



Church of Saint Ann

289 Arch Road * Avon, Connecticut * 06001

860-673-9858

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

www.stannavon.org

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Rev. Daniel J. Sullivan

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CEMETERY SUPERINTENDENT

Mike Gould: ext. 225

BAPTISMS:

Registered parishioners call the Parish Office

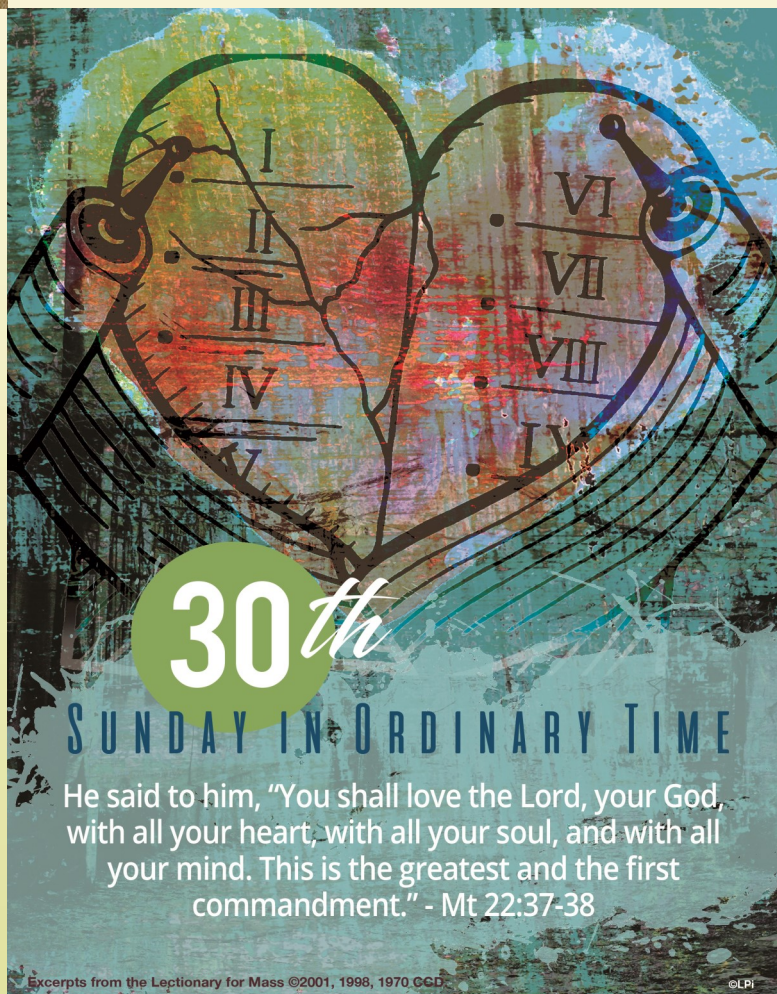
MARRIAGES

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

**30th Sunday in
Ordinary Time**

MONDAY, October 26

9:00 Regina Truszkowsk, requested by
the Sielski Family

TUESDAY, October 27

9:00 Special Intentions

WEDNESDAY, October 28

9:00 Jadawiga Cedrowska, requested by
the Sielski Family

THURSDAY, October 29

9:00 Donna Haverley, requested by
the Bruno Family

FRIDAY, October 30

9:00 For Divine Peace, Divine Love and Divine
Will on Earth, requested by
Judith Stafford and David Woolley

SATURDAY, October 31

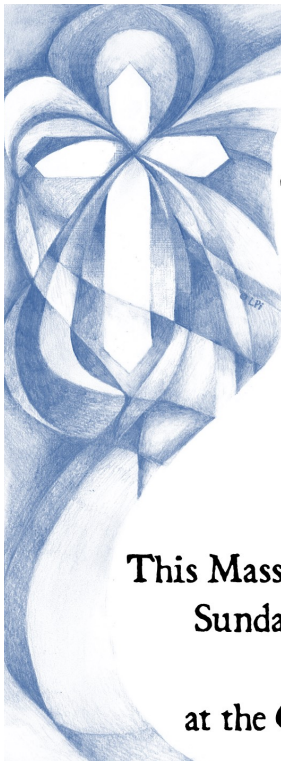
4:00 William Weldon, requested by his family

