

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) Deborah Benson, MA, CAGS: ext. 223 deborah.benson@stannavon.com

CONFIRMATION & YOUTH MINISTRY DIRECTOR Rosemary Neamtz, MSW: ext. 226 rosemary.neamtz@stannavon.com

BOOKKEEPER/FAITH FORMATION REGISTRAR Jennifer Soucy, CPA: ext.234 jennifer.soucy@stannavon.com

DIRECTOR OF ADULT EDUCATION Ann DiStefano, MPS: ext. 228 ann.distefano@stannavon.com

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC Mercedes Featherston: ext. 230 mercedes.featherston@stannavon.com

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



# **30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

"You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind." - Mt 22:37

cerpts 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



30th Sunday in Ordinary Time



SUNDAY, October 29

- 7:30 Brian Stockwell & Derek Stockwell, requested by Maria
- 9:30 Hank Frey, requested by John and Kathy Hangen
- **11:00** Rose and John King, requested by the family

MONDAY, October 30

9:00 Special Intentions

TUESDAY, October 31 9:00 Special Intentions

### WEDNESDAY, November 1, All Saints (HO)

- **9:00 William Weldon (4th Ann.),** requested by the Weldon Family
- **12:10** Theresa Coughlin, requested by Sophie Sopelak**7:00** Special Intentions
- **THURSDAY, November 2,** All Souls Day**9:00Donald Sopelak,** requested by the Sopelak Family
- FRIDAY, November 3, Saint Martin de Porres, Religious9:00 Special Intentions
- SATURDAY, November 4, Saint Charles Borromeo, Bishop
  4:00 Henry Hojnowski, requested by Russell and Diane Koch

### SUNDAY, November 5

- 7:30 Anne Affelder, requested by the Gould Family
- 9:30 For the deceased members of the Prince Thomas of Savoy Men's & Women's Societies
- 11:00 Louis Perleoni (5th Ann.), requested by his family

### St. Ann Parish Mission "Trifecta of Divine Mercy" directed by Fr. Bill Garrott, O.P. Sunday Dec. 10 - Tuesday Dec. 12th



Please join us and welcome Fr. Bill Garrott to our Parish Mission this December. Father Garrott will begin by preaching at all the Masses on Dec. 9th and 10th. Sunday-Tuesday evenings will be filled with prayer and discussion to enrich our spiritual lives. More details to follow.



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

### SATURDAY, October 28

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

### SUNDAY, October 29

Holy Family Retreat Center Presentation: after all Masses in Fr.B. Hall Adult Choir Rehearsal: 8:20am in the Choir Loft Lectio Divina: 10:30am in Room 3, and via ZOOM

### MONDAY, October 30

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: 9:30-10:30am in the church Youth Ministry Meeting: 5:30pm in Room 1 Lectio Divina: 7:15pm in Room 3 and via Zoom MMP Cenacle-Rosary Prayer Group: 7:15pm in the church (all welcome)

### TUESDAY, October 31

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

### WEDNESDAY, November 1

Jesus: The Way, the Truth & the Life: 9:30am in Fr. Bennett Hall RCIA: 6:30pm in Room 3 Family Ministry Meeting: 7pm in the Activity Room Walking With Purpose: 7pm in the Fr. Bennett Hall

### THURSDAY, November 2

Holy Hour: 12 noon in the church Children's Choir Rehearsal: 4pm in the Choir Loft Eucharistic Revival Series: 7pm in Fr. Bennett Hall

### FRIDAY, November 3

Lectio Divina: 9:45am via Zoom

SATURDAY, November 4 Men's Breakfast Group: 8:00 am in Room 3

SUNDAY, November 5

Adult Choir Rehearsal: 8:20am in the Choir Loft Lectio Divina: 10:30am in Room 3, and via ZOOM

# **POWERFUL, INSPIRING, FREE TO YOU**

Did you miss our recent three-part video/discussion series, "Presence: The Mystery of the Eucharist"?

Don't worry – it's available to our parishioners online via St. Ann's subscription to FORMED.org! Click on the FORMED button on the homepage of stannavon.org and click the link to "Presence."





Wednesday, November 1, 2023 Holy Day of Obligation

*Masses will be at:* 9:00 am, 12:10 pm and 7:00 pm

# Let's meet Deborah Benson our new K-8 Faith Formation Director

Growing up in Avon until she was 8 years old, Deborah attended Roaring Brook school and even made her First Communion here at the Church of Saint Ann; now she will get to lead our second grade classes as they prepare and make their own First Communions! Her family then moved to Manchester when her parents bought a bakery business. While there she attended St. James School, East Catholic High School and then graduated from Salve Regina University...I believe that's a Catholic school trifecta!

In 2002 she married Michael Benson, and in 2013 they moved back to Avon and once again she was worshiping at Saint Ann and has served as a catechist for 10 years.

Deborah and Michael have three children: Katelyn (18) attending Bentley University, Kimberly (15) attending Avon High School and making her Confirmation this Spring, and Michael Jr., attending Thompson Brook School.

Please join us in welcoming Deborah and may God bless her and our Faith Formation program!



