

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



Thirty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

November 10, 2019

**PARISH
CONTACTS**

ADMINISTRATOR
Fr. Tom Walsh

PARISH CHAIRPERSON
Jeanine May

VICE CHAIRPERSON
Dee Smith

FINANCE SECRETARY
Barbara Chernesky

Dear Parishioners,

Amazing how some things stay with us. Sometimes for the best. Cherished memories of long ago. Skills learned as a child. Friendships. Other times not so. Painful memories. Self-doubts from past failures. Hard defeats. It can be hard to let go of the familiar. The Sadducees in today's Gospel passage struggle with this. The Sadducees are the ruling class of priests in Jesus' time who reject the doctrine of the resurrection. To press their point, they approach Jesus with a question of the Law concerning the resurrection. They are not seeking an answer. They are baiting Jesus. Their aim is to argue, to embarrass Jesus, to divide the audience. It didn't go well for them. The problem is that the Sadducees were asking a question about something they knew nothing of. Since they had no concept of a resurrection, they assumed that the resurrected life would simply be a continuation of the present life. Jesus assures them they are wrong.

One thing is clear from this exchange. Our resurrected life will be markedly different from our present life. What this means is that at some point we must decide how we will live our lives. Do we live according to the rules of the present age? An eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth. Or do we seek to live according to the rules of the coming age? Love one another as you love yourself. That is our challenge. Are we willing to live into our resurrected lives? Do we have the courage to accept the Gospel message and to learn and grow?

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

November 11: Martin of Tours, Bishop (316? - 397)

Saint Martin of Tours was born in Pannonia of pagan parents. He gave up military life and was baptized. Soon after, he founded a monastery at Liguge in France where he led a monastic life under the direction of Saint Hilary. He was ordained a priest and chosen bishop of Tours. He provided an example of the ideal good pastor, founding other monasteries, educating the clergy, and preaching the Gospel to the poor.

November 12: Josaphat, Bishop and Martyr (1580? - 1623)

Saint Josaphat was born in the Ukraine of Orthodox parents about the year 1580. Embracing the Catholic faith, he became a Basilian monk. Ordained to the priesthood and chosen bishop of Polock, he worked faithfully for the unity of the Church. Enemies plotted his death, and he was martyred in 1623.

November 15: Albert the Great, Bishop and Doctor (1206? - 1280)

Saint Albert was born at Lauingen along the Danube about the year 1206. Having studied at Padua and Paris, he entered the Order of Preachers and excelled as a teacher. Ordained bishop of Ratisbon, he strove earnestly to establish peace among peoples and between cities. He wrote brilliantly on many subjects to the advantage of sacred and secular sciences alike. He died at Cologne in 1280.

November 16: Margaret of Scotland, Bishop and Doctor (1046? - 1093)

Saint Margaret was born around the year 1046 in Hungary where her father was exiled. She was married to King Malcolm III of Scotland and gave birth to eight children. The ideal mother and queen, she died at Edinburgh in 1093.

November 16: Gertrude, Virgin (1256 - 1301)

Saint Gertrude was born at Eisleben in Thuringia in 1256. As a young girl she was received into the Cistercian nuns at Helfta and applied herself to her studies, concentrating on literature and philosophy. Devoting her life to God, she dedicated herself to the pursuit of perfection, and gave herself over to prayer and contemplation. She died November 17, 1301.

PARISH CALENDAR

November 9 – Holy Spirits Wine and Cheese Night. Come for Mass, stay for a Movie. We'll be viewing the movie "Lilies of the Field." A classic from the 60's!

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.

November 17 – Lector's Meeting after Mass in the Classroom

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. Bring your Family & Friends!

January 5 – Christmas Brunch sponsored by the Ladies Society following Mass.

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

November 10 November 17 November 24
Nancy Anzalone Dee Smith Julia Vasas

The roster for the entire year is posted on the Church web site. On the Home page click on the box **SCHEDULES** and then the link *Schedule for Readers*

**"The Only Person You Are Destined To Become
Is The Person You Decide To Be."**

-Ralph Waldo Emerson

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.

For Bill Petrino, that he may be brought to wholeness and peace. For Jane Pelland, for her continued recovery. For Frank Bonitatebus, that God's healing grace may be with him. For Wendell Barry, that he may be strengthened and encouraged. For Irene Smith, for healing and strength. For Jean Fellmeth, that she may know God's peace. For Judy DiLorenzo & Robin Lupinski, for health. For Nancy Anzalone, for comfort and strength.