SUNDAY, November 1

7:30 Christopher Hwang, requested by the family

9:30 For the deceased members of the Prince
Thomas of Savoy Society and
Womens' Auxiliary

11:00 Jeremiah McQuillan (1st Ann.),
requested by the family



The Bereavement Committee of Saint Ann's Parish

*Invites you to
a special Mass to
celebrate the lives
of your deceased loved
ones, who meant so much
to you and others.*

**This Mass will be celebrated on
Sunday, November 1, 2020
9:30 a.m.
at the Church of Saint Ann**

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, October 26

Lectio Divina Live! 7:15pm via Zoom*

TUESDAY, October 27

Walking with Purpose: 10am in Fr. Bennett Hall
RCIA: 7:15pm in the Activity Room

WEDNESDAY, October 28

Wednesday Morning Study Group: 9:30am in Fr. Bennett Hall
Unemployment Support: 3-5pm via Zoom *
Walking with Purpose: 7pm in Fr. Bennett Hall

THURSDAY, October 29

The Bible Timeline: 9:30am in Fr. Bennett Hall
Holy Hour: 12 noon in the church (wear face masks/social distance)
Pray the Rosary with us, Live: 1pm by our Holy Family Statue
(or in FB Hall is hot/rainy - see page 4 for instructions)

FRIDAY, October 30

Lectio Divina Live! 9:45am via Zoom*

SATURDAY, October 31**SUNDAY, November 1**

Lectio Divina Live! 10:30am 10:30 am via Zoom*

Masks & social distancing required at all times!

*** Instructions on how to work Zoom are on our website, under the COVID-19 tab.**

Annual Parish Collection

Church of Saint Ann

We are very grateful for the generosity shown by so many to our **2020 Annual Parish Collection**. If you have not yet had an opportunity to return your pledge card, please do so as soon as possible. We are hoping every household that is "able" to help, will decide to do so. Every gift is welcomed and sincerely appreciated.

This year's collection is critically important due to the pandemic which has greatly reduced our parish revenue over the past six months. COVID-19 has certainly changed all of our lives. We have lost loved ones, members of our parish and local community. Our Lord calls us to press forward to serve those in need, to think and act on behalf of others. Last year we received donations from around 26% of our parishioners. Our hope is that more parish families will consider participating this year. As always, making a contribution that is based on your means and circumstances. Thank you!



The Holy Eucharist DID YOU KNOW?

When we eat our food, we assimilate the food and it becomes a part of us. When we worthily receive Jesus in Holy Communion, He assimilates us into Himself. We become what we consume.

We therefore become more Christ-like; more filled with the Holy Spirit. We share in the Divine Life of the Blessed Trinity through sanctifying grace. The Spiritual Life given to us in Baptism is sustained. We grow in our capacity for holiness. Venial sins are forgiven.

Reflection: "O Precious and wonderful banquet, that brings us salvation and contains all sweetness! ... here Christ himself, the true God, is set before us as our food. No other sacrament has greater healing power; through it sins are purged away, virtues are increased, and the soul is enriched with an abundance of every spiritual gift." Saint Thomas Aquinas (Opusculum 57, Feast of Corpus Christi) How can we ever thank Our Lord enough for this gift? How can we ever forego these graces offered to us at every Mass?

Please join us each week as we probe the depths of this Sacrament of Sacraments.

