

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Mass is celebrated on Sunday, December 8, for the repose of the soul of **Michael Jason Raslavsky**. May he rest in peace.

Wendall Barry, Helen Reynolds, and Linda Chehy, that God's healing mercy and grace may be with them. **Desiree Anzalone**, that she may be brought to wholeness and health. **Nancy Anzalone**, that she may be comforted and encouraged. **Jane Pelland**, for her continued recovery. **Bill Petrino, Irene Smith, and Jean Fellmeth**, that they may know God's peace. **Judy DiLorenzo & Robin Lupinski**, for health.

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.

NEWS

Crying Room - The Crying Room is now open for business! The speaker has been repaired. We encourage all those who may be experiencing cold or flu symptoms, and those with young children who are concerned about interrupting the Mass, to consider using the Crying Room.

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.

The second Sunday of Advent we light the candle of Love



Presider Today is the second Sunday of Advent and we light the candle of Love. Last Sunday we lit the candle of Hope. We light the candle of Hope again as we remember Jesus, born in Bethlehem, our hope and our peace.

(The Participant lights the candle of Hope.)

Today we light the second candle of Advent, the candle of Love. In their old age God gave to Zechariah and Elizabeth a son called John. John spoke to the people bravely in the desert denying his own comforts and prepared to die for what he believed. John taught that we should share what we have with others, treat each other kindly and show God's love. He did this because he cared for people and wanted them to repent and find God's forgiveness.

(The Participant lights the second candle, the candle of Love.)

Participant Love is like a candle shining in the darkness. As we look at the light of this candle, we celebrate the love we have in Christ.

All Lord God, Your witness John the Baptist grew up strong in spirit and prepared people for the coming of the Lord. He loved your people and baptized them in the River Jordan to wash away their sins. Help us to have the same love that we would be witnesses to him and spread the Good News of your love. As Christmas draws closer day by day, help us to be ready to welcome him. Amen.

PARISH CALENDAR

December 7 – Christmas Craft Fair, 9am – 3pm. Come for a bite of Polish food, find that perfect gift for a loved one, every child gets a gift from Santa!
December 8 – Coffee & Catechism. Come explore the meaning and rituals of the Advent season. Grab a coffee after Mass and join us in the classroom.
December 12 – New Haven Knights of St. Patrick Car Raffle. \$100 per ticket. Price of ticket includes dinner and drinks! See Fr. Tom if interested.
December 14 – Come join us for the 5pm Vigil Mass and then stay to help make prayer blankets for the residents of Lord Chamberlain and Atria care facilities. Meg Capen will be leading us in song as we sing our favorite Christmas carols while we work. There will be plenty of refreshments and holiday cheer for all!
December 15 – 2nd Annual Christmas Tree Trimming Breakfast. Due to inclement weather: Tree Trimming Breakfast rescheduled for 12/15... Join in the Christmas festivities...Bring friends and family!
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

Readers Roster

December 1: Joe Pelland, Missal page 112
December 8: Nancy Sirois, Missal page 116
December 15: Ray Morrison, Missal page 128

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

St. Joseph of Stratford National Catholic Church



December 8, 2019

Dear Parishioners,

Parish Contacts

ADMINISTRATOR
Fr. Tom Walsh

CHAIRPERSON
Jeanine May

VICE CHAIRPERSON
Dee Smith

Finance Secretary
Barbara Chernesky

In today's Gospel passage we meet John the Baptist preaching repentance. The words repent/repentance are used three times in this passage indicating their importance. What is important for us to remember is that repentance is a matter of the heart. To experience true repentance, we must have a change of heart. Our challenge this Advent season is to acknowledge our sinfulness, turn from sin, and turn to God.

Grace & Peace,
Fr. Tom

Mass Times

Saturday Vigil 5:00pm Sunday 9:30am Wednesday Healing Mass 9:00am

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