

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

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LITURGY COORDINATOR Eva Kaminski: me2kaminski@sbcglobal.net

CEMETERY SUPERINTENDENT Mike Gould: ext.225

BAPTISMS:

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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

SUNDATIN ORDINARY TIME "Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful." - Lk 6:36

### **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 20, 2022



7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

MONDAY, February 21 9:00 Francis McHugh, requested by the family

TUESDAY, February 229:00For the intentions of Carol Bernarduci (Living),<br/>requested by a friend

WEDNESDAY, February 23 9:00 James McHugh, requested by the family

### THURSDAY, February 24

9:00 Raymond Zalenski, requested by the ZuWallack Family

#### FRIDAY, February 25

9:00 Aleksandra Smolinski and Cora Sopelak, requested by the Sopelak Family

### SATURDAY, February 26

4:00 Manda Koch, requested by Russell and Diane Koch

### SUNDAY, February 27

7:30 Special Intentions

9:30 Special Intentions

11:00 Special Intentions

## Divine Mercy Holy Hour

Next Sunday, February 27, 2022

### 2:30-3:30pm in the church



Our Lord told St. Faustina, "For the soul that trust much will be given." Please join us for this powerful devotion.

### Looking for Volunteers to Help at Masses

Anyone interested in "serving" the Mass when the altar servers are absent, but may need a little instruction, please come to the church at 2pm on the first 3 Sundays in February. No appointment is necessary and all are welcome. Those already in a mass ministry such as Lectors, Eucharistic ministers and Ushers are encouraged to attend a session, so that you might expand your role and fill a need.



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 21

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: 9:30-10:30am in the church MMP Cenacle-Rosary Prayer Group: 7:15pm, in church (all are welcome!) Rescheduled Prayer Shawl Ministry Meeting: 7pm in Fr. Bennett Hall Lectio Divina, Live!: 7:15pm in Room 3 & via Zoom

### TUESDAY, February 22

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

### WEDNESDAY, February 23

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

### THURSDAY, February 24

Holy 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 Adult Confirmation Preparation: 7:15pm in Room 1

### FRIDAY, February 25

Lectio Divina, Live!: 9:45am via Zoom

### SATURDAY, February 26

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

### SUNDAY, February 27

Lectio Divina, Live !: 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: <u>ann.distefano@stannavon.com</u>.

### WEEKLY ORDINARY INCOME

Weekly Collection for 2/13/22: 4,039.98 Online Giving (Feb. 9-16, 2.022): \$2,735.50 Next Weekend's 2nd Collection: monthly



### WEEKLY REFLECTION SERIES: FOLLOW JESUS AND BE TRANSFORMED

Featuring "Into His Likeness," a new video program on FORMED.org Parish-based groups will meet weekly from

March 4 - April 11

Sundays at 10:30am in Room 3 & via Zoom Mondays at 7:15pm in Room 3 & via Zoom Fridays at 9:45am via Zoom Cost: \$15

**Newcomers welcome!** 

To register: ann.distefano@stannavon.com

Or, form your own Small Group with friends, and meet at your convenience. Contact Ann (above) for materials and support.

### UPLIFTING DAILY VIDEO MESSAGES

Sign up to get an inspirational boost from Dr. Tim Gray of FORMED, delivered via email: www.daily.formed.org

### WHISKEY, WINE & CHEESE WITH PRESENTER KELLY HENDERSCHEDT Wednesday, April 6, 2022, 7pm, Fr. Bennett Hall

Enjoy refreshments and fellowship with dynamic speaker Kelly Henderschedt, Archdiocesan Dir. of Faith Formation. Just in time for Holy Week, Kelly will share how to find resurrection and renewal in your spiritual life.

### OPENING THE WORD

Encounter Jesus more deeply in Sunday Mass by reflecting on his Word: https://watch.formed.org/opening-the-word-1

### 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 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 1: Why a God? Feb 8: What's Our Story?

Feb 22: Am 9 Saved? Mar 1: Why a Church?

FORMED THE CATHOLIC FAITH. ON DEMAND.

### **Explore FORMED During Lent!**

This past 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: formed.org/signup. 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 YOU KNOW?