Managing Stress in These Turbulent Times

A Conversation with Clinical Psychologist

Dr. Thomas Finn

Private practitioner, and on staff at Franciscan Life Center, Meriden, CT

Host: Church of St. Ann, Avon, CT

Date: Monday, Oct. 26th

Time: 7:30pm

Place: Online, via Zoom

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81391650593?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81391650593?pwd=dlc3VHA2OHM4QlJWZWNRdGFkekJSZz09)

[pwd=dlc3VHA2OHM4QlJWZWNRdGFkekJSZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81391650593?pwd=dlc3VHA2OHM4QlJWZWNRdGFkekJSZz09)

Meeting ID: 813 9165 0593

Passcode: peace



We'll discuss:

- What's causing our stress
- Its effect on our psyche and spirit
- Strategies for coping

Submit your questions

for Dr. Finn **anonymously**
by Oct 20, here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WL2728D>

Contact: Ann DiStefano, Dir. Of Adult Faith Formation, ann.distefano@stannavon.com, (860) 673-9858, x228

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

We have many offerings to keep you connected and enriched during social distancing! Please visit <https://www.stannavon.org/spiritual-enrichment-during-covid-19-crisis> for instructions on using Zoom and for links to access our Zoom video meetings.

Lectio Divina, Live!

Find God's message to you in the coming Sunday Gospel reading through the popular *lectio divina* prayer practice. Meets weekly via Zoom:

- + **Sun, 10:30 with Chip Janiszewski**
- + **Mon, 7:15pm with Jim Serruta**
- + **Fri, 9:45 am with Ann DiStefano**

Hungry For More?

Are you a non Catholic, or a Catholic who was baptized only? Are you finding that satisfying your appetites doesn't satisfy your deepest hunger? Perhaps it's time to look more closely at this persistent desire for meaning that won't let itself be pushed away. St. Ann's RCIA team is a friendly, welcoming group of Catholics who love to help seekers explore a deeper relationship with God. Come spend some time with one of us, at your convenience. No pressure, no obligation; just conversation and an invitation to find what fills you up. Contact: ann.distefano@stannavon.com.

The Kerygma:

- 1) God is Love and created us for relationship with Him.
- 2) When we make unloving choices (sin) we damage our relationship with God/self/others.
- 3) Jesus restores this relationship through his life, death and resurrection.
- 4) Jesus invites us to new life by living like Him now, and with Him forever.
- 5) When we accept Jesus' invitation, we receive an outpouring of the Holy Spirit to empower us to love.



WEEKLY ORDINARY INCOME

October 2020: For those attending Mass, we have placed Offertory baskets placed within the church. For others, if possible, please consider continuing to support St. Ann via U.S. Mail or Online Giving (via our website) during these challenging times. Thank You!

Online Giving Oct. 14-21, 2020: \$2,861.00

The second collection next weekend:
All Saints

All Souls Day

Monday, November 2nd

The Feast of All Souls is a wonderful Catholic tradition whereby prayers are offered for the departed souls who have made such a wonderful impact in our lives. If you use our envelope system, an envelope for All Souls is included in the packet you received in the mail. You are able to write down the names of those you would like to remember. They can be dropped in any collection basket and will be placed on the altar throughout the month of November. If you would like an All Souls Day envelope please pick one up in the Gathering Space.



Guidelines and Sign-Up Information for Attending Mass In Person

Guidelines from the Archdiocese of Hartford

- Face masks/coverings required.
- Please bring hand sanitizer for use during the liturgy.
- There will be limits on the number of socially distanced persons that may be present at a given Mass. Due to our limit of 100 we will need to have sign-ups. (see below)
- Dispensation from Sunday Mass obligation has been extended through Nov. 28th, so the elderly, those with pre-existing conditions, even those who are anxious need not be concerned if they miss Mass. Continue to watch from home.

You can find more information about attending Mass in person and the links to sign up for Masses on our website: stannavon.org/mass-times. If you aren't able to sign up online, please call the Parish Office and let Kris know the date, time, family name and number attending and she will do it for you.



Unemployment Support

3-5pm on Wednesdays via Zoom

A weekly, virtual networking meeting to share your experiences coping with job loss to help everyone navigate the transition back to employment. If you prefer more anonymity you may call (646) 558-8656 and use meeting code 3671752517.

Upcoming discussion topics:

- October 28: Creating a career plan
- November 4: Networking during a pandemic
- November 11: Interviewing techniques on Zoom or Skype
- November 18: Creating balance in your life
- November 25: No meeting. Enjoy Thanksgiving with family & friends!

