



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

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Tom McCabe: tom.mccabe@stannavon.com

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR (K - 8)

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

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rosemary.neamtz@stannavon.com

REGISTRAR & CONFIRMATION ASSISTANT

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DIRECTOR OF ADULT EDUCATION

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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):

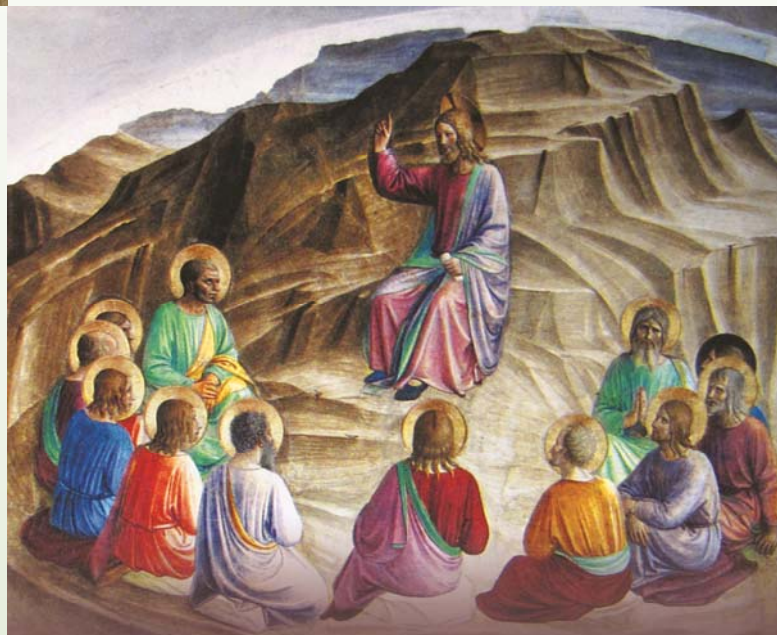
Call the Parish Office

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.



6th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Again you have heard that it was said to your ancestors, *Do not take a false oath, but make good to the Lord all that you vow.* But I say to you, do not swear at all. Let your 'Yes' mean 'Yes' and your 'No' mean 'No.'" —Mt 5:33-34a, 37

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

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



6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

MONDAY, February 13

9:00 **Juliet Mozzicato**, requested by the family

TUESDAY, February 14

9:00 **Jeremiah McQuillan (25th Ann.)**, requested by the family

WEDNESDAY, February 15

9:00 **Leo Lausier**, requested by Oscar & Ida Maillet

THURSDAY, February 16

9:00 **Mary Cunningham**, requested by the family

FRIDAY, February 17

9:00 **Special Intentions**

SATURDAY, February 18

4:00 **Robert Bortolin**, requested by the Bondhus Family

SUNDAY, February 19

7:30 **Special Intentions**

9:30 **Special Intentions**

11:00 **Thomas Gubitosi**



Update on our Little Lambs Ministry!!!

This is a reminder that we are still offering the Children's Liturgy of the Word during the 9:30 AM mass. Because we have a limited number of adult leaders, we have decided to only offer the Little Lambs ministry on the Sundays that there is no Faith Formation Class at the middle school. All children of the parish, and visiting children as well, are welcome to join us! There is no registration needed to participate in the Little Lambs ministry. We encourage all children, especially those ages 2 1/2 - 8 years old, to come forward after the opening prayer. Father will ask for the children to join us at the Altar and we will process down to the Activity Room. We return during the Offertory, in time for the Liturgy of the Eucharist. Thank you all for your continued support of this important ministry.

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 worshipping with us and we hope to see you again.

THIS WEEK AT ST. ANN'S

MONDAY, February 13

Marian Movement of Priests Cenacle: 7:15pm in the church. Enter through door on left side of church. All are welcome!
Quest: 7:15pm in Room 3

TUESDAY, February 14

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

WEDNESDAY, February 15

Knights of Columbus Meeting: 7pm in Room 2

THURSDAY, February 16

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

FRIDAY, February 17

Quest: 9:30am in Room 3

SATURDAY, February 18

Men's Breakfast Group: 8am in Room 3

SUNDAY, February 19

Quest: 10:30 am in Room 3
Divine Mercy Holy Hour: 2:30pm in the church

All are Welcome to Join Us for our Teen Mass - This Sunday!
February 12th at 4:30 pm

It's That Time of Year Again...

If you are a registered parishioner using envelopes or online giving, and would like a copy of our records of your weekly envelope contributions, please e-mail Kris in the Parish Office: kris.martino@stannavon.com or call 860-673-9858, ext. 221. note: Contributions to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal are mailed separately from the Archdiocese.



