

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



**June 15, 2025 – Solemnity of the Holy Trinity (Year C)**

## **Parish Contacts**

**PASTOR**  
Fr. Tom Walsh

**CHAIRPERSON**  
Jeanine May

**VICE  
CHAIRPERSON**  
Dee Smith

**Financial  
Secretary**  
Barbara  
Chernesky

**Office  
Administrator**  
Lisa Vasas

*“I am the Way, the Truth, and  
the Life. No one comes to the  
Father except through me.*

*~Jesus Christ*

## **Mass Times**

Saturday Vigil Mass – Suspended

Sunday Mass – 9:30am.

1300 Stratford Road, Stratford, CT 06615 / (203) 377-9901  
[www.saintjosephsofstratford.org](http://www.saintjosephsofstratford.org) / [sjosparishpncc@outlook.com](mailto:sjosparishpncc@outlook.com)



**TODAY'S READINGS:** SEE CENTER INSERT

### **PRAYER INTENTIONS**

We remember in our prayers Fr. Bill, John (JR) Martikainen, Dee Smith, Nancy Sirois, Adam Macionus, Julie Frissora, Fr. Sr. Joseph Soltysiak, Bishop John Mack, Jane Pelland, Joe Pelland, Fr. Henry Smolinski & Margo, Rich Lasecki, Edmond Bresh, Helen Reynolds, Helen Popp, Florence Rasmussen, Robin Lupinski, Martha Lesnick, Mary DiMenna, Ray Morrison, Meghan Castelot, Mateo Cirioli, Renata Vos, Janice Daviault

### **For those new to our church (and even those who aren't!)**



To follow along with the Mass, begin on **page 63** in the Mass booklet. Father will announce which page to turn to for the Canon at the appropriate time and where to pick up the service following the Canon. Rules on the reception of the Holy Eucharist are on the back page of this bulletin.

**And please remember** – no eating or drinking inside the church proper (small bottles of water excepted).

**Please silence your cell phones before  
Mass.**

## Happy Father's Day!

We remember all the fathers and father figures in our lives who are celebrating today in heaven. We wish all those who are fathers, grandfathers, or father figures, a very happy and blessed day!

## Food collections – It's JUNE!



*During the month of June*, we are collecting kid-friendly non-perishable food to be given to Sterling House for their Food-4-Kids program which provides sustenance to children in Stratford. For these children, often their only meals are provided by their schools. With the current

school session ending this month, they will have no source of food for the duration of the summer break. Sterling House provides them a backpack's worth of food on a weekly basis for the summer to offset what they would normally get through their school. *Please join with us in helping supply Sterling House with food for these children.*

## Graduation celebration

Next week, on 22 June, there will be a small reception after Mass to celebrate our latest high school graduate, Julia Vasas, who will be graduated from Foran High School on the 11<sup>th</sup> and will be graduating the Educational Center for the Arts on the 17<sup>th</sup>. Please join us in congratulating her on this milestone accomplishment.



## Corpus Christi solemnity this Thursday

The Solemnity of Corpus Christi (the Body of Christ) falls on Thursday, 19 June 2025. This year, the Southwest Seniorate's commemoration of this Solemnity will take place at 6:00 p.m. at Holy Savior parish in Union City. Everyone is invited to attend. Individual parishes will celebrate Corpus Christi next Sunday.

## Cathedral of the Pines service – July 13th



Time to make your reservations for the annual Mass at the Cathedral of the Pines, 10 Hale Hill Road in Rindge, NH, commemorating all the deceased clergy of the

Eastern Diocese. The Mass on 13 July is followed by a dinner at a local restaurant for all attendees. The Mass starts at 3:30 p.m. and is usually held outside overlooking the beautiful mountains, but in case of inclement weather moves indoors. Dinner is a buffet-style event held nearby, allowing everyone to mingle and start or renew friendships with others in the diocese. Admission is **free**, but for meal planning purposes, please reserve your place using the RSVP button on the event page on the diocesan website –

[www.easterndiocesepnc.org/event/cathedral-of-the-pines](http://www.easterndiocesepnc.org/event/cathedral-of-the-pines)

Deadline to register for the dinner is 8 July. Hope to see you there!



### Crafts blessed today

During Mass, Father Tom will bless the latest offerings from the crafts group and the fleece blankets completed during the monthly coffee hours. They will then go to Yale-New Haven hospital to be distributed to those in need of God's comfort. Thank you to all who contributed to the making of these items!



# READINGS FOR THE SOLEMNITY OF THE HOLY TRINITY

## First Reading

Proverbs 8: 22-31

### **A Reading from the book of Proverbs:**

Thus says the wisdom of God:

"The LORD possessed me, the beginning of his ways,  
the forerunner of his prodigies of long ago;  
from of old I was poured forth,  
at the first, before the earth.