# All Souls Day Thursday, November 2nd

The Feast of All Souls is a wonderful Catholic tradition whereby prayers are offered for the departed souls who have made such a wonderful impact in our lives. If you use our envelope system, an envelope for All Souls is included in the packet you received in the mail. You are able to write down the names of those you would like to remember. Additional All Souls envelopes are available in the pews by early November. They can be dropped in any collection basket and will be placed on the altar throughout the month of November.



All Souls Day Candles...

There will be a limited number of All Souls Day candles after Masses this weekend (Oct. 28/29). These have been donated by a generous parishioner so please take only one for your own family. Thank you!



Every parish household is asked to prayerfully consider a sacrificial gift to assist the parish in funding our 2023 Annual Collection. Please complete your personal gift card and return it to the parish office via mail or go online at stannavon.org to make an electronic gift in support of St. Ann's parish. Thank you!



# Come Join Us for Coffee...

...after ALL Masses this Sunday, October 29th in Father Bennett Hall. Our guest speaker will be Mike Mongillo (a Holy Family Retreat Team member), who will give a brief presentation about the Men's and Women's Retreats, and other programs offered at Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center in West Hartford.

This is a great opportunity to ask questions and explore the many ways Holy Family Retreat Center ministers to our parishes and the wider community.



No obligation to commit to anything, just talk.

# WEEKLY ORDINARY INCOME

Weekly Collection for 10/22/23: \$4,746.50 Propagation of the Faith: \$1,385.00 Votive Candles for the week: \$152.76

Online Giving (Oct. 18-25, 2023) Weekly: \$3,397.50 Propagation of the Faith: \$40.00 Next Weekend's 2nd Collection: Archdiocese for Military Services



# **BOOK OF GOSPELS**

A big "Thank You" to Deacon Jeffrey Sutherland for donating the Book of Gospels for the Parish of Saint Ann. The Book of Gospels is a symbol of Christ, along with the altar and cross. It is carried in by the deacon and given a special vernation and liturgical honors.

Father Al Fontana, Pastor

# Knights of Columbus - Stand For Life

You may have noticed our members standing at the entrance to St. Ann's parking lot on Saturday mornings with signs emblazoned "Love Life Choose Life". We stand in silence for one hour from 10:00 – 11:00 am on the first Saturday of each month. We invite all who would like to join us - we have plenty of signs. The next Stand For Life is scheduled for Saturday, November 4, 2023 at 10:00 am. We look forward to seeing anyone who can join us.



### The Holy Eucharist DID YOU KNOW?

The two greatest Commandments are the focus of today's Gospel. (Matthew22:34-40) Love of God is the First Commandment and Love of neighbor is the Second. Bishop Robert Barron teaches that "The goal of life is to become a participant in the Divine Nature." Through the grace of the Holy Eucharist, Jesus transforms us into Himself. In so doing we have a share in the Divine nature of God and becoming more like God, we are enabled to love our neighbor more and more.

Reflection: This is one of the amazing transcendent gifts of the Blessed Sacrament. We should never forget this grace of Holy Communion. St. Peter Julian Eymard wrote, "Receive Communion often and Jesus will change you into Himself."

# The Council Connection

The Parish Council is an advisory board to Fr. Fontana representing the entire parish community. 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.

We encourage everyone to serve with one of the many ministries that help to meet the needs of parishioners and the greater community. For a complete list of ministries and contact information please check the parish website (www.stannavon.org).

If you have any questions or suggestions for Parish Council, we invite you to email us at parishcouncil@stannavon.com or use the Parish Council Comments/Suggestion Box located in the Gathering Space.



All proceeds benefit St. Ann's ministries and charities within our local community!

# God Has a Personal **Message For You!**



Join us for the popular Lectio Diving 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

# Worship & Meditation: 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

# Sunday's Readings

#### First Reading:

"You shall not wrong any widow or orphan. If ever you wrong them and they cry out to me, I will surely hear their cry.

My wrath will flare up, and I will kill you with the sword; then your own wives will be widows, and your children orphans." (Ex 22:21-23)

#### Psalm:

I love you, Lord, my strength. (Ps 18)

#### Second Reading:

For they themselves openly declare about us what sort of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God and to await his Son from heaven. (1 Thes 1:9-10)

#### Gospel:

"You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind." (Mt 22:37)

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

God became human to show us that only love can change the world. Let's not just believe in that love — let's be that love, each and every day.

©LPi

# Gospel Meditation Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

In our secularized culture, we all struggle with belief in God, at least to some degree. An atheist man named Robert Bridges once wrote to his friend, the Jesuit poet Gerard Manley Hopkins, asking how he could possibly learn to believe in God. Hopkins pithily responded: "Give alms." Would that help someone tempted by atheism

today, like you and me? I think so, and here's why. This week Jesus speaks of love for God and neighbor. These dual commands were nothing new when Jesus used them to sum up the Jewish law. What is new is the way he links them together in mutual dependency. In Jesus, God and man have become one. Human-love and God-love are now inseparably married forever.

