Welcome to SAINT JAMES Parish

See a face, learn a name, share a story. Love one another!

2110 Main Street, Stratford, CT 06615
Office 203-375-5887
Fax 203-378-1562
www.stjamesstratford.com
Office & Chapel Hours
Monday-Friday 9:00am-5:00pm

Pastor: Rev. Arthur C. Mollenhauer
203-522-7696 - pastor@stjameschurch.net
Associate Pastor: Rev. Rogerio Perri
Rperri.stjamesparish@gmail.com
Deacon Joe Koletar
Deacon John Piatak
Finance Council Chair: Dan Caron -
dan.caron@yahoo.com

October 7, 2018 - Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

PASTOR'S Corner

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Dear Parishioners,

In the uncertain world in which we live, the constant change of careers and employment, the ease with which we push out the old and rush in the new, with technology of today being replaced with that of tomorrow and our use-and-throw-away mindset, many persons find it very hard to accept the Gospel teaching of this weekend.

"Because of the hardness of your hearts, Moses permitted divorce. What God has joined together, no human being must separate." It's not easy to accept the teaching of the Church about Marriage. But, it is not my teaching or yours. It is the teaching of Christ. What does the Church say? Here it is in a nutshell.

The marital union of man and woman, which is founded and endowed with its own proper laws by the Creator, is by its very nature ***ordered to the communion and good of the couple and to the generation and education of children***. According to the original divine plan this conjugal union is ***indissoluble***, as Jesus Christ affirmed: "What God has joined together, let no one put asunder" (Mark 10:9).

Christ has raised Matrimony to the dignity of a ***sacrament***, giving spouses a special grace to live out their marriage as a symbol of Christ's love for his bride the Church: "Husbands, love your wives as Christ loves the Church" (Ephesians 5:25).

Matrimony is not an obligation for everyone, especially since God calls some men and women to follow the Lord Jesus in a life of virginity or of celibacy for the sake of the Kingdom of Heaven. These renounce the great good of Matrimony to concentrate on the things of the Lord and seek to please him. They become a sign of the absolute supremacy of Christ's love and of the ardent expectation of his glorious return.

The sacrament of Matrimony establishes a ***perpetual and exclusive bond between the spouses***. God himself seals the consent of the spouses. Therefore, a marriage which is ratified and consummated between baptized persons ***can never be dissolved***.

Adultery and polygamy are opposed to the sacrament of matrimony because they contradict the equal dignity of man and woman and the unity and exclusivity of married love. Other sins include the deliberate refusal of one's procreative potential which deprives conjugal love of the gift of children and divorce which goes against the indissolubility of marriage.

The Church, since she is faithful to her Lord, cannot recognize the union of people who are civilly divorced and remarried. "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another, commits adultery against her; and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery" (Mark 10:11-12). The Church manifests an attentive solicitude toward these persons and encourages them to a life of faith, prayer, works of charity and the Christian education of their children. However, they cannot receive sacramental absolution, take Holy Communion, or exercise certain ecclesial responsibilities as long as their situation, which objectively contravenes God's law, persists.

God bless you always ,

Fr. Art Mollenhauer, Pastor

Monday, October 8 2018
8:00 a.m. +Barbara Lynch

Tuesday, October 9, 2018
5:30 p.m. +Edward Jurkowski

Wednesday, October 10, 2018
8:00 a.m. Barbara O'Brien—
Birthday Blessings

Thursday, October 11, 2018
5:30 p.m. -+Edward A. Roman

Friday, October 12, 2018
8:00 a.m. +Matthew Corcoran

Saturday, October 13 , 2018
8:00 a.m. Rev. Rene Samson - Mesidor

4:30 p.m.. Rita Breslin

Sunday, October 14, 2018
7:30 a.m. Parishioners of St. James

9:15 a.m.—Thai Nguyen—
Special Intentions

11:15 .m.—Tonra Floria Delucia

6:00 p.m.—+Mack & Ginny Mackbach

Weekly Offertory
Week Ending 9/23/2018

	2018-19	2017-18
In Church Collections	$6917.75	$7256.00
Electronic Offertories	$3852.82	$4259.95
Total	**$10,770.57**	**$11,515.95**

2018 Annual Catholic Appeal

(*Joy in Christ, Our Gift to Share*)

"Give what you have. To someone, it may be better than you dare to think.'" - Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

'**No donation is too small**.'

To date we raised 403 gifts worth $125,152 from 351 donors bringing the parish to 96.27% of its $130,000 goal

If you have already donated—'**Thank You!**

2018 SECOND COLLECTIONS

October 21 World Mission Sunday
November 18 Catholic Campaign for Human Development
December 9 Retirement Fund for Religious

- For on-line giving there will be an option with the same title as listed above for the 2nd collection.

Online Giving

Does your electric bill stop just because you are on vacation? How about your insurance—does it stop (so you don't have to pay) when you go on vacation? My guess is that they do not stop and you are still responsible for the bills.

GUESS WHAT? Neither do the bills for St. James. Online Giving is a way to continue to support St. James even though you are on vacation.

