

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

DEACONS Jeffrey Sutherland and Tim Healy

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

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

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

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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

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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

AY IN ORDINARY TIME

When the people in the synagogue heard this, they were all filled with fury. But Jesus passed through the midst of them and went away. - Lk 4:28, 30

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

January 30, 2022

4th Sunday in



MONDAY, January 31

9:00 Charles Deye, requested by his family

TUESDAY, February 1 9:00 Dr. Carl Folia, requested by the family

WEDNESDAY, February 2

Richard Cialfi, requested by 9:00 his wife, Dottie

THURSDAY, February 3 9:00 **Special Intentions**

FRIDAY, February 4 9:00 **Special Intentions**

SATURDAY, February 5 4:00 Michael Joeph Oleskewicz (2nd Ann.), requested by his loving family

SUNDAY, February 6

7:30 **Special Intentions**

9:30 **Special Intentions**

11:00 Claire Galiette (4th Ann.), requested by her family

> To schedule a Mass Intention, 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, January 31

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: 9:30-10:30am in the churc MMP Cenacle-Rosary Prayer Group: 7:15pm in the church Lectio Divina, Live !: 7:15pm in Room 3 & via Zoom

TUESDAY, February 1

"The Search" Series from FORMED: 7:15pm in Room 3 and via Zoom

WEDNESDAY, February 2

Confessions of St. Augustine: 9:30am in Fr. Bennett Hall "Keeping in Balance" Women's Study: 7pm in Fr. Bennet Hall

THURSDAY, February 3

Holy Hour: 12 noon in the church "Matthew" Bible Study: 7pm in the Activity Room and via Zoom

FRIDAY, February 4 Lectio Divina, Livel: 9:45am via Zoom

SATURDAY, February 5 Men's Breakfast Group: 8:00 am in Room 3

SUNDAY, February 6

Lectio Divina, Livel: 10:30am via Zoom



Archdiocese of Hartford effective as of: January 7, 2022

ALL persons are to wear masks regardless of vaccine status.





Adult Confirmation Program Begins Soon

Were vou baptized and received First Communion, but were never confirmed in the Catholic faith as a youth? Perhaps it's time to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. Join other adults for our 9-session prep program, which culminates in your Confirmation in May. Grow deeper in your relationship with God, experience how faith can make a difference in your life, and tap into the power of the Holy Spirit to live more fully. More details to come; for now, please pray about whether God is calling you to this next step on your faith journey.

Contact: ann.distefano@stannavon.com.

WEEKLY ORDINARY INCOME

Weekly Collection for 1/23/22: \$4,334.74 Online Giving (Jan.19-26, 2022): \$2,798.50 Next Weekend's 2nd Collection: Snow Removal



God Has a Personal Message For You!

Join us for the popular *Lectio Divina* way of praying scripture, where you listen for what God is saying to you in the Gospel for the coming Sunday. It's also a great way to connect with others, and engage more fully in Mass.

Friendly groups meet via Zoom * Newcomers welcome Sundays at 10:30am, and Fridays at 9:45am. For registration details and inspiringtestimonials, visit: <u>https://www.stannavon.org/lectio-divina-live</u>

Winter Book Study:

The Holy Longing: The Search for a Christian Spirituality, Fr. Ronald Rolheiser

Each human being experiences restlessness – whether passion or desire, or simply the sense that 'something more' is out there. "Spirituality is about what we do with our unrest." In The Holy Longing, Fr. Rolheiser asserts that each person

has an innate spirituality uniquely suited to them. Finding yours can connect you to the Divine and open your heart to others on a profound level. For Christians, this involves balancing:



a) private prayer and private morality

- b) social justice
- c) mellowness of heart and spirit
- d) communal worship

Come explore these notions in a 5-week book study on Thursdays beginning January 13th.

Groups will meet via Zoom at 10am with Terry Pendergast and 7pm with Claudine Meaney

Participant fee is \$15 (books included)

Please register soon: ann.distefano@stannavon.com.

FORMED. THE CATHOLIC FAITH. ON DEMAND.

FORMED News!

