

WELCOME TO ST. JAMES PARISH

February 25, 2018 – 2nd Sunday of Lent

Our Mission

See a face, learn a name, hear a story. Love one another!

(Please use a name tag. This will help in getting to know each other in our Community of Faith).

OUR MINISTRIES

EUCCHARISTIC CELEBRATIONS:

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday: 8:00 a.m.

Tuesday and Thursday: 5:30 p.m.

Saturday: 8:00 a.m.

Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:30 p.m.

Sunday Masses: 7:30 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 11:15 a.m., 6:00 p.m.

PARISH CENTER CHAPEL

Eucharistic Adoration:

Monday—Friday—9:00 a.m. –5:00 p.m.

Divine Mercy Chaplet: Friday— 3:00 p.m.

Wheelchair accessible

PARISH CENTER HOURS:

Monday—Friday—9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE SICK: will be Mondays at the 8:00 a.m. Eucharist. Prior notice is not necessary

All those who are dealing with a serious illness and/or will be undergoing surgery during that week are invited to receive this sacrament.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: Parents must register with Patty D'Andrea at the Parish Center to schedule a baptism and to receive information regarding a mandatory Pre-Baptism class.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: (Church)

Saturdays: 12:15 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. , Thursday before First Friday:

4:45 p.m. to 5:15 p.m. or by appointment

PARISH NURSES: If you would like to meet with a Parish Nurse, please call Margie Balint at 203- 378-3081

2110 Main Street, Stratford, CT 06615
Telephone 203-375-5887
Fax. 203-378-1562 - www.stjamesstratford.com

Compassion, Non-violence
Justice , Unconditional forgiveness,
Unconditional love
Peacemaking

Pastor: Rev. Thomas F. Lynch

Associate Pastor: Rev. Rogerio Perri

Deacon: John Piatak

Adult Pastoral Ministry

- **Ministry with Men:** Jim Travers, Bob Carriero, Tom Gilbertie, Jeff Noccioli, Mike Curran
- **Ministry with Women:** Angie deMello & Mary Tesla

Communal Prayer

Worship

- **Liturgical Ministers:**
- **Liturgical Music:** Jeremy Hutchins
- **Liturgical Environment:** Michele Hoekenga

Pastoral Services

- **Faith Study:** Betsy Redgate
- **Principal St. James School:** Jack Lynch
- **Ministry with Teens** Bob Nagy and Karen Smith
- **Ministry with Sick & Shut-Ins:** Pat Stockdale
- **Charity, Justice, and Peacemaking:** Janine Walsh
- **PATH—**Debby Carroll
- **St. James Prison Ministry** - Alphonse DeJulio and Denis Granado
- **Prayer Shawl Ministry—**Mary Perille
- **Gratitude Ministry—** Suzanne Smith, Jane Begnino, Elaine Letsch, Terry Van Dam, Ligia Masilamani
- **Young Adult Network—**Ruwani Williams

Support Services

- **Pastoral Council:** Tom Kelly
- **Finance Council:** Dan Caron
- **Pastoral Planning Team:** Richard Zboray
- **Pastoral Stewardship:** David Zamachaj
- **Business Manager:** Natalia Zamachaj
- **Business Office:** Dolores Lathlean
- **Parish Manager:** Marcy Kelly
- **Administrative Assistant:** Patty D'Andrea
- **Digital Ministry:** Tonya Overby
- **Parish Personnel Manager:** Paul Fasold

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, February 26, 2018
8:00 a.m. Kathlyn Ryan Kraffmiller

Tuesday, February 27, 2018
5:30 p.m. Gene Paoletti

Wednesday, February 28, 2018
8:00 a.m. St. James Parishioners Living and Deceased

Thursday, March 1, 2018
5:30 p.m. Lee P. Gabriel

Friday, March 2, 2018
8:00 a.m. Emma Erdos

Saturday, March 3, 2018
8:00 a.m. Mr. and Mrs. Piatak
4:30 p.m. George Masters

Sunday, March 4, 2018
7:30 a.m. Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kelly
9:15 a.m. Tim Ramik
11:15 a.m. Raymond Pistey
6:00 p.m. Vincent Zbanowicz

If you have offered a mass for someone and would like to bring the gifts up, please see the acolyte 15 minutes prior to mass to sign in

