

# 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)

## 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

## PARISH OFFICE MANAGER

Kris Martino: ext. 221 [kris.martino@stannavon.com](mailto:kris.martino@stannavon.com)

## CEMETERY SUPERINTENDENT

Mike Gould: ext. 225

## DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

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

## BAPTISMS:

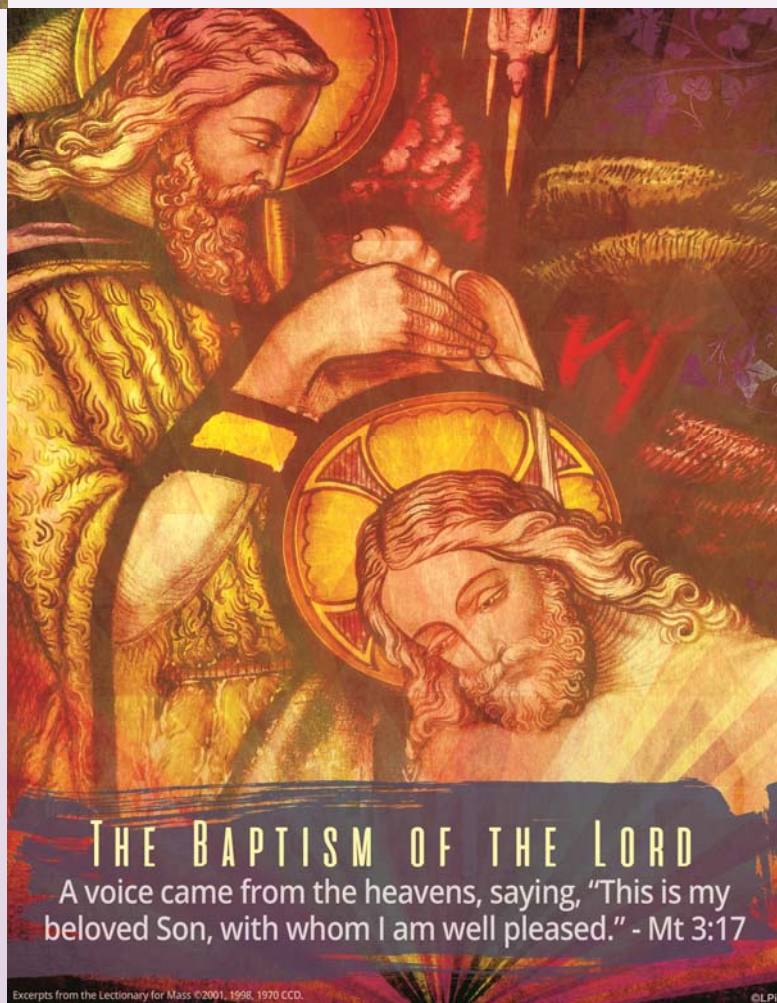
Registered parishioners call the Parish Office

## 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.



## THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

A voice came from the heavens, saying, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased." - Mt 3:17

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

## 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



## The Baptism of the Lord

### MONDAY, January 13

9:00 **Thomas DeLessio**, requested by  
the Downey Family

### TUESDAY, January 14

9:00 **For Divine Peace, Divine Love and  
Divine Will on Earth**

### WEDNESDAY, January 15

9:00 **Dwight Sullivan**, requested by  
the Savarese Family

### THURSDAY, January 16

9:00 **Mary Orr**, requested by  
Lou and Eileen Del Prete

### FRIDAY, January 17

9:00 **Oscar Maillet**, requested by  
Ida and Ron Maillet

### SATURDAY, January 18

4:00 **David Julian**, requested by  
the Bondhus Family

### SUNDAY, January 19

7:30 **Dr. Theodore deGroot (23rd Ann.)**,  
requested by his wife and family  
9:30 **Bruce Clark**, requested by a friend  
11:00 **Vincent Anthony Tortora**, requested by  
the Suski Family

