

# Church of Saint Ann

289 Arch Road \* Avon, Connecticut \* 06001

# 860-673-9858

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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.

# "Blessed are you when people hate you,

and when they exclude and insult you, and denounce your name as evil on account of the Son of Man." - Lk 6:22

# **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

February 13 2022







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, February 14**

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 in Room 3 & via Zoom

### **TUESDAY, February 15**

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

### WEDNESDAY, February 16

Confessions of St. Augustine: 9:30am in Fr. Bennett Hall "Keeping in Balance" Women's Study: 7pm in Fr. Bennet Hall Knights of Columbus: 7pm in Room 2

### **THURSDAY, February 17**

Holv Hour: 12 noon in the church "Matthew" Bible Study: 7pm in the Activity Room and via Zoom Saint Ann Cares Ministry Meeting: 7pm in Room 2

### FRIDAY, February 18

Lectio Divina, Livel: 9:45am via Zoom

# SATURDAY, February 19

Men's Breakfast Group: 8:00 am in Room 3

# SUNDAY, February 20

Lectio Divina, Livel: 10:30am via Zoom





# Adult Confirmation Program Begins Soon

Adults: were you baptized and received First Communion, but were never confirmed in the Catholic faith as a youth? Perhaps it's time to receive the grace of the Holy Spirit via the Sacrament of Confirmation, and find greater peace, power and purpose in your life! Our Adult Confirmation prep program will take place Thursdays at 7:15pm in Room 3, from February 24-April 28. The Confirmation ceremony will be at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Hartford, on May 17, 2022 at 7pm. We are praying for you as you discern whether God is calling you to this next step on your faith journey. To learn more, or to register, contact: ann.distefano@stannavon.com.

# **MONDAY, February 14**

9:00 Marion De Lessio, requested by the Downey Family

**TUESDAY**, February 15 9:00 James Ward, requested by the Downey Family

# WEDNESDAY, February 16

9:00 **Charles Bostick,** requested by the Downey Family

**THURSDAY, February 17 Special Intentions** 9:00

FRIDAY, February 18 9:00 **Special Intentions** 

#### SATURDAY, February 19

4:00 Patricia C. Mitchell (1st Ann.), requested by the Mitchell Family

#### SUNDAY, February 20

- 7:30 Edmund and Caroline Sikora, requested by Nancy Zickefoose and Raymond Sikora
- 9:30 Margaret Coombs, requested by Patricia Borden
- 11:00 **Gloria Boudon**, requested by Dan and Mary Healey

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

# WEEKLY ORDINARY INCOME

Weekly Collection for 2/6/22: \$7,215.30 Online Giving (Feb. 2-9, 2.022): \$2,850.50 Next Weekend's 2nd Collection: *none* 



# 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>

# WHAT'S A SMALL GROUP ${f 9}$

Getting Together With Friends: If you've heard us mention Small Groups at church, this is what we're talking about regular gatherings with friends, where we talk, laugh, learn, pray and serve together. Lent is coming up (Ash Wed is March 2), and that's a great time to form a Small Group. There are three things you need:

- People that's simple: invite your friends!
  6-10 people keeps the conversation manageable
- Subject Matter we have great materials to offer you, from books to videos on FORMED.org. For Lent, we're recommending the video series on FORMED.org, "Into His Likeness" - check it out: <u>https://watch.formed.org/ into-his-likeness</u>
- A Process we provide simple training for facilitators and a code of conduct for the group, to set expectations and maintain confidentiality; you decide when you'll meet

Come learn more at our info session, "All About Small Groups," on Thursday, Feb 17 at 7:15pm on Zoom.



#### Contact:

<u>ann.distefano@stannavon.com</u> for the Zoom link. If you have a conflict, contact Ann to arrange a private chat.

# 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.

A small group ("Search Party!") will be meeting on Tuesdays 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 <u>ann.distefano@stannavon.com</u>.

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?	

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.



