

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

REGISTRAR & CONFIRMATION ASSISTANT Jennifer Soucy, CPA: 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

N D A Y O F LENT

"He said to him, 'My son, you are here with me always; everything I have is yours." - Lk 15:31

MASS SCHEDULE:

the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD

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

March 27, 2022



Fourth Sunday of Lent



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 28

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: 9:30-10:30am in the church Lenten Confessions (this is an additional confession time during Lent): 6-7pm MMP Cenacle-Rosary Prayer Group: 7:15pm, in church (all are welcome!) Lent Series Small Group: 7:15pm in Room 3 & via Zoom

TUESDAY, March 29

Confessions of St. Augustine: 9:30am in Fr. Bennett Hall

WEDNESDAY, March 30

Book Sale Donation Drop Off: 9:30am-4pm in Fr. Bennett Hall "Keeping in Balance" Women's Study: 7pm in Activity Room

THURSDAY, March 31

Book Sale Donation Drop Off: 9:30am-4pm in Fr. Bennett Hall Holy Hour: 12 noon in the church "Matthew" Bible Study: 7pm in the Room 3 and via Zoom Saint Ann Cares Ministry Meeting: 7pm in Room 2 Adult Confirmation Preparation: 7:15pm in Room 1

FRIDAY, April 1

Book Sale Donation Drop Off: 9:30-11:30am in Fr. Bennett Hall Book Sale : 5-7:30pm in Fr. Bennett Hall (\$5 adult admission fee) Lent Series Small Group: 9:45am via Zoom Stations of the Cross: 7pm

SATURDAY, April 2

Men's Breakfast Group: 8:00 am in Room 3 Book Sale : 9am-6pm in Fr. Bennett Hall (no admission fee)

SUNDAY, April 3

Lent Series Small Group: 10:30am via Zoom

All proceeds go towards partial tuition Catholic High School Student Scholarships



Book Sale Dates:

Friday, April 1st: 5pm - 7:30pm (\$5 adult admission) Saturday, April 2nd: 9am - 6pm (no admission fee)

Volunteers are needed for collection & sale To volunteer at the January 2020 Book Sale, please contact Nancy Casey 860.673.3141. Thanks!

9:00 Mark Vuono (2nd Ann.), requested by the Bondhus family TUESDAY, March 29

9:00 Joseph (8th Ann.) & Sadie Klish, requested by Barbara & Gino Calderone

WEDNESDAY, March 30 9:00 Special Intentions

MONDAY, March 28

THURSDAY, March 31 9:00 Special Intentions

FRIDAY, April 1 9:00 Special Intentions

SATURDAY, April 2 4:00 Edwin Lysak (9th Ann.), requested by the family

SUNDAY, April 3

7:30 Special Intentions

- **9:30** Thomas Kobylarz, requested by the family
- **11:00** Carol DeVita (5th Ann.), requested by the DeVita Family

Next Weekend:

The St. Ann Scholarship Committee's Used Book Sale

Donation Dates:

Wednesday, March 30th: 9:30am—4pm Thursday, March 31st: 9:30am - 4pm Friday, April 1st: 9:30am - 11:30am

Please donate books:

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

NOTE: Forms must be received no later than Thursday, April 7th for your loved ones' names to be included in the Easter bulletin.

Pray for Vocations

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WEEKLY ORDINARY INCOME

Weekly Collection for 3/20/22: \$6,371.58 Online Giving (March 16-23, 2022): \$2,810.50 Next Weekend's 2nd Collection: *none*



and meet at your convenience. Contact Ann (above) for materials and support.

Vacation Bible Camp

June 20-23, 2022 9:30am – 12:30pm



Our theme this year is: Rocky Railway, Jesus' Power Pulls Us Through! All aboard for summer fun! Kids will explore Jesus' power and how we cn trust Him to pull us through when life feels like a valley or a mountaintop. Expect 4 days of amazing fun: art, science, faith discoveries and memorable music!

Online registration at www.stannavon.org/bible-camp. Campers are students entering pre-k through Grade 5 in September 2022.



2022 VBS Cost:

\$75 per camper

ALL Jr. Counselor positions are filled at this time.

Annual Easter Plant Sale

Help us decorate the altar for Easter by purchasing an Easter plant in memory of, or in honor of a loved one. Plants are \$10 each.

March 26&27, 2022 and April 2/3, 2022

after all Masses in the Gathering Space

- On our website you can (stannavon.org/easter-plant-sale):
- download order form
- Order and pay online with credit card or bank accout. (This is a singular form/payment, no need to sign up for Online Giving.)

