



# 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 and Tim Healy

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## RCIA DIRECTOR & LITURGY COORDINATOR

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## DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Tom Stockton: ext. 230

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## MINISTRIES COORDINATOR

Chip Janiszewski: [chip.janiszewski@stannavon.com](mailto:chip.janiszewski@stannavon.com)

## CEMETERY SUPERINTENDENT

Mike Gould: ext. 225

## BAPTISMS:

Registered parishioners call the Parish Office

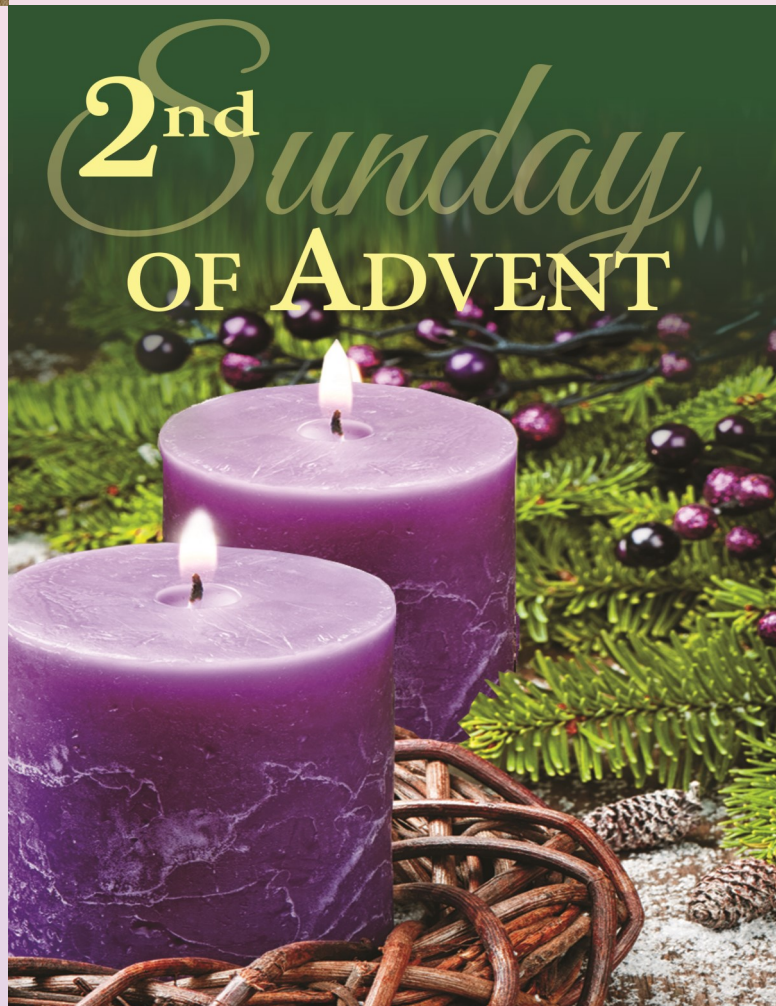
## MARRIAGES

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



## Second Sunday of Advent

### MONDAY, December 7

9:00 Dom Zacchio, requested by  
Tom and Lynn Pellegrini

### TUESDAY, December 8, Immaculate Conception

9:00 For Divine Peace, Divine Love and Divine  
Will on Earth, requested by Judith Stafford  
and David Woolley  
12:10 Special Intentions

### WEDNESDAY, December 9

9:00 For the deceased members of the  
Joseph Vernesoni Family, requested by  
the King Family

### THURSDAY, December 10

9:00 Arthur Godbout, Sr. (20th Ann.),  
requested by the Godbout Family

### FRIDAY, December 11

9:00 Paul S. Galick, requested by the family

### SATURDAY, December 12

4:00 Fr. Thomas P. Quinn, requested by  
Sandra Bondhus

### SUNDAY, December 13

7:30 Arthur Godbout, Sr. (20th Ann.),  
requested by the Yurch & Godbout Families  
9:30 Kevin William Smith, requested by  
Kathy and Scott Gill  
11:00 Nick & Ellen Mascoli, requested by  
the Mascoli 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

### MONDAY, December 7

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: 9:30-10:30am in the church  
Prayer Shawl Ministry Meeting: 7pm in Fr. Bennett Hall  
MMP Cenacle-Rosary Prayer Group: 7:15pm in the church  
Advent Reflection Series 7:15pm via Zoom\*

### TUESDAY, December 8

Walking with Purpose: 10am in Fr. Bennett Hall  
Christmas Tree Lighting: 7pm on the front lawn  
RCIA: 7:15pm in the Activity Room

### WEDNESDAY, December 9

Wednesday Morning Study Group: resumes next week  
Unemployment Support: 3-5pm via Zoom \*  
Walking with Purpose: 7pm in Fr. Bennett Hall

### THURSDAY, December 10

The Bible Timeline: 9:30am in F.B. Hall  
Holy Hour: 12 noon in the church

### FRIDAY, December 11

Advent Reflection Series: 9:45am via Zoom\*

### SATURDAY, December 12

### SUNDAY, December 13

Advent Reflection Series: 10:30am via Zoom\*

**Masks & social distancing required at all times!**

\* Zoom Instructions are on our website, under the COVID-19 tab.