St. Augustine believed that "If we live good lives, the times are also ood. As we are, such are the times." Looking at our present world order, perhaps we should consider how our lives can become better. The Holy Eucharist contains the answer to helping us grow in goodness and grace. By our reception of Holy Communion Jesus enables us to become more like Himself.

<u>Reflection:</u> Imagine how abandoned Our Lord must feel as He remains in the tabernacles of our Churches. He is waiting to fill us with every good gift and yet so many have abandoned Him. Our society has become an increasingly pagan one. We turn away from the love and mercy of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. We ignore Him. Consider the anguish He must be feeling. As He revealed His Sacred Heart to St. Margaret Mary, He said "Behold this Heart which has so loved mankind and which is so little loved in return." Recall that the Holy Eucharist is the living heart of the Church and many have forsaken Him.



### Attention Faithful Women of St. Ann

You are cordially invited to attend the Annual Women's Retreat at Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center in West Hartford, CT. This year's retreat theme is "In the

Spirit of Trust". When we think about the idea of "trust", we may think about how much we trust the people around us, family, friends, society, government or religion. But as scriptures remind us, the most important form of trust we can have is our trust in God.

The retreat begins with a buffet dinner on Friday evening and concludes Sunday with Mass followed by a brunch. There are three dates to pick from in Spring 2022: March 4-6 \* April 22-24 \* June 3-5 Online sign-up links are on our website: www.stannavon.org/womens-retreat Financial assistance is available for those in need.

<u>Please contact</u>: Eileen DiMauro (860)675-4330, Jacquie Warren (860)673-6761 or holyfamilyretreat.org.

# FAMILY MASS PIZZA

### SATURDAY, Feb. 26th

Join us after 4 PM Mass in Father Bennett Great for the whole family! Join Brother Francis in an animated video to learn what happened during Lent and how we observe it as Catholics. Create and take home a special Lenten wreath for a table centerpiece

### Pizza and soft drinks will be provide<mark>d</mark> RSVP no later than Wednesday February 24th

Limited to 30 families: to sign up email valerie.stjean@stannavon.com



### FEBRUARY 20, 2022 – 7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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

#### Thanking God for Missing Spears

Imagine how Saul must have felt when he awoke from his sleep and saw his spear missing from its resting place. Now imagine how he felt when he realized that the person who had it was the same person seeking his life — and there he sat, safe and sound. Now there's a day you don't forget your morning prayers.

I think if we look, we can all find a "missing spear moment" in our lives, when it hits us right in the gut that God has kept us safe from an impending disaster. This can be physical disaster, sure — but more commonly, I think it is spiritual disaster. Often the salvation comes through the gift of a person, or people, through whom God reveals His mercy.

When I was in high school, I had a circle of friends who were really into their faith. We were all in youth ministry together, and the bond we shared taught me a lesson that changed me as a person: we become those with whom we associate. I can look back now, all these years later, and see that these people are evidence of God's hand in my life.

Take a look at your life. In whose love has God shown you comfort? By whose hand has God brought you closer to Him, or kept you away from harm? Through whose friendship has God shaped you into the person you are?

Let's strive to remember to thank God for these people — and to thank them, too.

- Tracy Earl Welliver, MT

### WEEKLY READINGS

#### Readings for the week of February 20, 2022

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
Monday:	Jas 3:13-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15/Mk 9:14-29
Tuesday:	1 Pt 5:1-4/Ps 23:1-3a, 4, 5, 6/Mt 16:13-19
Wednesday:	Jas 4:13-17/Ps 49:2-3, 6-7, 8-10, 11/Mk 9:38-40
Thursday:	Jas 5:1-6/Ps 49:14-15ab, 15cd-16, 17-18, 19-20/Mk 9:41-50
Friday:	Jas 5:9-12/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8-9, 11-12/Mk 10:1-12
Saturday:	Jas 5:13-20/Ps 141:1-2, 3 and 8/Mk 10:13-16
Next Sunday:	Sir 27:4-7/Ps 92:2-3, 13-14, 15-16 [cf. 2a]/1 Cor 15:54-58/
	Lk 6:39-45

### SUNDAY'S READINGS

#### First Reading:

"Today, though the LORD delivered you into my grasp, I would not harm the LORD's anointed." (1 Sm 26:23)