NOTE: Forms must be received no later than Thursday, April 7th for your loved ones' names to be included in the Easter bulletin.

2 0 2 2 CORPORAL WORKS OF MERCY

During this Lenten season, our Parish family Lenten commitment is to practice the corporal works of mercy, both individually and as a community. Donations should be placed in the labelled boxes in the Gathering Space. Anything you can donate is appreciated!

THIS WEEKEND: MARCH 26/27

Collection of clothing for Hartford Catholic Worker Youth Outreach

NEXT WEEKEND: MARCH26/27

Donations are being collected to help fund the purchase of religious periodicals that are distributed to incarcerated persons in



CT. This periodical (Word Among Us) enriches faith, and the recipients are very grateful.



Congratulations to our 44 Confirmation candidates who received the Sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday, March 26, 2022 at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Hartford .

Please keep them in your prayers!

& A TALK WITH KELLY HENDERSCHEDT Dynamic speaker, and Archdiocesan Dir. of Faith Formation

WEDNESDAY. APRIL 6TH AT 7PM **FR. BENNETT HALL**

Easter is coming! How can YOU find resurrection, renewal, & refreshment in YOUR life?





Your gift today will provide temporary shelter, food, medical supplies, clothing, communications and religious supplies. These items will all be immediately distributed, and 100% of your gift will go directly to these displaced people. Join us today in supporting the Ukraine Solidarity Fund!

To make your donation by credit card, please visit: www.kofc.org/secure/en/donate/ukraine.html

If you wish to make a payment by check, please make your check out to "Knights of Columbus Charities, Inc." and write "Ukraine Solidarity Fund" in the memo line. Then, please mail your check to: Knights of Columbus Charities, Inc., P.O. Box 1966, New Haven, CT, 06510-1966.



Cemetery <u>Cleanup</u>

Please remove any Christmas/winter decorations by April 4th in preparation for the Spring cleanup.

St. Ann Cares Day of Caring May 14, 2022

St Ann Cares is back! Save the date. We will be having our Day of Caring on Saturday, May 14th. We will be doing the usual painting, carpentry, and landscaping. All skill levels are needed. We will be having sign ups in the coming weeks. Contact Steve Rose with any questions at sjrose1088@gmail.com or 860-250-5355.





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. Dates available in Spring 2022: 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.

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

The Holy **Eucharist** DID YOU KNOW?

The logic of Divine Love and Mercy is offered to us this Sunday in the story of the prodigal son. (Luke 15:1-3, 11-32) This logic is beyond our human intellects to comprehend. We cannot fathom or plumb the depth of God the Father's love in giving us His only Son to ransom us from our sins. Yet, He extends to us this profound gift of forgiveness and in doing so, He gives Jesus to us, His sinful children.

Reflection: The Holy Eucharist cannot be separated from the Cross of Calvary. It is both a meal and a sacrifice. With both His Death on the Cross and the institution of the Holy Eucharist, Christ cannot give us anything more. Our Lord poured out everything upon His cross. In the Blessed Sacrament, He pours out all His love, mercy and forgiveness. We should celebrate this tremendous gift of salvation and rejoice with praise and profound thanksgiving. In the Eucharist, we receive the living God.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments

The Face on God's Brochure

When a church is raising funds for a new building or a diocese is launching a stewardship appeal, there is usually someone — or several someone's — who serves as the face of the campaign. Maybe it's a married couple, or a family, or a group of folks who have been particularly active in the community and can speak to the worthiness of whatever endeavor is being undertaken.

Oftentimes, for better or worse, we fill that role for God. We are the face on the front of His promotional brochure. If we call ourselves Christians, that means that people will meet Christ through us. That's what being an Everyday Steward is — a steward, everyday; someone who conducts his Master's business when the Master is not seen.

It can be intimidating because we have so much baggage and no capabilities of our own. But then we remember that we are offered reconciliation through Christ — that "the old things have passed away, (and) new things have come" (2 Corinthians 5:17). We remember that we are the prodigal sons, and the fattened calf has been slaughtered on our behalf.

But it's a role that requires commitment. The story of the prodigal son is only compelling and only means something because the son, presumably, embraced his reconciliation to his father. He didn't go on to abandon him again.

So let us think to ourselves each day, "Whoever I encounter will meet Christ's ambassador. I was dead and have come to life again. How can I speak to the worthiness of that reconciliation? How can I make others desire it?"

