



# 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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## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR (K - 8)

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## DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Tom Stockton: ext. 230

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## DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

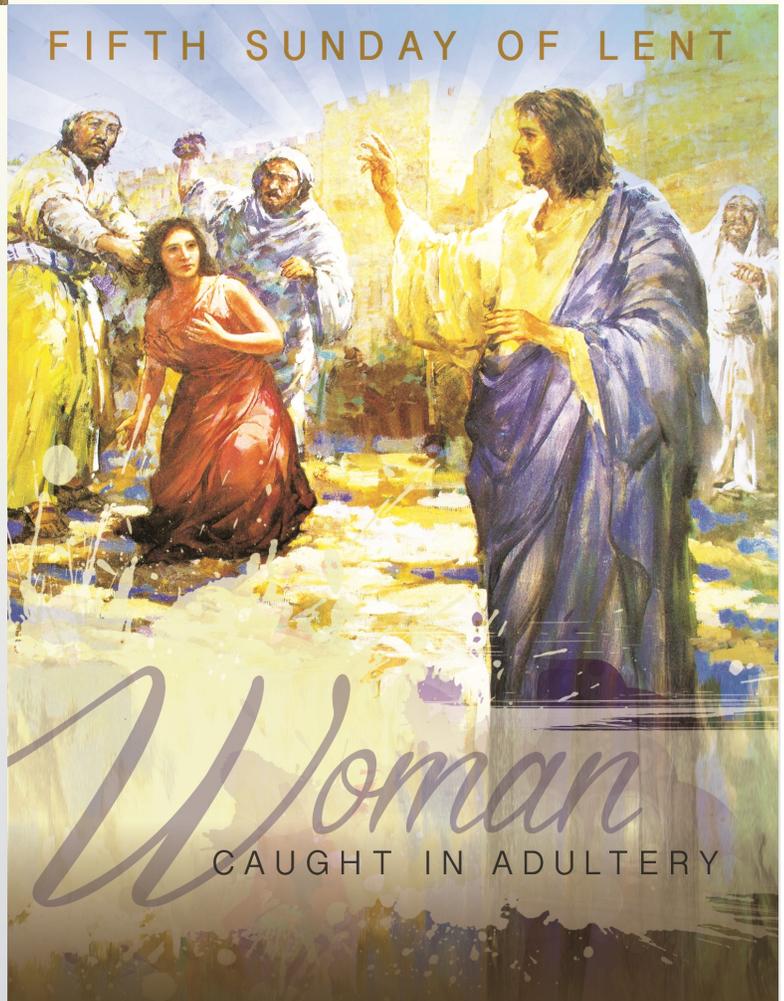
Kerry Magrini: [kerry.magrini@stannavon.com](mailto:kerry.magrini@stannavon.com)

## 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



**Fifth Sunday of Lent**

**MONDAY, March 22**

9:00 Robert Jalbert, requested by Lionel and Doris Cyr

**TUESDAY, March 23**

9:00 For the deceased members of the Vuono Family, requested by the Bondhus Family

**WEDNESDAY, March 24**

9:00 Theresa Pendergast, requested by the Saturday Morning Men's Group

**THURSDAY, March 25**

9:00 Liam James Manning, requested by John and Maria Manning

**FRIDAY, March 26**

9:00 Special Intentions

**SATURDAY, March 27**

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

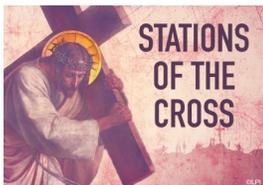
**SUNDAY, March 28**

7:30 For Divine Peace, Divine Love and Divine Will on Earth, requested by Judith Stafford & David Woolley

9:30 Janice Lonabaugh, requested by the Maillet Family

11:00 Nicholas Dias (20th Ann), requested by the Alphonso Family

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



**Fridays during Lent: 7:00pm**



**CEMETERY CLEANUP**

Please remove all Christmas decorations by Palm Sunday (3/28/21). They will be thrown away after that prior to Easter. Thank You!

