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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



31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"The greatest among you must be your servant." - Mt 23:11

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



31st Sunday in Ordinary Time



SUNDAY, November 5, 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

- **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

MONDAY, November 6 9:00 Joe Koe, requested by the family

TUESDAY, November 7 9:00 Gregory Smith, requested by Paula Allan

WEDNESDAY, November 8 9:00 Patricia Beckius, requested by Paula Allan

THURSDAY, November 9, The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

9:00 Special Intentions

FRIDAY, November 10, Saint Leo the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church
9:00 Lois Kelly, requested by Marcia Lysak

SATURDAY, November 11, Saint Martin of Tours, Bishop

4:00 Frank Chach (20th Ann.), requested by his daughter

SUNDAY, November 12

- **7:30** Dave Romani, requested by Mike Williams
- 9:30 Dorothy LaRosa, requested by her husband, Michael
- **11:00** For the intentions of Claudia Kusmierz (Living), requested by the Osiecki Family

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."



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, 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

MONDAY, November 6

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

TUESDAY, November 7

Walking With Purpose: will return next week

WEDNESDAY, November 8

Jesus: The Way, the Truth & the Life: 9:30am in Fr. Bennett Hall RCIA: 6:30pm in Room 3 Walking With Purpose: will return next week

THURSDAY, November 9 Holy Hour: 12 noon in the church Children's Choir Rehearsal: 4pm in the Choir Loft

FRIDAY, November 10 Lectio Divina: 9:45am via Zoom

SATURDAY, November 11 Men's Breakfast Group: 8:00 am in Room 3

SUNDAY, November 12

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

Annual Parish Collection Church of Saint Ann

We have currently reached about 70% of our Annual Collection Goal. Thank you to those who have helped us reach this point! If you have yet to do so already, please prayerfully consider a sacrificial gift to help us reach 100% . If you need a pledge form or would like to make an online donation, please check our website: www.stannavon.org or call the parish office. online gift at stannavon.org . Thank you!



Powered by Silent Partne



-Pope Francis

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Tuesday Evenings from 6-7:30pm, Starting on November 21, 2023

The National Eucharistic Revival is a movement to restore our understanding and devotion to the great mystery of the real presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist by helping us renew our worship of Jesus Christ's Eucharistic face exposed in a monstrance on the altar.

At The Church of Saint Ann, we are participating in this Program and offering more opportunity to visit with Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. Beginning on the Feast of the Presentation of The Most Blessed Mother on Tuesday November 21, 2023, and every Tuesday thereafter, we will have Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 6PM to 7:30PM. We ask all parishioners and families to make this powerful devotion. Come and see. Speak to Jesus in your own words and in your own way.





Weekend of November 18/19, 2023 at Church of Saint Ann Saturday: 3:30-5pm * Sunday: 7am-12:30pm

Look for the truck labeled "Turkey Express"

Please consider donating the following Thanksgiving dinner items for our Avon and Hartford neighbors:

1. Gift Cards to Stop & Shop or Big Y 2. Frozen Turkeys and Hams (Chickens are okay too) (under 20 lbs.)

Suggested Fixings:

stuffing mix, jellied cranberry sauce, fresh or canned vegetables, rice, bag of potatoes &/or sweet potatoes, butter, cheese, fresh or canned fruit, juice, dinner rolls, frosting, brownie/cake mixes, gravy, mayonnaise...

Our Parish Goal is 200 Turkeys and 50 Hams and Lots of Fixings!

Thank you for your generosity and have a wonderful Thanksgiving.

Sponsored by our Social Outreach Committee "Together We Serve All God's People"



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.



The focus of today's readings is on humility. To believe that Jesus is truly present in the Holy Eucharist and that the Blessed Sacrament is NOT just a symbol, we must have the virtue of humility. Bishop Erin Varden wrote, "Humility is not a coward's virtue. Its beatitude is found through an abandonment in faith that touches the heroic." Abandonment in faith is required to embrace the Chruch's teaching that Christ is truly present to us in the consecrated Host. What is required is a childlike simplicity and trust in the words of Jesus, "This is my Body. This is my Blood."

Reflection: Pause for a moment to reflect upon the humility of Jesus to be present to us in the small, consecrated Host. If we were able to see the glory of Christ, our Lord, Our God and Our Savior, who is truly present to us in the Blessed Sacrament, we would die of joy. In today's Gospel (Matthew 23:11), Jesus tells us that "the greatest among you must be your servant." Truly Christ's humility in the Blessed Sacrament teaches us by example that He stoops to be our servant in the Sacred Host and subsequently invites us to do likewise, once we have received Him.

WEEKLY ORDINARY INCOME

Weekly Collection for 10/29/23: \$4,170.00 Catholic Worker House: \$180.93 Votive Candles for the week: \$1,403.00

Online Giving (Oct. 25-Nov. 1, 2023) Weekly: \$3,096.50 Catholic Worker House: \$30.00 Next Weekend's 2nd Collection: monthly

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

Do You Know Anyone Who Could Use the Comfort of a Prayer Shaw1?



St. Ann's Prayer Shawl Ministry has shawls available! If you know of someone who is going through an illness or time of need and feel a prayer shawl will lift their spirits or provide comfort, please contact Tina Dibble, 860-331-1673, (tmdibble@comcast.net), to pick one up. In addition, we might also have a few lap robes, which are ideally suited for someone who is wheelchair bound.

International Fair Trade Bazaar

- Sunday, November 19th: 9am - 12:30pm 🔹
- Fr. Bennett Hall

Please join us to support farmers and artisans from developing countries. Your faithful support is always appreciated!

