

St Joseph's of Stratford Parish

National Catholic Church

Since 1907

Weekly Bulletin



Quinquagesima Sunday, Year C

March 3rd, 2019

PARISH CONTACTS

ADMINISTRATOR
Fr. Tom Walsh

PARISH CHAIRPERSON
Jeanine May

VICE CHAIRPERSON
Dee Smith

FINANCE SECRETARY
Barbara Chernesky

Dear Parishioners,

If you are a visual person like I am than I imagine today's Gospel passage is challenging to read. I have trouble getting past picturing a wooden beam in my eye. The splinter is bad enough, but a beam! Perhaps that was Jesus' intent for telling the parable. How do we get past that beam in our eye? How can we hope to see clearly with our vision obstructed in such a way? How can we consider another person's actions if we cannot see?

The Lenten season is a good time to consider performing surgery. Time to get that beam out of our eye, clear up our vision so that we can see clearly God acting in our lives, and in the lives of those we love.

Grace and Peace,

Fr. Tom

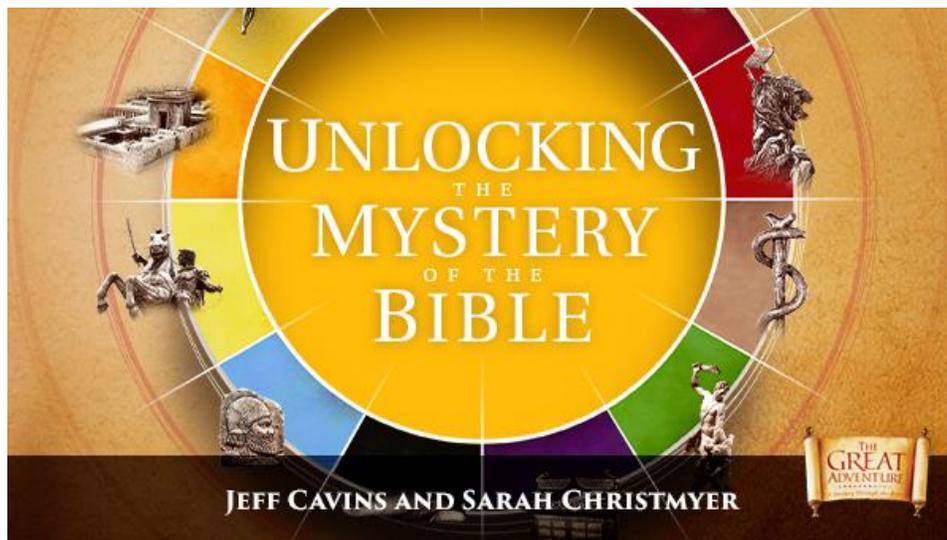
MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 5:00 pm - Sunday Vigil **Sunday:** 9:30 am

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If you would like to have a deeper relationship with God and a better understanding of your faith, then join us for *Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible*. You will not only benefit personally from being part of this study; you will also help to bring about a profound renewal in our parish as we grow closer to Christ. For more information or to sign up, contact Fr. Tom at 203-377-9901 or email at trpwalsh@gmail.com. A daytime and evening session will be offered beginning in early March, exact dates and times to be determined.

Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible helps you uncover the story woven through Scripture with its clever narrative approach and ingenious color-coded *Bible Timeline*. It is a great way to get the “big picture” of the Bible and see how our Catholic Faith is rooted in Scripture. You’ll see how the Bible reveals God’s loving plan for your life, and you will learn helpful ways to put your faith into practice. Each study includes a series of eight half-hour videos presented by Jeff Cavins. Each video will be followed by a group discussion. You will receive a color-coded *Bible Timeline Chart*, a Bible study workbook, and the ability to stream the study online at your convenience.

PARISH CALENDAR

March 3rd Meeting of the Ladies Society after Mass.

March 5th Adult study *Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible* to meet at 6:30pm.

March 6th Ash Wednesday Services, 9:30am & 6:30pm. Ashes will be distributed.

March 7th Adult study *Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible* to meet at 10:00am.

Fridays of Lent Pot Luck Supper followed by Stations of the Cross, beginning at 6:00pm. A sign-up sheet is available if you chose to host a meal for a particular Friday.

