

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



4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

"A thief comes only to steal and slaughter and destroy; I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly." - Jn 10:9-10

ccerpts 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

MONDAY, May 1

TUESDAY, May 2

WEDNESDAY, May 3

THURSDAY, May 4

FRIDAY, May 5

SATURDAY, May 6

SUNDAY, May 7

9:00

9:00

9:00

9:00

9:00

4:00

7:30

9:30

11:00

April 30, 2023



James Woolley

For Divine Peace on Earth, requested by

Frank Scalzo, requested by the Pizzuti Family

Gerald J. Kristofak, requested by a parishioner

Joan Fazzino (5th Ann.), requested by her sister

Michael Sumers, requested by

Manda Koch, requested by

Harrison Waterbury, requested by

Jean Eileen Springman, requested by

St. Ann's Social Outreach Committee

To schedule a Mass Intention, please call or email Kris in the Parish Office: 860-673-9858, ext. 221 or kris.martino@stannavon.com.

Justino (Gus) Penna, requested by

Russell and Diane Koch

The Wall Family

Janet and Family

Rosanne Harutunian

4th Sunday of Easter



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, May 1

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: 9:30-10:30am 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

<u>TUESDAY, May 2</u>

WWP Touching the Divine: 10:15am via Zoom

WEDNESDAY, May 3

Philippians Bible Study: no class this week, will return next week **WWP Touching the Divine:** will return 4/19

THURSDAY, May 4

Holy Hour: 12 noon in the church Adult Confirmation: 7:15pm in Room 1

FRIDAY, May 5 Lectio Divina: 9:45am via Zoom

SATURDAY, May 6

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

SUNDAY, May 7

Lectio Divina: returns May 7th Parish Social: after each Mass in Fr. Bennett Hall, sponsored by Saint Ann's Prayer Groups

The Council Connection

The Parish Council is an advisory board that assists Father Fontana in serving our highly engaged parish community. We are excited to be working with Father Fontana who has expressed his appreciation for being able to collaborate with this ministry. The Council includes registered members of the parish who are actively involved in their faith development through worship, prayer, and the liturgy. The current members are: Jane Ellen Peregrin (chairperson), Bill Bachhuber (co-chairperson), Carole Anderson, Nelson Bondhus, Carla DuBois, JoEllen Oakes, Eileen Sibson, and Dianne Simpson.

The focus of our initial meetings this year has been redefining our goals. Revising the Parish Council Mission Statement, supporting Father Fontana and his plans for the spiritual and physical well-being of the entire parish community, ensuring that the needs of all parish ministries are met and increasing communication between the Council and the parishioners are of utmost importance. We are exploring various ways to improve communication by using technology, the parish bulletin, and the E-News; and hopefully, we will share the results in our next posting.



Parish Social After all Masses on May 7th

All are INVITED to join fellow Saint Ann Parishioners and guests for coffee, refreshments and children's activities on May 7th. *This social will be hosted by our St. Ann's Prayer Groups.*



The International Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima will be presented for Veneration the weekend of May 6th and 7th. The rosary will be prayed after the 4pm, 7:30am and 11am Masses.



FEATURING GUEST SPEAKER KELLY HENDERSCHEDT COST \$10 PROCEEDS GO TO TWO HEARTS PREGNANCY CARE CENTER



Father Bennett Hall Church of Saint Ann, Avon

Kindly RSVP by April 24 to Pat (860)508-0947or Sue (860)424-7637



An Evening for Couples: "THE POWER OF GRATITUDE" Includes dinner and childcare

Thurs, June 1, 2023, 5:30-7pm St. Ann Church, Fr. Bennett Hall

GRATITUDE IS POWERFUL. Studies show that grateful couples (and their children) are more: HEALTHY + HAPPY + SPIRITUAL + LOVING

In this program, facilitators Mary-Jo McLaughlin, Dir. of Family Life for the Diocese of Norwich, and her husband, Pat will introduce you to the 'whys and hows' of couples gratitude. You'll also receive a take-home guide to start you on your way to a more grateful relationship

Enjoy date night, dinner & childcare for the kids!



Cost: \$10 adults; \$5 children, RSVP by May 25, indicating ages of child(ren) requiring care ann.distefano@stannavon.com



Thank You!

On behalf of the grateful recipients, thank you for your very generous responses to our Lenten Corporal Works of Mercy. Families in Avon, Hartford and Haiti, and prisoners enriching their faith journey are blessed by your neighbor to neighbor outreach. At least 85 hams were collected and enjoyed as a result of our Easter Food Drive, in addition to all the other supplies. Our faith in action is always most evident by your continuous generosity.

