



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

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Rev. Daniel J. Sullivan

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Jeffrey Sutherland: deaconjeff@stannavon.com

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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):

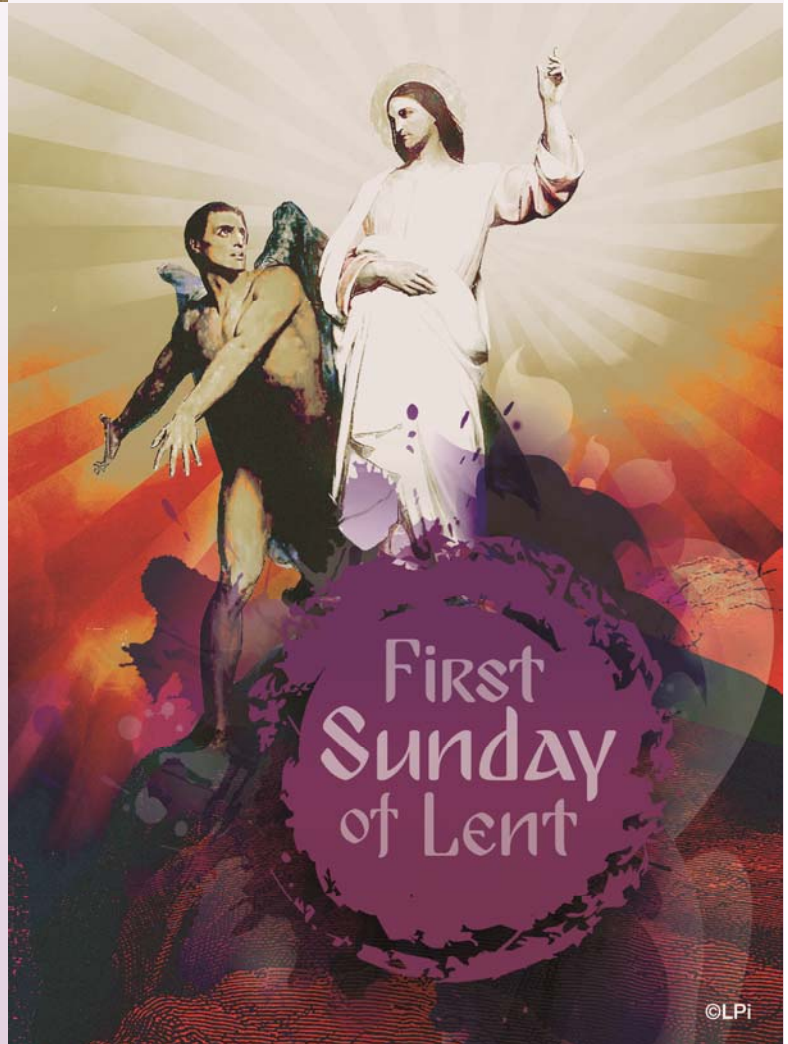
Call the Parish Office

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.



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



**1st Sunday
of Lent**

MONDAY, February 19
9:00 **Special Intentions**

TUESDAY, February 20
9:00 **Jean Scholl**, requested by her family

WEDNESDAY, February 21
9:00 **Francis McHugh**, requested by the family

THURSDAY, February 22
9:00 **For the Holy Souls in Purgatory**,
requested by Lori Ryan

FRIDAY, February 23
9:00 **James McHugh**, requested by the family

SATURDAY, February 24
4:00 **Manda Koch**, requested by
Russell and Diane Koch

SUNDAY, February 25
7:30 **Edmund Sikora**, requested by his family
9:30 **Susan Mulready**, requested by
the Fischer family
11:00 **Raymond Zalenski**, requested by
the ZuWallack Family

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.

