



Church of Saint Ann

289 Arch Road * Avon, Connecticut * 06001

860-673-9858

Rev. John W. McHugh, Ph.D., Pastor

www.stannavon.org

WEEKEND ASSISTANTS

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

Rev. Daniel J. Sullivan

DEACONS

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DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Tom Stockton: ext. 230

OFFICE MANAGER

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BUILDING & CEMETERY SUPERINTENDENT

Mike Gould: ext. 225

BAPTISMS (Registered Parishioners):

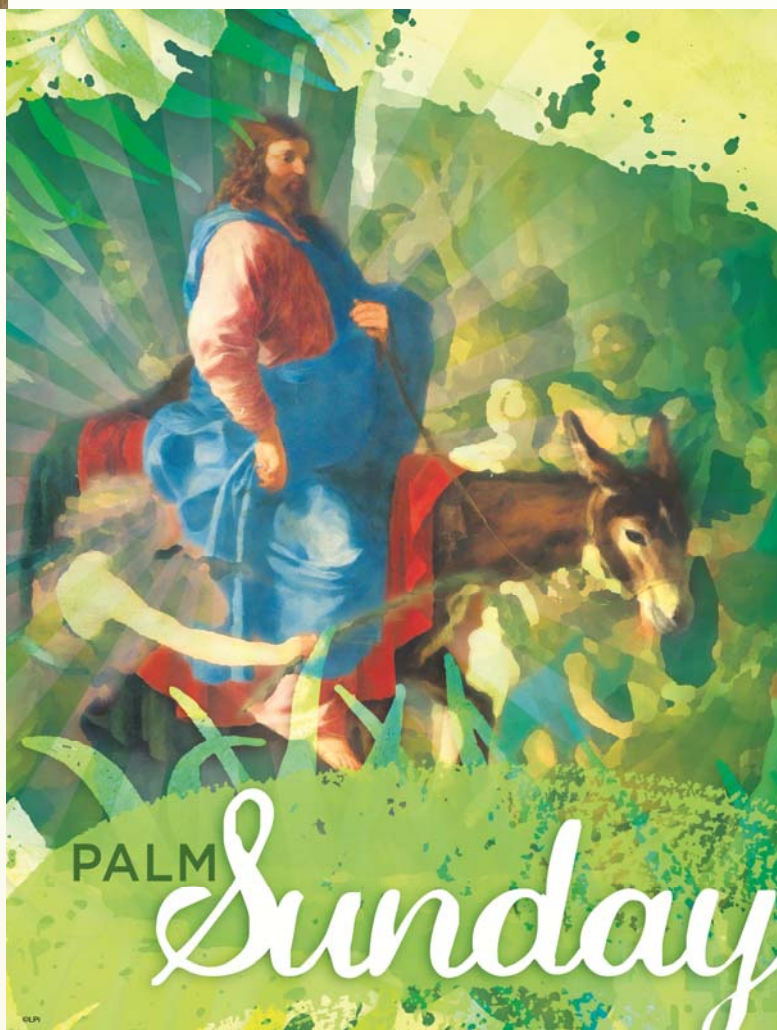
Call the Parish Office

MARRIAGES

Please set the date with the priest or deacon at least six months prior to the wedding. 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:

Rosary: 8:30 am, daily

Chaplet: following daily Mass

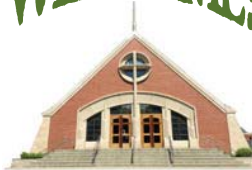
Holy Hour

Thursday: 12:00 Noon



**Palm Sunday
of the Passion
of the Lord**

WELCOME!



If you are a resident in this area, we hope that you will continue to grace us with your presence and register with our office manager. You may call 860-673-9858 or stop by the parish office to register. If you are a visitor, we thank you for participating in worshiping with us and we hope to see you again.