**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, March 22**

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: 9:30-10:30am in the church  
MMP Cenacle-Rosary Prayer Group: 7:15pm in the church  
Lenten Reflection Series: 7:15pm via Zoom\*

**TUESDAY, March 23**

Walking with Purpose: 10am -via Zoom  
RCIA: 7:15pm via Zoom\*

**WEDNESDAY, March 24**

Wednesday Morning Study Group: 9:30am in Fr. Bennett Hall  
Unemployment Support: \*no meeting this week  
Walking with Purpose: 7pm in Fr. Bennett Hall

**THURSDAY, March 25**

The Bible Timeline: 9:30am in Fr. Bennett Hall & via Zoom  
Holy Hour: 12 noon in the church  
Adult Confirmation: 7pm via Zoom\*

**FRIDAY, March 26**

Lenten Reflection Series: 9:45am via Zoom\*  
Stations of the Cross: 7pm

**SATURDAY, March 27**

**SUNDAY, March 28**

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

**Face masks & social distancing required at all times!**

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



**Reservations Required for Easter Vigil/Sunday Masses**

Link to the Sign-Up will be on our website: stannavon.org

This link will go "live" at 12 noon on Wednesday, March 24th.

(Please remember to refresh the page after 12 noon to activate the link)

Please find the full Holy Week Schedule on the next page.



Join us next weekend on Palm Sunday when we welcome **The Most Reverend Juan Miguel Betancourt, SEMV**, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Hartford, who will be celebrating our 9:30am Mass that Sunday.

## Annual Easter Plant Sale

Our annual Easter plant sale will still take place this year and due to the continuing pandemic will be handled like our Poinsettia Sale last December. Forms will be available in the Gathering Space or can be downloaded from our website (stannavon.org - look under "Lent 2021" tab). Place your forms and payment in a sealed envelope, marked "Easter Plant 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/easter-plant-sale](http://stannavon.org/easter-plant-sale)  
This is a singular form/payment, no need to sign up for Online Giving.

### Note:

Forms must be received no later than Thursday, March 25 for your loved ones' names to be included in the Easter bulletin.



## Stop & Shop/Simsbury Bloomin' For Good to benefit the St. Ann Food Pantry Garden!

From February 26th through the month of March, the Church of Saint Ann Food Pantry Garden has been selected to receive a \$1 donation for every \$9.99 Bloomin' 4 Good Bouquet with the red circle sticker (pictured above) sold at the store located at 498 Bushy Hill Road, Simsbury.

## Corporal Works of Mercy 2021

During this Lenten season, our Parish family Lenten commitment is to practice the corporal works of mercy, both individually and as a community. Donations should be placed in the labeled boxes in the Gathering Space. Anything you can donate is appreciated!

*In imitation of our Master, we Christians are called to confront the poverty of our brothers and sisters, to touch it, to make it our own, and to take practical steps to alleviate it. - Pope Francis*

### This Weekend: *March 20/21, Visit Those in Prison*

Donations will be collected for purchase of religious periodicals that will be distributed to incarcerated persons in CT.

### Next Weekend: *March 27/28 Bury the Dead*

Please reach out to family, friends, and neighbors who have lost a loved one, particularly a spouse or child. We will also have our annual Easter Food Basket collection.

## Thank You!

We'd like to extend a big thank you to parishioners, Bill and Janet Newman, who have been purchasing replacement flags as



needed for our beautiful Veteran's Memorial at St. Ann Cemetery.

Your generosity is deeply appreciated!



### Wednesday, March 31st

Tenebrae: 7:30pm

### Good Friday, April 2nd

Morning Prayer at 9:00 am  
Liturgy of the Lord's Passion: 3pm

### Holy Thursday, April 1st

Mass of the Lord's Supper: 7:30pm  
Adoration until 10pm

### Holy Saturday, April 3rd

Morning Prayer: 9am  
Confessions: 10am - 11am  
Blessing of the Food: 12pm (noon)  
Easter Vigil: 8pm

### Easter Sunday April 4th

7:30 am  
8:45 am  
10:00 am  
11:30 am

### Registration Required for Easter Vigil/Sunday Masses

The link to sign-up will go "live" on our website at 12 noon on Wednesday, March 24th. (Please remember to refresh your page to activate the link after 12 noon)

# 2021

## WEEKLY ORDINARY INCOME

**Weekly Collection: 3/7/21:** \$3,465.05

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 (March 10-17, 2021):** \$2,927.00

**Next Weekend's 2nd Collection:** Youth Ministry



## 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.

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

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

(Zoom tutorial on our website under Covid-19 tab)

