

St Joseph's of Stratford Parish

National Catholic Church

Since 1907

Weekly Bulletin



17th Week in Ordinary Time, Year B

July 29th, 2018

PARISH CONTACTS

ADMINISTRATOR
Fr. Tom Walsh

PARISH CHAIRPERSON
Nancy Sirois

VICE CHAIRPERSON
Dee Smith

FINANCE SECRETARY
Barbara Chernesky

Dear Parishioners,

In today's Gospel passage we again see large crowds following Jesus. And here, as in the other passages, we see Jesus extending himself to them, caring for them, as their shepherd. And as their shepherd Jesus is concerned about feeding them. But where is all the food to come from? As the apostle Philip notes, "Two hundred days' wages worth of food would not be enough for each of them to have a little." Philip is overwhelmed by the enormity of the task before them. He is cognizant of their meager resources, his own limitations. There is only so much that he can do. As the apostle Andrew observes, standing there with them is a boy with just a few barley loaves and some fish, which he offered to Jesus for the crowd. This was enough for Jesus to work with. That day Jesus was able to multiply not just the loaves and the fish but the love that boy had for others in need. What that child knew, and the apostles did not, was that the Lord's grace is sufficient. We can learn a lesson from that boy, to focus on expressing our love for others, not being held back by our limitations, perceived or real.

Grace and Peace,

Fr. Tom

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 5:00 pm - Sunday Vigil **Sunday:** 9:00 am

Mass for Healing: Thursday evenings 6:30 pm with Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament the first Thursday of the Month instead of Mass

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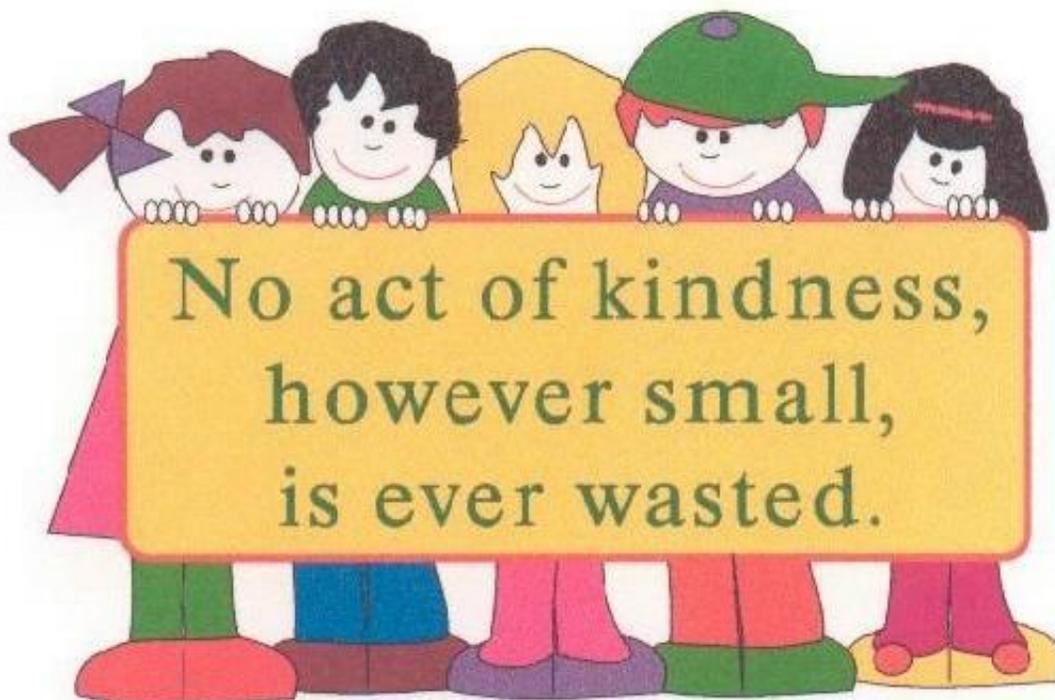
www.stjosephsofstratford.org

Lectio Divina

After reading and reflecting on the Gospel passage I invite you to consider the following question to guide your contemplation. You might want to write your thoughts in a journal for further reflection or to share with others.

When they had had their fill, he said to his disciples, "Gather the fragments left over, so that nothing will be wasted." So they collected them, and filled twelve wicker baskets. How much do we waste in our lives that can make a real difference in the lives of others, clothing, food, household goods, toys, or money? This abundance of ours can be used as a sign of God's loving providence for all his sons and daughters. How many wicker baskets can you fill with your left overs that can make a real difference in the lives of those in your community?

Question for contemplation taken from the Living Liturgy Workbook 2018 for the 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time.



