

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

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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



7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"When someone strikes you on your right cheek, turn the other one as well." Mt 5:39

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

9:00

9:00

9:00

7:00

9:00

9:00

4:00

7:30

12:10

February 19, 2023



the Mitchell Family

her husband, Michael

Special Intentions

Special Intentions

the ZuWallack Family

Dorothy La Rosa, requested by

WEDNESDAY, February 22, Ash Wednesday

MONDAY, February 20

TUESDAY, February 21

THURSDAY, February 23

SATURDAY, February 25

FRIDAY, February 24





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 20

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) Divine Design: returns next week, 2/27

Lectio Divina, Live! 7:15pm in Room 3 and via Zoom

TUESDAY, February 21

WWP Touching the Divine: 10:15am via Zoom TV Mass with Fr. Al: 10am on Comcast - WCCT-TV & My TV 1059.

WEDNESDAY, February 22

James Bible Study: 9:30am in Fr. Bennett Hall RCIA: 1pm in Room 3 WWP Touching the Divine: 7pm in Fr. Bennett Hall

THURSDAY, February 23

Step by Step: 9:30am in Room 3 Holy Hour: 12 noon in the church Acts Bible Study: 6:30pm in Room 3 and via Zoom Adult Confirmation: 7:15pm in Room 1

FRIDAY, February 24

Kingdom of Happiness: 9:45am via Zoom Pasta Dinner: 5:30pm in Fr. Bennett Hall Stations of the Cross: 7pm in the church

SATURDAY, February 25

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

SUNDAY, February 26 Kingdom of Happiness: 10:30am in Room 3 and via Zoom

Confessions to Be Heard on Monday Evenings During Lent

If you have gotten caught up in the busyness of life and have fallen away from the Sacrament of Reconciliation, you can change that. This Lenten season, we continue the Archdiocesan-wide effort to inspire Catholics to experience God's love and mercy offered in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

The Church of Saint Ann will be open on Mondays during Lent from at 6:00pm for confessions.



9:00 am Mass with distribution of ashes

12:10 pm Mass with distribution of ashes

7:00 pm Mass with distribution of ashes

Fridays During Lent: 7:00 pm

SUNDAY, February 26 Maria Consuegra, requested by The Legion of Mary, St. Joseph Church, Winsted, CT

Patricia C. Mitchell (2nd Ann.), requested by

For the intentions of Binoy Joseph (LIVING)

Douglas Tartaglia, requested by Lynn Bruno

Raymond Zalenski, requested by

9:30 Thomas Rietano, requested by the Downey Family

Manda Koch, requested by

Russell and Diane Koch

11:00 Rogue Pedro Miranda, requested by Maria Zone



Stations of the Cross

Searching for happiness for yourself, within your family, at work? Come discover Jesus' plan for real, lasting joy & satisfaction.

KINGDOM HAPPINESS

Lent Reflection Series

In this 8-part program, you'll learn how the Beatitudes are much more than nice sayings; they are the path to true joy charted by Christ himself. You'll also identify the false promises of happiness that leave us feeling empty.

Featuring insightful teachings by Fr. Jeffrey Kirby and inspiring videoprofiles of everyday heroes living happy, satisfying lives.

Meeting Feb 24 - April 28

- Sunday Mornings, 10:30am-12pm in Room 3 and via Zoom
- Wednesday Evenings, 7:00-8:30pm in Room 3
- Friday Mornings, 9:45-11:15am via Zoom

Materials fee: \$23 (checks payable to Church of St. Ann, please) RSVP by Feb 19: ann.distefano@stannavon.com, 860-673-9858

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.

Lenten Fast & Abstinence

- Ash Wednesday is a day of fast and abstinence: likewise Good Friday.
- Fasting means limiting oneself to one full meal. Two light meals are allowed, but no solid food should be taken between meals.
- Fasting binds those between the ages of 18 and 59; those who have reached the age of 14 are bound by abstinence.
- All Fridays in Lent are days of abstinence; that is, days on which no meat is to be eaten.

2023 **CORPORAL** WORKS OF MERC

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!



FEBRUARY 25/26

Feed the Hungry Give Drink to the Thirsty

Friday, February 24, 2023

5:30 - 7:00pm

Fr. Bennett Hall

GLUTEN FREE PASTA WILL BE AVAILABLE

Feed the Hungry and Give Drink to the Thirsty food collection for the Avon Food Pantry and the Catholic Worker food pantry. Bags are provided at the church entrances with suggested grocery items.

St. Maria Faustina - Prayer to be Merciful

Help me, O Lord, that my eyes may be merciful, so that I may never suspect or judge from appearances, but look for what is beautiful in my neighbors souls.

Help me, O Lord, that my ears may be merciful, so that I may give heed to my neighbors needs. Help me, O Lord, that my tongue may be merciful so that I should never speak negatively of my neighbor, but have a word of comfort and forgiveness for all.

