

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

DEACONS Jeffrey Sutherland and Tim Healy

CHURCH OF SAINT ANN TRUSTEES Kelly McCabe and Kathy Randall Gill

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

BOOKKEEPER/FAITH FORMATION REGISTRAR 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

CEMETERY SUPERINTENDENT Mike Gould: ext.225

BAPTISM and MARRIAGES:

Please call the Parish Office: 860-673-9858, ext. 221 Please schedule marriage dates at least 6 months ahead. 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 www.stannavon.org 860-673-9858

Reverend Alphonso Fontana, Pastor



OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

"Amen, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise." - Lk 23:43

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPi

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

November 20, 2022



Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe



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, November 21

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: 9:30-10:30am in the church RCIA: 11am in Room 3

MMP Cenacle-Rosary Prayer Group: 7:15pm in the church (all welcome) **Lectio Divina:** 7:15pm in Room 3 and via Zoom

TUESDAY, November 22

WWP Touching the Divine: 10:15am via Zoom Step by Step: 6:00pm in Fr. Bennett Hall

WEDNESDAY, November 23

RCIA: 1pm in Room 3 WWP Touching the Divine: 7pm in Fr. Bennett Hall

THURSDAY, November 24

THANKSGIVING

FRIDAY, November 25

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<u>SATURDAY, November 26</u> Men's Breakfast Group: 8:00 am in Room 3

SUNDAY, November 27 Advent Reflection Series: 10:30am Room 3 and via Zoom

INTERNATIONAL FAIR TRADE BAZAAR

Saturday, November 1910 AM to 5:30 PMSunday, November 209AM to 12:30 PM

FR. Bennett Hall Church of St. Ann 289 Arch Road, Avon

Shop fair trade products including coffee, chocolates, clothing, pottery, baskets, Christmas decorations, ornaments, and more!

Hosted by St. Ann's Social Outreach Committee



MONDAY, November 21 9:00 Charles Deye, requested by his family

TUESDAY, November 22 9:00 James Hamel, requested by Pauline Hamel

WEDNESDAY, November 23 9:00 Special Intentions

THURSDAY, November 24 9:00 Special Intentions

FRIDAY, November 25

9:00 Alphonso Fontana, Sr., requested by the Parish of Saint Ann

SATURDAY, November 26

4:00 Michael Joseph Oleskewicz, requested by the Oleskewicz Family

SUNDAY, November 27

- **7:30** Silvio Brighenti (12th Ann.), requested by the family
- 9:30 Nancy Boyd-Martin, requested by the Mascoli Family
- **11:00** Mary E. Robinson, requested by Tom and Marilyn Lenihan

Thanksgiving Food Drive This Weekend!

Turkeys. Fixings and Gift Cards (Stop & Shop/Big Y) Drop donations off at the Turkey Express truck in the St. Ann parking lot before and after Masses this weekend!



Knights of Columbus Thanksgiving Pie Sale



PICK UP PIE ORDERS THIS WEEKEND: November 19/20



A huge thank you to the loyal and also the new volunteers who worked so hard to make the recent Scholarship Clothing Sale so successful. Grateful thanks, also, to the shoppers who turned out to support the sale. We couldn't have done it without you!



Parish Socia

Sunday. December 11th after the 9:30am 8 11:00am Masses Refreshments * Carol Singing * Xids' Activities Sponsored by our Little Lambs Ministry

Advent Reflection Series

Join us for our free Advent Reflection series, "*Refreshing Our Christmas Traditions*," featuring videos and discussion. (It's a busy time, so skip a session if you need to - videos available via FORMED.org) Change your mindset and find the Advent blessings of peace, joy, hope, and love in ALL your activities this year!

- Sundays (Nov 27, Dec 4, Dec 11, Dec 18): 10:30am in Room 3 and via Zoom with Chip
- Mondays (Nov 28, Dec 5, Dec 12, Dec 19): 7:15pm in Room and via Zoom with Silvina
- Wednesdays (Nov 16, Nov 80, Dec 7, Dec 14): 9:30am in Fr. Bennett Hall with Andrea
- Fridays (Nov 18, Dec 2, Dec 9, Dec 16): 9:45am via Zoom with Ann

Register with Ann: 860-673-9858, x 228 or ann.distefano@stannavon.com



Are Your Children/Grandchildren away from the Church? Check this out on FORMED.org!

"If you're looking for support to deal with your children or grandchildren who are disengaged from the Church, I recommend the feature film "Restless Heart" on FORMED.org. It tells the amazing story of St. Monica and her wayward son, who became St. Augustine. It doesn't matter the century; we can have the same issues and she gives me strength, wisdom and hope." Submitted by St. Ann FORMED.org watcher, LW See our other FORMED.org favorites at <u>https://www.stannavon.org/our-recommendations</u>

To submit your recommendations, contact <u>ann.distefano@stannavon.com</u>

https://watch.formed.org/videos/restless-heart

WEEKLY ORDINARY INCOME

Weekly Collection for 11/13/22: \$4,320.41 Online Giving (Nov. 9-14, 2022): \$2,361.00 Next Weekend's 2nd Collection: *none*



Advent Evening with Noel Terranova of Holy Family Retreat Center:

"Unpacking the figures of the Nativity"

You'll never look at a manger scene the same way again!