For more information contact: BrianJud@comcast.net

Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/3671572517>

(Zoom tutorial at: www.stannavon.org/zoom-tutorial)

Discerning Your Vote

With local and national elections coming up, please take a look at the helpful materials from the US Council of Catholic Bishops on our parish website: stannavon.org/faithful-citizenship. These resources will NOT tell you who to vote for, but rather, they will guide you in how to form your conscience so you can make your choices with greater clarity and peace.

Topics include:

- What Does it Mean to Form My Conscience
- Knowing Catholic Social Teaching is Key to Faithful Citizenship
- Fostering Civilized Dialogue
- A Prayer for the Election



St Mary's Mission

Religious Articles Collection

St. Mary's Mission has been working with Catholic churches, Convents, Schools, etc., in helping find new homes for used Religious items that are no longer needed. Over the last few years, our mission work has successfully expanded, and we have recycled several items by donating them to those in need. We can take in just about anything of Religious nature, such as Crucifixes, Statues, Rosaries (also broken and damaged), Chalice, Altar Ware, Vestments, Tabernacles, Relics, Holy Medals, Linens, etc. Please do not throw anything out that may be questionable.

Please, no furniture type items or books at this time, if in question, please contact us. (717-381-5816)

St. Mary Mission will be in the area for pick ups the week of November 16th. If you have any religious items that you'd like to donate, please bring them to the Parish Office by Nov. 15th.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments

Calculating Love

Have you ever Googled the word “love”? If you did you may have come across something called the Love Calculator. It is a website where you can supply two names, and the percentage chance of a successful relationship is calculated. Curious, I entered my name and my wife’s. Twenty percent! I hope my wife doesn’t read this!

I then decided to add my name and God. A whopping thirteen percent! Then for the last attempt, I put in my name and Jesus. A very disappointing zero percent! Am I that unlovable? Of course, then I read the small print at the bottom of the page: “Please note that this site has no serious intention whatsoever.” Shocking!

The truth is, the modern world increasingly seems to have no real idea what love is or how to determine when love is real. That makes the seemingly simple words of Jesus about loving God and your neighbor very complex indeed. How can you love God with your all your heart, soul, and mind when you have no idea what the act of loving means? And then, what constitutes loving a neighbor? To make it more complicated, Jesus commands you to love them like you love yourself. I bet you can agree with me that there are a lot of people out there who do not even come close to loving themselves. Knowing what love is in modern times is just not that easy. How is a well-meaning person able to find out the true meaning of love?

-Tracy Earl Welliver, MT

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Live the Liturgy

Do we really understand how important our relationships with our brothers and sisters throughout the world truly are? Many give God’s commandment to love your neighbor and yourself a congenial glance of approval and agreement without really thinking about the implications. Sometimes it is easier to kneel in reverence before the tabernacle in a church than to kneel in reverence before the tabernacle of another person’s soul. Witnessing and being consumed by the Divine Power alive in the heart of every living being transforms not only how we see our brothers and sisters but how we see God Himself. The cries of the poor and those who are hurting must echo in our hearts. We can no longer be deaf to the world’s pain. It is no longer acceptable to judge others, unduly criticize, or marginalize, neglect, abuse, manipulate, or participate in the exploitation of anyone! We are asked to become hypersensitive to not only what we are doing, but why we are doing it. This holds true not only with regard to the daily conduct of our lives but our economic and corporate relationships and policies as well.

SUNDAY'S READINGS

First Reading:

“You shall not wrong any widow or orphan. If ever you wrong them and they cry out to me, I will surely hear their cry. My wrath will flare up, and I will kill you with the sword.” (Ex 22:21-23a)

Psalm:

I love you, Lord, my strength. (Ps 18)

Second Reading:

You became imitators of us and of the Lord, receiving the word in great affliction, with joy from the Holy Spirit, so that you became a model for all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. (1 Thes 1:6-7)

Gospel:

Jesus said to him, “You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” (Mt 22:37-39)

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 October 25, 2020

Sunday: Ex 22:20-26/Ps 18:2-3, 3-4, 47, 51 [2]/
1 Thes 1:5c-10/Mt 22:34-40

Monday: Eph 4:32—5:8/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [cf. Eph 5:1]/
Lk 13:10-17

