



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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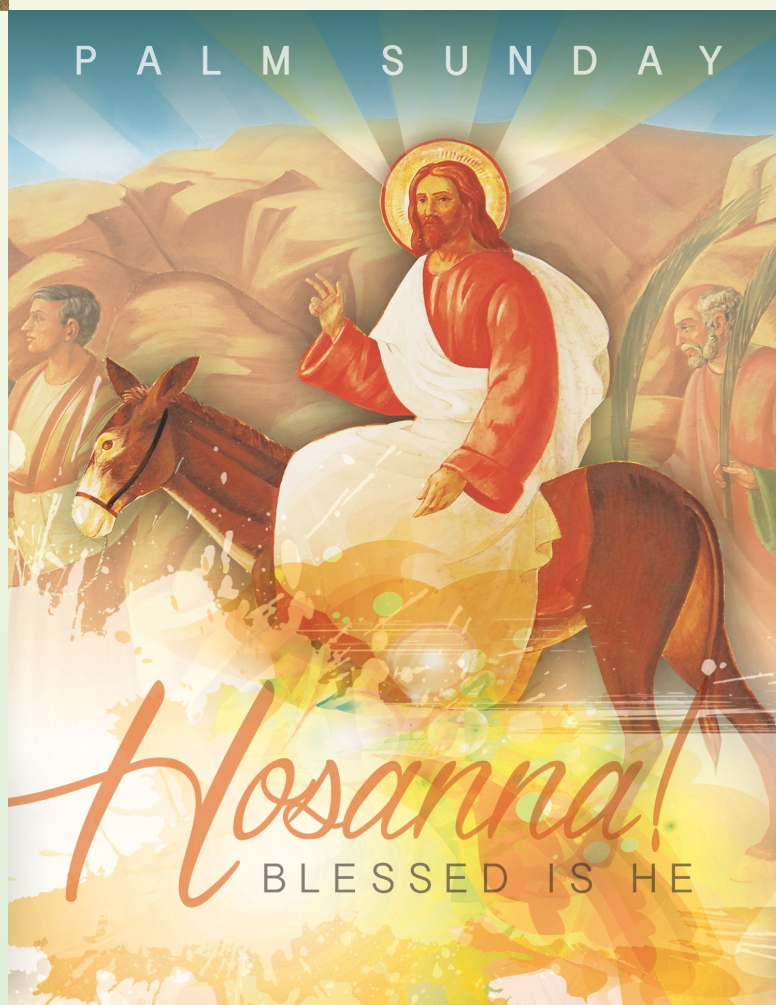
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BAPTISMS:

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



Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

MONDAY, March 29

9:00 Edwin Lysak, requested by the family

TUESDAY, March 30

9:00 Joseph (7th Ann.) and Sadie Klish, requested by Barbara and Gino Calderone

WEDNESDAY, March 31

9:00 Special Intentions
7:30 Tenebrae

THURSDAY, April 1, Holy Thursday

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

FRIDAY, April 2, Good Friday

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

SATURDAY, April 3, Holy Saturday

9:00 Morning Prayer
10:00 Confessions until 11am
12:00 Blessing of the Food
8:00 For all those in whose memory or honor the altar plants have been donated

SUNDAY, April 4, Easter Sunday

7:30 For all those in whose memory or honor the altar plants have been donated
8:45 For all those in whose memory or honor the altar plants have been donated
10:00 For all those in whose memory or honor the altar plants have been donated
11:30 For all those in whose memory or honor the altar plants have been donated

Lectio Divina, Live! ... We're Back!

After a Lenten hiatus, we will once again meet to discover God's individual message to us in the Sunday Gospel, via the popular *Lectio Divina* prayer practice. Join us via Zoom Sundays at 10:30am, Mondays at 7:15pm, and Fridays at 9:45am, beginning the week of April 5. **All are welcome, including first-timers!** Visit our webpage for some inspiring testimonials, and registration details: <https://www.stannavon.org/lectio-divina-live>



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, March 29

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: 9:30-10:30am in the church
MMP Cenacle-Rosary Prayer Group: 7:15pm in the church

TUESDAY, March 30

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

WEDNESDAY, March 31

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, April 1, Holy Thursday

FRIDAY, April 2, Good Friday

SATURDAY, April 3, Holy Saturday

SUNDAY, April 4, Easter Sunday



Face masks & 6' 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.



Please welcome
The Most Reverend Juan Miguel Betancourt, SEMV, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Hartford, who will be celebrating our 9:30am Mass today.