- Tracy Earl Welliver, MT

WEEKLY READINGS

Readings for the week of March 27, 2022

Sunday:	Jos 5:9a, 10-12/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [9a]/2 Cor 5:17-21/ Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
Monday:	Is 65:17-21/Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a and 13b/Jn 4:43-54
Tuesday:	Ez 47:1-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/Jn 5:1-16
Wednesday:	Is 49:8-15/Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18/Jn 5:17-30
Thursday:	Ex 32:7-14/Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23/Jn 5:31-47
Friday:	Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Ps 34:17-18, 19-20, 21 and 23/
	Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
Saturday:	Jer 11:18-20/Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-10, 11-12/Jn 7:40-53
Next Sunday:	Is 43:16-21/Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 [3]/Phil 3:8-14/Jn 8:1-11

SUNDAY'S READINGS

First Reading:

While the Israelites were encamped at Gilgal on the plains of Jericho, they celebrated the Passover. (Jos 5:10)

Psalm:

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord. (Ps 34)

Second Reading:

And all this is from God, who has reconciled us to himself through Christ and given us the ministry of reconciliation. (2 Cor 5:18)

Gospel:

"But now we must celebrate and rejoice, because your brother was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found." (Lk 15:32)

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INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK Live the Liturgy

Have you ever given thought to the fact that you are an "ambassador for Christ?" An ambassador is an accredited diplomat and official representative. We are asked to be ambassadors for Christ and his message of reconciliation. Within each one of us is a prodigal son who realizes the need to return home, an elder brother who struggles with entitlement and self-pity, and a forgiving father who simply wants to celebrate love. Realizing that all of these things are operative in our hearts, we can bring credibility to God's ministry of reconciliation. Genuine witnesses are those who not only recognize their need for wholeness, mercy, and forgiveness but also their tendency to be over self-focused and stubborn. Then, discovering freedom from all that binds them, they can then extend the love they have received to others. These ambassadors embody unity, mercy, and reconciliation and can look on others with deep compassion because they know what it is to walk in their shoes. Can God count on you to deliver this message? ©LPi

GOSPEL MEDITATION Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

God's love story reveals itself in our stories, experiences, and aspirations. We are all prodigal sons and daughters. There are many times in our lives when we would "sell our souls" in order to pursue our passions. We pursued what we wanted without regard for others or God. We have sowed our oats, thrown ourselves into careless pleasures, spent what we know we ought to have saved, turned our backs on those we love and abused gifts we have been given. We even hit bottom and realized the silliness and self-destruction of it all. We needed to come home. We knew we erred and needed a gentle presence to show us God's unconditional love. This wayward journey home changed us.

As much as we need to be welcomed, we are also the one who needs to do the welcoming and mercy giving. Those we love need our guidance, but they don't always take it. We know that what they are doing is off the mark, self-destructive and wrong. We have to let them go and let it happen, even though they might get hurt. As we wait and hope, they choose to make their way back to us. They don't need us to judge them. They have done enough of that to themselves. We immediately embrace them and are just happy they're home. God uses us to help heal them. Knowing how much we craved understanding and forgiveness ourselves, we can now freely give it away. God uses what he has taught us to teach others.

We are also the entitled ones. At least we "think" we are entitled. After all, we work hard for what we have. We cannot get our heads around the idea that someone can get something that I really deserve! If I do what I'm supposed to do, I ought to be rewarded for that, right? If I do something wrong, I ought to pay the consequences. This is justice, isn't it? This is not God's justice. God is all about love, mercy, compassion, and forgiveness. God's justice is love freely given without merit. We carry the stories of the prodigal son, the unconditional forgiving father, and the entitled angry brother with us. When we make friends with all three, humbly telling those stories to others makes us Christ's ambassadors.

THE BULLETIN BOARD

May the Queen of Peace preserve the world from the madness of war.



Stop & Shop/Simsbury Bloomin' For Good to benefit the

St. Ann Food Pantry Carden!

From February 26th through the month of March, the Church of Saint Ann Food Pantry Garden has been selected to receive a \$1 donation for every \$9.99

Bloomin' 4 Good Bouquet with the red circle sticker (pictured above) sold at the store located at 498 Bushy Hill Road, Simsbury.

POPE FRANCIS

It's That Time of Year Again...



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.

THE WAYWARD JOURNEY



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 2022 Appeal literature! Organizations such as **the Avon Food Pantry** right here in our own town 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.

Beginning Experience of the Connecticut invites men and women of all ages who have suffered the loss of a spouse due to death, divorce, or separation to a Hybrid program:

COPING WITH LIFE ALONE Take the first step on the road to recovery from one of life's most traumatic experiences.



Program begins Saturday, April 2, 2022 In Person and Remote Attendance

REGISTRATION REQUIRED: Victoria 860 993 5469

Email: Info@beginningexperiencect.org Website: www.beginningexperiencect.org



