

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
9:00am-1:00pm Monday-Friday

Pastor: Rev. Peter J. Adamski
pastor@stjct.org
Deacon: Joe Koletar
dnkoletar@diobpt.org

Sunday, August 15, 2021

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time
The Greatest Game

My Dear Friends in Jesus Christ,

I posit here a baseball analogy. (I LOVE the Yankees!)

We're all striving for something in life and, for us as Christians, we're striving for a lot more than a World Series championship. We're striving for eternal life in the Kingdom of God. To receive this gift, we must persevere through daily challenges, practice living a life of prayer and trust that God will help and lead us by his grace.

Following Jesus, like baseball, certainly has its peaks and valleys, and we can find ourselves in a slump— a spiritual slump. At one moment, we may experience an indescribable closeness to God where life is over the moon, and we feel his love. And during other times, we experience discouragement and dryness, and God appears silent, and the warm, fuzzy feelings cease. But through all of these alternating periods of life, God never abandons or gives up on us.

God may allow us to go through difficult times to draw us closer to Himself and teach us the value of perseverance – a crucial skill in baseball and life.

The Christian life, like baseball, also requires dedication and practice. To achieve his goal, a player must spend hours working, on and off-season, to refine his skill and improve. He can't just show up to the field, out of shape, without putting in the time and effort and expect to see good results. Similarly, to know God more intimately, and to be ready to live out the Christian life, one needs to do spiritual workouts regularly such as private prayer, the Rosary, Confession, Mass, spiritual direction, Eucharistic Adoration, and scripture reading.

Along with the individual training, a player must follow, listen, and trust his coach, even when he is tired or thinks he has a better way of doing things. Coaches typically have more experience and in-depth insight into the strategies of the game. They can see the big picture and decide what is best for the team and the individual player to have the best chance of success.

Because God knows what's best for us, he too is like a coach—the Divine Coach— who challenges, loves, encourages, teaches, and corrects us so that we can grow and reach our highest potential and greatest fulfillment of following His will. God also gives us assistant coaches such as priests, parents, teachers, friends, and mentors to help us along the way. Not only does God direct us on how to live our lives, but also he gives us the means to do so by his grace.

God's grace stirs our hearts and moves us to perform spiritual workouts so that we might know and understand him more.

And when we fail or get spiritually injured in life, we can turn to Jesus, the Divine Physician in the sacrament of Confession, to be put back together. We can dust off the dirt and get back in the game with a clean uniform.

Being a disciple of Jesus Christ in the modern world may be difficult and stressful at times; maybe like trying to win the World Series in the ninth inning, down three runs. But, with perseverance, proper training, and trust in God and grace, it is possible to overcome spiritual slumps and find freedom, purpose, and true happiness in a relationship with God. Although we must do our part, it is ultimately God's grace and our cooperation with it that we can be saved.

In hope, we pray that when we finish our journey around the bases of life, God will guide us by his grace safely into our eternal home [plate]. Then we will be jubilantly carried away by our holy teammates of the angels and saints, to celebrate for eternity the heavenly victory that has been given to us.

I LOVE baseball and I LOVE JESUS!!
Your humble servant in Christ, FR. PETER



Monday, August 16, 2021

5:30 p.m. St. James Parishioners

Tuesday, August 17, 2021

8:00 a.m. +Robin Fernandes

Wednesday, August 18, 2021

8:00 a.m. +Kathy Adamski

Thursday, August 19, 2021

5:30 p.m. +Daniel McCoy

Friday, August 20, 2021

8:00 a.m. Hope Creech

Saturday, August 21, 2021

8:00 a.m. +Cynthia Marie Stone

4:30 p.m. +Don Bruno (birthday remembrance)

Sunday, August 22, 2021

8:00 a.m. +Deceased members of the St. Julien Family—Michelaire, Alice and Tecia Timolien

10:00 a.m. +John and +Adeline Santos

5:00 p.m. +Betty Ann Gibson (2 yr. anniversary)

PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING:

SEVEN DAY SACRISTY CANDLE: 8/15/21-8/21/21

Church: Our Homebound Parishioners

Candles will burn for the following intentions:

Candle # 1 Peace

Please contact Noranne in the Parish Center to request.

† Confessions †

Saturdays, 12:15 pm - 1:30 pm

confessions are being held in Church

Weekly Offertory (for week of 08/01/2021)

	<u>08/01/2021</u>	<u>08/02/2020</u>
In Church Collections.....	\$ 4,523.55	\$ 3,120.50
EFT.....	\$ 1,577.65	\$ 1,660.15
Online Giving.....	\$ 3,480.00	\$ 2,928.00
Weekly Total.....	\$ 9,581.20	\$ 7,708.65

RCIA- Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

If you or someone you know wants to become a member of the Catholic Church, please contact the Parish Center for more information or email bredgate.stjamesparish@gmail.com.

