

St Joseph's of Stratford Parish

National Catholic Church

Since 1907

Weekly Bulletin



Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

October 27, 2019

PARISH CONTACTS

ADMINISTRATOR
Fr. Tom Walsh

PARISH CHAIRPERSON
Jeanine May

VICE CHAIRPERSON
Dee Smith

FINANCE SECRETARY
Barbara Chernesky

Dear Parishioners,

Stop behaving like a child! Words we say to someone who we feel is not acting in an appropriate or responsible way. Why have we lost the good sense of what it means to be a child? Trusting. Loving. Open and honest. Why don't we identify with those attributes of childhood? Jesus advises that we should.

In a passage following today's Gospel reading Jesus states that whoever does not accept the Kingdom of God like a child will not enter it. (Luke 18:17). Reason enough to behave like a child! In today's Gospel reading Jesus invites us to humble ourselves as children before God our Father.

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

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Saint of the Day

October 28: Simon and Jude, Apostles

The name of Saint Simon usually appears eleventh in the list of the apostles. Nothing is known of him except that he was born at Cana and is surnamed “The Zealot.”

Saint Jude, also called Thaddeus, is the saint of the impossible. Saint Jude was the apostle who asked the Lord at the Last Supper why he had manifested himself only to his disciples and not the whole world (John 14:22).

November 1: All Saints Day

The earliest certain observance of a feast in honor of all the saints is an early fourth-century commemoration of “all the martyrs.” This feast first honored martyrs. Later, when Christians were free to worship according to their consciences, the Church acknowledged other paths to sanctity. In the early centuries the only criterion was popular acclaim, even when the bishop’s approval became the final step in placing a commemoration on the calendar. The first papal canonization occurred in 993; the lengthy process now required to prove extraordinary sanctity took form in the last five hundred years. Today’s feast honors the obscure as well as the famous—the saints each of us has known.

November 2: All Souls Day

The Church has encouraged prayer for the dead from the earliest times as an act of Christian charity. “If we had no care for the dead,” Augustine noted, “we would not be in the habit of praying for them.” Yet pre-Christian rites for the deceased retained such a strong hold on the superstitious imagination that a liturgical commemoration was not observed until the early Middle Ages, when monastic communities began to mark an annual day of prayer for their departed members. In the middle of the eleventh century, St. Odilo, abbot of Cluny (France), decreed that all Cluniac monasteries offer special prayers and sing the Office for the Dead on November 2, the day after the feast of All Saints. The custom spread from Cluny and was finally adopted throughout the Church.

PARISH CALENDAR

November 1 – All Saints Day, a Holy Day of Obligation. Mass to be celebrated at 6:30pm.

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

November 16

- 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. Reservation only. Call 203-377-9901 by 11/12/19.

December 1 - 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



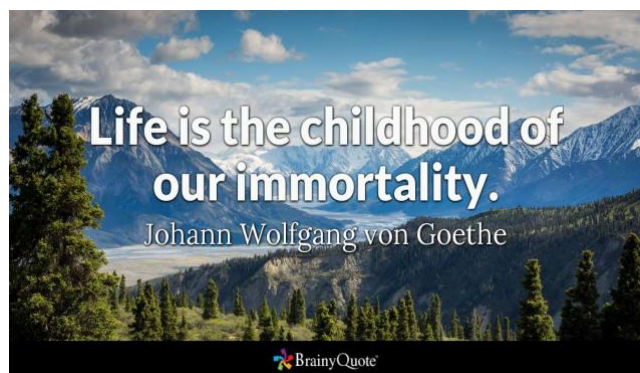
Flag donated by Martin Vasas in memory of Dolores Vasas

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

READERS ROSTER

<u>October 20</u>	<u>October 27</u>	<u>November 3</u>
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.

Saturday Mass is offered for the repose of the soul of Helen Wiser Gergely. May she rest in peace.

Sunday Mass is offered for the repose of the soul of Robert Sirois on the 11th anniversary of his passing. May he rest in peace.

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.

For Nancy Anzalone, for comfort and peace.

NEWS AND EVENTS

Thanksgiving Raffle

A Thanksgiving Raffle is being held to benefit District 3 of the Polish National Union. The Thanksgiving Raffle will take place on Sunday, November 24, 2019. One \$50.00 and two \$25.00 cash prizes are being awarded. Checks in payment for the Thanksgiving Raffle tickets should be made payable to "District 3 PNU". If you would like to purchase a raffle ticket, please see Fr. Tom

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.

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

Sunday Readings

First Reading

Sirach 35:12-14, 16-18

A reading from the Book of Sirach

The LORD is a God of justice, who knows no favorites. Though not unduly partial toward the weak, yet he hears the cry of the oppressed. The Lord is not deaf to the wail of the orphan, nor to the widow when she pours out her complaint. The one who serves God willingly is heard; his petition reaches the heavens. The prayer of the lowly pierces the clouds; it does not rest till it reaches its goal, nor will it withdraw till the Most High responds, judges justly and affirms the right, and the Lord will not delay.

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

Responsorial Psalm

The Lord hears the cry of the poor.

Second Reading

2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to Timothy

Beloved:
I am already being poured out like a libation, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have competed well; I have finished the race; I have kept the faith. From now on the crown of righteousness awaits me, which the Lord, the just judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me, but to all who have longed for his appearance.

At my first defense no one appeared on my behalf, but everyone deserted me. May it not be held against them! But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the proclamation might be completed and all the Gentiles might hear it. And I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from every evil threat and will bring me safe to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory forever and ever. Amen.

**This is 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 salvation.

Alleluia, Alleluia

Gospel

Luke 18:9-14

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus addressed this parable to those who were convinced of their own righteousness and despised everyone else.

"Two people went up to the temple area to pray; one was a Pharisee and the other was a tax collector. The Pharisee took up his position and spoke this prayer to himself,

'O God, I thank you that I am not like the rest of humanity, greedy, dishonest, adulterous, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week, and I pay tithes on my whole income.'

But the tax collector stood off at a distance and would not even raise his eyes to heaven but beat his breast and prayed,

'O God, be merciful to me a sinner.'

I tell you, the latter went home justified, not the former; for whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and the one who humbles himself will be exalted."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

