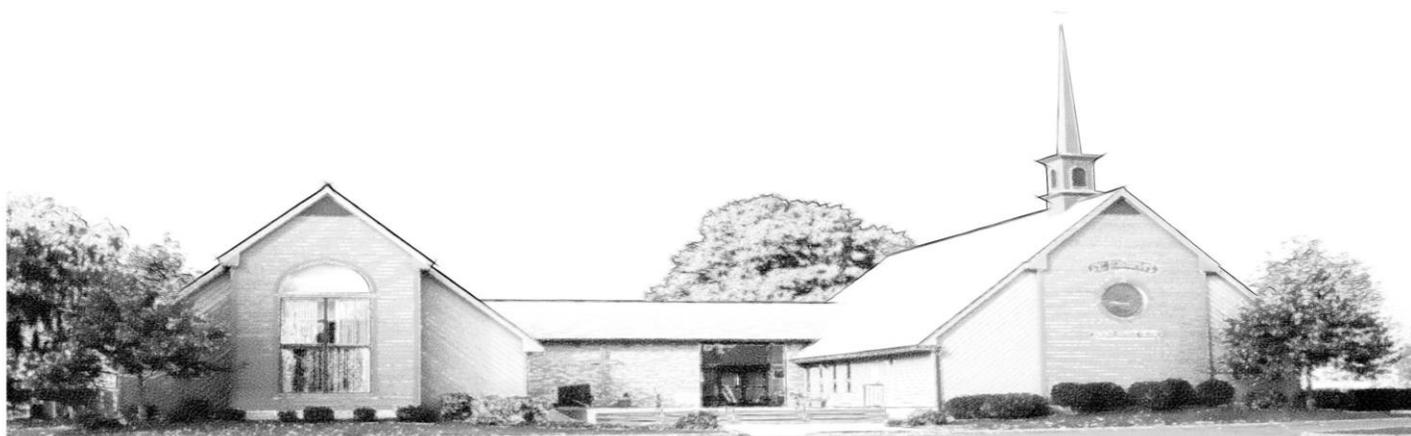


St Joseph's of Stratford Parish

National Catholic Church

Since 1907

Weekly Bulletin



21st Week in Ordinary Time, Year B

August 26, 2018

PARISH CONTACTS

ADMINISTRATOR
Fr. Tom Walsh

PARISH CHAIRPERSON
Nancy Sirois

VICE CHAIRPERSON
Dee Smith

FINANCE SECRETARY
Barbara Chernesky

Dear Parishioners,

Today we celebrate Youth Sunday. We recognize the many gifts that our children bring to the church, and to our lives. Their innocence, their sense of wonder, and the promise they hold for the future. It is for our children that we must safeguard the deposit of faith that has been handed down to us from the Apostles. Nothing added, and nothing taken away. By safeguarding our faith and Traditions our children will truly come to know the heart of Christ.

People were bringing even infants to him that he might touch them, and when the disciples saw this, they rebuked them. Jesus, however, called the children to himself and said, "Let the children come to me and do not prevent them; for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Amen, I say to you, whoever does not accept the kingdom of God like a child will not enter it." -Luke 18:15-17

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

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A BIBLICAL WALK THROUGH THE MASS



EDWARD SRI

This five-part program takes participants on an exciting tour of the Liturgy as it explores the biblical roots of the words and gestures we experience at Mass and explains their profound significance. See, perhaps for the first time, why we say what we say and do what we do every week at Mass. The words and gestures will be seen in a new light, giving new life to the liturgical experience.

You Will:

- Learn the biblical background to the words, prayers, and gestures of the Liturgy
- Discover how the Mass is a “true re-presentation” of Christ’s redeeming sacrifice on the Cross
- Explore the three key aspects of the Mass as a Sacrifice, Real Presence, and Holy Communion
- Gain helpful insights for getting the most out of every Mass...and much more!

See Fr. Tom to sign up for this study. Let him know your preference for which evening you would like to attend, Tuesdays 6:30pm beginning September 18, Wednesdays 6:30pm beginning September 19, or Thursdays 7:00pm after Mass beginning September 20.

