

PRAYER INTENTIONS

We honor Darlene's donation for Pentecost flowers by remembering all the residents of Lord Chamberlain she has lost.

We remember in our prayers Nancy Sirois, Wendell Barry, Helen Reynolds, Linda Chehy, Donald Squezzello, Desiree Anzalone, Nancy Anzalone, Jane Pelland, Irene Smith, Florence Rasmussen, Jean Fellmeth, Judy DiLorenzo, Robin Lupinski, the Petrino Family, and the family of Felicia Watson

We pray for the safety and wellbeing of all those affected by the Coronavirus.

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

This Sunday, June 7th, we will be celebrating Mass again outdoors in the parking lot at 2:00pm. All social distancing protocols will be observed so parishioners need to remain in their vehicles the entire time. The Mass will be live broadcast on the radio, so you just need to tune in to listen. A sign will be posted indicating the radio station. Communion will not be offered. Individuals will be in the parking lot to direct where you are to park. Thank you for your cooperation.

Repair and restoration of the altar crucifix and statues is underway. We are still seeking donations to cover the cost of this work. Thank you to all who have generously contributed to the upkeep of our beautiful Church.

A special thank you to those who generously donated food, checks, and cash to the Food Pantry at Blessed Sacrament on Sunday. The food bin and a basket for monetary donations will again be available for "curbside drop off" this Sunday at our outdoor Mass. The number of needy people coming to the Pantry has doubled since the pandemic began in March while the amount of donations has decreased dramatically as area churches have been closed. We at St. Joseph's have continued to support the Pantry and it is very much appreciated by Fr. Skip and the clients. Clothes and linens are not

presently being accepted and probably will not be for a while. Thank you and God bless.

A SURVEY OF THE BIBLE

The Song of Songs is a collection of love lyrics, arranged to tell a dramatic tale of mutual desire and courtship. It presents an inspired portrayal of ideal human love, applicable to the sacredness and the depth of married union. The traditional approach of both Jews and Christians is to interpret the book allegorically. The text is speaking about human love, but the real meaning was either the mystical love of God for his people, Israel; or, for Christians, the love between Christ and his church.

Scholars do not agree on how many songs make up the anthology. Some find as many as fifty-four, others find as few as six. The book is not easily outlined. The songs do not seem to be arranged in any kind of thematic way. I invite you to read through this short book to gain an appreciation for the lyrics of these ancient love songs.

PARISH CALENDAR

By the Week: All activities suspended until further notice.

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:

The roster will be updated when services resume.

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

**St. Joseph of Stratford
National Catholic Church**



June 7, 2020 – Trinity Sunday

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!

Parish Contacts

PASTOR
Fr. Tom Walsh

CHAIRPERSON
Jeanine May

VICE CHAIRPERSON
Dee Smith

Finance Secretary
Barbara Chernesky

Dear Parishioners,

“God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life.” John 3:16. Most of us are familiar with this verse. Many of us have seen graffiti or people holding signs with reference to this verse. Now we know what the verse states. Do we know what it means?

It all seems to hinge on the word “believe.” At a young age we were encouraged to believe in Santa Clause, the Easter Bunny, the Tooth Fairy. How does belief in Christ differ from these childhood fantasies? The difference is that this Gospel was written at a time when some were eyewitnesses to Christ or knew an eyewitness. The author was not advocating for belief in Christ’s existence, rather he was advocating for belief in Christ’s words, as the Word of God. Do you believe?

Grace and peace,
Fr. Tom

Mass Times

Public celebration of Holy Mass is suspended until further notice.

1300 Stratford Road, Stratford, CT 06615
(203) 377-9901 Church, (860) 417-9888 Mobile
www.saintjosephsofstratford.org / pastor@saintjosephsofstratford.org