



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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DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Tom Stockton: ext. 230

OFFICE MANAGER

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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.



THE EPIPHANY of the Lord

"Since from you shall come a ruler,
who is to shepherd my people Israel." - Mt 2:6b

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:

Eucharistic Adoration:

Mondays 9:30-10:30am

Rosary: 8:30 am, daily

Chaplet: following daily Mass

MMP Cenacle: Mondays at 7:15pm

Holy Hour: Thursdays at 12 Noon



**The Epiphany
of the Lord**

MONDAY, January 7

9:00 **George Fliegelman**, requested by
the Osiecki Family

TUESDAY, January 8

9:00 **Special Intentions**

WEDNESDAY, January 9

9:00 **Carol Cuningham**, requested by the family

THURSDAY, January 10

9:00 **Special Intentions**

FRIDAY, January 11

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

SATURDAY, January 12

4:00 **Stephanie LaMantia**, requested by
the Cooper Family

SUNDAY, January 13

7:30 **Elizabeth Twohig**, requested by
the Scapellati Family

9:30 **Robert Simon**, requested by
Tom and Terri St. Denis

11:00 **Michael Mazurick (10th Ann.)**, requested
by his wife and family



Church of Saint Ann Used Book Sale

Proceeds go to Catholic High School Student Scholarships

Donation Dates:

Wednesday, January 9th: 9:30am—6pm
Thursday, January 10th: 9:30am - 6pm
Friday, January 11th: 9:30am - 11am

Please donate books: *best sellers, fiction, non-fiction, religious, classics, biographies, memoirs, self-help books, vintage books, cookbooks, children's books, young readers, books-on-CD, etc., and vinyl records.*

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, January 7

Prayer Shawl Ministry Meeting: 7pm in Room 2

MMP Cenacle-Rosary Prayer Group: 7:15pm in the church.

Enter through door on left side of church. All are welcome!

Young Adult Bible Study: 2nd & 4th Mondays, 7:30pm (Activity Rm)

Unpacking the Sunday Scriptures: 7:15pm in Rm. 3

TUESDAY, January 8

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

RCIA (evening group): 7pm in Room 3

WEDNESDAY, January 9

Book Sale DROP OFF: 9:30am—6pm in Fr. Bennett Hall

Acts Bible Study: 6:30pm in Room 3

THURSDAY, January 10

Book Sale DROP OFF: 9:30am—6pm in Fr. Bennett Hall

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, January 11

Book Sale DROP OFF: 9:30am—6pm in Fr. Bennett Hall

Acts Bible Study: 9:30am in Room

Book Sale: 5-7pm in Fr. Bennett Hall (\$5 admission fee)

SATURDAY, January 12

Men's Breakfast Group: 8am in Room 3

Book Sale: 9am-6pm in Fr. Bennett Hall (no admission fee)

SUNDAY, January 13

Book Sale: 9am-6pm in Fr. Bennett Hall (no admission fee)

Parish Coffee: after the 9:30am Mass in Fr. Bennett Hall

Sponsored by the Women's Retreat & Bereavement Ministries

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

Book Sale Dates:

Friday, January 11th: 5pm - 7:30pm
(\$5 adult admission)

Saturday, January 12th: 9am - 6pm
(no admission fee)

Sunday, January 13th: 8am—12:45pm
(no admission fee)

Volunteers are needed for collection & sale

To volunteer at the January 2019 Book Sale, please contact Nancy Casey 860.673.3141 or Constance Rotondo 860.404.0204. Thanks!



ADULT FAITH FORMATION

More details are at stannavon.com, or contact Director of AFF, Ann DiStefano: ann.distefano@stannavon.com (860) 673-9858, x.228

Make 2019 a Year of Deeper Relationships with God and Others

Encounter God in the Bible

"Unpacking the Sunday Scriptures" helps you make personal connections to the Sunday readings through the lens of historical context and the popular *Lectio Divina* prayer method.

Drop in; all materials provided.

