

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



## 23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." - Mt 18:19-20

#### Excerpts 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

September 10, 2023



23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

MONDAY, September 11 9:00 Barbara Martino, requested by the family

**TUESDAY, September 129:00John T. LaVia**, requested by Jo LaVia and family

WEDNESDAY, September 13 9:00 Scott Gill, requested by the Chappano Family

THURSDAY, September 14 9:00 Joseph A. Gioia, requested by the Dully Family

FRIDAY, September 15

9:00 Valerie Magro, requested by the Waterbury Family

SATURDAY, September 16

**4:00 Scott Gill,** requested by the Cooper Family

#### SUNDAY, September 17

- 7:30 Henry Stapleton, requested by the Hamel Family
- **9:30 Emmanuel Kefakis,** requested by John and Maria Manning
- **11:00** Maria Consuegra, requested by her coffee group friends



BASH

Saturday, September 16th 1:30 - 3:30pm Outside-back parking lot/lawn of church (In case of rain we'll be in Fr. Bennett Hall)

"Carnival Snacks" (popcorn machine, Italian ice) GAMES for the whole family!





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, September 11

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

#### TUESDAY, September 12

Walking With Purpose: 10:15am via Zoom Adult Confirmation Class: 7pm in Room 3

#### WEDNESDAY, September 13

Jesus: The Way, the Truth & the Life: 9:30am in Fr. Bennett Hall Walking With Purpose: 7pm in Fr. Bennett Hall

#### THURSDAY, September 14

Holy Hour: 12 noon in the church Children's Choir Rehearsal: 4pm in the Choir Loft Adult Choir Rehearsal: 7:30pm in the Choir Loft

FRIDAY, September 15

Lectio Divina: 9:45am via Zoom

#### SATURDAY, September 16

Men's Breakfast Group: 8:00 am in Room 3 Welcome Back Bash: 1:30-4:30pm on Saint Ann church grounds (in case of rain we'll be in Fr. Bennett Hall)

#### SUNDAY, September 17

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

# VOLUNTEER CATECHISTS NEEDED!



Kindergarten: catechists needed 1st: co-catechists needed 2nd: co-catechists needed 5th: co-catechists needed 7th: co-catechists needed

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: <u>https://www.stannavon.org/lectio-divina-live</u>



# 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



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 email: mercedes.featherston@stannavon.com. Thank you!

Feel free to visit Mercedes in the Choir Loft after our weekend Masses for more information on either choir!



#### 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 Clory** 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: <a href="https://www.osvhub.com/stannavon/forms/adult-confirmation-fall-2023">https://www.osvhub.com/stannavon/forms/adult-confirmation-fall-2023</a>
- 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



# WEEKLY ORDINARY INCOME

Weekly Collection for 9/3/23: \$5,288.50 Votive Candles: \$259.80

Online Giving (August 30-Sept. 6, 2023) Weekly: \$3,518.00

Next Weekend's 2nd Collection: monthly





This coming week on Thursday, September 14<sup>th</sup>, we celebrate the Feast of the Exultation of the Holy Cross. Take the time to look today at the Cross above our altar. The vertical beam represents our hearts and souls being firmly planted and rooted Heavenward in our love for God. The horizontal beam symbolizes our arms reaching out in loving service to our neighbors.

<u>Reflection</u>: The Holy Eucharist enables us to achieve both union with God and with our neighbor. It is the surest, simplest and sweetest pathway to joy.



# **ST. ANN'S ANNUAL CLOTHING SALE**

# DONATE

Tuesday-Thursday, September 26-28 9:30am - 4pm in Fr. Bennett Hall

Collect gently worn, up to date styles of Children's Clothing; Outerwear; Jeans, sweaters, casual clothing and Activewear for Men or Women, Jewelry, Purses & Scarves.



Sponsored by the Saint Ann Scholarship Committee. All proceeds go towards scholarships for deserving urban students attending local Catholic High Schools.





# Worship & Meditation: 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

# Sunday's Readings

#### First Reading:

If I tell the wicked, "O wicked one, you shall surely die," and you do not speak out to dissuade the wicked from his way, the wicked shall die for his guilt, but I will hold you responsible for his death. (Ez 33:8)

#### Psalm:

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

#### Second Reading:

Love does no evil to the neighbor; hence, love is the fulfillment of the law. (Rom 13:10)

#### Gospel:

"If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have won over your brother." (Mt 18:15)

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#### Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

Our personal relationship with Christ is important, yes — but thank God, that is not all there is to being a Christian. We depend upon the support, the encouragement, and even the correction of the rest of the Body of Christ. ©LPi

#### Gospel Meditation Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

What are you supposed to do about the bad behavior of the people around you? You know who I'm talking about That family member friand coworker or

about. That family member, friend, coworker, or acquaintance who is quite immoral. On this front there are two lively options in our culture: bash the person to others (probably online) or pretend everything's fine. The former damages the person. The latter ignores reality. What to do?

