

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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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



# **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

March 12, 2023



Third 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 13

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: 9:30-10:30am in the church RCIA: 11am in Room 3 Lenten Confessions: 6pm in the church MMP Cenacle-Rosary Prayer Group: 7:15pm in the church (all welcome) Lectio Divina, Live! 7:15pm in Room 3 and via Zoom

### TUESDAY, March 14

WWP Touching the Divine: 10:15am via Zoom Social Outreach Committee Meeting: 7pm in Room 2

### WEDNESDAY, March 15

James Bible Study: 9:30am in Room 3 RCIA: 1pm in Room 3 WWP Touching the Divine: 7pm in Fr. Bennett Hall Knights of Columbus: 7pm in Room 2

### THURSDAY, March 16

Step by Step: 9:30am in Fr. Bennett Hall 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, March 17

Kingdom of Happiness: 9:45am via Zoom Stations of the Cross: 7pm in the church

SATURDAY, March 18

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

## SUNDAY, March 19

**Kingdom of Happiness:** 10:30am in Room 3 and via Zoom **Divine Mercy Holy Hour:** 2:30pm in the church

# 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.

# Weekends of March 18/19 and 25/26, 2023 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.)



MONDAY, March 13 9:00 Grace Meyers, requested by the family

TUESDAY, March 14 9:00 Special Intentions

#### WEDNESDAY, March 15

9:00 Jakub James Tangen, requested by John and Maria Manning

#### THURSDAY, March 16

9:00 For the deceased members of the Liptack Family, requested by the Bondhus family

FRIDAY, March 17

9:00 Special Intentions

#### SATURDAY, March 18

4:00 Dan Scapellati (2nd Ann.), requested by his family

### SUNDAY, March 19

- 7:30 Dorothy LaRosa, requested by her husband, Michael
- **9:30 Donald Sopelak,** requested by the coworkers of Stephen Sopelak
- **11:00** Joseph and Jeremy Savidge and Mike Gilotti, requested by the Savidge Family

# Stations of the Cross



Fridays during Lent: 7:00 pm



Mondays during Lent: 6:00pm

# Divine Mercy Holy Hour

Sunday, March 19, 2023 2:30 - 3:30pm in the church





# ST. ANN'S EASTER EGG HUNT Saturday, March 25th 2:45 - 3:45pm

Hosted by our Family Ministry Team & the Easter Bunny!

This Easter Egg Hunt is for children in Pre-K through 4th Grade. Please provide your own basket. Includes an Easter craft and a simple snack.

Join us for a Family Mass at 4pm



# **RSVP**:

link to SignUpGenius on our website at: www.stannavon.org/easter-egg-hunt







Rev. Joseph Cheah, OSM, Ph.D, M.A. & M-Div.

FREE books to the first 10 registrants! To purchase book call 1-800, 258-5838, use promo code "MAD". Light refreshments served. Registration free but required. To register email: AnnDiStefano@stannavon.com **RSVP by March 20** -----



March 29th:	Session 1: The Prayer of the Agony
	Session 2: "Are you the Christ?"
April 5th:	Session 3: The Trial Before Pilate
	Session 4: The Death of the Messiah
April 12th:	Session 5: The Seven Last Words
	Session 6: The Resurrection
Each date features two 30-minute videos followed by discussion.	

DROP IN - ALL ARE WELCOME! no registration required \* no homework

Questions: Ann.DiStefano@stannavon.com Video Trailer: https://youtu.be/3kQlQ1\_Z6Qk

# 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 11/12

# Shelter the Homeless

Collection of supplies for ImmaCare and YWCA shelters in Hartford

# NEXT WEEKEND: MARCH 18/19

Clothe the Naked

Collection of clothing for Hartford Catholic Worker Youth Outreach

Deoderant Socks (child & adult sizes)

Underwear (girls, all sizes) Underwear (boxers, all sizes boys/men)

T-shirts (children ages 5-18 & adults)

Childrens' pajamas and sweat pants (sizes 8-adult)

# **Connecticut March For** Life: March 22<sup>nd</sup>



Life is a Gift, God's precious Gift

12 noon: Rally at the Capitol 1pm: March for Life around Bushnell Park

A bus will leave St. Ann's parking lot around 10:15am and return to St. Ann around 3pmNo cost for the bus (40 seats available) Let's fill the bus and together stand for life!

