



Church of Saint Ann

289 Arch Road * Avon, Connecticut * 06001

www.stannavon.org

860-673-9858

Reverend Alphonso Fontana, Pastor

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Chip Janiszewski: chip.janiszewski@stannavon.com

CEMETERY SUPERINTENDENT

Mike Gould: ext.225



THE HOLY FAMILY

After three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. - Lk 2:46

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

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
If you are a visitor, we thank you for participating in worshiping with us and we hope to see you again!



MASS INTENTIONS

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

SATURDAY, December 28, *The Holy Innocents, Martyrs*

4:00 Nella Ciaccia, requested by Pat Hennig

SUNDAY, December 29,

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

7:30 *Special Intentions*

9:30 Raymond Griffin, requested by his family

11:00 Frank and Marie Gallo, requested by the family

MONDAY, December 30,

Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

9:00 Thomas Reno, requested by the Argay Family

TUESDAY, December 31, Saint Sylvester 1, Pope,

Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

9:00 Ivan Hawk III, requested by the Hawk Family

WEDNESDAY, January 1,

Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

9:00 Sandra Gomes, requested by

Neville Gomes & families

12:00 *Special Intentions*

7:00 *Special Intentions*

THURSDAY, January 2, Saints Basil the Great and Gregory

Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church

9:00 Art Hennig, requested by Pat Hennig

FRIDAY, January 3, The Most Holy Name of Jesus

9:00 *Special Intentions*

SATURDAY, January 4, Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious

4:00 Henrietta Angelina (1st Ann.), requested by

Amy Brown and Susan Riela

SUNDAY, January 5, The Epiphany of the Lord

7:30 *Special Intentions*

9:30 Henrietta Angelina, requested by
the "Jesus and the Java Group"

11:00 Bob Wagner, requested by the Newman 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

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:

Brooke Brazier

Requested by:

Pat Hennig

**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

SAVE THE DATE



ARCHBISHOP COYNE TO VISIT SAINT ANN

I am delighted to announce that on Sunday, January 26, 2025, His Excellency, Archbishop Christopher J. Coyne, Archbishop of Hartford, will visit our parish and celebrate the 9:30 AM Mass.

Following the Mass, there will be a light reception in Father Bennett Hall where you will have the opportunity to meet Archbishop Coyne. To ensure there are no time constraints, we will be canceling the 11:00 AM Mass for that Sunday only.

It is a great honor to welcome Archbishop Coyne to our parish. I encourage you to mark your calendars and make every effort to attend this special occasion.

Thank you,
Father Al Fontana,

THIS WEEK AT ST. ANN

SATURDAY, December 28

Men's Breakfast Group: 8:00am in Room 3 (*check with group leader*)

SUNDAY, December 29

Lectio Divina: 10:30am in Room 3, and via ZOOM (*check with leader*)

MONDAY, December 30

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

MMP Cenacle-Rosary Prayer Group: *not meeting this week*

Lectio Divina: 7:15pm in Room 3 (*check with group leader*)

TUESDAY, December 31

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

WEDNESDAY, January 1



THURSDAY, January 2

Holy Hour: 12 noon in the church

FRIDAY, January 3

Lectio Divina: 9:45am via Zoom

SATURDAY, January 4

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

Lessons and Carols: 5:30pm in the church

SUNDAY, January 5

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

WEEKLY ORDINARY INCOME

Weekly Giving for Sunday, December 15, 2024

Weekly In-person: \$4,892.00

Weekly Online: \$2,638.50

Weekly TOTAL: \$7,530.50

Monthly In-person: \$2,318.00

Monthly Online: \$311.00

Monthly TOTAL: \$2,629.00

Votive Candles and Sanctuary Lamp: \$224.00

Parish Annual Appeal TOTAL: \$172,696 (*as of 12/17/24*)

(*Includes donations made online, via mail & in person*)

Other Online Donations:

Retired Religious Fund: \$100, Utilities: \$23, In

Memory Donation: \$5,000, Christmas: \$75, Christmas

Plants: \$271

Weekly Giving for Sunday, December 22, 2024

Weekly In-person: \$7,289.00

Weekly Online: \$2,523.50

Weekly TOTAL: \$9,812.50

Votive Candles and Sanctuary Lamp: \$234.15

Parish Annual Appeal TOTAL: \$175,642 (*as of 12/23/24*)

(*Includes donations made online, via mail & in person*)