> May you all be blessed in return! Saint Ann's Social Outreach Committee



M<mark>ary</mark> Elizabeth Davis & Nicholas Roberto

WEEKLY ORDINARY INCOME

Weekly Collection for 4/23/23: \$4,133.00 Monthly: \$2,021.50 Votive Candles: \$271.62 <u>Online Giving (April 19-26, 2023):</u> Weekly: \$2,640.50 Monthly: \$411.00



HOPE Against Darkness: The Transforming Vision of St. Francis in an Age of Anxiety by Richard Rohr, OFM

Thursdays, May 18-June 15, 2023 9:30-11am, Room 3 Leader: Terry Pendergast Cost: \$12 RSVP by May 12: <u>ann.distefano@stannavon.com</u>

Join us as we discuss Richard Rohr's description of how Saint Francis' way of forgiveness and love can guide us out of the postmodern storm of cultural biases, victimhood, and fearful attitudes toward one another and the Church/religion, transform our lives, and heal our culture.





The Holy Eucharist DID γου κΝοψ?

Today is Good Shepherd Sunday. The Gospel is from John 10:1-10. It is Jesus calling us to follow Him as faithful disciples. The sheep in the parable recognize the shepherd's voice. When we recognize Jesus and follow Our Lord, He makes us a trustworthy promise. "I came so that they (we) might have life and have it more abundantly."

<u>Reflection</u>: Our God is never stingy. He never gives us the abundant life of grace in dribs and drabs. Being generous Love, God pours out Himself to us especially when we receive Him in the Holy Eucharist. The only thing which hampers our reception of this abundance is our own disposition. We receive the amount of grace in every Holy Communion that we are disposed to receive.

PERENNIAL PLANT Sat., May 20, 2023 St. Ann's Parking Lot Sam - 12 noon

As you start to work in your gardens this spring, please consider sharing some of your perennials that are ready for dividing. Also, we would appreciate the donation of any Easter plants, such as tulips and daffodils, if you don't plan to use the bulbs in your own flower beds. In addition to plants, we would welcome the donation of small, gently used gardening accessories (e.g, tools, flower pots, statuary).

DONATIONS:

Please drop off in the parking lot (West Avon Rd side, under tree) Thursday, May 18, from 8:30–10am and 5–7pm Friday, May 19, from 8:30–10am and 1–2pm Please IDENTIFY plants (name, color, sun/shade).

Proceeds will support the Social Justice Ministry's Scholarship Program, which supports deserving urban students with partial tuition to local Catholic High Schools

lf you have any questions, or would like to volunteer, please call Jean Frey: 860.673.1949. We would be happy to have new volunteers join us!



God Has a Personal Message For You!

Join us for the popular *Lectio Divina* way of praying scripture, where you listen for what God is saying to you in the Gospel for the coming Sunday. It's also a great way to connect with others, and engage more fully in Mass.

Friendly groups meet via Zoom & in person. Newcomers welcome!

Sundays at 10:30am both in Room 3 & via Zoom

Mondays at 7:15pm in Rm 3 and via Zoom

Fridays at 9:45am via Zoom

For registration details and inspiring testimonials, visit: https://www.stannavon.org/lectio-divina-live

APRIL 30TH, 2023 - 4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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

Cut to the Heart

Everyone who has been married knows this feeling: you're in the midst of a disagreement with your spouse. You've really dug in your heels. You're ready to die on this hill. And you have the awful, heartbreaking realization that you are wrong. Whatever it is you're arguing about, you're wrong. You.

So where do you go from here? The only way forward is to own it. Fess up. Grab a fork and dig into that humble pie. It makes me cringe just to write about it, because it's the worst feeling.

I use the example of marriage because it's the one I'm most familiar with — my closest relationship, the one that teaches me the most about who I am and who God asks me to be. But this is a universal experience, and everyone — single or married, child or adult, lay or ordained — knows how badly it feels to realize that you're wrong. You're human. You messed up.

It is hard to recognize that the Christian life is one of ongoing repentance. It is painful to acknowledge the ways in which we are falling short, even as we strive to follow in Christ's example.

It can, in the words of today's reading, "cut to the heart."

But that feeling of despair is what propels forward motion. We have to allow ourselves to feel bad, that's the fertile ground of penitence. We are meant to have not just life, but life "more abundantly." Stasis isn't the goal. Baptism isn't the finish line.

Examining our conscience is hard. It cuts to the heart. It cuts to the truth.

"Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins." — Acts 2:38



2023 Archbishop's Annual Appeal

Our sincere gratitude to those who have already made a gift or a pledge. Each parish is asked to raise a target amount – essentially, our parish's portion of the overall Appeal goal of \$10 million. To date we have raised 69 % of this goal with gifts from 200 households here in our parish or 12% Participation Rate. As a parish family we are striving for a 75% Rate of Participation. If you have not yet made your contribution to the Appeal, I ask that you take a few moments in the days ahead to consider prayerfully your gift decision. Your help is very much needed. Each contribution ensures that the ministries, programs, and services of the Church remain strong throughout the Archdiocese of Hartford.

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.

