



Church of Saint Ann

289 Arch Road * Avon, Connecticut * 06001

860-673-9858

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

www.stannavon.org

WEEKEND ASSISTANTS

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

Rev. Daniel J. Sullivan

DEACONS

Jeffrey Sutherland and Tim Healy

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Russell Koch: russ.koch@stannavon.com

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR (K - 8)

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REGISTRAR & CONFIRMATION ASSISTANT

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Maureen Fiedler: 860-995-4026

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Tom Stockton: ext. 230

PARISH OFFICE MANAGER

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DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

Kerry Magrini: kerry.magrini@stannavon.com

MINISTRIES COORDINATOR

Chip Janiszewski: 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

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



3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

MONDAY, January 25

9:00 Johnny Jackson, requested by the Downey Family

TUESDAY, January 26

9:00 Jim Regan, requested by the Ryan Family

WEDNESDAY, January 27

9:00 Billy Martinez, requested by his mom

THURSDAY, January 28

9:00 Special Intentions

FRIDAY, January 29

9:00 Special Intentions

SATURDAY, January 30

4:00 Sonia Villalobos, requested by the Balich Family

SUNDAY, January 31

7:30 Hedi Droste, requested by the family

9:30 Raymond Griffin, requested by Lou and Eileen Del Prete

11:00 Pauline Gadzik, requested by the Downey Family

To schedule Mass Intentions, please call or email Kris in the Parish Office: 860-673-9858, ext. 221 or kris.martino@stannavon.com.

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

MONDAY, January 25

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: 9:30-10:30am in the church
MMP Cenacle-Rosary Prayer Group: 7:15pm in the church
Lectio Divina Live!: 7:15pm -via Zoom*

TUESDAY, January 26

Walking with Purpose: 10am -via Zoom
RCIA: 7:15pm in the Activity Room

WEDNESDAY, January 27

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, January 8

The Bible Timeline: resumes in January
Holy Hour: 12 noon in the church

FRIDAY, January 29

Lectio Divina Live!: 9:45am -via Zoom*
Holy Hour for Life: 12 noon in the church

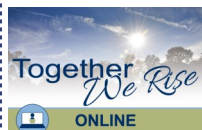
SATURDAY, January 30

SUNDAY, January 31

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

Face masks & social distancing required at all times!

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



Attention: Women of St. Ann

During these months of isolation and separation, we have felt a longing to gather as a community, and for a sense of "normalcy" in our lives. Please join us on our journey of reconnection by participating in "Together We Rise", the Women's Retreat for 2021. The retreat experience will be offered **Online**, presented by the Holy Family Retreat Team on **Saturday, January 30, 2021** from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. If you are unable to make this date, please see consult the HF Website: info@holyfamilyretreat.org for additional dates.

For questions call; Eileen DiMauro at (860) 675-4330 or Jacque Warren at (860) 673-6761, or Holy Family Retreat Center at (860) 521-0440.



ADULT FAITH FORMATION

We have many offerings to keep you connected and enriched during social distancing!

Please visit: stannavon.org/zoom-tutorial for instructions on using Zoom and for links to access our Zoom video meetings.

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.

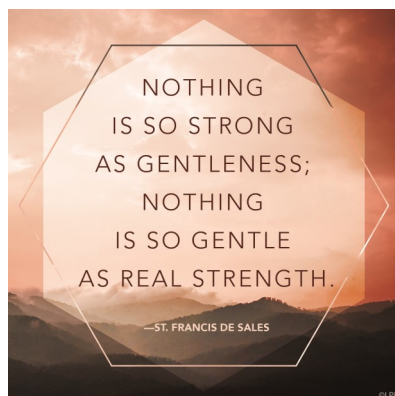


The Holy Eucharist DID YOU KNOW?

Each reception of Holy Communion is different. The amount of grace we receive is dependent upon our attitude. St. Thomas Aquinas wrote, "In a false person, the Sacrament does not produce any affect." Here the saint is stressing a simple fact: When we receive Holy Communion, we must desire union with Christ. Our hearts must be in it. We must ardently long to be one with the Lord.

Reflection: The time after our reception of Holy Communion is "one on one" time with Our Lord. It is a time of worship. It is a time of thanksgiving. It is a time of petition. It is a time of God's love for the soul and the soul's love for God.

