



# 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

Mercedes Featherston: ext. 230 [mercedes.featherston@stannavon.com](mailto:mercedes.featherston@stannavon.com)

## PARISH OFFICE MANAGER

Kris Martino: ext. 221 [kris.martino@stannavon.com](mailto:kris.martino@stannavon.com)

## DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

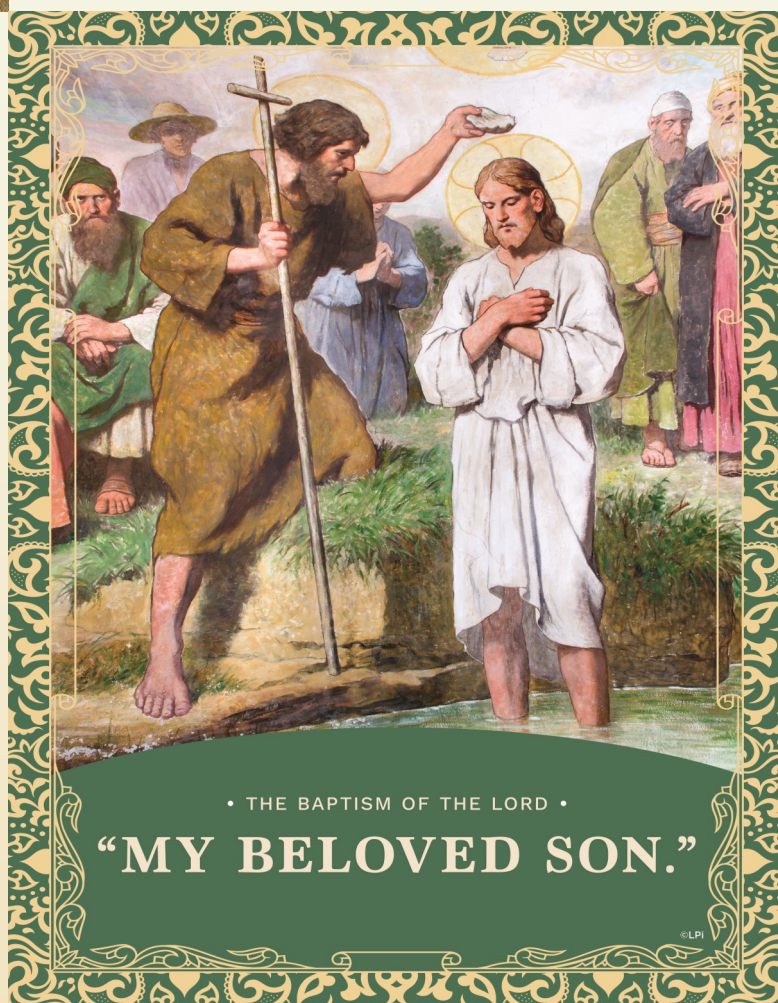
Kerry Magrini: [kerry.magrini@stannavon.com](mailto:kerry.magrini@stannavon.com)

## MINISTRIES COORDINATOR

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

## 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

#### The Baptism of the Lord

**SATURDAY, January 11, Christmas Weekday**

**4:00** Henry Hojnowski, requested by Russell Koch

**SUNDAY, January 12, The Baptism of the Lord**

**7:30** Special Intentions

**9:30** Anne Squadrito, requested by the Downey Family

**11:00** George Carr, requested by Bill and Janet Newman

**MONDAY, January 13,**

*Saint Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church*

**9:00** Special Intentions

**TUESDAY, January 14**

**9:00** Special Intentions

**WEDNESDAY, January 15**

**9:00** Craig Schortzmann (1st Ann.), requested by the Schortzmann Family

**THURSDAY, January 16**

**9:00** Special Intentions

**FRIDAY, January 17, Saint Anthony, Abbot**

**9:00** Special Intentions

**SATURDAY, January 18, Christmas Weekday**

**4:00** David Julian, requested by the Bondhus Family

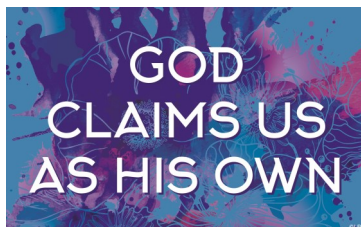
**SUNDAY, January 19, Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**7:30** Special Intentions

**9:30** Special Intentions

**11:00** Philip Johnson (40th Ann.), requested by his family

*To schedule a Mass Intention, please call or email  
 To schedule a Mass Intention, please call/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. Heavren 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, January 11

