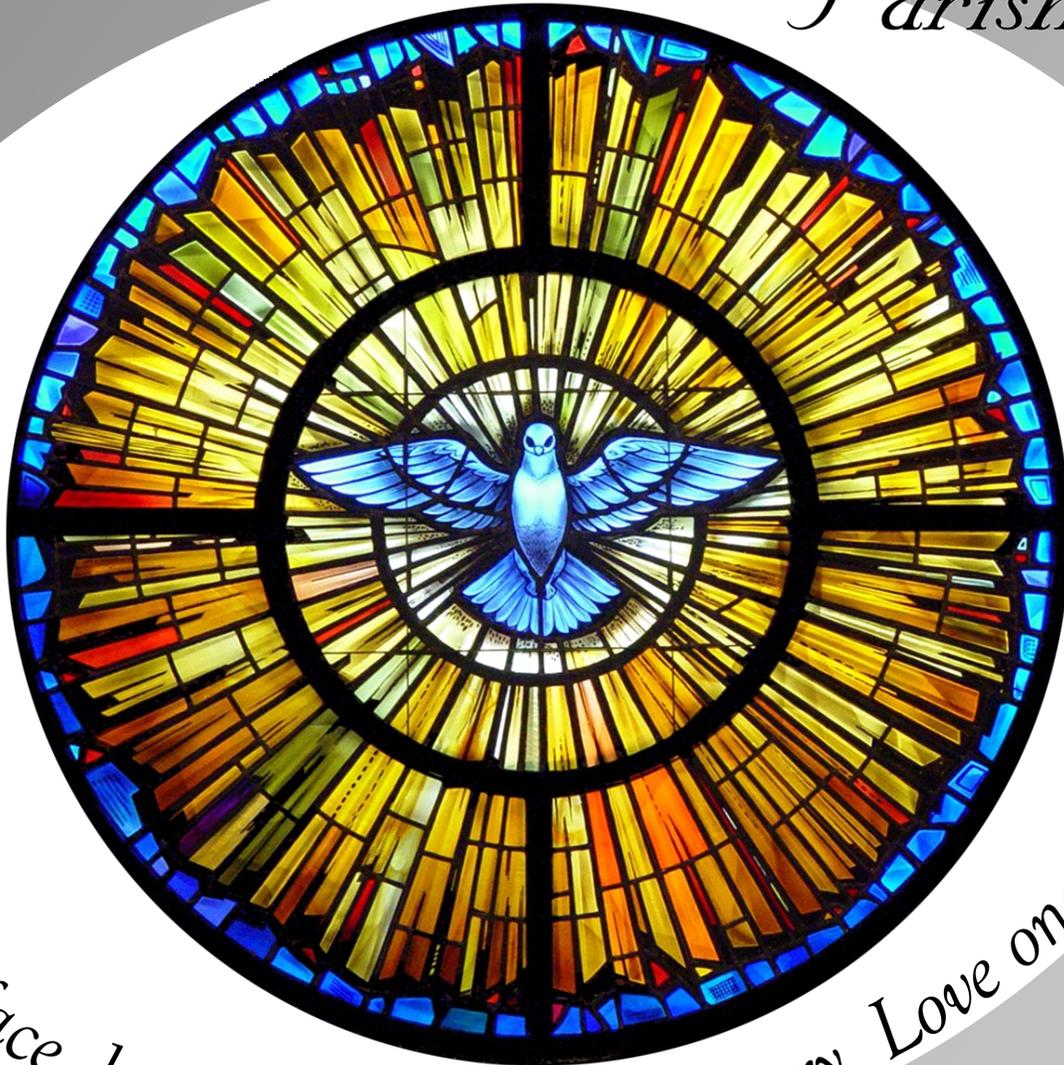


Welcome to
SAINT JAMES
Parish



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

The office is open by Appointment only.

The Chapel is closed.

Pastor: Rev. Peter J. Adamski

padamski.stjamesparish@gmail.com

Parochial Vicar: Fr. Philip Lanh Phan

frphan@diobpt.org

Deacon: Joe Koletar

jkoletar.stjamesparish@gmail.com

Sunday, September 27, 2020

Some food for your soul to pray and reflect on this week

How To Sell A Car, Franciscan-style

Did you know that it was during St Francis' life, spurred

by the growth of the merchant class, that money first became widely used in Italy? During this growth of commerce, the friars developed a deep understanding of how economics affects people and communities. Coupling their observations and theology, the Franciscan developed an economic vision that prioritized relationships. They believe that buying and selling should not be about self-interest or maximizing profits, but about maximizing relationships, strengthening community ties, building mutual trust, expressing generosity, creating reasonable profits and focusing on the common good.



Sounds nice – but how would it play out in real life?