When there were no depths I was brought forth,  
when there were no fountains or springs of water;  
before the mountains were settled into place,  
before the hills, I was brought forth;  
while as yet the earth and fields were not made,  
nor the first clods of the world.

"When the Lord established the heavens I was there,  
when he marked out the vault over the face of the  
deep;  
when he made firm the skies above,  
when he fixed fast the foundations of the earth;  
when he set for the sea its limit,  
so that the waters should not transgress his  
command;

then was I beside him as his craftsman,  
and I was his delight day by day,  
playing before him all the while,  
playing on the surface of his earth;  
and I found delight in the human race."

The Word of the Lord

**R: Thanks be to God.**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**Ps. 8: 4-5, 6-7, 8-9**

**R: O Lord, our God, how wonderful your name in all the earth!**

When I behold your heavens, the work of your fingers,  
the moon and the stars which you set in place —  
What is man that you should be mindful of him,  
or the son of man that you should care for him?

**R: O Lord, our God, how wonderful your name in all the earth!**

You have made him little less than the angels,  
and crowned him with glory and honor.  
You have given him rule over the works of your hands,  
putting all things under his feet:

**R: O Lord, our God, how wonderful your name in all the earth!**

All sheep and oxen,  
yes, and the beasts of the field,

The birds of the air, the fishes of the sea,  
and whatever swims the paths of the seas.

**R: O Lord, our God, how wonderful your name in all the earth!**

## Second Reading

Rom 5: 1-5

### **A Reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Romans:**

Brothers and sisters:

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in hope of the glory of God.

Not only that, but we even boast of our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, and endurance, proven character, and proven character, hope, and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

The Word of the Lord

**R: Thanks be to God.**

C: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**R: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

C: Glory to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit;  
to God who is, who was, and who is to come.

**R: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

# THE GOSPEL

Jn 16: 12-15

C: The Lord be with you.

**R: And also with you.**

C: A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John.

**R: Glory be to You, O Lord.**

Jesus said to his disciples:

"I have much more to tell you, but you cannot bear it now. But when he comes, the Spirit of truth, he will guide you to all truth. He will not speak on his own, but he will speak what he hears, and will declare to you the things that are coming. He will glorify me, because he will take from what is mine and declare it to you.

Everything that the Father has is mine; for this reason I told you that he will take from what is mine and declare it to you."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**R: Praise be to You, Lord Jesus Christ.**

# Two Youth Programs upcoming – registration deadlines approaching

2025 EASTERN DIOCESE ALTAR SERVER RETREAT  
WEDNESDAY – JUNE 25, 2025  
BLESSSED TRINITY PARISH – FALL RIVER, MA  
"SERVING JESUS – LIVING GOD'S WORD"  
Blessed at Holy Mass with Holy Eucharist and choir of the Blessed  
Eucharist on day 1, Mass and Eucharist during the Eucharist of the Eucharist



Time in prayer, learning, fellowship and fun with your fellow  
Altar Servers - Plus a trip swimming at a local beach or bowling (subject to the weather)  
Open to Altar Servers of our Eastern Diocese



To register or for additional information contact:  
Fr. Dr. Bob Newkirk  
bobnewkirk@gmail.com

Two of our diocese's annual get-togethers for our young people are fast approaching! Flyers are posted on the bulletin board in the foyer.

First, the Eastern Diocese Acolyte Retreat for altar servers will be held on Wednesday, 25 June 2025, at Blessed Trinity Parish in Fall River. The topic this year is "Serving Jesus – Living God's Word." The day starts with Holy Mass at 9:00 a.m., continues with sessions pertinent to serving on the altar, and ends

with a fun afternoon of bowling or the beach, depending on the weather.

There is no charge for this event, however, altar servers **DO** need to register for it and fill out the health form if they will not have a parent or guardian present with them. Contact the office for a form.

The second event is the 52<sup>nd</sup> Youth Retreat, taking place at Camp Berea in Hebron, New Hampshire, from Monday - Thursday, 18 – 21 August 2025.

This year's theme is **"What can God do with You..."**. All sessions will be small group (based on age), hands-on and interactive. It is an exciting time of worship, prayer, learning, recreational activities at the lake and camp, a campfire, community service and more.

2025 YOUTH RETREAT  
EASTERN DIOCESE PNCC  
"WHAT CAN GOD  
DO WITH YOU..."

WOULD GOD USE  
SOMEONE LIKE  
ME?



Come and Worship, Learn and Have great lake fun!  
@ Camp Berea in Hebron, NH - August 18-21, 2025



Registration and Health Forms are available from your pastor  
or email: [retreat25@eddi.com](mailto:retreat25@eddi.com)  
Registration Deadline: June 25, 2025  
The cost is \$225 per person  
Follow us on Facebook: Eastern Diocese Youth

The retreat is open to diocesan youth ages 8 – 17 and again this year they can bring a friend (**even if the friend is not a member of our PNCC**). The cost per participant is \$225.00. Financial aid is available for those who need it. See the office for registration and health forms. **Deadline for registering is 25 June 2025.**

## Can't get to Mass?



The National Cathedral in Scranton, the Eastern Diocesan cathedral, and Holy Trinity parish in Southington (seat of the Southwestern Seniorate) have YouTube channels to which you can subscribe. All three channels archive the weekly Mass for later viewing. So, if you're away from home, or shut-in, you can still see a Mass from our Church.