WEEKLY ORDINARY INCOME

January 29, 2017: \$7,924.06
 February 5, 2017: \$6,916.67
 Online Giving (week ending 2/8/17): \$3,053.00
 Next weekend's 2nd collection:
 St. Michael

ADULT *Faith* FORMATION

PARENT ENRICHMENT:

Join us for a mini-Bible Study based on the Sunday . We meet in Room 228 upstairs at Avon Middle School, while the kids are in Youth Faith Formation - 9-10:30am and 5:45-7:15pm. Sundays, Feb 12th & Feb 26. Come to one or both! Register with Ann, ann.distefano@stannavon.com and indicate morning or evening session. No experience necessary! Materials provided.

QUEST CONTINUES:

Join St. Ann's Adult Small Groups for prayer, fellowship and a lively discussion of how God's word in the Sunday scriptures applies to your life. Our resource is the *Quest* reflection book. Dates are Jan 15-Feb 24. Choose one of three convenient meeting times: Sunday's, 10:30am; Mondays, 7:15pm or Fridays, 9:30am. We meet in Rooms 1 and 3, lower level of FB Hall. Register with Ann ASAP: ann.distefano@stannavon.com; (860) 673-9858, x. 228. Books are \$6. All are welcome! No Bible study experience required.

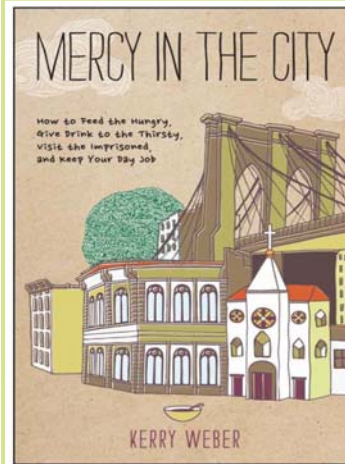
Knights of Columbus Meeting

Wednesday, February 15th

at 7-8:30pm

Room 2


(under Fr. Bennett Hall)



Marthas
 Marys

TUESDAY,
 FEBRUARY 21, 2017
 7:00 PM
 ACTIVITY ROOM
 (BELOW THE WING OF THE CHURCH)

All women are invited to join us on
 Tuesday, February 21st to discuss the book:
Mercy in the City by Kerry Weber.

 Snow Date: Tuesday, February 28th



RSVP:
 Nancy Casey - nancekc@gmail.com
 Mary Healey - maryfromavon@gmail.com

Divine Mercy Holy Hour



Next Sunday
 February 19th

2:30 - 3:30pm in the church

Come and experience God's transforming Love and Mercy!

Save the Date 
 St. Patrick's Day Party

Saturday,
 March 18
 2017



LENT 2017 *at the Church of Saint Ann*

REFLECTION SERIES ON PRAYER

- + Do you ever feel like something's missing in your prayer life?
- + Do you have a way to pray that you'd like to share with others?
- + Would you like to learn how Catholic prayers can give you peace, strength & clarity?

JOIN US FOR OUR SERIES:

The Prayer Banquet - Nourish Your Soul and Get Strength For Life's Journey

PARISHWIDE PROGRAM:

Five weekly sessions offered Sundays, 12:00-1:30pm & Mondays, 7:15-8:45pm
March 5 – April 3, 2017 in Fr. Bennett Hall
Featuring guest presenters, discussion, refreshments and PRAYER!
RSVPs appreciated - Contact Ann: ann.distefano@stannavon.com

PARENT PROGRAM:

Three sessions offered while the children are in Youth Faith Formation
Sunday Mornings, 9-10:30am or Sunday Evenings, 5:45-7:15pm
March 5, March 19, April 2
Room 228, Avon Middle School
Featuring presentations, discussion, refreshments and PRAYER!
RSVPs appreciated - Contact Ann: ann.distefano@stannavon.com

INTERACTIVE DISPLAY:

Think "Yelp" review! Share your favorite way to pray with us! Send Ann a brief descriptor, including the prayer, where & when you like to pray it, and why it's meaningful to you.

THE WORD AMONG US DAILY DEVOTIONAL

Copies available in the Gathering Space. Read on your own, or form a Small Group. (Contact Ann for Small Group discussion guide.)



Calling All Artists!

WHO: Artists of all ages
WHAT: Your art work as a donation to the 8th Annual St. Ann Art Show and Sale
HOW: Use contact information below. All mediums accepted: watercolor, acrylic, oil, pencil, collage, photography, sculpture, artisan crafts, fabric art, etc.
WHEN: Receiving or picking up donations the week of March 20–24 but, of course, late gifts will be happily accepted.
CONTACT:
Inez Faillace: 860.673.5579 or faillace1@comcast.net
Meg Kundahl: 860.521.1051 or mkfk@sbcglobal.net

WHY DO WE DO THAT? CATHOLIC TRADITIONS EXPLAINED

Question:
I read in the catechism that marriage is indissoluble. Why then does the church issue an annulment?

