



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

Jeffrey Sutherland: deacon.jeff@stannavon.com

Tim Healy: deacon.tim@stannavon.com

SPECIAL PROJECTS MANAGER

Russell Koch: russ.koch@stannavon.com

COORDINATOR OF SOCIAL MINISTRIES

Tom McCabe: tom.mccabe@stannavon.com

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR (K - 8)

Valerie St. Jean: ext. 223 valerie.stjean@stannavon.com

CONFIRMATION & YOUTH MINISTRY DIRECTOR

Rosemary Neamtz, MSW: ext. 226

rosemary.neamtz@stannavon.com

REGISTRAR & CONFIRMATION ASSISTANT

Jennifer Soucy: ext.227 jennifer.soucy@stannavon.com

DIRECTOR OF ADULT EDUCATION

Ann DiStefano, MPS: ext. 228 ann.distefano@stannavon.com

RCIA DIRECTOR & LITURGY COORDINATOR

Maureen Fiedler: 860-995-4026

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Tom Stockton: ext. 230

OFFICE MANAGER

Kris Martino: ext. 221 kris.martino@stannavon.com

BUILDING & CEMETERY SUPERINTENDENT

Mike Gould: ext. 225

BAPTISMS (Registered Parishioners):

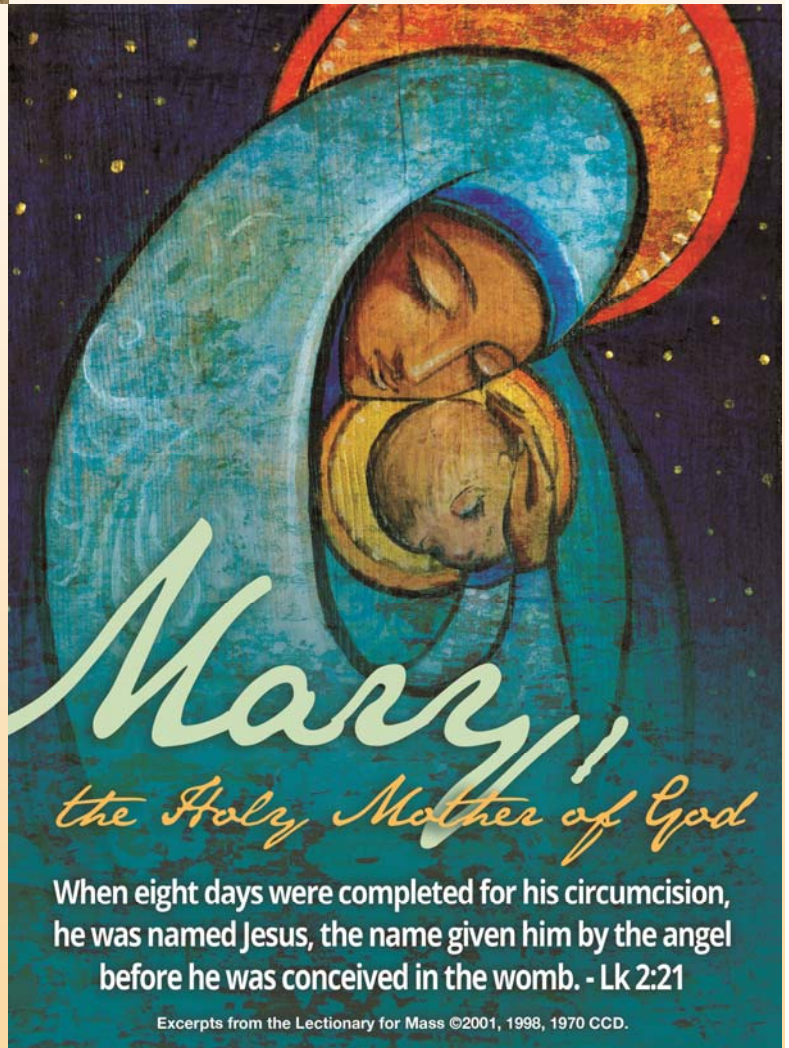
Call the Parish Office

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



Mary, the Holy Mother of God



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 worshipping with us and we hope to see you again.