TUESDAY, DEC 6TH, 7-8:30PM, FR. BENNETT HALL

Refreshments & mingling, presentation, service activity RSVP by Dec 1: ann.distefano@stannavon.com, 860-673-9858, x228





Thanksgiving Prayer

This Thanksgiving, let us remember all the good things, and people, who have come into our lives. We focus on thanking each one who has helped us, and ultimately thank God for the good gifts of this world.

Let us pray ...

God our Father, Graciously accept from your humble people a thankful heart and spirit. Everything we have and are able to share with others ultimately comes from your love of your creations. Often we think that everything we have is our own creation; we ask you this day to create in us a spirit of gratitude, that we may always know that all good gifts come from you.

> We ask this through Christ our brother, in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

> > -LPi



This week's theme: Christ, Our Eucharistic King of the Universe Today we celebrate the Feast of Christ the King of the Universe. It is good to recall that we "...were not redeemed with corruptible things, but with the precious blood of Christ." (1 PT 1:18-19). He is the Beginning and the End of all that is created. Everything has been created through Him, for Him and in Him. All majesty, all thanksgiving and all glory are His.

<u>Reflection</u>: We know that Our Blessed Mother promised the three children of Fatima that "In the end, my Immaculate Heart will triumph." What will be the Triumph of Our Lady's Immaculate Heart? It will be the Reign of Jesus' Sacred Eucharistic Heart. For thus all nations will adore His Divine Presence in the Holy Eucharist. Peace and harmony will then flourish, and mankind will truly become united in the Kingdom of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Fr. Fontana will be celebrating the live TV Mass on Tuesday, Nov. 29th at 10:00am. The television Mass is broadcast on Comcast - WCCT-TV & My TV 1059.

Annual Parish Collection Church of Saint Ann

We are very grateful for the generosity shown by so many to our Parish Annual Collection. If you have not yet had an opportunity to return your gift card, please do so as soon as possible. Every gift is welcome and sincerely appreciated. Please complete your gift card and return it to the parish office today or go online at www.stannavon.org to support this critical mission. Pledge forms can also be obtained in the Parish Office. Thank you!

NOVEMBER 20, 2022 - OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments

Is Christ King in Our Hearts?

When you think of a king, who is the first person to pops into your head? It may depend on how much history you know, or which historical period intrigues you the most. As Americans, the first person we might think of is King George III, whose reign has become synonymous in our national lore with the concept of tyranny.

We don't have much familiarity with kingship in modern American society. Kings tend to make us uneasy. Presidents, on the other hand — we can handle those, because we know we are a president's boss. No matter how much power he has, we are the electorate. We are the source of that power. We're comfortable with this arrangement.

But with kings it is profoundly different. Traditionally, the king derives his power from God. His rule bridges humanity with the divine.

We should reflect carefully on whether or not we have made Jesus Christ king in our hearts, or whether we regard him as a president. The difference isn't just one of titles, it's one of roles. Subjects do not demand anything of a king. They beseech. They entreat. They submit, and they accept.

Do we demand of Christ, or do we beseech? Do we tolerate God's edicts with grumbling, or do we embrace His word as the means of our reconciliation with Him?

The "good thief" treated Christ as a king. His counterpart treated him as a president. And it's worth remembering that Jesus Christ is not the President of the Universe - *Tracy Earl Welliver, MT*

WEEKLY READINGS

Readings for the week of November 20, 2022

Sunday:	2 Sm 5:1-3/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5/Col 1:12-20/Lk 23:35-43
Monday:	Rv 14:1-3, 4b-5/Ps 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 21:1-4
Tuesday:	Rv 14:14-19/Ps 96:10, 11-12, 13/Lk 21:5-11
Wednesday:	Rv 15:1-4/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 7-8, 9/Lk 21:12-19
Thursday:	Rv 18:1-2, 21-23; 19:1-3, 9a/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Lk 21:20-28
Friday:	Rv 20:1-4, 11—21:2/Ps 84:3, 4, 5-6a and 8a/Lk 21:29-33
Saturday:	Rv 22:1-7/Ps 95:1-2, 3-5, 6-7ab/Lk 21:34-36
Next Sunday:	Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Rom 13:11-14/Mt 24:37-44

SUNDAY'S READINGS

First Reading:

When all the elders of Israel came to David in Hebron, King David made an agreement with them there before the LORD, and they anointed him king of Israel. (2 Sm 5:3)

Psalm:

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord. (Ps 122)

Second Reading:

He delivered us from the power of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. (Col 1:13-14)

Gospel:

Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." He replied to him, "Amen, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise." (Lk 23:42-43)

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INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK Live the Liturgy

