

PRAYER INTENTIONS

We remember in our prayers Edmond Bresh, Wendell Barry, Helen Reynolds, Helen Popp, Irene Smith, Florence Rasmussen, Judy DiLorenzo, Yvonne Walsh, Tom Milos, and Georgine Keeler.

The Saturday evening Vigil Mass is offered for the repose of the soul of Frank Laurino. May he rest in peace.

NEWS

Work has begun on the Meditation Garden. The patio at the front of the Church has been resurfaced.

A SURVEY OF THE BIBLE – FIRST LETTER OF PETER

This letter is addressed to the Christian communities located in five provinces of Asia Minor. Christians there are encouraged to remain faithful to their standards of belief and conduct despite threats of persecution. The letter seeks both to inspire and admonish those who by seeking to live as God's people feel an alienation from their previous religious roots and the society around them. The letter appeals to Christ's resurrection and the future hope it provides and to the experience of baptism as a new birth.

The principal divisions of the First Letter of Peter are as follows: Address (1:1-2); The Gift and Call of God in Baptism (1:3-2:10); The Christian in a Hostile World (2:11-4:11); Advice to the Persecuted (4:12-5:11); Conclusion (5:12-14).

NOTEABLE SAINTS OF THE WEEK

Venerable Bede, Priest and Doctor (d. 735). St. Bede was born in the neighborhood of the Wearmouth monastery in 673. He was trained by St. Benedict Biscop and later entered the monastery. Ordained to the priesthood, he spent his ministry in teaching and writing. St. Bede wrote theological and historical works in the patristic tradition and explained sacred Scripture. May 25

Mary Magdalene de Pazzi, Virgin (d. 1607). St. Mary Magdalene was born at Florence in 1566 and after a religious upbringing she entered the Carmelites. She led a solitary life of prayer and self-denial, prayed fervently for Church reform and directed her fellow sisters on the road to perfection. She was blessed by many gifts from God. May 25

Philip Neri, Priest (d. 1595). St. Philip Neri was born in Florence in 1515. He went to Rome and began to work with young men among whom he fostered Christian life and formed an association for the poor and the sick. Ordained to the priesthood in 1551, he founded the Oratory where spiritual reading, singing and works of charity were practiced. He excelled in his love of neighbor and in evangelical simplicity along with a joyous service to God. May 26

Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop (d. 605). St. Augustine was sent in 597 from St. Andrew's monastery in Rome by St. Gregory the Great to preach the Gospel in England. He was aided there by King Ethelbert and chosen bishop of Canterbury. He converted many to the faith and established many dioceses, especially in the kingdom of Kent. May 27

From The Liturgy of Hours, Volume II 1976, Proper of Saints.

**St. Joseph of Stratford
National Catholic Church**



May 23, 2021 – Pentecost Sunday

*If you want a love message to
be heard, it has got to be sent
out. To keep a lamp burning, we
have to keep putting oil in it.*

~ Mother Teresa

Dear Parishioners,

Parish Contacts

PASTOR
Fr. Tom Walsh

CHAIRPERSON
Jeanine May

VICE
CHAIRPERSON
Dee Smith

Finance
Secretary
Barbara
Chernesky

In today's gospel passage (John 20:19-23) we find John's version of Pentecost. Jesus appears to the disciples, ten of the Twelve by implication from John 20:24, confirms his identity by showing them his wounds, breaths the Spirit into them, and then grants them authority to forgive or retain sin. Essentially, the apostles were commissioned and then sent as Jesus had been sent by the Father. The word apostle literally means, 'one sent on a mission.' The question for us then becomes, what was their mission? Knowing this can help us clarify our mission as Catholic Christians. Join us this week at Mass as we seek to gain some insight into this question.

Grace and peace,
Fr. Tom

Mass Times

Mass celebrations are Saturday Vigil at 4:00pm & Sunday Morning at 10:00am

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