MONDAY, January 2
9:00 Philip Atiyeh

TUESDAY, January 3
9:00 Special Intentions

WEDNESDAY, January 4
9:00 Laura Santiago, requested by the family

THURSDAY, January 5
9:00 Jonathan Michael Gilotti (1st Ann), requested by his mom and dad

FRIDAY, January 6
9:00 Joseph and Rosemarie Wallack, requested by their daughter, Joanne

SATURDAY, January 7
4:00 Henry Hojnowski, requested by Russell and Diane Koch

SUNDAY, January 8, 2017
7:30 Rev. Thomas E. McCarthy, requested by the Parish of Saint Ann
9:30 Antony and Josefa Poprawa, requested by the Osiecki Family
11:00 Benny Chapa, requested by Wendy Archer and Jo LaVia

THIS WEEK AT ST. ANN'S

MONDAY, January 2
Marian Movement of Priests Cenacle: 7:15pm in the church wing. All are welcome! (Enter through door on the left side of the church)
Prayer Shawl Ministry Meeting: 7pm in Room 2

TUESDAY, January 3
RCIA: 7pm in Room 3 (per leader)

WEDNESDAY, January 4
Lectio Divina: will return in January
Book Sale Drop Off: 9:30am to 6pm

THURSDAY, January 5
Book Sale Drop Off: 9:30am to 6pm
Holy Hour: 12 noon in the church
Traditional Choir: 2pm in the Choir Loft (per director)
Youth Choir: 4:15pm in the Choir Loft (per leader)
Folk/Contemporary Choir: 7:30pm in the Choir Loft (per director)

FRIDAY, January 6
Book Sale Drop Off: 9:30am to 11:30am
Book Sale: 5:pm in Fr. Bennett Hall (\$5 admission)

SATURDAY, January 7
Men's Breakfast Group: 8am in Room 3
Book Sale: 9am-6pm in Fr. Bennett Hall

SUNDAY, January 1, 2017
Book Sale: 8:30am-12:30pm in Fr. Bennett Hall



Ninth Annual Used Book Sale

In Father Bennett Hall...All proceeds go toward Catholic High School Student Scholarships



Donations:
Please donate books during the following book sale collection dates/times:
Wednesday, January 4th * 9:30am-6pm
Thursday, January 5th * 9:30am-6pm
Friday, January 6th * 9:30am-11:30am
Please donate books in good condition in the following categories: best sellers, fiction, non-fiction, religious, classics, biographies, memoirs, self-help books, vintage books, cookbooks, collectibles, large print, children's books, young readers, and sports. Books-on-CD are good, but please do NOT donate encyclopedias, magazines, VHS movies, records, albums or cassette tapes (as they do not sell).
In addition to books, please donate sturdy computer-paper boxes and box tops.

Sale Information

Friday, January 6th, 2016
5pm - 8pm
\$5 adult admission (Friday only)
Saturday, January 7th
9am - 6pm
Sunday, January 8th
8am - 12:30pm

WEEKLY ORDINARY INCOME

December 18, 2016: 6,057.00
December 25, 2016: unavailable due to early deadline
Online Giving: unavailable due to early deadline
Next weekend's 2nd collection: Fuel

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Come be a part of our ministry!

Upcoming Meeting:
Monday, January 2nd
7-8:30pm
in Room 2



All are welcome... including brand new knitters!
For more information call
Pat: 860-673-3747
Tina: 860-674-1541



Visit Our Website!

Visit our website for news, events, to learn about our many ministries and for great resources:
stannavon.org

Did you know that you can also read our weekly bulletin in full color on our website? Check it out!


Questions of the Week

Reflect and Respond to Scripture

Luke 2:16-21
Luke alone tells us of the visit of the shepherds at Jesus' birth. How does Luke portray Mary in this encounter?

Numbers 6:22-27
What do you find most appealing in God's blessing of the Israelites during their desert journey?

Galatians 4:4-7
What do we learn about Mary in Paul's discussion of her with the Galatians?

