

Church of Saint Ann

289 Arch Road * Avon, Connecticut * 06001

860-673-9858

Rev. John W. McHugh, Ph.D., Pastor

www.stannavon.org

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Rev. Daniel J. Sullivan

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BAPTISMS:

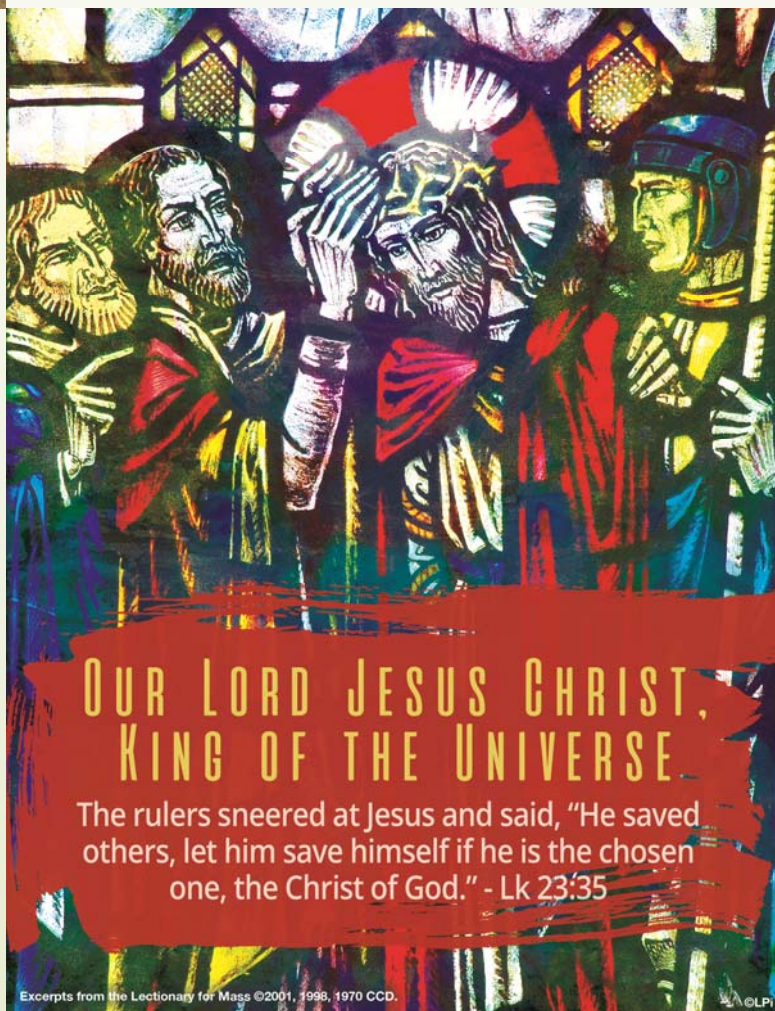
Registered parishioners call the Parish Office

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:

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



Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

MONDAY, November 25

9:00 **Special Intention**, requested by *Dianne Simpson*

TUESDAY, November 26

9:00 **Josepha & Antony Poprawa**, requested by *the Osiecki Family*

WEDNESDAY, November 27

9:00 **Donald Kubik**, requested by *Ruth Kubik and family*

THURSDAY, November 28

9:00 **Frank Scalzo**, requested by *Andrea Pizzuti*

FRIDAY, November 29

9:00 **John Bruno**, requested by *his family*

SATURDAY, November 30

4:00 **Del Tepley**, requested by *Susan and Tom McCabe*

SUNDAY, December 1

7:30 **For Divine Peace, Divine Love & Divine Will on Earth**

9:30 **Grace Vuono**, requested by *St. Ann's Eucharistic Ministers*

11:00 **For the Intentions of the Blessed Mother**

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, November 25

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: 9:30-10:30am in the church
MMP Cenacle-Rosary Prayer Group: 7:15pm in the church .

All are welcome! (Enter through door on the left side of the church)

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

TUESDAY, November 26

Unpacking the Advent Scriptures: 9:30am in Room 3
RCIA: 7pm in Room 3

WEDNESDAY, November 27

Revelation Bible Study (full): 9:30am in Rooms 2 & 3

THURSDAY, November 28



FRIDAY, November 29

1st Corinthians Bible Study: will resume next week

SATURDAY, November 30

Men's Breakfast Group: 8am in Room 3

SUNDAY, December 1

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

Divine Mercy Holy Hour: 2:30-3:30pm in the church

Turkey Express

THIS Weekend of November 23/24, 2019

at Church of Saint Ann

Saturday: 3:30-5pm * Sunday: 7am-12:30pm

Look for the truck labeled "Turkey Express"



Please consider donating the following Thanksgiving dinner items for our Avon and Hartford neighbors:

Frozen Turkeys (or some Hams or Chickens)

Suggested Fixings:

stuffing mix, jellied cranberry sauce, fresh or canned vegetables, rice, small bag of potatoes &/or sweet potatoes, shredded cheddar cheese, fresh or canned fruit, juice, dinner rolls, brownie/cake mixes, frosting, gravy, baby food, salad dressing, mayonnaise...