### Upcoming discussion topics:

**Mar 24:** no meeting this week

**Mar 31:** Interviewing techniques on Zoom or Skype, pt. 1

**April 7:** Interviewing techniques on Zoom or Skype, pt. 2

**April 14:** Networking for Introverts

**April 21:** Career Planning for an Uncertain Future

**April 28:** Creating balance in your life



## Reaching Out, Healing Together

### 2021 ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

The Archbishop's Annual Appeal helps provide the critical funding needed to feed the hungry, shelter the homeless, counsel those in despair, offer much-needed assistance to the unemployed, and make medical care available to those without health insurance. Your gift to the 2021 Appeal will help to continue these and other vital ministries, services, and programs that reach out to so many in need.

All funds contributed to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal are used exclusively for the purposes outlined in the Appeal literature, which can be found at :

<https://archdioceseofhartford.org/appeal/>.

No Appeal funds are ever used for legal fees or settlements.



## The Holy Eucharist DID YOU KNOW?

*"The stone the builders rejected has now become the cornerstone." Mark 12:10*

Christ was repeatedly rejected throughout His ministry. During Holy Week we see the depths to which Our Lord was scorned and betrayed. Knowing what lay before Him, we see Jesus actually sweating blood during His Agony in the Garden. (This is a medically verified condition, which can occur when someone is under great stress and duress.)

**Reflection:** With only about 30% of Catholics believing in the true Presence of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist, we continue to see Christ's rejection today. With fewer Catholics attending Holy Mass, this betrayal of the gift of our salvation is even more powerfully poignant. The Holy Mass is after all the Sacrifice of Christ on Calvary. Here on our altar, this sacrifice is offered again to the Heavenly Father in an un-bloody manner.

By frequent and reverent reception of the Holy Eucharist and by acknowledging Jesus' true Presence in the Blessed Sacrament, we have the opportunity to console Our Lord for these rejections.

Dear Parishioners,

This year there will be 45 candidates receiving the sacrament of First Holy Eucharist. They will be receiving their First Reconciliation on April 24, 2021, and are preparing for reception of the Blessed Sacrament in the Spring. We will be putting out the "Little Lambs" in the near future so that you can pray for all candidates as they prepare for their sacrament.

Due to ongoing overwhelming positive response, we would like to continue to gift each child with a First Communion Bible. We are asking that you sponsor any child or children, with this gift anonymously and it will be presented to them on their First Communion Day. In return, we will be asking the children to pray for the person who gave it to them *every time they read their Bible*.

The Bibles are reasonably priced and if you are interested in being part of this beautiful event, please pick up a form in the Gathering Space and return it with your payment of \$15.00 per Bible (made out to Church of St. Ann). Please mail to the church in an envelope clearly marked "for First Communion Bible" or drop it off at the Parish Offices. How pleased Jesus must be to know that both the children of this year's First Eucharist class and the adults of our Parish are praying for each other!

Thank you so much for your consideration and for your prayerful support of these beautiful children!

Yours in Christ , Father McHugh



## EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments

### When Our Own Hour Comes

We parents know that it's tricky, tackling the topic of fear with our kids. We want them to know that it's okay to be scared, that it's something we all feel from time to time. We want them to understand that bravery isn't the absence of fear, but the choices we make in persevering despite that feeling.

Most of all, we want to model the right kind of behavior for our kids. Whatever our scary situation is — illness, a job loss, life changes — we want them to see us make a choice to face that fear head-on.

Jesus seems to be the parent who is gently broaching the topic of fear with his children. A great sense of foreboding hangs over these readings. Jesus knew what was coming. He knew it was going to be hard, both for him and for his followers, who did not have his courage. Even he admits to being "troubled" and he speaks of "the time of judgment." There is the dramatic raising of Lazarus, the talk of how a grain of wheat must die in order to bear fruit, the depiction of Christ as an obedient student of his own suffering.

"Yet what should I say?" he asks them. "Father, save me from this hour?" But it was for this purpose that I came to this hour."

This week, Christ gives us a very parental gift: He shows us his fear, and he shows us how to conquer it. He challenges us to embrace the purpose for which we came to this hour — whatever that hour may hold.

