

St Joseph's of Stratford Parish

National Catholic Church

Since 1907

Weekly Bulletin



7th Sunday of Easter, Year B

May 13th, 2018

PARISH CONTACTS

ADMINISTRATOR
Fr. Tom Walsh

PARISH CHAIRPERSON
Nancy Sirois

VICE CHAIRPERSON
Dee Smith

FINANCE SECRETARY
Barbara Chernesky

Dear Parishioners,

In the second reading for today we find the following verse, "God is love, and whoever remains in love remains in God and God in him." How are we to understand this verse? What does it mean to say that God is love? If we consider that fundamentally love is relationship we can understand this to mean that God exists in relationship, the Trinity. We worship a triune God. One God in three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. And since we have been created in God's image we exist in relationship as well, in relationship with our family, our friends, our co-workers, our neighbors, and ourselves. Celebrating Mother's Day today means that we honor the most formative relationship in our lives, our relationship with our mother and those who have nurtured and cared for us with a mother's love. May all the mothers and those with a mother's heart be blessed this day and every day.

Grace and Peace,

Fr. Tom

MASS SCHEDULE

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

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GOSPEL CHALLENGE

So then the Lord Jesus, after he spoke to them, was taken up into heaven and took his seat at the right hand of God.. (*Mark 16:19 NABRE*)

If we were asked to locate heaven many of us would look up. This makes sense considering the verse from Mark's Gospel cited above. One trouble with locating heaven remotely is that we fail to recognize God's presence among us as noted in the following verse from Luke's Gospel, "The coming of the kingdom of God cannot be observed, and no one will announce, 'Look, here it is,' or, 'There it is.' For behold, the kingdom of God is among you." (*Luke 17:20-21 NABRE*) Where or when in your life are you most aware of God's presence?



PARISH CALENDAR

May

May 13th – Mother's Day

May 19th – 67th Convention of the ED-ANS Society held at Holy Trinity Parish, Plantsville, CT

Polish Supper – To Be Determined

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
Irish dance classes 6:00 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>April 29th</u>	<u>May 6th</u>	<u>May 13th</u>
Dee Smith	Jean Macionus	Joe Pelland

Next Sunday's readings: Acts 1:15-17, 20-26;
1 John 4:11-16; John 17:11-19

FOOD FOR THOUGHT



We should not serve the poor like they were Jesus. We should serve the poor because they are Jesus.

— Mother Teresa —

AZ QUOTES

NEWS AND EVENT

Convo 2018

This year, the Central Diocese has prepared a fantastic theme: "Anointed Lifeguard: You Have Been Chosen, Anointed, Empowered, and Blessed to Do Jesus' Work." Convo will be hosted at The University of Scranton, July 23-27, 2018. Download the 2018 application and helpful hints regarding participation expectations at www.Convo2018.org Participants are ages 12-20. Chaperones and guests are 21+

Please see Fr. Tom for tickets for a chance to win a \$500 VISA gift card. Two cards will be awarded. The tickets are \$5.00 each or 3/\$10.00. The drawing will take place at Convo.

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.

Parish Dues

A reminder that our parish dues are set at \$108.00 for an individual and \$216.00 for family. Barbara and Val Chernesky are the persons one should contact with a payment or to find out one's outstanding balance.

Wednesday's Mass

Please note that there will be no Wednesday 9:00 am Mass for health until further notice due to Fr. Tom's commitments at Yale-New Haven hospital.

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

Acts 1:15-17, 20a, 20c-26

It is necessary that one of the men who accompanied us become a witness to the resurrection.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Peter stood up in the midst of the brothers —there was a group of about one hundred and twenty persons in the one place—. He said, “My brothers, the Scripture had to be fulfilled which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand through the mouth of David, concerning Judas, who was the guide for those who arrested Jesus. He was numbered among us and was allotted a share in this ministry.

For it is written in the Book of Psalms:
May another take his office.

Therefore, it is necessary that one of the men who accompanied us the whole time the Lord Jesus came and went among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day on which he was taken up from us, become with us a witness to his resurrection.” So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. Then they prayed,

“You, Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this apostolic ministry from which Judas turned away to go to his own place.”

Then they gave lots to them, and the lot fell upon Matthias, and he was counted with the eleven apostles.

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

Responsorial Psalm

The Lord has set his throne in heaven.

Second Reading

1 Jn 4:11-16

Whoever remains in love, remains in God, and God in them.

A reading from the first Letter of Saint John

Beloved, if God so loved us, we also must love one another.

No one has ever seen God. Yet, if we love one another, God remains in us, and his love is brought to perfection in us.

This is how we know that we remain in him and he in us, that he has given us of his Spirit. Moreover, we have seen and testify that the Father sent his Son as savior of the world. Whoever acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God remains in him and he in God. We have come to know and to believe in the love God has for us. God is love and whoever remains in love remains in God and God in him.

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

Alleluia, Alleluia

I will not leave you orphans, says the Lord. I will come back to you, and your hearts will rejoice.

Alleluia, Alleluia

Gospel

Jn 17:11b-19

Lifting up his eyes to heaven, Jesus prayed saying:

“Holy Father, keep them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one just as we are one. When I was with them I protected them in your name that you gave me, and I guarded them, and none of them was lost except the son of destruction, in order that the Scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you. I speak this in the world so that they may share my joy completely. I gave them your word, and the world hated them, because they do not belong to the world any more than I belong to the world. I do not ask that you take them out of the world but that you keep them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world any more than I belong to the world. Consecrate them in the truth. Your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, so I sent them into the world. And I consecrate myself for them, so that they also may be consecrated in truth.”

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

