

St Joseph's of Stratford Parish

National Catholic Church

Since 1907

Weekly Bulletin



Twenty-Fourth Sunday Ordinary Time, Year C

September 15th, 2019

PARISH CONTACTS

ADMINISTRATOR
Fr. Tom Walsh

PARISH CHAIRPERSON
Jeanine May

VICE CHAIRPERSON
Dee Smith

FINANCE SECRETARY
Barbara Chernesky

Dear Parishioners,

There will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who have no need of repentance. These encouraging words are spoken by Jesus to the Pharisees and scribes who question why he is welcoming sinners in today's Gospel passage. Is this a license to sin? By no means! Here Jesus is affirming the value of each person. A value that is not diminished by having been lost, but rather enhanced by having been found, repentant.

Grace and Peace,
Fr. Tom

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 5:00 pm - Sunday Vigil **Sunday:** 9:30 am **Wednesday:** 9:00am - Mass for Healing with Anointing

1300 Stratford Road, Stratford CT 06615-7639
Tel: (203) 377-9901 (office), (203) 923-2424 (rectory)

www.saintjosephsofstratford.org

Saint of the Day

September 16, St. Cyprian, Bishop and Martyr (d. 258)

St. Cyprian was born of pagan parents in Carthage around the year 210. He was converted, ordained, and subsequently made bishop of that city in the year 249. By his writings and his actions Cyprian guided the Church through difficult times. In the persecution of Valerian, he was exiled, then martyred on the fourteenth of September, 258.

September 17, Robert Bellarmine, Bishop and Doctor (1542-1621)

St. Bellarmine was born in 1542 in the town of Monte Pulciano in Tuscany. He entered the Society of Jesus and after ordination to the priesthood distinguished himself by disputations in defense of the Catholic faith. He also taught theology in the Roman College. Elected to the College of Cardinals and named bishop of Capua, he solved many pressing questions in the various Roman Congregations. He died at Rome in 1621.

September 19, Januarius, Bishop and Martyr

St. Januarius was bishop of Benevento. Along with his companions he was martyred at Naples in the persecution of Diocletian. Today he is especially venerated in the city of Naples.

September 21, St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist

Born in Capernaum, St. Matthew was working for the occupying Roman forces as a tax collector, collecting taxes from other Jews, when he was called by Jesus. He wrote his gospel in Hebrew and is said to have preached in the East.

PARISH CALENDAR

Monday, September 16 Let Fr. Tom know if you will be joining us for the evening of *Cooking with the Saints* on Friday, September 20. Fr. Tom can be reached at 203-377-9901.

Friday, September 20 *Cooking with the Saints*. We gather at 6pm in the Church kitchen.

BY THE WEEK

Saturdays: Stepping Class with Mercy Tabernacle
10:00 am-12:00 pm
Sundays: Mercy Tabernacle Church
12:30 - 2:30 pm
Cub Scouts 5:45-7:30 pm
Mondays: Scouts 7:00-8:30 pm
Tuesdays: Mercy Tabernacle Church
6:00 - 8:00 pm
Wednesdays: Mass for Healing, 9:00am
AA Meeting 12:00 pm
Thursdays: 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: tpwalsh@gmail.com

READERS ROSTER

September 8 September 15 September 22
Joe Pelland Nancy Sirois Ray Morrison

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.

**I have found that if you love
life, life will love you back.**

Arthur Rubinstein

BrainyQuote

PRAYER INTENTIONS

We pray for Bill Petrino. That he may be brought to wholeness and know God's peace.

Prayers for Jane Pelland as she continues her recover.

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.

NEWS AND EVENTS

Cooking with the Saints

Calling all cooks and those who love to eat! Friday, the 20th, is our first evening of *Cooking with the Saints* and we hope that you can join us. We gather in the Church kitchen at 6pm to cook the meal together in fellowship as we learn about our patron saint, St. Joseph. If you plan to join us please let Fr. Tom know by Monday, the 16th so enough food can be purchased. For more details please see the bulletin board or check out our web site at saintjosephsofstratford.org.