Help me, O Lord, that my hands may be merciful and filled with good deeds, so that I may do only good to my neighbors

Help me, O Lord, that my feet may be merciful, so that I may hurry to assist my neighbor. Help me, O Lord, that my heart may be merciful so that I myself may feel all the sufferings of my

neighbor. I will refuse my heart to no one. I will be sincere even with those who will abuse my kindness. And I will lock myself up in the most merciful Heart of Jesus. I will bear my own suffering in silence.

May your mercy O Lord rest upon me. Amen.



We will be offering both Marinara Sauce & Clam Sauce Gather some friends & bring the family for a fun night out! Adults: \$7 Kids under 18: \$3 Family Max: \$20

WEEKLY ORDINARY INCOME

Weekly Collection for 2/12/23: \$4,389.24 Online Giving (Feb.8-15, 2023): \$2,885.50 Next Weekend's 2nd Collection: *Monthly*



Join us to find out!

Registration Begins Now

When: Tuesday's from March 28 - May 30thTime:7:00 - 8:30 pmWhere:St. Ann Church Room 3Cost:\$20 (includes workbook)

For more information contact: andreapizzuti333@gmail.com

For online sign up:

www.osvhub.com/stannavon/forms/faith-refresher-2023



The Holy Eucharist DID YOU KNOW?

This week's theme:

Be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Today's Mass readings exhort us to "Be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect". The perfection that is referred to here is that we love our neighbor with the very love of God. In order to achieve this, we need the virtue of humility. We are unable to achieve perfection without understanding that it is God's grace which accomplishes all virtues within us. By ourselves, we are unable to achieve anything.

<u>Reflection:</u> St. Faustina, the saint of Divine Mercy, displayed her humility in these words, "Whatever good is within me is due to the Holy Eucharist." She recognized that it was Christ in the Blessed Sacrament who supplied every grace necessary for her to achieve any goodness in her life.

thank you

Once again, the parish of St Ann came through with volunteers and shoppers to make our Used Book Sale a huge success. Thank you so much for your continued support of the St. Ann Scholarship Fund.

The following are some responses from students who are being helped:

"St. Ann Parish has continually helped me receive a great education here at East Catholic and has helped me grow towards the student and person I want to become."

"I guarantee to show how much this opportunity means to me through my school work, grades, and representing East Catholic High School."

St. Ann parishioners makes a difference in so many lives!! -*the St. Ann Scholarship Committee*



ADULTS: were you baptized and received First Communion, but were never Confirmed?

We have a program just for you!

St. Ann Spring 2023 Adult Confirmation Prep Program

- + Dates: Thursdays, 7:15pm, beginning Feb, 16, 2023
 - 9 sessions, skipping Apr 6 (Holy Thurs)
- + Fee: \$30
- + To Register: https://www.osvhub.com/stannavon/forms/adult-confirmation-spring-2023
- Questions: ann.distefano@stannavon.com; 860-673-9858, x228

The Confirmation ceremony will take place Tues, May 9, 7pm at the Cathedral of St. Joseph, Hartford

FEBRUARY 19TH, 2023 - 7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

(Practicing) Catholic, Recognize Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments, by Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

The Hardness of Holiness

Want to know the words I find hardest to say? "Lord, give me the strength."

The world tells us to push ourselves outside of our comfort zone if we're training for a marathon or applying for a job — but if we're talking about God, everything is supposed to be easy. If it comes "naturally" or without struggle it's supposed to be right.

Only God is perfect, the world tells us. What's the use of trying so hard?

I'm really good at finding excuses for myself, especially when it comes to holiness. Holiness, often (not always, but often), is about choosing the hard, but right, thing. The invitation to holiness is whispered in the hardest moments of my day when I am the most hopelessly human. After the kids' bedtime, when I really just want to watch *Dateline* and eat too much ice cream instead of saying the Rosary. When I've committed to helping someone, but it suddenly becomes incredibly inconvenient. When I see a social media post that's just begging for a snarky reply. When the conversation becomes gossip and I'm dying to make myself feel superior to someone.

The reason it's so difficult for me to mutter these five simple words is because I know that if I say them and I mean them, they form a prayer that God will always answer in the affirmative. He will give me the strength I ask for, and then I will have no excuse.

It's not unlike my kids claiming they're too tired to clean up the playroom. If they would just ask me for help, it would all be so doable. But where would that leave them?

With a job to do, that's where.

"Be holy, for I, the LORD, your God, am holy." — Leviticus 19:2



INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK Live the Liturgy

Want to be a real revolutionary? Defy the fallen impulses of human nature. Love your enemy. Pray for your persecutor. Give to those who would take. We can do hard things, Christians. We aren't perfect, but our God is. ©LPi

