



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: deaconjeff@stannavon.com

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

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

PARISH OFFICE MANAGER

Kris Martino: ext. 221 kris.martino@stannavon.com

CEMETERY SUPERINTENDENT

Mike Gould: ext. 225

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

Meredith Springer: meredith.springer@stannavon.com

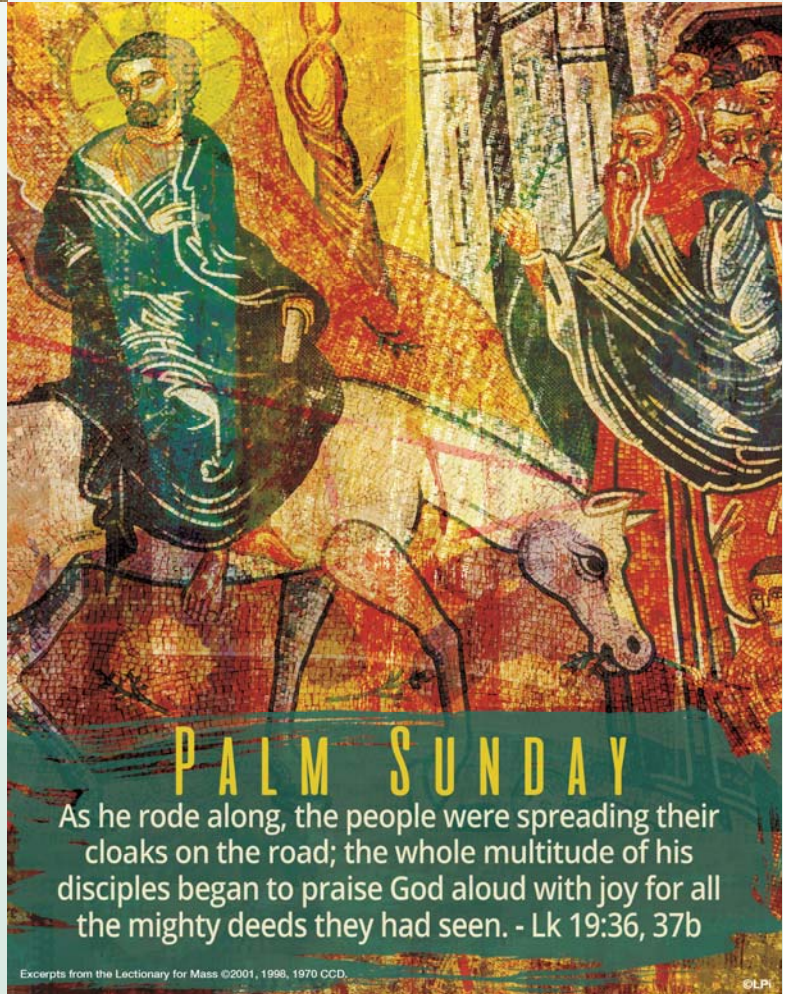
BAPTISMS: Registered parishioners call the Parish Office

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.



PALM SUNDAY

As he rode along, the people were spreading their cloaks on the road; the whole multitude of his disciples began to praise God aloud with joy for all the mighty deeds they had seen. - Lk 19:36, 37b

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

MMP Cenacle: Mondays at 7:15pm

Chaplet of Divine Mercy: Tues.- Fri.