Jesus' strategy in the Gospel of Matthew is as wise as it is difficult: go directly to the person, and then gradually expand the circle of intervention. Simple, often effective, and hard. But what we often miss is the context of the Lord's strategy, "If your brother sins against you ... " Notice the italicized words. Is the person in a Christian familial bond with you? And was the action in question against you? If so, proceed with the plan. Fine. But how often we fret over the sins of those who either aren't our spiritual siblings or have done nothing directly to us. This is not an invitation to ignore injustice in the world. Rather, we should build bonds of fraternal love, and carefully discern when and how others' sins are indeed our concern. Sometimes they are. Other times - frequently, perhaps — they simply are not.

## **Questions of the**

Week Reflect and Respond to Scripture

#### First Reading:

The Lord teaches Ezekiel that he is personally responsible to be faithful to the prophetic words given to him. How could you show others that you take your faith seriously?

#### Second Reading:

Paul taught that *love* (loving one's neighbor) is the fulfillment of the law God gave to Israel. What do you think is most challenging to this seemingly simple command to love one another?

#### Gospel:

Jesus taught his disciples to make every effort possible to be reconciled with someone who has wronged you. Is reconciliation a high priority for you?

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## Love and Truth

I think even the most devout, the most pious Catholic reading this could summon to mind, if asked, one or even two examples of Catholic teaching for which they have desperately looked for a loophole.

Don't worry, I won't make you share with the group. But bring it to your mind now: the doctrine you once resented, or perhaps still do. The commandment you don't fully understand, the one you bristle against. The rule you find the hardest to follow. The belief you hate explaining to your friends.

If it disappeared from scripture or dropped out of the catechism, would your life really be easier? Would you be happier?

I am thinking of mine. For a long time, I searched high and low for a way around

# Readings for the Week of September 10, 2023

#### Sunday:

Ez 33:7-9/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 (8)/ Rom 13:8-10/Mt 18:15-20

#### Monday:

Col 1:24-2:3/Ps 62:6-7, 9/Lk 6:6-11

#### Tuesday:

Col 2:6-15/Ps 145:1b-2, 8-9, 10-11/ Lk 6:12-19

#### Wednesday:

Col 3:1-11/Ps 145:2-3, 10-11, 12-13ab/Lk 6:20-26

#### Thursday:

Nm 21:4b-9/Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37,38/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17

#### Friday:

1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14/Ps 16:1b-2a and 5, 7-8, 11/Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35

#### Saturday:

1 Tm 1:15-17/Ps 113:1b-2, 3-4, 5a and 6-7/Lk 6:43-49

#### **Next Sunday:**

Sir 27:30—28.7/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12 (8)/Rom 14:7-9/Mt 18:21-35

this particular teaching. I read books and Scripture and tradition, I prayed and reflected and tried to argue with myself. For a time, I gave up complying with it entirely. I threw it to the wind, with a shoulder shrug and a self-satisfied assurance to myself that God, being a loving father, does not want his child to be unhappy.

But reader: I was miserable. I was so, so miserable, and I stayed that way until I finally accepted that God is, indeed, a loving father, and desires nothing less than the unhappiness of his children. And so, to ward it off, he has given us the truth, and asked us to share it amongst ourselves like a cherished heirloom, a priceless inheritance.

To share truth, you must show love. To show love, you must share truth. One demands the other. Because this is what Christ does for us, and this is the mission of the Church in this world. Loosening and binding. Bearing witness. Giving testimony. Speaking truth, and in speaking truth, showing love.

"If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts." — Psalm 95

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# THE BULLETIN BOARD

# PATRIOT

WE WILL NEVER FORGET **\*** 9/ 11

There IS one thing you can do to help a loved one in crisis

A SPECTAL A

### Educational Event on Understanding **RED FLAG LAWS**

Hosted By MOMS DEMAND ACTION

Scan here or

register on library website

#### Sunday, September 17th @ 3-4pm

Avon Free Public Library Community Room

Join us for an important conversation about Extreme Risk Protection Orders (ERPOs), also known as Red Flag Laws, which allow for the temporary removal of firearms during a crisis. ERPOs help prevent potential harm, enhance public safety, and keep our loved ones safe.

Knowledge is power. Let's make our communities safer together.

**Q&A Panel with:** 



CAGV

This event is not sponsored by the Avon Free Public Library.



# 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,

..... 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