# **Drop Off Your Donations On:**

Wed./Thurs., March 30 & 31: 9:30 am – 4 pm Friday, April 1st: 9:30 - 11:30 pm

**Please donate books:** *best sellers, fiction, nonfiction, religious, classics, biographies, memoirs, self-help books, vintage books, cookbooks, politics, children's books, young readers, CDs, puzzles, etc.* 

# <u> April 2022 Book Sale Dates:</u>

Friday, April 1st: 5 - 7:30 pm (\$5 adult admission) Saturday, April 2nd: 9 am – 2:30 PM (no admission fee)

# Volunteers are needed for collection & sale week.

To volunteer, please contact Jean Frey at 860.673.1949 or frey437@yahoo.com or Nancy Casey 860.673.3141 or at nancekc@gmail.com. Thank you! *Proceeds go to Catholic High School Student Scholarships.* 





# **The Holy Eucharist** DID γΟU KNOW?

"Blessed are they who are hungry, for they shall have their fill." Luke 6: 21

<u>Reflection:</u> When you come to Mass, how hungry are you to be filled with the riches of the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist? The more we long for the reception of Holy Communion and the more we desire to be united to Our Lord, the more graces, love, peace and joy will be ours. Much depends upon the disposition of our hearts. The graces which we receive are accordingly up to us.

# **PRO-LIFE MINISTRY**

# Hugs from the Heart

Pro-Life Ministry is sponsoring their Valentine's Day "*Hugs from the Heart*" Outreach to Two Hearts Pregnancy Care Center in Torrington.



Huggies or any brand of diapers will help them immensely. All sizes, but especially size 4 are desperately needed. They can use newborn sleepers and stretchy outfits. 12 months, 18 months, and 2T size clothes, baby lotions/wipes, or gift cards would also be greatly appreciated.

Please place the above items in the baby boxes found in the Gathering Space on or before the weekend of February 12th and 13th.

Thank you in advance for helping to support moms and their babies!



# 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.

# FEBRUARY 13, 2022 – 6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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

#### Planted Near Water

We all know that there are times when life can feel, as Jeremiah writes, empty and wasted. There are moments when we think we resemble a barren bush, thirsting in the desert sun.

That's why it is imperative for us to know the location of our water source. I promise you, it's closer than you think. God never planted a seed in barren ground.

For me, it's the Mass. Going to Mass is where I find total peace and renewal. I don't have any great theological explanation for this — Mass is simply where I can truly rest in God for a time, where nothing and no one in the world can touch me. And wouldn't you know it, it's in the toughest times that I need Mass the most — that my roots stretch harder for that water.

Woe to the rich, says Jesus — woe to the popular, to the content, to the happy. It's not because He hates to see us smile. It's because He knows our humanity. He knows our limitations. He knows that when things are going really well, we often stop looking for God.

What replenishes you as a disciple, as a steward, as a Christian? If it feels far away or hard to reach, why is that? How can you bring it closer?

We are all trees planted near water, to yield our fruit in due season. Let's pray for the strength to know where our water source is, and to seek it both in good times and in bad.

- Tracy Earl Welliver, MT

# WEEKLY READINGS

#### Readings for the week of February 13, 2022

Sunday:	Jer 17:5-8/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4, 6 [40:5a]/1 Cor 15:12, 16-20/
	Lk 6:17, 20-26
Monday:	Jas 1:1-11/Ps 119:67, 68, 71, 72, 75, 76/Mk 8:11-13
Tuesday:	Jas 1:12-18/Ps 94:12-13a, 14-15, 18-19/Mk 8:14-21
Wednesday:	Jas 1:19-27/Ps 15:2-3a, 3bc-4ab, 5/Mk 8:22-26
Thursday:	Jas 2:1-9/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mk 8:27-33
Friday:	Jas 2:14-24, 26/Ps 112:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mk 8:34—9:1
Saturday:	Jas 3:1-10/Ps 12:2-3, 4-5, 7-8/Mk 9:2-13
Next Sunday:	1 Sm 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8, 10, 12-13 [8a]/
	1 Cor 15:45-49/Lk 6:27-38

# SUNDAY'S READINGS

#### First Reading:

Blessed is the one who trusts in the LORD, whose hope is the LORD. (Jer 17:7)

#### Psalm:

Blessed are they who hope in the Lord. (Ps 1)

