

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



**Pentecost Sunday, Year C**

**June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

**PARISH  
CONTACTS**

*ADMINISTRATOR*  
Fr. Tom Walsh

*PARISH CHAIRPERSON*  
Jeanine May

*VICE CHAIRPERSON*  
Dee Smith

*FINANCE SECRETARY*  
Barbara Chernesky

Dear Parishioners,

Today's Gospel passage is John's depiction of Pentecost, where the disciples receive the Holy Spirit from the risen Jesus, "he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit.'" At the core of this passage is the call to forgive. After receiving the Holy Spirit, the apostles are given the authority to forgive sins, or not, "Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained". This authority is given to the apostles so they may continue Jesus earthly ministry, announcing the Good News that the Kingdom of Heaven is near for those who repent of their sin, "As the Father has sent me, so I send you."

Repentance is key. It is not possible to be forgiven of sin if we have not acknowledged that we have sinned. "My sacrifice, O God is a contrite spirit; a contrite, humbled heart, O God, You will not scorn." (Psalm 51:19 NABRE) That is why Jesus added the direction, "whose sins you retain are retained." And that is why we are directed to an examination of conscience prior to the priest offering absolution. We must acknowledge the ways that we have separated ourselves from God. The peace that Jesus offers in this passage is the peace to be found when we are reconciled to God.

Grace and Peace,  
Fr. Tom

**MASS SCHEDULE**

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

1300 Stratford Road, Stratford CT 06615-7639  
Tel: 203 377-9901 (office), 203 923-2424 (rectory), Fax: 203 375-6439  
[www.saintjosephsofstratford.org](http://www.saintjosephsofstratford.org)

# Food Pantry Update

**THANKS and PLEASE SAVE THESE DATES**  
**July 27, Aug 31, Oct 26. 2019**

A big "Thank You" to the YMS of R for their very generous check to the Food Pantry at Blessed Sacrament Church and for all of you who have been so faithful with donations of food and clothing each week.

Stop and Shop has, once again, graciously agreed to allow us to conduct food drives at their store at the Dock to help feed our less fortunate neighbors. They have given us three dates for drives -- July 27, August 31, and October 26. 2019.

Hopefully, they will be as successful as the two held last year when five truckloads and a caravan of cars went to the South End Community Center and Blessed Sacrament Church delivering the donated food.

For each of the dates, we will need volunteers to offer 1-2 hours of their time to greet shoppers and accept donations. A sign-up sheet will be posted in the foyer as the dates draw closer.

Again thanks,  
Joe and Jane Pelland



**FEED THE  
HUNGRY**

## PARISH CALENDAR

**June 7-9** – YMS of R Bowling Tournament held at St. Joseph's.

**June 26 & July 10** – St. Joseph's serving at Lord's Kitchen.

### 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  
Thursdays: Yoga with Carla Loxsom, 6:30-7:30pm in  
the Classroom  
AA men's meeting 7:30 pm

### FLAG DONATION



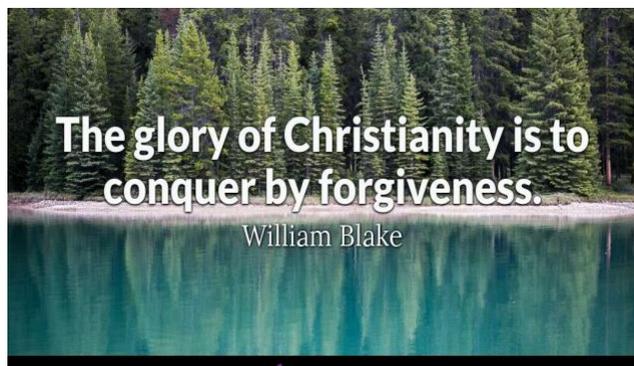
Flag donated by Martin Vasas in memory of Dolores Vasas

*For news input in the weekly bulletin, please contact Father Tom by Wednesday at [trpwalsh@gmail.com](mailto: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.



