



# Church of Saint Ann

289 Arch Road \* Avon, Connecticut \* 06001

[www.stannavon.org](http://www.stannavon.org)

860-673-9858

Reverend Alphonso Fontana, Pastor

## 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](mailto:russ.koch@stannavon.com)

## DIRECTOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (K - 8)

Deborah Benson, MA, CAGS: ext. 223 [deborah.benson@stannavon.com](mailto:deborah.benson@stannavon.com)

## CONFIRMATION, OCIA, ADULT CONFIRMATION

Rosemary Neamtz, MSW: ext. 226 [rosemary.neamtz@stannavon.com](mailto:rosemary.neamtz@stannavon.com)

## CHURCH ACCOUNTANT

Jennifer Soucy, CPA: ext.234 [jennifer.soucy@stannavon.com](mailto:jennifer.soucy@stannavon.com)

## DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

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## PARISH OFFICE MANAGER

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## DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

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## MINISTRIES COORDINATOR

Chip Janiszewski: [chip.janiszeuski@stannavon.com](mailto:chip.janiszeuski@stannavon.com)

## CEMETERY SUPERINTENDENT

Mike Gould: ext.225



## BAPTISM and MARRIAGES:

Please call the Parish Office: 860-673-9858, ext. 221.

Wedding dates should be scheduled 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.

## 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



## WELCOME TO THE CHURCH OF SAINT ANN

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](http://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!*



### MASS INTENTIONS

#### First Sunday of Advent

**SATURDAY, November 30, Saint Andrew, Apostle**

**4:00** Art Hennig, requested by the Hennig Family

**SUNDAY, December 1, First Sunday of Advent**

**7:30** For the healing of Angie Fontana (living),  
 requested by the Parish of Saint Ann

**9:30** Patrice McGregor, requested by  
 Barbara Schortzmann

**11:00** Richard Dillon, requested by Tom & Marilyn Lenihan

**MONDAY, December 2**

**9:00** Nunzio Calderone, requested by the Hennig Family

**TUESDAY, December 3, Saint Xavier, Priest**

**9:00** Marion Zalenski, requested by  
 the ZuWallack Family

**WEDNESDAY, December 4**

*Saint John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church*

**9:00** Richard Cheah, requested by the Parish of St. Ann

**THURSDAY, December 5**

**9:00** Dorothy LaRosa, requested by  
 her husband, Michael

**FRIDAY, December 6, Saint Nicholas, Bishop**

**9:00** Tom Reno, requested by Kathy Randall Gill

**SATURDAY, December 7,**

*Saint Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church*

**4:00** Derek Stockwell, requested by  
 the Stockwell & Rivera Families

**SUNDAY, December 8, Second Sunday of Advent**

**7:30** Vincent Reilly, requested by the Osiecki Family

**9:30** Marcel Robaczynski, requested by the family

**11:00** Donald Nelson, requested by the Nelson Family

*To schedule a Mass Intention, please call or email  
 Kris in the Parish Office: 860-673-9858, ext. 221 or  
[kris.martino@stannavon.com](mailto:kris.martino@stannavon.com)  
 Suggested Donations: \$30 Weekends, \$25 Weekdays*



### Sanctuary Lamp Memorial

The Sanctuary Lamp burns this week for  
 the Greater honor and glory of God and:

In loving memory of:

Requested by:

Prayers for the living:

Requested by:

**We pray for the safe  
 return of those currently  
 serving in our Military**



*Contact the Parish Office to have your family members added.*

LCDR Jack Hamel, USCG  
 LCDR Victoria Hamel, USCG  
 CPT Sean Neagle, USArmy  
 1LT Brian J. Heaven Jr., USArmy

Capt. Matthew Mascoli, USMC  
 1LT Andrew Mascoli, USMC  
 ME3 Luke Hobbs, USCG

QR code to donate:

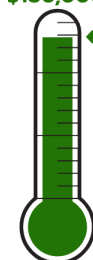


### Annual Parish Collection

Church of Saint Ann

as of 11-22-2024

**\$180,000**



Raised  
 \$164,109

**91%  
 Almost  
 there!**

We are very grateful for the generosity shown by so many parish households to our **Annual Collection**. Every gift is welcomed and sincerely appreciated. The collection, if successful, will provide funding to assist the parish in balancing the operations budget and earmarking funds for capital improvements. **Thank you!**



