

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 Hours

9:00-1:00pm M-F (Summer Hours)

Chapel Hours

9:00-3:00 M-R, 9:00-5:00 F

Pastor: Rev. Peter J. Adamski

pastor@stjct.org

Deacon: Joe Koletar

dnkoletar@diobpt.org

Sunday, October 16, 2022

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Nothing is too heavy when we allow God to carry our frets

My Dear Friends in Jesus Christ,

While I am at the Triannual priest's convocation, I thought I would reprint this PC from last year. I received several requests to repost it.

Seven years ago, I visited the Holy Land. Early one morning in Jerusalem, I viewed from a small garden the bustling marketplace nearby. I noticed from the garden and elderly gentlemen carrying a washing machine on his back, walking uphill. The washer was tied with a rope to the thin man who had bony legs and wrinkled skin. I sat on a bench and watched him carry his heavy load home.

The image reveals for me Christ carrying his cross. The man carrying this burden still haunts me. I have prayed with this image ever since. When I feel overwhelmed, I seek him in prayer to help me carry loss and anger. When I know I can't control the outcomes of others' burdens, I ask for his intercession. When I experience life's unfairness and needless cargoes of heart ache and grief, I pray to see this man's face again. This image gives me consolation when I face the heaviness of life.

The Holy Cross reminds me that nothing is too heavy when I allow God to carry my past frets and even my illusions. I am not alone when I listen and walk with him. Faith in the dying and rising of Christ is a lifelong journey. Our shoulders will be lighter, we will not stumble or fall when at last we rest our lives in Jesus.

I realize we all carry afflictions we should not have to carry. The secrets of our lives, the long-term regrets, our histories of shame, the carelessness of sins are all burdens that pile up within us. My body tightens on days when I still don't think I am good enough or holy enough.

As I reflect on the man carrying a washing machine on his thin body, I remember his determined face. I don't know why he carried the machine. It was obvious to me that he has spent his life carrying many items on his back. All I know is that Jesus redeems the weight on our shoulders.

Your humble servant in Christ, FR. PETER



Monday, October 17, 2022

5:30 p.m. +Mary Semedo

Tuesday, October 18, 2022

8:00 a.m. Hope Creech

Wednesday, October 19, 2022

8:00 a.m. Hope Creech

Thursday, October 20, 2022

5:30 p.m. +Jason Hoekenga

+Thomas Lynch, Sr.

Friday, October 21, 2022

8:00 a.m. Hope Creech

Saturday, October 22, 2022

8:00 a.m. Sam and Hope Creech

4:30 p.m. +Mary Semedo

Sunday, October 23, 2022

8:00 a.m. Sr. Maris Stella, O.C.D.

10:00 a.m. +Bucci and +Simko Families

5:00 p.m. +Philip Delvecchio

PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING:

SEVEN DAY SACRISTY CANDLE: 10/16/22-10/22/22

Church: Unconditional Forgiveness

Candles will burn for the following intentions:

Candle # 1 Peace

Please contact Deacon Joe in the Parish Center to request.

† Confessions †

Saturdays, 12:15 pm - 1:30 pm

Weekly Offertory (for week of 10/02/2022)

	10/09/2022	10/10/2021
In Church Collections.....	\$ 3,671.87	\$ 4,254.25
EFT.....	\$ 1,506.31	\$ 1,573.31
Online Giving.....	\$ 3,034.00	\$ 3,716.00
	=====	=====
Weekly Total.....	\$ 8,212.18	\$ 9,543.56

Eucharistic Adoration

Adorers needed to complete our schedule! You are invited to consider spending an hour in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament once a week in our Parish Center Chapel. Coverage needed M-F 9:00-1:00. Please email bredgate.stjamesparish@gmail.com if you can commit to this ministry.

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.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a Catholic, please contact Betsy Redgate at the Parish Center- 203-375-5887, ext. 105

Michelle is looking for a volunteer to help her once a month in the church. Any day that works with your schedule is fine. Please call the Parish Center for more information.

Thursday Night Bible Study

Want to get more out of the readings at Sunday Mass? Join us in the Parish Center Thursday nights 6:30 – 8:00 PM as we take a deeper dive into Scripture passages for the upcoming Sunday Mass. We will look at context, themes, and personal application. This study will run for 8 weeks from September 29th to November 17th. There is no cost and participants may drop in at anytime. Bibles are available, or bring your own. Questions? Contact Ruth at receptionist@stjct.org.

