



Church of Saint Ann

289 Arch Road * Avon, Connecticut * 06001

www.stannavon.org

860-673-9858

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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.



21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?"
Simon Peter said in reply, "You are the Christ,
the Son of the living God." - Mt 16:15-16

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



21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

MONDAY, August 28

9:00 Richard Simpson, *requested by Lee Lester*

TUESDAY, August 29

9:00 Mary Ellen McGuire, *requested by John McCluskey and her sister, Bunny*

WEDNESDAY, August 30

9:00 Frank Scalzo, Jr. and Frank and Angie Scalzo, *requested by the Pizzuti Family*

THURSDAY, August 31

9:00 Margaret F. Cerullo, *requested by the Downey Family*

FRIDAY, September 1

9:00 Evelyn Mauro, *requested by the Bruno Family*

SATURDAY, September 2

4:00 Mary Hojnowski, *requested by Russell and Diane Koch*

SUNDAY, September 3

7:30 Emanuele Peluso, *requested by the Hamel Family*

9:30 Joseph Enderle, *requested by Dan and Mary Healey*

11:00 Henry (Hank) Frey, *requested by Sophie Sopelak*



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, August 28

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: 9:30-10:30am in the church
MMP Cenacle-Rosary Prayer Group: 7:15pm in the church (all welcome)

TUESDAY, August 29

WEDNESDAY, August 30

Good Summer Read Book Discussion: 7pm in the Activity Room

THURSDAY, August 31

Holy Hour: 12 noon in the church

FRIDAY, September 1

SATURDAY, September 2

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

SUNDAY, September 3

Lectio Divina: 10:30am in Room 3, and via ZOOM

NEEDED VOLUNTEER CATECHISTS

Grades:
Kindergarten, 1st, 2nd, 5th, 6th and 7th

Not Catholic?



We'd love to help you explore the **peace, purpose, and belonging** found in a relationship with God, through the faith Jesus founded.

"Curious about Catholicism" Meet Ups:

- **SUN, AUG 27, after 9:30 & 11am Masses at St. Ann Church, in Fr. Bennett Hall**
- **WED, SEPT 6, 5:30-7pm at First & Last Tavern, Avon**

Bring a friend, enjoy refreshments, and chat with us in an informal atmosphere. No pressure; no commitment.

Contact: ann.distefano@stannavon.com; 860-4637495

It is through caring, sharing and praying that our community has grown in love and support of one another. The success of our religious education program depends on the dedicated individuals in our parish willing to share their time, talents and faith with the future Church and our parish children.



For more information or if you would like to be a catechist, please contact Julie Dombrowski at: julie.dombrowski@stannavon.com



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 Room 3 & via Zoom (starts Sept. 11)

Fridays at 9:45am via Zoom (starts Sept. 8)

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



Good Summer Read Book Discussion

THIS Wednesday, August 30, 2023
7:00pm in the Activity Room (under the church wing)



Saint Ann's Adult Choir

Sing to the Lord a New Song!

If you can match pitch, have a basic musical ability and love to sing, share your musical talents with your fellow parishioners! Consider joining the church choir, it is a wonderful way to connect with yourself, your community, and God.

Rehearsals will start on September 14 and meet on Thursdays at 7:30pm.



SAINT ANN'S CHILDREN'S CHOIR

St. Augustine once said, "to sing is to pray twice." Encourage your children to share in this gift of music!

The St. Ann's music program is looking for children grades 4 to 7 (flexible) to join the new children's choir.

Rehearsals will start on September 14 and meet on Thursdays at 4:00pm. If your child/children are interested, please call the parish office. Thank you!



ST. ANN'S ANNUAL CLOTHING SALE

DONATE

Collect gently worn, up to date styles of Children's Clothing; Outerwear; Jeans, sweaters, casual clothing for Men or Women, Jewelry, Purses & Scarves. (especially Infant, Children and Teen Clothes) Specific donation times on Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday Sept. 26 - 28 will be announced soon.

VOLUNTEER

Help sort and organize clothing donations, have a good time while helping a good cause. Any and all help is appreciated!