Answer:
The description of marriage as indissoluble is found in several places in the "Catechism of the Catholic Church." Described as required by spousal love (#1644) and as foundational to the union of marriage (#1646), this quality of marriage draws its meaning from the fidelity of Jesus to his church (#1647). Spouses give themselves once and forever to each other, forming a sacramental bond that binds them as one. Indissolubility presumes and depends upon the sacramental bond between spouses. An annulment does not destroy the bond. Instead, it shows that a sacramental bond never took place because, at the time of the vows, something was either present or absent that made the consent invalid. The ceremony itself does not bring about a sacrament, but rather the full, free, and able consent of a man and woman, one to the other. The husband and wife are the ministers of the sacrament to each other because they give the gift of themselves to one another. The priest is the official witness. Therefore, if the gift of self is not given, or is held back for any reason, no sacrament takes place.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments

I saw a slogan once for an Internet start-up: "There is one rule: there are no rules." In fact, when I searched for this slogan again online, I was surprised at all of the variations on the "no rules" sentiment. Apparently, even Justin Bieber has a documented quote: "I want my world to be fun. No parents, no rules, no nothing. Like, no one can stop me. No one can stop me." Wow. My own kids seldom read my reflections. If they are reading this one, don't get any ideas!

Of course, a society without laws or rules will not exist for very long. The laws of a society are there to protect us from perhaps our greatest enemy: ourselves. We can't just do whatever we feel like. We will eventually hurt others or ourselves. The laws of God and his Church have the same effect. Sinful and imperfect people need parameters. Christians who choose sin or their own will over God's commandments not only break the relationship they have with their God, but they hurt others and diminish the body of Christ.

A stewardship way of life asks of us to live in a certain manner. We sometimes think that our cultivation of gifts and giving them back with increase to God is for God's sake. God's commands do not benefit God, for God is complete and perfect without need for increase. But this way of life is for the benefit of his creation. There is no power struggle here between a God of rules and his children. The cross bears witness to that. Instead, God's "rules" prevent us from destroying ourselves, and give us a path so we may flourish. Whether you are an ordinary Joe or an ordinary Bieber, following God's commands will lead to the real satisfaction in this gift of life.

--Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

QUOTES

Words to Inspire the Faithful

*Act today in such a way that you need
not blush tomorrow*

- St. John Bosco

SUNDAY'S READINGS

First Reading:

Before man are life and death, good and evil, whichever he chooses shall be given him.

(Sir 15:17)

Psalm:

Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord! (Ps 119)

Second Reading:

But as it is written: What eye has not seen, and ear has not heard, and what has not entered the human heart, what God has prepared for those who love him.

(1 Cor 2:9)

Gospel:

"Again you have heard that it was said to your ancestors, Do not take a false oath, but make good to the Lord all that you vow. But I say to you, do not swear at all. Let your 'Yes' mean 'Yes' and your 'No' mean 'No.'" (Mt 5:33-34a, 37)

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

Readings for the Week of February 12, 2017

- Sunday: Sir 15:15-20/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34/1 Cor 2:6-10/
Mt 5:17-37 or 5:20-22a, 27-28, 33-34a, 37
- Monday: Gn 4:1-15, 25/Ps 50:1, 8, 16bc-17, 20-21/Mk 8:11-13
- Tuesday: Gn 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10/Ps 29:1a, 2, 3ac-4, 3b, 9c-10/
Mk 8:14-21
- Wednesday: Gn 8:6-13, 20-22/Ps 116:12-15, 18-19/Mk 8:22-26
- Thursday: Gn 9:1-13/Ps 102:16-21, 29, 22-23/Mk 8:27-33
- Friday: Gn 11:1-9/Ps 33:10-15/Mk 8:34--9:1
- Saturday: Heb 11:1-7/Ps 145:2-5, 10-11/Mk 9:2-13
- Next Sunday: Lv 19:1-2, 17-18/Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10, 12-13/1 Cor 3:16-23/
Mt 5:38-48



GOSPEL MEDITATION

"Whoever obeys and teaches these commandments will be called greatest in the kingdom of heaven." Jesus presents two paths for us today: we can break his commandments or obey them. And the result corresponds to our choice. If we decide not to follow God's guidelines, we will not enjoy the fullness of the kingdom of heaven. But if we choose otherwise, eternity will look much brighter for us!

Of course, it's easy to know in our minds what the right choice is. But putting this into practice is another matter. The commandments Jesus gives in today's Gospel are not easy to follow. He takes the ancient Ten Commandments to a deeper level of commitment. He says more than do not kill. Rather, do not even harbor anger in our hearts. He says more than do not commit adultery. Rather, do not even indulge in lustful thoughts. He says more than do not lie. Rather, do not even swear.