Roses for Life!

Roses for Life will be sold following all Masses on October 29th and 30th. Donations will be presented to Malta House, a diocesan home for mothers and their babies on West Rocks Road in Norwalk.



Mike Perille, Andrew Donovan, Khaled Emaly, Kevin Haley, Olivia Agbanyo, Crissie Reynaylt, Pat Kelly, Lesley Porcelli, Gemma Tecuanhuehue, Edwina & George Thompson, Linda Perez Rodriguez, Diane DelVecchio, Peter & Bernice Tomscheck, Gary Adamski, Jon Ribeiro, Bill Baal, Elizabeth Vida, Nora Fetcho, John Yanosy, Rosemary Chase, Zachary Piroh, Robert J. Ramos, Edmund J. Ramos, John Peter Soares, Joseph Senteio, Edwina & George Thompson, Ariadni Karga, Donna Lee Hall, Bob Weeks, Seeley Jennings

Faithfully Departed:



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

Join us at the next Beloved Sons Men's Ministry gathering Thursday November 3 (7:00-8:00 PM) at the parish center. As we do twice monthly (first Thursday/ third Saturday) men of faith get together to discuss, ponder, engage and share the gospel for that upcoming weekend. That Thursday we'll break open the Gospel for the 29th Sunday of Ordinary Time (Lk 20:27-38). Jesus's message of eternal life, as evidenced by the parable of the seven brothers, is another reassuring reminder.

Save The Date – Annual Men's Retreat

St. James is scheduled for this year's Holy Family Retreat Center the weekend of November 4-6, 2022. More details will be forthcoming as get closer to that date. The new retreat theme, as always a timely one: A Missing Peace.

2022-23 Theme: A Missing Peace

Just before he departs this earth, Jesus says to his friends: "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give you ... Let not your hearts be troubled or afraid." (John 14:27) Peace is something we crave but rarely find for more than a short time. This season at Holy Family, we'll explore the theme, *A Missing Peace*, in the hope that together, through prayer, presentations, and discussions, we can come closer to understanding how to achieve the peace Jesus meant for us to have, and equally important, to share in our families and in our world.

Hope Does Not Disappoint (Romans 5:5)

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



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.

THE FOOD PANTRY

is in **NEED** of the following items:

* Instant/Canned Potatoes * Rice * Boxes of Pasta

* Pasta Sauce * Chef Boyardee

* Cereal (cold) * Small Bottles of Juice

* Yoo-hoo or Gatorade * Mac and Cheese

* Jello/Pudding * Canned Fruit * Fruit Snacks

We are running very low on:

* Crackers * Canned/Packaged Soup

* Condiments * Salad Dressing

(We give out 50 bags each week)

Thank you for your generous donations!

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

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.

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



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share a story...
love one another!

EUCCHARISTIC CELEBRATIONS

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)
*or by appointment

PARISH CENTER CHAPEL

- *The Chapel is open from 9-3
Monday-Thursday and from
9-5 Friday*

The Divine Mercy Chaplet will be recited
every Friday at 3:00 p.m. in the Parish
Chapel. The Chaplet will be said for family
members who are sick and dying.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Please call the Parish Center
*Ask for Deacon Joe

First Friday Devotions

Adoration in the chapel from 2-5pm
Rosary at 4pm followed by Evening
Prayer/Solemn Vespers from the Liturgy of
the Hours with Benediction



Sunday, October 16, 2022

1st Reading: Ex 17:8-13
2nd Reading: 2 Tm 3:14-4:2
Gospel: Lk 18:1-8

Sunday, October 23, 2022

1st Reading: Sir 35:12-14, 16-18
2nd Reading: 2 Tm 4:6-8, 16-18
Gospel: Lk 18:9-14

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 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:** Chris Robertson
- **Teens Ministry:** Lap Nguyen - teens@stjct.org
- **Ministry with Sick & Shut-Ins:** If you want to add someone to the
prayer list or if you want to ask for communion or a visit from a priest or
deacon, either email the Parish Center at 'Receptionist@stjct.org' or call
the Parish Center at (203) 375-5887.
- **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:** Maria Aguirre - maria.aguirre@stjct.org

Support Services

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

PARISH CENTER HOURS: 9-1 Monday-Friday

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