

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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Tim Healy: deacontim@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

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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):

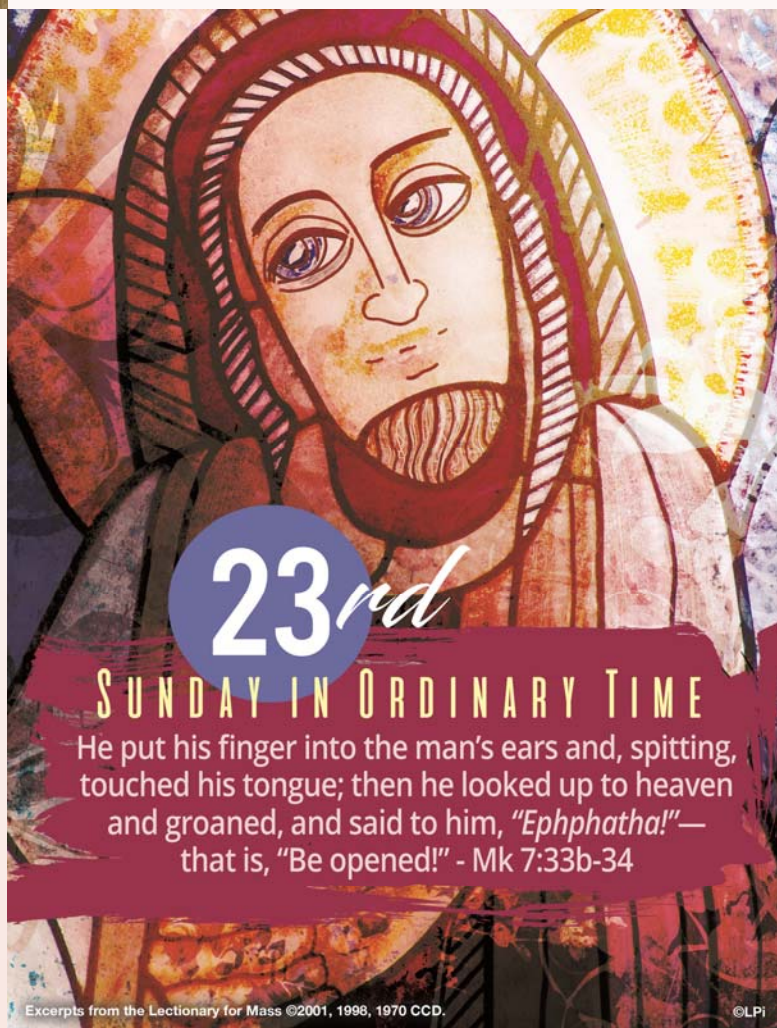
Call the Parish Office

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.



23rd

SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

He put his finger into the man's ears and, spitting, touched his tongue; then he looked up to heaven and groaned, and said to him, "Ephphatha!"— that is, "Be opened!" - Mk 7:33b-34

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

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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