# Church of Saint Ann Used Book Sale

*Proceeds go to Catholic High School Student Scholarships*

## 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.*

# 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, January 13

**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)*

**Unpacking the Sunday Scriptures:** 7:15pm in Rm. 3

### TUESDAY, January 14

**RCIA:** 7pm in Room 3

### WEDNESDAY, January 15

**Video Series/Relativism:** 9:30am in Room 3

**Used Book Sale Drop Off:** 9:30am –6pm in Fr. Bennett Hall

**Walking with Purpose:** 7pm in Room 3

### THURSDAY, January 16

**Used Book Sale Drop Off:** 9:30am –6pm in Fr. Bennett Hall

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

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

**Saint Ann Cares Ministry Meeting:** 7pm in Room 2

**Video Series/Relativism:** 7pm in Room 3

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

### FRIDAY, January 17

**Used Book Sale Drop Off:** 9:30am –11:30am in Fr. Bennett Hall

**Video Series/Relativism:** 9:30am in Room 3

**Used Book Sale:** 5pm-7:30pm in FB Hall (\$5 adult admission)

### SATURDAY, January 18

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

**Used Book Sale:** 9am-6pm in Fr. Bennett Hall (*free admission*)

### SUNDAY, January 19

**Used Book Sale:** 8am-12:45pm in Fr. Bennett Hall (*free admission*)

**Unpacking the Sunday Scriptures:** 10:30am in Rm. 3

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

**Men of St. Ann Kick Off Meeting:** 5:30pm in the Activity Rm.

## 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

To volunteer at the January 2020 Book Sale,  
please contact Nancy Casey 860.673.3141. Thanks!







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

## MEN OF ST. ANN KICK OFF 2020 MEETING

The Men of St. Ann was established to offer fellowship and enrichment to the men of St. Ann's church while also providing service to the parish community and beyond. We are holding our kick off meeting on Sunday January 19<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-7pm in Activity Room below the wing of the church to plan events for 2020 and beyond. We are looking for fresh faces and fresh ideas and welcome anyone interested in getting involved to join us.

Any questions, please contact Rob St. Jean  
([rstjean02@snet.net](mailto:rstjean02@snet.net)) or Leo DiStefano  
([leo.distefano@comcast.net](mailto:leo.distefano@comcast.net)).

## PRO-LIFE MINISTRY

All of our parishioners are invited to participate in the Pro-Life Activities scheduled to memorialize the 47<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the infamous Roe vs. Wade Supreme Court Decision to legalize abortion. Sunday, January 19<sup>th</sup>, St. Ann will celebrate The Divine Mercy Holy Hour from 2:30-3:30 p.m. followed by the recitation of the rosary. We will pray for the end to abortion and a renewed respect for all human life. Friday, January 24<sup>th</sup>, a Holy Hour for Life will be observed from 12 noon-1 p.m. We will unite our prayers with those who are on the March for Life in Washington, D.C. On the Anniversary, Wednesday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> St. Ann will celebrate the 9 a.m. Eucharist with prayers for the sanctity of all life, especially the unborn.

*The Men of the Church of Saint Ann are Invited to the*

## Annual Men's Retreat

January 17 - 19, 2020

Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center \* West Hartford

*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:**

Paul Watson 860-922-0812 ([Pgwatson33@gmail.com](mailto:Pgwatson33@gmail.com))

Bob Yurch 860-675-1366 ([byurch@fiainc.com](mailto:byurch@fiainc.com))

## Knights of Columbus Meeting



Wednesday, January 15th  
at 7-8:30pm

Room 2 (under Fr. Bennett Hall)

## WEEKLY ORDINARY INCOME

**December 29, 2019:** \$5,588.10

**January 5, 2020:** \$6,242.11

**Next weekend's 2<sup>nd</sup> collection:**  
*Monthly Collection*

## Divine Mercy Holy Hour



**Next Sunday,  
January 19th**  
**2:30 - 3:30pm**  
**in the church**

Our Lord Jesus told Saint Faustina that Divine Mercy was given for the present time. Please join us for this powerful devotion to implore God's Mercy for yourself and the whole world.

