

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

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www.stjamesstratford.com

Office & Chapel Hours

Office—Monday-Thursday 9:00am-5:00pm

Friday 9:00 am-1:00pm

Chapel—Monday-Friday 9:00am-5:00pm

Parochial Administrator: Rev. Peter J. Adamski

padamski.stjamesparish@gmail.com

Deacon: Joe Koletar

jkoletar.stjamesparish@gmail.com

Sunday, February 23, 2020

PASTOR'S Corner

My dear friends,

Once again, I thank you for the warm reception you gave our new Parochial Vicar, Fr. Phillip Lan Phan, last weekend at the 9:15 and 11:15 Masses. He still has not celebrated the 7:30 Mass but will on March 1st. I ask you to continue to affectionately embrace him with our welcoming St. James spirit. As I have previously told you, he will be joining us here full-time on June 30th but in the interim he will be celebrating a couple of weekend Masses each week.

Last Sunday at the 11:15 Mass, I presented Fr. Art with an oil painting of him meeting with Pope Francis, one on one, in Rome when he attended a Canon Law conference. This was a gift from our Parish community to him in recognition of his ministerial and pastoral services here this past year and a half. Also pictured at the presentation was the artist himself, Carlos Arias. Fr. Art wished to express his love and prayers for all the St. James parishioners.

We are now on only a few short days away from Ash Wednesday and the start of the Lenten season. (Ash Wednesday is February 26th. I am still planning to distribute ashes starting at **4:30am** on the southbound platform of the Stratford train station. After 8am Mass (with ashes) I will go to the police, fire and EMTs stations to distribute ashes. We will also have Mass at 12:10pm and 6pm with ashes being distributed. **Please let your family and friends know about it.**

Earlier thinkers had stated the principle not to do to others what you would not have them do to you. That is perhaps the basic law underlying all manners and politeness. But Jesus puts it more positively, in our Gospel passage from Matthew. We must actually DO things for others. There is the story of the man who appeared at the gate of heaven asking for entry. When St Peter asked him why he should be let in the man answered: "my hands are clean." "Yes," answered Peter, "but they are empty!" The Christian ethic is one of **ACTIVE LOVING.**

This is the last time I will address this, but I want to thank all of you who have taken to responding to my cry of "Praise Be To Jesus Christ" with the response "**NOW AND FOREVER.**" My true and unwavering zeal is for the Lord and I hope you all find it as infectious as the colds and viruses that are going around. And speaking of viruses, like our elimination of the communal cups at Mass, I request that at the Sign of Peace, you refrain from touching hands. A simple word of kindness and a nod of the head along with a smile will need to suffice for the time being. We will re-introduce the cup and handshake when we are "out of the woods." Thank you for your understanding. We must be prudent in protecting each other from possible illness.

Your servant in Christ,

Fr. Peter



Mass Intentions

Monday, February 24, 2020

8:00 a.m. Lynch Children

Tuesday, February 25, 2020

5:30 p.m. +Adriana & Porfirio Chavez

Wednesday, February 26, 2020

8:00 a.m. St. James Parishioners

Thursday, February 27, 2020

5:30 p.m. +Bernadette "Flynn" Dooley

Friday, February 28, 2020

8:00 a.m. +Gino Paoletti

Saturday, February 29, 2020

8:00 a.m. St. James Parishioners

4:30 p.m. +Frank "Smitty" Smith

Sunday, March 1, 2020

7:30 a.m. +Shirley Ostrowski

9:15 a.m. +Emma Erdos

11:15 a.m. +Carl Maceyunas, Sr. and Family

6:00 p.m. St. James Parishioners

PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING:

SEVEN DAY VIGIL CANDLES: 2/16/20-2/22/20

Church: St. James Parishioners

Chapel: For mercy and compassion

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 submitted through on-line giving

All are invited to my Installation Mass as Pastor by Bishop Caggiano on Sunday March 1st at 11am. There will be a FREE celebration afterwards in the school cafeteria. Please sign the attendance sheets at all entrances this weekend so we know how much food to prepare. Thank you. We also will move the 9:15 Mass to 9am that day to accommodate a more orderly traffic flow.

