

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



Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

October 20, 2019

**PARISH
CONTACTS**

ADMINISTRATOR
Fr. Tom Walsh

PARISH CHAIRPERSON
Jeanine May

VICE CHAIRPERSON
Dee Smith

FINANCE SECRETARY
Barbara Chernesky

Dear Parishioners,

In today's Gospel passage we are called to pray day and night. How are we to do this? We're all busy. Jobs that occupy our days. Family commitments at night. Laundry that needs to get done. The dishes don't wash themselves! How can we devote all our waking hours to prayer?

If we understand prayer as conversation, how we build and maintain relationships, then this call to pray without ceasing makes sense. What Jesus is calling us to do in today's Gospel passage is to remain in relationship with God always.

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

October 23: John of Capistrano, Priest (1386-1456)

John Capistrano was born in 1386. His education was thorough. His talents and success were great. When he was twenty-six he was made governor of Perugia. Imprisoned after a battle against the Malatestas, he resolved to change his way of life completely. At the age of thirty he entered the Franciscan novitiate and was ordained a priest four years later. His preaching attracted great throngs at a time of religious apathy and confusion. He and twelve Franciscan brethren were received in the countries of central Europe as angels of God. They were instrumental in reviving a dying faith and devotion. He helped bring about a reunion with the Greek and Armenian Churches, unfortunately only a brief arrangement. When the Turks captured Constantinople in 1453, he was commissioned to preach a crusade for the defense of Europe. Gaining little response in Bavaria and Austria, he decided to concentrate his efforts in Hungary. He led the army to Belgrade. Under the great General Janos Hunyadi, they gained an overwhelming victory, and the siege of Belgrade was lifted. Worn out by his superhuman efforts, Capistrano was an easy prey to an infection after the battle. He died October 23, 1456.

October 24: Anthony Claret, Bishop (1807-1870)

The "spiritual father of Cuba" was a missionary, religious founder, social reformer, queen's chaplain, writer and publisher, archbishop, and refugee. He was a Spaniard whose work took him to the Canary Islands, Cuba, Madrid, Paris, and the First Vatican Council. In his spare time as weaver and designer in the textile mills of Barcelona, he learned Latin and printing: the future priest and publisher was preparing. Ordained at twenty-eight, he was prevented by ill health from entering religious life as a Carthusian or as a Jesuit, but went on to become one of Spain's most popular preachers. He spent ten years giving popular missions and retreats, always placing great emphasis on the Eucharist and devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Her rosary, it was said, was never out of his hand. At forty-two, beginning with five young priests, he founded a religious institute of missionaries, known today as the Claretians. He was appointed to head the much-neglected archdiocese of Santiago in Cuba. He began its reform by almost ceaseless preaching and hearing of confessions, and suffered bitter opposition mainly for opposing concubinage and giving instruction to black slaves. A hired assassin (whose release from prison Anthony had obtained) slashed open his face and wrist. Anthony succeeded in getting the would-be assassin's death sentence commuted to a prison term. His solution for the misery of Cubans was family-owned farms producing a variety of foods for the family's own needs and for the market. This invited the enmity of the vested interests who wanted everyone to work on a single cash crop—sugar. Besides all his religious writings are two books he wrote in Cuba: Reflections on Agriculture and Country Delights. He was recalled to Spain for a job he did not relish—being chaplain for the queen. He went on three conditions: He would reside away from the palace, he would come only to hear the queen's confession and instruct the children, and he would be

PARISH CALENDAR

October 20th - Colossal Kielbasa Stand, 12 noon – 5pm.
Last of the season!

November 9th – Holy Spirits Wine and Cheese Night. Come for Mass, stay for a Movie!

November 16th

- Meg Capen, Board Certified Music Therapist, to provide music at the Saturday Vigil Mass. Come join us to pray and sing, then stay for dinner!
- Polish Dinner. Take out: 5-6pm. Seated: 6-8pm.

December 1st - 2nd Annual Christmas Tree Trimming Breakfast. Proceeds benefit the Daughters of Charity in Bridgeport, the Lord's Kitchen, Sterling House Adopt a Family Christmas Toy Drive and more...

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: trpwalsh@gmail.com

READERS ROSTER

October 20	October 27	November 3
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.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Mass Cards are located on the table at the entrance to the Church should you wish to request a Mass offered for a loved one, living or deceased.

We pray for Bill Petrino. May he be brought to wholeness and peace.

Prayers for Jane Pelland for her continued recovery.

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

Healing prays for Wendell Barry. That he may be strengthened and encouraged.

For Irene Smith. That she may be comforted and encouraged.

For Jean Fellmeth, that she may know God's peace.

NEWS AND EVENTS

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.

Quarter Night

St. Joseph's annual quarter night is scheduled for Saturday evening October 26th 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.

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

Health is the greatest gift,
contentment the greatest wealth,
faithfulness the best relationship.

Buddha

BrainyQuote

Sunday Readings

First Reading

Exodus 17:8-13

A reading from the Book of Exodus

In those days, Amalek came and waged war against Israel. Moses, therefore, said to Joshua, "Pick out certain men, and tomorrow go out and engage Amalek in battle. I will be standing on top of the hill with the staff of God in my hand." So Joshua did as Moses told him: he engaged Amalek in battle after Moses had climbed to the top of the hill with Aaron and Hur. As long as Moses kept his hands raised up, Israel had the better of the fight, but when he let his hands rest, Amalek had the better of the fight. Moses' hands, however, grew tired; so they put a rock in place for him to sit on. Meanwhile Aaron and Hur supported his hands, one on one side and one on the other, so that his hands remained steady till sunset. And Joshua mowed down Amalek and his people with the edge of the sword.

**This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm

Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

Second Reading

2 Timothy 3:14-4:2

A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to Timothy

Beloved:
Remain faithful to what you have learned and believed, because you know from whom you learned it, and that from infancy you have known the sacred Scriptures, which are capable of giving you wisdom for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for refutation, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that one who belongs to God may be competent, equipped for every good work.

I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingly power: proclaim the word; be persistent whether it is convenient or inconvenient; convince, reprimand, encourage through all patience and teaching.

**This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia, Alleluia

The word of God is living and effective, discerning reflections and thoughts of the heart.

Alleluia, Alleluia

Gospel

Luke 18:1-8

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus told his disciples a parable about the necessity for them to pray always without becoming weary. He said, "There was a judge in a certain town who neither feared God nor respected any human being. And a widow in that town used to come to him and say, 'Render a just decision for me against my adversary.' For a long time the judge was unwilling, but eventually he thought, 'While it is true that I neither fear God nor respect any human being, because this widow keeps bothering me I shall deliver a just decision for her lest she finally come and strike me.'" The Lord said, "Pay attention to what the dishonest judge says. Will not God then secure the rights of his chosen ones who call out to him day and night? Will he be slow to answer them? I tell you, he will see to it that justice is done for them speedily. But when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

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