## THIS WEEK AT ST. ANN

### SATURDAY, November 30

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

### SUNDAY, December 1

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

### MONDAY, December 2

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:** 9:30-10:30am in the church

**Faith Study for Moms:** 10-11:15am in the Activity Room

**Prayer Shawl Ministry Meeting:** 7pm in Fr. Bennett Hall

**MMP Cenacle-Rosary Prayer Group:** 7:15pm in the church

**Lectio Divina:** 7:15pm in Room 3

### TUESDAY, December 3

**Rooted and Radiant (WWP):** 10:15 via ZOOM

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

### WEDNESDAY, December 4

**Advent Reflection:** 9:30am in Fr. Bennett Hall

**Rooted and Radiant (WWP):** 7pm in Fr. Bennett Hall

### THURSDAY, December 5

**Advent Book Study:** 9:30am in Room 1

**New Day Seminar:** 9:45am in Room 3

**Holy Hour:** 12 noon in the church

### FRIDAY, December 6

**Lectio Divina:** 9:45am via Zoom (check with leader)

### SATURDAY, December 7

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

### SUNDAY, 8

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

## WEEKLY ORDINARY INCOME

### Weekly Giving for Sunday, November 24, 2024

*Due to having an early publisher deadline for this bulletin, these numbers will be reported in the 12/8/24 bulletin.*

## Christmas PLANT SALE

Help us decorate our beautiful altar with Christmas plants and flowers by donating \$10 in memory of or in honor of a loved one. Donations are used towards the purchase of these plants and flowers. Your loved one's names will be included in the 4th Sunday of Advent's bulletin. Pick up an order form w/attached envelope in the Gathering Space. Put completed form & payment in the envelope and drop in the basket near the forms or at the Parish Office. Deadline for orders is December 10th.

Download a form to print  
& return completed with  
payment at:  
[www.stannavon.org/  
christmas-plant-orders](http://www.stannavon.org/christmas-plant-orders)

Order & Pay  
Online by  
scanning  
QR code:




## Prayer Shawl Ministry

*Next Meeting:*  
**Monday, December 2nd**  
**7-8:30pm in Fr. Bennett Hall**

*All skill levels are welcome!*  
*For information call Tina at 860-331-1673*



## The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

IS NOT A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION THIS YEAR AND  
WILL BE CELEBRATED AT THE 9:00AM MASS ON  
MONDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2024



## Advent Wreath Lighting

If you or your family would like to light our Advent Wreath during an Advent Mass, please sign up in the purple binder in the Gathering Space. There is one spot for each Mass so spaces are limited.



Sign up soon because Advent is just around the corner!  
Thank you!



## ImmaCare Outreach Collection

The collection has begun! We will be putting together Christmas gift bags for the ImmaCare Outreach van to deliver to individuals living outdoors in the most dangerous areas of the city. These people are living in parks, under bridges and along railroad tracks. Hopefully we will get lots of warm socks, and new, long sleeved t-shirts, which were requested. Other high need items are granola bars, peanut butter crackers, trail mix, Vienna sausages, and tuna kits. Would love to include these in the bags. Also, not as Christmas gifts, but sweatpants and sweatshirts are always needed. They would not have to be brand new.

Please drop off in the boxes in Father Bennett Hall and Gathering Space **before December 8.**

*ImmaCare extended their thanks in advance, and wish you and your families a blessed holiday season.*



## Annual Toy/Gift Collection

### Weekend of December 14/15, 2024

#### Option 1:

Take one or more paper Christmas gift requests from the panel in the Gathering Space or side entrance. Purchase gift card and **securely tape the identifying tag to the gift.** Recipients will be children and families at Catholic Worker House, Catholic Charities families and Prudence Crandall Center (domestic family shelter).

#### Option 2:

Purchase one or more gifts (please, no war games) **DO NOT WRAP.** Recipients will be children in Avon & Hartford.