Please join us for a
Tenebrae Service
 Wednesday, March 31st
 7:30 p.m.

What is Tenebrae? The name 'Tenebrae' means darkness or shadows and it is a Holy Week devotion dating back to the 7th or 8th Century A.D. It is characterized by successive extinguishing of candles as the service progresses. No service during the entire church year is more biblical: Every word of Tenebrae is taken verbatim from the scriptures. The purpose of the service, through prayer and music, is to recreate the emotional aspects of the passion story and the events leading up to Good Friday; it is left unfinished, because the story isn't over until Easter Sunday. Attending this powerfully moving service will set the tone, introduce the themes and adjust your heart and mind for the great events of the Passion and will help you prepare your heart for an even greater experience of Easter JOY.

Please note there may be some slight changes to Tenebrae this year due to the pandemic.



Wednesday, March 31st

Tenebrae at 7:30pm

Holy Thursday, April 1st

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

Good Friday, April 2nd

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

Holy Saturday, April 3rd

Morning Prayer at 9am
 Confessions at 10am - 11am
 Blessing of the Food at 12pm
 Easter Vigil at 8pm

**Easter Sunday
 April 4th**

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

*Registration Required for
 Easter Vigil/Sunday Masses*

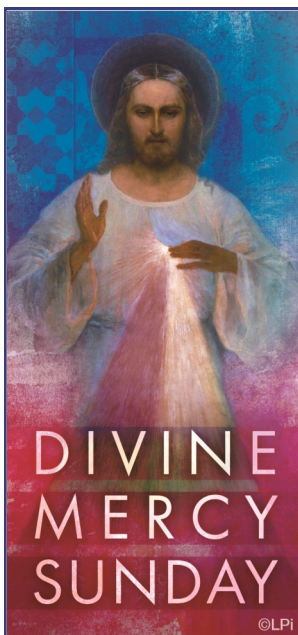
The link to sign-up will go "live" on our website at 12 noon on Wednesday, March 24th.

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

Corporal Works of Mercy 2021

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.



Preparation for The Feast of Divine Mercy

We will begin the Divine Mercy Novena on Good Friday, April 19th. We will pray the Novena in the wing of the church following the 3 p.m. Liturgy of the Lord's Passion. All are welcome to join us. In His revelations to St. Faustina Jesus requested that a Novena be said for the 9 days proceeding Divine Mercy Sunday. The Novena also includes the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy.

Jesus also told St. Faustina, regarding Divine Mercy Sunday, that on that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon souls who approach the fount of My mercy. The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. On that day all the floodgates through which graces flow are opened. Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet. My mercy is so great that no mind, be it of man or of angel, will be able to fathom it throughout all eternity. Mankind will not have peace until it turns to the Fount of My Mercy. (699) The Diary of St. Faustina.

Divine Mercy Sunday will be celebrated here at St. Ann on Sunday, April 28th with a Holy Hour from 2:30-3:30 p.m. Please join us to honor Our Lord's request that the Sunday after Easter be the Feast of Mercy. Please come and receive extraordinary graces.

WEEKLY ORDINARY INCOME

Weekly Collection: 3/21/21: \$6,027.00

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 (March 17-23, 2021): \$3,032.00

Next Weekend's 2nd Collection: Easter/Parish Charities



CEMETERY CLEANUP

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

Life in a Fishbowl

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

With the increase in anti-Asian hate and violence, Fr. Cheah would like to share his article that was published a few months ago in a book. It's from an autobiographical perspective and he hopes you will find it of interest!

You can read it on our website:

www.stannavon.org/fr-cheah-on-race



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. Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/3671752517> * (Zoom tutorial on our website under Covid-19 tab)

Upcoming discussion topics:

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

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

Reaching Out, Healing Together

2021 ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

It is important that when you give to any charitable organization, you are confident that the funds received are being used wisely. Be assured that your gift to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal supports the ministries and programs indicated in the 2021 Appeal literature! Organizations such as the **Avon Social Services' Food Pantry** located **here at the Church of St. Ann** received funding from the Appeal's Vicariate Outreach Program that makes a difference in the lives of our local neighbors.

Please visit the Appeal website at www.archdioceseofhartford.org to learn more and make your gift today.

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 blood of Christ is His Sacrifice applied to us. It enters the souls of the redeemed." (Pope St. John XXIII) Our redemption is in the Precious Blood of Our Lord. It is the same Precious Blood which He gave to us in the Holy Eucharist during the Last Supper on the night before He was crucified. It is the same Precious Blood which He poured out on the Cross. It is the same Precious Blood which we receive each time that we receive Holy Communion. It is the price of our salvation.