NEWS AND EVENTS

All Souls Day Remembrances

Karen & Richard Lasecki for the Lasecki deceased, the Zapotoczny deceased.
Yvonne & Fr. Tom for Tom & Gloria Walsh.
Dee Smith for Gerald Smith, Mary & Joseph Kafara.
Valerie Chernesky for Mike Chernesky, Stanley & Mary Wilk, Michael & Mary Chernesky.
Bertha Grabowski for Sophia & Joseph Zapotoczny and children and Edward Slonina.

St. Mark School Pre-K and Kindergarten Open House

Sunday 11/10, 10:00a-1:00p. 500 Wigwam Lane, Stratford – If you're looking for a full day Preschool or Kindergarten where your child will love to learn, come visit St. Mark School in Stratford. Meet our school community and see firsthand all that we have to offer. Teachers, parents and students will be happy to give you a tour and share their experiences. For more information, please call (203) 375-4291 or visit us at www.stmarkschool.org.

Collection for Local Children

The Ladies Society is taking up a collection of socks, underwear, hats, scarves, and gloves sized for children served by the Bridgeport Rescue Mission. Please place the items you are donating in the box located in the hallway.

Sterling House Food Baskets

In lieu of food donations, the Ladies Society is seeking monetary donations to purchase four \$100 gift cards to Stop & Shop.

Ladies Society Seeking New Members

Any ladies interested in joining the Ladies Society please speak to Carol Murdzia or Yvonne Walsh. Your service is vital to our faith community.

Reading God's Word

Start the new church year beginning on Sunday, December 1st, reading God's Word. This text contains the daily and Sunday Mass readings for the entire year to help you prepare for Mass and for personal reflection. The cost is \$16.99. A sign-up sheet is located on the table at the entrance to the Church.

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

Sunday Readings

First Reading

2 Maccabees 7:1-2, 9-14

A reading from the second Book of Maccabees

It happened that seven brothers with their mother were arrested and tortured with whips and scourges by the king, to force them to eat pork in violation of God's law. One of the brothers, speaking for the others, said:

"What do you expect to achieve by questioning us? We are ready to die rather than transgress the laws of our ancestors."

At the point of death he said:

"You accursed fiend, you are depriving us of this present life, but the King of the world will raise us up to live again forever. It is for his laws that we are dying."

After him the third suffered their cruel sport. He put out his tongue at once when told to do so, and bravely held out his hands, as he spoke these noble words: "It was from Heaven that I received these; for the sake of his laws I disdain them; from him I hope to receive them again."

Even the king and his attendants marveled at the young man's courage, because he regarded his sufferings as nothing.

After he had died, they tortured and maltreated the fourth brother in the same way. When he was near death, he said,

"It is my choice to die at the hands of men with the hope God gives of being raised up by him; but for you, there will be no resurrection to life."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Lord, when your glory appears, my joy will be full.

Second Reading

2 Thessalonians 2:16-3:5

A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to Thessalonians

Brothers and sisters:

May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who has loved us and given us everlasting encouragement and good hope through his grace, encourage your hearts and strengthen them in every good deed and word.

Finally, brothers and sisters, pray for us, so that the word of the Lord may speed forward and be glorified, as it did among you, and that we may be delivered from perverse and wicked people, for not all have faith. But the Lord is faithful; he will strengthen you and guard you from the evil one. We are confident of you in the Lord that what we instruct you, you are doing and will continue to do. May the Lord direct your hearts to the love of God and to the endurance of Christ.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Alleluia, Alleluia

Jesus Christ is the firstborn of the dead; to him be glory and power, forever and ever.

Alleluia, Alleluia

Gospel

Luke 20:27-38

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Some Sadducees, those who deny that there is a resurrection, came forward and put this question to Jesus, saying,

"Teacher, Moses wrote for us, *If someone's brother dies leaving a wife but no child, his brother must take the wife and raise up descendants for his brother.*

Now there were seven brothers; the first married a woman but died childless. Then the second and the third married her, and likewise all the seven died childless. Finally the woman also died. Now at the resurrection whose wife will that woman be? For all seven had been married to her."

Jesus said to them,

"The children of this age marry and remarry; but those who are deemed worthy to attain to the coming age and to the resurrection of the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage. They can no longer die, for they are like angels; and they are the children of God because they are the ones who will rise. That the dead will rise even Moses made known in the passage about the bush, when he called out 'Lord, ' the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob; and he is not God of the dead, but of the living, for to him all are alive."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

