

## 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, 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 MICAH

Micah, whose name means “Who Is Like Yahweh?” was a late 8<sup>th</sup> century prophet and contemporary of Isaiah. Micah was deeply aware that he had to speak out against the socioeconomic and religious abuses of his day. God’s judgement, he proclaimed, would come upon Judah. Even Jerusalem and the Temple would be destroyed. Micah’s prophecy goes beyond judgement; he also announces salvation. He provides hope, and proclaims that one day Judah will be restored.

The Book of Micah may be divided as follows: The Lord’s judgement against his people (1:1 – 3:12), the restoration of the New Israel (4:1 – 5:14), and a message of warning and hope (6:1 – 7:20).

Micah’s most memorable passage presents his message as a synthesis of the teaching of the great eighth-century prophets,

*“You have been told, O mortal, what is good, and what the Lord requires of you: Only to do justice and to love goodness, and to walk humbly with your God.”* RSV-CE.

## 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

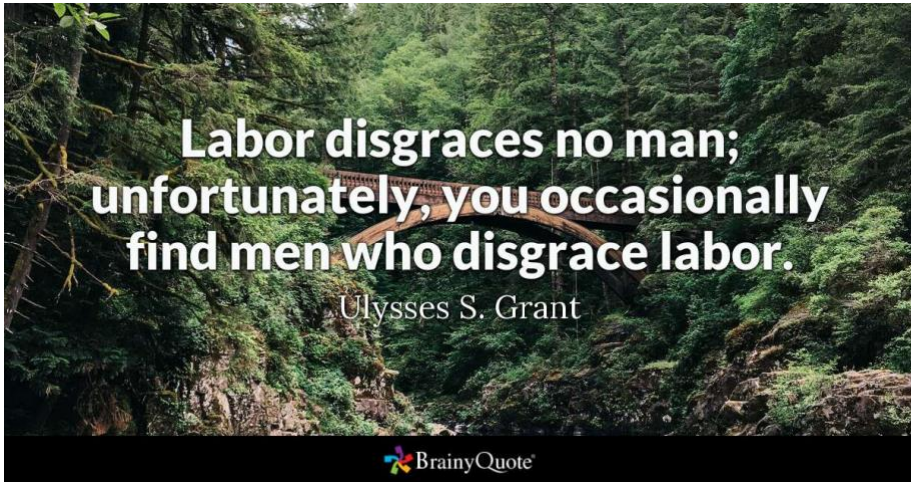
**Wednesdays:** Mass for Healing, 9:00am  
AA Meeting 12:00 pm

**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**



**October 18, 2020 – Twenty Ninth Sunday Ordinary Time**

### **Parish Contacts**

*PASTOR*  
Fr. Tom Walsh

*CHAIRPERSON*  
Jeanine May

*VICE CHAIRPERSON*  
Dee Smith

*Finance Secretary*  
Barbara Chernesky

### **Dear Parishioners,**

In today's second reading, Paul's first letter to the Thessalonians (1:1-5), Paul speaks of *"unceasingly calling to mind your work of faith and labor of love."* When we speak of something being a labor of love, we often mean that our compensation is doing what we love to do. Nothing wrong with that. But there are other ways of engaging in labors of love.

We may not love to shovel an elderly neighbor's driveway, but love is expressed nonetheless. The difference being that the labor is directed to the benefit of another. We need to be mindful of the commandment to love others as we love ourselves. We need to spread the love around.

Grace and peace,  
Fr. Tom

### **Mass Times**

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

1300 Stratford Road, Stratford, CT 06615  
(203) 377-9901 Church, (203) 923-2424 Rectory  
[www.saintjosephsofstratford.org](http://www.saintjosephsofstratford.org) / [pastor@saintjosephsofstratford.org](mailto:pastor@saintjosephsofstratford.org)

### **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