THIS WEEK AT ST. ANN'S

MONDAY, February 19

MMP Cenacle: 7:15pm in the church.
Enter through door on left side of church. All are welcome!
Young Adult Bible Study: 7pm in the Activity Room
Rediscover Catholicism Lent Study: 7:15pm in Rm. 3

TUESDAY, February 20

RCIA: 7pm in Room 3

WEDNESDAY, February 21

Knights of Columbus: 7pm in Room 2
Matthew Bible Study: 7:15pm in Room 3

THURSDAY, February 22

Rediscover Catholicism Lent Study: 9:30am in Room 3
Holy Hour: 12 noon in the church
Children's Choir: 4:15pm in the Choir Loft
Adult Confirmation Preparation: 7pm in Room 2
Folk/Contemporary Choir: 7:30pm in the Choir Loft
St. Ann Cares Ministry Meeting: 7pm in Room 1

FRIDAY, February 23

Rediscover Catholicism Lent Study: 9:30am in Room 3
Traditional Choir: 2pm in the Choir Loft
Lenten Pasta Dinner: 5:30pm in Fr. Bennett Hall
Stations of the Cross: 7pm in the church

SATURDAY, February 24

Men's Breakfast Group: 8am in Room 3

SUNDAY, February 25

Rediscover Catholicism Lent Study: 10:30am in Rm. 3
Parish Coffee: after 9:30am Mass in Fr. Bennett Hall
(sponsored by our Parish Council)

ConfessionMondays.com

**MONDAYS
DURING LENT**

OUR DOORS ARE OPEN

The Church of Saint Ann will be open on Mondays during Lent from 6 to 7pm for confessions.



Stations of the Cross

Fridays During Lent: 7:00 pm

except Friday, March 9th due to Confirmation

Cemetery Notice:

All Christmas &/or winter decorations at the St. Ann Cemetery need to be removed by March 10th in preparation for Easter and Spring cleanup.

Young ADULT BIBLE STUDY!

Young Adults in their 20's & 30's are invited to join us for faith filled discussions on Sunday's scripture, with open minds and hearts. We meet Monday nights at 7:30pm, usually in the Activity Room beneath the church wing, but check our Facebook group (St. Ann's Young Adult Group) for location info. Everyone is welcome - please bring friends!

The Marthas + Marys will be having their first event of 2018

Stations of the Cross followed by Stone Soup



Tuesday, February 27th at 6:30pm

All ladies are welcome!

Please RSVP to Sophie at: 860-673-3476 or ssopelak@comcast.net

Corporal Works of Mercy 2018

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 labeled 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, February 17/18:

Feed the Hungry

Food collection for the Avon Food Pantry and two Hartford parishes.

Next Weekend, February 24/25:

Visit the Sick

Collection of health aids for Helping Haitian Children at the Carrefore Clinic in Haiti:

<i>vitamins: Children & Adult</i>	<i>Tylenol & Aleve</i>	<i>Calamine lotion/ Cortisone cream</i>
<i>Walking canes</i>	<i>Ben Gay/Muscle Rub</i>	<i>Anti-bacterial soap (Dial)</i>
<i>Toothbrushes & toothpaste</i>	<i>antifungal ointment</i>	<i>Hemorrhoid cream</i>
<i>Powdered milk</i>	<i>Artificial tears</i>	<i>Tums</i>
<i>Bacitracin ointment</i>	<i>Spoons</i>	<i>Band-Aids</i>
<i>Eucerin cream</i>	<i>Cough/cold/sinus medicines</i>	<i>Wound cleanser</i>

We also ask that you visit those in nursing homes, shut-ins, or friends in need. Locally, call Avon Health Center 860.673.3265 for names of residents who would welcome visitors.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

IT'S NOT TOO LATE to sign up for a Book Study Group!

Lenten Book Study: *Rediscover Catholicism*

This Lent, our parish is reading Matthew Kelly's *Rediscover Catholicism* and exploring how our faith is fulfilling and relevant today. FREE BOOKS are available in the Gathering Space. See book flyer and website for reading schedule.

Book Discussion Groups are meeting weekly. Join us when you can!

- At Church: Groups meet in Room 3 - **Sundays**, 10:30am; **Mondays**, 7:15pm; **Wednesdays**, 7:15pm; **Thursdays**, 9:30am & **Fridays**, 9:30am.
- At Avon Middle School: Parent Book Study Groups meet in Room 227 during the 9am and 5:45pm CCD sessions Feb 25, Mar 11, & Mar 25.

This week in "Rediscover Catholicism:"

1. How are you influenced by the current philosophies of individualism, hedonism, and minimalism? How does our Catholic faith help counter these 'isms'?
2. In Ch. 3 the author quotes, "The desire for God is written on the human heart . . ." (CCC). In what ways do you yearn for God?
3. How would you describe your relationship with Jesus? Is he friend, mentor, coach, savior, spiritual director, role model, distant God, or historical figure? Where do you see opportunities for this relationship to grow?
4. How might embracing Catholicism as a way of life make you a-better-version-of-yourself?