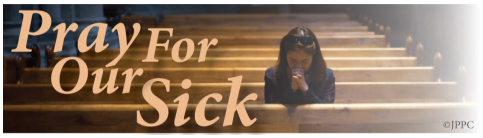
Having these funds allows St. James to plan our expenditures and to continue to provide services to our local community (even during vacation season.) **Please consider using Online Giving!**

Silent Together:

Weekly Centering Prayer & Lectio

Wednesdays, 7-8 p.m. in the Chapel

Join others as we practice silence together to create a more open space for God! Twenty minutes of centering, followed by Lectio Divina. (Note: These gatherings are *not* a class, a program, or a discussion group—just an opportunity to practice silence together.) If you are new to Centering Prayer, please contact Virginia Weir at vlweir1@gmail.com or 203-556-2447.



PLEASE PRAY FOR: - Mike Perille, Hank McLaughlin , Rhina and Bill Carmona, Andrew Donovan, Robert Lambert, Val Jones, Lucas McHale, Kathy Faryniarz, Izabel Perri, Michael Birch, Violeta Rogowski, AJ, Lori Hayes-Obrien, Tommy Spitaleri, Mary Jane Somers, David Gaffney, Laura Galatie, Kay Spodnick, Andrew Soltis, Frank (Smitty) Smith, Tony Caseria, Grace Manente, Beatriz DeRubis, Thai Nguyen, Jackie Tomsheck, Tracy Paul, Blythe D'Andrea, Robert Raus, John Ebert, Yvonne DeAngelis, Charles Joseph Lisi, EZAVE, Jenna Strickland, James O'Brien, Kathy Kentosh, Cindy Harrison, Victor, Anastasia Verderos, Julia Stewart, James Ramos, Edmund Ramos, Nancy Macisco, Margaret M. Wynne, Patrick Kelly, Antoinette Sanford, Mike Lantowski, Leo Merturi, Donald Stewart, Kathy Sullivan, Barbara O'Brien, Margaret Mallon, Mike Kelly, Joan Griffin, Cheryl Schultz, Elie Hayden, Roesmarie O'Shea, Alan Handsman

Faithful Departed: ***James Michael Lloyd and Thomas Lloyd***

MINISTRY WITH SICK AND SHUT-IN

Pat Stockdale - Please contact the Parish Center if

PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING:
SEVEN DAY VIGIL CANDLES:

Church Tabernacle : *Mary Kopasz*
Chapel Tabernacle *: Thai Nguyen - Special Intention*

CHAPEL INTERCESSORY CANDLES:
Candles will burn for the following intentions:
Candle # 1 *All men and women in the military*
Candle # 2: *For the prayer intentions*

PRAYER TO SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

St. Michael the Archangel,
Defend us in battle.
Be our defense against the
wickedness and snares of the Devil.
May God rebuke him, we humbly pray,
And do thou,
O Prince of the heavenly hosts,
By the power of God,
Cast into hell Satan,
And all the evil spirits,
Who prowl about the world
Seeking the ruin of souls. Amen

After the Diagnosis…
A Guide for Living by
Fr. Tom Lynch and Barbara Mariconda
Books are available at the Parish Center.

We welcome into our community the most recently baptized:
Luciano Taccone

MEN'S MINISTRY

Jim Travers, Bob Carriero, Tom Gilbertie,
Jeff Noccioli, Mike Curran

Beloved Sons - Consider joining us at the next Men's Ministry/ Beloved Sons gathering, scheduled for Saturday, October 20 (6:30-7:30 AM.) at the parish center. As we do twice a month (first Thursday/third Saturday) we will gather to break open the gospel for the weekend. That week, the 29th Sunday in Ordinary time, we'll be sharing this gospel story (MK 10:35-45). Are you ready to sit with Jesus at his table?

Men's Ministry Save-The -Dates

- Annual men's retreat at Holy Family Retreat Center, West Hartford (Nov. 2-4). See separate insert in this week's bulletin.
- Advent Men's ½ day Retreat – Saturday December 1 at the parish center. Deacon John will be facilitating. More details to come as we get closer to that all-important Advent season.

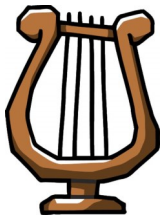
Gracious and generous parishioners of St. James, our two charitable ministries need your help! Our Bridge ministry which provides the homeless and poor with the basic necessities of life and our Food Pantry, which provides one bag of food, free of charge, to any who are in need. Please help us fill these shelves. We are in need of toiletry items for the Bridge such as: shampoo, conditioner, deodorant for both men and women, toothpaste, toothbrushes, lotion. Our Food Pantry can always use macaroni and cheese, canned beans, chicken, tuna, tomato/spaghetti sauce, juice, canned vegetables, powdered milk. All donations can be dropped off at church or brought to the parish center and placed in the receptacles in the foyer. Thank you for your generosity!

FAITH FORMATION

Catechists needed for Tuesday Religious Education grades one through four. Please contact Parish Center if you are interested in sharing your faith with the children of our community. Training and resources provided.