MMP Cenacle

Monday: 7:15pm

Holy Hour

Thursday: 12:00 Noon



23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

MONDAY, September 10

9:00 **Gregory Godbout**, requested by Ann & Leo DiStefano

TUESDAY, September 11

9:00 **Dr. Theodore deGroot**, requested by his wife and family

WEDNESDAY, September 12

9:00 **Mercedes Mujica**, requested by Luis and Virginia Fernandez

THURSDAY, September 13

9:00 **Mercedes Angulo**, requested by Luis and Virginia Fernandez

FRIDAY, September 14

9:00 **Oscar Maillet**, requested by his wife, Ida

SATURDAY, September 15

4:00 **For the deceased members of the Riela family**

SUNDAY, September 16

7:30 **Special Intentions**

9:30 **Thomas McMahon** requested by Don and Thuy Ngo & family

11:00 **Greg Godbout**, requested by The Hagedorn Family



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, September 10

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

TUESDAY, September 11

RCIA (morning group): 9:30am in Room 3

RCIA (evening group): 7pm in Room 3

WEDNESDAY, September 12

Unlocking the Mysteries of the Bible: 9:30am in Room 3

THURSDAY, September 13

Holy Hour: 12 noon in the church

Traditional Choir: 2pm in the Choir Loft

Youth Choir: 4:15pm in the Choir Loft

Folk/Contemporary Choir: 7:30pm in the Choir Loft

FRIDAY, September 14

SATURDAY, September 15

Men's Breakfast Group: 8am in Room 3

SUNDAY, September 16

"Unpacking the Sunday Scriptures": 10:30am in Rm. 3



Do you know people interested in becoming Catholic? If so, please consider inviting them to join our RCIA program. St. Ann's RCIA program welcomes all those who wish to join the Roman Catholic

Church. RCIA offers a systematic presentation of the Catholic faith, allowing seekers to explore the person of Jesus, the content and structure of the church, and Catholic perspectives on worship, prayer and community. The process is designed for people who are uncatechized (need to be prepared to receive Eucharist and Confirmation) and unbaptized persons who want to become a member of the Catholic Church.

RCIA sessions meet weekly, every Tuesday morning and evening from September through Easter Sunday, April 21, 2019. The first meeting will be on Tuesday, September 11th. The morning session meets from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. and the evening session runs from 7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m. We meet in Room 3 of the lower level of Father Bennett Hall.

If you have any questions or want more information before attending a group meeting, please call Maureen Fiedler at 860-995-4026.



Tools for Schools Collection Through September 8/9

The leaves will soon be turning, air chilling, and school buses rolling... it's time for our annual Tools for Schools Collection, which will run through September 8/9 This collection is of great assistance to the Catholic Worker House, Hartford refugee families and the Avon Food Pantry families. Any/all NEW school supplies are welcomed. Backpacks are especially needed. Please place the items in the area marked "Tools for Schools" in the Gathering Space or bring down to church offices below Fr. Bennett Hall. May you be blessed for your generosity!

Please consider these suggested items:

- *Backpacks * Calculators * Notebooks
- *Pencils * Dictionaries * Rulers *
- Pencil sharpeners * Pens
- * Notebook paper * Markers etc.





MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Acclaimed Hollywood Actor and
Church Scholar
FRANK RUNYEON Comes to St. Ann

PRESENTING

"Luke: Stories on the Road"
Friday, October 19th
7pm in the church

Don't miss this inspiring and entertaining live
dramatic presentation.

New Fall Bible Study

THE PROPHETS: Messengers of God's Mercy

There are 16 prophetic books in the Old Testament. Taken as a whole, their length is equal to the entire New Testament. The importance of the prophetic books is incalculable, as it is nearly impossible to understand the work and message of Jesus without them. If we consider that God is the Divine Bridegroom and the Church is his Bride, then the prophets can be seen as "spiritual marriage counselors." They afflict the comfortable and comfort the afflicted. They urge us to repentance, warn us of the dangers of sin, and announce the blessings of faithfulness, thus calling us to a deeper covenant relationship with God. This 10 week program begins on Wednesday, September 26th at 9:30AM in Conference Room #3. Group discussion is based on questions in the workbook followed by a 30 minute video presented by Thomas Smith of Ascension Press. Purchase of the workbook (\$25) registers you to view any of the videos online should you miss a session.



For more information or to register please contact
Ann DiStefano at 860-673-9858, x228
ann.distefano@stannavon.com
or Janet Newman at
860-573-3446
wjnewman@sbcglobal.net

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Fall Offerings for Adult Education and Enrichment

Visit www.stannavon.org for full details. To register, contact Ann: ann.distefano@stannavon.com; 860-673-9858, x228

Explore Becoming Catholic

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) gatherings will begin soon. For information, contact Maureen Fiedler, 860-995-4026, maureen_fiedler@ethelwalker.org

Grow in Faith with Friends

Form a Small Group with your friends/neighbors to explore your faith and deepen your friendships, at your pace and from the comfort of home. Materials and support are waiting for you!

