Church of Saint Ann
289 Arch Road * Avon, Connecticut * 06001
860-673-9858
Rev. John W. McHugh, Ph.D., Pastor
www.stannavon.org

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction.
—2 Cor 1:3-4b, ESV

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

MASS SCHEDULE:

WEEKEND ASSISTANTS
Rev. Joseph P. Cheah, OSM, Ph.D.
Rev. Daniel J. Sullivan

DEACONS
Jeffrey Sutherland: deacon.jeff@stannavon.com
Tim Healy: deacon.tim@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

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

BUILDING & 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.
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, October 9**
9:00 Robert Walker, requested by the Yu Family

**TUESDAY, October 10**
9:00 Maria Nguyen Ha Xuan (1st Ann.), requested by the family

**WEDNESDAY, October 11**
9:00 John O’Neill, requested by Heidi O’Neill

**THURSDAY, October 12**
9:00 Ramon & Zoraida Lange, requested by the family

**FRIDAY, October 13**
9:00 Phyllis Folia (10th Ann.), requested by the Folia Family

**SATURDAY, October 14**
4:00 Christopher Hwang, requested by the family

**SUNDAY, October 15**
7:30 Martin E. Pariseault, requested by his wife, Elizabeth Pariseault Sullivan
9:30 Douglas Blood, requested by Anita and Dick Sullivan
11:00 Derek Stockwell, requested by Susan and Tom McCabe

Every parish family should have received a letter from Father McHugh asking for a contribution to our 2017 Annual Parish Collection to help offset our operating deficit. The participation of all parishioners is essential for the success of this effort. Please return your gift card today. Thank you!

Little Lambs, Children’s Liturgy of the Word, will begin on Sunday, October 8 during the 9:30 am mass. All Children ages 2 1/2-8 years old are welcome to join us! Please send your children to the altar after the opening prayer, Father will call for them. There is no registration necessary.

We are in DESPERATE NEED of more adult leaders for our ministry. If you would like to help out, come join us any Sunday during 9:30 mass. You can contact Heather Hoffman with any questions. Heather-hoffman@sbcglobal.net.
Pray for Vocations

Weekly Ordinary Income

September 24, 2017: $7,712.79
October 1, 2017: $7,952.00
Online Giving/Payments (week ending 9/27/17): $4,059.00
Next weekend’s 2nd collection:
Archdiocesan Collection for Victims of Hurricane Irma

ST. ANN’S ANNUAL CLOTHING SALE

Please save clean, gently used:
clothing (men, women, teens, kids), shoes, outerwear, handbags, jewelry & accessories

DONATION DATES:
Wednesday, November 1st
9:30am-6pm
Thursday, November 2nd
9:30am-6pm

SALE DATES:
Friday, November 3rd
6-8pm ($5 admission)
Saturday, November 4th
8:30am-11am (no admission)
12pm-2pm ($15 bag sale)

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE ST. ANN’S SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Volunteers Needed - Contact:
Meg Kundahl: 860-521-1051 or mkfk@sbcglobal.net

Marian Movement of Priests Prayer Cenacle
Monday evenings in the church from 7:15-8:15pm

The MMP is for priests and laity who are devoted to Our Lady and her Rosary. The Prayer Cenacles are gatherings of prayer that consist of the Holy Rosary and Consecration to the Blessed Virgin Mary. A Message from the MMP Book "To the Priests, Our Lady’s Beloved Sons" is read at every Cenacle. We are praying for an outpouring of The Holy Spirit, and for Our Lady's intercession. For more information on the Marian Movement of Priests, please visit the official website at www.mmp-usa.net

Come and see, come pray with us. All are welcome.

Communion For Shut-Ins
The Eucharistic ministers would be happy to bring Communion to those in our parish who are unable to come to church. Please call the Parish Office and leave your name and address if you wish to receive Communion 860-673-9858.

Adult Faith Formation

Theme for 2017-2018:
Living as Missionary Disciples

Parent Enrichment

Our 8-session Bible Studies begin Oct. 15th in rooms 227 & 228 at Avon Middle School, offered Sundays at 9am and 5:45pm, while the kids are in CCD. Choose either "Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible" - get the big picture of Scripture (perfect for beginners) or "Ephesians – Discover your Inheritance" - finding your unique gifts and calling in Christ. Materials fee: $20. Register with Ann, ann.distefano@stattannavon.com.

"UNPACKING THE SUNDAY SCRIPTURES"
Please DROP IN and join us as we take a closer look at the Sunday readings in context, and uncover what they mean for us individually today. All materials provided
Sunday AM Group: 10:30am, Room 3 & Monday PM Group: 7:15pm, Room 3

BOOK DISCUSSIONS

"AT HOME WITH POPE FRANCIS:" JOIN OUR NEW ONLINE DISCUSSION OF "THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL"
Thank you to Deacon Jeff for facilitating an engaging discussion of Pope Francis’ "The Joy of the Gospel" on Sept. 6. There’s so much more to say about this work and our call to share Jesus with others, so let’s continue the conversation online! TO JOIN THE ONLINE FORUM, Email Ann: ann.distefano@stattannavon.com.

