

WEEKEND ASSISTANT Rev. Joseph P. Cheah, OSM, Ph.D.

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CHURCH OF SAINT ANN TRUSTEES Kelly McCabe and Kathy Randall Gill

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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

3rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Jesus said to them, "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men." - Mk 1:17

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

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 Tuesdays 6 - 7:30pm 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



3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time



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, January 20

Men's Breakfast Group: 8:00 am in Room 3 Annual Used Book Sale: 9am - 2pm in Fr. Bennett Hall

SUNDAY, January 21

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

MONDAY, January 22

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, January 23

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: 6 -7:30pm in the church

WEDNESDAY, January 24

Presence: The Mystery of the Eucharist: 9:30am in Fr. Bennett Hall RCIA: 6:30pm in Room 3 Walking With Purpose: 7pm in Fr. Bennett Hall

THURSDAY, January 25

Making Sense Out of Suffering Book Study: 9:30am in Fr. Bennett Hall Holy Hour: 12 noon in the church Children's Choir Rehearsal: 4:15pm in the Choir Loft

FRIDAY, January 26

Lectio Divina: 9:45am via Zoom

SATURDAY, January 27

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

SUNDAY, January 28

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

* If the Book Sale was postponed due to weather, they will still be set up in the Hall this week so some meetings may be cancelled or in a different room

Have you Read God's Love Letter to You?

As we celebrate Sunday of the Word of God on January 21st, consider checking out one of the many opportunities St. Ann's offers to unlock the meaning of Scripture for our lives: <u>https://www.stannavon.org/faith-studies</u>

SATURDAY, January 20,

Saint Fabian, Pope L Martyr; Saint Sebastian, Martyr; BVM

4:00 Michael Rubino, requested by the Scapellati Family

SUNDAY, January 21, Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 7:30 Margaret Coombs, requested by her daughter, Tracie Borden
- **9:30** Hugh & Susan Linnane, requested by Christine Linnane and the Stack Family
- **11:00** Jolanta & Bogdan Nizanski, requested by the Osiecki Family

Monday, January 22,

Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children

9:00 For the sanctity of all human life, especially the unborn, requested by St. Ann's Pro-Life Ministry

TUESDAY, January 23, Saint Vincent, Deacon and Martyr; USA: Saint Marianne Cope, Virgin

9:00 David Spino, requested by the Theroux Family

WEDNESDAY, January 24,

Saint Francis de Sales, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

9:00 Jay Zinser, requested by Bill and Theresa Bachhuber

THURSDAY, January 25,

The Conversion of Saint Paul the Apostle

9:00 Albert and Vera Alft, requested by Bill and Janet Newman

FRIDAY, January 26, Saints Timothy and Titus, Bishops9:00 Tom Reno, requested by Cindy Reno Waldeck

SATURDAY, January 27, Saint Angela Merici, Virgin; BVM 4:00 Billy Martinez, requested by his mom

SUNDAY, January 28, Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 Thomas and Ella Heavren, requested by Tom and Pat Heavren

- 9:30 Alice Kuzia, requested by St. Ann's Eucharistic Ministers
- **11:00** Alice Kuzia, requested by Tom and Marilyn Lenihan

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

Pray for Vocations





Join us in January for this FREE 3-Part Series on the Eucharist

At St. Ann Church in Fr. Bennett Hall on Wednesday Mornings

Dates: January 10th, 24th and 31st (Snow Date – February 7th)

<u>Time:</u> 9:30 am – 11:00 am

RSVP: andreapizzuti333@gmail.com

Although the Eucharist appears to be simple bread and wine, it is actually the "source and summit" of the Christian life.

Presence: The Mystery of the Eucharist explores the truth and beauty of Christ's real presence in the Eucharist, from its origins in Sacred Scripture, to its profound role in the life of the Church and her members.

It is the crescendo of the entire story of Salvation!



THE BIBLE and the VIRGIN MARY

This dynamic 12-Part video series beautifully explains the Catholic truths about Our Lady. We will learn how the Blessed Virgin Mary has been part of God's plan to bring salvation to the world since the beginning of time.



 ATE:
 February 14 - May 8th, 2024

 ME:
 9:30 - 11:00 am

 ACE:
 St. Ann (Fr. Bennett Hall)

 DST:
 \$20 Workbook

RSVP: andreapizzuti333@gmail.com



Walking With Purpose Women's Bible Study

Ladies, Please Join Us And Strengthen Your Trust In God As You See His Plan Unfold Throughout Biblical History!

Newcomers Welcome!!

WE'LL MEET FROM JAN 16 & 17 THROUGH MAR 19 & 20

CHOOSE TUESDAY 10:15 AM VIA ZOOM OR

WEDNESDAY 7:00 PM IN FATHER BENNETT HALL

COST \$22



"POTLUCK" International Food Feast

Saturday, February 10th 5:00pm in Fr. Bennett Hall

Kick off 2024 by joining your parish family as we CELEEBRATE DIVERSITY in FOOD!

Sign up to bring your favorite ethnic dish to share, or just come and enjoy!