Tuesday: Eph 5:21-33/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [1a]/Lk 13:18-21

Wednesday: Eph 2:19-22/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 [5a]/Lk 6:12-16

Thursday: Eph 6:10-20/Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10 [1b]/Lk 13:31-35

Friday: Phil 1:1-11/Ps 111:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [2]/Lk 14:1-6

Saturday: Phil 1:18b-26/Ps 42:2, 3 5cdef/Lk 14:1, 7-11

Next Sunday: Rv 7:2-4, 9-14/Ps 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 [cf. 6]/
1 Jn 3:1-3/Mt 5:1-12a

GOSPEL MEDITATION

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

For some reason, it is easier to genuflect in reverence to the presence of Christ in the tabernacle of a church, than to genuflect in reverence to the same presence of Christ in another person’s soul. We wrongly believe that God divides himself, placing himself in one place in preference to another. It doesn’t work that way. Love of God and love of neighbor are intimately and inseparably connected because the essence and spark of God’s very presence is in all creation. God’s presence is just as real in the one who is good, as in the one who is bad, and the one who is just, and the one who is unjust.

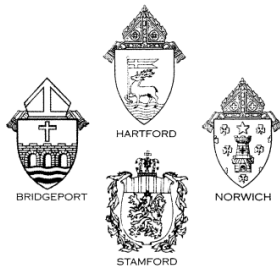
Our brains get in the way of truly contemplating the awesomeness of this truth. We like to separate things into boxes, the sheep from the goats and the deserving from the undeserving. But, with God there are no distinctions such as this. Our human classifications, subdivisions, and definitions hold no power or have any weight in God’s eyes. Sadly, we relate to God and to each other as if they do.

We cannot be deaf to the world’s pain. It is not about having, hoarding, accumulating, acquiring, securing, storing, protecting, owning, claiming, or any of the other human terms we use to distinguish mine from yours. We put so much power in these words and that power, even though we may not always realize it, can cause those words and the distinctions they carry to wound and hurt others. We have the whole order of things wrong, but we are so set on preserving this order that we are absolutely afraid to do it any other way. We go through hoops trying to convince ourselves why the perils of the person seeking a new place to call home are not our perils that we turn our back and justify closing our doors. It makes perfect sense to us. Yet, it makes no sense in terms of our faith. It doesn’t square with any of the words found in Sacred Scripture or in any time-tested teaching of the church.

We have it all reversed. We know that we do because when Jesus speaks about such things and the words of the Old Testament prophets ring out again, we start to feel uncomfortable and anxious. What we do, directly or by omission, to one of the least of these little ones we do to God. It is quite possible that some of what we are doing personally, economically, politically, globally, and even religiously is doing more harm than good. Let’s ponder that a bit.

©LPi

This letter was modified to fit the page. For the 2-page letter that will have larger text, please visit our website (stannavon.org) where you can find a link to the letter under the "News" section on our home page.



CONNECTICUT CATHOLIC PUBLIC AFFAIRS CONFERENCE
134 FARMINGTON AVENUE
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06105 - 3784

**"Respect Life Month" 2020
and the 25th Anniversary of *The Gospel of Life***

One year ago, even before the unthinkable effects of the pandemic and the social unrest and division that we are now witnessing, a piece in the *New York Times* stated: "The world we live in now is one in which no place is safe, no lives really matter, when it comes to violence" (9/2/19). This statement was prompted by the tragedy of repeated mass shootings in our country. To this we must now add the outbreaks of random violence and the deaths that have prompted outrage and have called into question the level of force employed by law enforcement in some cases, especially with regard to people of color.

This year marks the 25th anniversary of *Evangelium vitae* (*The Gospel of Life*), written by Pope St. John Paul. He urged the world to uphold the sacred value and inviolability of human life rather than giving way to a culture of manipulation and choice in life matters, as evidenced in abortion, euthanasia, biological engineering, ecological destruction and unnecessary recourse to the death penalty. Violating the right to life, the Pope stated, only results in the destruction of values that are fundamental not only for the preservation of the lives of individuals and families, but of society as well. This message has been strongly echoed by Popes Benedict and Francis.

