



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

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.



OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST,
KING OF THE UNIVERSE

"Then the king will say to those on his right,
'Come, you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit
the kingdom prepared for you from the
foundation of the world.'" - Mt 25:34

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

©LPI

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



**Our Lord Jesus
Christ, King of the
Universe**



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, November 27
9:00 **Special Intentions**

TUESDAY, November 28
9:00 **Special Intentions**

WEDNESDAY, November 29
9:00 **John Bruno**, requested by the Bruno Family

THURSDAY, November 30
9:00 **Teresa Lopez-Lebron (1st Ann.)**, requested by her husband

FRIDAY, December 1
9:00 **Special Intention**, requested by Dianne Simpson

SATURDAY, December 2
4:00 **Lucy & Mel Young** requested by the Osiecki Family

SUNDAY, December 3
7:30 **Terry Moody**, requested by the family
9:30 **Nancy Boyd-Martin**, requested by The Mascoli Family
11:00 **Marion Zalenski**, requested by the ZuWallack Family

THIS WEEK AT ST. ANN'S

MONDAY, November 27
MMP Cenacle: 7:15pm in the church.
Enter through door on left side of church. All are welcome!
Advent Reflections: 7:15pm in Rm. 3

TUESDAY, November 28
RCIA: 7pm in Rm. 3

WEDNESDAY, November 29
Psalms Bible Study: 9:30am in Rooms 2 & 3
Matthew Bible Study: 7:15pm in Room 3

THURSDAY, November 30
Advent Reflections: 9:30am in the Activity Room
Holy Hour: 12 noon in the church
Adult Confirmation: 7pm in Room 3
Traditional Choir: 2pm in the Choir Loft
Children's Choir: 4:15pm in the Choir Loft
Folk/Contemporary Choir: 7:30pm in the Choir Loft

FRIDAY, December 1
Matthew Bible Study: 9:30am in Room 3
Christmas Pageant Rehearsal (ALL PERFORMERS):
4-5:45pm in the church

SATURDAY, December 2
Men's Breakfast Group: 8am in Room 3

SUNDAY, December 3
Advent Reflections: 10:30am in Rm. 3



**YOUTH
MINISTRY
POINSETTIA
SALE**
*December 2/3 &
December 9/10*

Poinsettia sale time is here again! Please help us decorate our beautiful church for Christmas by purchasing a poinsettia in memory of, or in honor of, a loved one. Plants are \$10 each and will be used to decorate the church. They will be sold in the Gathering Space after Masses the weekends of Dec. 2/3 and 9/10.



WE HAVE OPLATEK
*We will also be selling Oplatek,
Polish Christmas wafers,
during the plant sale.*



*Immaculate Conception
Of the Blessed Virgin
Mary*

December 8, 2017

Holy Day of Obligation

*Masses will be at:
9am and 12:10pm*

Christmas Pageant Rehearsal



Friday, December 1st
4:00 - 5:45pm
ALL Performers!

Please consult your rehearsal schedule or contact Susan Rietano Davey if you are unsure whether your child(ren) should attend, or if you have any questions:
srietano@gmail.com.



Kids in grades 4-8 Join Youth Choir for Christmas!

We rehearse on Thursdays from 4:15-5pm in the choir loft. Carl Sauerbrunn is our director, and we have a lot of fun together, learning music for Mass. We will sing at the 3:00pm Mass on Christmas Eve.

Contact Choir Mom Ann DiStefano if you'd like to join us: avon.distefano@comcast.net; or (860) 463-7495.



ADULT FAITH FORMATION

IT'S TIME TO GET YOUR SMALL GROUP BACK TOGETHER!

Our *Advent Reflection Series* for Small Groups BEGINS THIS WEEK! Our resource will be *Do You See What I See?* the Advent meditation booklet from The Word Among Us. (Free booklets will be available shortly.)