## Annual Toy/Gift Collection

Weekend of December 19/20, 2020

Sponsored by St. Ann's Social Justice Ministry

### Option 1:



Take one or more paper Christmas gift requests from the panel in the Gathering Space or side entrance. Purchase gift, wrap in Christmas paper and securely tape the identifying tag to the gift. Recipients will be children and families at Family Life Education, Catholic Worker House and Catholic Charities Refugee Families.



### Option 2:

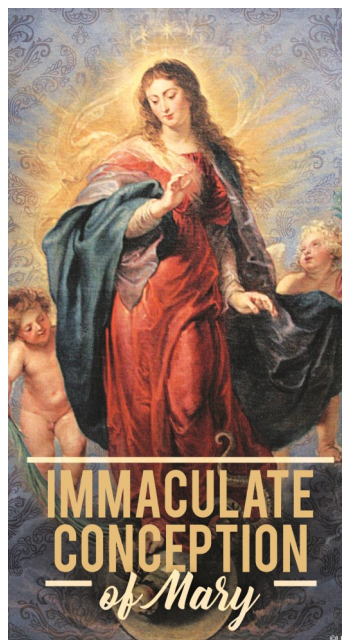
Purchase one or more gifts (please, no war games) **DO NOT WRAP**. Recipients will be children in Avon & Hartford.

### Drop Off:

Please place gifts on tables at far end of Fr. Bennett Hall the weekend of December 19-20.  
**If you are going away:** Please leave gifts on tables at far end of Fr. Bennett Hall.



God Bless  
You  
For Your  
Generosity



## IMMACULATE CONCEPTION — of Mary —

The Feast of the  
Immaculate Conception  
Tuesday, December 8, 2020

Masses will be at:

9:00 am  
and  
12:10 pm

\*\*\*\*\*

There is currently a dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation in the Archdiocese of Hartford.



## 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.

### Put stress aside this Advent and focus on HOPE!



**Our Advent Reflection Series, "Jesus Will Be Home HOPE For Christmas," begins soon.**

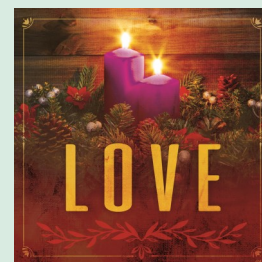
Don't miss this 4-part program, where we will explore the HOPE that comes when we *Discover, Follow, Worship and Share* Jesus. This is part of our focus on The Kerygma (see below) this year, and its timely message of the Good News of Jesus Christ.

- + Groups will meet online weekly via Zoom, for 90-minutes. (We'll walk you through Zoom - it's simple!)
- + You'll enjoy fellowship, prayer, music, video, reading and discussion; materials provided; no homework!
- Sundays, 10:30am (Nov 22, 29; Dec 6, 13)
- Mondays, 7:15pm (Nov 23, 30; Dec 7, 14)
- Fridays, 9:45am (Nov 20; Dec 4, 11, 18)

Contact Ann DiStefano to register : 860-673-9858, ext. 228  
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.



**The Holy Eucharist**  
*DID YOU KNOW?*

Did you ever think about the great HUMILITY of Jesus, as he remains with us in every tabernacle in every Catholic Church throughout the world? For love of us, the God who created the universe in power, majesty and awe deigns to first become man in the Incarnation: taking flesh of the Virgin Mary through the power of the Holy Spirit. Then in further humility, Jesus deigns to dwell with us in the form of the fragile, white Consecrated Host?

Our Lord understands that we need spiritual nourishment in this journey through life. Knowing our own great weakness, we should approach the Holy Eucharist with all of our personal needs. Although Our Lord knows our needs before we ask Him, He wants us to open our hearts to Him and ask. St. John Vianney, the patron saint of parish priests, wrote "I think we should receive all that we ask of Our Lord, if we approach Him with a living Faith and a pure heart."