9:30-9:40am in the Sanctuary

Holy Hour: Thursdays at 12noon

MASS INTENTIONS



Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

MONDAY, April 15

9:00 **Robert Collier**, requested by the family

TUESDAY, April 16

9:00 **Caroline Sikora**, requested by Lorraine Stepien

WEDNESDAY, April 17

9:00 **Samuel Galope**, requested by his wife and children

7:30 *Tenebrae*

THURSDAY, April 18, Holy Thursday

7:30 *Mass of the Lord's Supper*
Adoration until 10pm

FRIDAY, April 19, Good Friday

9:00 *Morning Prayer*
3:00 *Liturgy of the Lord's Passion*

SATURDAY, April 20, Holy Saturday

9:00 *Morning Prayer*
10-11 *Confessions*
12:00 *Blessing of the Food*
8:00 *Vigil Mass*

SUNDAY, April 21, Easter Sunday

7:30 *For all those in whose memory or honor the altar plants have been donated*
8:45 *For all those in whose memory or honor the altar plants have been donated*
10:00 *For all those in whose memory or honor the altar plants have been donated*
11:30 *For all those in whose memory or honor the altar plants have been donated*



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, April 15

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: 9:30-10:30am in the church
MMP Cenacle-Rosary Prayer Group: will return 4/22/19
Getting More Out of Mass Lent Program: 7:15pm in Rm. 3

TUESDAY, April 16

RCIA (morning group): 9:30am in Room 3
RCIA (evening group): 7pm in Room 3

WEDNESDAY, April 17

1 Corinthians Bible Study: 6:30pm in Room 3
Knights of Columbus: 7pm in Room 2

THURSDAY, April 18, Holy Thursday

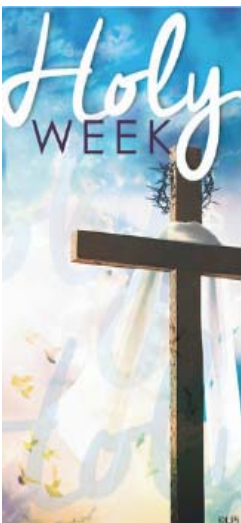
FRIDAY, April 19, Good Friday

SATURDAY, April 20, Holy Saturday

SUNDAY, April 21, Easter Sunday



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Monday, April 15th

Confessions: 6pm - 7pm

Wednesday, April 17th

Tenebrae: 7:30pm

Holy Thursday, April 18th

Mass of the Lord's Supper: 7:30pm
Adoration until 10pm

Good Friday, April 19th

Morning Prayer at 9:00 am
Liturgy of the Lord's Passion: 3pm

Holy Saturday, April 20th

Morning Prayer: 9am
Confessions: 10am - 11am
Blessing of the Food: 12pm (noon)
Easter Vigil: 8pm

**Easter Sunday
April 21st**

7:30 am
8:45 am
10:00 am
11:30 am

2019

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Lent 2019: The Mass

Bishop Robert Barron's "The Mass" 6-part Video Series (come when you can!)

An in-depth, engaging walk through the Mass with brilliant, personable Bishop Barron. Lite brunch, video, prayer, discussion.

Sundays, March 10th -April 14th; 12-1:30pm in Fr. Bennett Hall.

At-Mass Engagement: Fifth Sunday of Lent

Today's liturgy – Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord – is unlike any other in the church year, and each of us participates in a special way. We wave palm branches as we re-enact Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, and we play our roles as we retell the story of Jesus' passion and death. As we experience the joys and sorrows of this special liturgy, let us remember that Jesus became a man – experiencing the joys and sorrows of human life, and ultimately a painful death - so that he could teach us how to know and love God, and be with God for eternity. How can we thank Jesus in this Mass, and throughout Holy Week, for his love and sacrifice?

"Meaningful Mass Moments" Interactive display

Read about what inspires others and share what inspires you. (in the Gathering Space)

New Spring Programs

Unpacking the Sunday Scriptures returns the week of April 28! Come make personal connections to the Sunday readings through the lens of historical context and the popular *Lectio Divina* prayer method.

Sundays, 10:30am-12pm, Room 3, with Chip Janiszewski

Mondays, 7:15-8:45pm, Room 3, with Jim Serruta

All materials provided. (Bring your own Bible if you like.)

Register with Ann DiStefano (see bulletin front) or drop in!

