

## PRAYER INTENTIONS

The Saturday 5pm Vigil Mass is offered for the repose of the soul of **Carol Misurale**. Monday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, is the 4<sup>th</sup> anniversary of her passing. May she rest in peace. Sunday, January 19<sup>th</sup>, we pray for **Jay Geffert** as he undergoes a medical procedure. May he be strengthened and encouraged.

We pray for **Wendell Barry, Helen Reynolds, Linda Chehy, Felicia Watson** and **Simon Edgett**, 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, Florence Rasmussen and Jean Fellmeth**, that they may know God's peace. **Judy DiLorenzo** 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

**Can You Recognize Me Fundraiser** – St. Joseph's is holding a baby picture contest. We will be collecting pictures from church members from their younger years. Participants will be invited to match pictures hanging in the Parish Hall to names. If you correctly identify the most pictures you win! Please see the flyer posted on the bulletin board for more details.

**News Blast** - The text messaging/emailing for the "news blast" is up and running. If someone signed up and did not receive either the text or email (choice was by request) please see Meg Krasko.

**Book Discussion Group** – A book discussion group is forming at St. Joseph's for the New Year. We will be meeting on the first Sunday of each month after Mas beginning February 2. The first book we will read is, "Story of a Soul," the autobiography of St. Therese of Lisieux, often called The Little Flower. Please see Fr. Tom about purchasing the book. *Remember that nothing is small in the eyes of God. Do all that you do with love. St. Therese*

**A special "thank you"** to all who purchased raffle tickets at our annual Christmas brunch last Sunday. Because of you, \$220 was raised and will be used to buy groceries to help feed our hungry neighbors.

**Please remember** that clothing and linens for the "clothes closet" at Blessed Sacrament, as well as items for the food pantry, can be brought in at any time during the month. Especially needed are pasta sauce, canned fruit, canned meats, and Chef Boyardee, as well as bath tissue and bar soap.

## A SURVEY OF THE BIBLE

**Leviticus** The third book of the Bible is called Leviticus, derived from the Greek title that means, "That Which Pertains to the Levites." It actually deals more with the priests, who are of the tribe of Levi.

Leviticus is God's guidebook for his newly redeemed people. It treats mainly cultic matters (sacrifices and offerings, purity and holiness, the priesthood, the operation of the sanctuary, and feast days). It is also interested in various behavioral, ethical, and economic issues (idolatrous worship, treatment of others, the sale of land, slavery).

In Exodus, Israel was redeemed and established as a kingdom of priests and a holy nation. Leviticus shows how God's people are to fulfill their priestly calling through sacrifice (chapters 1-17) and sanctification (chapters 18-27).



## PARISH CALENDAR

**January 19** – Installation of the Young Men's Society of the Resurrection during Mass.

**Summer 2020** – All youth interested in playing basketball on the beach this summer with our friends from Our Lady of Peace please see Fr. Tom. It's not too early to sign up!

## 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

January 5: Joe Pelland, Missal page 151 (Readings for Dec 29)

January 12: Rob Mongillo, Missal page 168

January 19: Nancy Sirios, Missal page 173

January 26: Ray Morrison, Missal page 177

*Bulletins courtesy of Patricia Morrissey, January - May 2020. If anyone wishes to contribute to the printing cost of the bulletin, please see Fr. Tom. The suggested donation amount is \$8.00 per week. Thank you.*

## St. Joseph of Stratford National Catholic Church



**January 19, 2020 – Second Sunday Ordinary Time, Year A**

### Parish Contacts

*ADMINISTRATOR*  
Fr. Tom Walsh

*CHAIRPERSON*  
Jeanine May

*VICE CHAIRPERSON*  
Dee Smith

*Finance Secretary*  
Barbara Chernesky

### Dear Parishioners,

*Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.* Lofty words, but what is John the Baptist communicating about Jesus to those present? The idea of the Lamb of God would not have been a novelty to a first century Jew. Their Scriptures, our Old Testament, have several references to a sacrificial lamb. And that is the point John is making. Christ, as the sacrificial lamb, will atone for our sins. His self-sacrificial love merits grace for the salvation of all. That is why Christ retains the wounds in his resurrected body, because by those wounds we have been healed. That is why Catholics venerate a crucifix, not just the cross. Those wounds are Christ's glory, and ours.

Grace & Peace,  
Fr. Tom

### Mass Times

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

1300 Stratford Road, Stratford, CT 06615  
(203) 377-9901 Church, (860) 417-9888 Mobile  
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