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

### SUNDAY, January 12

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

**Divine Mercy Holy Hour:** 2:30pm in the church

### MONDAY, January 13

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

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

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

### TUESDAY, January 14

**Walking With Purpose:** 10:15am (ZOOM only)

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

### WEDNESDAY, January 15

**The Chosen, Season 3:** 9:30am in Fr. Bennett Hall

**Walking With Purpose:** 7pm in Fr. Bennett Hall

**Knights of Columbus:** 7pm in Room 2

### THURSDAY, January 16

**The Return of the Prodigal Son Book Study:** 9:30am in Room 1

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

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

### FRIDAY, January 17

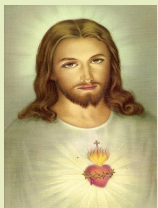
**Lectio Divina:** 9:45am via Zoom

### SATURDAY, January 18

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

### SUNDAY, January 19

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



## Divine Mercy Holy Hour

**This Sunday, January 12th**  
**2:30 - 3:30pm in the church**  
**Church of Saint Ann**

*Please join us to pray for renewed respect for all human life.*



**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**

## WEEKLY ORDINARY INCOME

### Christmas Collection, December 25, 2024

Christmas In-person: \$17,913.30

Christmas Online: \$846.00

**Christmas TOTAL: \$18,759.30**

### Weekly Giving for Sunday, December 29, 2024

Weekly In-person: \$6,458.50

Weekly Online: \$2,538.50

**Weekly TOTAL: \$8,997.00**

**Votive Candles and Sanctuary Lamp: \$407.49**

**Parish Annual Appeal TOTAL: \$179,290** (as of 12/30/24)

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

### **Other Online Donations:**

Utilities: \$23, Monthly: \$208, Various other second collections: \$150, Solemnity of Mary: \$170, Church Services: \$200

### Solemnity of Mary, January 1, 2025

Solemnity of Mary In-person: \$2,603.00

Solemnity of Mary Online: \$30.00

**Solemnity of Mary TOTAL: \$2,633.00**

### Weekly Giving for Sunday, January 5, 2025

Weekly In-person: \$6,493.00

Weekly Online: \$3,624.50

**Weekly TOTAL: \$10,117.50**

**Votive Candles and Sanctuary Lamp: \$324.00**

**Parish Annual Appeal TOTAL: \$184,369** (as of 1/6/2025)

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

### **Other Online Donations:**

Utilities: \$23, Monthly: \$819, Christmas: \$140, Easter: \$23, Helping Haitian Children: \$1,000, Various other second collections: \$50, Church Services: \$200

### **Next Weekend's 2nd Collection:**

*Archdiocesan Catholic High Schools*

## PRO-LIFE MINISTRY

- **Divine Mercy Holy Hour on Sunday, January 12th 2:30-3:30pm.** *Pray for renewed respect for all human life.*
- **Wednesday, January 22nd Day of Prayer for Legal Protection of Unborn Children** - Celebration of 9am Mass with prayers for the sanctity of all human life, especially the unborn.
- **Friday, January 24th from 12-1pm in the church Cry Room.** Join our prayers with those marching in Washington DC.



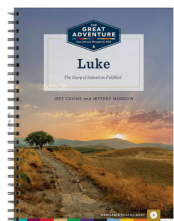


Join us the February-April  
**LUKE,**  
**The Story of Salvation Fulfilled**

The Gospel of Luke takes you on a journey that begins with the foretelling of John the Baptist's birth and culminates in Jesus' ascension into heaven. On the road to Emmaus, a story unique to the Gospel of Luke, Jesus gave us the greatest Bible study of all time, laying out his fulfillment of the Old Testament.

In Luke: The Story of Salvation Fulfilled, you will witness key moments in salvation history including the Annunciation, the Nativity, his public ministry, and Jesus' suffering, death, and glorious Resurrection. There are parables found only in Luke, including the Prodigal Son, the Good Samaritan, and the rich man and Lazarus which will show you the mercy and compassion that Jesus has for each one of his children.

In this 8-part study, Jeff Cavins and Dr. Jeffrey Morrow will show you the beautiful Biblical roots for Mary, the Rosary, and the Mass that are found in Luke, strengthening your prayer life like never before.