Please help us turn Connecticut into a state that protects the unborn and rejects euthanasia and physician-assisted suicide for our sick and dying. We need everyone's help to make Connecticut a state that shows respect and compassion for life. Please sign up on the poster in the Gathering Space. More details can be found on the poster. Thank you.

## Third Sunday of Lent

# WEEKLY ORDINARY INCOME

Weekly Collection for 3/5/23: \$6,122.02 Online Giving (March 1-8, 2023): \$3,453.50 Next Weekend's 2nd Collection: *none* 



https://www.stannavon.org/bible-camp



**The Holy Eucharist** *DID YOU KNOW*?

#### This week's theme: Thirst

The focus in today's gospel is on the Samaritan woman at the well. (John 4: 5-42) We find Jesus asking the Samaritan woman to give Him a drink of water. As the story progresses Jesus has the occasion to say to her, "If you knew the gift of God and who is saying this to you, ...you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water. Whoever drinks the water that I shall give will never thirst; the water I shall give will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

<u>Reflection:</u> This "living water" is a share in the Divine Life of the Blessed Trinity i.e., Grace. We are never more fully alive than when we are in the state of grace and sharing in the eternal life of the Trinity. When we receive Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, He quenches our thirst by filling us with sanctifying grace. If we are not in the state of grace because of mortal (serious) sin, we should not receive Holy Communion until we have received the sacrament of Penance (confession). Lent is the perfect time to return to this sacrament of peace and reconciliation. If you've been away from the Church, consider a return. Peace and grace will flood your soul with joy.



# THE ST. JOSEPH MEDAL OF APPRECIATION 2023

The St. Joseph Medal of Appreciation is a means of recognizing the dedicated laity of our parishes in the Archdiocese of Hartford. The nominees of the medal can be one individual or one married couple (in a valid Church marriage) selected among the laity. The person/couple must be in full communion with the church and have given exceptional service and devotion to the parish over a period years.

I am so excited to announce that the 2023 St. Joseph Medal of Appreciation is being awarded to Gary and Judy Balich! Gary and Judy have been members of St. Ann's for 40 years. They are both Eucharistic Ministers, members of the Social Outreach Committee and volunteers for the Avon Food Pantry. Gary is Grand Knight for the St. Ann Council of the Knights of Columbus where he has organized countless fundraisers for the parish and the greater community. Gary was the St. Ann Delegate on the Archdiocese of Hartford Synod. Both Gary and Judy have taught in our Religious Education Program. Judy and Gary are devoted Catholics and they share they are wherever I need them.

I am truly grateful to Gary and Judy and I am honored to award them

with this prestigious medal. Gary and Judy will receive the St. Joseph Medal of Appreciation from Archbishop Leonard Blair on Sunday, March 19, 2023 at 3:00pm at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Hartford.



Sincerely yours in Christ, Father Al Fontana, Pastor



# 2023 Archbishop's Annual Appeal

The 2023 Archbishop's Annual Appeal is now underway in our parish. Your support of this year's Appeal ensures that essential charitable, educational, and pastoral ministries of the Archdiocese of Hartford are carried forward.

- Since 1997, Archbishop's Annual Appeal Vicariate Outreach Program has been able to provide nearly \$20 million in funding to communitybased local charities throughout Hartford, New Haven and Litchfield Counties to assist them in their important work of serving the needs of God's people. In 2022, we were able to provide nearly \$900,000 to various organizations, nominated by pastors, across the Archdiocese.
- Organizations such as ARC of the Farmington Valley, CT Foodshare & local food pantries have received funding from the Appeal's Vicariate Outreach Program that makes a difference in serving our neighbors.

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.