Hosted by our Social Outreach Ministry





(860-673-9858, x221) or kris.martino@stannavon.com Please leave: your name, dish bringing & phone #

> **You can drop off your dish in the kitchen area of Fr. Bennett Hall anytime after 11am on Saturday, February 10th

WEEKLY ORDINARY INCOME

Weekly Collection for 1/14/24: \$4,390.60 Utility Fund: \$1868.00 Votive Candles for the week ending 1/14/24: \$178.27

Online Giving (Jan. 10-17, 2024) Weekly: \$2,985.50 Utility Fund: \$70.00 Next Weekend's 2nd Collection: monthly

PRO-LIFE MINISTRY

Upcoming Pro-Life Events

Archbishop Reverend William E. Lori, Chairman of the USCCB Committee for Pro-Life Activities urges us to Build a Culture of Life in a Post-Roe World." We proclaim "a vision for our society that upholds the truth that every human life is sacred and inviolable-a society in which the legal protection of human life is accompanied by profound care for mothers and their children" We recommitted our committees to work to make this vision a reality. And we urge our dioceses, parishes, and Catholic agencies and institutions to do I ikewise.

- Monday, January 22nd: Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children - Celebration of the 9am Mass with prayers for the sanctity of all life, especially the unborn.
- February 10th/11th: Helping Moms in Need Valentine's Day Fundraiser HUGS FROM THE HEART to support Two Hearts Pregnancy Care Center in Torrington. Date and details in a future bulletin.





A layman and French author, Leon Bloy, wrote these words in his novel "La Femme": "*The only real sadness, the only real failure, the only great tragedy in life is not to become a saint.*"

<u>Reflection</u>: If you haven't yet made a New Year's resolution, perhaps ponder Leon Bloy's quote above and seriously prioritize it as your preeminent priority.

Grab friends and make new ones at St. Ann's first social gathering of the year

Beer Tasting & Dinner Event

BARREL ROOM AT NEW PARK BREWERY West Hartford

> JANUARY 27TH, 6:00 - 8:30 PM \$25.00 PER GUEST

to sample beer and food - cash bar to follow food provided by CT Provisions

> desserts will be provided by St. Ann's new social group, The GATHER Committee

PLEASE RSVP BY JAN. 21 TO REGISTER & PROVIDE PAYMENT:: www.stannavon.org/the-gather-committee



Once again, St. Ann has outdone themselves on the Christmas gift collection for ImmaCare. The amount of warm gloves, socks, hats and scarves donated was overwhelming . You not only supplied enough for those staying at ImmaCare and the many people supported through the ImmaCare outreach program but also enough to have a back up supply when new people come to the door. Adorable bags decorated by children at Pine Grove School, were filled with the hats, socks and all the different warm clothing items donated. The Bible Study group put together an additional 75 beautiful bags filled with much needed personal supplies and snacks. The Prayer Shawl Ministry, as always, donated lots of beautifully handmade items. Your compassion and generosity to those whom you do not even know," and your love and prayers impact so many. We are asked to relay their thanks and wishes for a blessed 2024.

Worship & Meditation: 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

When God saw by their actions how they turned from their evil way, he repented of the evil that he had threatened to do to

them;

he did not carry it out. (Jon 3:10)

Psalm:

Teach me your ways, O Lord. (Ps 25)

Second Reading:

For the world in its present form is passing away. (1 Cor 7:31)

Gospel:

Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God: "This is the time of fulfillment.

The kingdom of God is at hand.

Repent, and believe in the gospel." (Mk 1:14-15)

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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

The disciples were fishing when Christ found them, hard at work to support their families, casting their nets into the sea. Sometimes when God calls us, we are in the middle of something else. Don't be afraid to change your plans to follow Him.

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Gospel Meditation Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

We start telling lies around the age of three, the experts

tell us. It's understandable. Lying is a god-like power. Whatever I want, I need only *say* it, and the world rearranges itself accordingly. It's amazing at first. But soon reality snaps back and I'm faced with a dilemma. If I remain committed to my lie I start to fracture into pieces. My words and reality drift apart, and I find myself lost in a lonely world of further falsehoods and fear of being found out.

How marvelous, then, that Jesus begins his ministry by proclaiming: "**Repent!**" We tend to think it means "stop doing bad things" but it doesn't. It literally means "go beyond the mind you have." Think in a new way. It's painful to admit, but some portion of my mind is addicted to lie-telling, usually to protect my ego or make life easier. To repent means to admit this tendency, to say, "I'm done lying," and to move beyond my split mind into a complete commitment to the truth. Perhaps that's why at Mass we together proclaim, "I have sinned in my *thoughts*, and in my *words...*" Repentance and truth-telling work together.

Those who know the twelve-step process of addiction recovery know this process well. The fourth step requires radical truth-telling: listing our moral defects. This isn't being scrupulous. Rather it is freedom from falsehood, and entrance into the real world. This week, I invite you to join me in this practice. Get your phone or piece of paper. Answer the question: what are your true moral defects? Write them down. Remember, the Lord knows them already and loves you. We have a sacrament where this truth-telling is celebrated: Confession. Perhaps it is finally time to go beyond our childish lies.