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

Adult Confirmation

Have you been baptized and received First Communion, but were never confirmed as a youth? Give yourself the blessing of Adult Confirmation. Our seven-week preparation series will begin in February. The Confirmation ceremony is May 14, 2019.

Parenting with Purpose

Join us for our engaging video series on parenting on CCD Sundays at Avon Middle School, Room 228.

* 9am - For K-4th Grade parents (**Childcare for babies-preK is available at this session - sign up by Thurs prior with babysitters Lisa, lrg1010@comcast.net AND Paula, uconnloves@att.net**)

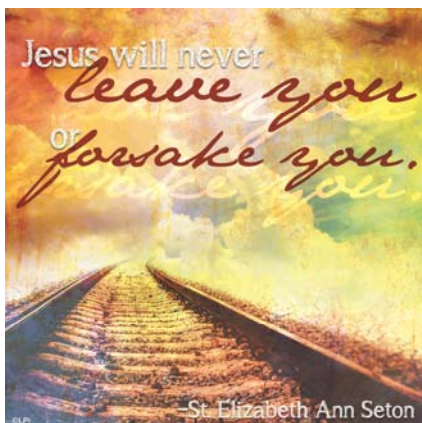
* 5:45pm – For 5th-8th Grade parents

Young Adult Group

Join us on the 2nd and 4th Monday nights of the month at 7:30pm in the Activity Room (beneath the left wing of the church). Unwind, connect and explore faith with other men, women and couples in their 20's and 30's.

Contact: Kylie Brasel, (860) 951-6211, kylie.brasel13@gmail.com.

Find us on Facebook: St. Ann's Young Adult Group



St. Ann's Second Ever Baptism Reunion.

- Who: Parents with children baptized in the last five years.
What: Meet, play, eat, enjoy getting together with other families with recently baptized children.
 Pick up your free Baptism Go-Kit, if you need one!
When: After the 11am Mass on January 6th for about an hour.
Where: Fr. Bennett Hall

If you've had a child baptized in the last four or five years, consider yourself invited!

We hope to see you there!

RSVP would be helpful:
 Deacon Tim via email (DeaconTim@StAnnAvon.com)
 or text/voicemail his cell (860) 693-9744.



2018 Annual Parish Collection

As we embark on a brand new year we would like to express our gratitude to the families who have to our 2018 Parish Annual Collection, and reach out to those who have yet to make a pledge. Unfortunately we are behind our 2017 totals and we are hoping that you will prayerfully consider making a donation to this vital collection that helps to sustain our Parish. Thank you!

Pledge forms are available in the Gathering Space, Parish Office or on our website: www.stannavon.org

WEEKLY ORDINARY INCOME

December 16, 2018: \$7149.32
 December 23, 2018: \$11,503.66
 Christmas: \$17,969.86
 December 30, 2018: \$7991.38
 Next weekend's 2nd collection:
Fuel/Utility

The Men of the Church of Saint Ann are Invited to the

Annual Men's Retreat

January 18 - 20, 2019

At Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center in W. Htfd.

Join Us for a focus on

"No Ordinary Path ... Holiness in Everyday Life"

For more information go to the
Holy Family Retreat Center

website: <https://www.holyfamilyretreat.org>

Click on Retreats, then Themed Retreats

Call or Email your St. Ann Representatives:

Paul Watson 860-922-0812 (Pgwatson33@gmail.com)

Bob Yurch 860-675-1366 (byurch@fiainc.com)

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Come be a part of our ministry!

**Upcoming Meeting: Monday, January 7th
at 7-8:30pm in Room 2**



All are welcome...including brand new knitters!

For more information call
Tina: 860-674-1541

Please join us in

A Celebration of Life

All Life is a precious gift from God from conception to natural death. Every life is a gift to be cherished.

Your life is a gift.



Date: SUNDAY, JANUARY 13, 2019

Time: 2-3 p.m.

