

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



5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

"I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, then you will also know my Father." - Jn 14:6-7

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

May 7, 2023



5th Sunday of Easter



9:00 Richard Cialfi, requested by his wife, Dottie

TUESDAY, May 99:00Enrico Spalvieri (3rd Ann.), requested by Marion

WEDNESDAY, May 10

9:00 Evangeline Terranova, requested by a parishioner

THURSDAY, May 11 9:00 Charles Deye, requested by his family

FRIDAY, May 12

9:00 Mary-Jane Bogli, requested by Brian and Ann Beloin

SATURDAY, May 13

4:00 Jill Louise Melanson, requested by St. Ann's MMP Cenacle

SUNDAY, May 14

- 7:30 For all mothers, living and deceased
- 9:30 For all mothers, living and deceased
- 11:00 For all mothers, living and deceased

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

VOLUNTEER TO BECOME A WEEKEND MASS LECTOR

.....

We are looking for weekend Mass volunteers who would like to grow in their faith while allowing God to use their talents as they proclaim His Word at Mass.



If you are interested in learning more about the Lector Ministry please email Andrea Pizzuti, Lector Coordinator andreapizzuti333@gmail.com



If you are a resident in this area, we hope that you will continue to grace us with your presence and register with our parish. You can do so by stopping by or calling the Parish Office (860-673-9858,ext.221). You can also register online at: www.stannavon.org/register-at-st-ann 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 8

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: 9:30-10:30am in the church MMP Cenacle-Rosary Prayer Group: 7:15pm in the church (all welcome) Prayer Shawl Ministry: 7pm in Fr. Bennett Hall Lectio Divina, Live! 7:15pm in Room 3 and via Zoom

TUESDAY, May 9

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

WEDNESDAY, May 10

Philippians Bible Study: 9:30am in Fre. Bennett Hall WWP Touching the Divine: 6pm in Fr. Bennett Hall

THURSDAY, May 1

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

FRIDAY, May 12 Lectio Divina: 9:45am via Zoom

SATURDAY, May 13 Men's Breakfast Group: 8:00 am in Room 3

SUNDAY, May 14 Lectio Divina: 10:30am in Room 3 and via Zoom

Thank you from Little Sisters of the Poor

Father Al received a lovely letter from the Little Sisters of the Poor, thanking our parishioners for the donations collected during their visit on Palm Sunday weekend. We'd like to share an excerpt:

"We were speechless when we received the check for \$6,118.25; the generosity of your parishioners is overwhelming. We have also received in the mail \$1,978.00 bringing us to a total collection of \$8, 096.25. Please know of our deep gratitude for all the assistance received through this donation.

Thank you again, Father, and be assured of our continued prayers for you and your Parish family."





Parish Social After all Masses on This Sunday, 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.

Say the Rosary every day, to bring peace to the world and the end of the war."

> Words spoken by our Blessed Mother Mary at Fatima



2023 Archbishop's **Annual Appeal**

The Archbishop's Annual Appeal provides help to those in need! Together, we can and do make a profound difference in the lives of many individuals and families, in a way that exceeds anything we could hope to achieve on our own. Please consider supporting this important initiative. Every gift, no matter the size, makes a difference. Organizations such as ARC of the Farmington Valley and local pantries received funding from the Appeal's Vicariate Outreach Program which serves our local 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.



Come be a part of our ministry!



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!



Page 2



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





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."

©LP



5th Sunday of Easter

WEEKLY ORDINARY INCOME

Weekly Collection for 4/30/23: \$5,057.00 Votive Candles: \$183.00 <u>Online Giving (April 26-May 3, 2023)</u> Weekly: \$3,412.50 Next Weekend's 2nd Collection: *Helping Haitian Children*



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 Book 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 γΟU ΚΝΟW?

"I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father, except through me.... Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me?" These are Our Lord's words taken today from the Gospel of John 14:1-12. It is good to recall that wherever Jesus is truly present to us in the Blessed Sacrament, both God the Father and the Holy Spirit are also present. It is through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit during the words of Consecration that the priest enables the miracle of the bread and wine to become the living Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Christ.

<u>Reflection</u>: St. Hilary of Poitiers wrote that, "Christ is in the Father by the divine nature, we are in him by his corporeal birth, and he again is in us by the mystery of the Blessed Sacrament." When we receive Our Lord in Holy Communion, we also have access to union with all the Divine Persons of the Blessed Trinity. Not only is Jesus in the Father and the Father is in Jesus, but we too share in that same intimacy. In addition, the Holy Spirit pours out the life of grace beautifying our souls. Don't waste the graces available to you at such a precious time. Be mindful of this Gift of gifts.