**Reflection:** After receiving Holy Communion, spend those precious moments entering into the mystery of Eucharistic Love, which is the intimate relationship of your soul with Jesus. "Come to Me, all you that labor and are burdened and I will refresh you." (Matthew 11:28)

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

## Prayer Shawl Ministry

*Come be a part of our ministry!*

**Upcoming Meeting on Monday evening,  
December 7th in Fr. Bennett Hall. Please contact  
Tina Dibble for more information 860-674-1541.**

*\*all Covid-19 Guidelines apply (masks/social distancing)*



**Do You Know Anyone Who Needs  
the Comfort of a Prayer Shawl?**

St. Ann's Prayer Shawl Ministry has shawls available! If you know of someone who is going through an illness or time of need and feel a prayer shawl will lift their spirits or provide comfort, please contact Tina Dibble, 860-674-1541, to pick one up.

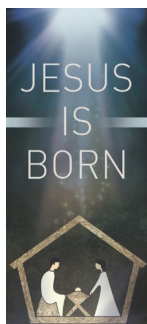
**Archbishop Blair Has Extended the Dispensation  
from the Sunday Mass Obligation Through  
Tuesday, February 16, 2021**

For the full statement go to:  
[archdioceseofhartford.org/further-extension-of-dispensation-from-Sunday-mass-obligation/](http://archdioceseofhartford.org/further-extension-of-dispensation-from-Sunday-mass-obligation/)

## WEEKLY ORDINARY INCOME

**December 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 (Nov. 25-Dec.2): \$3,652**  
**The second collection next weekend: none**



### New This Year: Make Your Christmas Donation to St. Ann By Credit Card! No Sign-Ups Necessary

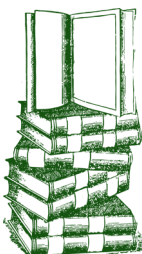
If you would like to make a donation to St. Ann for Christmas using a credit card or your bank account by using the following web address. There's no need to sign up for online giving as this is a direct donation to our Christmas Collection! Thank You!

[www.osvonlinegiving.com/230/DirectDonate/4294](http://www.osvonlinegiving.com/230/DirectDonate/4294)

## Gift Ideas

*Still have shopping to finish for special people on your list?*

Due to the pandemic, the Scholarship Committee has been unable to have their large sales (clothing, books etc) which means a shortage of funds to award scholarships to deserving city students attending Catholic High Schools. This year, why not consider a donation in someone's honor to the St. Ann Scholarship Fund. You will check people off your list and help a young person with a partial tuition support scholarship. If you'd like to pay online, there is a link on the St. Ann website (choose *Scholarship Committee under the Ministries tab*). You can also write a check to St. Ann Scholarship Fund and send it to Church of St. Ann, Att: Jennifer Soucy, 289 Arch Road, Avon, CT 06001. Thanks so much for helping to keep the scholarship program going!



### 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 Feb. 16, 2021, 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](http://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.*

## Annual Poinsettia Sale



Our annual poinsettia sale will still take place this year although a bit differently due to the pandemic. Forms will be available in the Gathering Space or can be downloaded from our website ([stannavon.org](http://stannavon.org) – look under Advent 2020 tab). Place your forms and payment in a sealed envelope, marked "Poinsettia Sale" and then either drop into an Offertory baskets at church or drop off at the Parish Office. You may also mail it to the church.

### New This Year!

If you'd like to pay by credit card or via your bank account you can do so using the link on our website at:

[stannavon.org/poinsettia-plant-sale](http://stannavon.org/poinsettia-plant-sale)

This is a singular form/payment, no need to sign up for Online Giving.

#### NOTE:

Forms must be received no later than Wednesday, December 16th for you loved ones' names to be included in the December 27th bulletin.

## Annual Parish Collection

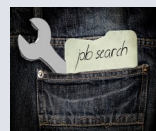
*Church of Saint Ann*

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!

(You can pick up a pledge card in the Gathering Space or in the Parish Office or by calling or e-mailing the Parish Office, 860-673-9858, ext. 221, [kris.martino@stannavon.com](mailto:kris.martino@stannavon.com))



## 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:

**Dec 9: Networking for Introverts**

**Dec16: Career Planning for an Uncertain Future**

**Dec 23 & 30: No meeting**

For more information contact: [BrianJud@comcast.net](mailto:BrianJud@comcast.net)

Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/3671752517>

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



## EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments

### Jubilation to Share

Sometimes you have something to share with people that causes you to well up inside with excitement to the point of going crazy. A pregnancy test, a pay raise, a college acceptance, a wedding or engagement are all examples of moments in life when we might be bursting at the seams to tell somebody the good news. When we finally get the chance to tell somebody, joy just seems to flow through us with ease. We literally want the entire world to share in our jubilation.