PARISH CALENDAR

August

Sunday the 26th – Colossal Kielbasa Food Stand

September

Saturday the 8th – Our Lady of Peace Block Party starting at 5:30pm

Sunday the 9th

- Rabbi Ron Herrmann to talk about the Jewish High holidays in the classroom after Mass. If interested grab a coffee and join us!
- Appointment of Fr. Adam Piekarczywski as Administrator of St. John's parish in Manchester, CT. Mass at 3:00pm.

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 Discepolo

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Darlene Kopka for **Lauren & Jason**, that they stay safe as they travel to Italy;

Carol Murdzia for **Edward Flynn**;

Yvonne Walsh for **all the children returning to school**;

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

NEWS AND EVENT

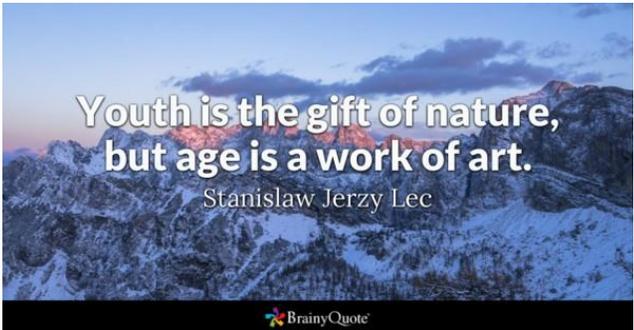
Block Party – Our Lady of Peace Church

For those who attended last year's Our Lady of Peace's block party remember all the fun that took place with the great food, live music, children games and fun for all! Please mark your calendars again for this event on Saturday, September 8, 2018 on the grounds of Our Lady of Peace Church, 10 Ivy Street in Lordship starting at 5:30pm. Price will be \$15.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children under 12 years old. If you need any additional information or would like to volunteer for this event please contact Mike Morin at mikef.morin@gmail.com or call 203-520-7319.

Samaritan's Purse – Operation Christmas Child

Samaritan's Purse is a nondenominational evangelical Christian organization providing spiritual and physical aid to hurting people around the world. Since 1970, Samaritan's Purse has helped meet needs of people who are victims of war, poverty, natural disasters, disease, and famine with the purpose of sharing God's love through His Son, Jesus Christ. The organization serves the Church worldwide to promote the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Will you help St. Joseph's support the mission of this worthy organization by contributing a gift to a child in need? The gifts will be collected the week of November 12th. Thank you for your consideration and support.



Youth is the gift of nature,
but age is a work of art.

Stanislaw Jerzy Lec

BrainyQuote

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

Sunday Readings

First Reading

Joshua 24:1-2, 15-17, 18

A reading from the Book of Joshua

Joshua gathered together all the tribes of Israel at Shechem, summoning their elders, their leaders, their judges, and their officers. When they stood in ranks before God, Joshua addressed all the people: "If it does not please you to serve the LORD, decide today whom you will serve, the gods your fathers served beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose country you are now dwelling. As for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."

But the people answered, "Far be it from us to forsake the LORD for the service of other gods. For it was the LORD, our God, who brought us and our fathers up out of the land of Egypt, out of a state of slavery. He performed those great miracles before our very eyes and protected us along our entire journey and among the peoples through whom we passed. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God."

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

Responsorial Psalm

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

Second Reading

Ephesians 5:21-32

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Ephesians

Brothers and sisters:
Live in love, as Christ loved us. Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ loved the church and handed himself over for her to sanctify her, cleansing her by the bath of water with the word, that he might present to himself the church in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.

So also husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. For no one hates his own flesh but rather nourishes and cherishes it, even as Christ does the church, because we are members of his body. *For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.* This is a great mystery, but I speak in reference to Christ and the church.

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

Alleluia, Alleluia

Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life; you have the words of everlasting life.
Alleluia, Alleluia

Gospel

John 6:60-69

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

Many of Jesus' disciples who were listening said, "This saying is hard; who can accept it?" Since Jesus knew that his disciples were murmuring about this, he said to them, "Does this shock you? What if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life, while the flesh is of no avail. The words I have spoken to you are Spirit and life. But there are some of you who do not believe." Jesus knew from the beginning the ones who would not believe and the one who would betray him. And he said, "For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted him by my Father."

As a result of this, many of his disciples returned to their former way of life and no longer accompanied him. Jesus then said to the Twelve, "Do you also want to leave?" Simon Peter answered him, "Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God."

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