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



PRO-LIFE MINISTRY

Upcoming Events:

Please read the important "*Live the Gospel of Life*" from the USCCB and then join us on

Friday, January 29th, for a Holy Hour for Life from 12 noon -1:00 pm. We will unite our prayers with those who are at the March for Life in Washington, D.C.

If print is too small, please view on our website: stannavon.org/the-gospel-of-life



Twenty-five years ago, Pope St. John Paul II wrote that the Gospel of life is at the heart of Jesus' saving message to the world (*Evangelium vitae* 1). In taking on human flesh, dwelling among us, and sacrificing his very life for our redemption, Christ reveals the profound dignity of every human person. This God-given dignity does not change with our stage of life, abilities, level of independence, or any other varying circumstance.

Rather, it is rooted in the permanent fact that each of us is made in the image and likeness of God, created to share in the very life of God himself. The human person is a "manifestation of God in the world, a sign of his presence, a trace of his glory" (EV 34). And we must reflect this truth in how we act and how we treat one another.

The truth of the Gospel of life is at the foundation of who we are as followers of Christ. In his earthly life, Jesus provided the perfect model for how we are to love our neighbor and live out the Gospel call: "Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me" (Mt. 25:40).

Jesus calls each of us to "care for the other as a person for whom God has made us responsible" (EV 87). The Gospel of life is intrinsic to the whole Christian life and foundational to the decisions we make on a daily basis. For, "the Gospel of God's love for man, the Gospel of the dignity of the person and

the Gospel of life are a single and indivisible Gospel" (EV 2, emphasis added).

In his encyclical on the Gospel of life, Pope St. John Paul II recognizes the full range of threats against human life, from poverty and malnutrition to murder and war. He places particular emphasis, however, on threats to life at its beginning and end—precisely when it is most in need of protection. In modern times, children in their mothers' wombs and those approaching the end of their lives are certainly among the "least of these" in our world's estimation. Practices such as abortion and assisted suicide tragically reject the truth that human life is always to be cherished and defended with loving concern.

As the Church celebrates the 25th anniversary of Pope St. John Paul II's prophetic encyclical, let us reflect on how we personally live out the Gospel: *Do I talk about and act towards others as I would talk about and treat Jesus himself? Do I inform myself of the Church's teachings and engage in the civic arena as first a follower of Christ? Do I support and advocate for laws and policies that protect and defend human life? Do I help pregnant and parenting mothers in need? Am I ready to support a loved one nearing death?*

Through the intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe, may Our Lord grant us the grace to truly and courageously live his Gospel of life.

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WEEKLY ORDINARY INCOME

Weekly Giving: \$4,109.00

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 (Jan 13-20,2021): \$2,776.00

Next Weekend's Second Collection: none

Do You Know Anyone Who Could Use 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. In addition, we have a few lap robes, which are ideally suited for someone who is wheelchair bound.

Are you hungry for meaning, purpose & community or simply looking for something more in your life?

Exploring a relationship with God through the Catholic faith could help. We'd love to talk with you about it via phone or Zoom. No pressure, just friendly, open conversation, one-on-one.

Contact:

ann.distefano@stannavon.com

How You Can Help the St. Ann Scholarship Fund

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, Attn: Jennifer Soucy, 289 Arch Road, Avon, CT 06001. Thanks so much for helping to keep the scholarship program going!



Ladies, Start the New Year with a Weekly Oasis of Peace and Fellowship while Strengthening Your Relationship with Jesus!

The Walking With Purpose Study "Opening Your Heart" is currently underway. As we Start up for the New Year, you are welcome to join us at any time.

Each Session can stand alone, and the fellowship has already proven to be a valuable Oasis of Peace for participants!

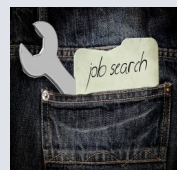
We look forward to welcoming you into one of our groups, either Tuesday morning via zoom or Wednesday evening socially distanced in Father Bennett Hall

RSVP to Andrea at
andreapizzuti333@gmail.com

walking with purpose

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:

January 27: Interviewing techniques on Zoom or Skype

Feb 3: Control

Feb 10: Commitment

Feb 17: Confidence

Feb 24: Courage

Mar 3: Creativity

Mar 10: Competition

Mar 17: Concentration

For more information contact: BrianJud@comcast.net
Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/3671572517>
(Zoom tutorial at: www.stannavon.org/zoom-tutorial)

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments

Give Until It Hurts

One of the characteristics of Everyday Stewardship is to be committed — to persevere daily in a way of life acknowledging that everything belongs to God.