When was the last time you shared with a friend or loved one how much your faith in Jesus means to you? You don't feel the same motivation to share? Are you not overwhelmed with a desire to spread the Good News?

Don't feel bad. You are not alone. As Christians, we often fail to grasp the powerful implications of being a disciple of Jesus Christ. We can become complacent and lose sight of what matters the most. That is when sharing with others about our faith seems uncomfortable.

Faith is a gift. As everyday stewards we are called to share with others what God has given us. Advent is a great time to grow in our faith and love of the Lord. The more we cultivate our faith and the closer we draw to Him, the more we will want to share about Him. We might not have the impact of John the Baptist in the course of human history, but our proclamation of the Gospel to another might be the gift that changes their history.

-Tracy Earl Welliver, MT

## INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Live the Liturgy

Prepare the way of the Lord! The message of John the Baptist becomes the calling of every baptized disciple of Jesus Christ. Each one of us is asked to prepare the way of the Lord. Given the humble means of our lives, how can we do this? It certainly does not require that we stand on street corners announcing God's future coming! We can more readily take up the task of our lifework by clearing our lives of unnecessary, distracting clutter. By creating solid and deep spiritual lives, we can heighten our awareness of God's presence and help people point to and discover God's presence around them. By conducting ourselves in holiness and devotion, we can speak volumes to those we meet. Not by preaching actual words, but by living lives that communicate the comfort God wants His people to know. As the world sometimes frantically unfolds around us, we can be people of patience who show others that it's okay to wait for God's gift to come. Conducting our lives in this manner, we will know the peace that comes from doing what we have been asked to do.

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## SUNDAY'S READINGS

### First Reading:

A voice cries out: In the desert prepare the way of the LORD! Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God! (Is 40:3)

### Psalm:

Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation. (Ps 85)

### Second Reading:

The day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a mighty roar and the elements will be dissolved by fire, and the earth and everything done on it will be found out. (2 Pt 3:10)

### Gospel:

"One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." (Mk 1:7b-8)

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 6, 2020

Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 [8]/2 Pt 3:8-14/  
Mk 1:1-8  
Monday: Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [Is 35:4f]/  
Lk 5:17-26  
Tuesday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [1]/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/  
Lk 1:26-38  
Wednesday: Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10 [1]/Mt 11:28-30  
Thursday: Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab [8]/Mt 11:11-15  
Friday: Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [cf. Jn 8:12]/Mt 11:16-19  
Saturday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/  
Jdt 13:18bcde, 19 [15:9d]/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47  
Next Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 51-54 [Is 61:10b]/  
1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

## GOSPEL MEDITATION

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

People knew over a year in advance that the Pope was coming for a visit to America and the preparations began. Security, space limitations and requirements, protocols, crowd management, itineraries, invitations, regulations, and so much more was necessary to pull this event off effectively. It's not every day that we get a visit from such a prominent dignitary. Thought, effort, meticulous attention to detail and vision all are necessary to make this thing work. After all, he can't just show up in the ordinary and normal daily routines of life and catch people unprepared! Tickets have to be purchased, buses rented, hotel rooms reserved, and travel arrangements made early because it will be impossible to see him if we wait too long!

We do this kind of preparing not only for prominent religious figures but for political dignitaries, notable sports figures, people of fame, and even actors. If an individual intrigues us, we are going to want to do all we have to do to get a "good seat" in the house. Does Jesus Christ captivate this much of our attention? We are asked to prepare the way of the Lord and to do so not with frantic frenzy but patient enthusiasm. We do not have to stand on a street corner making profound announcements about God's coming or become overly zealous in our embrace of the Good News. Our task is quieter, more interior, captivating, and consuming. We are asked to change. We have to conduct our lives with holy devotion.

Is the cost of that ticket too much for you? Don't you want the "best seat" in the house? You don't want to miss Our Lord's arrival when he comes, do you? After all, if he comes while you are going about your daily routines without you even knowing, he may catch you off guard. Or, he may come in disguise looking like a beggar, a prisoner, migrant, refugee, or someone who is lost. Would you be ready to recognize him then? Preparing for the coming of Christ requires a change of mind, heart, and behavior. It is not adequate to simply do the things we always do. We want our lives to speak of the exciting news of Christ's coming and the joy that the Gospel brings. It has to do with our demeanor, values, priorities, choices, and how we structure daily routines. Of course, it involves sacrifice. All anticipations do! Are you excited, captivated, enthusiastic, and sitting on the edge of your seat eager to celebrate his coming among us at Christmas, and waiting for him to come again? If not, why not?