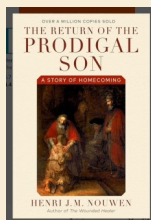
**Wednesdays**  
**February 12th - April 2nd**  
**9:30-11:30am in Fr. Bennett Hall**

For more information or to RSVP contact Andrea Pizzuti:  
[andreapizzuti333@gmail.com](mailto:andreapizzuti333@gmail.com)

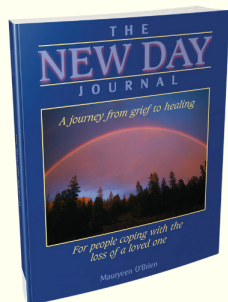
**Registration is required - RSVP by January 30th**

**BOOK STUDY:**

**THE RETURN OF THE PRODIGAL SON,  
 A STORY OF HOMECOMING**



*We will next meet on Thursday, January 16th, 2025 through February 6th to discuss Henri Nouwen's classic book. You know the story now come dwell with God in a new way. Same time, 9:30, same location, Room 1. Books are available online. I look forward to seeing you then. Terry ([terry@frankpendergastinc.com](mailto:terry@frankpendergastinc.com))*



The Bereavement Ministry  
 is now providing  
**The New Day Seminar**  
 Grief support group  
 next session March 6 - May 15 2025.  
 (will not meet during Holy Week)  
**Thursdays at 9:45am**  
**Registration Information will follow**



ARCHDIOCESE OF HARTFORD  
**Wedding Anniversary Mass**  
**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2025 AT 4PM**  
*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.

**Register at:** <https://www.catholicdaohct.org/faith-formation/family-life-ministries/archdiocesan-anniversary-mass/registration-anniversary-mass>  
 (Registration closes January 28.) For more information contact Valerie St. Jean at: [Valerie.StJean@aohct.org](mailto:Valerie.StJean@aohct.org) or 860-242-5573 ext. 2678

Ladies  
 Please Join is for...

*"Discovering Our Dignity"*  
 A STUDY OF THE WOMEN OF THE BIBLE.  
[walkingwithpurpose.com](http://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

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January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025

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**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:**  
 STEPHEN E. MORRIS

Church of Saint Ann  
 289 Arch Road  
 Avon, CT 06001

Dear community of the Church of Saint Ann,

Please accept Favarh's sincere gratitude for nominating our organization for support from the Archbishop's Annual Appeal.

Thanks to the generosity of your parish, and the archdiocese, Favarh received a donation of \$6000 to support people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Funds from the Archbishop's Annual Appeal make a real impact on the breadth and scope of services that Favarh can provide. Thanks to your support, more individuals have access to better opportunities to engage with their community, and to achieve their personal best.

We are so grateful for your support, and we look forward to continuing to work together to enrich people with disabilities, and their communities.

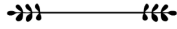
Wishing you all the best in the New Year,

Sean McCarthy  
*Sean McCarthy*  
 Development Director  
 Favarh

Helping people achieve their personal best

# Branches on the Vine

News from the Archdiocese of Hartford · January 11 - 17, 2025



## CONNECTICUT CATHOLIC CONFERENCE LAYS OUT PLAN AHEAD OF 2025 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

With the Connecticut Legislature getting underway for the new session, Chris Healy, executive director of the Connecticut Catholic Public Affairs Conference, is preparing for several challenges that include protecting the sanctity of life, the right to freely practice religious faith amid growing antisemitism, school choice options and social justice issues.

The session officially started Jan. 8 and ends June 4. In the coming weeks, the Conference is anticipating some lawmakers may submit bills that threaten the Catholic faith.



Chris Healy speaks at the 2024 March for Life

“We must prepare for proposals that further abortion practices, that legalize assisted suicide, further harass pregnancy care centers and assault the religious directives Catholic hospitals operate under,” Healy says. “The proponents of these initiatives are supported by national organizations that are not reflective of Connecticut voters.”

The Conference is the public policy and advocacy office of the Catholic bishops in Connecticut which supports or opposes legislation. Its mission is to work with elected officials at the state and federal levels to influence public policy and stand with other faith groups to promote and ensure a better life for all.

At the top of the Conference’s agenda is the issue of biological males participating in girls’ sports and laws regarding transgender surgeries of children.

The Conference advocates Title IX protection of young women the right “to participate in the same scholastic sports as males by prohibiting discrimination based on sex in education programs and activities,” Healy says.

In recent years, the definition was expanded to include transgender males. “This created an unfair reality that bolstered men competing in women’s sports at all competitive levels with the full protection of the federal government,” he says.

Another issue of concern, he adds, is school choice which would give parents “the freedom to guide their children’s future while allowing public funds to follow the child.”

“We will be trying to get something on the books in Connecticut that will allow for people to support school choice financially and get some kind of tax benefit, which will allow more kids to go not only to Catholic schools, but any other school that fits their needs,” Healy says. “We need to help them pursue their dreams, especially if they’re in a failing school district or they’re restricted by their zip code from getting a decent education.”

Religious freedom, which is guaranteed under the Constitution, has faced growing challenges in recent months with acts of antisemitism on college campuses and in the public arena, the executive director says, adding the Conference will work to bring greater public awareness to the problem.