-Tracy Earl Welliver, MT

## INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

### Live the Liturgy

How do we convince people that God's law is written upon their hearts? God is wedded to God's people. This is a simple and fundamental fact of life. Yet, many ignore this truth and carry on as if they, or humanity as a whole, are the center of the universe. As a grain of wheat has to fall to the ground and die in order to become what it really is, we too must die to our secular images and ideas of ourselves so that we can become who God really made us to be. If all of us kept our focus on God's deep bonded love with human beings, indeed with our very self, then there would be no need to teach others this fundamental life lesson. They would simply know this truth, as Jeremiah tells us. Somehow, perhaps through original and personal sin, we have lost sight of this reality. We have lost our way and our axis. It is time to find our way back, to learn the virtue of obedience, to pay attention to what God is saying and become aware of the Divine Love that is the reason for all creation. Then, even in our darkest hour when all may seem to be lost, we can say as did Jesus, the model of obedience, "Father, glorify your name." By this perseverance, people can come to know the Lord and what God has done. ©LPi

## SUNDAY'S READINGS

### First Reading:

All, from least to greatest, shall know me, says the LORD, for I will forgive their evil-doing and remember their sin no more. (Jer 31:34)

### Psalm:

Create a clean heart in me, O God. (Ps 51)

### Second Reading:

Son though he was, he learned obedience from what he suffered; (Heb 5:8)

### Gospel:

Amen, amen, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit. (Jn 20:24)

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## WEEKLY READINGS

### Readings for the week of March 21, 2021

Sunday: Jer 31:31-34/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15 [12a]/Heb 5:7-9/  
Jn 12:20-33 or Ez 37:12-14/Rom 8:8-11/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6,  
7-8 [7]/Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45

Monday: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62/Ps 23:1-3a,  
3b-4, 5, 6 [4ab]/Jn 8:1-11

Tuesday: Nm 21:4-9/Ps 102:2-3, 16-18, 19-21 [2]/Jn 8:21-30

Wednesday: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56 [52b]/Jn 8:31-42

Thursday: Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Ps 40:7-8, 8-9, 10, 11 [8a, 9a]/Heb 10:4-10/  
Lk 1:26-38

Friday: Jer 20:10-13/Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7 [cf. 7]/Jn 10:31-42

Saturday: Ez 37:21-28/Jer 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13 [cf. 10d]/Jn 11:45-56

Next Sunday: Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20,  
23-24 [2a]/Phil 2:6-11/Mk 14:1—15:47 or 15:1-39

## GOSPEL MEDITATION

### Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Any good teacher or parent will tell you that once a lesson is really learned it doesn't need to be taught again. When we internalize things we have learned, they become a part of who we are and influence how we perceive and interact with our world. The same is true for the law God has written upon our hearts. Once humanity learns this lesson, we will simply know it to be true and act accordingly. Sometimes, it is hard to get people to learn the lessons they need to learn. They are often distracted, disinterested, conflicted, misdirected, or just too stubborn and unable or unwilling to see what is right before their eyes. Understanding that God is in a loving and committed relationship with those fashioned and formed in God's own image, seems like such a simple lesson to learn. But history and experience has proven that it is not.

We struggle with faith, especially when that faith asks us to learn something very particular about ourselves. We must, like a grain of wheat, fall to the ground and die. Because God's DNA is at the very core of who we are, there are specific pearls of wisdom that must be acquired before we can live a full life. One very powerful lesson is that it is not the task of the world to tell us who we are and what has meaning, but God. For many, death is not an opportunity for greater life but a permanent ending to the life they have known. Jesus knew every dimension to what it means to be fully human because he was! He knows the joys, limitations, sorrows, frustrations, wonders, suffering, opportunities, and joys of the human experience. Jesus can teach us a wealth of knowledge and life's lessons from his example, especially obedience.

When we accept the law God has placed in our hearts and gain wisdom from it, then when we suffer we learn to listen more attentively to the Voice behind that law. We naturally flee to our Creator for inspiration, consolation, hope, direction, and comfort as we navigate through this time of darkness. We will not need to run from it, subdue it, fight it, or be overcome by it because we will know, having internalized this profound lesson before, that God will bring new life. God's law is love and love never fails. Even in the moments of Jesus' deepest despair, he glorified the name of his Father. What he learned allowed him to put everything in perspective and be obedient to the tender, loving Voice that echoed within. As Lent quickly winds down, may we learn the same! Then, may we gain the fortitude and wisdom to help others see what is right before their eyes.