Well, one example might be the way writer Firoozeh Dumas' dad sold his car. She writes that he, an Iranian immigrant, loved all things American, especially big cars. When it came time to sell his cherished Chrysler LeBaron, he asked her, his 13-year-old daughter and advisor on all things American, to write the ad. Here is how she tells the story.

“When it came time to decide on a price, my father wanted \$1,000. I suggested that if he wanted \$1,000, he should ask for \$1,200. My father, with his tendency to agree with all my ideas, good or bad, consented. A parade of potential buyers started coming to our condo. I made sure to always be there, standing next to my father. My perfect Valley Girl English put people at ease, mitigating my father's thick Persian accent.

One evening, a man showed up with his two daughters, who were around 8 years old. After looking under the hood, he decided to buy the car and told us that he would return the next day. We waited with great anticipation. As promised, he showed up the following evening, again with his daughters. After exchanging pleasantries, he removed a wad of cash from his pockets and counted twelve \$100 bills.

My father took the bills, thanked the man but didn't put the money in his pocket. He kept staring at the wad of cash. After a moment, he peeled off two of the bills and gave them back. “This is for your beautiful daughters. Please take them to Disneyland and buy them whatever they want.”

The man looked confused, almost annoyed, like he was being pranked. “Please,” my father repeated, pushing the money into the man's palm. “You must take your daughters to Disneyland.” The girls started to squeal. The man paused for a moment, then hugged my father vigorously. As he drove away in his new used LeBaron, the sisters waved furiously at us.

That evening, my father could not have been happier.”

This is not a perfect example of Franciscan commerce, but it is a pretty good one. The dad wants a fair price, nothing more. He is not clinging to “the money” as a possession he deserves. He sees it as a gift that he can share to increase the joy of others. His act of generosity fostered trust and moved all the individuals involved into a deeper sense of connectedness, relationship, and gratitude.

Reflection Questions

Can you recall a similar story in your life?

Are you attracted to the Franciscan view of economics that our financial exchanges should be driven by generosity and a desire to build relationships, community, and trust, (in addition to reasonable profits)? If yes, why? If no, why?

Your servant in Christ, Fr. Peter



Monday, September 28, 2020

8:00 a.m. +Cynthia Marie Stone

Tuesday, September 29, 2020

8:00 a.m. +Theodore Ostrowski

Wednesday, September 30, 2020

8:00 a.m. +Oliver Isleta

Thursday, October 1, 2020

8:00 a.m. +Cynthia Marie Stone

Friday, October 2, 2020

8:00 a.m. +Mary Ellen Bolton

Saturday, October 3, 2020

8:00 a.m. +Fr. Frank Winn

4:30 p.m. +John Balga, Jr.

Sunday, October 4, 2020

8:30 a.m. +Michael Russo

11:30 a.m. +Raymond and +Doris Lambert

6:00 p.m. St. James Parishioners

PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING:

SEVEN DAY VIGIL CANDLES: 9/27/20-10/3/20

Church: Those suffering from depression

Chapel: For Immigrants and Refugees
CHAPEL INTERCESSORY CANDLES:

Candles will burn for the following intentions:

Candle # 1 An end to gun violence

Candle # 2: For the prayer intentions submitted through on-line giving

† Confessions †

NOTE: Because of the Coronavirus Crisis all confessions will be Drive-thru and will take place weather permitting.

Saturdays, 12:15 pm - 1:30 pm

Weekly Offertory (for week of 09/20/2020)

	<u>09/20/2020</u>	<u>09/22/2019</u>
In Church Collections.....	\$ 3,469.25	\$ 5,893.89
EFT.....	\$ 2,088.94	\$ 1,787.49
Online Giving.....	\$ 2,849.00	\$ 1,771.00
	=====	=====
Weekly Total.....	\$ 8,407.19	\$ 9,452.38

Virtual Programs on Prayer and Spirituality

Visit websites of Mercy Center in Madison, CT., Wisdom House in Litchfield, CT. and Murphy Center for Ignatian Spirituality at Fairfield University.

Faith Formation (Religious Ed)

Registration is now open for Faith Formation (religious ed.), which will continue as a remote learning, Family Formation model for the remainder of 2020. Please visit our website at www.stjamesstratford.com/religious-education for more information and online registration and payment.

First Communion and Confirmation registration will be open at the start of 2021. Students in grades 1-8 who need First Communion preparation will need to register for regular religious ed. at this time. High school students receiving Confirmation this year do not need to register at this time.

Breaking Bread with the Women of St. James

Saturday, October 3, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

Under the tent in the Meditation Garden outside the Parish Center

Face masks will be worn and seating will be socially distanced.

We will discuss the Gospel reading of the day and how we experience its messages in our individual lives, the Church, the Community, and the world.

The meeting will conclude at 11:00 a.m.

We hope you will join us!