Check them out –

<https://www.youtube.com/@bishoppaulsobiechowski9743> or

<https://www.youtube.com/@ststanislauscathedral> or

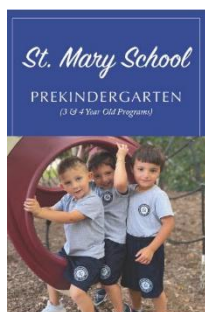
<https://www.youtube.com/@holytrinitypnccsouthington156>

## Blessed Items recycling

Blessed items should not be thrown out. As many of us downsize or clear out the homes of loved ones, we are faced with the problem of what to do with these items. If you have blessed items in need of a new home, bring them in and place them in the receptacle in the foyer and Father will give them to someone who needs them.



## St. Mary's School PreK – 3 openings



*Growing in  
Faith & Knowledge*

*Your premier Prekindergarten  
that sets the foundation for your  
child's life long learning.*

Exciting news for families with young learners! St. Mary School still has a few spots available in its beloved Pre-K 3 program! Don't miss this special opportunity to join a nurturing, faith-filled environment where children grow socially, emotionally, and academically in a warm, loving, and safe environment. You can apply now here: [www.saintmaryschoolmilford.org](http://www.saintmaryschoolmilford.org) - or email [admissions@smsmilford.com](mailto:admissions@smsmilford.com) with any questions. They look forward to welcoming you into the SMS family!

Flyers are available on the table in the foyer for anyone interested.

# WHAT'S HAPPENING AT YOUR CHURCH

**Thursday, 19 June 2025** – Southwest Seniorate Mass in commemoration of Corpus Christi, 6:00 p.m. at Holy Savior parish in Union City

**Sunday, 22 June 2025** – Reception for Julia Vasas' graduation after Mass in hall

**Wednesday, 25 June 2025** – Annual Acolyte Retreat, 9:30 a.m., Blessed Trinity parish, Fall River, MA

**Sunday, 13 July 2025** – Annual memorial Mass at the Cathedral of the Pines, 10 Hale Hill Road, Rindge, NH. 3:30 p.m.

**Wednesday, 16 July 2025** – Lord's Kitchen

**Monday – Thursday, 18-21 August 2025** – 52<sup>nd</sup> Eastern Diocese Youth Retreat, Camp Berea, Hebron, NH

## Lord's Kitchen dates announced

The next service dates for our parish at the Lord's Kitchen are Wednesday, 16 July, and Wednesday, 17 September. Anyone interested in helping on those dates, please contact Joe Shandrowski.

## Christmas is just around the corner

Planning has begun for the 2025 Christmas Crafts Fair, to be held on Saturday, 6 December.

Invitations to local vendors to exhibit with us will be sent out shortly, so if you know of a potential vendor, give their information to the office. Or pick up one of the applications that will soon be available on the table in the foyer and give it to them. If you know of a local business who might be willing to donate a raffle prize, let us know and they will be added to the list to be contacted in September.



Later this fall, we'll be soliciting donations for basket items and baked goods. It's not too early to think about, though. Keep an eye on the bulletin for more information as it becomes available.

Anyone interested in helping with this event in any capacity, please contact Lisa.

## Reception of the Holy Eucharist

Baptized Christians who believe in the Real Presence of Christ in the Holy Eucharist and are in a state of grace, free from mortal sin, are invited to partake of this Holy Sacrament. It is the practice of the PNCC to distribute the Holy Eucharist through the method of intinction. The Body of Christ is dipped into the Precious Blood and is placed on the tongue and not in the hand of the communicant. *If you are unable to receive the Precious Blood, please alert Father before Mass so that he is aware of the situation. If you would like to receive a blessing from Father instead of Communion, come to the altar rail with your arms crossed, palms on shoulders.* Come and let us be one with our Lord.



## Fireworks tailgating



The Town of Stratford will be holding their annual fireworks display on Wednesday, 2 July, 2025. Since the display takes place at nearby Short Beach and is visible from our parking lot, we have a tailgating “party” for parishioners and their friends/families.

Come early – gates open at 6:30 p.m. – and bring a picnic dinner to enjoy. Plenty of room for kids to play. Fireworks start at 8:45 p.m. if it's dark enough. View them from the lot or take the short walk down to the athletic fields at the beach and watch up close. Enjoy some down time afterwards while the traffic clears.

## Items for the bulletin

Deadline for submitting items for the bulletin is Thursday. Items turned in after Thursday are not guaranteed inclusion in the following Sunday's bulletin.