Refreshing Catholicism

If it's been a while since you were in catechism class, could you use a refresher? Or are you non-Catholic, interested in exploring the faith? Join us for this five-week series covering:

1. *We Are the Church*
2. *What Makes us Catholic?*
3. *Growing in Faith*
4. *Scripture*
5. *Jesus Christ*

Wednesdays, 7:15-8:45pm, Room 3;

Thursdays, 9:30-11am, Room 3

Book fee: \$20;

Register by April 24 with Ann DiStefano (see bulletin cover)

Film Viewing & Discussion of "Ocean of Mercy"

Amidst the spiritual darkness of the early 20th century, three voices rose up from Poland to proclaim a powerful message about the Divine Mercy of Jesus. Come view "Ocean of Mercy," the true story of the phenomenal lives and spiritual legacy of Saint Faustina Kowalksa, Saint Maximilian Kolbe and Saint John Paul II, filmed in more than 20 cities across Poland and the US. Featuring never-before-seen film footage, rare photographs and extensive interviews with friends, biographers and family members of these three heroic "Apostles of Mercy." It's the perfect way to prepare for Divine Mercy Sunday, celebrated April 28 at 2:30pm in the church.

Wednesday, April 24th from 9:30am - 11:15am in Fr. Bennett Hall
Drop in, no registration necessary * Coffee will be served

Corporal Works of Mercy 2019

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

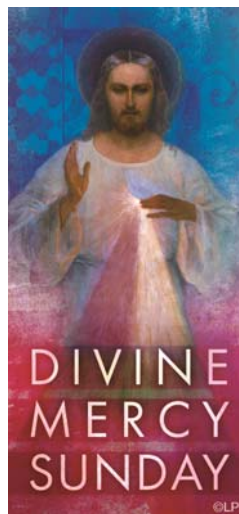
This Weekend, April 13/14: Bury the Dead

Reach out to family, friends, and neighbors who have lost a loved one, particularly a spouse, by inviting them to lunch, bringing them to Mass, or including them in social activities.

Also, EASTER FOOD BASKET
collection this weekend.



Preparation for The Feast of Divine Mercy



We will begin the Divine Mercy Novena on Good Friday, April 19th. We will pray the Novena in the wing of the church following the 3 p.m. Liturgy of the Lord's Passion. All are welcome to join us. In His revelations to St. Faustina Jesus requested that a Novena be said for the 9 days preceding Divine Mercy Sunday. The Novena also includes the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy.

Jesus also told St. Faustina, regarding Divine Mercy Sunday, that on that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon souls who approach the fount of My mercy. The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. On that day all the floodgates through which graces flow are opened. Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet. My mercy is so great that no mind, be it of man or of angel, will be able to fathom it throughout all eternity. Mankind will not have peace until it turns to the Fount of My Mercy. (699) The Diary of St. Faustina.

Divine Mercy Sunday will be celebrated here at St. Ann on Sunday, April 28th with a Holy Hour from 2:30-3:30 p.m. Please join us to honor Our Lord's request that the Sunday after Easter be the Feast of Mercy. Please come and receive extraordinary graces.

WEEKLY ORDINARY INCOME

April 7, 2019: will be reported at a later date
Next weekend's 2nd collection:
Easter/Parish Charities

Sharing the Joy of the Gospel for Generations 2019 Archbishop's Annual Appeal

The Archbishop's Annual Appeal changes lives through service. In addition to assisting the underserved of our communities, your gift helps those discerning a vocation to the priesthood. Your gift to the Appeal is an investment in the future of our Church and our faith.

Thank you to the parish families who have made a gift or pledge to the 2019 Archbishop's Annual Appeal. If you have not yet participated, please prayerfully consider a gift today. Please know that every dollar of your gift will have a positive impact in someone's life.

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 <https://archdioceseofhartford.org/aaa-2019-last-years-appeal-impact/>. No Appeal funds are ever used for legal fees or settlements.