Other Online Donations:

Utilities: \$23, Christmas: \$4,443, Monthly: \$426

Various other second collections: \$835.00

Due to early bulletin deadlines, the Christmas Collection will be reported in Jan. 12 bulletin

Upcoming Collections:

January 1: Solemnity of Mary

Next Weekend's 2nd Collection: none



JANUARY 1, 2025

*Solemnity of Mary,
the Holy Mother of God*

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

Masses will be at:

9:00 am, 12 noon and 7:00 pm



**We continue our
Watch Party Series:**

**The Chosen:
Season 3**

**Join us on Wednesdays
Jan. 15th-Feb. 5th
from 9:30 - 11:30 am
in Fr. Bennett Hall**



*Will you need some
rest after the
Christmas holiday?*

We invite you to come and explore the depths of a life of prayer and learn ways to maintain the sacred connection to God through Christ, the true vine. Conferences and workshops will be offered along with the Sacrament of Reconciliation and the Celebration of the Eucharist.

Women's Retreat: January 3-5, 2025

Contact: Eileen DiMauro at ecdimauro@yahoo.com

Men's Retreat: January 10-12, 2025

Contact: Paul Watson at pgwatson33@gmail.com

Couples' Retreat: February 14-16, 2025

For more information & additional retreat date options, go to:
hollyfamilyretreat.org/themed-retreats



Maximize Your Year-End Gifts to the Church of St. Ann

Fall is traditionally when we think about making gifts to support our favorite charities, like the Church of Saint Ann. There are many options for tax-effective giving both for those who can continue to itemize their deductions and for those who will no longer itemize.



Making your gift from your IRA

If you are 70.5 or older, you can make qualified charitable distributions (QCD's) directly from individual retirement accounts (IRS's) using funds that might otherwise be taxed when withdrawn. Gifts can be made in any amount up to a total of \$100,000 per individual per year. The benefits of a QCD are reduced for those who continue to make deductible IRA contributions.

Because you are giving directly from your IRA, you won't increase your adjusted gross income and possibly subject your social security or other income to higher levels of taxation. These tax-free gifts are particularly wise for those who no longer itemize deductions for income

JOIN US FOR...

LESSONS & CAROLS

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

JANUARY 4, 2025
5:30PM

hosted by St. Ann's Family Ministry

Ladies
Please Join is for...

"Discovering Our Dignity"

A STUDY OF THE WOMEN OF THE BIBLE.

walkingwithpurpose.com

The women of the Old and New Testament will allow us to learn from their experiences and uncover ways to deal with unwanted circumstances and to pray for the hope of Christ.

DATES

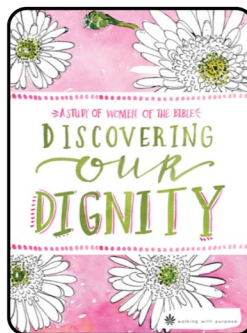
January 14 & 15 through May 6 & 7

CHOOSE FROM TWO SESSIONS

Tuesdays 10:15 AM (via zoom)
or Wednesdays 7:00 PM
in Fr. Bennett Hall.

COST: BOOK IS \$45

It can be purchased on the
Walking With Purpose website.
We will resume with same
book in September.



Contact

Colleen Waterbury at (203) 913-8764
or Pat Wall at (860) 508-0947

**save
the
date**

Annual Used Book Sale
**February 28th
and March 1st**

More details in future bulletins

Save Books to Donate!

Please Note: The Parish Office will be closed between Christmas Eve and New Years and will re-open on Thursday, January 2nd.

Branches on the Vine

News from the Archdiocese of Hartford · December 28, 2024 - January 3, 2025



CHRISTMAS WINDOW DISPLAY MARRIES CREATIVITY AND FAITH IN WALLINGFORD



Santa kneels before the baby Jesus in this year's Christmas window display on the front side (middle window) of Holy Trinity School in Wallingford.

Just in time for the Wallingford Stroll in December, the eighth-grade students at Holy Trinity School in Wallingford completed their annual Christmas window display – to the delight of school neighbors and town residents.

The annual tradition, which has been going on since at least the 1980s, has been attracting local residents, some of whom drive by the school each year during the Advent and Christmas seasons to see what the students have put up, says Michael Frechette, principal of Holy Trinity School.

“Everyone loves to see the windows,” Frechette says, “and we get compliments on a daily basis.”