MONDAY, April 10

9:00 **Barbara Pellegrino**, requested by the Garger Family

TUESDAY, April 11

9:00 **Julia McHugh**, requested by the family

WEDNESDAY, April 12

9:00 **Christopher Hwang**, requested by the family
7:30 *Tenebrae*

THURSDAY, April 13, Holy Thursday

7:30 *Mass of the Lord's Supper, Adoration till 10pm*

FRIDAY, April 14, Good Friday

9:00 *Morning Prayer*
3:00 *Liturgy of the Lord's Passion*

SATURDAY, April 15, Holy Saturday

9:00 *Morning Prayer*
10-11 *Confessions*
Noon *Blessing of the Food*
8:00 *Easter Vigil*

SUNDAY, April 16

7:30 *For all those in whose memory or honor the altar plants have been donated*
8:45 *For all those in whose memory or honor the altar plants have been donated*
10:00 *For all those in whose memory or honor the altar plants have been donated*
11:30 *For all those in whose memory or honor the altar plants have been donated*

THIS WEEK AT ST. ANN'S

MONDAY, April 10

Marian Movement of Priests Cenacle: 7:15pm in the church. Enter through door on left side of church. All are welcome!
Lenten Confessions: 6-7pm

TUESDAY, April 11

RCIA: 7pm in Room 3
Saint Ann Cares Ministry Meeting: 7pm in Room 1
Social Justice Committee Meeting: 7pm in Room 2

WEDNESDAY, April 12

Re-Employment Support Group: 7pm. in the Activity Room
Tenebrae: 7:30pm in the church

THURSDAY, April 13, Holy Thursday (see schedule to left)

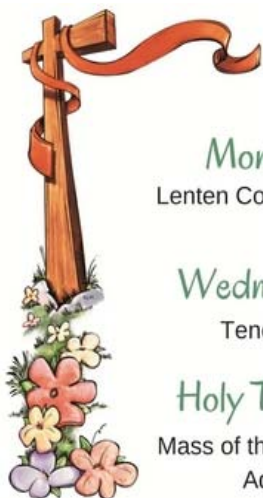
FRIDAY, April 14, Good Friday (see schedule to left)

SATURDAY, April 15, Holy Saturday (see schedule to left)

SUNDAY, April 16 (see schedule to left)

Happy Easter!

The Divine Mercy Novena will begin on Good Friday. We will pray the Novena in the wing of the church following the 3pm Liturgy of the Lord's Passion. All are welcome to join us.



2017 Holy Week Schedule

Monday, April 10

Lenten Confessions at 6pm-7pm

Wednesday, April 12

Tenebrae at 7:30pm

Holy Thursday, April 13

Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:30pm
Adoration until 10pm

Good Friday, April 14

Morning Prayer at 9am
Liturgy of the Lord's Passion at 3pm

Holy Saturday, April 15

Morning Prayer at 9am
Confessions at 10am-11am
Blessing of the Food at 12pm
Easter Vigil at 8pm

Easter Sunday, April 16

Special Mass Schedule
7:30am, 8:45am, 10am & 11:30am



WEEKLY ORDINARY INCOME

April 2, 2017: \$8,345.66
Online Giving (week ending 4/4/17): \$2,929.00
Next weekend's 2nd collection:
Easter/Parish Charities

**2017 ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL
 MOVED BY MERCY**



The Archbishop's Annual Appeal provides help to those in need! Together, we can and do make a profound difference in the lives of many individuals and families, in a way that exceeds anything we could hope to achieve on our own.

Please consider supporting this important initiative. Every gift makes a difference.



St. Ann Cares has decided on Mercy Housing, St. Agnes Home and FAVARH as this year's projects. Mercy Housing is a facility helping the homeless become independent. They provide skills and programs for the homeless to reach their goals with dignity and respect. St. Agnes Home provides housing and supportive services to parenting adolescent mothers and their infants. We will be doing some painting, carpentry and landscaping at these sites. FAVARH is a group home for the intellectually disabled. We will be building a ramp and landscaping a walkway. Please join us on Saturday May 6th to help these great organizations.



For more information contact Steve Rose at
rose_sp@sbcglobal.net or 860-250-5355.

A message from The Prayer Banquet team:

It is our prayer that the *The Prayer Banquet* series has helped you to reflect on your prayer life, renew your understanding of traditional Catholic ways to pray, and recommit to deepening your relationship with God through prayer. Have a blessed Holy Week, and a joyous Easter!

Our Presentation Partners: Ann DiStefano, Elizabeth Ferry, Mike Gould, Mark Hamel, Deacon Tim Healy, Sue Ollestad, Tom Stockton, Deacon Jeff Sutherland

Our wonderful Guest Speakers: Cathy DeSimas, Tina Dibble, Joan Gould, Penny Murphy, Constance Rotondo, Valerie St. Jean, Lorraine Zuwallack

St. Ann 7th Annual Art Show & Sale

Fr. Bennett Hall

Saturday, April 22nd from 2:30 - 5:30pm

Sunday, April 23rd from 8am - 1pm

Grace your walls with affordable art by adult fine artists & young artists.