At Christmas, Fr. McHugh gifted all parishioners a FREE year-long subscription to FORMED.org - The Catholic Faith on Demand, which offers thousands of faith-based videos, movies, podcasts and audio/ebooks for adults, teens and children.



To access your **FREE subscription** now, go to: <u>formed.org/signup</u>. Enter "St. Ann 06001" and type your name and email, **or scan the QR code**. Questions: ann.distefano@stannavon.

FORMED KICKOFF PROGRAM FOR ADULTS:



"The Search" Series

What is my purpose? Why doesn't happiness last? Does God really care about me? Do you ever ponder these thoughts? If your children/grandchildren, friends, or coworkers asked you these questions, would you know what to say? Discover the answers to these and other big questions of life, with our first parishwide program from FORMED, "The Search."

The Search is a new, award-winning video series that guides viewers through an arc of seven episodes, examining the great big story of everything—life and death, sorrow and happiness, science and faith—through the commentary of astrophysicists, psychologists, astronauts, neuroscientists, professors, athletes, artists, and popular host Chris Stefanik.

Small groups ("Search Parties!") will be meeting on Tuesdays at 1:00pm via Zoom or at 7:15pm in Room 3 and on Zoom. We'll gather for 75 minutes to view and discuss "The Search" videos together. RSVP to ann.distefano@stannavon.com.

Attend as many sessions as you are able:

Jan 18: What Do You Seek?Feb 15: Who is Jesus?Jan 25: Who Are You?Feb 22: Am 9 Saved?Feb 1: Why a God?Mar 1: Why a Church?Feb 8: What's Our Story?

Many thanks for the overwhelming support for the Christmas collection for ImmaCare.

Every year we worry about whether there will be enough to assure that every guest will get a gift bag. It seems like a small way of saying that people care and they matter. This year there was enough donated that many warm items were delivered through the ImmaCare outreach van to those who stay outdoors until the weather becomes life threatening. Little did we know that shortly after, the shelter would temporarily close following a Covid outbreak and the men would be isolated in hotel rooms. A tough time but because of the generosity of the St. Ann parish , the men were able to take personal care items with them, and warm clothing to go outside. They have asked us to relay their heartfelt wishes for a healthy 2022 for all of you.



Saint of the Week

You may be familiar with the annual "blessing of throats" that many parishes in the United States use to commemorate the beloved bishop and martyr. St. Blaise lived in the fourth century in Turkey and Armenia. Due to religious persecution, he was forced to flee and hide in a cave in the back country in order to save his life.

History has it that one day a group of hunters stumbled upon where St. Blaise was living. They found the bishop kneeling in prayer, surrounded by wolves, lions and bears that he had tamed. The legend has it that as the hunters dragged Blaise off to prison, a mother came with her young son who had a fish bone lodged in his throat. At Blaise's command, the child was able to cough up the bone and thus lived.

Today we remember the saint on his feast day by taking two candles, crossing them against the throat, and saying the following prayer:

Through the intercession of St. Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from ailments of the throat and from every other evil. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.



The Holy Eucharist DID YOU KNOW?

"Give us this day our daily bread." In teaching these words to us in the Lord's Prayer, Jesus was not only referring to our bodily need for daily food, but He was also teaching us the importance of spiritual nourishment. Our souls need the spiritual nourishment of the Holy Eucharist just as much as our bodies require physical sustenance.

<u>Reflection</u>: The Holy Eucharist is true food for our souls. The Church teaches that each time a person receives Holy Communion worthily, the person's ability to participate in the glorious joys of heaven is elevated. Jesus sanctifies us and makes us more and more like Himself.

BEEN ON OUR WEBSITE LATELY?

We've got some great new resources for you! This week, check out:

https://www.stannavon.org/how-we-live-love

Here, you'll find a helpful list of special ways that Catholics respond to life's defining moments, from how to bless a teenager getting their driver license, to what to send to comfort someone whose loved one has died. (If you have additional suggestions, please submit them to <u>ann.distefano@stannavon.com</u>.)

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.

JANUARY 30, 2022 – 4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments

First Corinthians and the Stewardship of Social Media

"Love is patient, love is kind ..." As familiar as these words are, they never seem to stray into the territory of becoming trite or silly. At their core they communicate a truth about us and about our Creator that never fails to inspire.

