

St Joseph's of Stratford Parish
National Catholic Church
Since 1907
Weekly Bulletin



Sixth Sunday of Easter, Year C

May 26th, 2019

**PARISH
CONTACTS**

ADMINISTRATOR
Fr. Tom Walsh

PARISH CHAIRPERSON
Jeanine May

VICE CHAIRPERSON
Dee Smith

FINANCE SECRETARY
Barbara Chernesky

Dear Parishioners,

In today's Gospel passage Jesus speaks of the conditions necessary for he and the Father to come to us and make their dwelling with us, "Whoever loves me will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our dwelling with him." (John 14:23) By expressing our love for Jesus by keeping his word we welcome the Lord's presence into our lives. Our task then is to know the Lord's word.

In an earlier passage in John's Gospel Jesus states something very similar to this, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments." (John 14:15) From this verse we see that Jesus equates his commandments with his word. And Jesus goes on to tell us what his commandment is, the New Commandment, "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." (John 13:34-35)

The bottom line. Jesus is calling us to love one another. Easier said than done? Perhaps. Fortunately, Jesus knows our weaknesses and limitations and make provisions for them. He promises that the Father will send the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, to teach us everything and remind us all that he told us, his word, his commandments. We will not be left alone as orphans in a storm.

Grace and Peace,
Fr. Tom

MASS SCHEDULE

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

1300 Stratford Road, Stratford CT 06615-7639
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www.saintjosephsofstratford.org

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!

The Food Pantry at Blessed Sacrament Church is in critical need of non-perishable food, especially cereal and peanut butter. Also needed is bar soap, which is included in the hygiene bags, as well as gently used summer clothing and household linens. Blessed Sacrament will send an acknowledgement of your donations if you desire.

“We should not serve the poor like they were Jesus. We should serve the poor because they are Jesus.” Mother Teresa



**FEED THE
HUNGRY**

PARISH CALENDAR

Sundays of May Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary following Mass

May 27 Memorial Day Lordship Parade and Ceremony The event begins at 11:00am at the Volunteer Fire House and ends at the War Memorial where there will be a Wreath Laying Ceremony. Fr. Tom to deliver the benediction.

May 30 The Solemnity of the Ascension of Our Lord Mass will be celebrated at 6:30pm.

BY THE WEEK

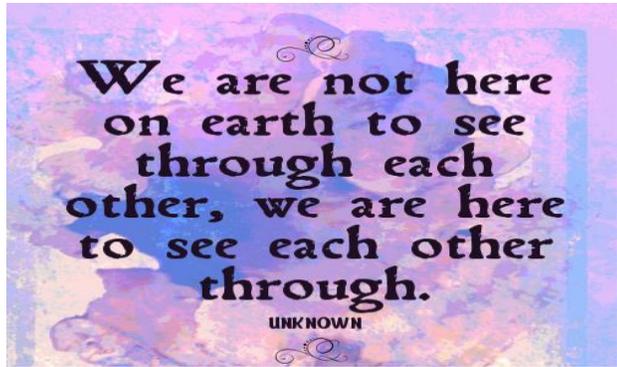
Sundays: Mercy Tabernacle Church
12:30 - 2:30 pm
Tuesdays: Mercy Tabernacle Church
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Wednesdays: AA meeting 12:00 pm
Irish Dance, 5:30 – 7:00pm
Thursdays: AA men's meeting 7:30 pm

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

READERS ROSTER

<u>May 26</u>	<u>June 2</u>	<u>June 9</u>
Dee Smith	Reader	Joe Pelland

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.



We are not here
on earth to see
through each
other, we are here
to see each other
through.

UNKNOWN

PRAYER INTENTIONS

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

NEWS AND EVENTS

YMS of R Bowling Tournament

St. Joseph's to host the 74th Annual YMS of R / PNCC Bowling Tournament, June 7-9. The Tournament is open to all PNCC Parishioners, members of PNU/Spojnia, and non-PNCC individuals belonging to a PNCC-sponsored bowling league. There will be three bowling events (Singles, Doubles and Team) with prizes being awarded in four divisions (Open, Women's, Youth, and Spojnia). The Singles and Doubles events are on Friday, the 7th, and the Team event is on Saturday, the 8th. You can bowl in all three events, or just one or two.

A barbeque will be hosted at St. Joseph's on Friday evening, 5:00pm. On Saturday evening beginning at 6:00pm a cocktail hour followed by dinner, awards and dancing will be held at Riverview Bistro in Stratford. Those interested in participating in these events please see Rob Shandrowski. The schedule of events, rules & regulations, registration forms, and other information are posted on the St. Joseph's web site in the *Information* box.

Register with St. Joseph's

Please visit the new web site for the Church at saintjosephsofstratford.org. Links to the old web site will get you there. On the Home page click on the link *Please 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 spiritual needs. All information you provide is confidential, not visible to the public.

Church Dues

Church dues for individuals is \$108 per year. \$216 per year for couples/family.

Bulletins courtesy of Ann Stockman, May - June 2019. If anyone wishes to contribute to the printing cost of the bulletin, please see Fr. Tom.

Sunday Readings

First Reading

Acts 15:1-2, 22-29

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Some who had come down from Judea were instructing the brothers, "Unless you are circumcised according to the Mosaic practice, you cannot be saved." Because there arose no little dissension and debate by Paul and Barnabas with them, it was decided that Paul, Barnabas, and some of the others should go up to Jerusalem to the apostles and elders about this question.

The apostles and elders, in agreement with the whole church, decided to choose representatives and to send them to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas. The ones chosen were Judas, who was called Barsabbas, and Silas, leaders among the brothers. This is the letter delivered by them:

"The apostles and the elders, your brothers, to the brothers in Antioch, Syria, and Cilicia of Gentile origin: greetings. Since we have heard that some of our number who went out without any mandate from us have upset you with their teachings and disturbed your peace of mind, we have with one accord decided to choose representatives and to send them to you along with our beloved Barnabas and Paul, who have dedicated their lives to the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. So we are sending Judas and Silas who will also convey this same message by word of mouth: 'It is the decision of the Holy Spirit and of us not to place on you any burden beyond these necessities, namely, to abstain from meat sacrificed to idols, from blood, from meats of strangled animals, and from unlawful marriage. If you keep free of these, you will be doing what is right. Farewell.'"

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

O God, let all the nations praise you!

Second Reading

Revelation 21:10-14, 22-23

A reading from the Book of Revelation

The angel took me in spirit to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God. It gleamed with the splendor of God. Its radiance was like that of a precious stone, like jasper, clear as crystal. It had a massive, high wall, with twelve gates where twelve angels were stationed and on which names were inscribed, the names of the twelve tribes of the Israelites. There were three gates facing east, three north, three south, and three west. The wall of the city had twelve courses of stones as its foundation, on which were inscribed the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

I saw no temple in the city for its temple is the Lord God almighty and the Lamb. The city had no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gave it light, and its lamp was the Lamb.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Alleluia, alleluia.

Whoever loves me will keep my word, says the Lord, and my Father will love him and we will come to him.

Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel

John 14:23-29

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to his disciples: "Whoever loves me will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our dwelling with him. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; yet the word you hear is not mine but that of the Father who sent me.

"I have told you this while I am with you. The Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I told you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give it to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid. You heard me tell you, 'I am going away and I will come back to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father; for the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you this before it happens, so that when it happens you may believe."

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