# 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.

# MARCH 12TH, 2023 - THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

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

#### The Messiah Before You

If you would have asked me on the morning of my confirmation what the chances were of the Holy Spirit getting into my heart, I would have told you they were about the same as getting water from a stone.

My faith was fragile at this time in my life, primarily because I viewed it as exactly that — my faith. Something within my possession and subject to my own power. And I hadn't done the things I thought I needed to do in order to be the kind of Christian who knows the truth and lives it. I was waiting to be made stronger. I was waiting to be made more faithful. I was waiting for a transformation.

Little did I know, I was like the woman at the well, standing around talking about the coming of the Messiah, unaware that he was standing right in front of me. She wasn't ready; she was still living in her sin. She was caught so unawares that she left her water jar at the well, rushing out to tell what she had seen.

When I was anointed with the oil it no longer mattered that I wasn't strong enough to break open the stone that I was convinced encased my heart — God's grace gushed forth through the cracks. While I certainly didn't become a perfect Christian — and never will, in this life — I did learn that when God tells you to strike, it's probably best not to second-guess Him.

"We boast in the glory of God... and hope does not disappoint." Romans 5:2-5



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

As Christians, we are called to follow the example of the Samaritan woman — to rush out, and proclaim what we have seen, that by our testimony and our belief, others may know Christ. ©LPi

#### WEEKLY READINGS

#### Readings for the week of March 12, 2023

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Sunday:	Ex 17:3-7/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 (8)/Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/Jn 4:5-42 or
	4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42
Monday:	2 Kgs 5:1-15ab/Ps 42:2, 3; 43:3, 4/Lk 4:24-30
Tuesday:	Dn 3:25, 34-43/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9/Mt 18:21-35
Wednesday:	Dt 4:1, 5-9/Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20/Mt 5:17-19
Thursday:	Jer 7:23-28/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9/Lk 11:14-23
Friday:	Hos 14:2-10/Ps 81:6c-8a, 8bc-9, 10-11ab, 14 and 17/Mk 12:28-34
Saturday:	Hos 6:1-6/Ps 51:3-4, 18-19, 20-21ab/Lk 18:9-14
Next Sunday:	1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 (1)/Eph 5:8-14/
	Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

# SUNDAY'S READINGS

#### First Reading:

"Strike the rock, and the water will flow from it for the people to drink." (Ex 17:6)

#### Psalm:

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts. (Ps 95)

#### Second Reading:

And hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. (Rom 5:5)

#### Gospel:

"Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again; but whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst; the water I shall give will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." (Jn 4:13-14)

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

When I became the pastor of a large parish, I soon found myself, for the first time in my life, riddled with anxiety, headaches, difficulty making decisions, and fatigue. I called a therapist friend and told her my symptoms and asked if she thought I needed a serious medical exam. She said, "How much water do you drink?" I told her, "I haven't had time to drink water lately." She responded, "You're chronically dehydrated. Drink eighty-five ounces a day and call me in a week." I started guzzling water and in a week all my symptoms went away. I felt great.

Like me, the people in the Exodus wanderings were dehydrated. But unlike me, they knew it. Their symptoms were bad. They fight with each other. They accuse God of being a monster who wants them and their children to die of thirst. Their thirst drives them to plot the bloody assassination of the man who rescued them. God responds by using Moses to strike a rock from which rivers of living waters flow to quench their thirst for years to come.

The Holy Spirit is the living water of love which flows from the pierced side of Jesus, the new Moses. What symptoms in your life suggest you're spiritually dehydrated? Anger at God? Cynicism at your leaders? Bitter rivalry and bickering with others? Don't panic. *Of course* we have those symptoms. Ask God to provide his water to quench your spiritual thirst, and he will. And all those symptoms will soon disappear.

— Father John Muir ©LPi

# THE BULLETIN BOARD



Stop & Shop/Unionville **Bloomin' For Good** to benefit the St. Ann Food Pantry Carden!

> Do you receive t. Ann's weekly E-News in your email? If not, scan this

> > For Sale

Lemon Zest

Orange Zest

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 Unionville location.



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