Undoubtedly, Jesus is asking us to chart a challenging course. But he would not expect us to follow these directives if it were impossible to do so. And it's important to bear in mind that Jesus doesn't set high standards to test or punish us. His love for us is at the root of everything he teaches us. Following these commandments, challenging though they may be, will in fact make us happier people, both now and in eternity! As with so many good things in life, committed effort on our part is necessary--whether it be maintaining good health, accomplishing a certain skill, or earning a sought-after award. So too with a soul that is truly free. We need to exercise a life of virtue by taking the advice of Jesus Christ, the best life coach we could ever hope to have.

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Live the Liturgy

This week and next Jesus presents challenges to Christians to go beyond the strictures of the law and to engage in a deeper understanding of what it can mean to follow Christ. Are we ready to do that with our whole heart?

THE BULLETIN BOARD

RACHEL'S VINEYARD WEEKENDS FOR HEALING AFTER ABORTION

If you are suffering from an abortion, experience the healing love of Jesus Christ on a Rachel's Vineyard Retreat weekend March 3-5, 2017 in Litchfield, CT. The weekend healing process includes discussions, Living Scriptures with meditations, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, a Memorial Service and Mass of Entrustment. Participation is totally confidential and offers a beautiful opportunity to experience God's love, forgiveness and compassion. Both women and men have participated in past retreats and have ranged in age from teens to mid-eighties. The fee for the weekend is \$175.00 for meals, private room and all retreat materials. Scholarships are available for financial assistance. For more information contact Marie at 203-631-9030, e-mail her at mlaffin@prolifeministry.org, or visit our website at www.rachelsvineyard.org.

Black History Mass
"Strength in Unity"
Sunday, February 19, 2017 at 10:00am
Saint Michael RC Church - 7 Clark Street, Hartford

Principal Celebrant and Homilist
Rev. Canon A. Gerard Jordan, P. Praem

LIFE LINE SCREENING
 The Power of Prevention

Keep doing the things you love.

Catch health problems before they go too far.

Life Line Screening, recognized with an A+ rating by the Better Business Bureau, offers a 5-test package to thoroughly check you for risk of stroke, cardiovascular disease and other chronic conditions. The combination of these tests helps detect problems—before you have symptoms and while you and your doctor can still take action...so you can keep doing the things you love.



Plaque buildup in the arteries can lead to heart disease, aneurysm or stroke.



A normal artery allows blood to flow through easily.



Plaque buildup in the arteries reduces your blood flow and can be dangerous if left untreated.

Register now to check the health of your arteries

5 Important Screenings for Only \$149 a Savings of \$181!

- Carotid Artery Screening (Plaque)
- Heart Rhythm Screening (Atrial Fibrillation)
- Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening
- Peripheral Arterial Disease Screening
- Osteoporosis Risk Assessment

Join the 8 million people who have been screened. We are coming to your neighborhood.

Where: AVON - West Avon Congregational Church
When: Wednesday, March 08, 2017

Please call toll-free 888-653-6434 to register for your screening and to receive a \$10 discount or visit www.LifeLineScreening.com/community-partners



ALIVE
 IN CHRIST



All high school students are invited to join us for an exciting one-day Catholic Youth Rally with engaging worship, music, speakers, and faith-filled fellowship with Teens from around the Archdiocese!

Sunday * April 30, 2017

1:00-8:00 pm

Cathedral of St. Joseph * Hartford, CT

Tickets: \$25.00

For registration forms, please see your parish youth minister or visit the Vocation Office website, www.hartfordpriest.com. Forms and payment are due by April 18, 2017. Don't miss this awesome opportunity to grow in faith and celebrate the new Easter life we have in Jesus Christ!

Divorce and Beyond Support Group Spring Session

Our Lady of Loreto
 Church Hall
 12 Ardsley Road, Waterbury, CT 06708

Beginning on March 8, 2017

6:30 PM

Register by contacting Barbara at: (203) 910-1561

<http://www.ourladyofloretowtby.org/>

Registration Deadline: 2/21/2017

Space is limited

ALL INQUIRIES ARE CONFIDENTIAL
 ALL ARE WELCOME

Dr. Joan Kelly
 will offer a Lenten Mission:
CATHOLIC IDENTITY:
RENEWING OUR APPRECIATION
Saint Catherine of Siena Parish, W. Simsbury
March 5-7 (Sunday-Tuesday) at 7pm

Dr. Joan Kelly will lead us on a tour of our Catholic faith Tradition. Together we will explore the wealth of our glorious Catholic heritage steeped in a centuries old Tradition more than 2000 years old. You will be enlightened about the historical resplendency of Catholic doctrine, ritual and devotion that manifest itself in our Church down to the present day. Call 860.658.1642 for more details.