## PRAYER INTENTIONS

Please hold in prayer Jack Keiper, recently deceased, and members of his family. That they may be comforted and encouraged during this time of loss.

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

## NEWS AND EVENTS

### Pentecost Flower Donations

Bertha Grabowski in memory of Sophie & Joseph Zapotoczny,  
Edward Slonina, Helen & Walter Slonina  
John Misurale in memory of Carol Misurale  
Edward Bednarski in memory of Barbara Bednarski  
Ann Stockman in memory of Bill Stockman  
Mr & Mrs Richard Graczyk  
Nancy Anzalone  
Paul Lonzenski in memory of Marilyn Lonzenski  
John & Jean Macionus  
Carol Murdzia in memory of Richard Murdzia & Family; A & J  
Geffort & Family; Victoria Billick  
Fr. Tom & Yvonne in memory of Tom & Gloria Walsh  
Valerie Chernesky in memory of Mike Chernesky  
Darlene Kopka in memory of Edward Stempniak  
Nancy Sirois in memory of Robert Sirois, Roberta Discenza  
Sirois  
Helen Popp in memory of Rose R. Popp

### Yoga Class Thursday Evenings

We will be hosting a Thursday evening yoga class with instructor Carla Loxsom. Classes begin June 6<sup>th</sup>. The class will meet in the Classroom from 6:30pm to 7:30pm and will run through the fall. The cost is \$14 per session for a single class and \$13 per session for an eight-week course. Please call 203-257-0556 with questions or to register.

### Seeking Volunteers

If you would like to use your gifts for the common good of our Church, there are a number of ways that you can help.

We have an immediate need for Readers at Mass, training and on-going support is provided. We are in need of individuals to form a Welcoming Committee to greet and welcome visitors to our Church. Photographers are needed to attend Church events to take pictures to be published on our web page. Thank you for your consideration.

### 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 2:1-11**

#### A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

When the time for Pentecost was fulfilled, they were all in one place together. And suddenly there came from the sky a noise like a strong driving wind, and it filled the entire house in which they were. Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire, which parted and came to rest on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues, as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven staying in Jerusalem. At this sound, they gathered in a large crowd, but they were confused because each one heard them speaking in his own language. They were astounded, and in amazement they asked, "Are not all these people who are speaking Galileans? Then how does each of us hear them in his native language? We are Parthians, Medes, and Elamites, inhabitants of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the districts of Libya near Cyrene, as well as travelers from Rome, both Jews and converts to Judaism, Cretans and Arabs, yet we hear them speaking in our own tongues of the mighty acts of God."

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

### Responsorial Psalm

Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

### Second Reading 1 Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13

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

Brothers and sisters:  
No one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit. There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; there are different forms of service but the same Lord; there are different workings but the same God who produces all of them in everyone. To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit.

As a body is one though it has many parts, and all the parts of the body, though many, are one body, so also Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, slaves or free persons, and we were all given to drink of one Spirit.

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

### Sequence

Come, Father of the poor! Come, Source of all our store! Come, within our bosoms shine!

You, of comforters the best; You, the soul's most welcome guest; sweet refreshment here below;

In our labor, rest most sweet; grateful coolness in the heat; solace in the midst of woe.

O most blessed Light divine, shine within the hearts of Yours, and our inmost being fill!

Where You are not, man has naught, nothing good in deed or thought, nothing free from taint of ill.

Heal our wounds, our strength renew; on our dryness pour Your dew; wash the stains of guilt away.

Bend the stubborn heart and will; melt the frozen, warm the chill; guide the steps that go astray.

On the faithful, who adore and confess You, evermore in Your sev'nfold gift descend.

Give them virtue's sure reward; give them your salvation, Lord; give them joys that never end.

Amen. Alleluia.

#### Alleluia, alleluia.

I will pour out my Spirit upon all humankind. Your sons and daughters shall prophecy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions.

#### Alleluia, alleluia.

### Gospel

**John 20:19-23**

#### A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you."

And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained."

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

