

WEEKEND ASSISTANTS Rev. Joseph P. Cheah, OSM, Ph.D. Rev. Daniel J. Sullivan

DEACONS Jeffrey Sutherland and Tim Healy

SPECIAL PROJECTS MANAGER Russell Koch: russ.koch@stannavon.com

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR (K - 8) Valerie St. Jean: ext. 223 valerie.stjean@stannavon.com

CONFIRMATION & YOUTH MINISTRY DIRECTOR Rosemary Neamtz, MSW: ext. 226 rosemary.neamtz@stannavon.com

REGISTRAR & CONFIRMATION ASSISTANT Jennifer Soucy: ext.227 jennifer.soucy@stannavon.com

DIRECTOR OF ADULT EDUCATION Ann DiStefano, MPS: ext. 228 ann.distefano@stannavon.com

> DIRECTOR OF MUSIC Tom Stockton: ext. 230

PARISH OFFICE MANAGER Kris Martino: ext. 221 kris.martino@stannavon.com

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS Kerry Magrini: kerry.magrini@stannavon.com

MINISTRIES COORDINATOR Chip Janiszewski: chip.janiszewski@stannavon.com

LITURGY COORDINATOR Eva Kaminski: me2kaminski@sbcglobal.net

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.

# Church of Saint Ann

289 Arch Road \* Avon, Connecticut \* 06001

860-673-9858

Rev. John W. McHugh, Ph.D., Pastor www.stannavon.org

# SUNDAY OF EASTER

Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures. And he said to them, "Thus it is written that the Christ would suffer and rise from the dead on the third day." - Lk 24:45-46

## 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

April 18, 2021

**3rd Sunday** 

of Easter



MONDAY, April 19 9:00 Robert Collier, requested by the family

TUESDAY, April 20 9:00 Special Intentions

WEDNESDAY, April 21 9:00 Rita Vamvakas, requested by Dottie Cialfi

#### THURSDAY, April 22

**9:00** John Topping, requested by his friend, John McCluskey

FRIDAY, April 23 9:00 Richard Kennedy, requested by the Downey Family

SATURDAY, April 24 4:00 John A. Murphy, requested by Faith Weiss

#### SUNDAY, April 25

- 7:30 Donald King (6th Ann.), requested by his family
- 9:30 Dan Scapellati, requested by the Thompson Family
- **11:00** Paul Burgio (1st Ann.), requested by Maria Burgio and family

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



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, April 19

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, April 20

Walking with Purpose: 10am -via Zoom RCIA: 7:00pm via Zoom\*

#### WEDNESDAY, April 21

Wednesday Morning Study Group: 9:30am in Fr. Bennett Hall Unemployment Support: 3-5pm -via Zoom \* Knights of Columbus: 7pm in Fr. Bennett Hall

### THURSDAY, April 22

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

FRIDAY, April 23 Lectio Divina, Live!: 9:45am via Zoom\*

SATURDAY, April 24 First Communion: 10am and 1pm in the church

SUNDAY, April 25 Lectio Divina, Live!: 10:30am via Zoom\*

Face masks & 6' social distancing required at all times!

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



# **Little Lambs is Returning!**

Little Lambs is returning the first 4 Sundays in May at 9:30 mass. Children 3-7 are welcome to join us for the Liturgy of the Word in the activity room (they can come down with or without caregivers). You can sign your child up by adding "Little Lambs" and their first name in the comments section of the online Mass sign up.

Father will call the children up for a blessing right after the *Gloria* and kids will return directly to your pew after the Prayers of the Faithful. Please sit in the side wing or the cry room of the main naive. Interested in being a helper in this powerful ministry? Contact Heather Hoffman at: heather-hoffman@sbcglobal.net. We look forward to seeing the kids again!!!



## Faith Formation Registration 2021-2022

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!! - Electronic Registration and Payment form all in one!! The link to the electronic registration form to enroll your children in Faith Formation 2021-2022 can be found by selecting "Registration Info..." under the Faith Formation tab on our website stannavon.org. *The direct link to the electronic registration is:* 

osvhub.com/stannavon/forms/faith-formation-registration-2021-2022

Faith education is an important part of your child's religious education and classes will be starting in the fall, whether online or in-person. Church of St. Ann is dedicated to continuing the education of our youth. They are the future of our Church. **Please register by July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 to guarantee a spot for your children in class**. Please do not hold up your family's registration because of financial issues. We are happy to make arrangements that work for your family. All information is confidential.

Please contact our Registrar, Jennifer Soucy, with any questions at: jennifer.soucy@stannavon.com or 860-673-9857, ext. 227.