BY THE WEEK

Sundays: Mercy Tabernacle Church
12:30 - 2:30 pm
Tuesdays: Mercy Tabernacle Church
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Wednesdays: AA meeting 12:00 pm
Irish Dance, 5:30 – 7:00pm
Thursdays: AA men's meeting 7:30 pm

For news input in the weekly bulletin, please contact Father Tom by Wednesday: frtpwalsh@gmail.com

READERS ROSTER

<u>February 24</u>	<u>March 3</u>	<u>March 10</u>
Dee Smith	Joe Pelland	Jean Macionus

The roster for the entire year is posted on the Church web site. On the Home page click on the link *Schedule for Lectors* in the *Information* box.

God's deepest desire

is that we let Him Love us...and freely love Him in return.

Once we realize we're loved--no strings attached—it's our turn to look around us and reach out to our neighbors with that same grace-filled Love.

Contributed by Jane Pelland

PRAYER INTENTIONS

The faith community of St. Joseph's of Stratford offers healing prayers for **Ed Slonina and Ray Morrison**.

For those intentions that we hold in our hearts known to God alone.

NEWS AND EVENTS

Daytime & Evening Adult Study Sessions

Based on the preferences of the individuals signing up for the adult study *Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible*, the daytime and evening sessions will be held as follows:

Tuesdays at 6:30pm, March 5 – April 23
Thursdays at 10am, March 7 – May 2

Register with St. Joseph's

Please visit the new web site for the Church at stjosephsofstratford.org. Links to the old web site will get you there. Scroll to the bottom of the Home page and click on the link *Tell Us About Yourself* in the *Register With Us* box. In addition to your name, address, and contact information space is provided for you to share your thoughts about how St. Joseph's can better serve your needs. All information you provide is kept confidential, not visible to the public.

Lordship Community Church St. Patrick's Day Dinner

Lordship Community Church, 179 Prospect Drive, Stratford, holds its all-you-can-eat St. Patrick's Day Corned Beef Dinner on Saturday, March 16, 2019, at 6 p.m. The cost is \$15 per adult, and \$12 per senior (62 and over). Contact 203-377-6568 for information and to reserve before March 15.

Our Lady of Peace St. Patrick's Day Dinner & Celebration

Our Lady of Peace Church, 651 Stratford Road, is hosting a St. Patrick's Day Dinner and Celebration with the Brennan-Lucey Irish Dance Academy on Friday, March 15th. Doors open at 6:00pm, show begins at 8:00pm. The cost is \$25 per adult and \$10 for children under 12.

Bulletins courtesy of Joyce Bresh, March - April 2019. If anyone wishes to contribute to the printing cost of the bulletin, please see Fr. Tom.

Sunday Readings

First Reading

Sirach 27:4-7

A reading from the Book of Sirach

When a sieve is shaken, the husks appear;
so do one's faults when one speaks.
As the test of what the potter molds is in the furnace,
so in tribulation is the test of the just.
The fruit of a tree shows the care it has had;
so too does one's speech disclose the bent of one's
mind. Praise no one before he speaks,
for it is then that people are tested.

**The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm

Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 15:54-58

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and sisters:
When this which is corruptible clothes itself with
incorruptibility
and this which is mortal clothes itself with immortality,
then the word that is written shall come about:
*Death is swallowed up in victory.
Where, O death, is your victory?
Where, O death, is your sting?*
The sting of death is sin,
and the power of sin is the law.
But thanks be to God who gives us the victory
through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Therefore, my beloved brothers and sisters,
be firm, steadfast, always fully devoted to the work of
the Lord,
knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

**The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.**

Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory

Shine like lights in the world as you hold on to the word of life.

Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory

Gospel

Luke 6:39-45

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus told his disciples a parable,
"Can a blind person guide a blind person?
Will not both fall into a pit?
No disciple is superior to the teacher;
but when fully trained,
every disciple will be like his teacher.
Why do you notice the splinter in your brother's eye,
but do not perceive the wooden beam in your own?
How can you say to your brother,
'Brother, let me remove that splinter in your eye,'
when you do not even notice the wooden beam in your own
eye?
You hypocrite! Remove the wooden beam from your eye
first;
then you will see clearly
to remove the splinter in your brother's eye.

"A good tree does not bear rotten fruit,
nor does a rotten tree bear good fruit.
For every tree is known by its own fruit.
For people do not pick figs from thornbushes,
nor do they gather grapes from brambles.
A good person out of the store of goodness in his heart
produces good,
but an evil person out of a store of evil produces evil;
for from the fullness of the heart the mouth speaks."

**The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to You, Lord Jesus Christ.**