Please join us for a
Tenebrae Service
Wednesday, April 17th
7:30 p.m.

What is Tenebrae? The name 'Tenebrae' means darkness or shadows and it is a Holy Week devotion dating back to the 7th or 8th Century A.D. It is characterized by successive extinguishing of candles as the service progresses. No service during the entire church year is more biblical: Every word of Tenebrae is taken verbatim from the scriptures. The purpose of the service, through prayer and music, is to recreate the emotional aspects of the passion story and the events leading up to Good Friday; it is left unfinished, because the story isn't over until Easter Sunday. Attending this powerfully moving service will set the tone, introduce the themes and adjust your heart and mind for the great events of the Passion and will help you prepare your heart for an even greater experience of Easter JOY.

Special Thank You for the "Shelter the Homeless" Collection

Last year the collection for "Shelter the homeless" during the Lenten season was more successful than ever imagined. The Gathering Space was filled with linens, paper goods, toiletries and much more. We loaded up a large van and stuffed it so full that we worried enroute that the driver would be stopped for obstructed views. At ImmaCare the van was unloaded and a human chain passed all the supplies up to a vacant room. There were many comments about the generosity of the donors and the quality of the items given. Just like with the meals served, there is never anything delivered that could not be given to a neighbor. Yet, the give and take in this over 30 year relationship with ImmaCare has always been pretty even. They make St. Ann's a better parish.

This year we had the same van but there was no way everything was going to fit in. There were even more donated items and yet the quality remained the same. Ironically, we had promised to donate a lot of supplies to a women's shelter that is always in need. Although there are less women who are homeless in Hartford, their situations are full of dangers. We stuffed the van, again worried about obstructed views, and drove to the women's shelter where they were surprised to learn just how much was meant by "lots". Back to the church where there was still so much that the van was totally re-stuffed. This load was taken to ImmaCare where the shelter and many people who have been homeless and are now going into supported apartments are always in need of supplies. A tight budget can make paper goods a luxury.

On behalf of the staff and guests of these two places, thanks to everyone in this parish. Your kindness and generosity is overwhelming. If you donate food to the shelter meals, or leave items in the kitchen, or helped fill the Gathering Space with the Corporal Works collection, please know that every item is used and appreciated.

Dear Parishioners,

This year there will be 70 candidates receiving the sacrament of First Holy Eucharist. They received their First Reconciliation on January 19, 2019, and are preparing for reception of the Blessed Sacrament in the Spring. Soon we will be putting out the Little Lambs for you to pick up & pray for all candidates while they prepare for their sacrament.

Due to ongoing overwhelming positive response, we would like to continue to gift each child with a First Communion Bible. We are asking that you sponsor any child or children, with this gift anonymously and it will be presented to them on their First Communion Day. In return, we will be asking the children to pray for the person who gave it to them *every time they read their Bible*.

The Bibles are reasonably priced and if you are interested in being part of this beautiful event, please pick up a form on the tables in the Gathering Space and return it with your payment of \$15.00 per Bible (made out to Church of St. Ann). Please mail to the church in an envelope clearly marked "for First Communion Bible" or drop it off at the Parish Offices. How pleased Jesus must be to know that both the children of this year's First Eucharist class and the adults of our Parish are praying for each other!

Thank you so much for your consideration and for your prayerful support of these beautiful children!

Yours in Christ, Father McHugh



EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments

Jesus warns us in the Gospel of Matthew, If anyone wishes to come after me, he must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. It is an invitation to a way of life, and a plan that leads to holiness. But make no mistake, it is a warning as well. The cross is a sign of victory, but only in light of the Resurrection. Alone, it is a symbol of ultimate sacrifice: the sacrifice of Jesus Christ for a fallen world, and the sacrifice we are called to make to truly follow him.