#### Second Reading:

If the dead are not raised, neither has Christ been raised, and if Christ has not been raised, your faith is vain. (1 Cor 15:16-17)

#### Gospel:

"Blessed are you who are poor, for the kingdom of God is yours." (Lk 6:20)

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

The human heart will always find itself wanting unless it finds its rest in God. Many people haven't yet figured out that pursuing purely secular ideologies and interests and side stepping their relationship with God causes them to fall short of their potential. When we seek our satisfaction, seek our strength, and establish priorities based entirely on the things of this world, we come up empty. There is never enough and we are always reaching for more. We develop distorted senses of justice, lose our moral axis, and lower our benchmarks for change, growth, and development. That is why knowing the beatitudes and God's vision they contain is so important. They remind us that our consumption, success driven lives can actually hurt and exploit others; guickly moving us away from God's idea of how things need to look. God ultimately will set things straight. We can assist in that mission now by trusting, hoping, and looking to God for our cues for how to live, set goals for ourselves and discern the best way to share this world with our brothers and sisters. **©LPi** 

#### **GOSPEL MEDITATION** Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

What has been the most difficult challenge you faced in your life? Many difficult human experiences can "turn up the heat" in our lives, causing us to question the why of things or even fall into despair. Some people just somewhat passively accept what life brings, even death, and chalk difficult experiences up to happening "because they do." They seemingly endure and move on. Taking life at face value, there really is no ultimate meaning to things. It's easier to ignore that inner prompting calling us to understand why. It's there whether we admit it or not. To question or not to question — that is the question! People sometimes give up the God search because it causes too many questions. Once we open the door to the possibility of God's existence, then all of the awkward, challenging, and tragic pieces of life have to find their place.

It gets messy. But the search is so important to living. We can easily dry up and become arid, abandoning any hope for purpose and meaning because it's too difficult and non-rational at times. In searching for answers to the how and why of life, human beings also embark on a search for God. When one finally stumbles upon the real living tangible presence of God, then that discovery allows life's ironies and tensions to be held side by side with the all-encompassing totally unconditional, unmerited love of God! Then when life's heat gets turned up, difficulties and challenges abound, dryness and heartache become the norm, the soul remains in joyful repose. There is no fear.

The beatitudes celebrate life's ironies and tensions, holding them all together in the Kingdom of God. Poverty, hunger, weeping, being insulted and hated are not things we would normally associate with being God's friends. But they are! In fact, those who experience these uncomfortable realities of life are actually better off than those who do not. This is what makes Jesus' message so intriguing! Don't give up questioning. Questioning the apparent inequities and polarities of human experience will certainly challenge one's faith. But it's the only way to deepen it. ©LPi

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# THE BULLETIN BOARD



Our Lady of Calvary Retreat Center Farmington, CT

# Movie Matinee February 23 @ 12-3 pm \$25

How have you learned to navigate times of challenge, suffering, and illness, of confusion, and darkness? Jesus

confusion, and darkness? Jesus taught us to respond to even the most difficult situations with authenticity and compassion, being fully present to the reality that confronts us, being true to what we know is the right thing to do, and being openly loving to those who need our support.

Join us for a viewing and discussion of Lars and the Real Girl, starring Ryan Gosling and Emily Mortimer. Discover the magical and graced reality we can create, were we to "respond with compassion and tolerance," in the words of screenwriter Nancy Oliver, to bring healing, hope, and new life to even the most impossible situation.

This program will be led by Celeste Calabotta, a member of the OLC Retreat Team.

Each participant will receive a boxed lunch to enjoy during the movie. To register for this movie matinee call (860) 677-8519. https://www.ourladyofcalvary.net/event/movie-matinee-lars-and-the-real-girl/







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

**Church Teaching & Racism** Offered by: The Office for Catholic Social Justice Ministry, Archdiocese of Hartford

According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, "The cumulative effects of personal sins of racism have led to social structures of injustice and violence that makes us all accomplices in racism." Listen to Chris Doucot of the Hartford Catholic Worker explain this at: https://youtu.be/7A6gR7p56z4