Our Parish Goal is 400 Turkeys and Lots of Fixings!

Thank you for your generosity and have a wonderful Thanksgiving.

Sponsored by our Social Justice Committee

"Together We Serve All God's People"



Annual Parish Collection

Church of Saint Ann

We are very grateful for the generosity shown by those who have already contributed towards our 2019 Annual Parish Collection. Unfortunately only 23 percent of our registered parishioners have contributed to our Parish Annual Appeal. This collection is the life blood of the financial structure of our parish. If you have not yet contributed, please make a decision to do so.

If you are in need of a pledge form you can either download one on our website (www.stannavon.org) or you can pick one up at the parish office.

Every gift is welcome and sincerely appreciated.

Thank you.



Advent Wreath Making Parish Event

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7TH
3:00 PM IN FR. BENNETT HALL

Please join our 4th grade faith formation class for an Advent wreath making event followed by a special family Mass.

Christmas cookies and hot chocolate will be served.

It would be helpful to let us know if you are planning on attending so that we have enough materials for every family.

Suggested donation is \$10 per wreath.

RSVP: to Valerie.stjean@stannavon.com
All are welcome!

Knights of Columbus Thanksgiving Pie Sale

Reminder:

Please pick up your pie order this weekend!
Nov. 23/24



A Gratitude Examen

Gratitude is one of the greatest spiritual practices. It opens our minds, calms our hearts, and rids bitterness of its power. The "examen" is a spiritual practice to reflect on how we have responded to God's work in our lives. This Thanksgiving, consider your own reasons for thankfulness!

What **G**ifts have You given me?
How have I **R**eceived love from others?
How is grace at work in **A**spects of my life story?
Do I **T**rust You to continue to bless me?
Where have I missed Your movements?
Have I used my **T**alents at the service of other?
Do I see a purpose for my life **U**nderway?
How can I have the **D**iscipline to thank You daily?
Help me give **E**verything back to You!

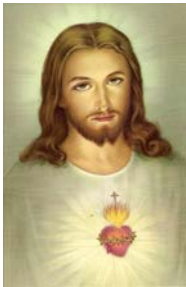
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Divine Mercy Holy Hour

Next Sunday,

December 1, 2019

2:30 - 3:30pm in the church



Our Lord told St. Faustina, "For the soul that trusts much will be given." Please join us as we place our trust in Jesus!

TIRED OF SMALL TALK? Try ALPHA!

"Alpha" is a relaxed, friendly environment where we talk about the big questions in life - love, truth, meaning, purpose, suffering — questions deep in the hearts of every person, including our kids. We enjoy food, a video and discussion. All are welcomed to come and to comment freely, especially those who question God and religion.

Upstairs in Room 228 at Avon Middle School, while the kids are in class

- 9-10:30am (*with childcare – must register: see below*)
- 5:45-7:15pm

Follows the K-8 Faith Formation calendar.

Upcoming Session/s: November 17th and December 8th

RSVP to Ann DiStefano (see bulletin cover)

Join us when you can!

*To register for childcare, contact Paula Love by the Thursday prior to the session:
uconnloves@att.net; 860-690-8346.



WHAT ARE YOU MOST THANKFUL FOR?



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WEEKLY ORDINARY INCOME

November 17, 2019:
not available at time of upload
Next weekend's 2nd collection:
Avon Special Needs



HEARTS & SOULS

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

PRO-LIFE MINISTRY



In keeping with the Thanksgiving Tradition Pro-Life Ministry is grateful to God and our St. Ann parish family for your tremendous support on behalf of the unborn.

We are thankful for Rosemarie Mehan from St. Gerard's and Ann Boers, coordinator for the 40 Days for Life who educated and inspired us to partake in Adoration, Prayer Vigil, and Outreach. As a result \$1,200.00 was raised for St. Gerard's from the baby bottle drive, Adoration was very well attended, and parishioners praying at the abortion facility in Hartford were transformed. Most importantly 40 Days for Life stats show that 528 babies lives were saved.

We were so blessed to have Deacon Tim approach us with his idea to show the movie "Unplanned" and to open it up to all of God's people.

We are also grateful to Deacon David Reynolds, Lynn Reynolds, director of Two Hearts Pregnancy Crisis Center in Torrington, and again Ann Boers for clarification on the truth about the legislative process in our state regarding abortion, Planned Parenthood's role as the largest abortion provider, and alternatives such as Two Hearts to help struggling moms choose life. The generosity of those attending the movie was overwhelming. Baby gift donations for Two Hearts totally filled a room at the center and all were so appreciative. Even more commitment for the Pro-Life Cause came from those attending.

