

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

pastor@stjct.org

Parochial Vicar: Fr. Philip Lanh Phan

frphan@diobpt.org

Deacon: Joe Koletar

jkoletar.stjamesparish@gmail.com

PASTOR'S Corner

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



"The Calling of St. Matthew" by Caravaggio

Lately, we have been reading from the Gospel of Matthew. Jesus' unique reference to Hosea in the Gospel of Matthew puts explicit emphasis on the message of God's offer of grace to sinners – the message of divine Mercy made manifest to the world through Christ's death and Resurrection. "This miracle of mercy has radically changed humanity's destiny," writes Pope Saint John Paul II. Knowing this, Matthew wants us to know what God has done for others, yes, but he also wants us to know what God has done for him, that we might believe what God can do for us. Through the miracle of mercy, we can be made new. As Cardinal Ratzinger (Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI) observed in one of his celebrated interviews with Peter Seewald:

Through his meeting with Jesus, Matthew became quite a different person....Within the fellowship of the twelve, in fellowship with the risen Lord, and finally in his missionary work, he showed that he was truly 'made new' and that we can believe this new man.

We can believe this man. Think about this. Indeed, who among Matthews' friends and acquaintances in first-century Capernaum would have thought this ever possible? This tax collector, once despised and deemed untrustworthy by all, has been commissioned by God to be an apostle of the Messiah, an inspired evangelist, a bearer of the Good News to the world. This should cause each of us to turn inward and wonder: **what is it that God wants to do with me?**

That we are great sinners may be true, but Christ came to call sinners to greatness. This is the irony of the whole situation: that sin exists, but the existence of sinners is what makes the Good News so good; that God's infinite power and goodness is revealed in his ability to draw a good out of evil. And often it is in the remaking of the greatest sinners-- Dismas, Mary Magdalene, Paul, Augustine, and Matthew, just to name a few--that the Lord most makes his mercy known to the world.

Thank God for the calling of Saint Matthew, and for Matthews response. May the Lord grant us, too, the same Matthean courage to say "yes" the next time we find God's fingers extended in our direction with unexpected beckoning.

Finally, please pray for our Confirmandi who received the sacrament on October 17th, also I want to thank you for your continued Offertory support during this pandemic. You are storing up much treasure in heaven because of your generosity to our parish faith community. **THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU! I cannot say it enough.**

Your humble servant in Christ, Fr. Peter



Monday, October 19, 2020

8:00 a.m. +Robin Fernandes

Tuesday, October 20, 2020

8:00 a.m. +Jason Hoekenga and
+Thomas Lynch, Sr.

Wednesday, October 21, 2020

8:00 a.m. +Raymond Ostrowski

Thursday, October 22, 2020

8:00 a.m. +Paulina Martinez

Friday, October 23, 2020

8:00 a.m. +Peter Radzwillis

Saturday, October 24, 2020

8:00 a.m. +Mary Ellen Bolton
4:30 p.m. +Jeffrey David Perry

Sunday, October 25, 2020

8:30 a.m. +Grace Delibero
11:30 a.m. +Daniel Bellantonio
6:00 p.m. +Thomas Fennell

PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING:

SEVEN DAY VIGIL CANDLES: 10/18/20-10/24/20

Church: Empathy

Chapel: For Peace

CHAPEL INTERCESSORY CANDLES:

Candles will burn for the following intentions:

Candle #1 Unconditional love

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 10/11/2020)

	<u>10/11/2020</u>	<u>10/13/2019</u>
In Church Collections.....	\$ 3,869.25	\$ 7,605.25
EFT.....	\$ 2,088.94	\$ 2,194.36
Online Giving.....	\$ 3,372.00	\$ 1,830.00
=====	=====	=====
Weekly Total.....	\$ 9,330.19	\$ 11,629.61



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, 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 Wiederkher, Terrence Tomasko, Gayle Bonavita, Roger Raymonad, Suzanne Smith, Joseph Senteio, Luz Rivera, Wanda Rivera

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.

Social Outreach for the remainder of 2020

In addition to our monthly Lord's Kitchen and Bridge ministries we are preparing to restart our Merton House Sandwiches Ministry. The Food Pantry demand continues to be strong and the need will probably increase as the weather gets colder. Looking at November, we will have our annual Turkey and Food Drive. In December, we plan to hand out toys and gift cards.

A lot of activity is going on because the need is great. We can only continue these ministries with your donations of food and personal care items. Please find a way to donate to the poor. Thank you.

Faithfully Departed: James Trovarelli, Sr.

Women of St. James

Saturday, October 24 -10-11a.m.

Join us for our monthly Zoom gathering. Email bredgate.stjamesparish@gmail.com if you need to register to receive hand-out and invite.

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 Carrierio, Tom Gilbertie, Jeff Noccioli, Mike Curran

The next men's ministry Beloved Sons gathering is Saturday, November 21st. We meet on the 3rd Saturday of the month at 6:30 AM, inside at the parish center. In order to facilitate better social distancing we'll gather downstairs where there is plenty of room to not only break open the gospel for that weekend (MT 25:31-46) but also share our own stories over a hot cup of coffee. We'll talk about the gospel for the Solemnity of our Lord Jesus Christ, and with Thanksgiving and the first Sunday in Lent coming up right after that what better week to get together and prepare the way of the Lord.

Any questions, call/text (203-526-4105) or e-mail (jfxtrj@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.

Food Pantry Needs Help

We are in short supply of the following items: Pasta, Sauce, Cereal (hot & cold), Chef Boyardee, Canned Soup, Rice, Potatoes and Juice.

Please drop any items off at the Parish Center.

Adult Confirmation

If you or someone you know over the age of 18 needs to receive Confirmation, please contact Betsy Redgate for information on how you can receive this sacrament.

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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EUCARISTIC 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

WORD of GOD

Sunday, October 18, 2020

1st Reading: IS 45:1, 4-6
2nd Reading: 1 THES 1:1-5B
Gospel: MT 22:15-21

Sunday, October 25, 2020

1st Reading: EX 22:20-26
2nd Reading: 1 THES 1:5C-10
Gospel: MT 22:34-40

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 Carrier, 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
- **Social Outreach:** Jim Hodsko

Support Services

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