©LPi

# 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. We are currently limiting seating to 125. Please sign up for weekend Masses. (see below)
- Dispensation from Sunday Mass obligation has been extended through May 23, 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 your name, phone #, the Mass date & time, and number attending and she will do it for you.**

## It's That Time of Year Again...

If you are a registered parishioner using envelopes or online giving, and would like a copy of our records of your weekly envelope contributions, please e-mail Kris in the Parish Office: [kris.martino@stannavon.com](mailto:kris.martino@stannavon.com) or call 860-673-9858, ext. 221. Note: Contributions to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal are mailed separately from the Archdiocese.



## 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/>.

"His disciples recalled the words of Scripture, Zeal for your house will consume me." Do we have zeal to honor God through our marriage? The next virtual Worldwide Marriage Encounter experiences is:

Thursdays/Mondays April 8-29

## VIRTUAL ABC's OF ANNULMENT

Sponsored by the Metropolitan Tribunal, Bloomfield

Father John Dietrich, Pastor of Saint Matthews Parish at 20 Church Avenue, Forestville, in collaboration with Father George Mukuka, the Judicial Vicar from the Metropolitan Tribunal in Bloomfield, will host the second Virtual "The ABCs of Annulment" on Saturday of March 20th, 2021, from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM on ZOOM. An updating of the process initiated by Pope Francis as well as updates made in the Archdiocese of Hartford will be discussed by Brother Larry Lussier C.S.C., and Jim Tottenham, of the Annulment Team. Included will be a complete review of the Archdiocesan Application Form or Petition. The "ABCs of Annulment" event is open to all. Registration (below) is required so that we can email the details of the meeting. Potential applicants also need to download the application form from the Archdiocesan Website by clicking here (also available in Spanish here). After the workshop, participants can sign up for one-on-one virtual assistance at their convenience with Br. Larry Lussier, at 475-221-8464, or James Tottenham, at 203-859-4195. For further information call Br. Larry at 475-221-8464 or email him at [larius300@sbcglobal.net](mailto:larius300@sbcglobal.net).

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## Help Stop State Sponsored Suicide

The Connecticut General Assembly is considering legalizing a form of suicide in our state commonly referred to as "aid-in-dying" or "physician-assisted suicide". The legislation is *House Bill 6425 "An Act Concerning Aid in Dying for Terminally Ill Patients"*.

Modern hospice care and the proper use of pain medications render suicide unnecessary, and we need to be mindful of the threat that a suicide mentality poses to vulnerable people and to people with disabilities

Many people believe that a physician is deeply involved in this process. This not true. The physician orders the mixture of medications, the patient must then orally consume the deadly cocktail of drugs without assistance. Many times without even a physician or nurse present.

**We should never allow legislators to establish suicide as a solution to medical issues.**

Catholic teaching condemns physician-assisted suicide because it, like murder, involves taking an innocent human life:

*Suicide is always as morally objectionable as murder. The Church's tradition has always rejected it as a gravely evil choice: To concur with the intention of another person to commit suicide and to help in carrying it out through so-called "assisted suicide" means to cooperate in, and at times to be the actual perpetrator of, an injustice which can never be excused, even if it is requested. Saint Augustine writes that "it is never licit to kill another: even if he should wish it." True "compassion" leads to sharing another's pain; it does not kill the person whose suffering we cannot bear. (John Paul II, The Gospel of Life, no. 66).*

### TAKE ACTION:

Go to the website below, **read more on the issue** and then sign the petition to stop the legalization of assisted suicide in Connecticut

**[www.ctstopsuicide.org](http://www.ctstopsuicide.org)**

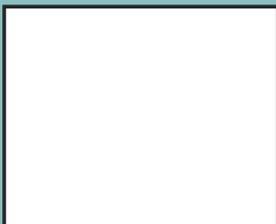
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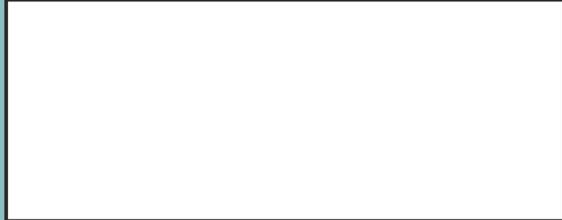
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