SHOP

Friday, September 29 & Saturday, September 30. Specific sale hours will be announced soon.

sponsored by the
 Saint Ann Scholarship Committee



Please consider these suggested items:

- *Backpacks * Calculators * Notebooks
- *Pencils * Dictionaries * Rulers *
- Pencil sharpeners * Pens
- * Notebook paper * Markers etc.

Tools For Schools Collection

Through September 9/10

The leaves will soon be turning, air chilling, and school buses rolling... it's time for our annual Tools for Schools Collection. This collection is of great assistance to the Catholic Worker House, Hartford refugee families and the Avon Food Pantry families. Any/all NEW school supplies are welcomed. Backpacks are especially needed. Please place the items in the area marked "Tools for Schools" in the Gathering Space or bring down to church offices below Fr. Bennett Hall. May you be blessed for your generosity!



WEEKLY ORDINARY INCOME

Weekly Collection for 8/20/23: \$4,812.26

Assumption: \$868.00

Votive Candles: \$285.21

Online Giving (August 16-23, 2023)

Weekly: \$2,564.00

Assumption: \$0.00

Next Weekend's 2nd Collection: none



The Holy Eucharist DID YOU KNOW?

In today's Gospel, Our Lord asks the Apostles, "Who do you say that I am?" (Matthew 16:13-20) This is a pertinent question for each one of us to ponder. When we look at the Sacred Host, we should see the ineffable depths of love with which we are loved by Jesus. We can truly say, "My Lord, my God and my All". St. John Paul II wrote, "The Eucharistic Banquet is truly a 'sacred' banquet, in which the simplicity of the signs conceals the unfathomable holiness of God." (48 Ecclesia de Eucharistia)

Reflection: How aware are we that we can consume the LIVING GOD in the consecrated Host? Each reception of Holy Communion can increase our union with Jesus depending upon our personal disposition. Our glory in Heaven for eternity is increased by the love and purity with which we receive each Holy Communion.

How You Can Help Resettle a Deserving Afghan Refugee Family

"As many of you know, Dcn. Tim is also the Commander of Avon VFW Post 3272. The Post is engaged in a co-sponsoring project with the Integrated Refugee and Immigrant Services (IRIS) organization to resettle an Afghan family whose members assisted US forces during the recent conflict, and whose lives are now at risk. IRIS recommends a team of twenty to thirty people be assembled to do the work involved in resettlement. Some of the tasks are one-off and easily accomplished, while others, like finding jobs and lodging, are more involved.

Folks who have done this before tell us there's no gratitude quite like that of people whose lives have been snatched from the jaws of death. Volunteers will get to meet just such people face-to-face as the project unfolds. Dcn. Tim will be available after all masses the weekend of August 26-27 in Fr. Bennet Hall (or the Gathering Space after the 9:30 and 11) to explain the project and chat about how you might choose to help. If you prefer, you can email tim.healy@comcast.net, or call 860-693-8562 at a time convenient to you."



Come as you are

YOU ARE WELCOME HERE

**MAKE AUTHENTIC CONNECTIONS WITH OTHER WOMEN
REFUEL AND REFRESH * LEARN MORE ABOUT GOD**

As we look at Old Testament people and events, we'll encounter problems that only Christ will solve, needs that only He will satisfy, and promises that only He can deliver.

Beholding His Glory reminds us how all Scripture points us to our Redeemer, Jesus Christ. We'll learn to recognize and appreciate God's plan for our own lives, His awe-inspiring majesty, and His desire for personal intimacy with each one of us.

Choose the session convenient for you:



Tuesdays: 10:15am via Zoom or
Wednesdays: 7pm in Fr. Bennett Hall

Only 9 Sessions

September 12/13 through November 14/15

Questions?

Colleen Waterbury: 203-913-8764
or Pat Wall: 860-508-0947



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

We have a program just for you!