## 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 or leads ASAP to*  
[ann.distefano@stannavon.com](mailto:ann.distefano@stannavon.com), 860-673-9858, x228

## Bible Camp Decorations Help Needed!

Assistant/volunteer needed to help Sue Ollestad create the stage set and decorations for Bible Camp 2020: "Rocky Railway: Jesus' Power Pulls us Through". (camp dates: June 22-25).

Contact Valerie St. Jean at  
[valerie.stjean@stannavon.com](mailto:valerie.stjean@stannavon.com)  
or 860-673-9858, ext. 223



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

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

**January 26th 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:*

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

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

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



## HEARTS & SOULS

Ministering to body, mind and spirit, the Health Ministry offers blood pressure screening, health counseling and referrals to our community of faith. Upcoming Office Hours: Sunday, January 12th 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.

## JANUARY 12, 2020 – THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

### EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments

#### Lessons from Baptizing a Frog

*I used to lead an RCIA session on baptism, where I would bring in my Kermit the Frog toy from when I was a child and pretend to baptize it. It was a session I especially made sure I led when we had children preparing for Easter sacraments. You would think Kermit would have become super holy having been baptized so many times, year after year. But, if he had been real, he would not have been any holier due to multiple baptisms than he was after the first baptism. He couldn't be re-baptized. (Not to mention, of course, he is a FROG.)*

*When Jesus came to John for baptism, he transformed the baptism of repentance that John was practicing into a baptism of redemption. And although we are called to repentance over and over in our life, redemption comes to us only once. We cannot get baptized again in the Jordan or Sea of Galilee because of romantic notions, or come into the Catholic Church by a second baptism so we can start all over. Our baptism, whether we can remember it or not, is a one-time deal. But it is the real deal. Whether you feel it or not, you are sealed for Christ, and the stain of original sin has been washed away.*

*Too many of us take that moment for granted. Yes, you may have been baptized as an infant. But much time has passed since then, and you can work to understand the impact that it had on your life. We sometimes look for a good time to begin living a stewardship way of life. However, that time already passed, and God has been waiting. We are called to reflect on our baptism and respond to the call it has placed on our lives. We can respond and be disciples, or we can be like Kermit the Frog, always searching for a new start that never comes.*

-Tracy Earl Welliver, MT

### QUOTES

Words to Inspire the Faithful

*Be amazed by what is true and beautiful, what is of God!*

- Pope Francis

### SUNDAY'S READINGS

#### First Reading:

Here is my servant whom I uphold, my chosen one with whom I am pleased. (Is 42:1)

#### Psalm:

The Lord will bless his people with peace. (Ps 29)

#### Second Reading:

God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power. (Acts 10:38a)

#### Gospel:

After Jesus was baptized, he came up from the water and behold, the heavens were opened for him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming upon him. (Mt 3:16)

*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 January 12, 2020

Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]/Acts 10:34-38/  
Mt 3:13-17  
Monday: 1 Sm 1:1-8/Ps 116:12-13, 14-17, 18-19 [17a]/Mk 1:14-20  
Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:9-20/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd [cf. 1]/Mk 1:21-28  
Wednesday: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10  
[8a and 9a]/Mk 1:29-39  
Thursday: 1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25 [27b]/Mk 1:40-45  
Friday: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Ps 89:16-17, 18-19 [2]/Mk 2:1-12  
Saturday: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [2a]/  
Mk 2:13-17  
Next Sunday: Is 49:3, 5-6/Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10 [8a, 9a]/  
1 Cor 1:1-3/Jn 1:29-34

### GOSPEL MEDITATION

#### Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

The Catechism of the Catholic Church gives four reasons for the Incarnation, why God became man in Jesus Christ. The third reason is "to be our model of holiness." All of Jesus' words and actions model for us what we ought to do. He also shows us how we're meant to be. Jesus' baptism ought to remind us of our own baptism and of the importance of baptism in the Christian life.