I know, I know. Easier said than done.

Just ask Zebedee. It's quite an image we get from the Gospel, after all. "So they left their father Zebedee in the boat along with the hired men and followed him."

There was Zebedee, about his business, mending nets with his two sons, who were undoubtedly his best workers — they had to have been more dedicated than the hired men, who worked for wages rather than for family. And in an instant off they go, following this strange man.

I don't know about you, but if my kids left me on a hot summer day to finish the lawn by myself, I wouldn't be too happy.

But Zebedee must have been someone quite special. Perhaps he realized that his sons didn't belong to him — not really. They belonged to God, and from the beginning of time, it had been appointed that they would be among the first disciples of Christ. He passed, he called, they followed, and Zebedee obliged. He simply went back to mending his nets, I imagine.

Zebedee already understood what St. Teresa of Calcutta would say millennia later: "Give until it hurts."

"You're wasting my time." "I've done so much for her; she owes me this." How often do we think things, and even people and relationships, belong to us? The truth is none of them do. We must be ready, as Zebedee was, to surrender them to God when He comes walking past.

-Tracy Earl Welliver, MT

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Live the Liturgy

"Repent, and believe in the gospel." Some type of honest and sincere repentance is necessary for any type of authentic growth and maturity. We have to come to the realization, unless we are happy wallowing in immaturity and superficiality, that the way we have been doing things is not the best or the healthiest. There isn't a human being alive who hasn't acted foolishly or erratically at the cost of almost losing a treasured relationship. "Why did I act that way?" is a question we often ponder after some reflection and enlightenment. Faith works the same way. Stumbling through life and bumping up against meaninglessness, a person can begin to see that something significant is missing. They see that there is merit to a relationship with God and an embrace of faith. Before these can take root, sincere sorrow for past wrong doing, missed opportunities, errors in judgment, and short sightedness is necessary. Repentance is necessary. Then having realized that we were walking in darkness, we can rejoice that by God's grace we now see the light.

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SUNDAY'S READINGS

First Reading:

When God saw by their actions how they turned from their evil way, the repent-ed of the evil that he had threatened to do to them; he did not carry it out. (Jon 3:10)

Psalm:

Teach me your ways, O Lord. (Ps 25)

Second Reading:

For the world in its present form is passing away. (1 Cor 7:31)

Gospel:

The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel. (Mk 1:15)

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WEEKLY READINGS

Readings for the week of January 24, 2021

Sunday: Jon 3:1-5, 10/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [4a]/1 Cor 7:29-31/
Mk 1:14-20
Monday: Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22/Ps 117:1bc, 2 [Mk 16:15]/
Mk 16:15-18
Tuesday: 2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 7-8a, 10 [3]/
Mk 3:31-35
Wednesday: Heb 10:11-18/Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4 [4b]/Mk 4:1-20
Thursday: Heb 10:19-25/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 [cf. 6]/Mk 4:21-25
Friday: Heb 10:32-39/Ps 37:3-4, 5-6, 23-24, 39-40 [39a]/
Mk 4:26-34
Saturday: Heb 11:1-2, 8-19/Lk 1:69-70, 71-72, 73-75 [cf. 68]/
Mk 4:35-41

GOSPEL MEDITATION

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

It was a normal day by all accounts, but John just wasn't feeling himself. He was a little lightheaded and out of sorts. Later in the afternoon, he experienced a sharp pain in his chest and arm. Quick thinking and action brought John to the emergency department with a diagnosis of a significant heart attack. Surviving this ordeal, he found himself face to face with his cardiologist, having an honest conversation about things that needed to change. "I came close to death," John found himself thinking. Then came the remorse. He was a young man with a loving wife and children who were very close to facing life without him. John found himself with intense sorrow for living an unchecked and self-indulgent life that almost brought him to his demise. He wanted to change.

We all have our wake-up calls. We have experiences and encounters that force us to really think twice about choices we have made and directions we have taken. Often, we find ourselves looking at those we have hurt square in the eye and wallowing in our foolishness. We regrettably realize that we have allowed our needs to lure us into making some cruel mistakes. We impulsively say things and flippantly do things that reveal our unredeemed and unhealed self. It is a self we stumble over and try to tame but can't quite seem to master and control. Help!