WEEKLY READINGS

Readings for the week of February 19, 2023

Sunday:	Lv 19:1-2, 17-18/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8, 10, 12-13 (8a)/
	1 Cor 3:16-23/Mt 5:38-48
Monday:	Sir 1:1-10/Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5/Mk 9:14-29
Tuesday:	Sir 2:1-11/Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40/Mk 9:30-37
Wednesday:	JI 2:12-18/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and 17/2 Cor 5:20-6:2/
	Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
Thursday:	Dt 30:15-20/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 9:22-25
Friday:	Is 58:1-9a/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19/Mt 9:14-15
Saturday:	ls 58:9b-14/Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 5:27-32
Next Sunday:	Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17 (see 3a)/Rom 5:12-19
	or 5:12, 17-19/Mt 4:1-11
Wednesday: Thursday: Friday: Saturday:	JI 2:12-18/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and 17/2 Cor 5:20—6:2 Mt 6:1-6, 16-18 Dt 30:15-20/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 9:22-25 Is 58:1-9a/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19/Mt 9:14-15 Is 58:9b-14/Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 5:27-32 Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17 (see 3a)/Rom 5:12-1

SUNDAY'S READINGS

First Reading:

"Take no revenge and cherish no grudge against any of your people. You shall love your neighbor as yourself. I am the LORD." (Lv 19:18)

Psalm:

The Lord is kind and merciful. (Ps 103)

Second Reading:

All belong to you, and you to Christ, and Christ to God. (1 Cor 3:22-23)

Gospel:

"You have heard that it was said, You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy. But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you." (Mt 5:43-44)

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.

GOSPEL MEDITATION Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Of all the things Jesus says which seem totally bat-crazy, this one might take the cake: "But I say to you, love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you." An enemy is someone who desires the destruction of you, your projects, or those you care about. To love and pray for them is to want their health, strength, and flourishing. But if they thrive, they are more likely to hurt you and others. So, aren't you indirectly willing your own destruction, or that of your friends? If you doubt that this problem is embedded in this teaching, when was the last time you actually prayed honestly for the people you really hate?

How can we solve this riddle so we might actually live this command? Recall that enemy-love is the surest sign that you love someone with God's love, and not with indirect egotism. After all, if my love for my enemy ends up hurting me or my loved ones, it can't be for me. Enemy-love costs more because there are no tit-for-tats. No reciprocity — just loved poured out, and often pain in return. That's why it is so precious and rare. "What is unusual about that?" asks the Lord about love for our friends. Jesus wants us to experience the unusual love which only comes from him.

When Jesus was being killed on the cross, he was loving his executioners. In fact, he was holding them in being as they nailed him to the cross. He loved those who were spiritually piercing his Mother's heart, *while they were doing it.* And when he rose from the dead, he showed us that this kind of love is always worth it. It's stronger than death. Real love is unusual.

- Father John Muir

THE BULLETIN BOARD



Please be aware that we have seen another <u>increase in scam emails, calls &/or texts that claim</u> to be from our clergy, church staff members, fellow parishioners or volunteers. These messages usually ask you to get back to them quickly...that they're busy and need a favor. If you accidentally get back to them they will usually asks for gift cards be purchased for something like a relative's birthday or a sick parishioner. These are fake e-mails in an attempt to scam people out of money. <u>Do not respond to these emails</u>.

Our parish does not make unsolicited calls or e-mails to request money, the purchase of gifts, or your personal information. If you are unsure of any correspondence that appears to be from our parish, please call the Parish Office at: 860-673-9858 to verify. Thank you for your vigilance and cooperation.



Anti-Asian Racism: Myths, Stereotypes, and Catholic Social Teaching

Wednesday, March 1, 2023 at 7:00 PM via Zoom





Join us for A Conversation with the author: Rev. Joseph Cheah, OSM

Registration is free but required To Register go to catholicsocialjustice.org

If you wish to purchase the book contact Orbis Books, 1–800–258–5838 and mention the promotion code "MAD"

Calling all Pet Lovers!

Aid a Pet, CT's only pet food pantry which operates out of Holy Trinity Church in Hartford, is seeking monetary and pet food donations. The pet food pantry distributes pet food to low-income Hartford residents on the 3rd Saturday of each month from 10-1 p.m. It also helps low-income Hartford residents with basic veterinary care. AID a Pet is a not-for-profit 501(c) (3) organization. **Monetary donations can be mailed to:** Aid a Pet, P.O. Box 503, South Glastonbury CT 06073 **Pet food donations can be shipped to:** Aid a Pet C/O Thomas Dente, 77 Bielefield Rd., Middletown CT 06457

Aid a Pet also has many volunteer opportunities - a wonderful way for high school students to fulfill community service hours. For further info please check out the Aid a Pet Facebook page or call/text (860) 834-2034.



St. Ann Cemetery News:

Please be aware that we've had reports of items disappearing from our cemetery. You may wish to refrain from leaving anything valuable, or even planting anything. If you see anything suspicious, please don't approach, but contact Mike Gould, Cemetery Superintendent, with any information:860-673-9858, ext. 225.

> The Foundation for the Advancement of Catholic Schools invites you to the 23rd ANNUAL ST. PATRICK'S DAY BREAKFAST

Please join us!

Friday, March 17, 2023, 7:30 a.m. Breakfast Hartford Marriott Downtown Net Proceeds benefit FACS which provides scholarships to students attending Catholic schools. Call 860.325.5096 or visit FACSHartford.org/st-patrick/ for sponsorship and tickets

Emcee, Irene O'Connor WFSB Reporter & Anchor

Guest Speaker Staff SGT (Ret.) Johnny Joey Jones







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