The Baptism of the Lord reminds us of our Trinitarian identity. When we are baptized, we stand in solidarity with Christ, bathed in the waters he sanctified. There, the Father proclaims our adoption into the family of God. "This is my beloved son [this is my beloved daughter], with whom I am well pleased." And the Spirit, too, descends. We are filled with the Spirit's grace and power to continue Christ's mission on earth. We received these gifts in the sacrament, and they continue to dwell within us through sanctifying grace. We can — and should — invite God to stir up these graces of our baptism and consider them in our own lives.

Does Christ feel like a distant relative two thousand years in the past? Or do you see him as someone who can be encountered here and now? Ask yourself where you find your sense of dignity and worth. Do you still search for it in success, social status, and selfish pursuits? Or are you able to rest in being a beloved child of God? Remember, baptism gives us a call and a charge to change the world. Do you pray for the Holy Spirit to guide you? Or are you so focused on your own life that you miss the mission? This week, let's do as Jesus did. Let's live in our baptism!

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### INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

#### Live the Liturgy

The Baptism of Jesus is similar in purpose to our own. As Jesus was distinguished as the beloved Son in whom God is well pleased, so, too, are we. We share that same special favor with God and are brought into an intimate relationship with Him. Does this reality change how we feel about ourselves? It certainly does. Baptism forever changes us and calls us to the ministries of mercy and humility. God has formed each of us in our mother's womb and asks us to be a light for all people. We carry this light humbly as we know who ultimately has a claim on us and to whom we belong. We then are called to live our lives in imitation of Christ and become incarnate vessels of mercy. Our world needs to be touched by compassion and only we can complete the task.

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## THE BULLETIN BOARD

### Archdiocesan Marriage Enrichment Celebration Saturday, February 1st 5-9pm Mary Our Queen Church Plantsville, CT

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.*



**See the Movie on January 23**  
**Blind Eyes Opened (2020)** A Christian documentary diving into the sex trafficking industry in the US.

Tickets: \$13.25 per person  
one show 7:00 p.m. at both locations  
**Buckland Hills 18**  
**99 Redstone Road Manchester**  
**Or**  
**Regal Brass Mill**  
**495 Union Street Waterbury**



**Saint Josephine Bakhita**  
1869-1947 Feast day February 8  
Patron of Sudan and Survivors of Human Trafficking

**Attend Stations of the Cross**  
**For Trafficked Persons**  
**Saint Josephine Bakhita Parish**  
**At Saint James Church**  
**Friday, February 7 @ 6:00 p.m.**  
**767 Elm Street Rocky Hill**

"Human Trafficking is an open wound on the body of contemporary society."

Pope Francis

### WHAT CAN I DO?

#### Learn More

Schedule or Attend an Informational Presentation by the

Human Trafficking Task Force

of the Archdiocesan Office of Catholic Social Justice Ministry

[www.catholicsocialjustice.org](http://www.catholicsocialjustice.org)

467 Bloomfield Ave., Bloomfield, CT 06002. Phone: 860-242-5573.

**Attend a Prayer Service**  
**to end Human Trafficking**  
**Saint Louis Church**  
**At Saint John XXIII Church**  
**Sunday, February 9 @ 3:00 p.m.**  
**89 Bull Hill Lane West Haven**

### THE HOLY MASS: DID YOU KNOW?

Please watch the wonderful short film  
**"THE VEIL REMOVED"**  
[theveilremoved.com](http://theveilremoved.com)  
(it's only around 5 minutes long)

#### **What is the Veil Removed?**

"The *Veil Removed* is a short film that reveals the coming together of heaven and earth at Mass, as seen by saints and mystics, revealed by scripture and in the catechism of the Catholic Church."

- quote from *The Veil Removed* website

### St. Timothy Middle School is hosting an OPEN HOUSE

**Thursday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> from 7:00-9:00PM**

All prospective families are invited to tour the school and meet our teachers! Talk to our administration and members of our student council to learn more about what STMS has to offer.

Please email [hguerrera@stmswh.org](mailto:hguerrera@stmswh.org) to register.