- Gather with friends weekly at home or at church
- Read and discuss insightful, inspiring reflections on the Christmas story
- Explore the connections between the Sunday readings and your life, via *Lectio Divina*

Beginning Nov. 26, church-based Small Groups will meet:

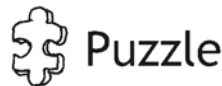
Sundays, 10:30am-12pm, Room 3
 Mondays, 7:15-8:45pm, Room 3
 Thursdays, 9:30-11am, Activity Room

Please contact Ann DiStefano, Director of Adult Faith Formation ann.distefano@stannavon.com, (860) 673-9858

- To register for one of the church-based groups
- To learn more about how to form your own Small Group
- To register your at-home Small Group and get your discussion guide

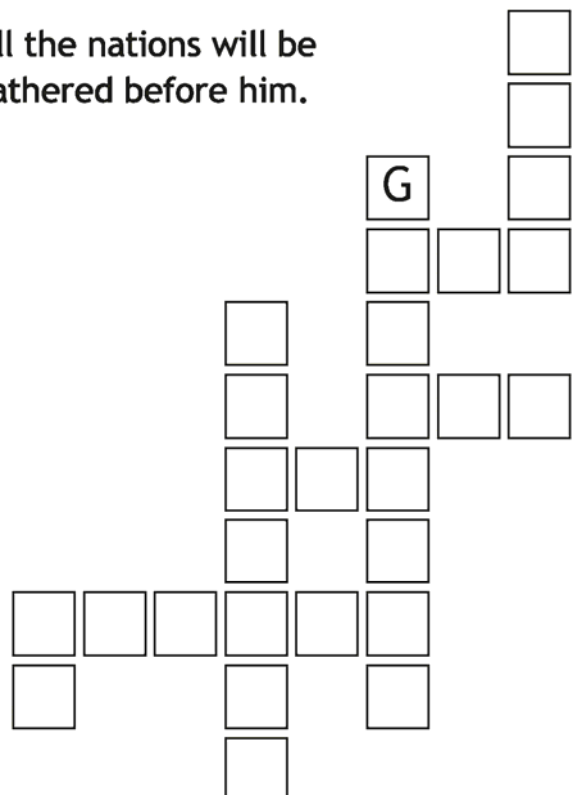


For the Kids...



Fit this Gospel message into the empty squares:

All the nations will be gathered before him.



WEEKLY ORDINARY INCOME

November 12, 2017: \$6,764.81
 November 19, 2017: will be reported next weekend
Next weekend's 2nd collection:
Avon Special Needs

**CENACLES
 of the Marian Movement of Priests**



Question: Is the cenacle primarily for priests?
Answer: No. In Message #34 (1-17-74), Our Lady introduces this question, "Why do I want them to come together in cenacle with me?" In this message she addresses herself to the priests, but what she tells them is also applicable to the laity. She wants all her children-priests, religious, laity, families, to gather together with her in cenacles of prayer, to pray with her and to learn how to love one another.

Also, the cenacle helps us to deepen our understanding and live the obligations we have undertaken through our consecration to her Immaculate Heart. We refer you to the message dated Nov. 1, 1973, "my Faithful Cohort." (#25)

Excerpt from Cenacles of the Marian Movement of Priests Purpose/Guide

Our cenacle meets every Monday at 7:15pm in the church.
 Come pray the Rosary with us.



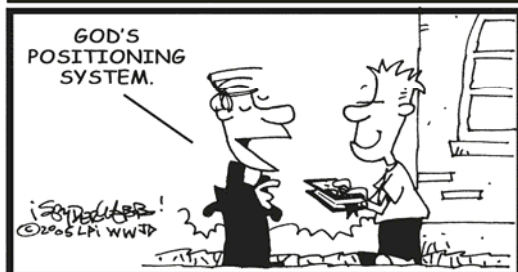
HEARTS & SOULS

Ministering to body, mind and spirit, the Health Ministry offers blood pressure screening, health counseling and referrals to our community of faith. Office hours are generally the 2nd Sunday of each month from 8:15-11am in the Sacristy (2nd door on the left as you enter the vestibule of the church). No appointment necessary.

Communion For Shut-Ins

The Eucharistic ministers would be happy to bring Communion to those in our parish who are unable to come to church. Please call the Parish Office and leave your name and address if you wish to receive Communion **860-673-9858**.

CHRIST THE KING



"When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? When did we see you ill or in prison, and visit you?' And the king will say to them in reply, 'Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of the least brothers of mine, you did for me.'"
 - Mt 25:38-40

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

WHY DO WE DO THAT?

CATHOLIC TRADITIONS EXPLAINED

Question:

Our prayer group has been reading the lives of some saints and we were struck by how some of them thought they were such sinners. Why would such holy people think they had such serious sin?

Answer:

Professional athletes practice the fundamentals of their sport over and over again, reaching for better form, consistency, and performance. They focus on the basics, review past performances, and visualize greater success. Practice makes better, if not perfect!