#### Psalm:

The Lord is kind and merciful. (Ps 103)

#### Second Reading:

Just as we have borne the image of the earthly one, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly one. (1 Cor 15:49)

#### Gospel:

"Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful." (Jn Lk 6:36)

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

"Love your enemies and do good to them." We have such a hard time with this teaching! But it doesn't end there. Jesus continues with turning the other cheek when struck, giving to everyone who asks, doing to others as you would have them do to you, being merciful, stopping our judgment of others, forgiving, and giving. We are okay when God does these things but get a little anxious when we realize that God really wants us to do them too! Secular justice and Gospel justice are definitely not the same. We need to remember that we are made in the image of God, not the image of ourselves. The Christian is called to act like Christ even in those situations where a more assertive or defensive response may seem more justifiable. In order to live up to this call we have to leave our resentment and need for retaliation behind, lose our defensiveness and bring into our mind and heart the realization of who we represent in this world. We are not here to satisfy or promote our own well-being and agenda. We are here for God's. That's a hard nut to crack especially when it comes to loving and forgiving people who do hurtful and violent things. ©LPi

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

Sometimes, Jesus' teachings don't seem to make practical sense. When we hear things like love your enemies and do good to them, turn the other cheek when struck, give to anyone who asks, do to others as you would have them do to you, be merciful, stop judging, forgive, and give to others, we get a bit unsettled. After all, it's okay for God to do all of these things, but does He really want us to do them, too? Many good-hearted Christians really draw the line with some of these ideals and say, "No way!" They even remark that if someone did something hurtful to someone they loved, they would have no reservations seeking severe retribution. There is still this persistent thinking, even among those who consider themselves Christian, that a violent action deserves a violent response. Somehow, we continue to justify this.

Yet, it is most clearly against the very grain of the Gospel. Part of our difficulty has more to do with understanding God's love. We wrongly think that sinful or hurtful actions and evil people somehow are seen as lesser in God's eyes. They are not. God loves the sinner as much as He does the saint. And, both of these inclinations exist in every human being, even those who consider themselves holy. Both the capacity for good and the disposition toward evil exist in every one of us. Viktor Frankl has this to say when reflecting on the Holocaust: "Our generation is a realistic generation because we have learned what a human being really is. When all is said and done, man is that same creature who invented the gas-chambers of Auschwitz; but he is also that being who walked upright into those chambers with the prayer 'Shema Yisrael' on his lips."

If we believe in God, we have to act like God. Whether we like that idea is another issue. If we don't then perhaps, we need to reconsider our faith and whether we really believe in Jesus Christ. We are made in the image of God, not the image of ourselves. The Christian must, at all costs, leave resentment and the need for retaliation behind, lose defensiveness and bring into the mind and heart the realization of who we represent in this world.

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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

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-larsand-the-real-girl/



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

Are you searching for

Peace, Meaning & Belonging?

A relationship with God through the

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

### ONLINE GIVING

**NEW** JOURNEY. **NEW** BEGINNINGS. NEW GOALS.

stain our church with Online Giving

As we journey through winter and prepare for spring, we set new goals dedicated to strengthening our church's community. Faithfulness in giving allows us to share the gifts that God has given us, so our spiritual home may hrive. That is why our church offers Online Giving as an extent to support our conscitution. option to support our ongoing mission and minist

Online Giving helps support our church by allow ou to make donations, payments, and pledges via you to make donations, payments, and pledges vi nobile phone, smart device, or computer to our of

Set up your gift today or consider an additional gift via our Online Giving link on your smart device.



and get started

#### How Does Online Giving Benefit Me and My Church?

#### Donor Benefits

- Convenient anytime, anywhere access through
- the internet Secure and Confidential. Adheres to banking
- security standards.
- Flexible. Start, stop and change your
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- Contribute using direct withdrawal (ACH) or credit cards

#### **Church Benefits**

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- Stabilize Contributions. Regularly scheduled gifts occur automatically. Allows church to effectively manage monthly expenses
- Secure and Confidential. No need to store member account information. • Efficient. Participation saves time and expense
- in bookkeeping. Current. A tool for people who prefer to use electronic services.

You can find a link to our Online Giving on our website: https://www.stannavon.org/ online-giving