The newness of the God-man means that there is now a permanently counter-intuitive way into the knowledge and love of God: love of our neighbor. To experience charity is to know God. That's what Hopkins was getting at for his friend. How we treat our fellow human beings is inseparable from faith in God. Do you want to have a stronger sense of God's loving presence and goodness? Commit to serving someone today and this week. Love him or her. Don't wait for love for God to appear in your heart before loving others. Jesus has united divine and human love. If you want to believe more in God, give alms

Father John Muir

# **Questions of the**

Week **Reflect and Respond to Scripture** 

#### First Reading:

We hear today some of the laws that Moses received from God on Mount Sinai. Namely, God's expectation that we show compassion for those most vulnerable in society. How could you show care for those in need this week?

**Second Reading:** Paul praised the Thessalonians for being role models of the faith for the surrounding regions of Achaia and Macedonia. How do you model your faith to family and friends?

#### Gospel:

For Jesus, love of God and love of neighbor and self are the most important commandments. Which of these commandments do you do best?

©LPi



### **Readings for the Week of** October 29, 2023

### Sunday:

Ex 22:20-26/Ps 18:2-3, 3-4, 47, 51 (2)/1 Thes 1:5c-10/Mt 22:34-40

#### Monday:

Rom 8:12-17/Ps 68:2 and 4, 6-7ab, 20-21/Lk 13:10-17

#### Tuesday:

Rom 8:18-25/Ps 126:1b-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6/Lk 13:18-21

#### Wednesday:

Rv 7:2-4, 9-14/Ps 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/1 Jn 3:1-3/Mt 5:1-12a

#### Thursday:

Wis 4:7-14/Ps 25:6, and 7b, 17-18, 20-21/Rom 5:17-21/Mt 11:25-30

#### Friday:

Rom 9:1-5/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Lk 14:1-6

#### Saturday:

Rom 11:1-2a, 11-12, 25-29/Ps 94: 12-13a, 14-15, 17-18/Lk 14:1, 7-11

#### **Next Sunday:**

Mal 1:14b-2:2b, 8-10/Ps 131:1, 2, 3/1 Thes 2:7b-9, 13/Mt 23:1-12



# 27 Words That Matter

One of the quickest things you learn as a parent is how dangerous it is to explain too much, especially when your kid is teetering on the brink of a rebellion. The fewer words you use, the more power they have. A kid who is about to be carried away by their feelings needs to be brought back to earth with a tether made of short, succinct directions.

There are a lot of similarities between the Pharisees of Scripture and a toddler on the edge of a meltdown. Stay with me — this will make sense, I promise. Think about it: both toddlers and Pharisees have lots of feelings and lots of opinions. Both toddlers and Pharisees think you're out to get them. Both toddlers and Pharisees keep trying to trick you to get what they think they want.

A thorough Google search informs me that there are about 80,000 words in the Torah. Eighty-thousand words, and Jesus can boil it all down to 27: "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind" and "You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'

It doesn't make the excess words untrue; it doesn't even make them unnecessary. Sometimes I need the long explanation, the full and complete picture.

Because sometimes, as much as I hate to admit it, I act like both a toddler and a Pharisee. I am carried away by my feelings. I don't trust God. I am about to bolt.

When that happens, I need to be told in short and simple terms what my salvation means. I need a tether made of short, succinct directions.

"The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments. Matthew 22:40

# THE BULLETIN BOARD

St. Mary's School Open House PreKindergarten thru 8th Grade

Tuesday, Nov. 7, 2023 9:00 am to 2:00 pm Or 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm

Register Today!





November 11th

Reservations Only Contact by: 11/5/23

Keilbasa - Pierogi - Stuffed Cabbage - Green Beans - Salad Rye Bread - Dessert - Drink



\$18/Person Children Under 12 FREE (Dine In Only)

> 203.377.9901 stjosparishpncc@outlook.com Saintjosephsofstratford.org

As we pray urgently for peace, we recall especially all the families and individuals suffering from these events.

- Pope Francis

### St. Paul Catholic High School OPEN HOUSE

If you or someone you know has a prospective student looking to attend St. Paul Catholic High School, Bristol in the 2023 or 2024 school years this is the open house you'll want to visit. All tours are by appointment and each family will take a guided tour around our campus building. Visit <u>spchs.com/openhouse</u> to register for an appointment time on **November 18 with appointments beginning at 10:00am**.

Also, St. Paul Catholic High School will hold a **Placement Exam** for prospective grade 9 and grade 10 students. The Placement Exam is a standardized test that incoming students take which evaluates their performance levels in math, language and reading. This exam will be held at the school on **Saturday, December 2 beginning at 8:00am.** To register, visit <u>spchs.com/placementexam</u>.

HAPF

# **Church of St. Ann** Children's Christmas Pageant

"Please let us know if you are interested in your child(ren) participating in our upcoming Christmas Pageant! The pageant will be held on Saturday, December 16th at 6pm and we would like to get a sense of how many children are interested in participating as soon as possible! Please fill out this form as soon as possible. Thank you!







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

St. Ann, Avon, CT