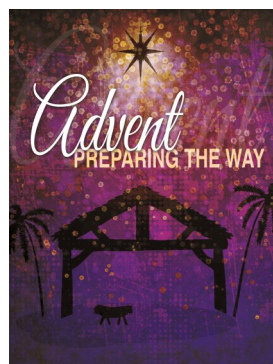
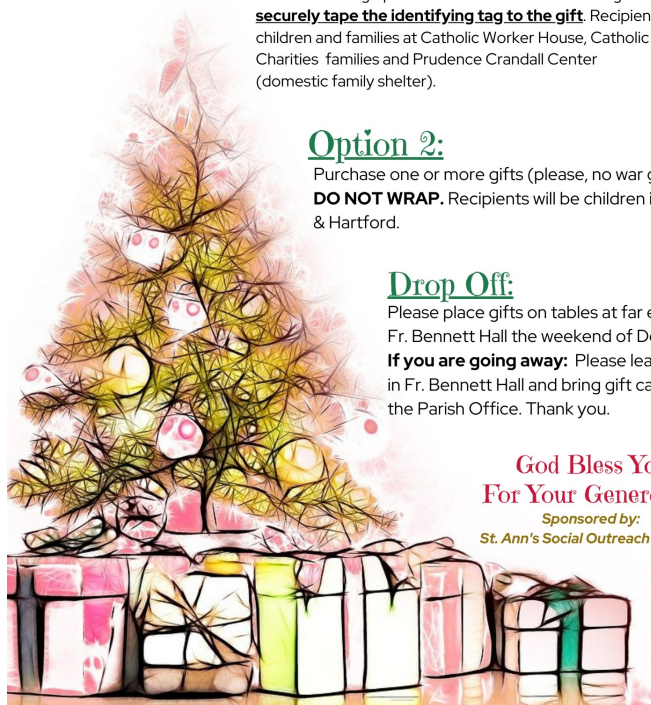
#### Drop Off:

Please place gifts on tables at far end of Fr. Bennett Hall the weekend of Dec. 14/15.

**If you are going away:** Please leave gifts in Fr. Bennett Hall and bring gift cards to the Parish Office. Thank you.

**God Bless You  
For Your Generosity!**

Sponsored by:  
St. Ann's Social Outreach Ministry



## Advent Reconciliation

*Monday, December 16th*

**7:00pm**

Give yourself the gift of forgiveness and peace as you prepare your heart to welcome Jesus at Christmas.

## Retirement Fund for Religious Collection: December 7/8

You can help. "Religious are blessed to serve," says Dominican Father Bertrand Ebben, age 90. Please donate to the Retirement Fund for Religious collection next weekend. Your gift will provide essential care for nearly 25,000 senior sisters, brothers and religious order priests who have dedicated their lives to serving others.

Let us show our gratitude to these selfless individuals by giving generously.

## LESSONS & CAROLS

A FESTIVE EVENING DEDICATED TO  
THE GREATEST EVENT,  
THE BIRTH OF JESUS CHRIST

**JANUARY 4, 2025**

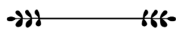
*hosted by St. Ann's Family Ministry*





# Branches on the Vine

News from the Archdiocese of Hartford · November 30 - December 6, 2024



## TAKING A PRAYER WALK IN ROCKY HILL

Before her passing at age 91 this past July, Jeannine Laraia watched her nephew, Father George Couturier, celebrate Mass at one two churches in Rocky Hill that make up St. Josephine Bakhita Parish.

Laraia, a Port Charlotte, Fla., resident, watched a livestream of the Mass on her computer by visiting the parish website, [saintjosephinebakhita.org](http://saintjosephinebakhita.org).

"She would usually watch Mass every Sunday at St. Elizabeth Seton Church," Father Couturier says of his aunt. After her passing, he celebrated her funeral Mass at the church.

As a gift to the priest in memory of his aunt, the parish staff planted a crepe myrtle tree on the campus of St. Elizabeth Seton Church, part of St. Josephine Bakhita Parish.

The fast-growing tree, which can withstand cold temperatures, blooms with bright colors in the warmer weather and produces fall foliage in the cooler temperatures.