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 Ourtreach Ministry's Scholarship Program, which supports deserving urban students with partial tuition to local Catholic High Schools

If 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: <u>https://www.stannavon.org/lectio-divina-live</u> (Practicing) Catholic, Recognize Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments, by Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Building on the Cornerstone

Before I married my husband, I assumed there were "ugly houses" and "pretty houses," and that was that. But Matt is an architect, someone who reads books with titles like "A Field Guide to American Houses" for fun and who uses the term *vernacular architecture* like he knows what it means.

Through him, I've come to learn a lot about why certain structures simply don't have a pleasing look. There is a logic to ugliness, as it turns out. One of the main reasons a building or a home might strike some of us as ugly is because it has undergone a careless renovation. Whether out of laziness or an effort to be cost-effective, additions are made that depart from the architectural style of the original structure. The result is slapdash, confusing — ugly, for lack of a better word.

What is added on later must somewhat resemble the original. If you want to depart dramatically from the original style of a building, it's better to build a separate structure altogether.

I think of this principle when I consider Christ as the "cornerstone." We know we are called to model ourselves on Christ, to build on his example. But so often we cherry-pick elements of his message and attempt to build on it with additions that make no sense.

When someone looks at us, at our lives, they should be able to tell after whom that life is patterned. We must resemble the cornerstone, if we do not, it will be apparent, unseemly. You can't see God the Father without embracing God the Son. You can't chart the future of a house without any thought for its past.

If Christ is not our inspiration, he will be our contradiction.

"...like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house...to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ." — 1 Peter 2:5



INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK Live the Liturgy

To those who persist in faith, the truth is a living stone, strong enough to support the weight of real joy. To those who despair of faith, it is a stumbling block. The truth will always be in their way. ©LPi

WEEKLY READINGS

Readings for the week of May 7, 2023

Sunday: Monday:	Acts 6:1-7/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19 (22)/1 Pt 2:4-9/Jn 14:1-12 Acts 14:5-18/Ps 115:1-2, 3-4, 15-16/Jn 14:21-26
Tuesday:	Acts 14:19-28/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21/Jn 14:27-31a
Wednesday:	Acts 15:1-6/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5/Jn 15:1-8
Thursday:	Acts 15:7-21/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10/Jn 15:9-11
,	
Friday:	Acts 15:22-31/Ps 57:8-9, 10 and 12/Jn 15:12-17
Saturday:	Acts 16:1-10/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5/Jn 15:18-21
Next Sunday:	
	Jn 14:15-21

SUNDAY'S READINGS

First Reading:

So the Twelve called together the community of the disciples and said, "It is not right for us to neglect the word of God to serve at table. Brothers, select from among you seven reputable men, filled with the Spirit and wisdom, whom we shall appoint to this task, whereas we shall devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." (Acts 6:2-4)

Psalm:

Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you. (Ps 33) Or Alleluia.

Second Reading:

You are "a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people of his own, so that you may announce the praises" of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. (1 Pt 2:9)

Gospel:

Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, then you will also know my Father." (Jn 14:6-7)

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

If you had to summarize the essential core of the Christian life, what would it be? Mercy, truth, or love, perhaps? The readings today suggest another word which may surprise you. That word is *priesthood*.

St. Peter says to us, "You are a 'chosen race, a royal priesthood...'" To be part of a priesthood is to offer a particular sacrifice in order for the community to survive and thrive. Jesus is the great high priest because he offers the one perfect sacrifice which heals and perfects the entire human race. Peter the Apostle wants us to know that all the baptized share in this priestly ministry. The whole of our lives, including every detail, is meant to become our

acceptable offering to God.

The baptized exercise this priesthood in many ways, I'll mention three. At Sunday Mass, in private prayer, and in daily work. At Mass, we offer the sacrifice of our lives with that of the priest, who symbolizes Christ the Priest. In our prayer, a "morning offering" prayer is a great way to offer up all the joys and sufferings of the day to come. In our daily work, we sacrifice our time, comfort, money, and energy to do good for others. All this gives the deepest possible meaning to our lives: we share in the priesthood which saves the world. That's at the core of our faith.

— Father John Muir ©LPi

THE BULLETIN BOARD





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