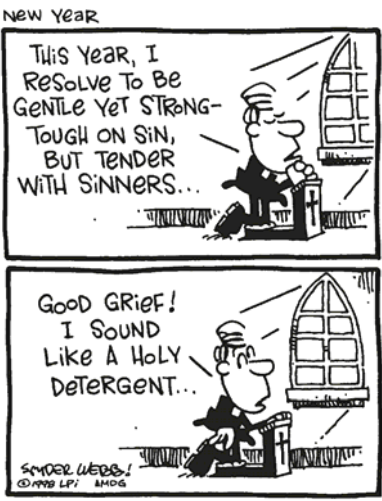



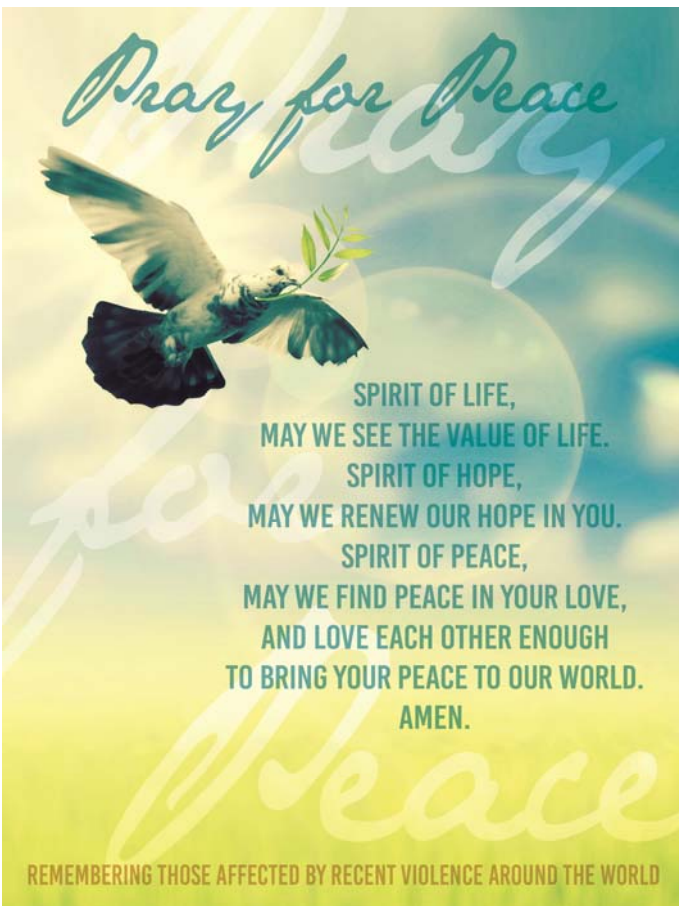
How We Can Help the Homeless During the Winter...

We would appreciate donations of warm sox, hats, or gloves to go into Christmas gift bags for the guests of the ImmaCare shelter and the No-Freeze emergency shelter. For many this will be the only gift they get- and the items are greatly needed!

Also- if you have blankets or sleeping bags, or men's coats, we are trying to round up those items for both shelters. They don't have to be new- just warm and clean!

Thanks so much. All items can be left in church kitchen and please mark them "Immacare".





Q I was always fascinated by Mary and have had a devotion to her for many years. Why does Mary have so many titles? Isn't Mother of God enough?

A We all have many different roles to play and each title we have is based on a relationship. For instance, a person might be a daughter, mother, wife, cousin, niece, employer, boss, friend, sponsor, and customer all in the same day! Our titles identify who we are at a given moment.

Mary is the same way. Certainly "Mother of God" is her greatest title. Because of her trust in God and in the message of the angel, Jesus was born, becoming one of us. But all of Mary's titles are important. Each title highlights an aspect of her unique relationship with Jesus, with the church, with each of us. She is wife, mother, intercessor, patroness, mediatrix, God-bearer, and a host of other roles. Sometimes her title is one given by a local community of faith; other times, the universal church gives her a title that all recognize. Above all, it is her faith and her willingness to say yes to God's plan that places her in a special place of honor among believers. In her humanity, she shows us how we too will be filled with grace, as we say yes to the Lord's plan for us. We believe that what happens to Mary will happen to us. She is our model, our mother in faith.