Seeking Volunteers for the Christmas Bazaar

All those interested in helping to make this year's Christmas Bazaar being held on Saturday, December 7th, a success please see Yvonne. She can be reached at 860-417-9748 or send an email to ywalsh070@gmail.com.

Wednesday Morning Healing Mass

Mass for Healing with anointing is celebrated every Wednesday morning at 9am. We look forward to your being with us as we pray for physical as well as spiritual healing.

Quarter Night

St. Joseph's annual quarter night is scheduled for Saturday evening October 26^h with doors opening as 6:00PM. We hope you can join us for an evening of fun and prizes! It's recommended that tables be reserved to assure your participation. Prize donations are being accepted and may be turned over to any member of the ladies' society. A prize value minimum is suggested at \$5.00. Additional information to follow.

Lordship Community Church Apple Festival/Vendor Fair

Lordship Community Church, 179 Prospect Drive, Stratford, hosts an outdoor Apple Festival / Vendor Fair on Saturday, September 21, 2019, 9 AM to 3 PM, (rain date is 9/22/19, 11 AM to 3 PM). Craft, tag sale, flea market, and direct sales vendors, food, bake sale, apple pie baking contest, popcorn, and pre-event pie fundraiser with Oronoque Farms. For information and vendor & contest inquiries, please contact 203-377-6568 or lordshipchurch@sbcglobal.net.

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

Exodus 32:7-11, 13-14

A reading from the Book of Exodus

The LORD said to Moses,
"Go down at once to your people,
whom you brought out of the land of Egypt,
for they have become depraved. They have soon
turned aside from the way I pointed out to them,
making for themselves a molten calf and worshipping it,
sacrificing to it and crying out,
'This is your God, O Israel,
who brought you out of the land of Egypt!'
"I see how stiff-necked this people is, " continued the
LORD to Moses. Let me alone, then,
that my wrath may blaze up against them to consume
them. Then I will make of you a great nation."

But Moses implored the LORD, his God, saying,
"Why, O LORD, should your wrath blaze up against
your own people, whom you brought out of the land of
Egypt with such great power and with so strong a
hand? Remember your servants Abraham, Isaac, and
Israel, and how you swore to them by your own self,
saying, 'I will make your descendants as numerous as
the stars in the sky; and all this land that I promised,
I will give your descendants as their perpetual
heritage.'" So the LORD relented in the punishment
he had threatened to inflict on his people.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

I will rise and go to my father.

Second Reading

1 Timothy 1:12-17

A reading from the first letter of Saint Paul to Timothy

Beloved:
I am grateful to him who has strengthened me,
Christ Jesus our Lord, because he considered me
trustworthy in appointing me to the ministry.
I was once a blasphemer and a persecutor and
arrogant, but I have been mercifully treated
because I acted out of ignorance in my unbelief.

Indeed, the grace of our Lord has been abundant,
along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.
This saying is trustworthy and deserves full acceptance:
Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. Of
these I am the foremost. But for that reason I was
mercifully treated, so that in me, as the foremost, Christ
Jesus might display all his patience as an example for
those who would come to believe in him for everlasting
life. To the king of ages, incorruptible, invisible, the only
God, honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Alleluia, Alleluia

God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ
and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.
Alleluia, Alleluia

Gospel

Luke 15:1-10

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke

Tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to listen
to Jesus, but the Pharisees and scribes began to
complain, saying, "This man welcomes sinners and eats
with them." So to them he addressed this parable.
"What man among you having a hundred sheep and
losing one of them would not leave the ninety-nine in the
desert and go after the lost one until he finds it? And when
he does find it, he sets it on his shoulders with great joy
and, upon his arrival home, he calls together his friends
and neighbors and says to them, 'Rejoice with me
because I have found my lost sheep.' I tell you, in just the
same way there will be more joy in heaven over one
sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people
who have no need of repentance.

"Or what woman having ten coins and losing one
would not light a lamp and sweep the house, searching
carefully until she finds it? And when she does find it,
she calls together her friends and neighbors and says to
them, 'Rejoice with me because I have found the coin that
I lost.' In just the same way, I tell you, there will be
rejoicing among the angels of God over one sinner who
repents."

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