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.



Knights of Columbus Meeting
Wednesday, February 21st
at 7-8:30pm
Room 2 (under Fr. Bennett Hall)

WEEKLY ORDINARY INCOME

February 11, 2018: \$7,461.01
Online Giving (week ending 2/14/18): \$3,182.00
 Next weekend's 2nd collection: monthly

Little Lambs Ministry Join Us!

Our ministry helps our Littlest Parishioners share the Word of God at 9:30 mass each week.

Are you looking for a way to volunteer at St. Ann's with no monthly meeting and minimal time commitment? Are you a parent, a grandparent, a catechist, an aunt or uncle, a teacher or retired teacher? Then Little Lambs ministry is for you! With minimal training and a monthly or even bi-monthly commitment (that is only 3 Sundays a year!) you can help the young parents and kids of St. Ann's in a tremendous way. Our goal is to present the Word in a way that young children can understand, at the same time allowing caregivers of young children to have a moment to reflect and pray while their children learn.



Please contact
 Heather Hoffman at:
heather-hoffman@sbcgolbal.net
 or Colleen Waterbury at:
mcwaterbu@comcast.net

2018 Lenten Pasta Dinners

The **Men of St Ann** will be serving Pasta Dinners during Lent again this year. There will be both Marinara Sauce and Clam Sauce. Come and enjoy!
 Upcoming dates:

February 23rd, March 16th & March 23rd
5:30 - 7pm in Fr. Bennett Hall

Come alone or bring the family!

Adults: \$5
Kids under 18: \$3
Family Max: \$15

Why not feed your soul as well? Come to
Stations of the Cross at
7pm
following the
Pasta Supper.



COUNCIL CORNER

RCIA NEWS

This weekend, the RCIA team acknowledges the progress of four candidates, Cassandra Dodd, Stephen Oberstadt, Jonathan Sylvan, and Christopher Okumura who have asked for the support of this community of faith in recognizing the progress they have made in their spiritual formation. Today we send them off to be presented to Archbishop Leonard Blair, as they participate in the Rite of Election/Call to Continuing Conversion at the Cathedral in Hartford, entering into the final steps of preparation to become full and participating members of the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil here at Saint Ann's on March 31st.



Have you heard of the Saint Ann's Parish Council?
Do you know what it does?
Would you like to know more about it?

We will be hosting the Coffee after the 9:30 Mass on Sunday, February 25th, and would love to see you there and talk with you about the Council. When you learn more about our mission, you might even want to become a part of it!

If you can't be at the coffee but are interested in learning more about the Parish Council, please feel free to email me at thomasfharrison2@gmail.com.

Thank you. Hope to see you on the 25th.

Tom Harrison, Chairman

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments

When I was a teenager, the experience of Catholic retreat basically changed my life. I wasn't lost or hurting, but the 3 days placed me on a path that led to where I am today. Certainly, my experiences of faith before and after that weekend also played a role in the person I have become. However, the power of God I felt in that short period of time had such a profound effect on me it became a type of lens through which I then came to see the rest of my life.

Sometimes we need to get away from it all to realize what really matters in life. We step back and see things more clearly. When we are fully in the world it is hard to get past the busyness and constant noise of modern existence. Distractions are all around us and our attention span can be so limited when it comes to truth.

This Lent, find the time to slow down, to get away from it all, and to rest in the peaceful arms of God. Go to the desert and work on surrendering all you are, and have, and will be to Jesus. Reflect on the many gifts you have been given and discern the best ways to cultivate those for God's glory. As this season begins, be mindful of the fact that this time will never come again. There might be a Lenten season next year, but God is calling you now.

-Tracy Earl Welliver, MT

QUOTES

Words to Inspire the Faithful

God never tires of forgiving.

