

## PRAYER INTENTIONS

We remember in our prayers Rich Lasecki, Edmond Bresh, Helen Reynolds, Helen Popp, Irene Smith, Florence Rasmussen, Robin Lupinski, Judy DiLorenzo, Yvonne Walsh, Tom Milos, and Georgine Keeler.

## NEWS

Regarding our policy for mask wearing in church, if you are not fully vaccinated you must wear a mask while inside the building. If you are fully vaccinated, we encourage you to continue wearing a mask while inside the building. It is important to be mindful of safe social distancing. If you are coming forward to receive Communion, please allow time for the person ahead of you to step away after receiving before coming forward.

## NOTEABLE SAINTS OF THE WEEK

**James, Apostle (d. ~42)** St. James, son of Zebedee and brother of St. John the apostle, was born at Bethsaida. He was present at most of the miracles performed by Christ and was put to death by Herod around the year 42. He is especially honored at Compostella in Spain where a famous church is dedicated to his name. July 25

**Joachim and Ann, Parents of Mary** From an ancient tradition, going back even to the second century, the parents of the Virgin Mary are known by the names of Joachim and Ann. Devotion to St. Ann is found in the sixth century in the East, and by the tenth century it was widespread in the West. St. Joachim was likewise honored, but at a more recent date. July 26

**Martha** St. Martha was a sister of Mary and Lazarus. When she received the Lord as a guest at Bethany, she looked after him with devoted attention. She begged the Lord to raise her brother, Lazarus, from the dead. July 29

**Peter Chrysologus, Bishop and Doctor (d. ~450)** St. Peter was born about the year 380 at Imola in Emilia, and there entered the priesthood. He was elected bishop of Ravenna in 424 and instructed his flock by his learned sermons and writings. He died around the year 450. July 30

**Ignatius of Loyola, Priest (d. 1556)** St. Ignatius was born in 1491 at Loyola in Cantabria. He spent his early years at court as a soldier. Later he was converted to God and undertook theological studies at Paris where he attracted his first followers, and afterward at Rome he joined them together as the first members of the Society of Jesus. He exercised a most fruitful apostolate both by his written works and in the training of his disciples who won great praise for their renewal of the Church. He died at Rome in 1556. July 31

*From the Liturgy of the Hours, Volume III, Proper of Saints.*

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



**July 25, 2021 – Seventeenth Sunday Ordinary Time**

*God removes the sin of the one  
who makes humble confession,  
and thereby the devil loses the  
sovereignty he had gained over  
the human heart.*

*~ Saint Bernard*

**Dear Parishioners,**

**Parish Contacts**

*PASTOR*  
Fr. Tom Walsh

*CHAIRPERSON*  
Jeanine May

*VICE*  
*CHAIRPERSON*  
Dee Smith

*Finance*  
*Secretary*  
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In today's gospel passage (John 6:1-15) we find Jesus and the apostles confronted with overwhelming need, the feeding of a great multitude. The passage states that five thousand men were present. If we count women and children, the number is closer to fifteen or twenty thousand. Notice how those present respond to the challenge of feeding so many. Jesus' trusted apostles, Philip and Andrew, out of hubris conclude that the task is impossible. If they could not do it, it could not be done. Not so the boy standing nearby who had five barley loaves and two fish. He humbly offered what he had trusting that it was sufficient. It was, all ate with food left over.

That is our challenge. When faced with overwhelming need and limited resources, do we retreat thinking nothing can be done, or do we do what we can with what we have trusting that the Lord's grace is sufficient? It is.

Grace and peace,  
Fr. Tom

**Mass Times**

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

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