Spiritual masters such as the saints also looked for perfection. They practiced their faith in the search for holiness, grace, and virtue. Through sacraments, prayer, study, good works, and penance, they raised their sensitivity to the presence of God, the demands of the Gospel, and the workings of the Holy Spirit. They examined their consciences daily, reviewing the day for moments of failure and times they could have been more virtuous. Therefore, anything that would interfere with their relationship with God would be like a small black spot on a bright white wall--you can't miss it! The great saints were aware of sin and the presence of evil because they were so tuned in to the struggle between good and evil fought in their own lives, hearts, and souls. They teach us to guard against becoming desensitized to sin in our lives, unaware of the harm it causes us. A goal of any spiritual practice is to become more aware of our sinfulness so that we seek God's forgiving and healing love.

-LPi

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments

One day when I was walking the city streets where I was giving a series of talks, I saw what appeared to be an older woman hunched over with a sign asking for help. At first I passed her, on my way to visit the local drugstore. But then I came back around when I realized that I had not been very mindful upon first seeing her. I didn't have much cash to give her, but as I always tell everyone else in my talks, oftentimes what people need more than cash is someone to at least acknowledge them. I reached into my pocket to give her what little I had and I simply said, "Hello. I hope you are okay and I hope you can use this."

When her face turned toward me I saw she was probably only about sixteen years of age and she was very beautiful. She smiled immediately and said how much this meant to her. She gathered up her few belongings and I watched her walk to a café for a meal. I turned to walk back to my lodging and I thought to myself, "She could have been my daughter." That's when the still, small voice spoke to me saying, "Don't you understand? That was your daughter!"

Who is your daughter or son, your mother or father? Who is your neighbor? Better yet, in whom do you see Jesus? A young homeless girl on the street can take on so many forms: stranger, neighbor, daughter, and Jesus. Unless we are mindful of those in our midst, we miss the chance to see any of them. We must never be fooled by appearance. That day I almost missed seeing my Lord.

Tracy Earl Welliver, MT

QUOTES

Words to Inspire the Faithful

In all your actions seek in the first place the Kingdom of God and his glory.

- St. Bernardine of Siena

SUNDAY'S READINGS

First Reading:

As a shepherd tends his flock when he finds himself among his scattered sheep, so will I tend my sheep. I will rescue them from every place where they were scattered when it was cloudy and dark. (Ez 34:12)

Psalm:

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. (Ps 23)

Second Reading:

For since death came through man, the resurrection of the dead came also through man. For just as in Adam all die, so too in Christ shall all be brought to life. (1 Cor 15:21-22)

Gospel:

"Then the king will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me.'" (Mt 25:34-36)

*Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.
The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.*

WEEKLY READINGS

Readings for the Week of November 26, 2017

Sunday: Ez 34:11-12, 15-17/Ps 23:1-3, 5-6/1 Cor 15:20-26, 28/
Mt 25:31-46
Monday: Dn 1:1-6, 8-20/Dn 3:52-56/Lk 21:1-4
Tuesday: Dn 2:31-45/Dn 3:57-61/Lk 21:5-11
Wednesday: Dn 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28/Dn 3:62-67/Lk 21:12-19
Thursday: Rom 10:9-18/Ps 19:8-11/Mt 4:18-22
Friday: Dn 7:2-14/Dn 3:75-81/Lk 21:29-33
Saturday: Dn 7:15-27/Dn 3:82-87/Lk 21:34-36
Next Sunday: Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19/
1 Cor 1:3-9/Mk 13:33-37



GOSPEL MEDITATION

"Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of the least brothers of mine, you did for me." Today we celebrate the feast of an unusual kind of king. Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, does not run his kingdom in the standard fashion. Instead of insisting upon the pomp and circumstance that usually surrounds earthly royalty, Jesus has a different focus. He thinks not of himself, but of those he loves. And in today's Gospel, his interest is especially focused on the poor and suffering in our midst.

Our King asks us to care for those in need--the hungry, the homeless, the foreigner, the sick and suffering. But then, he goes farther; he tells us that in caring for these least brethren, we will be ministering to HIM! What an incredible promise. Not only do we carry out the command to love our neighbor when we protect those in need, but we also show our love for Jesus in a direct and concrete way. This love for Christ through others is so real that Jesus actually tells us that our place on Judgment Day will depend on it: "What you did not do for one of these least ones, you did not do for me." And these will go off to eternal punishment." On the other hand, the "righteous" who ministered to the weak and poor will enjoy eternal life. Our King has spoken loud and clear. Now comes the question of whether or not we are obeying his orders?

