming one covered 40km a day on foot — ambitious for two young parents and their infant son — the journey would take well over two weeks. Of course, the Holy Family didn't have modern roads. They would travel through wilderness, fear bandits, run low on water, and cross the vast Sinai Peninsula in a reverse of their forefathers in Exodus. Here, in struggle and sacrifice, are the beginnings of the forging of the Holy Family.

"Joseph rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed for Egypt. He stayed there until the death of Herod." Large Jewish communities existed in most major cities of the ancient Mediterranean world, after the collapse of their kingdoms chronicled in the Old Testament, and Joseph could likely find work as a carpenter. All the same, today's Gospel reminds us that the first formational years of Jesus as a babe-in-arms were spent in a strange land. The members of the Holy Family were foreigners, outsiders, immigrants.

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us. God took on our humanity. He is in solidarity with our own trials and difficulties. On the feast of the Holy Family, we honor the special place of the family within society. We are invited, too, to recall those families who share in the struggles of the Holy Family in a particular way. We pray for immigrants, asylum seekers, and refugees. We pray for all parents who sacrifice their own well-being and comfort so their children may have a better life.

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## INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Live the Liturgy

Families can be challenging. As much as they can be places of love, growth, and life, they can also be places of hurt, conflict, and despair. What has been your experience of family? There is no way around it: being human requires family life. We have to learn how to celebrate and embrace as well as forgive and understand. Virtue is required. St. Paul asks us to "put on heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience." We are asked to bear with one another and forgive one another. These are tall orders for anyone, but they are not impossible achievements. If we keep our eyes on Jesus and trust in God as the Holy Family did, St. Paul's vision is obtainable. Our families can take on a sacramental character and become places where God's love is revealed.

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## THE BULLETIN BOARD

### **Retrovaille Weekend for Troubled Marriages**

If your marriage has become troubled and stressed, unloving or uncaring, even if you are divorced or separated but want to try again, the Retrouvaille program can help. Retrouvaille provides tools to: communicate better, resolve conflicts fairly, and re-discover why you fell in love.

The next upcoming weekend is January 17-19, 2020.

For information, call 1-800-470-2230, or  
email [cherylandsteve@cox.net](mailto:cherylandsteve@cox.net),  
or visit our website [www.helpourmarriage.com](http://www.helpourmarriage.com).

### **THE HOLY MASS: DID YOU KNOW?**

Please see  
**"THE VEIL REMOVED"**  
film at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OOLZDaTglaM>

Therefore, if anyone is in  
Christ, he is a new  
creation. The old has  
passed away; behold, the  
new has come.

—2 Cor 5:17 (ESV)

May God's peace be upon  
you and remain with you  
throughout the year.

### **"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](mailto:larlus300@sbcglobal.net).

### **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](mailto:tfinnphd@gmail.com). Please R.S.V.P. by Jan. 28, 2020.