Reflection: "Your Blood was shed, O Christ, by the fire of love." (St. Catherine of Sienna) Do we take five minutes to reflect with thanksgiving and gratitude after each reception of Holy Communion?

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

Dear Parishioners,

This year there will be 45 candidates receiving the sacrament of First Holy Eucharist. They will be receiving their First Reconciliation on March 27, 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.

You can also place order & pay online at: www.osvhub.com/stannavon/forms/first-holy-communion-bible-gift.

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

Yours in Christ, Father McHugh



MARCH 28, 2021 — PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments

Walk Every Step with Christ

Holy Week is a week for being mindful. We must set loose the baggage of Lent, and not be deterred by the dazzling sunrise of Easter morning beckoning in the distance.

It's okay for us to be excited for Easter. We've waited so long, after all. In my opinion it's one of the best feelings there is: the yearning we have in our hearts for the Resurrection as we embark on Palm Sunday. And in a purely logical sense, many of us have Easter celebrations for which we are preparing, and practical considerations to contend with. It's going to be a busy week, one likely full of happy distractions.

But my friends, we simply must keep our feet on the ground. Let's not "skip" Holy Week. Resist the urge to flip to the last page of the book, to fast-forward to the final scene of the movie. Don't rob yourself of the journey. This week is a blessed opportunity. It is this week that teaches us who we are. In the span of the Triduum, we have the birthday of the priesthood, the institution of the Eucharist, the sacrifice on Calvary and so many other vivid and meaningful scenes.

It may sound strange, to advise someone to savor the moments of Holy Week. There are so many violent and heartrending moments, after all. But this is the valley of tears, remember — we are not in Heaven yet. And here, in our fallen, sin-filled world, it is the heartrending moments that seem to matter the most.

These are the moments that define us as Catholics. Live them. Cherish them. Be present for each one.

-Tracy Earl Welliver, MT

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Live the Liturgy

What an ironic twist of events! Jesus is hailed with palm branches as he comes down a street one minute and faces agonizing suffering and death on a cross the next. Does any of this make any sense? They shouted, "hosanna to our King," out of one side of their mouths and, "crucify him," out of the other. At first glance it seems like such hypocrisy. Yet, when we step back there may be more truth to the story than we care to admit. We struggle with Jesus. We hail him in our churches but struggle to figure out what to do with him on our streets. We are fine when we hear pious renderings of his messages and preaching but wince when it gets to the part about changing the way we conduct business and becoming more sensitive to the disadvantaged, poor and marginalized. We invoke God's name when we want victory and keep silence when it comes to global solidarity. We talk out of both sides of our mouths too, looking only to what works or suits us at the time and leaving the rest. There exists in each one of us a person who hails our King with hosannas and a person who is all too willing to choose Jesus over Barabbas for the cross. Something to think about this Holy Week! ©LPI

SUNDAY'S READINGS

First Reading:

The Lord GOD is my help, therefore I am not disgraced; I have set my face like flint, knowing that I shall not be put to shame. (Is 50:7)

Psalms:

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me? (Ps 22)

Second Reading:

Rather, he emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness; (Phil 2:7)

Gospel:

They clothed him in purple and, weaving a crown of thorns, placed it on him. They began to salute him with, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and kept striking his head with a reed and spitting upon him. (Mk 15:17-19)

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 March 28, 2021

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
Monday: Is 42:1-7/Ps 27:1, 2, 3, 13-14 [1a]/Jn 12:1-11
Tuesday: Is 49:1-6/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15 and 17 [cf. 15ab]/Jn 13:21-33, 36-38
Wednesday: Is 50:4-9a/Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31 and 33-34 [14c]/Mt 26:14-25
Thursday: *Chrim Mass:* Is 61:1-3a, 6a, 8b-9/Ps 89:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 [2a]/Rv 1:5-8/Lk 4:16-21
Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14/Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18 [cf. 1 Cor 10:16]/1 Cor 11:23-26/Jn 13:1-15
Friday: Is 52:13—53:12/Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25 [Lk 23:46]/Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9/Jn 18:1—19:42
Saturday: *Vigil:* Gn 1:1—2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a/Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35 [30] or Ps 33:4-5, 6-7, 12-13, 20-22 [5b]/Gn 22:1-18 or 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11 [1]/Ex 14:15—15:1/Ex 15:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18 [1b]/Is 54:5-14/Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13 [2a]/Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 [3]/Bar 3:9-15, 32—4:4/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [Jn 6:68c]/Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28/Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3, 4 [42:2] or Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 [3] or Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19 [12a]/Rom 6:3-11/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23/Mk 16:1-7

