

St Joseph's of Stratford Parish
National Catholic Church
Since 1907
Weekly Bulletin



Solemnity of Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, Year C

June 23th, 2019

**PARISH
CONTACTS**

ADMINISTRATOR
Fr. Tom Walsh

PARISH CHAIRPERSON
Jeanine May

VICE CHAIRPERSON
Dee Smith

FINANCE SECRETARY
Barbara Chernesky

Dear Parishioners,

"Give them some food yourselves." That was Jesus response to the apostles when they advised Jesus to dismiss the crowds so they could go to the surrounding villages and farms to find lodging and provision for they were in a deserted place. Not the response the apostles were expecting. They only had enough provisions for themselves, not nearly enough to feed such a large crowd of 5000 men not counting women and children.

In this passage we see Jesus providing for the people's spiritual as well as physical needs. Speaking to the crowds about the kingdom of God and healing those who needed to be cured satisfied their spiritual needs, keeping in mind that people then understood physical ailments in terms of spiritual afflictions. But Jesus understood that a person is both a body and a soul, so to care for the whole person you must care for their material needs as well. As Christians, Jesus is directing us to do likewise, "Give them some food yourselves." How then shall we respond to the needs of the poor?

Grace and Peace,
Fr. Tom

MASS SCHEDULE

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

1300 Stratford Road, Stratford CT 06615-7639
Tel: 203 377-9901 (office), 203 923-2424 (rectory), Fax: 203 375-6439
www.saintjosephsofstratford.org

Food Pantry Update

THANKS and PLEASE SAVE THESE DATES
July 27, Aug 31, Oct 26. 2019

A big "Thank You" to the YMS of R for their very generous check to the Food Pantry at Blessed Sacrament Church and for all of you who have been so faithful with donations of food and clothing each week.

Stop and Shop has, once again, graciously agreed to allow us to conduct food drives at their store at the Dock to help feed our less fortunate neighbors. They have given us three dates for drives -- July 27, August 31, and October 26. 2019.

Hopefully, they will be as successful as the two held last year when five truckloads and a caravan of cars went to the South End Community Center and Blessed Sacrament Church delivering the donated food.

For each of the dates, we will need volunteers to offer 1-2 hours of their time to greet shoppers and accept donations. A sign-up sheet will be posted in the foyer as the dates draw closer.

Again thanks,
Joe and Jane Pelland



**FEED THE
HUNGRY**

PARISH CALENDAR

June 23

- Colossal Kielbasa Food Stand opens at noon.
- Brief meeting of the Ladies Society after Mass.

June 26 & July 10 – St. Joseph's serving at Lord's Kitchen.

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: Yoga with Carla Loxsom, 6:30-7:30pm in
the Classroom
AA men's meeting 7:30 pm

FLAG DONATION



Flag donated by Martin Vasas in memory of Dolores Vasas

For news input in the weekly bulletin, please contact Father Tom by Wednesday at trpwalsh@gmail.com

READERS ROSTER

<u>June 23</u>	<u>June 30</u>	<u>July 7</u>
Ray Morrison	Nancy Anzalone	Charles Vasas

The roster for the entire year is posted on the Church web site. On the Home page click on the link *Schedule for Lectors* in the *Information* box.



PRAYER INTENTIONS

That our hearts may not be hardened to the needs of the poor.

NEWS AND EVENTS

Fr. Tom Away

Fr. Tom and Yvonne will be away leaving June 30, returning July 8. Fr. Henry Smolinski will be celebrating Mass for those Sundays while Fr. Tom is away. Please note that there is no Mass on Saturday evening July 6. For emergencies please contact Fr. Paul Dudek at (203) 729-4035.

Independence Day Fireworks on July 3rd

Please join your friends in the church parking lot to view the Independence Day fireworks on Wednesday, July 3rd. The password for admission to the parking lot is "Charlie."

Collection for Troops

Today is our last day of collecting for our troops. If you have not donated, and want to participate, please consider a monetary donation to be used for postage. Thanks to all that participated.

Prayer Groups forming at St. Joseph

Prayer Groups are forming at St. Joseph's. Joining a Prayer Group will help you to structure time in your busy day around prayer and being in God's presence. To learn more about Prayer Groups and to sign-up for a group please check out the information sheet located on the table at the entrance to the Church, or see Fr. Tom. You can join as few or as many Prayer Groups as you like. We invite you to enrich your life with daily prayer and join your prayer with the corporate prayer of the Church.

Seeking Volunteers

If you would like to use your gifts for the common good of our Church, there are a number of ways that you can help.

We have an immediate need for Readers at Mass, training and on-going support is provided. We are in need of individuals to form a Welcoming Committee to greet and welcome visitors to our Church. Photographers are needed to attend Church events to take pictures to be published on our web page. Thank you for your consideration.

Church Dues

Church dues for individuals is \$108 per year. \$216 per year for couples/family.

Bulletins courtesy of Ann Stockman, May - June 2019. If anyone wishes to contribute to the printing cost of the bulletin, please see Fr. Tom.

Sunday Readings

First Reading

Genesis 14:18-20

A reading from the Book of the Genesis

In those days, Melchizedek, king of Salem, brought out bread and wine, and being a priest of God Most High, he blessed Abram with these words: "Blessed be Abram by God Most High, the creator of heaven and earth; and blessed be God Most High, who delivered your foes into your hand." Then Abram gave him a tenth of everything.

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

Responsorial Psalm

You are a priest forever, in the line of Melchizedek.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and sisters:
I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus, on the night he was handed over, took bread, and, after he had given thanks, broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way also the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes.

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

Alleluia, alleluia.

I am the living bread that came down from heaven, says the Lord; whoever eats this bread will live forever.

Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel

Luke 9:11-17

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus spoke to the crowds about the kingdom of God, and he healed those who needed to be cured. As the day was drawing to a close, the Twelve approached him and said, "Dismiss the crowd so that they can go to the surrounding villages and farms and find lodging and provisions; for we are in a deserted place here." He said to them, "Give them some food yourselves." They replied, "Five loaves and two fish are all we have, unless we ourselves go and buy food for all these people." Now the men there numbered about five thousand. Then he said to his disciples, "Have them sit down in groups of about fifty." They did so and made them all sit down. Then taking the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, he said the blessing over them, broke them, and gave them to the disciples to set before the crowd. They all ate and were satisfied. And when the leftover fragments were picked up, they filled twelve wicker baskets.

**The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to You, Lord Jesus Christ.**