This year's central focus is a Nativity scene, with Santa bringing a gift and kneeling before the baby Jesus. The white paper figures are flanked by palm trees, with the buildings of Bethlehem not far off. Angels, doves and stars can be seen above. The decorations cover all three floors of the 110-year-old brick school building.

The decorations, which take a few weeks to put up, eventually fill all the windows of the school, from the front of the building, facing west, to the playground side, facing east. Even the stairwell windows are filled with stars. The playground side is visible from the town center.

The whole scene is sketched out in advance by Darlene Bailey, a retired teacher who was a teacher at Holy Trinity for 30 years. This year, she partnered with Anne Roth, another retired teacher, who taught at the school for 18 years. Together, they used an overhead projector to project images onto a wall and traced them to create the patterns. The eighth-grade students then used the patterns to trace the images onto white paper, and did the cutting and taping.

Over the years, the school has experimented with a mix of secular and religious themes, but finally settled on variations of the Nativity. “Our school represents religious faith in the community,” Bailey says, “and where it's located in town, you can see it coming down the hill. The whole town sees it.”

The window display runs from Dec. 6 to Jan. 6 (Three Kings Day). The school is located at 11 North Whittlesey Ave., Wallingford. For more information about Holy Trinity School, visit <https://www.hts-wallingford.org>.

Story by Shelley Wolf



ARCHDIOCESE of HARTFORD

facebook.com/ArchdioceseofHartford
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youtube.com/archdioceseofhartfordct

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, January 5 at 6:00 PM

Free concert to celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany · Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Hartford
The Hartford Bishops' Foundation and the Cathedral of St. Joseph are hosting a free concert open to the public featuring Dr. Gabriel Löfvall, the Cathedral Schola Cantorum and a Brass & String Ensemble. The event celebrates the Epiphany and the beginning of the 2025 Jubilee Year: "Pilgrims of Hope," a time of great spiritual and social significance in the life of the Catholic Church.

Monday, January 6 at 6:00 PM

Catholic Academy of Waterbury, 386 Robinwood Road, Waterbury, CT

As a heritage school of St. Mary and Blessed Sacrament, we are proud to carry on traditions from both schools at our STREAM Academy. The original cross from St. Mary School was brought over to Catholic Academy of Waterbury this summer and will be lit for the first time. The original bell from St. Mary School was also recently installed and will be rung by members of the Blessed Sacrament community.

Saturday, February 8 – 15

St. Patrick-St. Anthony Parish Sponsors St. Francis Builds trip to Yabucoa, Puerto Rico

This group will work with Proyecto Marcos Sanchez Yabucoa, a non-profit grassroots organization. Residents have been tasked to establish a relief center to help its residents in the event of a disaster. The SFB group will work with the community on renovations to the school buildings they are using for this purpose. The cost of this is approximately \$900 plus airfare. Meals and lodging are included within trip fees set for both trips. A limited number of scholarships are available. Questions or interested in learning more about these trips? Contact Sue O'Donnell at sodonnell38@gmail.com.



Tuesday, April 22 - Friday, May 2

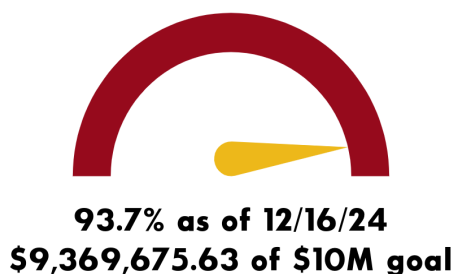
New England Catholic Biblical School Pilgrimage to Italy

The New England Catholic Biblical School invites all alumni, current students, and guests to our 11-day Pilgrimage to Italy in 2025 for the Jubilee Year! The Jubilee is a special year of grace, in which the Catholic Church offers the faithful the possibility of asking for a plenary indulgence, that is, the remission of sins for themselves or for deceased relatives. The cost of this pilgrimage is \$4899 per person roundtrip from New York (air/land tour price). To register to join the pilgrimage and receive more information, visit <https://www.catholicedaohct.org/catholic-biblical-school/events>.

For more events, please visit:
archdioceseofhartford.org/events

To submit an event for consideration, please email: communications@aohct.org

2024 Archbishop's Annual Appeal





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**December 3rd
2024**

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St. Ann Church

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This promotion ends October 31st, 2024.)



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