All proceeds go towards scholarships for Hartford students attending local Catholic High Schools.

DONATING ARTWORK:



If you would like to donate your artwork or know someone who would please contact Inez at: 860-653-5579 or faillace1@comcast.net or Meg at: 860-521-1051 or mkfk@sbcglobal.net

Dear Parishioners,

This year there will be 59 candidates receiving the sacrament of First Holy Eucharist. They received their First Reconciliation on December 10, 2016, and are preparing for reception of the Blessed Sacrament in the Spring. Soon we will be putting out the Little Lambs for you to select a child and pray for them while they prepare for their sacrament.

Due to the overwhelming positive response, we would like to continue to gift each child with a First Communion Bible. We are asking that you sponsor any child or children, with this gift anonymously and it will be presented to them on their First Communion Day. In return, we will be asking the children to pray for the person who gave it to them *every time they read their Bible.*

The Bibles are reasonably priced and if you are interested in being part of this beautiful event, please pick up a form on the tables in the Gathering Space and return it with your payment of \$15.00 per Bible (made out to Church of St. Ann). Please mail to the church in an envelope clearly marked "for First Communion Bible" or drop it off at the Parish Offices. How pleased Jesus must be to know that both the children of this year's First Eucharist class and the adults of our Parish are praying for each other!

Thank you so much for your consideration and for your prayerful support of these beautiful children!



Yours in Christ, Father McHugh



Please join us for a Tenebrae Service
Wednesday, April 12th
7:30 p.m.

What is Tenebrae? The name 'Tenebrae' means darkness or shadows and it is a Holy Week devotion dating back to the 7th or 8th Century A.D. It is characterized by successive extinguishing of candles as the service progresses. No service during the entire church year is more biblical: Every word of Tenebrae is taken verbatim from the scriptures. The purpose of the service, through prayer and music, is to recreate the emotional aspects of the passion story and the events leading up to Good Friday; it is left unfinished, because the story isn't over until Easter Sunday. Attending this powerfully moving service will set the tone, introduce the themes and adjust your heart and mind for the great events of the Passion and will help you prepare your heart for an even greater experience of Easter JOY.

Corporal Works of Mercy 2017

During this Lenten season, our Parish family Lenten commitment is to practice the corporal works of mercy, both individually and as a community. Donations should be placed in the labelled boxes in the Gathering Space. Anything you can donate is appreciated!
In imitation of our Master, we Christians are called to confront the poverty of our brothers and sisters, to touch it, to make it our own, and to take practical steps to alleviate it. - Pope Francis

This Weekend: Bury the Dead

Please reach out to family, friends, and neighbors who have lost a loved one, particularly a spouse, by inviting them to lunch, bringing them to Mass, or including them in social activities.

Also This Weekend:

Easter Baskets will be collected to help others in Avon and Hartford make Easter a joyous day!

Marthas and Marys Trivia Thursday

April 20th at 7pm

Come on your own or bring a friend or two!



\$ Winners Win \$

Beverages and Snacks

RSVP soon - there is a limited number of places for this evening.

RSVP by Monday, April 17th to:
 Sue Ollestad, 117 New Rd., Avon
 Checks payable to: Marthas and Marys: \$15
 Questions? Call Anne Yurch at 860-675-1366

ADULT EDUCATION & ENRICHMENT

Join Us For Some Faith Enrichment For Spring 2017!

1) Studying/Praying with the Sunday Scriptures
 Discover what the Sunday readings meant when they were written, and what they mean to you personally today (*Lectio Divina*). April 23 - May 26. Offered at three convenient times, in Room 3, lower level of Fr. Bennett Hall:

- Sundays, 10:30am-12pm (Leader: Chip Janiszewski)
- Mondays, 7:15pm-8:45pm (Leaders: Jim Serruta, Ann DiStefano)
- Fridays, 9:30am-11:00am (Leaders: Pat Wall, Ann DiStefano)
- All materials provided.
- Register ASAP with Ann: ann.distefano@stannavon.com; (860) 673-9858, ext. 228

2) "Making Sense of the Bible"
 Hartford Catholic Biblical School (CBS) Extension Course AT ST. ANN'S! Come learn how to read and interpret Scripture. Great for beginners, or seasoned Bible readers.