Encounter God in the Bible

"Unpacking the Sunday Scriptures" ...

helps you make personal connections to the Sunday readings. Drop in, all materials provided.

- Sundays, 10:30am, Room 3 with Chip Janiszewski
- Mondays, 7:15pm, Room 3 with Jim Serruta

"Acts: The Spread of the Kingdom"

20-session series begins Sept 19th and 21st

- Wednesdays, 7:00pm, Room 3 with Terry Pendergast
- Fridays, 9:30am, Room 3 with Pat Wall

Materials fee: \$29

"The Prophets: Messengers of God's Mercy"

10-session series begins Sept 26.

- Wednesdays, 9:30am, Rooms 2 & 3 with Janet Newman

Materials fee: \$25

Parenting with Purpose

Learn about our great offerings on parenting, marriage and faith at the **Parent Socials** on Sunday, Sept 16, at 9am and 5:45pm, during the kids' classes at Avon Middle School. Childcare for infants – preschoolers available at the 9am session! Contact Ann above for info.

Toys Needed

We are in need of a few new or gently used toys for our birth - preK Childcare Program during Sunday morning Youth Faith Formation. Please contact Paula Love (uconnloves@att.net) or Lisa Giarratana (lrg1010@comcast.net) if you have any of these items to donate:

- simple puzzles
- Duplos
- chunky cars/trucks
- picture books (religious, if possible)
- folding cube and tunnel toy



WEEKLY ORDINARY INCOME

September 2, 2018: \$8,177.50
 Online Giving/Pmts. (week ending 9/5/18): \$2,952.00
 Next weekend's 2nd collection: *monthly*

Young Adult GROUP

The St. Ann Young Adult Group welcomes all adults in their 20s and 30s to join us for

- community
- growing in faith
- exploring how our relationship with God can help us navigate life

We hold socials, offer Bible Study, and more. We meet Monday nights at 7:30pm, generally in the Activity Room beneath the left wing of the church. To get on our communications list, contact Kylie Brasel: kylie.brasel13@gmail.com.

To explore further, visit us at www.stannavon.org/young-adults. Come check us out – we can't wait to meet you!



Church of Saint Ann 100th Anniversary Celebration

In 2019 we mark the 100th Anniversary of St. Ann Parish! This is a great milestone in the life of the parish community of St. Ann and is an occasion of great celebration. It is difficult to imagine the impact that St. Ann Parish has played in the lives of thousands of believers who have come through our doors, who have been educated in the faith, have received the graces of sacramental life, the dignity of Christian burial and have been assisted in their material needs.

It is my intention to begin organizing this event in earnest beginning in September. Presently, a small committee has been formed to plan for this monumental occasion, others are needed. If you would like to be part of the planning committee please call Kris in the parish office. More information is to follow.

Fr. McHugh

K-8 Faith Formation Classes Begin Next Weekend: September 16th

Registration materials for 2018-2019 are online www.stannavon.org hard copies are at the Faith Formation office. Only registered children whose tuition and fees are paid will be placed into classes. If there are financial concerns, please call Jennifer Soucy, Registrar 860-673-9858 x227 for confidential arrangements. **Reminder:** Children who are entering our program for the first time must provide all sacramental documents. We will return originals or copies to you. If the sacraments were made here at Saint Ann's, please give us approximate dates and we will look up the information.

For Additional Information contact:

Valerie St. Jean, Director of Religious Education K-8
 860-673-9858, ext. 223 or valerie.stjean@stannavon.com



Grades K-4

Sunday mornings
 Avon Middle School
 9:00 AM to 10:30 AM

Grades 5-8

Sunday evenings
 Avon Middle School
 5:45 PM to 7:15 PM.

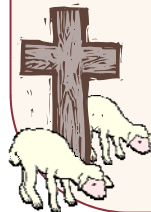
Save the Date

Little Lambs Sunday

When: Sept. 23, 2018 at the 9:30am Mass

Who: Children and Caregivers

What: During the Liturgy of the Word children and their caregivers will be invited up to the altar to hear the Liturgy of the Word read especially for them.