"THE FIVE LOVE LANGUAGES" FOLLOWUP
Thank you to marriage-and-family therapist April Smolski, for leading a thought-provoking discussion of "The Five Love Languages" for adults on Sept. 6. Check out the highlights and handouts at stannavon.org/book-discussions-1

Women’s’ Retreat News

Ladies:
Come for an Afternoon Journey with Our God
Our Lady of Calvary Retreat Center, Farmington
October 26th, 1:30pm to 4:00.

Join us for a journey through prayer and reflection into your heart where God waits with gifts of love and grace.

Our companions will be the writings of Paula D’Arcy (The Gift of the Red Bird), Saint John of the Cross, Saint Catherine of Siena, Saint Teresa of Avila, and Meister Eckhart.

You will have time to examine your own personal journey, and the ancient ministry of Spiritual Direction and how this can aid you in finding God in all experiences of your life.

Facilitator: Sister Mary Bello, CSJ, graduate of the Spiritual Direction Program at Mercy Center, Madison, CT,

Cost: $10 per person at the door.
Do You Know...?

The connection between Queen Esther in the Old Testament and Queen Mary in the New Testament? Or that Fatima was named after a Muslim princess?

To celebrate the 100th Anniversary of Fatima, parishioner, Elaine Atiyeh, will give a talk on Fatima and show a video which presents a synopsis of the apparitions prefaced by such well-known figures as Malcolm Muggeridge, Dr. James Hitchcock and Dr. Alice Von Hildebrand who recount world events taking place at that time. This video is considered the best presentation on Fatima!

October 15, 2017 at 12:00pm · 1:30pm or October 17, 2017 at 9:30am · 11:00am in Fr. Bennett Hall

The Bereavement Committee of Saint Ann’s Parish

Invites you to participate in a special Mass to celebrate the lives of your deceased loved ones, who meant so much to you and others.

This Mass will be celebrated on Sunday, October 29, 2017 9:30 A.M.
Church of Saint Ann
289 Arch Road
Avon, CT

Food Collection
THIS Weekend
October 7/8

Drop food off this weekend in the Gathering Space. Donations will be going to the Avon Food Pantry, St. Michael Church and Catholic Worker House in Hartford

Pro-Life Ministry

Baby Bottle Drive for St. Gerard’s

October is Respect Life Month. Baby bottles were passed out last weekend to gather donations. Your generosity helps them to provide
- Free confidential pregnancy tests to indecisive women.
- Educate mothers about parenting, chastity, and safe childcare practices. They affirm her life-giving choice and provide alternatives to abortion.
- Give a layette of clothing, blankets, & diapers for the new baby
- Embrace a woman who has had an abortion and do all that they can to help her to heal.
- Their prayer team maintains a peaceful presence outside of the local abortion clinics.
- Recently, St. Gerard’s purchased office space directly across the path from Hartford Gynecological Center. Now they are in close proximity to woman walking down the sidewalk perhaps contemplating an abortion. They offer them an ultrasound, support, and a clear alternative to the most important decision they will make for their unborn baby and themselves.

Thank you for your help as we partner together with St. Gerard’s to keep this pro-life mission alive in the greater Hartford area.

Hearts & Souls

Ministering to body, mind and spirit, the Health Ministry offers blood pressure screening, health counseling and referrals to our community of faith. Office hours are generally the 2nd Sunday of each month from 8:15-11am in the Sacristy (2nd door on the left as you enter the vestibule of the church). No appointment necessary.
EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP
Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments

You know how the story goes. Your son or daughter swears that while you were gone he or she only invited two friends over to watch a movie and eat popcorn. How those other twenty-five people got there with beer is still a mystery. They were not invited but your young host felt pretty uncomfortable just kicking them out. You did teach them about good hospitality after all.

That sure is a twisted view of hospitality, perhaps, but it does make me reflect on those I am willing to welcome into my home and those I am not. Who is my neighbor? Would I extend hospitality to the person that is alone? I have done so for holidays. But I have known them well. Would I invite someone into my home that I did not know? It could be unsafe. But what if I found myself alone somewhere without any connections. Where would I turn? Who could I trust?

There are no simple answers here but I wonder if we should really have the luxury of not asking the question. If the Christian will not invite in the lost and forsaken, who will? In the coming days, I suggest we all reflect on those in our midst who seem to be alone. Who can we invite into our lives who need something more important than a party? Who is out there who simply need friends? They may not need a physical shelter but they do need the warmth of Christian hospitality and the kindness of others.

Tracy Earl Welliver, MT

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QUOTES
Words to Inspire the Faithful

I live by the mercy of Jesus, to whom I owe everything and from whom I expect everything.

