

## PRAYER INTENTIONS

Mass this Sunday is offered for the repose of the soul of **Anthony Camporiale**. May he rest in peace.

We remember in our prayers **Wendell Barry, Helen Reynolds, Linda Chehy, Felicia Watson, Desiree Anzalone, Nancy Anzalone, Nancy Sirois, Jane Pelland, Bill Petrino, Irene Smith, Florence Rasmussen, Jean Fellmeth** and **Donald Squezello**.

*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

We are looking to start a **bowling league** with the Stratford area churches. If you are interested, please add your name to the sign-up sheet posted on the easel at the entrance of the church.

**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 \$536. Almost half-way to our goal of \$1200. Thank you to everyone who has contributed.

**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

**First Samuel** First Samuel covers nearly one hundred years from the birth of Samuel to the death of Saul. During this time the people of Israel are oppressed again and again by the powerful Philistines, who reside along the Mediterranean coast and press inward to Israel's territories. This oppression set the stage for the battle between David and Goliath, who was a Philistine.

First Samuel records the crucial transition from leadership under the judges to the monarchy under the kings. The book is built around three key men: Samuel (Chs. 1 through 7), Saul (Chs. 8 through 31), and David (Chs. 16 through 31).

Throughout the story a consistent theme is maintained. Israel's success and prosperity depend upon their faithfulness to the Lord.

## PARISH CALENDAR

**March 2-4** – Father Tom is away in Scranton for the Doctrine Commission Meeting. The **Wednesday 9am Healing Mass** is cancelled for this week. Please call Fr. Paul Dudek, 475-208-4455, for emergency sacramental needs.

**Friday, March 6** – Stations of the Cross & Potluck Supper. We gather to eat at 6:00pm, Stations begin at 6:30pm. A sign-up sheet is posted in the entrance hall of the Church for those who would like to host a supper.

**Sunday, March 8** – Ladies Society Meeting after Mass.

**Sunday, March 15** – The Choir from Blessed Sacrament Church in Bridgeport will be singing at the 9:30am Mass. Please plan to join us and welcome our musical guests.

## 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

## Schedule of Lent & Easter Services:

Wednesday, February 26 – **Ash Wednesday Services**, 9:00am & 6:30pm  
Each Friday of Lent – **Stations of the Cross & Potluck Supper**, 6:00pm  
Sunday, March 1, 15 & 22 – **Bitter Lamentations**, 9:00am prior to Mass  
Thursday, March 12 – **Penance Service with Our Lady of Peace**, 6:00pm  
Sunday, March 29 – **Meal in the Upper Room**, 4:00pm  
Sunday, April 5 – **Palm Sunday Service & Distribution of Palms**, 9:30am  
Holy Thursday, April 9 – **Mass of the Lord's Supper**, 6:30pm  
Good Friday, April 10

- **Stations of the Cross**, 10:00am
- **Liturgy of the Lord's Passion**, 3:00pm
- **Service of Tenebrae**, 7:00pm

Holy Saturday, April 11

- **Blessing of Food**, 10:00am – 12:00pm
- **Mass with Blessing of Fire & Water**, 5:00pm

Easter Sunday, April 12 – **Mass**, 9:30am

## Readers Roster:

March 1: Rob Mongillo, Missal page 207  
March 8: Nancy Sirios, Readings on Handout  
March 15: Ray Morrison, Missal page 219

We celebrate the Contemporary Rite of the Mass, which begins on page 63 of the pew missal.

### 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



**March 1, 2020 – 1st Sunday of Lent, Year A**

### Parish Contacts

*ADMINISTRATOR*  
Fr. Tom Walsh

*CHAIRPERSON*  
Jeanine May

*VICE CHAIRPERSON*  
Dee Smith

*Finance Secretary*  
Barbara Chernesky

### Dear Parishioners,

In today's Gospel passage we find Jesus in the wilderness being tempted by the devil. Notice the devil's tactics. The devil knows who Jesus is, the Son of God. So, the devil tempts Jesus with food and wealth to see if he will use his divine power for self-gain. Essentially, the devil is challenging Jesus if he can be a man. Will he resist using his divine power to save himself from the cross? The devil fails.

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  
[www.saintjosephsofstratford.org](http://www.saintjosephsofstratford.org) / [pastor@saintjosephsofstratford.org](mailto:pastor@saintjosephsofstratford.org)