- Six Tuesdays, April 18-May 23, 9:30-11:30am, Room 3.
- Instructor, Joan Kennedy, MA, and Hartford CBS graduate.
- 2 Books are required, but homework is minimal.
- We are planning to offer babysitting for a nominal fee.
- Register by April 11th with Ann: ann.distefano@stannavon.com; (860) 673-9858, ext. 228
- See website for course description and more: www.stannavon.org/bible-studies-1

APRIL 9, 2017 - PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments

As a Catholic, I am very grateful for the wonderful expression of the Mass. When united in this liturgical experience, we are not only present to the reality of the bread and wine becoming the real presence of Jesus, but are also connected spiritually to the institution of the Holy Eucharist at the Last Supper AND to the future heavenly banquet at the end of time. During the Eucharistic Prayer, this is a time to be truly as mindful as we can to what is happening in our midst. Our effort to completely surrender ourselves to the moment is a true act of stewardship.

When we hear the Gospel reading of the passion and death of Jesus at Mass, we are also being called to give of ourselves completely to the moment and to be truly caught up in the story. We should strive to be there at the events of over two thousand years ago, but also to what the reality of those events mean for us today. To do this effectively, we need to spend more time reflecting on the dynamics of the events of Jesus' passion. Hopefully, our Lent has been fruitful and we have spent time with devotions like the Stations of the Cross. Maybe we have taken time to read Scripture slowly and deliberately, taking time to let each aspect sink into our mind and spirit. If Lent has been instead a time of too much business and not much prayer and reflection, the good news is that it is never too late.

During this Holy Week, take some time to enter into the story of the Passion. Good stewardship calls us to not only give of that which can be seen, but also that which cannot be seen. Surrender your mind, body, and spirit to Jesus. He carries his cross before you and beckons you to follow him.
Tracy Earl Welliver, MT

QUOTES

Words to Inspire the Faithful

How could I bear a crown of gold when the Lord bears a crown of thorns? And bears it for me!

- St. Elizabeth of Hungary

SUNDAY'S READINGS

Proclamation:

"Hosanna to the Son of David; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; hosanna in the highest." And when he entered Jerusalem the whole city was shaken and asked, "Who is this?" And the crowds replied, "This is Jesus the prophet, from Nazareth in Galilee." (Mt 21:9-11)

First Reading:

The Lord GOD is my help, therefore I am not disgraced; I have set my face like flint, knowing that I shall not be put to shame.

Psalm:

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me? (Ps 22)

Second Reading:

He humbled himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. (Phil 2:8)

Gospel:

And they placed over his head the written charge against him: This is Jesus, the King of the Jews. (Mt 27:37)

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

Readings for the Week of April 9, 2017

Sunday: Mt 21:1-11/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-20, 23-24/Phil 2:6-11/
Mt 26:14--27:66 or 27:11-54
Monday: Is 42:1-7/Ps 27:1-3, 13-14/Jn 12:1-11
Tuesday: Is 49:1-6/Ps 71:1-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15, 17/Jn 13:21-33, 36-38
Wednesday: Is 50:4-9a/Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31, 33-34/Mt 26:14-25
Thursday: ChrisM Mass: Is 61:1-3a, 6a, 8b-9/Ps 89:21-22, 25, 27/
Rv 1:5-8/Lk 4:16-21
Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14/Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc,
17-18/1 Cor 11:23-26/Jn 13:1-15
Friday: Is 52:13--53:12/Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-17, 25/
Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9/Jn 18:1--19:42
Saturday: Vigil: Gn 1:1--2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a/Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12-14, 24, 35 or
Ps 33:4-7, 12-13, 20-22/Gn 22:1-18 or 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/
Ps 16:5, 8-11/Ex 14:15--15:1/Ex 15:1-6, 17-18/Is 54:5-14/
Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13/Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-6/Bar 3:9-15, 32--4:4/
Ps 19:8-11/Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28/Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3-4 or Is 12:2-6
or Ps 51:12-15, 18-19/Rom 6:3-11/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23/
Mt 28:1-10
Next Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23/Col 3:1-4 or
1 Cor 5:6b-8/Jn 20:1-9 or Mt 28:1-10 or Lk 24:13-35

GOSPEL MEDITATION

"Peter said to him in reply, 'Though all may have their faith in you shaken, mine will never be.'" Peter thought pretty highly of his faith. On the eve of Christ's death he professed, in essence, that he was more committed to Jesus than anyone else. And yet, we know how the story turns out: when put to the test in the moment that mattered, Peter "began to curse and to swear, 'I do not know the man.'"