But despite the fact that you've probably heard it at many weddings over time, First Corinthians isn't just for newlyweds. It wasn't written for married folks. It's for every single one of us, in every state of life and every social situation, in every country and culture and language across the globe.

Which means that First Corinthians is even for the online world. It's for Facebook and Twitter and Instagram and all the other platforms I'm forgetting (there seems to be a new one every day, doesn't there?).

A sense of division — whether rooted in politics, culture or anything else — is growing in our world, and it's never more obvious than when we observe interactions online. It is far easier, after all, to remember what love is when a human being of flesh and blood stands before us. When all we see is an avatar or a profile picture on a screen — especially accompanied by an opinion with which we vehemently disagree — even the most loving Christians can throw First Corinthians out the window.

As everyday stewards we know that we are charged to be not only gracious but grateful. We receive others but we also give thanks for what they bring to us — even if that's an opportunity to "strive eagerly for the greatest spiritual gifts."

So before the next time you post anything online, I suggest giving First Corinthians a read - and remember, love never fails. - Tracy Earl Welliver, MT

WEEKLY READINGS

Readings for the week of January 30, 2022

Sunday:	Jer 1:4-5, 17-19/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 15-17 [cf. 15ab]/
	1 Cor 12:31—13:13 or 13:4-13/Lk 4:21-30
Monday:	2 Sm 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13/Ps 3:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mk 5:1-20
Tuesday:	2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30—19:3/Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/
	Mk 5:21-43
Wednesday:	Mal 3:1-4/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10/Heb 2:14-18/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32
Thursday:	1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12/1 Chr 29:10, 11ab, 11d-12a, 12bcd/
	Mk 6:7-13
Friday:	Sir 47:2-11/Ps 18:31, 47 and 50, 51/Mk 6:14-29
Saturday:	1 Kgs 3:4-13/Ps 119:9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14/Mk 6:30-34
Next Sunday:	ls 6:1-2a, 3-8/Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 7-8 [1c]/
	1 Cor 15:1-11 or 15:3-8, 11/Lk 5:1-11

SUNDAY'S READINGS

First Reading:

The word of the LORD came to me, saying: Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I dedicated you, a prophet to the nations I appointed you. (Jer 1:4-5)

Psalm:

I will sing of your salvation. (Ps 71)

Second Reading:

So faith, hope, love remain, these three; but the greatest of these is love. (1 Cor 13:13)

Gospel:

And he said, "Amen, I say to you, no prophet is accepted in his own native place." (Lk 4:24)

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.

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK Live the Liturgy

Prophets possess an intimate knowledge of God and act on their experience of God. Prophetic messages usually challenge the status guo and draw us up and out of ourselves, focusing us on the bigger picture. We often think of ourselves and our own needs first. When we listen to someone speak, we judge the merit of the message by its degree of usefulness. If the message or vision contains no personal benefit or profit but a call to stretch and grow, we can become indignant. Prophets are usually the ones whose message challenges us and calls us to see things differently and love more perfectly and deeply. God is love. When listening to St. Paul speak about love we witness the unfolding of this type of unconditional, other centered, self-sacrificial perfect God. It is an invitation to life, freedom, and happiness that can be offered to us only by God. Jesus, who is God and Love incarnate, calls us to this richer expression of love. Are we ready to listen and be challenged and stretched? ©LPi

GOSPEL MEDITATION Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

St. Oscar Romero (1917-1980) was a "Salvadoran Roman Catholic archbishop who was a vocal critic of the violent activities of government armed forces, right-wing groups, and leftist guerrillas involved in El Salvador's civil conflict (Encyclopedia Britannica)." As a voice of the voiceless, he was an outspoken champion of the poor who were the ones most affected by the civil unrest and violence. His advocacy provoked several attempts on his life. Nonetheless, St. Oscar Romero was convinced that before all else his faith in the resurrected Christ and the values of the Gospel trumped any earthly concern or worry. He walked with complete confidence and trust. On March 24, 1980, St. Oscar Romero was assassinated while celebrating Mass. Such is often the fate of those who challenge the socio-political agendas of the day.