- Pope Francis

SUNDAY'S READINGS

First Reading:

Even now, says the LORD, return to me with your whole heart, with fasting, and weeping, and mourning; Rend your hearts, not your garments, and return to the LORD, your God. (Joel 2:12-13a)

Psalm:

A clean heart create for me, O God, and a steadfast spirit renew within me. (Ps 51)

Second Reading:

Behold, now is a very acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. (2 Corinthians 6:2b)

Gospel:

"But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right is doing, so that your almsgiving may be secret. And your Father who sees in secret will repay you." (Mt 6:3-4)

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

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WEEKLY READINGS

Readings for the Week of February 18, 2018

Sunday: Gn 9:8-15/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [cf. 10]/1 Pt 3:18-22/
Mk 1:12-15
Monday: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15 [Jn 6:63b]/
Mt 25:31-46
Tuesday: Is 55:10-11/Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19 [18b]/Mt 6:7-15
Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19 [19b]/Lk 11:29-32
Thursday: 1 Pt 5:1-4/Ps 23:1-3a, 4, 5, 6 [1]/Mt 16:13-19
Friday: Ez 18:21-28/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8 [3]/Mt 5:20-26
Saturday: Dt 26:16-19/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8 [1b]/Mt 5:43-48
Next Sunday: Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 116:10, 15, 16-17,
18-19 [9]/Rom 8:31b-34/Mk 9:2-10

GOSPEL MEDITATION

Why do we always go to the desert? We see this example in Scripture time and time again. The Israelites wandered in the desert. King David and prophets were driven into the wilderness. And now Jesus is in the same place. Lent after Lent, we too are invited into a barren, desolate place. Why do we always go to the desert?

Throughout Scripture, the desert is a place of testing. It's also a place of hiding and withdrawal. In the Old Testament, David fled into the wilderness to hide from Saul, Elijah from Jezebel, and Jonah from God! In other words, the desert is a place of "retreat." In Christian circles, we use the word to describe a spiritual weekend away. But its meaning comes from warfare, as we well know. To retreat means to draw back, to separate oneself from the fighting. Of course, a military retreat brings its own kind of "battle" -- the internal assessment of why the fighting went so poorly.

As we enter into this Lenten season, we are invited to retreat into the desert with Jesus. Attending a day or weekend of reflection is a wonderful spiritual practice. This "desert spirituality," however, can fill all forty days. We can fulfill our Lenten resolutions with a purpose -- writing daily notes to family and friends can inspire new gratitude, every time we pass up that specific food item can be cause for intercession for deeper sufferings and privations of others.

The Gospel tells us that "the Spirit drove him out into the desert." In other words, God wants us to be here. What feels uncomfortable is actually part of our spiritual journey. To be stretched, to be challenged, to confront our own areas of weakness -- these things are essential in our walk with God. This Lent, will you go to the desert?

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Live the Liturgy

Repent and believe in the gospel! This is the message that is found on Jesus' lips after forty days in the desert. As the forty days of Lent come before us, we are asked to create a desert experience in our lives so that we can learn anew the ways of God. Our daily cares and concerns can distract us from truth and cause us to become absorbed with the world and secular priorities. Lent is an opportunity to free ourselves from illusion and focus us on what really matters. In doing so, we open up new possibilities for our relationship with God, others, our world, and ourselves.

THE BULLETIN BOARD

Shut off your phone and
let God call your heart ❤️



Phone Fast Fridays During Lent
#PFF
ArchdioceseofHartford.org

Join us for the Church of St. Patrick ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARTY



FRIDAY, MARCH 16, 2018 AT 6:30 PM

Farmington Country Club
806 Farmington Ave.
Farmington, CT 06032

\$40.00 per person

*Featuring Live Irish Music by Liz McNicholl & the
Crickstones and Irish Dancers from Griffith Dance Academy*

BUFFETT-STYLE DINNER

- Irish soda bread with house made fruit marmalade
- Allen brothers corned beef and cabbage with potatoes and carrots
- Guinness battered Cod with chips, malt vinegar, sea salt
- Shepherd's pie- lamb, carrot, peas
- Cash Bar and an Assortment of Irish Beers. Parishioners and Non-Parishioners are welcome.

Tickets can be purchased at St. Patrick's Mass, or by calling (860) 677-2639 or on our website <https://stpatsfarm.org>.



Worldwide Marriage Encounter

"This is my beloved Son. Listen to him." Let us learn to listen better to each other and to God by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next Weekends are Jul 6-8, 2018 in MANCHESTER, CT and Nov 2-4, 2018 in MANCHESTER, CT. For more information, call Pat & Mary-Jo McLaughlin at 860-315-2127 or visit them at <https://www.mectw.org/>.

RACHEL'S VINEYARD RETREAT 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 9-11, 2018 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, email her at mlaffin@prolifeministry.org, or visit our website at www.rachelsvineyard.org.