~ Fr. Peter

Weekly Offertory (for week of 02/16/2020)

	<u>02/16/2020</u>	<u>2/10/2019</u>
In Church Collections.....	\$ 7,137.39	\$ 9,378.25
EFT.....	\$ 2,169.36	\$ 2,413.53
Online Giving.....	\$ 1,229.00	\$ 1,492.00
	=====	=====
Weekly Total.....	\$ 10,535.75	\$ 13,283.78

Social Outreach at St. James

As we move into the Lenten season, a good way to prepare for Easter is to volunteer some time helping others. Our Social Outreach Ministry schedule for March is as follows.

Monday, March 9 - The Lord's Kitchen
Sunday, March 15 - The Bridge
Merton House Sandwiches - Saturday, March 21

If you have any questions or would like to help out with any of these ministries please contact Jim Hodska at jimhodska@gmail.com.

First Eucharist and Confirmation

Students from St. James School are invited to join us at this time to prepare for the sacraments of First Eucharist and Confirmation. If your child is currently in second grade at the school or graduated in 2019, please contact Maria at the Parish Center, (203) 375-5887 ext. 108 to register. We are in need of catechists to help prepare students for these important sacraments.

Please contact Maria if you are interested in serving in this important ministry.



MINISTRY WITH SICK AND SHUT-IN

Pat Stockdale - Please have a family member or care-giver contact the Parish Center if you have a loved one who is in the hospital, nursing home, or homebound and they would like a visit from a member of our ministry or would like the Sacraments from one of our Priests. Please contact the parish center if they would like to receive a bulletin.



Mike Perille, Thai Nguyen, David Lathlean, Gary Normandin, Gene Freeman, Fr. Paul Merry, Ivonne D'Angelis, Andrew Donovan, Blanca Lilian Restrepo, Michael Carone, Gloria Yanosy, Rita Lambert, Rosalinne Marquez, Santiago Pineda, Mike Birch, Grace Manente, Allison Macisco-Kozioł, Simon Massari, Julia Stewart, John Kenyhercz, John Soares, Anthony Pesano, Lucas McHale, Mrs. Harold Pressman, Patricia Pechillo, Linda Gowing, Athena Velazquez, Martin Baldino, Ed & Barbara Shea, Kim Smith, Rudolph Mason, Joanne Giba, Jenna Strickland

Faithfully Departed:

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



Beloved Sons—Jim Travers, Bob Carriero, Tom Gilbertie, Jeff Noccioli, Mike Curran

Well, we can't use "cold" winter nights as a reason to get together. At least not so far this winter. So, maybe just the opportunity to join other parishioners, guys like you, at the next Beloved Sons men's ministry gathering will be enough to venture out. Our next gathering is Thursday, March 5 (7:00-8:00 PM) at the parish center. As we do twice a month (first Thursday/third Saturday), discuss and share the gospel story for that upcoming weekend, which will be the 2nd Sunday in Lent (Matthew 17:1-9). We'll be well into Lent by then...ready for the Transfiguration and a steep, but inspiring, mountain climb.

Save The Date - Men's Communion Breakfast

It's now just a month away. The annual St. James men's communion breakfast is scheduled for Sunday, March 22, and once again it will be at 9:00, at the Courtyard Marriott in Shelton, immediately after the 7:30 mass. Tickets will be available for sale after all masses the two preceding weekends. This year's speaker will be our own new pastor Fr. Peter Adamski, whose remarkable journey story is one you won't want to miss. Over the next several weeks more information will be provided, please circle and save the date on your calendar. Sandals (except for the speaker) not required.

Come Follow Me- Responses to the Call of Jesus-

Six sessions on Wednesdays at 10:30 and 7:00, February 26-April 1. Albert Haas, OFM explores the main spiritualities of our faith and their prayer practices: Benedictines, Cistercians, Carmelites, Dominicans, Franciscans and Jesuits. Cost of Lenten retreat is \$20 which includes materials.
Call or stop by Parish Center to Register.