GOSPEL MEDITATION

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

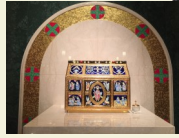
Many struggle with Jesus. Some who consider themselves faithful hail him in their churches but still struggle to figure out what to do with him on our streets. The message is somehow more palatable when it echoes pious renderings and sentiments and involves singing hosannas during worship. It becomes a bit trickier when it gets to the part about changing the way we conduct the business of our lives, becoming more sensitive to the disadvantaged, poor, and marginalized, and living as servants of our Loving Creator. Ultimately, it is a struggle between wanting to be God ourselves and letting God be God as God is. That's why it's so easy to become hypocritical. We, like those who hailed Christ as he arrived in Jerusalem and sent Christ to the cross to die, also talk out of both sides of our mouths. We entertain what suits us at the time and walk away from the rest.

Many neglect God's beautiful creation because they prefer what humans have made instead. Progress isn't seen in preserving and enhancing what God has made but replacing it with something we believe is better and more useful. The earth, flowers, and animals are all expendable if they stand in the way of the "more" we want to achieve. We seek to remove as many obstacles and hurdles as possible in search of the easiest, quickest, and most efficient path we can find. We have created drugs and laws that preserve our free choice, even though it may mean setting aside God's vision and example. Why suffer when we can easily be put to rest? Why endure insult or injury when we can retaliate, eliminate or subdue? Why accept life when it is acceptable to choose otherwise? We want to be God and resist accepting the fact that our real Creator has already given us the blueprints for the life we need to live in the Beatitudes and in the example of his Passion. We don't like being stewards and managers and really want the power to do as we wish and desire. We want to create our own way.

Where has the true, effective Christian voice been through all of the wars and violence, prejudice and unjust conquests, abuse of human beings and attempted extinctions of nationalities, the establishments of procedures and protocols that serve only a few and not the many and all of the injustices and exploitations that are a part of our human history? A few courageous prophets have stood up and out throughout all of the comings and goings of our human journey with many receiving the same fate as the Crucified One we hail this week. Some still walk among us as shining stars showing us how it really can be. How would Jesus' journey have ended if he lived life as we do? Unless we encounter the good with the bad, the just with the unjust, the grace with the sin, the glory with the cross, the death with the life we most certainly risk rendering God obsolete. After all, haven't we already convinced ourselves that we can do better? ©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 150. 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.

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 or call 860-673-9858, ext. 221. Note: Contributions to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal are mailed separately from the Archdiocese.



"Open Wide Our Hearts" Webinar Series United for a Fair Economy's Race and the Growing Economic Inequality Workshop April 14, 2021 at 7:00pm

Please join us as we continue our Webinar Series "Open Wide Our Hearts" April 14, 2021 at 7:00 PM United for a Fair Economy's Race and the Growing Economic Inequality Workshop Presented by: Jeannette Huezo, Executive Director of United for a Fair Economy Elizabeth Pellerito, Director of the Labor Education Program at the University of Massachusetts United for a Fair Economy's Race and the Growing Economic Inequality workshop helps explore how our current economic inequality has been and continues to be shaped by racialized policies and behavior from the past to the contemporary.

Registration is free but is required:

<https://www.trailblz.info/socialjusticemin/eventcomplete.aspx?eventid=268>

SALE into Spring April 17, 2021

Sale Into Spring

A giant TAG SALE benefitting the *Franciscan Life Center* and *Franciscan Home Care and Hospice Care*

Saturday, April 17, 2021

9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Franciscan Life Center Campus

271 Finch Avenue, Meriden, CT 06451

Come and find Furniture, Household Goods, Art, Religious Articles, Baskets, Knitted Items, Jewelry, Sporting Equipment, Electronics, Vintage Pieces, Books, Movies, and More! All sales are final.

Take a Tote for Ten (\$10) in the Big White Tent or venture to the Green-Roofed Barn for individually priced specialty items. All items sold as-is.

Call 203-237-8084 for more information.

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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 is 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.o

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www.cccem.org

Mt St Benedict Cemetery, Bloomfield 860-242-0738	St James Cemetery, Manchester 860-646-3772
Holy Cross Cemetery, Glastonbury 860-646-3772	St Mary Cemetery, New Britain 860-225-1938
St Mary Cemetery, East Hartford 860-646-3772	St Bridget Cemetery, Manchester 860-646-3772

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