Coffee (Haiti) * Woven crafts (Honduras & Guatemala) Chocolates (Haiti) and more! *

sponsored by Saint Ann's Social Outreach Ministry

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!





Knights of Columbus Annual Thanksgiving Pie Sale

Orders can be placed after Masses on November 4/5 and 11/12. Pick up pies after Masses the weekend of November 18/19.

Only \$15 each our locally sourced pies are made just for you! Apple * Peach Praline * Pumpkin * Very Berry

OR...order & pay online at: www.osvhub.com/stannavon/forms/koc-thanksgiving-pie-sale All proceeds benefit St. Ann's ministries and charities within our local community!

Worship & Meditation: 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

You have turned aside from the way, and have caused many to falter by your instruction. (Mal 2:8)

Psalm:

In you, Lord, I have found my peace. (Ps 131)

Second Reading:

With such affection for you, we were determined to share with you

not only the gospel of God, but our very selves as well, so dearly beloved had you become to us. (1Thes 2:8)

Gospel:

"Therefore, do and observe all things whatsoever they tell you, but do not follow their example. For they preach but they do not practice." (Mt 23:3)

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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

Christ turns the way of the world upside down: the great become the small and the honored ones become humble. Be small, and you will feel his greatness. Be humble, and you will know the honor of Heaven.

Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Last Easter season a new convert to Catholicism at my parish asked me with a grave tone in her voice: "Why do we call priests 'father' if Jesus says, 'Call no man on earth your father, for you have one Father, who is in heaven'?" Thinking myself clever, I asked, "Do you think it's okay to call someone your 'teacher' or 'mister' or 'dad'?" She said, "Yes, I do." I responded, "Well, Jesus seems to forbid that, too. So, it's obviously hyperbole that he's using." She thought for a moment and declared, "Then I will stop using those words, too!" And she walked away. Not the outcome I was seeking.

We shouldn't be too hasty in dismissing this complaint voiced by many non-Catholics. The expression "father" for ordained priests is not honorary for the individual man. The priest's fatherhood doesn't begin or end in him at all. Rather, the title "father" indicates that he is a sacramental sign of God's Fatherhood revealed in Jesus. I can tell you, as a very unworthy bearer of that title, we should give and receive that title with some trepidation (because of God's awesomeness) and with a little sense of humor (because of the lowliness of the men with the title).

The longer I'm a priest, the more I'm comfortable with people not using the title "father" and just calling me "John." After all, only God is Father in the truest sense. At the same time, Jesus has brought the Father close to us, very close. We honor this closeness in some men with the title "father." Who are the priests in your life whom Christ has sent to you? How wonderful that Christ has surrounded us with humble signs of his Father's love. It's good to celebrate that love with gratitude for the priests in our lives.

— Father John Muir

Questions of the

Week Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading:

The prophet Malachi informs the priests of Israel that God is aware that their instruction has caused many to stumble in their faith. Have you ever had to help someone who has lost their faith?

Second Reading:

Paul expresses his gratitude to the Thessalonians for their openness to hear and believe the word of God taught by them. Who in your life might be open to hearing the word of God from you?

Gospel:

Jesus challenged the crowds and his disciples to be as servants to each other, acting always in humility. How might you be a servant to someone at work or at home?





A Heavy Burden, Hard to Carry

"Mommy, you haven't been making any sacrifices."

My daughter was peering through the little opening in the plastic cover of the "sacrifice jar" we made for Lent this year. The repurposed oatmeal container, jazzed up with glitter glue and pictures of St. Therese of Lisieux, was more than half -filled with little slips of paper bearing descriptions of the various sacrifices family members had made for one another.

But she was right: every piece of paper bore the childlike scrawl of herself and her brother. I had not added anything to the sacrifice jar.

"If I wrote down every sacrifice I made for you in just a single day, the jar would explode," I retorted, and even though my

Readings for the Week of November 5, 2023

Sunday:

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

Monday:

Rom 11:29-36/Ps 69:30-31, 33-34, 36/Lk 14:12-14

Tuesday:

Rom 12:5-16b/Ps 131:1bcde, 2, 3/ Lk 14:15-24

Wednesday:

Rom 13:8-10/Ps 112:1b-2, 4-5, 9/ Lk 14:25-33

Thursday:

Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17/Jn 2:13-22

Friday:

Rom 15:14-21/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/ Lk 16:1-8

Saturday:

Rom 16:3-9, 16, 22-27/Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 10-11/Lk 16:9-15

Next Sunday:

Wis 6:12-16/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (2b)/1 Thes 4:13-18 or 4:13-14/ Mt 25:1-13

daughter giggled, I instantly regretted the comment, sighing as I realized I did it again. I let a snide, self-pitying thought form on my lips and make its way into the world because for a brief moment I thought someone didn't appreciate my (imagine me sniffing injuredly here) hard work.

We sneer at the scribes and the Pharisees as Jesus describes them in the Gospel, lengthening their phylacteries and coveting the places of honor. But then I remember: nobody starts out *meaning* to be a jerk.

We want to do good things. We try to be holy. But it's hard, that burden weighs heavy on our back.

So, we murmur about it here and there. We stop to catch our breath. We glimpse other people looking at our burden with approval and admiration, and we breathe a little harder, groan a little deeper. And somewhere along the way the burden becomes an idol and our labor a performance. We dare not ask for help bearing it, for we prize too greatly the sweat of our own brow.

"The greatest among you must be your servant." — Matthew 23:11

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