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Word Search

Circle these words from today's Gospel in the puzzle:

- | | | |
|--------|-----------|-----------|
| MARY | SHEPHERDS | LISTENED |
| JOSEPH | JESUS | WONDERFUL |
| BABY | ANGEL | NAMED |

B N J D N B M A W G C
 F A N U E O R I O K T
 S M Y L I S T E N E D
 L E H A M H F J D V O
 P D A N G E L P E S F
 I L R B V P Y A R U C
 J O S E P H A G F N B
 D H Y W T E K W U J M
 W G K O T R C S L H A
 E I M R C D U P E D R
 A J E S U S L B A B Y

For the Children...

10th Annual Archdiocesan
Marriage Enrichment Celebration

Saturday February 4th, 2017
5:00-9:00 p.m.
Mary Our Queen Church
248 Savage St.
Plantsville, CT

Come celebrate our Sacrament with other married couples for Mass, prayer, and a good deal of laughter focusing on the theme:

"Weddings, Wings and Miraculous Times:
Jesus' Gift at Cana".

The cost is \$25.00 per couple and includes dinner and a wine tasting.

To register contact
Tom and Donna Finn
at 860-621-7858
or email: dfinnmpt@absglobal.net
Please R.S.V.P. by Jan. 29, 2017.

Sponsored by the Office of Family Life and Catholic Engaged Encounter.

JANUARY 1, 2017 - MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments

Listen. Think. Act.

That is a mantra or slogan for many different groups. Some seek to battle prejudice and bias. Other groups hope to eliminate poverty or reduce crime. I have even found some companies use it as a way of increasing engagement among their employees. In a nutshell, it is about taking in what you have heard and then reflecting on it before you act. The most fruitful actions are those that take place after careful reflection.

This is an important thing to remember for those trying to live a stewardship way of life. If we are honest with ourselves, too often most of us jump to conclusions too quickly or act in ways that cause friction because we didn't really think about the consequences of our actions. We are moving too fast in a world that seems to be moving ever faster.

When the shepherds came to visit Jesus, the newborn King, they told Mary everything that the angels had told them. Luke tells us that after hearing all this, she "kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart." No response. No panic. No action. Her reflection was the appropriate response.

In this New Year, you and I would do well to remember this Gospel account of Mary, the Mother of God. Let us resolve to listen more, reflect often, and then act accordingly. We are called to use our gifts wisely, sowing them in good soil. If we just throw them out, allowing them to simply fall wherever they may, have we really used them for God's glory? We need to listen. Think. Then act.

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

QUOTES

Words to Inspire the Faithful

Give something, however small, to the one in need. For it is not small to the one who has nothing. Neither is it small to God, if we have given what we could.

--St. Gregory Nazianzen

SUNDAY'S READINGS

First Reading:

The LORD bless you and keep you!
The LORD let his face shine upon you, and be gracious to you!
The LORD look upon you kindly and give you peace!
(Nm 6:24-26)

Psalm:

May God bless us in his mercy. (Ps 67)

Second Reading:

Brothers and sisters:
When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to ransom those under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. (Gal 4:4-5)

Gospel:

When eight days were completed for his circumcision, he was named Jesus, the name given him by the angel before he was conceived in the womb. (Lk 2:21)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.
The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997,
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WEEKLY READINGS

Readings for the Week of January 1, 2017

Sunday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21
Monday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98/Jn 1:19-28
Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:29--3:6/Ps 98/Jn 1:29-34
Wednesday: 1 Jn 3:7-10/Ps 98/Jn 1:35-42
Thursday: 1 Jn 3:11-21/Ps 100/Jn 1:43-51
Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147/Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-28
or 3:23, 31-34, 36, 38
Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149/Jn 2:1-11
Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12



GOSPEL MEDITATION

"And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart." Supernatural communication was nothing new for Mary. The angel Gabriel had already appeared and spoken to her when she agreed to bear God's Son. Her husband Joseph also had a kind of divine intervention in the dream where the angel told him to go ahead and marry her. When she was first pregnant, her cousin Elizabeth had been led by the Holy Spirit to know the secret that Mary was "the mother of my Lord" (Lk 1:43). Now, Jesus has just been born and a crew of earthy shepherds appears at her door with a message from heaven: that the Savior has been born. And Mary believed them. She did not doubt their sincerity or the authenticity of their message. She took the words to heart, and meditated upon the meaning of it all.

What might strike us as peculiar in all of this is that God chose to speak to Mary in a variety of ways. This holy and immaculate woman, this Mother of God, did not always receive direct communication from on high. Sometimes, God chose to speak to her through other people. Sometimes, he revealed himself to them in order to reveal himself to her. And God does the same with us.