Thank you to our Pro-Life Committee for working behind the scenes.

To Fr. McHugh, our amazing Pro-Life Pastor we extend our heartfelt gratitude for always saying yes to our endeavors. His desire to promote a Culture of Life from conception to natural death is what makes all of this possible.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Advent Enrichment

Weekly Small-Group Gatherings

"Unpacking the Advent Scriptures"

- + Begins the week of Nov. 24
 - + Gather with friends weekly, at home or at church
 - + Explore the rich connections between the Sunday readings for Advent and your everyday life
- Church-based Small Groups** meet in Room 3
- Sundays, 10:30am
 - Mondays, 7:15pm
 - Tuesdays, 9:30am

Home-based Small Groups meet at your convenience. Materials provided.

SIGN UP With Ann DiStefano (see bulletin cover)

Presentation: "Do You See What I See? The Catholic Worldview"

Monday, Dec 9, 7pm, Fr. Bennett Hall.

Childcare provided

A renowned professor who teaches from the heart, our own Fr. Joe Cheah shares the unique lenses Catholics use to view the world. To RSVP and to RESERVE CHILDCARE, contact Ann DiStefano (see bulletin cover)

Daily Devotional Booklet

Find peace and purpose each day of Advent by reading and reflecting on God's word. Free copies are available in the gathering space.

Daily Online Reflection Series

Beginning Sunday, Dec.1st

Receive daily email messages featuring insightful video reflections and practical tips for making Advent and Christmas more meaningful. Sign up via <https://dynamiccatholic.com/best-advent-ever>



EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments

How Would You Rule Your Kingdom?

It would be kind of awesome to be a king or queen! Absolute rule, untold wealth, and people answering your every beck and call are things that wouldn't be half bad. Of course, I would be a benevolent monarch, and I would hope that all my subjects would love me. They could cheer me as I came out of the palace, and I think my popularity ratings in the polls would be through the roof. But if they weren't, that would be fine, too, because I would rule the kingdom. And that means no throwing me out of office. Talk about job security!

As great as that sounds, the King of kings could have had all that as well, but instead, he chose quite a different path. He gave up absolute rule so all his subjects could have the free will to choose to follow him. He gave up untold wealth so he could be treated like a common criminal and receive a death sentence. He gave up having servants at his disposal so he could be the servant of all his subjects himself. Yes, he was the King of kings, but he was nothing like a typical king. As much as I think it would be great to be a king myself, I would rather emulate this King instead.

Who would you rather be like? You could have it all or choose to give away everything. You could choose a path of luxury or a path of trial. You could be respected by many or find yourself in a culture that increasingly finds you objectionable. Who would you rather be like? Do you arrive at an answer quickly, or do you need some time to think about it? The King of kings awaits your reply.

-Tracy Earl Welliver, MT

QUOTES

Words to Inspire the Faithful

*Gratitude turns what we have
into enough.*

-Aesop

SUNDAY'S READINGS

First Reading:

"You shall shepherd my people Israel and shall be commander over Israel." (1 Sm 5:2b)

Psalm:

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord. (Ps 122)

Second Reading:

He delivered us from the power of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son. (Col 1:13)

Gospel:

[Jesus] replied to him, "Amen, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise." (Lk 23:43)

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WEEKLY READINGS

Readings for the Week of November 24, 2019

Sunday: 2 Sm 5:1-3/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Col 1:12-20/
Lk 23:35-43
Monday: Dn 1:1-6, 8-20/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56 [52b]/Lk 21:1-4
Tuesday: Dn 2:31-45/Dn 3:57, 58, 59, 60, 61 [59b]/Lk 21:5-11
Wednesday: Dn 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28/Dn 3:62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67
[59b]/Lk 21:12-19
Thursday: Dn 6:12-28/Dn 3:68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74 [59b]/
Lk 21:20-28
Friday: Dn 7:2-14/Dn 3:75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81/Lk 21:29-33
Saturday: Rom 10:9-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [10 or Jn 6:63]/
Mt 4:18-22
Next Sunday: Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [1]/Rom 13:11-14/
Mt 24:37-44

GOSPEL MEDITATION

"The rulers sneered ... the soldiers jeered ... one of the criminals hanging there reviled Jesus." Is this the King of the Jews, the King of the Universe? If it is so, perhaps his kingdom is not at all what we would expect! In his letter to the laity, St. John Paul II spoke about how Christians share in the kingly mission of Christ. First, "they exercise their kingship as Christians, above all in the spiritual combat in which they seek to overcome in themselves the kingdom of sin." In other words, before we give any thought to transforming society, we must first allow God to transform us. Through daily prayer, regular self-examination, and frequent confession, we can recognize our faults more readily and choose love instead!