Centering Prayer

Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m. If you are interested in joining us to pray together virtually, please contact Mary Merly at mary.merly@sjsct.org.

Women's Ministry Zoom Gathering

Meetings will resume in September. Date TBA. We will be reflecting on Mother Teresa's daily meditations from "Do Something Beautiful for God" from May 15-September. If you would like to be added to our email list please contact bredgate.stjamesparish@gmail.com.

With schools opening soon, we are collecting supplies to hand out at **The Bridge**. Please consider donating supplies such as:

pens and pencils	colored pencils	crayons
erasers	notebooks	glue
markers	pencil cases	

All supplies can be dropped off at the Church or Parish Center.
Thank you for your generosity.



Mike Perille, Thai Nguyen, Andrew Donovan, Lucas

McHale, James R. Birge, Jose L. Ramos, Edwina & George Thompson, Toi & Grace Gomes, Chanelle Diaz, Edmund & Andrea Ramos, Peter Soares, Noah Musto, Baby Saprenza, Aubrey King, John Kenyhercz, Linda Gowing, Nancy Jette, Joseph Senteio, Maria Vazquez, Kenneth Holmes, Sarah Gray, Lucy Rivera, Wanda Rivera, Rosa Ramos, Rick Conn, Jack O'Toole, Frank Fertelmes, Patricia Pechillo, Joe Crudo, Pat Stockdale, Tom Rogers, Barbara Simms, Antonio Ortiz, Rafael Ortiz, Gayle Zaleski, Susan Vaughn, Mary Parente, Constance Silver, Donald Stewart, Pat Kelly

Faithfully Departed:

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

if you have questions regarding the COVID vaccine, please call Margie



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

Join other men, just like you, at the next Beloved Sons Men's Ministry gathering Saturday August 21 (6:30-7:30 AM) at the parish center. As we do twice/month (first Thursday/third Saturday) we will break open the gospel for that upcoming weekend....and the see how that gospel story affects us as well. That week we will be sharing and discussing the Gospel for the 21st Sunday in Ordinary time (Jn 6:60-69). Jesus puts his disciple's faith to a test. How do you think you'd do? Join us next Saturday.

Save The Date – Men's Retreat – November 5-7

The Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center in West Hartford has now re-opened for in-person weekend retreats. St. James's men's retreat weekend is scheduled is November 5-7, 2021. Consider prayerfully circling that date on your calendar. More details to follow as we get closer to the date.

Hope Does Not Disappoint (Romans 5:5)

Contact Jim Travers (203-526-4105) (jfxtjr@sbcglobal.net) with any questions.



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.

Teens Ministry

Teens are invited to join Teens Ministry at St. James. Guided by the Holy Spirit, supported by clergy, parents/guardians, and St. James parishioners, we strengthen our faith through worship, prayer, and service. Please contact Teens@stjct.org.

The Food Pantry can use the following items:

Cereal, Canned Tuna, Chef Boyardee, Tea Bags, Juice Drinks, Powdered Milk, Bottled Water, Crackers, Canned/Dried Potatoes, Jello/Pudding, Macaroni or Spaghetti, Jar Pasta Sauce, Canned Fruit or Apple Sauce, Ketchup/Mustard/Relish/Mayo

Thank you for your generous donations.



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 that you are from St. James RC 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.**



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EUCCHARISTIC CELEBRATIONS

All Masses live streamed and posted on our website: www.stjamesstratford.com

Monday & Thursday: 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday: 8:00 a.m.

Saturday: 8:00 a.m.

Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:30 p.m.

Sunday Masses: 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.

Confession

- Saturdays (12:15-1:30) In Church
*or by appointment

PARISH CENTER CHAPEL

- *The Chapel is open from 9-1 Monday-Friday*

PARISH CENTER HOURS

9-1 Monday-Friday

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Please call the Parish Center

First Friday Devotions

Adoration in chapel from 2-5pm

Rosary at 4pm followed by Evening Prayer/Solemn Vespers from the Liturgy of the Hours with Benediction



Sunday, August 15, 2021

1st Reading: 1Chr15:3-4,15-16;16:1-2

2nd Reading: 1 Cor 15:54b-57

Gospel: Lk 11:27-28

Sunday, August 22, 2021

1st Reading: Jos 24:1-2a,15-17, 18b

2nd Reading: Eph5:21-32 or 5:2a, 25-32

Gospel: Jn 6:60-69

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:**
- **Teens Ministry:** Lap Nguyen - teens@stjct.org
- **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 - jesullivan0928@verizon.net
- **Digital Ministry:** Tonya Overby - tonya.overby@stjct.org
- **Religious Education:**

Support Services

- **Stewardship:** David Zamachaj - David.zamachaj@stjct.org
- **Business Manager:** Natalia Zamachaj—Natalia.zamachaj@stjct.org