Our king hangs on a cross. Onlookers saw this as the final defeat of a fool who many saw as an insurrectionist. They laughed at him and challenged his kingship by looking for proof: Save yourself! Historically, earthly kings are influential figures wielding significant power over the guality of their subjects' lives. Where is Jesus' power? Slowly fading away, he's a failure in many eyes. Brokenness and vulnerability are often seen as failures. Something went wrong and exposed us, revealing our fragile and sometimes incorrect selves to others. Yet, what appears at first to be shameful is really a golden key to life. It is only when vulnerable that we learn how to love genuinely. Marking what seems the end of a failed mission, Jesus Christ our King hangs before us as the vulnerable, wounded key to God's infinite love and life. The kingdoms of this world pass away. Jesus hangs as our king of a world that never ends. When we are vulnerable and broken in death, we fall into the fullness of Christ and are made one with him. This is more than any earthly king can promise and is the salvation we seek. **CLPi**

GOSPEL MEDITATION Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

It's not unreasonable to think that if God wanted to make a statement he could do so in a very dramatic way. After all, he spoke through a burning bush that didn't actually burn, parted the Red Sea, sent manna to the Israelites from the sky, cured lepers, healed the sick and cast out demons. All of that is pretty dramatic stuff, and they made statements! Now, Jesus hangs dying on a cross. He has been referred to as a king. Considering all of the miracles Jesus did in his short time on earth, isn't one more in order? If Jesus came down off of the cross, defied death, and parted the waters of suffering and death, onlookers, believers and unbelievers alike, would take notice. It would prove who God is and show us what God wants us to do. Or would it?

Great spiritual masters remind us not to focus on miracles or consolations received from God. They can distract us. Doing anything other than what Jesus did would distract humanity as well, misplacing our focus. It's not about a miracle, at least not the dramatic kind people are eager to see. It's about something more profound. It all goes back to where it began for the earthly Jesus. God becomes one with humanity in Jesus Christ. All that goes into being human is holy and blessed, and that becomes a place where God is born, again and again. God, through Jesus, tells us to hold firm to all of the experiences of being human, the joys and the wonders, the disappointments and the failures.

God's lesson is found in Jesus' vulnerability. It is only when we are vulnerable that we learn how to love. When Jesus breathed his last, God's unconditional and tender love was realized. Jesus always had a soft spot for the weak, lost, vulnerable, and broken. God wants us to come to Him freely, not because we have witnessed some fantastic display of prowess. God desires that we find Him through who we are, as our hearts and souls direct. This will mean that our love is authentic as it will be born of the heartache, pain, and turmoil that are a part of life. The fragments of our lives need to be made whole. Our fragmented king, Jesus Christ, is the only one who can help put the pieces together.

THE BULLETIN BOARD

Pre-Order Fr. Cheah's New Book with 30% Discount!

Good News! Orbis Books has announced that Fr. Cheah's book will be released on December 7th Pre-orders for Anti-Asian Racism can be placed with Orbis Books by calling with credit card: toll free 1-800-258-5838 on Mon.- Fri from 8am - 4pm . Make sure you mention the promotion code "MAD" to get the 30% discount.

offer only good in November

(Notice that to get the discount, it has to be ordered through Orbis Books, not Amazon.) "Pay attention and come to me......" (Is 55:3 NABRE)

Each day we let either the world or God's Word shape our life. Who is influencing your life?

Whose voice are you allowing to shape who you are?

The New England Catholic Biblical School offers accredited two year and four year certificates in Biblical Studies for adult learners and is now enrolling virtual and in-person classes for the 2023-24 academic year. Find out more at www.CatholicEdAOHCT.org, or contact us: catholic.biblical.school@aohct.org



Maximize Your Year-End Gifts to the Church of St. Ann

Fall is traditionally when we think about making gifts to support our favorite charities, like the Church of Saint Ann. There are many options for tax-effective giving both for those who can continue to itemize their deductions and for those who will no longer itemize.

Making your gift from your IRA

If you are 70.5 or older, you can make qualified charitable distributions (QCD's) directly from individual retirement accounts (IRS's) using funds that might otherwise be taxed when withdrawn. Gifts can be made in any amount up to a total of \$100,000 per individual per year. The benefits of a QCD are reduced for those who continue to make deductible IRA contributions.

Because you are giving directly from your IRA, you won't increase your adjusted gross income and possibly subject your social security or other income to higher levels of taxation. These tax-free gifts are particularly wise for those who no longer itemize deductions for income tax purposes. Consult your financial or tax advisor for more information.

> Thank you, Jesus, for the many blessings you give us. we close our Food Pantry Garden for the season, we think of those who continue to need our help.

Show us how we can be a blessing to them, and to all who need love and care, for Your glory. AMEN



A Service of Gratitude and Thanksgiving

with local faith leaders of many traditions

Tuesday, November 22nd



6 PM - Delicious Soups & Breads 7 PM – Interfaith Service with Area Congregations

All are invited!

Avon Congregational Church, 6 West Main Street, Avon, CT



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