The power of this symbol has been diminished in popular culture. It is often used in fashion and simple wall art and on bumper stickers and T-shirts, sometimes with Christian clichés and sometimes not. But the cross is something so much more. It is a reminder of the pain, suffering, and death of one who loved us so much that he would give his very life for us. It is our God on that cross. It is God who cries out in despair, feeling the ultimate depth of human emotion. And there lies the key for us in trying to live this life of carrying our crosses.

For those who suffer the death of a loved one, the Father lost his Son. For those who suffer the ravages of disease, his body was broken, beaten, and pierced. For those who feel they have no way out - whether due to prisons that are physical or prisons that are of the mind - he hung on a cross and cried out, Why? For those who feel alone and abandoned, he hung on a tree where no one could comfort him, not even his own mother. He has walked in all our shoes, and now we are called to walk in his. In the cross, we find solidarity with the human condition. In an empty tomb, we find our hope.

- Tracy Earl Welliver, MT

QUOTES

Words to Inspire the Faithful

Free will, though it makes evil possible, is also the only thing that makes possible any love or goodness or joy worth having.
-C.S. Lewis

SUNDAY'S READINGS

Processional Gospel:

They proclaimed: "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord." (Lk 19:38a)

First Reading:

The Lord GOD is my help, therefore I am not disgraced. (Is 50:7a)

Psalm:

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me? (Ps 22)

Second Reading:

He humbled himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. (Phil 2:8)

Gospel:

Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit"; and when he had said this he breathed his last. (Lk 23:46)

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WEEKLY READINGS

Readings for the Week of April 14, 2019

Sunday: Lk 19:28-40 (37)/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24 [2a]/Phil 2:6-11/Lk 22:14-23:56 or 23:1-49

Monday: Is 42:1-7/Ps 27:1, 2, 3, 13-14 [1a]/Jn 12:1-11

Tuesday: Is 49:1-6/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15 and 17 [cf. 15ab]/Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

Wednesday: Is 50:4-9a/Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31 and 33-34 [14c]/Mt 26:14-25

Thursday: Chrism Mass: Is 61:1-3a, 6a, 8b-9/Ps 89:21-22, 25 and 27 [2]/Rv 1:5-8/Lk 4:16-21

Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14/Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18 [cf. 1 Cor 10:16]/1 Cor 11:23-26/Jn 13:1-1

Friday: Is 52:13-53:12/Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25 [Lk 23:46]/Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9/Jn 18:1-19:42

Saturday: Vigil: Gn 1:1-2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a/Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35 [30] or Ps 33:4-5, 6-7, 12-13, 20-22 [5b]/Gn 22:1-18 or 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11 [1]/Ex 14:15-15:1/Ex 15:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18 [1b]/Is 54:5-14/Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13 [2a]/Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 [3]/Bar 3:9-15, 32-4:4/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [Jn 6:68c]/Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28/Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3, 4 [42:2] or Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 [3] or Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19 [12a]/Rom 6:3-11/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23/Lk 24:1-12

Next Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 [24]/Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/Jn 20:1-9 or Lk 24:1-12 or Lk 24:13-35

GOSPEL MEDITATION

Palm Sunday is a strange day in our liturgical calendar. We begin by waving palms, but somewhere in the middle, we call for Jesus to be crucified. We celebrate today an equally paradoxical God, one who comes to save through suffering.

"I tell you, if they keep silent, the stones will cry out!" Jesus, who so often in the Gospels tries to hide his true identity, speaks thunderously to the Pharisees who would still the rejoicing crowd. At the Last Supper, Jesus confirms the Messianic promise to his disciples, saying "I confer a kingdom on you, just as my Father has conferred one on me." Yet, before the night is over, Jesus has been betrayed.