Also... join us after Mass in Father Bennett Hall for food provided by our Kindergarten and First Grade FF families and the Little Lambs Team.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments

I love watching replays of great sports highlights. Sometimes you see something so extraordinary that you tell others they have to see it to believe it. The one-handed catch, the in-the-park home run, and the photo finish are all examples of these types of moments. They are amazing feats that boggle the mind.

I wonder how many people in biblical times saw Jesus perform miracles and told others they wouldn't have believed it unless they saw it with their own eyes. Of course, we believe the stories of his miracles, and we didn't see them in person. We do believe them, don't we? There is no television program that features replays of the actual miracles Jesus performed 2,000 years ago. However, there are miracles every day for the world to see. Many of those come about by allowing God to work through us. People are waiting to be healed and fed, and mountains are waiting to be moved. There might not be a replay for these miracles either. However, people will be amazed by the power of God. Jesus said we could do these things if we had faith. Blessed are those who believe but who have not seen. Furthermore, blessed are those who perform great works with God so that others may see.

-Tracy Earl Welliver, MT

QUOTES

Words to Inspire the Faithful

*Heaven knows we need never be
ashamed of our tears.*

- Charles Dickens

SUNDAY'S READINGS

First Reading:

Then will the eyes of the blind be opened, the ears of the deaf be cleared. (Is 35:5)

Psalm:

Praise the Lord, my soul! (Ps 146) or Alleluia.

Second Reading:

Did not God choose those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom that he promised to those who love him? (Jas 2:5)

Gospel:

Then he looked up to heaven and groaned, and said to him, "Ephphatha!"-that is, "Be opened!" And immediately the man's ears were opened. (Mk 7:34-35a)

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

Readings for the Week of September 9, 2018

- Sunday: Is 35:4-7a/Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10 [1b]/Jas 2:1-5/Mk 7:31-37
- Monday: 1 Cor 5:1-8/Ps 5, 5-6, 7, 12 [9]/Lk 6:6-11
- Tuesday: 1 Cor 6:1-11/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b [cf. 4]/Lk 6:12-19
- Wednesday: 1 Cor 7:25-31/Ps 45:11-12, 14-15, 16-17 [11]/Lk 6:20-26
- Thursday: 1 Cor 8:1b-7, 11-13/Ps 139:1b-3, 13-14ab, 23-24 [24b]/Lk 6:27-38
- Friday: Nm 21:4b-9/Ps 78:1-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38 [cf. 7b]/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17
- Saturday: 1 Cor 10:14-22/Ps 116:12-13, 17-18 [17]/Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35
- Next Sunday: Is 50:5-9a/Ps 116:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 [9]/Jas 2:14-18/Mk 8:27-35

GOSPEL MEDITATION

"Jesus ? went by way of Sidon ? into the district of the Decapolis." For most of Jesus' ministry, he remains in Galilee and areas with a predominantly Jewish population. Today, however, we see Jesus traveling through a heavily pagan area. This makes the utterance of faith in today's Gospel all the more astounding. "He has done all things well."

In this story, a deaf man is brought to Jesus. This man is not without community! Despite communication difficulties due to a speech impediment, his people bring him before Jesus. Jesus lays hands upon the man and commands his broken body to change. "Be opened!" Immediately the man's ears were opened, his speech impediment was removed, and he spoke plainly." The community is stunned. They can't stop telling the story. The more Jesus asks them to settle down, the more they proclaim! The Jewish people expected a Messiah but a Messiah with very particular qualifications. The Greeks and pagans anticipated no such savior. There were no expectations to meet. They had a special capacity to be completely, utterly surprised.