St. Ann Fall 2023 Adult Confirmation Prep Program

- + **Dates:** Tuesdays, 7pm, beginning Sept 5, 2023
- 9 sessions, (alternate day TBD Halloween week)
- + **Location:** Room 3 (office wing beneath FB Hall)
- + **Fee:** \$30
- + **To Register:** <https://www.osvhub.com/stannavon/forms/adult-confirmation-fall-2023>
- + **Questions:** ann.distefano@stannavon.com;
860-673-9858, x228

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



Worship & Meditation: 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

"I will place the key of the House of David on Eliakim's shoulder; when he opens, no one shall shut, when he shuts, no one shall open." (Is 22:22)

Psalms:

Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands. (Ps 138)

Second Reading:

For from him and through him and for him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen. (Rom 11:36)

Gospel:

"And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven." (Mt 16:18-19)

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.

Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

"Who do you say that I am?" Let our whole lives be the answer, given not in words, but in action. If the world looked at your life, your decisions, your words, and your deeds, would they conclude that you are a person who believes Christ is the son of the living God?

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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Isn't it a bit weird that Catholics call the Pope "papa," father? This Sunday provides us with essential Scriptural background on the papacy, the petrine office. Jesus gives Peter the "keys to the kingdom of heaven," after witnessing to the special grace Peter has to know Jesus' true identity. Many have pointed out that the "keys" refer back to the figure of Eliakim, King David's prime minister. True enough. But notice this is not mere authority or power. It's a family relationship. The Lord says to Eliakim, "He shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem" (Isaiah 22:21). David's prime minister was a spiritual *father* to the family of Israel. Peter, and his successors, will be spiritual fathers in the family of the Church.

This means we have a serious obligation to not only recognize the Pope's authority, but also to love him with the affection of children for their papa. We should never speak about him with disrespect or rancor. We should listen to him with trusting hearts, and ignore the slander thrown at him in various media. When we show the world we are loving and obedient to our Holy Papa, perhaps they'll see more clearly that the Church is indeed God's beloved family.

- Father John Muir

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Questions of the Week

Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading:

The Lord condemns Shebna (the master of King Hezekiah's palace) for ignoring Isaiah's prophetic warning and gives to Eliakim the authority and honor that belonged to Shebna. What helps you stay focused on following God's commandments?

Second Reading:

Paul celebrates the wisdom and knowledge — the mystery — of God. If you could ask God one question, what would it be?

Gospel:

In Peter confessing Jesus as "the Messiah, the Son of the living God," Jesus gives him the authority to hold the keys to the kingdom of heaven. How do you use authority in your life?

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Readings for the Week of August 27, 2023

Sunday:

Is 22:19-23/Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 6, 8 (8bc)/Rom 11:33-36/Mt 16:13-20

Monday:

1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b/Mt 23:13-22

Tuesday:

1 Thes 2:1-8/Ps 139:1-3, 4-6/Mk 6:17-29

Wednesday:

1 Thes 2:9-13/Ps 139:7-8, 9-10, 11-12ab/Mt 23:27-32

Thursday:

1 Thes 3:7-13/Ps 90:3-5a, 12-13, 14 and 17/Mt 24:42-51

Friday:

1 Thes 4:1-8/Ps 97:1 and 2b, 5-6, 10, 11-12/Mt 25:1-13

Saturday:

1 Thes 4:9-11/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9/Mt 25:14-30

Next Sunday:

Jer 20:7-9/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 (2b)/Rom 12:1-2/Mt 16:21-27

(PRACTICING)

CATHOLIC

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Who Do You Say That I Am

I once knew a very devout woman whose adult godchild had fallen away from the practice of the faith. This godchild still believed in God, and even felt a sense of belonging in the Church. He was a good and kind person. But poor catechesis and a society that confuses pleasure with joy had left him lax in practice, without an appreciation of the sacraments. He was making choices that threatened his soul.

His godmother wanted more for him. She planned to speak with him about his life, hoping to encourage him to return to the practice of the faith. She knew that, when she brought this up, he would reply that it wasn't important to attend Mass or to receive the Eucharist, that was all just "extra."

She told me that she was going to begin their conversation by asking him the question Jesus poses to Peter in Matthew 16:15 — the critical question in all our lives, the question whose answer will define what we become in this world and the next.

Her godson knew the answer. She was confident, unshakably, that he did. He may have forgotten it or ignored it. He may have tried to convince himself he wasn't entirely sure. He may have refused to give an answer. But he knew it. He knew the answer.