## The Holy Eucharist DID YOU KNOW?

"We have Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, but our poor eyes fail to see him. Let us once become interior souls and we shall immediately see Him." (St. Peter Julian Eymard.) This statement is a challenge! Are we daring enough to "enter our interior room"? To do this is to enter into silence. With all of the noise of the world whirling about us constantly and pressing in upon us, can we take the time for silent prayer? Can we be alone with God?

<u>Reflection:</u> Please consider this to be an invitation to enter into the interior sanctuary of Jesus Eucharistic. This is a request to spend quiet time with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. This is an inspiration from the Holy Spirit for us to rest in the living Heart of Christ in prayer and in peace. When we receive Holy Communion Jesus is intimately present to us. What precious moments are given to us. Do not waste them.

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



## 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/3671572517 \* (Zoom tutorial on our website under Covid-19 tab)

## Upcoming discussion topics:

April 21: Career Planning for an Uncertain Future April 28: Creating balance in your life



The 33 Days to Morning Glory Retreat

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

After a Lenten hiatus, we will once again meet to 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

JOIN US FOR A

God calls us all to be the best version

our ourselves—saints! Mary, Queen of the Saints, can lead us there.

Join us on a 6-week journey into holiness, based on Fr. Michael Gaitley's book, 33 Days to Morning Clory.

#### FEATURING:

Daily readings; weekly gatherings w/ videos

Wisdom from St. Louis de Montfort, St. Maximillian Kolbe, St. Teresa of Calcutta, and St. John Paul, II on how consecrating ourselves to Jesus, through Mary, can set our hearts on fire.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Wednesdays, 7-8:30 pm in Fr. Bennett Hall or by Zoom, April 28-June 2 For registration and book order information, please contact, by April 21: Sue Ollestad: sollestad@yahoo.com

Colleen Waterbury: mcwaterbu@comcast.net

## WEEKLY ORDINARY INCOME

Weekly Collection: 4/11/21: \$4,554.50

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 (April 7-14, 2021): \$2,957.00 **Next Weekend's 2nd Collection:** monthly



St. Ann's RCIA team announces with great joy the recent initiation of Lorraine (Domnina) Zacchio and Max (Cassian) Bickley into full communion with the Catholic Church. Please join us in welcoming Lorraine and Max to our family of faith. May their desire know,

love and serve God as Catholics inspire us all.

# Reaching Out, Healing Together 2021 ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

We would like to thank everyone that has already contributed to the 2021 Archbishop's Annual Appeal. If you have not yet made your 2021 Appeal gift please join your fellow parishioners and make a gift today by returning the pledge card mailed to you. Gifts can also be made online at www.archdioceseofhartford.org.

The 2021 Archbishop's Annual Appeal, Reaching Out, Healing Together presents each of us with the opportunity to give back to the Lord by helping those in need. Thank you for your support of this year's Appeal and please pray for its success – so many are counting on us!

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/.

#### 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.

I 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



## Honor a Veteran with an **Engraved Paver at** Veterans Memorial Way

We are once again taking orders for engraved pavers at our beautiful Veterans Memorial Way at St. Ann Cemetery! Each paver purchased will be engraved with a veteran's name and information regarding their service. Pavers may honor veterans who are living or deceased. If you are purchasing a brick in honor of a deceased veteran, it is not required that they are buried at St. Ann's Cemetery. Order forms are available to download and print on our website: stannavon.org/veterans-memorial-way-at-st-ann-cemetery



## APRIL 18, 2021 - THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

#### **EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP** Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments

#### How to Fail Your Way to Heaven

You know what are some of my favorite moments in Scripture? The little "Easter eggs" of Jesus' humanity, things like Jesus falling asleep, Jesus drawing in the sand, Jesus playing with kids. And how about Jesus rising from the dead, appearing to his disciples and saying, "So, have you got anything to eat?"

It's right for us to always keep in mind that Jesus is God. But we also have to remember that he was man. He got hungry. He cried when he felt sad and laughed when he felt happy. He got tired. He got bored.

Because he was God, none of those feelings ever led him into sin, like they do us. He never spent a car ride trying to pass the hours by seeing how annoyed he could make his older sister. He never smacked Peter over the head for saying something really stupid. But he did unleash some Biblically righteous anger on those traders in the temple, didn't he? And he wasn't shy about calling Peter "a Satan" when his friend tempted him to take the easy way out.

It's the tightrope walk we all try to balance every day, honoring our human emotions while still answering God's call to be better. Being perfect isn't the domain of the Christian — that's the domain of Christ only. Trying and failing, then trying again (and failing again) and again and again? That's the domain of the Christian.