Lenten Retreat for Women- The Seven Last Words of Christ- Saturday, February 29. Betsy Redgate is presenter. Mass at 8:00 followed by a light breakfast. Registration is at 9:00 followed by presentation and lunch. A donation of \$15 is suggested. Call or stop by the Parish Center to register by Tuesday, February 25.

Scripture Study- Touching the Mysteries: Scripture and the Rosary- Wednesdays beginning March 4- April 22, 12:00-1:30. Register at Parish Center by February 25 to insure materials will be on hand. Cost of program is \$25. Facilitator is Mary Tesla.

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 Carol Young at careyoung1@aol.com or 203-331-1939.

To All Online Giving Users

All funds for Social Outreach have been re-opened.

So you can once again contribute (using Online Giving) to your favorite Social Outreach programs (such as Food Pantry, Merton House, etc.)

When you are making a donation, you can scan all the funds to see which ones are available.

If you have any questions call the Parish Center and ask for Dave (203) 375-5887



Do you want to become a member of St. James?

If you do, then please complete the following and deposit in the offertory basket

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Phone _____

Email _____

Comments _____

We look forward to hearing from you!

Solar Energy Stewardship Program

Want to raise funds for St. James without writing a check?
Want to save money on your electricity bill?
Want to have a positive impact on the environment?

If your answer is "yes" to any or all questions, then sign up for a consultation with Trinity Solar by calling **1-800-655-2500**, or go to **www.gotrinitysolar.com/sjrc**

Please identify you are from St. James Roman Catholic Church.

When you sit with a Trinity consultant for Q&A session to determine if you qualify for a solar system installation, **St. James gets \$100 from Trinity Solar.**

Additionally, when you have a solar system installed by Trinity, **St. James gets \$1,000 from Trinity Solar.**

To date, 75% of parishioners who have had a consultation are in the process of installation.



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EUCCHARISTIC 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.

Confession

- Saturdays (12:15-1:30)
- Thursday before 1st Friday (4:45-5:15)
- By appointment

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**
- **Rosary every Friday at 4:30 p.m.**
- **NOTE: The Parish Center Chapel is closed between 12:00 PM and 1:00 PM on Wednesdays**

PARISH CENTER HOURS

Monday-Thursday

9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

Friday

9:00 A.M. - 1:00 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

LEADERSHIP TEAM

- **Parish Pastoral Assistant:** Deacon Joe Koletar
- **Trustees:** Chad Betz, Luca Servino
- **Pastoral Council:** Ruwani Williams
- **Finance Council:** Chad Betz—chadcbetz@gmail.com
- **Safety Committee:** Jack Cratty

OUR MINISTRIES

Adult Pastoral Ministry

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

Communal Prayer Worship

- **Music Ministry/Organist:** John J. Masi, Jr.
- **Liturgical Environment:** Michele Hoekenga

Pastoral Services

- **Lifelong Formation:** Betsy Redgate - bredgate.stjamesparish@gmail.com
- **Principal St. James School:** Jack Lynch
- **Director of Religious Ed:** Maria Aguirre
- **Ministry with Teens:** Bob Nagy and Karen Smith
- **Ministry with Sick & Shut-Ins:** Pat Stockdale
- **Charity, Justice, and Peacemaking:** Jim Hodska
- **PATH:** Debby Carroll - path.stjamesparish@gmail.com
- **St. James Prison Ministry:** Denis Granado - denis.granado@gmail.com and Mary Tesla
- **Prayer Shawl Ministry:** Mary Perille and Mercy Ingersoll
- **Gratitude Ministry:** Suzanne Smith, Terry Van Dam, Ligia Masilamani and Jane Vigliotti
- **Respect Life:** Joe Sullivan
- **Digital Ministry:** Tonya Overby

Support Services

- **Stewardship:** David Zamachaj - DZamachaj@saintjameschurchstratford.org
- **Business Manager:** Natalia Zamachaj—nszamachaj.stjamesparish@gmail.com
- **Business Office:** Dolores Lathlean



Sunday, February 23, 2020

1st Reading: LV 19:1-2, 17-18

2nd Reading: 1 COR 3:16-23

Gospel: MT 5:38-48