As Catholics, it can be easy to become accustomed to the songs and the prayers, to the routine of religious education drop-offs and Sunday Mass attendance. By now, we may have very particular expectations. When was the last time you allowed yourself to be surprised by God? Sometimes we are all like the deaf man in today's Gospel. God wants to speak to us, but we can't hear clearly. In your prayer this week, go before God honestly. Give yourself permission to drop your expectations and assumptions. Ask Him to renew your faith to show you how, in your life, "He has done all things well."

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Live the Liturgy

We often associate the word "healing" with something that produces dramatic, physical results: the blind see, the crippled walk, and the deaf hear. Witnessing such miraculous events is few and far between for most. Healing happens more frequently in very ordinary ways using very ordinary means. And we can all be God's instruments for bringing it about. Kindness, love, mercy, and compassion can go a very long way. Treating people with kindness ? being inclusive and welcoming of the poor, the weak, and the powerless ? listening to another's story and pain ? offering compassion and love to those who have wronged us ? avoiding hurtful criticisms and watching our tongues. All can go a long way to changing and healing human hearts. There is power in love and kindness. Does this power not speak of someone greater than ourselves working in and through us?

THE BULLETIN BOARD

Lecture on "Haunted House,' Skeletons of Racist Past, and the Origin of US Buddhism"

Our **Fr. Joe Cheah** has received the Sister Murphy Scholarship Award from the University of St. Joseph for his exceptional scholarly work on changing how the origin of US Buddhism is understood. As part of the Murphy Award recipient, he will be giving a lecture with a Halloween theme on "Haunted House,' Skeletons of Racist Past, and the Origin of US Buddhism" on Tuesday, October 30, from 7 pm to 8 pm at the Reception Room of the University of St. Joseph. This lecture is by invitation only. If you're interested in attending, please print your name and email address on the sign-up list in the vestibule of the church. The University will send you an invitation.

PILGRIM STATUE OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA

Coming to St. Ann's October 6 & 7 (Feast of the Holy Rosary)

Commissioned by Lucia, one of the three children who the Blessed Mother appeared to in Fatima. Travels the world & was displayed at the United Nations last year



- Displayed in Father Bennett hall October 6, & processed into the church for viewing during all Masses the weekend of October 6th & 7th
- The statue's custodian will talk following each mass on the statue's history & on the statue's healing properties

A Rosary will follow the 4pm mass on October 6, as well as the 7:30am and 11am masses on October 7



Church of Saint Ann
289 Arch Road
Avon, Connecticut 06001

For Information
Contact Joseph Savidge
860-306-8788



Calling All Scouts and Scout Leaders!

Join us for one of two great training opportunities for scouts and their leaders. Both sessions will be held at the Pastoral Center in Bloomfield on September 15, 2018 from 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Catholic Religious Emblem Training

Are you a scout leader who would you like to help your scouts reach important and meaningful goals? Then learn to counsel scouts on how they can acquire their distinctive religious emblems including the Light of Christ, Parvuli Dei, Ad Altare Dei, Pope Pius and Adult Awards. You won't regret helping young people achieve these important milestones.

Boy Scout Chaplain Aide Training

Is your faith an integral part of your life, including your scouting activities? Then being a chaplain's aide may be a great consideration for you. This session will prepare you to serve and support those of many different religious beliefs, while enriching your own faith life.

For more information about these and other Catholic Scouting programs, contact:
Jennifer McClintock
OEEC - Coordinator of Catholic Scouting
860-242-5573
Jennifer.McClintock@aohct.org
CatholicEdAOHCT.org

RETROUVAILLE WEEKEND



If your marriage has become troubled and stressed, unloving or uncaring; even if you are divorced or separated but want to try again, the Retrouvaille program can help. Retrouvaille provides tools to communicate better, resolve conflicts fairly, and re-discover why you fell in love. The next local Retrouvaille weekend is September 21-23, 2018. For information, call confidentially **1-800-470-2230**, email chervlandsteve@cox.net, or go to our website www.helpourmarriage.com for information & registration. Retrouvaille is a Catholic-based program, which recently received Canonical recognition, and is an avenue for couples who are experiencing difficulties in their marriage.