-Tracy Earl Welliver, MT

## **INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK** Live the Liturgy

When the greeting "Peace be with you" is sincerely offered to a person, it can resonate very deep within, bringing comfort and reassurance. When someone possesses the power to bring peace, it brings us to a place of safety and fills us with joy. The resurrected Christ has this power. God can open our minds so that we can more fully understand the meaning of Sacred Scripture and God's compassionate, loving, tender, and untiring embrace constantly present and offered to people throughout history. Without the anchor of truth that only God can provide, we can easily become startled and terrified at the sight of what life brings us. Being open to God's offer of peace, we can turn away from old habits and short-sighted vision and experience the gladness and joy of God's gift. Only then can what is wounded and broken be mended and reconciliation achieved. We are the resurrection witnesses called to proclaim the Good News.

## SUNDAY'S READINGS

#### First Reading:

The author of life you put to death, but God raised him from the dead; of this we are witnesses. (Acts 3:15)

#### Psalm:

Lord, let your face shine on us. (Ps 4) Or Alleluia.

#### Second Reading:

He is explation for our sins, and not for our sins only but for those of the whole world. (1 Jn 2:2)

#### Gospel:

"Thus it is written that the Christ would suffer and rise from the dead on the third day and that repentance, for the forgiveness of sins, would be preached in his name." (Lk 24:46-47)

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 April 18, 2021

Sunday:	Acts 3:13-15, 17-19/Ps 4:2, 4, 7-8, 9 [7a]/1 Jn 2:1-5a/ Lk 24:35-48
Monday:	Acts 6:8-15/Ps 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30 [1ab]/ Jn 6:22-29
Tuesday:	Acts 7:51—8:1a/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 7b and 8a, 17 and 21ab [6a]/Jn 6:30-35
Wednesday:	Acts 8:1b-8/Ps 66:1-3a, 4-5, 6-7a [1]/Jn 6:35-40
Thursday:	Acts 8:26-40/Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20 [1]/Jn 6:44-51
Friday:	Acts 9:1-20/Ps 117:1bc, 2 [Mk 16:15]/Jn 6:52-59
Saturday:	Acts 9:31-42/Ps 116:12-13, 14-15, 16-17 [12]/ Jn 6:60-69
Next Sunday:	Acts 4:8-12/Ps 118:1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28, 29 [22]/ 1 Jn 3:1-2/Jn 10:11-18

# GOSPEL MEDITATION

## Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

We often act out of ignorance. Armed with the best of intentions, we think we are seeing clearly and correctly, but we are not. We don't always understand the full meaning of things and only perceive part of the truth. Hence, our judgments and actions can be impaired by myopic, incomplete or erroneous perceptions. The meaning of life, understanding of human experience, and negotiating life's challenges can all become skewed without proper understanding and vision. The resurrection of Christ is the corrective to our incomplete and limited view of life. Looking at things with the eyes of faith brings a depth of clarity and understanding to how we see God, ourselves, others, and the world.

Even the disciples struggled with their limited understanding and ignorant perceptions. It was only when Jesus opened their minds to understand the Scriptures that their eyes were opened. It was their "aha" moment when everything clicked. We all want the substance of our lives to come together, make sense, and have meaning. This is easier to achieve when things are going positively and life is good. It is when suffering, disappointment, death, hardship, and injustice enter the picture that things can become unsettled and disoriented. Our faith in the goodness and love of God is tested. We tend to shift our focus on these difficult and challenging moments and do not see them within the greater picture of how God intends life to unfold. We can gain, from the passion and resurrection of Christ, the clear vision we need in order to move away from ignorance to enlightenment.

We need our "aha" moment when everything comes together and clicks. It can come in a fleeting instant when we feel totally connected with God, where we find ourselves, others and all of creation. It is a moment when all is right and good, regardless of how difficult our journey. Our "aha" moment assures us that God is here, right with us, in us and around us bringing us a gift and blessing we can receive nowhere else: peace. In those brief sacramental encounters when we are lifted up out of ourselves and centered, we can hear God say, "peace be with you," and we feel secure. It's all okay. The resurrected Christ has the power to bring this gift to us. Some people, as they are facing their deaths, remark about this peace. When looking into the window of eternity, they experience a depth of joy and are amazed at God's goodness and closeness. We are called to be witnesses to this Good News.

©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.

## Life in a Fishbowl By Rev. Joseph P. Cheak, 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



SRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

#### CONNECTICUT CATHOLIC Fullic Alline CONFERENCE

#### 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.

<u>Catholic teaching</u> 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



