

PRAYER INTENTIONS

We remember in our prayers Edmond Bresh, Wendell Barry, Helen Reynolds, Helen Popp, Irene Smith, Florence Rasmussen, Judy DiLorenzo, Yvonne Walsh, Tom Milos, Annette Krietler, and Georgine Keeler. We pray for the repose of the soul of Ed Coelho, may he rest in peace.

NEWS

Work has begun on the **Meditation Garden**. To fund this project, we are seeking donations. Any amount is helpful. A collection box is located on the table by the front doors of the Church. Thank you to all those who have contributed!

A SURVEY OF THE BIBLE – HEBREWS

It is believed that the author of Hebrews is appealing to those believers who converted from Judaism not to lapse back into Judaism to avoid the persecution directed at Christians. To make this appeal the author builds a case for the superiority of Christ through a cumulative argument in which Christ is presented as superior to everything in the Hebrew faith. Christ is superior to the prophets (1:1-3), to the angels (1:5-8), to Moses (3:1-6), and finally to the Jewish priests (4:14-5:10). For the author of Hebrews, Christ is the reality foreshadowed in the Hebrew scriptures and is the one who establishes the new covenant once and for all.

The author of Hebrews is unknown. The date of authorship was possibly before 70 AD and certainly before 96 AD since the work was quoted by Clement of Rome in 96 AD.

NOTEABLE SAINTS OF THE WEEK

St. Matthias (d. ?), According to Acts 1:15-26, during the days after the Ascension Peter stood up in the midst of the brothers, about 120 of Jesus' followers. Now that Judas had betrayed his ministry, it was necessary, Peter said, to fulfill the scriptural recommendation that another should take his office. "Therefore, it is necessary that one of the men who accompanied us the whole time the Lord Jesus came and went among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day on which he was taken up from us, become with us a witness to his resurrection" (Acts 1:21-22).

They nominated two men: Joseph Barsabbas and Matthias. They prayed and drew lots. The choice fell upon Matthias, who was added to the Eleven. Matthias is not mentioned by name anywhere else in the New Testament. May 14.

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



*All that I am, or hope to be, I
owe to my angel mother.*

~ Abraham Lincoln

May 9, 2021 –Sixth Sunday of Easter

Parish Contacts

PASTOR
Fr. Tom Walsh

CHAIRPERSON
Jeanine May

VICE
CHAIRPERSON
Dee Smith

Finance
Secretary
Barbara
Chernesky

Dear Parishioners,

Happy Mother's Day to all mothers and those who love with a mother's heart! It is in keeping with Mother's Day that today's second reading (1 John 4:7-10) characterizes God as love, the love that is reflected in a mother's heart. A love that creates life, sustains life, nourishes life, and consoles life. A love that is fashioned in God's image.

Grace and peace,
Fr. Tom

Mass Times

Mass celebrations are Saturday Vigil at 4:00pm & Sunday Morning at 10:00am

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