

PRAYER INTENTIONS

We remember in our prayers Jen Fry, Dave Sauter, Jay Geffert, Annette Krietler, Nancy Sirois, Wendell Barry, Helen Reynolds, Linda Chehy, Donald Squezzello, Desiree Anzalone, Nancy Anzalone, Jane Pelland, Irene Smith, Florence Rasmussen, Judy DiLorenzo, and Robin Lupinski.

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

NEWS

A special “thank you” to all of you who have so generously donated food, checks, and cash to the Food Pantry at Blessed Sacrament. The pantry is running on a week-to-week basis, with the food brought in over the weekend given out on Thursday with not a lot, if any, food left over for the following week. However, because of you and other good-hearted people like you in churches across Fairfield County, the pantry is able to serve the approximately 320 families that now come for food each week. Before the pandemic, that number was 120, so you can see how much your donation is needed. Fr. Skip and the volunteers keep you in prayer, thanking God for your generosity.

A SURVEY OF THE BIBLE – THE BOOK OF AMOS

Amos, a mid-eighth century B.C. prophet delivered his oracles in the northern kingdom of Israel. The book is an anthology of Amos’s oracles and visions meant to denounce the widespread social injustices, which were violations of the Mosaic covenant. Amos prophesied the fall of Israel and the Exile of the people (7:11). Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, banished him from the shrine and ordered Amos to return to Judah, the southern kingdom. (7:12-13)

The Book of Amos may be divided into four sections. In the first section, The Eight Oracles against the Nations, (1:1 through 2:16) Amos denounces the nations surrounding Israel, with the final denunciation reserved for Israel for its transgressions against the poor and the oppressed. In the second section, The Three Sets of Oracles

for Israel, (3:1 through 6:14) Amos proclaims that Israel will be plundered and brought to total destruction; that the women of Samaria, the social elite, also bear responsibility for the sins of the nation; and announces the Lord’s judgement on the nation for its sins and for its failure to repent, the nation will be led into exile. In the third section, Five Symbolic Visions (7:1 through 9:8) are visions of the coming judgement upon Israel. The fourth section, A Messianic Perspective (9:8 through 15) ends on a note of consolation. God will restore the Davidic kingdom, and the land will be filled with great prosperity.

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



September 27, 2020 – Twenty Sixth Sunday Ordinary Time

Parish Contacts

PASTOR
Fr. Tom Walsh

CHAIRPERSON
Jeanine May

VICE CHAIRPERSON
Dee Smith

Finance Secretary
Barbara Chernesky

Dear Parishioners,

In the first reading for today, Ezekiel 18:25-28, the Lord speaks through the prophet saying, *“But if he turns from the wickedness he has committed, he does what is right and just, he shall preserve his life.”* These were hopeful words to the people of Israel then, and they are hopeful words to us today.

This passage is taken from a section that speaks to personal responsibility. We alone are responsible for our condemnation or salvation. Fortunately, the Lord is rooting for us to make the right choice, *“Do I find pleasure in the death of the wicked - Do I not rejoice when they turn from their evil way and live?”* (Ezekiel 18:23) The choice is ours, let us not disappoint the Lord!

Grace and peace,
Fr. Tom

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

Mass Times

Mass is celebrated every Sunday, Indoors at 9am & Outdoors at 10:30am.

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