There is a reason that, after Peter's response, Jesus gives him the keys to the kingdom of heaven.

"Who do you say that I am?"

Let our whole lives be our answer.

"*You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.*" — Matthew 16:16

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THE BULLETIN BOARD

PRAYER FOR STUDENTS

Dear Jesus,
Thank you for the gift of learning! I want to grow closer to you in everything I do at school. In math and science, help me to see your beautiful plan in the world. Help me to discover new stories and values as I read and write. In arts and music, help me to be creative. In sports, help me to treat my teammates and my opponents fairly. Help me to learn new skills in technology. Jesus, you are the perfect teacher. Help me to listen with open ears, an open heart, and an open mind to all my teachers at school. Help me to treat my classmates with care, kindness, and respect. Thank you, Jesus, for school!
Amen.

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We'll receive \$1 for every purchase of this \$2.50 Community Bag at the Avon Big Y during the month of August.

Parenting is easy!

(Said no one ever.)

But does it have to feel this overwhelming?

HELP IS ON THE WAY!

No rsvp needed.

THE DOCTOR IS IN

DR. RAY
(YES! The famous one from Sirius XM radio and EWTN Global Catholic Network!)

is coming to ST. Mary's!

ALL ARE WELCOME! You do not need to be a parishioner of St. Mary's to attend.

Thursday, 9/7 at 7pm

Put it on your calendar and get on down to St. Mary's to see him in person at this absolutely free event, thanks to the generosity of the Father Matera Faith Formation Fund. Learn from one of the most nationally respected Catholic authorities on parenting. He is an invaluable coach in helping you be more confident in your parenting decisions—even in today's world!

The beginning of September is a terribly busy time for parents—we know!

COME ANYWAY!

A little time now will hopefully result in a better start to school and activities for your whole family. Your brain will thank you later.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS AT TRINITA RETREAT CENTER New Hartford, CT

Girl's Night Out ~ Women's Faith Sharing

This year we will be focusing on the Gospel of Luke.

Our first session will look at The Persistent Woman – Luke 18:1-8. All women of the parish are invited!

Thursday evenings: 9/7, 10/5, 11/2, 2/1, 3/7, and 4/4, 6:30pm-8:00pm

Out of the Light: Creating Sacred Space for Self and Others

A series from Just Faith Ministries to help prepare people of faith for the life changing and world changing call of the Gospel. We'll be reading books about Christian spirituality, trying out new prayer and meditation practices, learning from spiritual teachers, and having honest conversations about the joys and struggles in our lives and our world.

Wednesday Evenings: 9/13, 9/20, 9/27, 10/4, 10/11, 10/18, and 10/25, 6:30pm-8:30pm

Join Laurie Janecko, Program Director, for the above programs. Laurie has an MA from Boston College and 34 years' experience in education, faith formation, and youth & retreat ministry. She also has a strong interest in women's spirituality and social justice.

For more information or to register contact Trinita Retreat Center at 860-379-4329 or trinita1923@gmail.com



**The Archdiocese of Hartford
Presents Faith & Family Day
At Dunkin' Park**

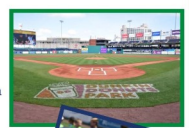
THE ARCHDIOCESE OF HARTFORD PRESENTS FAITH & FAMILY DAY AT DUNKIN' PARK SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9TH 2023

GAME TIME: 6:10 pm | GATES OPEN FOR PRE-GAME VIGIL MASS: 3:30 pm PRE-GAME VIGIL MASS: 4:00 pm
BINGHAMTON RUMBLE PONIES (NEW YORK METS) vs HARTFORD YARD GOATS (COLORADO ROCKIES)

The Archdiocese of Hartford invites you to join them for an fun and memorable evening enjoying Faith & Family Day and Hartford Yard Goats Baseball at Dunkin' Park!

Featuring:

Post-Game Fireworks Display
Reserved Seating in Faith & Family Section
Pre-Game Mass Celebrated by Auxiliary Bishop The Most Reverend Juan Miguel Betancourt & Homilist Fr. Anthony Federico
Pre-Game On-Field Faith & Family Community Leadership & Ambassadorship Ceremony



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04-0700