Second, St. John Paul II writes that the laity "make[s] a gift of themselves so as to serve, in justice and in charity, Jesus who is himself present in all his brothers and sisters, above all in the very least." Christ's kingship, and our own participation in it, requires us to look beyond the privileged of society. It goes beyond networking and struggles of power. It goes with Jesus to the Cross!

Still, the kingship of Christ ought to effect society. "The lay faithful are called to restore to creation all its original value ... ordering creation to the authentic well-being of humanity." Jesus does this in a radical way through his death and resurrection. We, too, are invited to bring new life to the world around us. This means holding the world and everything in it as sacred. It means advocating for civil policies that respect life and paying special care to the vulnerable and marginalized in every stage of life. It means being disciples of Jesus, inviting people into authentic love so that one day we will together "be with [him] in Paradise!"

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INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Live the Liturgy

Are we looking for Christ to be our earthly king or our eternal one? We often go back and forth with God on this question. What we find in the content of our prayer usually reveals the answer. Because life can be difficult, we may desire that God cushion our earthly experience a bit, make it more tolerable, remove the crosses, and do the miraculous. Preserving our earthly lives can take too much precedence and be of too much concern. Christ the eternal king offers a different promise and hope. The eternal king offers us a way through suffering and hardship to the greater glory to be revealed when our journey is completed in heaven. The eternal king is not the king of earthly comfort but the king who advocates for the poor, vulnerable, lost, broken, marginalized, and hurting. We are asked to become like the eternal king, Jesus Christ, both in this life and in the life to come.

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THE BULLETIN BOARD

A Service of Gratitude and Thanksgiving Tuesday, November 26



All are invited!

(Bring your favorite homemade soups and breads)

6 PM – Delicious Soups & Breads

7 PM – Interfaith & Ecumenical Service

*Held at
Avon Congregational Church
6 West Main Street
Avon, CT*

For more information: 860-678-0488

Our Deepest Longing

We spend our time and energy on the necessities of everyday life, which hold so many things that are beyond our control. But what is it that we are longing for in the deepest way? What is our passion in life? This year at Holy Family, we will explore that deep longing planted in our hearts by God - a longing for peace, for wholeness, and for relationships that give us joy and lift us up. Come away and rest awhile to find and pursue your deepest longing, and by doing so, may you experience how God is longing so deeply for you, too.

The retreat begins with a buffet dinner from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. on Friday evening and concludes Sunday with the celebration of Mass at 10:45 a.m. followed by a hot brunch at noon. Families of retreatants are most welcome to attend the Sunday Mass and brunch at no extra charge.
Offering: \$325 Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center – 303 Tunxis Rd – West Hartford, CT. More info and to register: holymfamilyretreat.org/themed-retreats

Men's Retreat Date: January 17-19, 2020

Women's Retreat Dates: January, March, April and June (see website for specific dates)

BE PREPARED FOR THE HOLIDAYS! Christmas Tree Sale



Starting November 29th (the day after Thanksgiving), Scouts BSA Troop 274 of Avon, including St Ann Parishioners: Ian Anderson, Matthew Cavanaugh, Matt Frey Sean Frost, Nils Jerger, Joe, Cole and Anthony Milardo, Conor Mussa, and CJ, Jack and William Nusom, will sell Christmas trees and wreaths at J. Fosters Ice Cream on Rte. 44. The sale will help send scouts on High Adventure trips next summer to the Pacific Northwest and to Sea Base on a boat off the Florida Keys. The scouts look forward to tying a beautiful tree atop your car this Christmas season!

International Bazaar

**SATURDAY, NOV. 23
9 AM TO 5:30 PM**

**FR. BENNETT HALL
CHURCH OF ST. ANN
289 ARCH ROAD, AVON**

*Shop fair trade products
including coffee, chocolates,
clothing, pottery, baskets, Christmas
decorations, ornaments and more!*

**HOSTED BY
ST. ANN'S SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE**

Take a chance on the Northwest Catholic \$10K Raffle!

Tickets will be available for purchase after all the Masses during the weekend of December 7&8, 2019 for Northwest Catholic High School's \$10K Raffle fundraiser, to benefit the Northwest Catholic Fund. The NWC Fund annually supports the school's operating budget and the exceptional educational and financial aid programs that distinguish Northwest Catholic. Tickets are \$20 each and only 3,000 tickets are available for sale. The grand prize is \$10,000, with a second prize of \$2,500 and a third prize of \$1,000. The drawing will be held on Thurs., Dec. 19, 2019 at 9:00 pm during the finale of NWC's Christmas Concert. Ticket holders do not need to be present to win.

Visit www.NorthwestCatholic.org/Raffle for more information.

Thank you for your continued support of Northwest Catholic High School and our students!