On this Palm Sunday, we hear many stories of betrayal. The crowds, who once hailed Jesus with "hosannas," will soon be chanting, "Let him be crucified!" Judas, who was counted among the closest companions of the Lord, turns him over to the chief priests for thirty pieces of silver. And Peter falls short in the moment of truth, and then "went out and began to weep bitterly."

Here in the hours before Christ faces crucifixion, he is surrounded by false friends. Just when he most needs the support, he is abandoned. No wonder he feels the suffering even of being forgotten by his Father while he hangs on the cross, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" What trials Jesus endured, not only physically but emotionally as well.

It's easy to glaze over this as a story from the past that does not involve us. But in truth, Jesus suffered all of this for each one of us. He would have preferred things to go otherwise, but submitted to his Father's will because he knew "it must come to pass in this way." Jesus' passion and death took place in order to bring US salvation. So today, may we not be counted among his many betrayers, but may we be truly grateful for the gift of the cross and show it through a life of sincere faith.

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Live the Liturgy

Our liturgy, with its very dramatic and poignant readings, immerses into all of the raw emotions life can often bring. We hear of betrayal, fear, anger, disappointment, confusion, suffering, and even death. The veil of injustice is pulled over the life of the innocent Lamb and God, who walked with us, is called to face his death on the cross. Yet Jesus remains faithful and accepts the fate that is before him. In all of this, he never wavers from the truth and continues to speak of mercy, forgiveness, and a God who loves. When life gets the best of us and brings us to our knees, can we remain faithful to the truth and accept what we cannot control?

THE BULLETIN BOARD

Women's Retreat Weekend! Our Lady of Calvary, Farmington April 21-23, 2017

Women of St. Ann's! Give yourself a weekend! Sign up now for our parish retreat at Our Lady of Calvary Retreat Center in Farmington, CT on the weekend of April 21-23.

"Embracing Joy: Learning to Bear the Beams of Love" is this year's theme. For information, contact Chris Healy at 860-693-8562 or email sonesinger@gmail.com.

A SPECIAL ONE DAY MARRIAGE RETREAT

Date: Saturday April 29th

Time: 9 am to 3 pm

Location: Caritas Christi Center (at Sacred Heart Academy) Hamden

Marriage is a spiritual pathway in which God calls the married couple to grow into a strong and vibrant relationship. This requires vision, intention and persistence, as well as, skilled, consistent effort. We will explore what it is you really want for your marriage, and what gets in the way. You'll conclude by designing a future that facilitates a thriving, intimate and sacred marital relationship.

This special one-day retreat provides learning, prayerful reflection, couple time, a supportive community and some fun. Why not give this gift to your partner and yourself?

Facilitators:

Chris and Don Paglia, former Co-Directors of the Hartford Archdiocesan Family Life Office.

Donation:

\$45.per couple (includes lunch)

Register or for information

Contact: Sr. JeanMarie Vonder Haar 203-281-2569

www.cartaschristicenter.org

This one day marital retreat is designed especially for any couples who are involved in marriage enrichment or marriage preparation ministry or any couple that is looking for an opportunity to get away from their busy schedules and lives to revitalize and deepen their marital love.

The Grotto Gift Shop...

located at the Shrine of Lourdes in Litchfield, 50 Montfort Rd., Rte. 118, Litchfield, is now open daily Monday to Saturday from 10:30am to 4:00pm and on Sunday, 11:30am (after Mass) to 4:00pm.

There are First Communion & Confirmation gifts in stock with more coming in daily.

For further information, call 860-567-0891 or email: lourdesshrinect@gmail.com.

"I Phone Fast! Will U"

For the first time ever, the Archdiocese of Hartford is inviting people to "fast" from using cell phones on Ash Wednesday, March 1st, and Good Friday, April 14th, in an initiative called: "I Phone Fast!"

Silencing our busy phones, gives God a chance to call our hearts. Please consider including this practice in addition to fasting from food, almsgiving and prayer, which are traditional disciplines by which the Church observes Lent. Visit: archdioceseofhartford.org.

Read, Reap and Rise to New Life!

The plowman should plow in hope, and the thresher in hope of receiving a share. (1 Cor 9:10)

The Archdiocesan Catholic Biblical School (CBS) invites adults to engage the Word of God from the perspective of Catholic faith. Enrollment begins May 1. Contact the CBS office by August 15 to enroll. Classes begin in locations throughout the Archdiocese just after Labor Day.

For more information, check out our website www.CatholicEdAOHCT.org or contact us in the Office of Education, Evangelization and Catechesis at 860-242-5573 or catholic.biblical.school@aohct.org.