

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Sunday Mass is offered for the repose of the soul of **Michael Chernesky**. The family is commemorating the 5th anniversary of his passing. May he rest in peace.

We pray for **Wendell Barry, Helen Reynolds, Linda Chehy, Felicia Watson** and **Simon Edgett** and **Jim Walkup**, 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

Father Tom is available for **house blessings** – Please see him to arrange a time for a visit.

A **Suggestion Jar** is now in place on the table at the entrance of the Church. Please share your thoughts about how we can strengthen our faith community.

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.

Collection for repair of altar crucifix and statues continues. So far, we have raised \$225. We're off to a great start! Thank you to everyone who has contributed.

Valentine's Day Roast Beef Dinner at Lordship Community Church, Saturday, February 15, 2020, at 6pm. Reservations required by 2/14/20. Please contact office@thelordshipchurch.org or 203-377-6568.

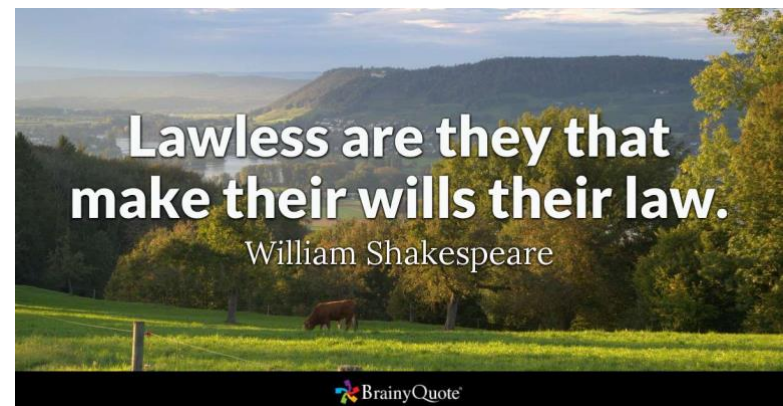
Please remember that clothing and linens for the "clothes closet" at Blessed Sacrament, as well as items for the food pantry, can be brought in at any time during the month. Especially needed are pasta sauce, canned fruit, canned meats, and Chef Boyardee, as well as bath tissue and bar soap.

A SURVEY OF THE BIBLE

Joshua The Book of Joshua is the sixth book of the Bible. It presents a narrative of the way Israel took possession of the land of Canaan, making it the land of Israel. The process is swift and is followed by an orderly division and disposition of the land among the twelve tribes with a concluding ceremony of covenant renewal.

The Israelites are led by Joshua, the successor of Moses. The book depicts not only how Joshua carries on the work of Moses, but how the conquest of Canaan is continuous with the exodus from Egypt, especially in the crossing of the Jordan River, which is patterned after the crossing of the Red Sea.

The theological message of the book is that God has been faithful to the promise of the land. If Israel relies totally on the Lord, and remains united as a people, then Israel will possess the Land.



PARISH CALENDAR

Saturday, February 8 – Wine and Cheese Movie Night, 6pm following Mass. We will be viewing the movie “I Can Only Imagine.”

Sunday, February 9 – Parish Committee Meeting after 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

February 9: Julia Vazas, Missal page 196 (Feb 16)
February 16: Dee Smith, Missal page 201 (Feb 23)
February 23: Joe Pelland, Readings on Handout

Friends of St. Joe's

We are pleased to recommend the following businesses that have provided dependable service to our Church:

- Neil Mulligan with Armor Shield Roof, (203) 768-8787
- James Plumbing, (203) 381-9587
- Kinsella Electric, (203) 209-3898

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



February 9, 2020 – Septuagesima Sunday, Year A

Parish Contacts

ADMINISTRATOR
Fr. Tom Walsh

CHAIRPERSON
Jeanine May

VICE CHAIRPERSON
Dee Smith

Finance Secretary
Barbara Chernesky

Dear Parishioners,

I have come not to abolish the law but to fulfill it. Reading this verse suggests a question, what is Jesus fulfilling in the law? In today's Gospel passage we find that Jesus is not contradicting the law but expanding upon it. Jesus cites the 5th commandment, thou shall not kill. He expands on this law by telling us not even to be angry with others. In the 6th commandment that Jesus cites, thou shall not commit adultery, Jesus tells us that anyone who even looks at another with lust has already committed adultery in their heart. What Jesus is doing in this passage is bringing the law to bear not just on our behavior towards others, but on our relationship with others, and in this way fulfills the intent of the law.

Grace & Peace,
Fr. Tom

Mass Times

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

1300 Stratford Road, Stratford, CT 06615
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www.saintjosephsofstratford.org / pastor@saintjosephsofstratford.org