- St. John XXIII

SUNDAY’S READINGS

First Reading:
The vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his cherished plant. (Is 5:7a)

Psalm:
The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel. (Ps 80)

Second Reading:
Brothers and sisters: Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. (Phil 4:6-7)

Gospel:
Jesus said to them, "Did you never read in the Scriptures: The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone...? Therefore, I say to you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that will produce its fruit." (Mt 21:42ab, 43)


WEEKLY READINGS

Readings for the Week of October 8, 2017

Sunday: Is 5:1-7/Ps 80:9, 12-16, 19-20/Phil 4:6-9/Mt 21:33-43
Monday: Jon 1:1-2:2, 11/Jon 2:3-5, 8/Lk 10:25-37
Tuesday: Jon 3:1-10/Ps 130:1b-4ab, 7-8/Lk 10:38-42
Wednesday: Jon 4:1-11/Ps 86:3-6, 9-10/Lk 11:1-4
Thursday: Mal 3:13-20b/Ps 1:1-4, 6/Lk 11:5-13
Friday: Jl 1:13-15; 2:1-2/Ps 9:2-3, 6, 8-9, 16/Lk 11:15-26
Saturday: Jl 4:12-21/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12/Lk 11:27-28
Next Sunday: Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-6/Phil 4:12-14, 19-20/Mt 22:1-14 or 22:1-10

GOSPEL MEDITATION

"Therefore, I say to you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that will produce its fruit." The chief priests and elders listening to Jesus must have been furious. After telling the parable about the tenants who abused the owner's property and killed his son, Jesus had a tough lesson to teach. He compared the Jewish leaders to these terrible tenants. They, like the selfish workers in the vineyard, were guilty of not respecting proper authority and of trying to seize control—not of grapes, in this case, but of religious matters. In short, they were not bearing fruit for God's kingdom, but only for their own prestige and privilege.

And what about the personal gifts that God has entrusted to each of us? We all have certain skills, talents, experiences, and opportunities thanks to God's work in our lives. Do we settle for the easy road? Do we thank God for them or consider them to be our own?

God has trusted us with a place in the world, HIS world. He is the ultimate authority here and all things we enjoy come from his hands. May we have the humility and gratitude to use his gifts for his glory and not just our own.

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Live the Liturgy

How often do we find ourselves wanting what is not ours? Greed, envy, and even gluttony lead us to a bad end. We live in a world that feels very entitled. Many people believe that wants and needs ought to be provided or simply given to them, without any work or effort. It is easy to feel that we have received the short end of the stick or less than what we deserve. However, feeling shortchanged makes it is impossible to walk with gratitude in our hearts and feel a sense of responsibility, the two essential elements of the spiritual life. Are we grateful?
**Veteran’s Mental Health Awareness Presentation**

Avon VFW Post 3272 is hosting a Veteran’s Mental Health Awareness presentation on Saturday, October 21, at 6:30, at the Avon Senior Center. It addresses the tragic consequences of failed mental health policies within the US military. A video Thank You for Your Service (PG-13) will be shown, followed by a panel discussion facilitated by staff of the Farmington Valley Health District’s project “Resilience Grows Here.”

It is especially appropriate for veterans, active duty service people and their families, as well as community members who want to learn more about the challenges faced by people who have been called to serve our country. Tickets are available at the door, or from Deacon Tim, who is the Post’s chaplain. The program is free to veterans who are students, $4 for veterans and $5 for the general public. It’s not a fundraiser, and the price of your ticket includes a drink and light refreshments. Please consider joining us, and bring a friend or two along with you.

**2017 Women’s Conference**

Registration Is Now Open!
To Register Visit
www.CatholicEdAOHCT.org

The Office of Education, Evangelization and Catechesis is pleased to announce the inaugural Archdiocesan Women’s Conference – a day to celebrate our Roman Catholic faith. The event will take place on Saturday, November 4, 2017 at the Hartford Marriott Downtown in Hartford, CT and run from 9am-5pm – a full day of inspiration, spiritual nourishment, and sisterhood.

**This is the 100th Anniversary of Fatima (1917-2017)**

We would like to invite you to join other members of St. Ann in a Public Square Rosary Rally on Saturday, October 14th at 12:00 noon at the corner of Jefferson Street and Main Street in Hartford. This Rosary Rally is sponsored by America Needs Fatima. Therefore, over 20,000 rallies will take place that day. Please join us to show God and His Blessed Mother our love, reparation, and veneration as we pray for the conversion of the United States.

**Special 100th Fatima Anniversary Programming**

EWTN Global Catholic Network is airing the most extensive coverage of the celebration of the 100th Anniversary of Fatima. For a full list of Fatima Programming go to ewtnfatima/programming.asp. Use EWTV’s Channelfinder at ewtn.com to find the companies that provide EWTV programming in your community. For more information, visit ewtn.com