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# THE BULLETIN BOARD

*Social Justice Conference*  
*Rooted in Faith,*  
*Opening Wide Our Hearts*

December 9th at  
7:00 pm

**"The Influence of  
Racism in our  
Health Care System"**

PRESENTATION BY VERNETTE TOWNSEND MSN, RN, MARLENE  
HARRIS, AND SAMANTHA LEW

THE OFFICE FOR CATHOLIC  
SOCIAL JUSTICE MINISTRY  
Of the Archdiocese of Hartford

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

Register at: [www.catholicsocialjustice.org/open-wide-our-hearts.html](http://www.catholicsocialjustice.org/open-wide-our-hearts.html)

## Thank you to our Sponsor Advertisers. Can you join them?

Attention Business Owners, Professionals, Self-Employed and Families!  
Bulletin Advertising, read both in print and digitally online!

Mary Hoffman from Liturgical Publications is working on securing new advertising sponsors for our bulletin over the next few weeks. We need and appreciate your help!

We continue to publish the bulletin and make it available in print and online.

Please consider purchasing an ad. Your ad and participation make our bulletin successful and help you attract new customers!

To place an ad or for more information, please contact Mary Hoffman at 860-836-8486 or via e-mail at [mhoffman@4LPi.com](mailto:mhoffman@4LPi.com).

**NOW**  
**Is a Great Time**  
**to Explore**  
**Becoming Catholic!**

To set up a time to chat,  
please contact:  
[ann.distefano@stannavon.com](mailto:ann.distefano@stannavon.com)

## Little Sisters of the Poor Christmas Raffle

Online: November 8<sup>th</sup> to December 21<sup>st</sup>

<https://e.givesmart.com/events/jfx/>

Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic we are holding this Christmas Raffle event online only. As we strive to keep our Residents, Sisters & Staff safe. This also allows anyone and everyone to participate. Items Won will need to be PICKED UP here at 1365 Enfield Street, Enfield, CT 06082

We have not been able to have many fundraisers due to the Pandemic. The first time we used this site was for our Golf Tournament in September and it was received very well. So many people like the contactless aspect of doing our Raffles & Auctions online. And many who could not attend the Golf Tournament were able to participate as well.

The Sisters have not been able to go out on the weekends to visit all the local Churches to get donations. And as we continue to keep the home as safe as we can, we have missed out on at least 8 Fundraisers we would typically have INSIDE the home.

We hope everyone stays safe & Healthy throughout these winter months. Have a Very Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!!

Because all purchases are contactless and must be made with a credit card, all participants must be over the age of 21!

## *The Spirit of the Franciscan Christmas Fair*

November 21-December 20, 2020

This year, because of the pandemic, our Franciscan Christmas Fair, benefitting the Franciscan Life Center and Franciscan Home Care and Hospice Care will be online. We invite you to join us for *The Spirit of the Franciscan Christmas Fair* November 21 - December 20, 2020. We will be recapturing the spirit of our Living Crèche from past years, selling fair items online including Christmas trees, wreaths, centerpieces, pottery, handmade miniature reindeer, handmade candles, Merry Miscellaneous items, Holy Land pieces and more. There is a Basket Raffle and Santa and Mrs. Claus will be live from the North Pole. Please join us in supporting *The Spirit of the Franciscan Christmas Fair* by visiting [franciscanchristmasfair.org](http://franciscanchristmasfair.org).

**COVID-19 RESOURCES:** VISIT: [www.archdioceseofhartford.org/coronavirus](http://www.archdioceseofhartford.org/coronavirus) for all Archdiocesan pandemic related updates

**Please visit St. Ann's website:** [www.stannavon.org](http://www.stannavon.org)

Look under the "COVID-19" tab for updates and spiritual enrichment ideas for adults, children & families.

**Check out St. Ann's YouTube Channel!** There is a link on our website or you can visit us & subscribe at:

[www.youtube.com/channel/UCQb8GEZT\\_REAvzOGVM4\\_9UA?view\\_as=subscriber](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQb8GEZT_REAvzOGVM4_9UA?view_as=subscriber)

## Mass: If you are unable to attend Mass here are some options to watch at home

- The Office of Radio and Television of the Archdiocese of Hartford broadcasts Mass every day at 10:00am on WCCT. Channel 11 on our local cable. It is celebrated by one of our own Archdiocesan priests in the ORTV studio.
- Bishop Robert Barron: "Word on Fire" Daily Mass webpage: [www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass/](http://www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass/)
- EWTN, either on your TV or online at: [www.ewtn.com](http://www.ewtn.com)



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