We hear the tragedy unfold in Luke's Passion narrative. Jesus is abused by the council of elders, denied by Peter, whipped by Roman soldiers, and condemned to death by Pilate. But what else do we see? Jesus heals someone who came to arrest him, forgives his torturers, promises a repentant man paradise, and - by his loving endurance - converts a centurion at the foot of the cross. Jesus is both Redeemer of the World and Suffering Servant. In taking on the mantle of Messiah, Jesus does not only receive our praise and our accolades, but he bears our burdens and sins and does so with the deepest love. He may go about our salvation in a paradoxical way, but he is dearer to our own suffering hearts for it. This week, we remember that no sorrow of our own is beyond the reach of the compassion of God.

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Live the Liturgy

Once hailed with blessings and hosannas as he approached the Mount of Olives, the same God is nailed to a cross amid cries for His crucifixion. What an ironic twist of fate. What an unjust end to this compassionate, simple, and loving life. Life's ironies and cruelties are dramatically witnessed today and throughout this Holy Week. The thread of God's love is woven through it all as it reveals God's transforming, redemptive, and salvific plan. It is all necessary: the hardship and the joy, the suffering and the glory, the disappointment and the inheritance. When life takes a turn for the worse, we often question where God is. Are we ready to walk through our lives as did Jesus, with a persistent trust that regardless how difficult our journey, all will work out in the end. "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit."

THE BULLETIN BOARD

10TH ANNUAL BISHOP ROSAZZA SOCIAL JUSTICE CONFERENCE

Save the Date

10th Annual Bishop Peter Rosazza
Social Justice Conference

"Rooted in Faith-Reimagining Charity"

Saturday, June 8, 2019

The Pastoral Center, Bloomfield CT

Sponsored by the Office for Catholic Social
Justice Ministry of the Archdiocese of Hartford

Contact us for more information

Phone: (860)242-5573 Ext 2688

Email: info.ocsjm@aohct.org

CatholicSocialJustice.org

St. Timothy Middle School hosts *The Concert That Never Was*

The school's largest fundraiser is Friday, April 26th. Tickets are \$75.00 and include food from Rooster Co, open bar of signature cocktails, wine, and beer, two performance sets by a marvelous Barbara and Frank tribute duo, and a live and silent auction. Visit www.biddingforgood.com/stmswh to purchase your tickets and support our school!

SILENT THEME RETREAT JUNE 20-23, 2019

The Silent Theme Retreat is designed for those who would like a quiet, less social retreat experience with some input, but more time for personal prayer and reflection. The retreat will include Morning Prayer, presentations, daily Mass and evening prayer. Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available during your retreat.

Date: June 20 at 4:30 pm – June 23 at 12:00 pm. Offering: \$310. To register contact Our Lady of Calvary Retreat Center, 31 Colton Street, Farmington, CT 06032 at 860-677-8519 or online at www.ourladyofcalvary.net.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE CONFERENCE



***"The Power of Positive Change: Bringing
Laudato Si' to Life"***

The Office of Catholic Social Justice Ministry is sponsoring an environmental justice conference on Saturday, April 27th from 9-2pm at St. Josephine Bakhita Parish at St. James Church, Rocky Hill. Rev. Tom Carr from the Interreligious Eco-Justice Network (IREJN) and Sr. Ruth Rosenbaum, TC, PhD, Executive Director for the Center for Reflection, Education, and Action (CREA) will be the opening and closing keynotes. The day also includes four breakout sessions, exhibits, and lunch.

Registration is \$30, which covers lunch. Register online at www.catholicsocialjustice.org.

Please register by Monday, April 22nd! For more information, contact Patrick Laorden at Patrick.Laorden@aohct.org or (860)-242-5573 Ext. 2686.

ARTHRITIS FOUNDATION WALK

The Arthritis Foundation in Rocky Hill is sponsoring an up-coming event on May 5th at Saint Joseph College in West Hartford from 9am until Noon. For more information please e-mail Lauren Amendola at lamendola@arthritis.org or call her at 860-506-3441.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

Jesus is the Resurrection and the Light for our Church and within our Marriages. Gift your relationship with a bright light by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next Weekends are Apr 26-28, 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/>.