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK Live the Liturgy

We know the voice of our shepherd. We know he speaks a language of love, of patience, of long-suffering sacrifice. The voice of the thief will offer us freedom, but it is a freedom that ends in destruction. There is only one gate that leads to everlasting life. ©LPi

WEEKLY READINGS

Readings for the week of April 30, 2023

Sunday:	Acts 2:14a, 36-41/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 (1)/1 Pt 2:20b-25/ Jn 10:1-10
Monday:	Acts 11:1-18/Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4/Jn 10:11-18
Tuesday:	Acts 11:19-26/Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7/Jn 10:22-30
Wednesday:	1 Cor 15:1-8/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Jn 14:6-14
Thursday:	Acts 13:13-25/Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25 and 27/Jn 13:16-20
Friday:	Acts 13:26-33/Ps 2:6-7, 8-9, 10-11ab/Jn 14:1-6
Saturday:	Acts 13:44-52/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Jn 14:7-14
Next Sunday:	Acts 6:1-7/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19 (22)/1 Pt 2:4-9/Jn 14:1-12

SUNDAY'S READINGS

First Reading:

"Let the whole house of Israel know for certain that God has made both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified." (Acts 2:36)

Psalm:

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. (Ps 23) Or Alleluia.

Second Reading:

For you had gone astray like sheep, but you have now returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls. (1 Pt 2:25)

Gospel:

"I am the gate.

Whoever enters through me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture." (Jn 10:9)

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

I recently rescued a dog. She's a terrier and rather adorable. And she's crazy about me. She could spend all day with me. But I'm a pastor at a parish and sometimes I leave her at the front desk of the church office. She constantly amazes me by her ability to distinguish between my voice and that of everyone else. If I say one word, even if I'm hidden around a corner, she'll sprint toward me and jump up into my arms.

This week the readings focus our attention to the *voice* of the risen Jesus Christ. Comparing his disciples to sheep and himself to a shepherd, he says, "**They recognize his voice**." He speaks to us and wants us to respond. When we hear his voice, we follow. Throughout this coming week, we will experience many interior promptings to receive God's love, and to love Him in return. That's his voice. Follow it into the safe and tender arms of Christ.

By contrast, some voices we will hear do not convey God's concern and love for us, but rather produce fear, despair, and other harmful mischief. Jesus calls these voices those of robbers. Does an idea or thought make it harder for you to love God? If so, run away. Let it go. It is most likely not the voice of the Risen Lord. Keep waiting for him to speak. You will recognize his voice. Then run to him as fast as you can.

— Father John Muir ©LPi

THE BULLETIN BOARD



Check out Deacon Tim's New Book This Spring!

Deacon Tim has written a new book, *More Tales for the Masses*, picking up where he left off with the original *Tales for the Masses*. If you enjoy his homilies, you'll definitely enjoy this book too, which contains stories, poems, reflections and even a piece of "music!" At then end of each chapter are reflection questions that you can use in your small Christian Community or similar faith-sharing groups, or just for personal reflection.

If you hate his homilies and wish he'd just go away, you should still buy a copy and read the chapter entitled "How to Listen to a Bad Homily."



The book's available at Amazon, Barnes and Noble and directly from Deacon Tim. Here's a QR code you can use to go right to the book's page at Amazon:

STORIES CONNECTING SCRIPTURE TO EVERYDAY LIFE TIMOTHY E. HEALY

St. Joseph's Residence Little Sisters of the Poor 1655 Enfield Street, Enfield CT 06082 If you or anyone you know is in need of our service, call today for more information 860-741-0791 Locu-Income Senior Living

- Social Activities/Outings
- Chapel/Spiritual Support
- 🗸 Daily Mass
- Private Rooms
- 5 Star Rating
- We welcome low-income elderly persons age 65 and older of any faith or ethnic background. The atmosphere of St. Joseph's is friendly and home-like.

www.littlesistersofthepoorconnecticut.org



7TH ANNUAL FRIDAY, MAY 12 Southington Catholic 10Am Shotgun Golf Tournament Scramble Format

AT SOUTHINGTON COUNTRY CLUB | MEN AND WOMEN PLAYERS WELCOME!

SCHEDULE:

Registration & Practice | **8:30am** Shotgun Start | **10:00am** Reception & Awards | **Approx. 4:00 pm**

REGISTRATION OPTIONS: Single Player: \$175

Single Player: \$700 Foursome: \$700 Includes 18 holes of golf, breakfast, lunch at the turn, dinner and awards, refreshments on the course, raffles and more!



Beginning Experience of the Hudson Valley invites men and women of all ages who have suffered the end of a marriage to a ONE-DAY REMOTE program



In the Beginning...Coping with Life Alone

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



Saturday, May 13, 2023 9:00AM to 4:30PM

REGISTRATION REQUIRED: Call Jim 845 220 7883 or Denise 845 325 3147

Email: <u>beginningexperienceofhv@gmail.com</u> Website: <u>www.beginningexperiencehv.org</u>



Ad info. 1-800-477-4574 • Publication Support 1-800-888-4574 • www.4lpi.com

P



Ad info. 1-800-477-4574 • Publication Support 1-800-888-4574 • www.4lpi.com

St. Ann, Avon, CT