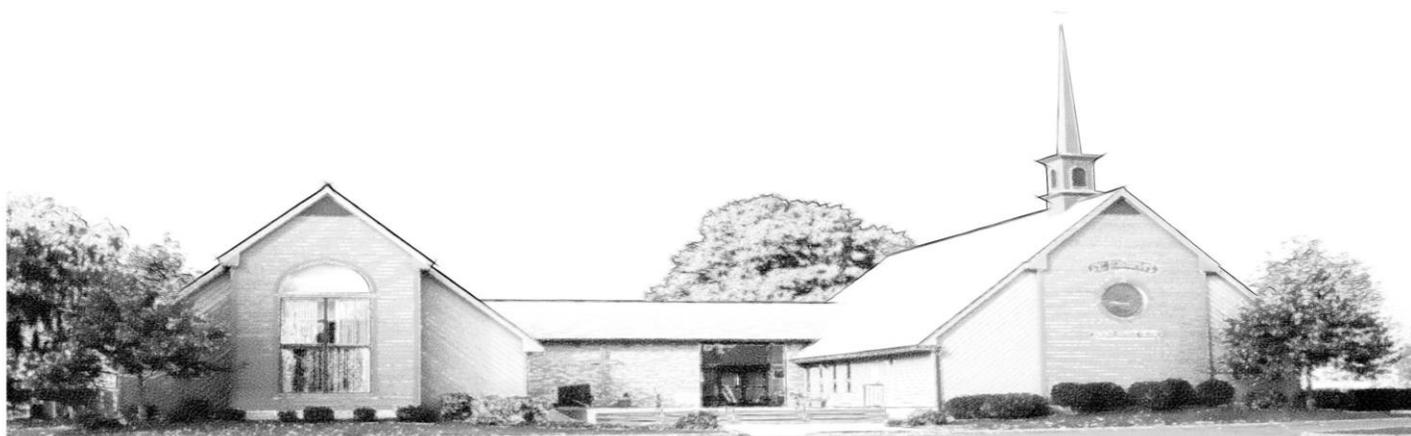


St Joseph's of Stratford Parish

National Catholic Church

Since 1907

Weekly Bulletin



20th Week in Ordinary Time, Year B

August 19th, 2018

PARISH CONTACTS

ADMINISTRATOR
Fr. Tom Walsh

PARISH CHAIRPERSON
Nancy Sirois

VICE CHAIRPERSON
Dee Smith

FINANCE SECRETARY
Barbara Chernesky

Dear Parishioners,

This week we continue in John's Gospel where Jesus makes the very specific claim that he is the living bread that came down from heaven. Those of Jewish descent hearing this would have understood Jesus' allusion to the manna that sustained the Hebrews during their exodus from Egypt through the wilderness. The difference being that unlike their ancestors who ate the manna and still died, those who eat this living bread will live forever. Next week we'll find out how well some of his followers accepted this teaching. But what about us here and now? How well do we accept this teaching? As with all things a little understanding goes a long way. So this week we will think about what this teaching means for us and for our salvation framed within the context of first century Palestine.

Grace and peace,

Fr. Tom

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 5:00 pm - Sunday Vigil **Sunday:** 9:30 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

1300 Stratford Road, Stratford CT 06615-7639

Tel: 203 377-9901 (office), 203 923-2424 (rectory), Fax: 203 375-6439

www.stjosephsofstratford.org

Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."



PARISH CALENDAR

August

26th – Colossal Kielbasa, 12pm – 5pm

BY THE WEEK

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

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

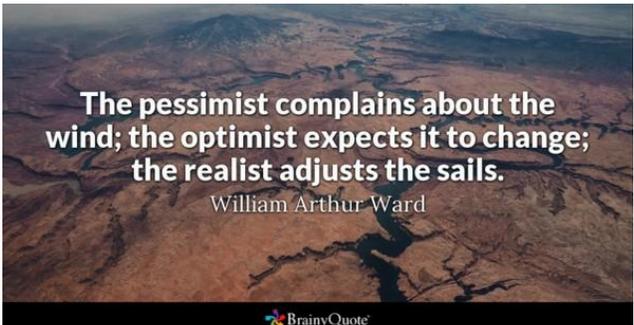
Wednesdays: AA meeting 12:00 pm

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>August 12th</u>	<u>August 19th</u>	<u>August 26th</u>
Ed Slonina	Charles Vazas	Emily Discepola



**The pessimist complains about the
wind; the optimist expects it to change;
the realist adjusts the sails.**

William Arthur Ward

BrainyQuote

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Jane & Joe Pelland for **Karina, Sally & Jeff**;

Nancy Anzalone for **Desiree Anzalone**;

Dee Smith for **Emily Discepola's safe journey, Major Scott Krasko, All First Responders**;

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!

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.

Bertha Grabowski, August 5th - October 28th, 2018. If anyone wishes to contribute to the printing cost of the bulletin, please contact Fr. Tom.

Sunday Readings

First Reading

Proverbs 9:1-6

A reading from the Book of Proverbs

Wisdom has built her house,
she has set up her seven columns;
she has dressed her meat, mixed her wine,
yes, she has spread her table.
She has sent out her maidens; she calls
from the heights out over the city:
"Let whoever is simple turn in here;
To the one who lacks understanding, she says,
Come, eat of my food,
and drink of the wine I have mixed!
Forsake foolishness that you may live;
advance in the way of understanding."

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

Responsorial Psalm

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

Second Reading

Ephesians 5:15-20

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Ephesians

Brothers and sisters:
Watch carefully how you live,
not as foolish persons but as wise,
making the most of the opportunity,
because the days are evil.
Therefore, do not continue in ignorance,
but try to understand what is the will of the Lord.
And do not get drunk on wine, in which lies
debauchery,
but be filled with the Spirit,
addressing one another in psalms and hymns and
spiritual songs,
singing and playing to the Lord in your hearts,
giving thanks always and for everything
in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God the
Father.

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

Alleluia, Alleluia

Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood
remains in me and I in him, says the Lord.

Alleluia, Alleluia

Gospel

John 6:51-58

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to the crowds:
"I am the living bread that came down from heaven;
whoever eats this bread will live forever;
and the bread that I will give
is my flesh for the life of the world."

The Jews quarreled among themselves, saying,
"How can this man give us his flesh to eat?"
Jesus said to them,
"Amen, amen, I say to you,
unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his
blood,
you do not have life within you.
Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood
has eternal life,
and I will raise him on the last day.
For my flesh is true food,
and my blood is true drink.
Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood
remains in me and I in him.
Just as the living Father sent me
and I have life because of the Father,
so also the one who feeds on me
will have life because of me.
This is the bread that came down from heaven.
Unlike your ancestors who ate and still died,
whoever eats this bread will live forever."

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

