

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



**Sixteenth Sunday Ordinary Time, Year C**

**July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019**

**PARISH  
CONTACTS**

*ADMINISTRATOR*  
Fr. Tom Walsh

*PARISH CHAIRPERSON*  
Jeanine May

*VICE CHAIRPERSON*  
Dee Smith

*FINANCE SECRETARY*  
Barbara Chernesky

Dear Parishioners,

“You are anxious about many things.” That was Jesus’ reply to Martha when she accused the Lord of not caring that she had to do all the serving while her sister Mary sat by the Lord. Jesus’ response was not flippant. Rather, Jesus was expressing his concern that Martha was allowing the cares of the world to distract her from the better part, to be present to the Lord in the moment as her sister Mary was. In what ways are we distracted from the better part, being present to the Lord? Must it be so?

Grace and Peace,  
Fr. Tom

**MASS SCHEDULE**

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

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## Saints of the Day

**July 21. Saint Lawrence of Brindisi**, a Capuchin Franciscan, was a scholar, administrator, preacher, and lover of the poor. Versed in many languages, Saint Lawrence was an outstanding scripture scholar and used his knowledge of the holy writings to produce many homilies. He served his community as Minister General and served the papacy as an emissary and peacemaker.

**July 22.** Whether or not **Saint Mary Magdalene** was a notorious sinner—and she most likely was not—she was one of the women who traveled with Jesus and the Apostles and was present at the cross. She also was the one chosen to bring the good news of the resurrection to the Apostles.

**July 23. Saint Bridget of Sweden** was married, mother of eight, and the foundress of a monastery for men and women. She spent her final days in Rome seeking to correct Church abuses for which she received much opposition.

**July 24. Saint Sharbel Makhfuf** was a Lebanese monk who belonged to the Maronite Rite. The Maronites are one of the Eastern Catholic Churches who follow a slightly different liturgy and canon law. We in the West often forget that we have sisters and brothers in the East. Saint Sharbel is a good reminder of the wider Church.

**July 25. Saint James the Apostle**, brother of Saint John and one of the three who spent time with the Lord on significant occasions, was a fisherman called by Jesus to follow him. Most likely, he was the first to be martyred, and witness to the faith with his blood. He and Saint John were nicknamed “Sons of Thunder” by Jesus.

**July 26.** We believe that Jesus is truly God and truly human, and this feast of his grandparents is a testimony to our faith. While the names of **Saints Joachim and Anne** may be legendary, we know that Jesus had grandparents, the parents of Mary (as well as those of Saint Joseph). Our God truly became human and lives among us.

**July 27. Blessed Antonio Lucci**, a Conventual Franciscan, was a noted theologian and teacher, who was appointed bishop of Bovino. He led the diocese for 23 years and was known for his generosity with the poor.

## PARISH CALENDAR

**July 21** – Colossal Kielbasa Food Stand, opens at 12 noon.

**July 27** – Food Drive at Stop & Shop to benefit the South End Community Center and Blessed Sacrament Church.

### 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](mailto:trpwalsh@gmail.com)*

## PRAYER INTENTIONS

Continued prayers for Frank Bonitatebus. That God's healing grace may be with him.

We offer healing prays for Wendell Barry. That he may be strengthened and encouraged.

That our faith may not be doused out by our anxieties and worries.

## NEWS AND EVENTS

### Hunger Doesn't Take a Vacation

Because most people think of donating food for the hungry only at Thanksgiving and Christmas, food pantries struggle to keep their shelves stocked during the summer. To help the less fortunate, on **Saturday, July 27** the St. Joseph's community will once again be holding a Food Drive at Stop & Shop for the South End Community Center and Blessed Sacrament Church. Those of you who have participated in past drives know what a rewarding experience it is. We need help in collecting the donated food and thanking our generous supporters. The sign-up board is in the foyer and you need to commit to only one hour of your time. If you know of someone who has a truck to transport the collected food here for sorting, please let Joe Pelland know. Thank you for all you do to help those in need. May God bless you and those you care for.

## READERS ROSTER

<u>July 14</u> Dee Smith	<u>July 21</u> Reader	<u>July 28</u> Joe Pelland
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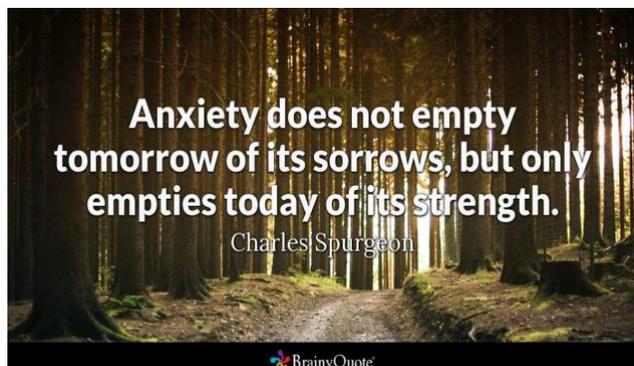
The roster for the entire year is posted on the Church web site. On the Home page click on the link *Schedule for Lectors* in the *Information* box.

## 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.

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



## Sunday Readings

### First Reading

**Genesis 18:1-10**

#### A reading from the Book of Genesis

The LORD appeared to Abraham by the terebinth of Mamre, as he sat in the entrance of his tent, while the day was growing hot. Looking up, Abraham saw three men standing nearby. When he saw them, he ran from the entrance of the tent to greet them; and bowing to the ground, he said: "Sir, if I may ask you this favor, please do not go on past your servant. Let some water be brought, that you may bathe your feet, and then rest yourselves under the tree. Now that you have come this close to your servant, let me bring you a little food, that you may refresh yourselves; and afterward you may go on your way." The men replied, "Very well, do as you have said."

Abraham hastened into the tent and told Sarah, "Quick, three measures of fine flour! Knead it and make rolls." He ran to the herd, picked out a tender, choice steer, and gave it to a servant, who quickly prepared it. Then Abraham got some curds and milk, as well as the steer that had been prepared, and set these before the three men; and he waited on them under the tree while they ate.

They asked Abraham, "Where is your wife Sarah?" He replied, "There in the tent." One of them said, "I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah will then have a son."

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

#### Responsorial Psalm

The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

### Second Reading

**Colossians 1:24-28**

#### A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Colossians

Brothers and sisters:

Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ on behalf of his body, which is the church, of which I am a minister in accordance with God's stewardship given to me to bring to completion for you the word of God, the mystery hidden from ages and from generations past. But now it has been manifested to his holy ones, to whom God chose to make known the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; it is Christ in you, the hope for glory. It is he whom we proclaim, admonishing everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone perfect in Christ.

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

**Alleluia, alleluia.**

Blessed are they who have kept the word with a generous heart and yield a harvest through perseverance.

**Alleluia, alleluia.**

### Gospel

**Luke 10:38-42**

#### A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus entered a village where a woman whose name was Martha welcomed him. She had a sister named Mary who sat beside the Lord at his feet listening to him speak. Martha, burdened with much serving, came to him and said, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me by myself to do the serving? Tell her to help me." The Lord said to her in reply, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and worried about many things. There is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part and it will not be taken from her."

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