We spin our wheels, naively thinking that we will somehow, perhaps through persistence, get ourselves unstuck. But, we don't. We just get out of the car, feeling very helpless, and ignorantly look at the mess we got ourselves into. Did we ever think to ask someone for help? Or, taken the advice of One who is wiser and avoid this route altogether? "Come after me," are words that Jesus says to all of us. In order to heed his invitation, we must leave our ego-self behind and follow.

When we really see and understand the freedom, peace, justice, and love he offers, we find ourselves with such sorrow in our hearts for how foolish and silly we have been. All the misguided choices and sinful actions come full view and we see how risky our random impassioned behaviors really have been. Repentance is beautiful. When done with a sincere and contrite heart, it directs us to the glory that can be ours, ignites us with the challenge of living a life in service of others and reminds us that all is well.

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THE BULLETIN BOARD

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. 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.

Great News - Worldwide Marriage Encounter has gone "Virtual"!

To support married couples during this time of social distancing, Worldwide Marriage Encounter is sponsoring virtual marriage experiences. Some are on weekends and some span multiple weeks on a given weekday. Couples will explore their individual personality styles, improve listening and communication skills, understand God's plan for their marriage, and learn how to keep their relationship a priority. Registration is limited and a \$100 application fee is required. For more information or to apply, call Frank & Margie Pearson at 860-337-2447 or visit them at <https://www.mectw.org/>.

"Brothers and sisters: I should like you to be free of anxieties." There are many things to be anxious about in these days. Let us learn to calm our anxieties in our life by learning how to communicate better on a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience. The next virtual Experiences are Feb 12-14, 2021 in East Hartford, CT and Feb 22-Mar 15, 2021 in VIRTUAL 3RE, NY

Follow the Church of Saint Ann Online



Website:

www.stannavon.org



Facebook:

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Instagram:

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YouTube:

www.youtube.com/channel/UCQb8GEZT_REAvzOGVM4_9UA

Second Collection for Archdiocesan High Schools This Weekend: Jan. 23/24, 2021

The Catholic High School Collection, occurring in all parishes of the Archdiocese on the weekend of January 23/24, supports the outstanding education offered at our Catholic secondary schools by providing funds for tuition assistance, technology enhancements, curricular improvements, and marketing, all of which are so critical during this ongoing pandemic. Please consider investing in the exceptional academics, solid faith formation, and spirit of service at our high schools by making a gift to this year's Catholic High School Collection on January 23/24.

Archdiocesan Marriage Enrichment Celebration

The Archdiocesan Office of Family Life will hold its 14th annual Marriage Enrichment Celebration on Sat., Feb. 6, 2021, from 7:00-8:30 p.m. Please join us for an evening of prayer, reflection and fun centered on the theme: "The Unforeseen of Quarantine: Viewing our Sacrament with 2020 Vision." Due to ongoing pandemic restrictions, this year's program will be virtual and conducted over the internet. Participants can join with either video/audio or just audio connections. There is no cost for the program, however, if your circumstances allow, please consider a donation to local family-centered charities negatively impacted by COVID-19. Instructions for signing into the program will be provided with your registration confirmation.

To register or obtain more information, contact Tom & Donna Finn at 860-302-1110, or email to tfinnphd@gmail.com. Please R.S.V.P. by February 4th, 2021.

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Open House Specials!!

Please visit our cemeteries during our Fall Open House Program. Stop in and speak with our Family Service Advisors from 9 AM to 2 PM, get a tour of the park and take advantage of our Open House Special Offers just for those who visit during the following schedule:

Saturday, October 24, 2020

St. Mary Cemetery - 1141 Stanley St. New Britain, CT
All Saints Cemetery - 700 Middleway Ave. North Haven, CT
Mt. Olivet Cemetery - 669 Platt Rd. Watertown, CT

Saturday, October 31, 2020

Mt. St. Benedict Cemetery - 1 Cottage Grove Rd. Bloomfield, CT
St. Francis Cemetery - 865 South Main St. Torrington, CT
Mt. St. Peter Cemetery - 219 New Haven Ave. Derby, CT
St. Lawrence Cemetery - 280 Derby Ave. West Haven, CT

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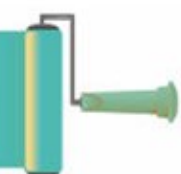
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