Being At Peace- A Retreat for Women, Saturday, October 13, Our Lady of Peace, 8:00-1:30. Experience a day of healing, renewal and refreshment as we explore ways to reach that place of peace within us where the Holy Spirit dwells! Register at the Parish Center or call 203-258-6326 for more information. Cost is $30 and includes breakfast and lunch.

Religious Education Registration- If you would like to enroll your child in our classes **for the first time,** please contact the Parish Center so that we may send you the registration forms. Mailing has gone out to former students. If you have not received a packet, please notify us. Classes for grades 1 through 8 will begin in October.



Ministry with Music
~Jeremy Hutchins

Music Notes

Thursday Choir Nights
October 11th 7:30-8:30pm

Cantor Auditions/Cantor Prep Thursdays
6:45-7:30pm

ESL—(English as a Second Language) - Do you struggle communicating because English is not your first language? Would you like to improve your listening, speaking, and writing skills? Diane Civitelli, a parishioner and retired ESL teacher (Connecticut certified) is offering (free of charge) ESL classes for our adult St. James parishioners. The classes will be held at the Parish Center. Schedule to be determined. Please contact the Parish Center at 203-375-5887 for additional information.

Tuesday, Oct. 9— 12:00-1:30 p.m.—Christian Yoga
Wednesday, Oct. 10—7:00 –8:00 p.m.—Centering Prayer

EUCHARISTIC CELEBRATIONS
Monday, Wednesday, & Friday: 8:00 a.m.
Tuesday and Thursday: 5:30 p.m.
Saturday: 8:00 a.m.
Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:30 p.m.
Sunday Masses: 7:30 a..m. 9:15 a.m., 11:15 a.m., 6:00.p.m

PARISH CENTER CHAPEL
***Eucharistic Adoration**:*
Monday—Friday—9:00 a.m. –5:00 p.m.
Divine Mercy Chaplet: Friday– 3:00 p.m.
Wheelchair accessible

PARISH CENTER HOURS
Monday—Friday—9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE SICK
Mondays at the 8:00 a.m. Eucharist. Prior notice is not necessary.
All those who are dealing with a serious illness and/or will be undergoing surgery during that week are invited to receive this sacrament.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM
Please call the Parish Center

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:
(Church)
Saturdays: 12:15 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. ,
Thursday before First Friday:
4:45 p.m. to 5:15 p.m. or by appointment

PARISH NURSES: If you would like to meet with a Parish Nurse, please call Margie Balint at 203- 378-3081

Readings for Sunday, October 14
1st Reading: WIS 7:7-11
Second Reading: HEB: 4:12-13
Gospel: MK 10:17-30

Monday, October 8, 2018

The Parish Center and Chapel will be closed for Columbus Day

OUR MINISTRIES

Pastor: Rev. Arthur C. Mollenhauer - 203-522-7696 - pastor@stjameschurch.net
Associate Pastor: Rev. Rogerio Perri - rperri.stjamesparish@gmail.com
Deacon: Joe Koletar
Deacon: John Piatak

Leadership Team
Trustees:
- **Pastoral Council:** Tom Kelly—tommyk8@aol.com
- **Finance Council:** Dan Caron—
- **Pastoral Planning Team:** Richard Zboray—richard.zboray@snet.net
- **Parish Manager:** Marcy Kelly—mkelly.stjamesparish@gmail.com

Adult Pastoral Ministry
- **Ministry with Men**: Jim Travers, Bob Carriero, Tom Gilbertie, Jeff Noccioli, Mike Curran
- **Ministry with Women:** Angie deMello & Mary Tesla

Communal Prayer Worship
- **Liturgical Music:** Jeremy Hutchins—music.stjamesparish@gmail.com
- **Liturgical Environment:** Michele Hoekenga

Pastoral Services
- **Lifelong Formation**: Betsy Redgate—bredgate.stjamesparish@gmail.com
- **Principal St. James School**: Jack Lynch
- **Ministry with Teens:** Bob Nagy and Karen Smith
- **Ministry with Sick & Shut-Ins**: Pat Stockdale—pstockdale.stjamesparish@gmail.com
- **Charity, Justice, and Peacemaking:** Janine Walsh
- **PATH**: Debby Carroll—path.stjamesparish@gmail.com
- **St. James Prison Ministry:** Denis Granado
- **Prayer Shawl Ministry**: Mary Perille
- **Gratitude Ministry**: Suzanne Smith, \Terry Van Dam, Ligia Masilamani, Jane Vigliotti

Young Adult Network: Ruwani Williams—rp1811@hotmail.com

Support Services
- **Pastoral Stewardship:** David Zamachaj
- **Business Manager**: Natalia Zamachaj
- **Business Office:** Dolores Lathlean
- **Assistant for Religious Education/Admin Assistant**: Ruth Rodriguez – rrodriguez.stjamesparish@gmail.com
- **Digital Ministry:** Tonya Overby
- **Parish Personnel Manager**: Paul Fasold