Place: St. Ann's Parking Lot

Take a stand for life, pray the living rosary, put your faith into action. Let the light of Christ shine through us for all to see what we affirm and believe. All ages are welcome.



Spreading Christmas Cheer!

A special thank you to St. Ann Catechists Kathy Hazel and Carla Grimm. Their 43rd and 5th grade Faith classes made these beautiful Christmas placemats that will decorate the tables at Avon Health Center!



The Church of St. Ann Knocks SOCKS off!

Thank you to all those who donated warm socks during our family Advent wreath activity on December 1st! More than 250 pairs of socks were collected. These socks will go to immigrant families new to the Hartford area.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments

"The Story of the Other Wise Man" by Henry Van Dyke was first published in 1895. It tells the fictional story of Artaban, a fourth wise man who began a journey to visit Jesus, the newborn King. Unlike his fellow Magi, he failed to make it there for the birth of Jesus because he kept pausing to help various people in need. In fact, it took him about 33 years of searching before his quest comes to an abrupt end when he is hit in the head with a falling roof shingle. His final breath takes place in Jerusalem near the place where Jesus is being crucified. As he lies dying, he hears the voice of Jesus telling him that the gifts he has given all along the way to "the least of these" he has actually given to Jesus himself.

If you have never read this story or seen the made-for-television movie based on the tale, you really should seek it out. It is a story that reminds us of a profound truth: Jesus himself rests in the lives of all those around us in need. In the story, it was the wise man's constant response to a stewardship call that prevented him from getting where he wanted to go. In the end, where he needed to go was more significant than where he thought he should go.

If we live lives of generosity and graciousness, we may find ourselves on constant detours from the road on which we are traveling. It is in the detours and the unexpected circumstances of our journey that often times we find our true purpose in life. We think God is somewhere we must travel to, when in reality, God is closer than we think in the least likely of places.

-Tracy Earl Welliver, MT

QUOTES

Words to Inspire the Faithful

*Coming from a land that worshipped stars...
they fell down and worshipped
Him Who made the stars.
- Venerable Fulton Sheen*

SUNDAY'S READINGS

First Reading:

Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you. (Is 60:1)

Psalm:

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you. (Ps 72)

Second Reading:

The Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body, and copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. (Eph 3:6)

Gospel:

They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. (Mt 2:11b)

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WEEKLY READINGS

Readings for the Week of January 6, 2019

Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/ Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

Monday: 1 Jn 3:22-4:6/Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a [8ab]/ Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8 [cf. 11]/Mk 6:34-44

Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Mk 6:45-52

Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19-5:4/Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17 [cf. 11]/ Lk 4:14-22a

Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20 [12a]/Lk 5:12-16

Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a and 9b [cf. 4a]/ Jn 3:22-30

Next Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30 [1]/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

GOSPEL MEDITATION

"Behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." How strange to journey so far for perhaps so little. Of course the magi go to the capitol city. Of course they entreat with King Herod. Of course this is where they expect newborn royalty to be. But where is the child? "In Bethlehem of Judea," the scribes say. And so the magi go on to what is yet another Christmas miracle.

We don't know where the magi met the Christ Child, but it cannot have been lavish. Perhaps it was the stable. Perhaps it was a small hovel Joseph had found to wait out the census. But it would have been the home of a laborer, worn and threadbare. Here, in this unassuming abode, the magi are still "overjoyed...they prostrated themselves and did him homage."

Have you ever gotten to the end of a great work and found the results to be underwhelming? How did you respond? Were you disappointed or elated at God's providence and your upended expectations? The magi journeyed hundreds of miles over treacherous terrain to pay homage to royalty they have seen prophesied in the stars. They encountered an ordinary family displaced from their home. This Sunday, the magi are an example for us. Can we see God in the unexpected? Do we encounter Him in the person who doesn't fit our expectations of propriety? Do we revere Christ's presence in the poor? Or do we expect to meet God only in places of honor and esteem? This week, ask God for the grace to honor Him in the unexpected places and unassuming people. He is waiting for you!

