

PRAYER INTENTIONS

We remember in our prayers Fr. Henry Smolinski & Margo, Hilary Fuller, Michael Seifert, Nancy Sirois, Rich Lasecki, Edmond Bresh, Helen Reynolds, Helen Popp, Irene Smith, Florence Rasmussen, Robin Lupinski, Judy DiLorenzo, Yvonne Walsh, Tom Milos and Frank Bonitatebus.

Mass is celebrated for the repose of the soul of Michael Raslavsky, may he rest in peace.

NEWS

The Town of Stratford is now in the Red Level for COVID response; therefore, masks are required to be worn while inside the St. Joseph facility regardless of vaccination status.

Because the Town of Stratford is in the Red Level we will delay starting the programs that have been announced until it is safe to gather together again.

NOTEABLE SAINTS OF THE WEEK

St. Peter Claver, Priest and Religious (d. 1654) St. Peter was a Jesuit missionary who ministered to African slaves as they arrived at the South American seaport of Cartagena. Enduring the derision of the slave traders, he fed the hungry, cared for the sick and dying, preached the Gospel, and baptized converts for nearly forty years. September 9

From the Daily Roman Missal, Third Edition.

Did I offer peace today? Did I bring a smile to someone's face? Did I say words of healing? Did I let go of my anger and resentment? Did I forgive? Did I love? These are the real questions. I must trust that the little bit of love that I sow now will bear many fruits, here in this world and the life to come.

~ Henri Nouwen

St. Joseph of Stratford National Catholic Church



September 5, 2021 – Twenty-Third Sunday Ordinary Time

Dear Parishioners,

Parish Contacts

PASTOR
Fr. Tom Walsh

CHAIRPERSON
Jeanine May

VICE
CHAIRPERSON
Dee Smith

Finance
Secretary
Barbara
Chernesky

In today's gospel passage (Mark 7:31-37) we find people bringing to Jesus a deaf man with a speech impediment. They are begging Jesus to lay his hand on him. Jesus does as they wish taking the man off by himself away from the crowd to be healed, specifically to "be opened."

Notice the two senses of healing taking place. There is the physical sense where Jesus touches the man, his ears, his tongue; and there is the spiritual sense where Jesus looks up to heaven and groans in words beyond our comprehension.

The passage calls us to attend to both senses of healing. We are physical beings formed of the dust of the ground, so we seek physical healing. But we are also spiritual beings, living souls, so we must be attentive to spiritual healing as well so that we are not closed to the presence of God in our lives.

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