PRAY

for the sick

Mike Perille, Thai Nguyen, David Lathlean, Gary

Normandin, Andrew Donovan, Simon Massari, John Kenyhercz, John Soares, Lucas McHale, Mrs. Harold Pressman, Patricia Pechillo, Linda Gowing, Athena Velazquez, Ed & Barbara Shea, Kim Smith, Rudolph Mason, Joanne Giba, Jenna Strickland, Joan Crespo, Edmund Ramos, Gloria Yanosy, John Kosci, Mike Birch, Mary Costa, Joe Anderson, Tracey Scott, John Kenyhercz, Vivian Ramos, Fran DeVack, Angel Santiago, John Monk, Dorothy Shackett, Bill Rich, Ann Mortin, Robert Ramos, James Almeida, Bryan Barry, Liam Wiederker, Terrence Tomasko, Gayle Bonavita, Roger Raymonad, Suzanne Smith, Joseph Senteio,

Faithfully Departed: Marilyn Brackett, Gail Marx

Centering Prayer

Wednesday, October 7, 7:00p.m. Join us on Zoom to pray and share with one another. Please contact parish center if you are new to this group and would like to be included on mailing list.

Contemplative Center of Connecticut

Visit <http://www.co-ct.org> to learn more about programs being offered on Centering Prayer.



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

The next men's ministry Beloved Sons gathering is Saturday, October 17. It's the 3rd Saturday of the month (29th Sunday in Ordinary Time) and we'll meet, at or around 6:30 AM, inside at the parish center. In order to facilitate better social distancing we'll meet downstairs where there is plenty of room to not only break open the gospel for that weekend (MT 22:15-21) but also share our own stories over a hot cup of coffee. Any questions, call/text (203-526-4105) or e-mail (jfxtr@sbcglobal.net) Jim Travers. We look forward to seeing you.



Especially during this time of Corona Virus, our parish relies on support of everyone in our parish to help us further our mission. We are blessed that there is an easy way for all of us to recommit ourselves to supporting St. James through Online Giving. Enrolling in Online Giving will simplify your monthly budgeting while also providing St. James with consistent reliable support for our parish family. If you have not signed up yet, it's easy to get started. Just go to www.stjamesstratford.com and click the Online Giving icon on the home page.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Our next meeting will be Thursday, Oct. 1st at 1:00 and 7:00 outside under the tent. Please wear a mask. The meetings are comprised of prayer, reflection, conversation and prayer shawls. We welcome you to join us to knit/crochet and bond in prayer, friendship and compassion to help others. The blessed shawls are available to anyone seeking God's embracing love during times of sickness, healing and transition. They are available at no cost through the Parish Center. Any inquiries, contact Mary Perille @ 203-377-1265. Donations of yarn always gratefully accepted.

Financial Peace University

Are you trying to find a way to get your finances in order to survive in these times of the COVID virus?

If you are interested in learning how you can put your finances in order and become debt free, please join us at the next Financial Peace University (starting Oct. 1, 2020 at 7:00 P.M.)

To ensure that everyone who attends is safe, these classes will be virtual, conducted using Zoom.

In order to sign up, please use this link <https://www.fpu.com/1124748>

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



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

Are you paying too much for your electricity? Do you want to save money on your electricity bills? We have solution for you - go solar with Trinity.

Make an appointment with Trinity Solar to get your questions answered and to determine if you qualify for solar program. Call **1-800-655-2500** or go to www.gotrinitysolar.com/sjrc

Please inform Trinity that you use Saint James Roman Catholic Church Solar Stewardship Program.

Trinity will pay Saint James Church **\$1,500** for each successful installation of solar system in this Solar Stewardship Program at no cost to you.

Why not **save money** for you and your family? At the same time, raise fund for your church without taking money out of your pocket. Best of all, you make a positive impact to our environment for years to come.



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EUCCHARISTIC CELEBRATIONS

Monday thru Friday: 8:00 a.m. (outdoors and livestream)

Saturday: 8:00 a.m.

Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:30 p.m. (indoors)

Sunday Masses: 8:30 a.m. & 11:30 a.m. (outdoors) 6:00 p.m (indoors)

Confession

- Saturdays (12:15-1:30) drive-thru

PARISH CENTER CHAPEL

- *The Chapel is currently closed*

PARISH CENTER HOURS

The Parish Center is currently closed. If you need assistance please call 203-375-5887

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
- **Ministry with Teens:** Bob Nagy and Karen Smith
- **Ministry with Sick & Shut-Ins:** Pat Stockdale
- **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, Ligia Masilamani and Jane Vigliotti
- **Respect Life:** Joe Sullivan
- **Digital Ministry:** Tonya Overby
- **Religious Education:** Maria Aguirre

Support Services

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



Sunday, September 27, 2020

1st Reading: EZ 18:25-28

2nd Reading: PHIL 2:1-11 OR 2:1-5

Gospel: MT 21:28-32

Sunday, October 4, 2020

1st Reading: IS 5:1-7

2nd Reading: PHIL 4:6-9

Gospel: MT 21:33-43