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Live the Liturgy

We all have had the experience of walking into a dark room and searching for the light switch. If we are really unfamiliar with the space, anxiety, uncertainty, disorientation, and even fear can easily arise. Once we find the light, all is illuminated and we are at peace. Our light has come into the world! The glory of God has been revealed! Today's feast of the Epiphany teaches us to look to our Savior, Jesus Christ, for the way to truly be the human beings we were created to be. He shows us how to prioritize our lives, order our relationships, care for creation, and live as daughters and sons of God. God's love and creative power is universal, transcending all races and nations. Jesus brings the light of peace to a broken world that still struggles to understand itself and to you and I who also struggle to understand who we are. May we find ourselves overjoyed that we have found our truth and allow Jesus to bring light to the darkness of our lives!

THE BULLETIN BOARD



THANK YOU!! To the more than **38,700** generous donors have pledged over **\$9,900,000** to the 2018 Archbishop's Annual Appeal, *Our Faith, Our Future!!*

As the year is coming to a close, this may be your last chance to help the Archbishop's Annual Appeal achieve the goal of **\$10 Million** in the 2018 tax year!

This year's Appeal goal has been a challenge – but it is nothing compared to the challenge many suffer with each and every day of their lives. For the third year in a row - Thanks to the generosity of the donors to this year's Archbishop's Annual Appeal, *Our Faith, Our Future*, the Vicariate Outreach Program has been able to provide over **\$1,000,000** in critical funding to over 200 local, community based, organizations. This funding provides support to families and individuals for life's basic necessities: a warm meal, a bag of groceries, a place to sleep, or a place to turn for guidance and support. The Annual Appeal is one way to share our blessings and express thanks for the blessings with which God has graced us with our neighbors.

All funds contributed to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal are used exclusively for the purposes outlined in the Appeal literature, which can be found at www.archdioceseofhartford.org/appeal-impact-2/ . No Appeal funds are ever used for legal fees or settlements

If you have not yet made a gift, please prayerfully consider, making your pledge or gift today. Every gift makes a profound difference in the lives of countless individuals and families throughout our Archdiocese, in a way that exceeds anything we could hope to achieve on our own. Please visit the Appeal website at www.archdioceseofhartford.org and follow the link *Our Faith, Our Future*, to learn more and make your pledge or gift today.

PRAY for PEACE



Marriage Enrichment Celebration

The Archdiocesan Office of Family Life will hold its 12th annual marriage enrichment evening on:

Saturday, February 2 of 2019

5:00-9:00 p.m.

**Mary Our Queen Church and Parish Center
248 Savage St., Plantsville, CT.**

This year's program will begin with Mass, include dinner, prayer, reflection, and fun centered on the theme:

Where there's an "I Will,"

there's Always a Way:

The Indomitable Spirit of Sacramental Marriage.

Cost is \$25.00 per couple and includes dinner.

To register or obtain more information, contact :

Tom and Donna Finn at **860-302-1110**

email to tfinnphd@sbcglobal.net.

Please R.S.V.P. by Jan. 30, 2019

Gather Together

The Office for Catholic Social Justice Ministry in collaboration with The Underground CT is offering "Gather Together," a Connecticut human trafficking awareness event. It will be held Saturday, **Jan. 12** from 9 to 11:30 a.m. at St. Teresa of Calcutta Parish at St. Bartholomew Church, 45 Ludlow St., in Manchester. Expert speakers will discuss the reality of trafficking in Connecticut, the work being done and how churches can help. To register, email theundergroundct@gmail.com. For more information, contact Lynn Campbell at 860-242-5573.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

"He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." Light a spiritual fire in your marriage by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next Weekends are Feb 1-3, 2019 in MANCHESTER, CT and Jul 12-14, 2019 in MANCHESTER, CT. For more information, call Pat & Mary-Jo McLaughlin at 860-315-2127 or visit them at <https://www.mectw.org/>.