

PRAYER INTENTIONS

We remember in our prayers Tom Milos, 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

St. Mary School Christmas Tree Sale

A Milford Christmas tradition carries on! With social distancing, masks and procedures to keep everyone comfortable and safe, come get into the Christmas spirit and pick out your special tree. There will still be lots of cheer starting November 27th, when freshly cut premium balsam & fraser fir Christmas trees, wreaths and cemetery pieces arrive from Canada. Get in the Christmas spirit and support St. Mary School! The stand will be open weekdays 5:00pm–9:00pm and weekends 9:00am–9:00pm. We sell out quickly, so don't wait too long! St. Mary School is located at 72 Gulf Street in Milford www.saintmaryschoolmilford.org.

A SURVEY OF THE BIBLE – THE BOOK OF ZECHARIAH

Zechariah, meaning “God Remembers,” was of priestly lineage. He was born in Babylon and was brought by his grandfather to Palestine when the Jewish exiles returned under Zerubbabel and Joshua the High Priest.

For a dozen years or more, the task of rebuilding the Temple has been half completed. Zechariah is commissioned by God to encourage the people in their unfinished responsibility. Rather than exhorting them to action with words of rebuke, Zechariah seeks to encourage them to action by reminding them of the future importance of the Temple. The Temple must be built, for one day the Messiah's glory will inhabit it. Future blessing is contingent upon present

obedience. The people are not merely building a building, they are building a future.

The book may be divided as follows. First, there are eight visions (chs.1 - 6). The first five are visions of comfort, the last three are visions of judgement. Then the four messages (chs. 7-8), where God responds to Zechariah's questions about the continuation of the fasts. Finally, the two burdens (chs. 9-14) concerning the first advent and rejection of Israel's coming King, followed by the Second Advent of Christ and the acceptance of Israel's King. The nations will attack Jerusalem, but the Messiah will come and deliver his people (ch. 12).

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.

The First Sunday of Advent ~ We Hope



St. Joseph of Stratford National Catholic Church



November 29, 2020 – First Sunday of Advent, Year B

Parish Contacts

PASTOR
Fr. Tom Walsh

CHAIRPERSON
Jeanine May

VICE CHAIRPERSON
Dee Smith

Finance Secretary
Barbara Chernesky

Dear Parishioners,

In today's first reading the prophet Isaiah calls on the Lord to come for the sake of the people who have wandered from the Lord, and yet retain a special relationship with the Lord. In the second reading, Paul speaks of giving thanks to God for the grace bestowed on the people in Jesus Christ so that they may keep firm to the end, irreproachable on the day of the Lord. In the Gospel passage Jesus warn his disciples to be watchful and alert, not sleeping, because they do not know at what hour the Lord will return.

What is evident from all three readings is that the Lord is coming, appropriate for the first week of Advent. There is a sense of urgency in these readings to be ready, not caught unaware. If the Lord were to approach us this Advent season what would he find? Dishes in the sink is excusable, a hardened heart is quite another matter.

Grace and peace,
Fr. Tom

Mass Times

Mass is celebrated every Sunday, Outdoors at 10:00am.

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