PLEASE PRAY FOR: - Claire Hromjak, Mike Perille, Hank McLaughlin, Jason Corona, Rhina and Bill Carmona, Andrew Donovan, Robert Lambert, Val Jones, Fr. Leonel Medeiros, Peter Hart, Fr. Marus, Maria Vazquez, Victor, Jeremy Hutchins, Lucas McHale, Kathy Faryniarz, Alphonse, Jenna Reggio, Izabel Perri, John Ebert, Bryan Barry, Joseph (Stan) Koskowitz, Frank Munley, Mark Toresso, Edmund Ramos, James Ramos, Timothy Shanley, Mary Semedo, Carlos Ramos, Rose Martire, Bob Rosenbaum, Jo-Ann Pressman, Marilyn Gardner, Doreen Hunt, Jennie Mihocko and Elaine Gearity and Marge Tamas., Seeley Jennings, Kathy Sullivan

Faithfully Departed: *George Vagasky, Anne Harchuck*

Personal Care Assistant for homecare for a female. A variety of personal care tasks including bathing, dressing, feeding are required. Approximately 20 hours/week. Morning, evening, and weekend hours available. Please call Rich at 203-375-2931 for more information.

Weekly Offertory

Week Ending 2/18/2018

	<u>2017-18</u>	<u>2016-17</u>
In Church Collections	\$7,782.75	\$8,818.76
Electronic Offertories	<u>\$4,230.66</u>	<u>\$4,201.49</u>
Total	\$12,013.41	\$13,020.25

PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING: SEVEN DAY VIGIL CANDLES: 2/24-3/2/18)

Church Tabernacle : For an end to gun violence
Chapel Tabernacle : Margaret Vane

CHAPEL INTERCESSORY CANDLES: (2/24-3/2/18)

Candles will burn for the following intentions:

Candle # 1: All men and women in the military

Candle # 2: For the prayer intentions submitted through on-line giving

MINISTRY WITH SICK AND SHUT-IN

Pat Stockdale - Please contact the Parish Center if you know of a parishioner who is in the hospital or nursing home so that we can arrange a visit from a member of our ministry.

Readings for March 4, 2018

1st Reading : [Ex 20:1-17](#) or [Ex 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17](#)

Second Reading: [1 Cor 1:22-25](#)

Gospel: [Jn 2:13-25](#)

The Diocesan Youth Pilgrimage will take place Saturday, March 24th at St. Charles Borromeo Church, 391 Ogden Street in Bridgeport, and will include an opportunity for Eucharistic Adoration, a chance to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation, a concert with Steve Angrisano and prayer with Bishop Caggiano. All young people in grades 6 thru 12 are invited enter the journey of Holy Week by spending some time in prayer with your friends and family. To register visit www.thechurchneedsyou.org. For more information contact the Office of Faith Formation at 203-416-1670.

MINISTRY WITH MEN

Jim Travers, Bob Carriero, Tom Gilbertie,
Jeff Nocchioli, Mike Curran

Beloved Sons - The next Beloved Sons/Men's Ministry gathering is scheduled for this coming Thursday March 1 (7:30-8:45 PM) at the parish center. As we do twice every month (first Thursday/third Saturday) we'll be sharing and reflecting on the gospel for that weekend, the 3rd Sunday in Lent (JN 2:13-25). Not quite halfway through the Lenten season. How's your Lent going so far?

FAITH FORMATION

Betsy Redgate

Lenten Prayer Aids are available in the front entrance of the church and at the Parish Center.

Scripture Study Programs offered throughout the year at St. James! Acts of the Apostle begins Wednesday, March 7, 9:30-11:00 and meets for six weeks. Call or stop by Parish Center to register.

Best Lent Ever! Sign up at DynamicCatholic.com/SignUp to receive inspirational videos, practical tips and encouraging stories to help make Lent a transformative time for you.

2018 Annual Catholic Appeal

(Joy in Christ, Our Gift to Share)

"If one of your kindred is in need in any community in the land which the Lord, your God, is giving you, you shall not harden your heart nor close your hand against your kin who is in need..."
- Deuteronomy 15:7

This reflection on the Passion of Jesus seemed to me to be the best way to describe the attitude God is asking us to have when considering how much to give to the Annual Catholic Appeal.

Remembering that everyone is our brother/kin, this is what the Annual Catholic Appeal is all about. Helping those in need.