Planted this past August, the tree is the newest addition to the grounds of St. Elizabeth Seton Church, which offers several outdoor places for group or private prayer in addition to beautiful trees, shrubs, perennials and flowers.



*Father George Couturier stands beside a tree planted for his aunt at St. Elizabeth Seton Church campus, part of St. Josephine Bakhita Parish in Rocky Hill.*

"There are always people planting on the campuses," says Father Couturier. "People often drive by and say a prayer." The campus was a popular walking spot during the coronavirus pandemic, the priest adds.

On the grounds of St. Elizabeth Seton Church, a garden devoted to Mary is a good spot for prayer. A sheltered gazebo sits in a shaded spot opposite the rectory. Benches on the church porch also offer a quiet place for reflection. A Marian meditation prayer garden was dedicated in September 2020.

St. James Church, also part of the parish, offers several outdoor spots of its own along a prayer path constructed for meditative walking and prayer. They include a labyrinth next to the parish center as well as benches between two buildings on the property.

Another prayerful area on the St. James campus is a statue of Jesus Christ situated behind the parish center. Last year, a shrine to St. Anthony of Padua was rebuilt and graces a corner on the backside of the property.

In addition to the outdoor places for prayer and walking, books are available to read on church properties or to take home. Check out the selections in the Little Free Libraries located on both church campuses.

St. James Church is located at 767 Elm St., Rocky Hill. A few miles away, St. Elizabeth Seton Church is located at 280 Brook St., also in Rocky Hill. The grounds of both churches are open to the public daily for walking and prayer.

*Story and photos by Karen A. Avitabile*



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## UPCOMING EVENTS

HOSTED BY FR. ANTHONY FEDERICO

# YOUNG MEN'S RETREAT


## The Masculinity of Jesus

**MEN AGES**  
18 - 39

**DECEMBER**  
14TH AT 10 AM TO  
THE 15TH AT 1 PM

**\$100 PER  
PERSON**

On this transformational retreat, we will encounter the masculine heart of Jesus and learn to be men like him.



**Call to register: (860) 761 - 7456**  
**Registration Deadline: December 5th**

**Married, Single & Discerning Men Invited**

**Saturday, January 11 at 5:30 PM**

*St. John Bosco Parish Country Dance · St.  
Therese Hall, Branford*

Fried chicken, corn bread, beverages, potluck.  
Tickets \$10 indiv., \$35 family max.

**Thursday, January 23 - Friday, January 24**

*Pilgrimage for Life · Washington, DC*

Mark your calendars for the annual pilgrimage to Washington, D.C. to March for Life with thousands from across the country. More details to come!



**Saturday, February 15 at 4:00 PM**

*Archdiocese of Hartford Wedding Anniversary  
Mass · Cathedral of St. Joseph, Hartford*

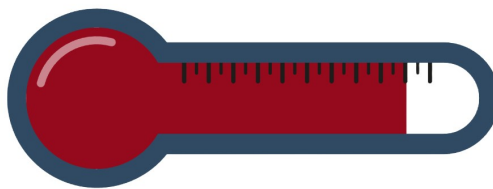
On Saturday, February 15, 2025, The Most Reverend Christopher J. Coyne, Archbishop of Hartford, will be honoring couples celebrating milestone marriage anniversaries: first and five-year increments from 5 to 60 years, and every year beyond 60 years during 2024 – 2025. The Marriage Anniversary Mass will be at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph in Hartford at 4:00 p.m.

Registration closes January 28. Register at:  
[catholicedaohct.org/anniversary-mass](http://catholicedaohct.org/anniversary-mass)

For more events, please visit:  
[archdioceseofhartford.org/events](http://archdioceseofhartford.org/events)

To submit an event for consideration, please  
email: [communications@aohct.org](mailto:communications@aohct.org)

## 2024 Archbishop's Annual Appeal



**90.18% as of 11/15/24**  
**\$9,018,196.30 of \$10M goal**







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members** and friends. **Scan this QR code**,  
submit the application, start **saving money**  
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(We encourage sharing this QR code with family,  
neighbors, and friends to **maximize your church donation**.  
This promotion ends October 31st, 2024.)



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