Each of us is called to examine how well we are caring for the least among us. Sometimes, this means giving our time and energy for special ministries or missions, but often it means caring for those right in front of us--the sick or suffering in our own homes, families, neighborhoods, or parishes. Whatever our situation, may we have the eyes to see Christ in our midst and serve him.

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Live the Liturgy

As the King of the universe, Christ does not desire earthly power or kingly admiration. What Christ our King desires is that we advocate and work for those most in need among us: the poor, the unfortunate, the forsaken, the abused, and the exploited. Providing for the basic needs of others is a human right that we must strive to fulfill. If someone is hungry, feed her. If someone is without shelter, provide one. If a person requires clothes, clothe him. When others are in harm's way, find them safety. When it comes to basic human needs, it does not matter WHY a person is in need; all that matters is that someone IS. That's where you and I, who are citizens of God's eternal kingdom, come in. What we do for the least of these, we do for God.

THE BULLETIN BOARD

Upcoming Events at the Shrine of Lourdes in Litchfield

The Annual Christmas Festival Weekend at the Shrine of Lourdes in Litchfield will include:

Saturday, December 2nd: **Gingerbread Nativity Making** will occur from 10 am to 12 noon in Pilgrim Hall. Space is limited, so make your reservations early by calling 860-567-1041 or email: lourdesshrinect@gmail.com. Each Nativity is \$30.

A Candlelight Carol Sing will begin at 7:00 Saturday evening in Pilgrim Hall and process to the Grotto. Cookies & hot chocolate will be served in the hall after this beautiful event.

Sunday, December 3rd: **The Living Nativity**: A re-enactment of the Nativity with live animals, little angels, shepherds, choristers and a real Baby Jesus will take place at 3:00 pm in the Grotto. Cookies & hot chocolate will again be served in Pilgrim Hall. *A suggested \$5.00 donation will be greatly appreciated.*

Note: The Grotto Gift Shop will be open for all these events.

Shrine of Lourdes in Litchfield, Grotto Gift Shop

Beginning Sunday, November 5th until December 23rd, the Grotto Gift Shop at the Shrine of Lourdes in Litchfield will be open from 10:30 am to 4:00 pm Monday to Saturday & Sunday, 11:30 am (after Mass) until 4:00 pm. The Shrine is located on 50 Montfort Rd., Rte. 118, Litchfield, CT.

There is a varied selection of Advent wreaths and candles along with many new Christmas ornaments, cards & Fontanini Nativity sets. Also, unique gifts and books are available for all occasions, particularly baby & children's items.

Volunteers Needed

Capital City Education Alliance (CCEA) in Hartford is **need of some adult volunteers.**

CCEA teaches early intervention workforce readiness skills and essential life skills to middle school aged students in Hartford. These skills are the foundation to obtaining and maintaining successful employment. Their curriculum includes a focus on first impressions, a proper handshake, making eye contact, being prepared (wearing their uniform), clocking in and out (being on time), working collaboratively with a team, and taking directions. Students will also learn the importance of having a resume and how to create one. All of these skills, and more, are practiced while learning the "art of commercial painting". As a member of our "Paint Crew" students help transform their school with vibrant paint color creating a welcoming and inviting environment. An important part of their program is the interaction students have with adult volunteer mentors. Students teach the volunteer how to paint while also learning how to effectively communicate and ask questions. During a break in painting, students introduce their volunteer, practicing their public speaking skills. Volunteer opportunities are available for individuals or groups to paint alongside students. CCEA's Let's Paint! program is currently being conducted at the Burns Latino Studies Academy in Hartford from October-January. Join CCEA to help students transform their school.

For more information contact CCEA at 860-206-3778 extension 2 or email: Colleen@cceahartford.org

Coping with Grief and Loss During the Holidays

Joe Colletti, Bereavement Consultant, will present at two locations.

Monday, December 11
2:00 – 3:30 P.M.
The Lodge 130 Deerfield Road, Windsor, CT

OR
6:30 – 8:00 P.M.
Carmon Funeral Home & Family Center
Family Center Entrance
301 Country Club Road
Avon, CT

Light refreshments will be served.

This program is free and open to the public, but **please R.S.V.P. by December 7th** to let us know if you would like to attend and which location you will be attending.

860-688-2200
Windsor

860-673-8610
Avon

Offered by...



CARMON
Community Funeral Homes
Funerals • Cremation • PrePlanning

MARY'S PLACE
A center for grieving children & families