The beginning of a legislative session usually brings a new Connecticut General Assembly based on changes of elected legislators in the 2024 election, Healy says. “There’s always the unknown, but we know what we have to do. We have to get Catholics and others who share our views engaged so their voices are heard. If we organize and do that and follow God’s blessing, we’ll be fine.”

In the past, the Conference has partnered with other faith groups to support issues of faith.

“They share our values on these issues and they appreciate the fact that the Catholic Church has asked them for their help and that we help them as well when we can,” Healy says. “They helped us in opposing assisted suicide, and hopefully we can do that again this year on other issues.”

Healy urges people to get involved with their local elected state legislators to oppose any proposals that come before the Legislature that threaten Catholic teachings. For more information about the Connecticut Catholic Public Affairs Conference, visit [ctcatholicpac.org](http://ctcatholicpac.org).



**ARCHDIOCESE of HARTFORD**

Story by Joe Pisani

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[instagram.com/archdioceseofhartford](https://instagram.com/archdioceseofhartford)  
[youtube.com/archdioceseofhartfordct](https://youtube.com/archdioceseofhartfordct)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Saturday, February 1 and 8 at 1:00 PM

*A Caregiver's Well-Being: Two-session Retreat of Learning, Prayer, and Reflection for Those Caring for a Loved One with Dementia · Franciscan Life Center, 271 Finch Avenue, Meriden*

A Caregiver's Well-Being retreat is a two-session, 6 hour retreat offered on consecutive Saturday afternoons (3 hours each day). The retreat provides an opportunity for learning and connection among caregivers in a peaceful, Christ-centered environment. The day includes presentations and personal sharing by experienced caregivers and health professionals, prayer, individual reflection and group discussion. Presentation topics include: Understanding types and symptoms of dementia, managing caregiving stress, discovering deeper meaning in caregiving relationships, deepening our relationship to God in the midst of suffering, identifying resources for caregiver support and growth.

For more information and to register: 203-237-8084 or visit [flcenter.org](http://flcenter.org).

### Friday, February 21 at 5:00 PM

*Archbishop's Annual Appeal Beer Tasting and Cocktail Reception · Aqua Turf Club, Plantsville*  
Enjoy a casual setting with Archbishop Coyne while sampling local beers served with hot and cold hors d'oeuvres. This year's vendors include: Watson Farmhouse Brewery, Litchfield Distillery, Connecticut Valley Brewing Company, East Rock Brewing Company, The Wine Cellar, Santopietro Brewing Company, and New England Brewing Company.

21+ · Please RSVP at [aohforms.com/beertasting](http://aohforms.com/beertasting)



### 2025 Jubilee: The Holy Year

Florence, Assisi & Rome, October 26 to November 6, 2025 (12 Days)

Book Before April 30, 2025 and Save \$250 per Person!

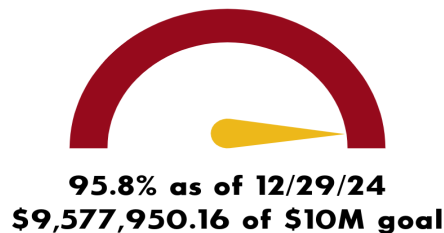
The Office of Radio & Television and WJMJ Radio invite you to Save the Date to join Father John Gatzak on a special pilgrimage tour to Italy in celebration of Jubilee 2025: The Holy Year of the Roman Catholic Church. Visit our Pilgrimages page on [ortv.org](http://ortv.org) for more information and a complete itinerary.

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. A Jubilee usually lasts a year and a few days: it begins just before the Christian Christmas and ends the Epiphany of the following year.

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



### Retrouvaille Marriage Help Program on January 31 - February 2nd

A happier marriage is possible! If you want to improve your marriage in the new year, this local program can help. Retrouvaille, a Catholic-based ministry, provides tools to help you communicate better, resolve conflicts, and rediscover a loving marriage. The next local weekend starts January 31st. For information, call confidentially 1-800-470-2230, email [helds4marriage@gmail.com](mailto:helds4marriage@gmail.com) or go to our website: [www.helpourmarriage.org](http://www.helpourmarriage.org).





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ON GIVING TUESDAY

**December 3rd  
2024**

tpms.givecatholic.org

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**St. Ann Church**

**Energy Challenge**

HCP will donate \$25 to your parish for  
every **energy audit** it completes for **parish  
members** and friends. **Scan this QR code**,  
submit the application, start **saving money**  
on **electric and heating bills**.

(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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St. Ann, Avon, CT

04-0700





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