- Father John Muir

Questions of the

Week Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading:

The people of Nineveh (the capital city of the Assyrian Empire and historic enemy of Israel) repented of their sins when they heard Jonah's warning of God's impending destruction of their city. What motivates you to repent?

Second Reading:

Paul encouraged the believers in Corinth to live with a sense of urgency and in a radically different way than before coming to faith in Jesus. In what way are you living counterculturally as a person of faith? **Gospel:**

This Sunday we hear the first words of Jesus in Mark's account of the call of the first disciples: "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel." Jesus taught that the time had come for God to come and reclaim His world. What excites you about this message?





A Good Time for Fulfillment

There are some things that always come at the worst time. I've never gotten a telemarketing call and thought, "This is a really convenient moment for me to listen to a sales pitch." I've never seen the compulsory software update notice flash on my computer screen when I didn't have a deadline I was struggling to meet. My kids never come down with the flu unless it's the weekend and the line at Urgent Care is stretching out the door.

And I never, ever feel the calm, persistent shoulder-tap of the Holy Spirit without thinking, "Now? Now is not a good time. Can you try again when I'm..."

But then I stop and think: when I am what? When I am stronger? When I am happier? When I am smarter? When I am a different person?

Readings for the Week of January 21, 2024

Monday:

2 Sm 5:1-7, 10/Ps 89:20, 21-22, 25-26/Mk 3:22-30

Tuesday:

2 Sm 6:12b-15, 17-19/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10/Mk 3:31-35

Wednesday:

2 Sm 7:4-17/Ps 89:4-5, 27-28, 29-30/Mk 4:1-20

Thursday:

Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22/ Ps 117:1bc, 2/Mk 16:15-18

Friday:

2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 7-8a, 10/Mk 4:26-34

Saturday:

2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17/Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 16-17/Mk 4:35-41

Next Sunday:

Dt 18:15-20/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 7-9 (8)/1 Cor 7:32-35/Mk 1:21-28

When God calls us, He calls the person He sees in front of Him. "Come on," He says, and He doesn't mean "When you're finished" or "When it's convenient" or "Think about it." He means now. This moment.

This is what Paul is saying when he writes that "the world in its present form is passing away." He is saying that your plans mean nothing, the kingdom of God is at hand. Abandon your nets, let your catch escape into the sea. You're not who you thought you were, and you don't need what you thought you needed.

Your sins do not define you. Your fears are not fate. Your inclinations do not govern you. Your life can be changed. We live in the time of fulfillment, and fulfillment is coming for you — ready or not.

"Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God: 'This is the time of fulfillment.'" — Mark 1:14

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THE BULLETIN BOARD

ORTHWEST CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Northwest Catholic High School is now accepting applications for the 2024-25 academic year! We educate the whole person, mind, body, spirit, and imagination. Discover the depth and breadth of a Northwest Catholic education by scheduling a tour at www.northwestcatholic.org/admissions.

The next placement test for incoming freshmen is scheduled for January 20, 2023. Any current 8th grade student considering NWC should click here to register: https:// stsusers.com/stsusers/registration/static/portal.php. Enter school code ZR when prompted.

Please save the date for some more fun admissions events:

April 3, 2024: 7th Grade Experience Day

April 21, 2024: Spring Open House

For any inquiries, please reach out to Amy Mandrola, Director of Admissions, at 860-236-4221 ext. 140 or at amandrola@nwcath.org.

St. Paul Catholic High School Bristol. CT Open House/Placement Exam Information

St. Paul Catholic High School has announced its open house campus tour dates for the new year. If you or someone you know has a prospective student looking to attend St. Paul in the 2024/2025 school year 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 spchs.com/openhouse to register for an appointment time on Saturday, January 27 with appointments beginning at 10:00am.

Also, St. Paul Catholic High School has scheduled a date for prospective students going into 9th or 10th grade to take the Placement Exam on Saturday. February 10 at 8:00am. The Placement Exam is a standardized test that incoming students take which evaluates their performance levels in math, language and reading.

To register, visit spchs.com/placementexam.

WE SHOULD SPEND AS MUCH TIME IN THANKING GOD FOR HIS BENEFITS AS WE DO IN ASKING FOR THEM.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

ENDURF

Join the Endure Initiative 2024: Endure is a post wedding, marriage enrichment initiative, geared towards empowering couples with proven strategies and key marriage skills. Endure is NOT a program, it is a process designed to strengthen a couple's relationship, create deeper understanding of the sacramentality of marriage, establish lasting connections with other couples and increase involvement in the parish community.

Whether you are a newlywed or married for many years, Endure is for you. Workshop sessions will held Saturdays in February and March via Zoom.

For more information, contact Valerie St. Jean, Coordinator of Adult and Family Life Ministries, Valerie.stjean@aohct.org or 860-242-5573, x2678





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St. Ann, Avon, CT