If you have already donated—'Thank You!'. If not, please pray on this as you decide how much God is asking you to donate.

May your journey during Lent bring you closer to the God

Breaking Bread with Women of St. James

Saturday, March 3, 2018

Come join us for Eucharist at 8 a.m. in the church. Following Mass, we will meet in the Parish Center for a light breakfast together and to break open this morning's Gospel in how it relates to us, our community, and the world.

All women of the parish are invited to participate in this morning of prayer and fellowship.

LENT 2018

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Tuesdays –February , 27, March 6, March 13,
March 20
March 27 7:00 -9:00 p.m.

A Day for the Sacrament of Reconciliation

Tuesday, March 13, 2018 -9:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Fr. Tom and Fr. Rogerio will be available for Confession and healing prayer.

Communal Penance Service for Adults, Youth & Children—Tuesday, March 20, 2018 - 7:00 p.m.

Devotional Opportunities

Stations of the Cross - All parishioners are invited to participate in personal stations at any time.

Stations of the Cross— Fridays at 7:00 p.m. –
Church
February , 23
March 2, 9, 16, 30

"The Living Stations of the Cross"

Friday, March 23 12:30p.m. & 7:30 p.m.
with the children of St. James School

Eucharistic Adoration in the Parish Chapel

-Practice the art of solitude and silence—
Monday- Friday – 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Prayer Opportunities

Taize Prayer Service

Tuesday, March 27-7:00-8:00p.m.-Parish Center Chapel
Spend an hour before the Eucharist in silent prayer and listening to the contemplative chanting of the monastic community of Taize, France.

Silent Together: Weekly Centering Prayer

Wednesdays 7:00 -8:00 p.m. – Parish Center Chapel
February, 28 , March 7, 14, 21, 28

Ministry with Women

Breaking Bread for Women – Saturday, March 3 – 8:00 a.m.

Lenten Retreat – Saturday, March 17, 2018 - Befriending the Universe

Celtic Spirituality as our Christian Heritage – Chapel and Parish Center

8:00 a.m. Eucharist

9:00 a.m. – Retreat

Ministry with Men

Beloved Sons – Parish Center

Thursday, March 1– 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 17– 6:45 a.m.

Progressive Solemnity—Music during Lent

The music chosen for use at St. James is based on the church's official (yet little known) liturgical principle called progressive solemnity. In most churches this ideal of progressive solemnity is largely overlooked - and this is unfortunate.

Each liturgical season should have a distinctively different tone and feeling, and during Lent, even more so. Progressive solemnity, at its essence, establishes a hierarchy of importance both within a given mass, and more broadly, across the liturgical year. For example - in terms of the mass, the highest musical priority is designated as the "ordinary" parts of the mass, and if nothing else is sung, the ordinary parts should be - these ordinary parts are the parts that never change - or the mass parts.

So often churches will sing 4 hymns and read the mass parts, which is liturgically incorrect. In terms of the liturgical year, Lent comes in absolute last in priority - in fact, in the liturgical document it is recommended that mass is either musicless or that it's limited to the ordinary part during Lent. The reason for this is that Lent, by its very nature, is a time of 40 days in the desert, of subsistence, of fasting and surrender, of a stripping away.

Musically, Lenten Sundays should not be just another series of 4 song masses, with songs around the Lenten themes. It must be dramatically set apart. Other symbolic representations of this - during Lent we don't recite the Gloria, Alleluias are eliminated, holy water is to be removed from the font, and even statues are meant to be covered. In other words, *less is more during Lent*. This is why the Easter water and sprinkling is such a dramatic symbol at Easter. In addition, the repetition of a selected number of appropriately themed songs allows the congregation to learn them thoroughly, and, as Fr. Tom says, to bring these texts/ lyrics, from the page to the heart. This takes time. In addition, this repetition clearly sets the Lenten season apart in its starkness. This intentionally and strategically low-key season then powerfully gives way to Easter, when the music is triumphant, energetic, and varied. Without this pulling back, there is no dramatic explosion on our most Holy of Holy Days.

But, the very repetition that makes it boring encourages us to go deeper, become more reflective, to hunker down into ourselves in order to discover something new. The repetition serves us in the same way as a mantra or repeated sacred word during meditation except that it moves us to a deeper and more sacred place.