We may look at the example of witness of St. Oscar Romero as something extraordinary. In one sense it is. Through the power of God, an ordinary human being did extraordinary things. But, in and of himself, St. Oscar Romero was simply a humble, loving servant of God. Oscar knew not only the power of love but the risk that comes when loving unconditionally. The beauty of God's message was able to shine in and through him because he was able to step out of the way and be a vessel. One can assume that for St. Oscar Romero, one's earthly life has no merit when faith, integrity, conviction, zeal and love are jettisoned. Fear and apprehension had no grip on this man who not only saw but spoke the truth.

Do we speak the truth? It makes us feel good to speak of God as love. But have we ever considered the ramifications of this radical message? There are assaults on human life occurring daily. More and more the value and worth of a human being is being reduced and minimalized. We are becoming widgets in the production of life. In our whole simple humble ways, we too are called to be prophets. Knowing who you are and what is within your means to do, how can you make God's love real, stand up for what is right, and give witness to the sacredness of all that is around you? ©LPi

THE BULLETIN BOARD



Our Lady of Calvary Retreat Center Farmington, CT

Seeking the Light Together on Zoom

Zoom Presentations on consecutive Wednesdays: Jan. 26; Feb. 2; 9; 16; and 23; 2022, at 7-8:30 pm.

Do you desire to deepen in hope as we stay connected in an encouraging way? Come and join us!

This is a time to be encouraged and

hopeful as we seek the LIGHT of God's loving presence in our day, especially during our winter months.



During our gatherings we will:

- Offer a presentation on HOPE; RESILIENCE; GAINING WISDOM; GROWING IN AWARENESS AND PERSPECTIVE, AND SEEKING THE LIGHT WITH THE GIFT OF DISCERNMENT
- Have time for personal reflection with opportunities to listen and share together.
- Receive reading resources on the topics.
- Practice an Ignatian meditation to increase our awareness of God's loving presence in our daily lives, especially in our challenging winter months.

Come and join us! This is a time to be encouraged and hopeful as we seek the LIGHT of God's loving presence in our day, especially during our winter months. This program is open to both men and women.

Xavier High School: \$25,000 Cash Raffle

The Xavier High School \$25,000 cash raffle is winner take all. Tickets are \$100 each. Only 800 will be sold. The drawing will be at 11 a.m. on April 1 at Xavier High School.

You do not need to be present to win, but you must be at least 18 years old to purchase. All tax liabilities are borne solely by the purchaser.

Tickets may be purchased by mailing a check (no cash) to Xavier High School, 181 Randolph Road, Middletown CT 06457. They also can be purchased online at xavierhighschool.org. Click on Alumni & Giving, and then click on \$25,000 Cash Raffle.

For more information, contact the advancement office at 860-346-7735. Proceeds benefit the Xavier Annual Fund.



A relationship with God through the Catholic Church can give you that, and more.

We'd love to talk with you about it in person, or by phone. No pressure; just friendly, open conversation, one-on-one.

Contact: ann.distefano@stannavon.com

Church of St. Ann + Avon, CT

The ABCs of Annulmnet Sponsored by the Metropolitan Tribunal. Bloomfield

Fr. Philip Schulze, Pastor of Saint Margaret Parish, 24 Academy Street, Madison, CT, in collaboration with Fr. George Mukuka, the Judicial Vicar of the Metropolitan Tribunal in Bloomfield will host "*The ABCs of Annulment*" on Saturday, January 22nd from 10am to 12pm, in the Church Hall at the address above.

Updates of the process initiated by Pope Francis as well as those made in the Archdiocese of Hartford will be presented by Br. Larry Lussier CSC, and Jim Tottenham.

Follow-up Annulment Workshops to help participants write their applications will be held at the same address on Saturday, January 29th, February 12th & 19th, from 10am to 12pm. Brother Larry, Jim Tottenham, and other members of the Annulment Team, will be present for the Workshops.

The "ABCs of Annulment" event is open to all at no cost. Participants will receive a folder with the required printed materials. No registration is required. For further information call Br. Larry at: 475-221-8464 or email him at: brolarlus300@gmail.com.