PARISH CALENDAR

August

Thursday the 2nd – Benediction & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will not be held this evening. The Healing Mass will resume at its normal time the following week, Thursday, August 9th at 6:30pm.

BY THE WEEK

Sundays: Mercy Tabernacle Church
12:30 - 2:30 pm

Tuesdays: Mercy Tabernacle Church
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Wednesdays: AA meeting 12:00 pm

Thursdays: AA men's meeting 7:30 pm

For news input in the weekly bulletin, please contact Father Tom by Wednesday: trpwalsh@gmail.com

READERS ROSTER

<u>July 22st</u>	<u>July 29th</u>	<u>August 5th</u>
Nancy Sirois	Ray Morrison	Nancy Anzalone



Help others achieve their
dreams and you will achieve
yours.

Les Brown

 BrainyQuote

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Carol Murdzia for **Bertha Grabowski**;

Dee Smith for **Major Scott Krasko**, for **Emily Discepolo** to have a safe trip, for **Marianne Cherabowski**;

And for those intentions that we hold in our hearts known to God alone.

NEWS AND EVENT

If anyone is interested in learning how to run the PC to play music during Mass when Lisa is not here please see Fr. Tom. Your service would be greatly appreciated!

Starting the first Sunday in August, August 5th, and continuing throughout the year Mass will be held at 9:30am.

Hospice Volunteer

Visiting Nurse Services of Connecticut, Inc., a non-profit organization which provides homecare and hospice services for residents of Fairfield, New Haven and Litchfield Counties is sponsoring hospice volunteer orientation classes. Volunteers can perform a variety of helpful duties including support to patients and families with visits, telephone calls, or simply running an errand; or they may assist with office work and other support services.

Surviving family members are encouraged to wait a minimum of one year following a loved one's death before becoming a volunteer.

The sessions begin August 14 and continue six consecutive Tuesdays ending on September 25 (excluding September 4) from 9 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. at VNS' Oxford office at 84 Oxford Road. After training is complete volunteers would then be assigned cases from the VNS Oxford, Trumbull or Torrington office closest to their hometown.

There is no charge for this training program. For more information, contact Dale Janoski at 203-330-5435 or djanoski@vnsct.org.

Eastern Diocese Youth Retreat 2018

The retreat will be held at Camp Howe in Goshen, MA from August 19-23, 2018. Please see Fr. Tom for registration and health forms, or email RobNem21@aol.com. The cost is \$150 per person.

April 29th – July 29th issues of the bulletin are sponsored by Carla Misurale. If anyone wishes to contribute to the printing cost of the bulletin, please contact Fr. Tom.

Sunday Readings

First Reading

2 Kings 4:42-44

A reading from the second Book of Kings

A man came from Baal-shalishah bringing to Elisha, the man of God, twenty barley loaves made from the firstfruits, and fresh grain in the ear. Elisha said, "Give it to the people to eat." But his servant objected, "How can I set this before a hundred people?" Elisha insisted, "Give it to the people to eat." "For thus says the LORD, 'They shall eat and there shall be some left over.'" And when they had eaten, there was some left over, as the LORD had said.

**The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm

The hand of the Lord feeds us; he answers all our needs.

Second Reading

Ephesians 4:1-6

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Ephesians

Brothers and sisters:
I, a prisoner for the Lord,
urge you to live in a manner worthy of the call you have received,
with all humility and gentleness, with patience,
bearing with one another through love,
striving to preserve the unity of the spirit through the bond of peace:
one body and one Spirit,
as you were also called to the one hope of your call;
one Lord, one faith, one baptism;
one God and Father of all,
who is over all and through all and in all.

**The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia, Alleluia

A great prophet has risen in our midst.
God has visited his people.

Alleluia, Alleluia

Gospel

John 6:1-15

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

Jesus went across the Sea of Galilee. A large crowd followed him, because they saw the signs he was performing on the sick. Jesus went up on the mountain, and there he sat down with his disciples. The Jewish feast of Passover was near. When Jesus raised his eyes and saw that a large crowd was coming to him, he said to Philip, "Where can we buy enough food for them to eat?" He said this to test him, because he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, "Two hundred days' wages worth of food would not be enough for each of them to have a little." One of his disciples, Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter, said to him, "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish; but what good are these for so many?" Jesus said, "Have the people recline." Now there was a great deal of grass in that place. So the men reclined, about five thousand in number. Then Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed them to those who were reclining, and also as much of the fish as they wanted. When they had had their fill, he said to his disciples, "Gather the fragments left over, so that nothing will be wasted." So they collected them, and filled twelve wicker baskets with fragments from the five barley loaves that had been more than they could eat. When the people saw the sign he had done, they said, "This is truly the Prophet, the one who is to come into the world." Since Jesus knew that they were going to come and carry him off to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain alone.

**The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

