

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



Fourteenth Sunday Ordinary Time, Year C

July 7th, 2019

**PARISH
CONTACTS**

ADMINISTRATOR
Fr. Tom Walsh

PARISH CHAIRPERSON
Jeanine May

VICE CHAIRPERSON
Dee Smith

FINANCE SECRETARY
Barbara Chernesky

Dear Parishioners,

"The Kingdom of God is at hand for you." These are the words that Jesus instructed the seventy-two, whom he appointed and sent out in pairs to every town and place he intended to visit, to say to those who welcomed them. What a wonderful greeting to hear! But this should not have come as a surprise to those who welcomed the disciples. They had invited God's presence among them, so He came. What sort of welcome do we offer to God? Is there room in our busy lives for God to dwell or do we just greet Him along the way.

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

IMPORTANT DATES this month of JULY in OUR 2019 Diocesan CALENDAR

Next Sunday– Cathedral of the Pines: 3:30 pm Vespers[Rindge,NH - 5:15pm dinner]; tell Fr.Tom, if going] As Summer moves further, PLEASE JOIN in PRAYING FOR our **Eastern Diocese Youth Retreat 2019** in August at **Camp Howe in Goshen, MA**. Let's pray that our youth will participate.

Today's Scripture COMMENTARY: Isaiah 66:10-4 is God's comforting Word to His Jewish people who had been exiled to Babylon – but now were returning to Jerusalem. It's a sudden "new birth" of the city, compared to a mother giving birth so quickly that she hardly has any labor pains. In our days DO WE see any such "new births" in our world or our lives? Let's rejoice about them. **Galatians 6:14-8** is the ending of Paul's warning to pagan converts to Jesus about not "getting enslaved" by "Judaizing" Christians, who insist on their being circumcised & following Jewish religious rules. Can you think of some parallel dangers in focusing to extremes on some Catholic religious traditions? **Luke 10:1-9** is a story of Jesus sending 70 **disciples** in pairs to places where He'd later go. Do you & I count ourselves among such *disciples* today? Do we bring peace to gatherings? Do we pray often for others' healing? See *June PNCC New Directions*.

The Week's Feasts: JULY 8th (Elizabeth of Portugal); 9th (Pancras); 10th (Rufina & Secunda); 11th (Silas); 12th (Veronica); 13th (Olga); 14th (Priscilla & Aquila). **St. Elizabeth** (1271-1336) was a very prayerful queen, part of a family of holy women, like her great-aunt, St. Elizabeth of Hungary. **St. Pancras** (c.10-40) was a Jew whose parents lived around Antioch, but and religiously made pilgrimages to Jerusalem for holy days during Jesus' earthly ministry. Later all the family was baptized in Antioch. But Pancras withdrew to a cave in Pontus where he was said to be found by the apostle Peter & was sent to Sicily in 40 AD to be 1st Bishop of Taormina. There he met his death by stoning at the hands of pagan opponents. **St. Rufina & Secunda** (c.230-57) were daughters of a Roman senator named Asterius. Their fiancés, Armentarius and Verinus, were Christians, but renounced their faith when emperor Valerian began his persecutions. Escaping to Etruria, they were captured & brought before a prefect, who tortured & then beheaded them. Their bodies were buried on the Via Aurelia in Rome & the church of Sante Rufinae Secunda built there in their honor. **St.Silas** (c.5BC –c.70) is first mentioned in **Acts 15:22** when he & Judas are selected by the church elders to return with Paul and Barnabas to Antioch following the Jerusalem Council. Silas & Judas are mentioned as leaders among the brothers, prophets & encouraging speakers. Silas was selected by Paul to accompany him on his 2nd mission after Paul and Barnabas split over an argument involving Mark's participation. It was during the 2nd mission that he & Paul were imprisoned briefly in Philippi where an earthquake broke their chains & opened the prison doors. Silas is thus sometimes depicted carrying broken chains. **St.Veronica** (c.15BC – 40) typifies the women of Jerusalem who lamented Jesus' carrying of his cross to Golgotha (**Lk 23:27-8**). There is no story of St. Veronica and her wiping Jesus' face with a veil in the canonical Gospels. The other closest mention is the miracle of a woman healed by touching the hem of Jesus's garment (**Lk 8:43-48**). Once Stations of the Cross became a popular devotion, the legend of her getting an image of Christ's face on her veil became part of this story. **St.Olga** (c.920-69) was the wife of Igor, prince of Kievan Rus. After her husband's death, Olga ruled as regent (945-c. 963) for their son, Svyatoslav. She brought Christianity to Russia. **Sts. Prisca & Aquila** (c.5-75) lived, worked, & traveled with Apostle Paul, who described them [**Rom 16:3**] as his "fellow workers in Christ Jesus"



DO YOU listen to this Christian program on WIHS 104.9 FM? It's on Mon. thru Fri. **9:05 pm. The Church's "pulse" all over Earth!** www.compassionradio.com Help refugees: www.CNEWA.org

PARISH CALENDAR

June 30 – July 7 Fr. Tom & Yvonne away.
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

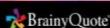
READERS ROSTER

<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.

**The soul should always stand ajar,
ready to welcome the ecstatic
experience.**

Emily Dickinson



PRAYER INTENTIONS

That we may welcome the Lord into our lives, and to dwell within our hearts.

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.

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

Isaiah 66:10-14

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

Thus says the LORD:

Rejoice with Jerusalem and be glad because of her, all you who love her; exult, exult with her, all you who were mourning over her! Oh, that you may suck fully of the milk of her comfort, that you may nurse with delight at her abundant breasts! For thus says the LORD: Lo, I will spread prosperity over Jerusalem like a river, and the wealth of the nations like an overflowing torrent. As nurslings, you shall be carried in her arms, and fondled in her lap; as a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you; in Jerusalem you shall find your comfort.

When you see this, your heart shall rejoice and your bodies flourish like the grass; the LORD's power shall be known to his servants.

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

Responsorial Psalm

Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

Second Reading

Galatians 6:14-18

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Galatians

Brothers and sisters:

May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither does circumcision mean anything, nor does uncircumcision, but only a new creation. Peace and mercy be to all who follow this rule and to the Israel of God.

From now on, let no one make troubles for me; for I bear the marks of Jesus on my body.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers and sisters. Amen.

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

Alleluia, alleluia.

Let the peace of Christ control your hearts; let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.

Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel

Luke 10:1-9

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

At that time the Lord appointed seventy-two others whom he sent ahead of him in pairs to every town and place he intended to visit. He said to them, "The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few; so ask the master of the harvest to send out laborers for his harvest. Go on your way; behold, I am sending you like lambs among wolves. Carry no money bag, no sack, no sandals; and greet no one along the way. Into whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this household.' If a peaceful person lives there, your peace will rest on him; but if not, it will return to you. Stay in the same house and eat and drink what is offered to you, for the laborer deserves his payment. Do not move about from one house to another. Whatever town you enter and they welcome you, eat what is set before you, cure the sick in it and say to them, 'The kingdom of God is at hand for you.'"

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