It's easy to daydream about having our own personal revelation from God, to hear his voice loud and clear, directing, encouraging, and supporting us in our times of need and confusion. But this isn't the standard pattern of God's operation. Mary was tuned in enough to hear God's voice all around her instead of expecting it to always sound the same. We can imitate this same kind of openness by seeking to discover how God may be speaking to us through the voices of others.

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Live the Liturgy


We seek the same faith and courage that Mary possessed as she accepted the tremendous responsibility of being the Mother of God. Life often requires great and heroic things of us and we often wonder how and if we are able to meet those challenges. Mary did not doubt that God was with her, giving her everything needed to complete the task before her. Because of her Son's special relationship with his Father, we too can cry out "Abba, Father" and draw strength from the infinite and generous love God bestows upon us.

THE BULLETIN BOARD


**COME SUPPORT
JDRF**
(Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation)

Where: Flatbread in Canton

Eat In
Or
Carry Out



When: Tuesday, January 3rd, 2017

Raffle  Prizes

Turning Type 1 into Type None

www.JDRF.org

**Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center
West Hartford, CT**

Retreat Theme: The Light of Simplicity - Join Holy Family's retreat team for a weekend of peace and reflection as we explore the simple and transformative message at the heart of Jesus' teaching. Discover how simplicity can shine a light on what is truly essential and important in our lives. Be renewed and inspired by the paradox of simplicity and the gift of faith.

The retreat includes: home-cooked meals, inspirational liturgies, uplifting music, free time, and workshops. The retreat begins with dinner at 6:00 p.m. on Friday evening and concludes with Sunday brunch at noon.

www.holyfamilyretreat.org/lightofsimplicity or call Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center, West Hartford, CT at 860.760.9705 for more info.

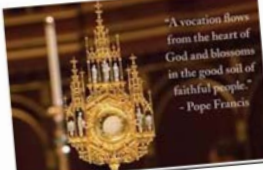
Men's Retreat Date:
January 20-22, 2017

Women's Retreat Dates:
January, March, April and June

"The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few; so ask the Master of the harvest to send out laborers for His harvest." (Matthew 9)

Come and Pray

**Winter Holy Hours for
Vocations to the Priesthood**



"A vocation flows from the heart of God and blossoms in the good soil of faithful people."
- Pope Francis

The Vocation Office of the Archdiocese of Hartford invites everyone to come and pray for an increase of vocations to the priesthood in our Archdiocese at three special Holy Hours this Winter, celebrated by Fr. Jeff Gubbiotti, Vocation Director for the Archdiocese. Each Holy Hour begins at 7:00 p.m. and will be followed by a light "coffee-and" reception so we have the chance to meet one another. Please join us!


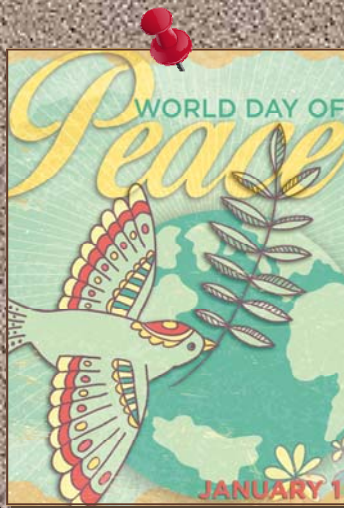
Monday, December 19th * 7:00 p.m.
St. Rita Church
1620 Whitney Ave. in Hamden

Wednesday, January 11th * 7:00 p.m.
St. Margaret Church
24 Academy St. in Madison

Thursday, February 9th * 7:00 p.m.
St. Pius X Church
525 Woodtick Road in Wolcott

Please consider joining the St. John Vianney Vocation Prayer Society. Information can be found on our website, www.hartfordpriest.com.

Catholic TRANSCRIPT



NEW MAGAZINE COMING WINTER 2017

The Catholic Transcript magazine will be distributed to more than 192,000 Catholic households in Hartford, New Haven and Litchfield counties within the Archdiocese of Hartford. It will be published in full color 10 times a year, beginning with a Jan./Feb. 2017 launch issue.

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