Amid all the ominous polarization, acrimony and even violence that are increasing in our country, we would do well to ponder Pope St. John Paul's teaching. He said that respect for innocent human life from conception until natural death is a "transcendent truth" that surpasses any one religion, philosophy, law code or system of government. Religion can and should serve that truth, but it does not create it. If there is no God-given higher truth about the human person than the one we feel free to create, then everything degenerates into competing views of personhood and life itself; the "force of power" prevails, and the inalienable God-given meaning of the human person, and his or her dignity and right to life, are trampled.

Until recent times the religious beliefs of the vast majority of Americans did acknowledge the transcendent truth that all innocent human life is to be respected as inviolable. Indeed, the first thing that struck the French observer Alexis de Tocqueville about the United States in 1831 was its "religious atmosphere." He wrote: "... while the law allows the American people to do everything, there are things which religion prevents them from imagining and forbids them to dare." Religion taught virtuous behavior, which is essential if liberty is to be ordered to the common good. By bringing a moral dimension to issues, religion also helped ensure that majority rule not deteriorate into an immoral tyranny. Religion in America also created an allegiance and devotion among its adherents that counteracted the tendency of government to swallow up all aspects of life.

Today the withering away of respect for the transcendent truth about the right to life, and for traditional religious teaching about the sin and crime of taking innocent human life, has created what Pope St. John Paul called a "culture of death." It is reflected in the words we cited from the

New York Times that "the world we live in now is one in which no place is safe, no lives really matter, when it comes to violence." In his new encyclical *Fratelli tutti* Pope Francis speaks of a "throwaway" world in which "persons are no longer seen as a paramount value to be cared for and respected" (n. 18). Hopefully the 25th anniversary of *Evangelium vitae* will be an inspiration for all people of good will to work for a "culture of life" that cherishes, serves, defends, and protects human life from conception until natural death.

Local pro-life leaders across the world are currently conducting an annual *40 Days for Life* campaign that runs through November 1. *Walking with Moms in Need* is a year of service where Catholic parishes and communities "walk in the shoes" of local pregnant and parenting women in need. And then there is *Project Rachel*, a network of caregivers, including clergy, mental health professionals and others who provide one-on-one care to those struggling after involvement in an abortion. The church continues to advocate strongly for hospice care for the dying, not death imposed by others or by suicide, and for an end to the death penalty because it is no longer needed to protect society.

For well over half a century the U.S. Bishops have spoken out nationally as a body about the evil of racism, most recently in 2018, calling yet again for Catholics and all Americans to take to heart in particular the lived experience—past and present—of African-Americans, Hispanic Americans, and Native Americans. Without equal respect and opportunity for the life and dignity of each and all we cannot hope to have a nation at peace with itself.

Likewise, Pope Francis has dramatically and urgently spoken of the plight of refugees, immigrants and all those who are vulnerable and at risk across the world. Our Church strives to uphold the life and dignity of every person by providing education, health care and works of charity on a large scale, and by advocating for economic justice, immigration reform, and the alleviation of the desperate plight of so many of the world's migrants, near and far.

These are just some of the ways the Catholic Church is working to promote a gospel of life. We invite you to join us, so that, in the words of Pope St. John Paul, "together we may offer this world of ours new signs of hope, and work to ensure that justice and solidarity will increase and that a new culture of human life will be affirmed, for the building of an authentic civilization of truth and love."

+ Leonard P. Blair
Most Reverend Leonard P. Blair
Archbishop of Hartford

+ Frank J. Caggiano
Most Reverend Frank J. Caggiano
Bishop of Bridgeport

+ Juan Miguel Betancourt, SEMV
Most Reverend Juan Miguel Betancourt, SEMV
Auxiliary Bishop of Hartford

+ Michael R. Cote
Most Reverend Michael R. Cote
Bishop of Norwich

+ Paul Chomnycky, OSB
Most Reverend P. Paul Chomnycky
Eparch of Stamford