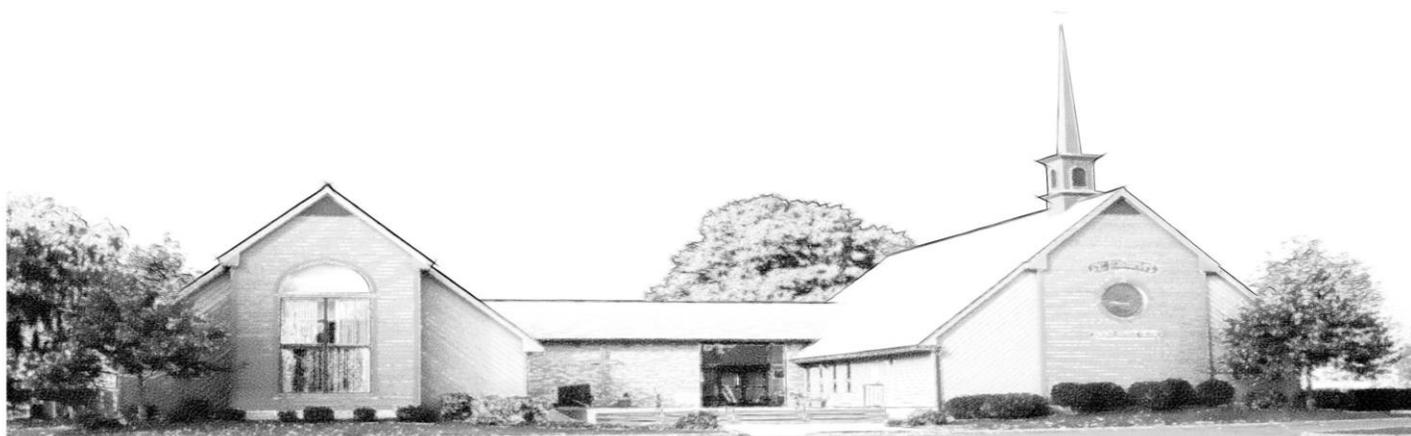


St Joseph's of Stratford Parish

National Catholic Church

Since 1907

Weekly Bulletin



6th Sunday of Easter, Year B

May 6th, 2018

PARISH CONTACTS

ADMINISTRATOR
Fr. Tom Walsh

PARISH CHAIRPERSON
Nancy Sirois

VICE CHAIRPERSON
Dee Smith

FINANCE SECRETARY
Barbara Chernesky

Dear Parishioners,

This week's Gospel passage lifts up Christ's love for us. He laid down his life for us. Let's make this personal, he laid down his life for me, for you. To believe in my salvation is to believe that Christ died for my sins. This is not some distant drama that played out two millennia ago. Rather, we participate in this holy sacrifice every Sunday at Mass. That is why in our Catholic Tradition it is called the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. And when we speak of celebrating Mass what we are celebrating is Christ's great love for us. He chose us, he calls us friends.

Grace and Peace,

Fr. Tom

MASS SCHEDULE

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

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GOSPEL CHALLENGE

No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. (John 15:13 NABRE)

While it is true that some are called to give their lives for others most of us will not be called upon to make that ultimate sacrifice. But there are other ways that we are called to offer our life for others, working every day to support our family, putting our life on hold to care for a loved one, contributing our time, talent, and treasure to support our faith community, to name a few. Can you think of some opportunities in your life to follow Jesus' command to "love one another?"

Ascension of Our Lord

Thursday, May 10th



But you will receive power when the holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him from their sight.

Acts 1:8-9 NABRE

PARISH CALENDAR

May

May 10th - Ascension Thursday, Mass at 6:00pm

May 13th – Mother's Day

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

A tree is known by its fruit; a man by his deeds. A good deed is never lost; he who sows courtesy reaps friendship, and he who plants kindness gathers love.

Saint Basil

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 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48

The gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out on the Gentiles also.

When Peter entered, Cornelius met him and, falling at his feet, paid him homage. Peter, however, raised him up, saying, "Get up. I myself am also a human being." Then Peter proceeded to speak and said, "In truth, I see that God shows no partiality. Rather, in every nation whoever fears him and acts uprightly is acceptable to him." While Peter was still speaking these things, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who were listening to the word. The circumcised believers who had accompanied Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit should have been poured out on the Gentiles also, for they could hear them speaking in tongues and glorifying God. Then Peter responded, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people, who have received the Holy Spirit even as we have?" He ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

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

Responsorial Psalm

The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.

Second Reading

1 Jn 4:7-10

God is love.

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is of God; everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God. Whoever is without love does not know God, for God is love. In this way the love of God was revealed to us: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might have life through him. In this is love: not that we have loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as expiation for our sins.

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

Alleluia, Alleluia

Whoever loves me will keep my word, says the Lord, and my Father will love him and we will come to him.

Alleluia, Alleluia

Gospel

Jn 15:9-17

No one has greater love than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.

Jesus said to his disciples:

"As the Father loves me, so I also love you.

Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love.

"I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and your joy might be complete.

This is my commandment: love one another as I love you.

No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends.

You are my friends if you do what I command you.

I no longer call you slaves,

because a slave does not know what his master is doing.

I have called you friends,

because I have told you everything I have heard from my Father.

It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you

and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain,

so that whatever you ask the Father in my name he may give you. This I command you: love one another."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

