

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



**July 13, 2025 – Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)**

## **Parish Contacts**

### *PASTOR*

#### *CHAIRPERSON*

Jeanine May

#### *VICE*

#### *CHAIRPERSON*

Dee Smith

#### *Financial*

#### *Secretary*

Barbara

Chernesky

#### *Office*

#### *Administrator*

Lisa Vasas

*“All will concede that in order to have good neighbors, we must also be good neighbors. That applies in every field of human endeavor.”*

*~Harry S Truman*

## **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, Richard David, 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 Wos, 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.**

## Thank you, Father Paul!

We want to thank Father Paul for coming down from Union City to celebrate the Mass again this week with us.

## Backpack items needed

Only **two weeks** left to contribute toward the back-to-school items for the underprivileged children in the community! The Town of Stratford holds an annual Back-to-School Fair where they pass out backpacks filled with school supplies to the children who cannot afford to purchase these supplies on their own. To that end, for the month of July we will be collecting items and backpacks. With the back-to-school sales in full swing, please consider picking up some of these items when next you go shopping. For a complete list of what is needed, please see the flyers on the foyer table and bulletin board. Thank you to those who have already contributed!



## Father Senior Krusienski funeral this Saturday

As many of you know, our beloved senior priest, the †Very Rev. Joseph Krusienski died on 28 June. His funeral is set to take place **this Saturday, 19 July, at 10:00 a.m.** out of his home parish, Holy Trinity, 200 Summer Street in Plantsville. **ALL ARE**

**INVITED TO ATTEND.** Our thoughts and prayers are with his family at this most difficult time.

## 1700<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Nicene Creed

One of the founding pillars of our worship, the Nicene Creed, is celebrating its 1700<sup>th</sup> “birthday” this year. To mark the occasion, there will be a special Zoom conference/podcast on Wednesday, 23 July 2025, at 7:00 p.m. If you would like to participate in this event, please contact the office for more information.

## Cathedral of the Pines service **today**



The annual service at the Cathedral of the Pines in Rindge, New Hampshire will be held this afternoon.

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. Hope to see you there!



## Items for the bulletin

**Please submit any items for the bulletins for the next three weeks as soon as possible.** The office will be on vacation at the end of the month and the bulletins will need to be prepared ahead of time. Thank you for your cooperation!

# READINGS FOR THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## First Reading

Deut. 30: 10-14

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

Moses said to the people:

"If only you would heed the voice of the LORD, your God, and keep his commandments and statutes that are written in this book of the law, when you return to the LORD, your God, with all your heart and all your soul.

"For this command that I enjoin on you today is not too mysterious and remote for you. It is not up in the sky, that you should say, 'Who will go up in the sky to get it for us and tell us of it, that we may carry it out?' Nor is it across the sea, that you should say, 'Who will cross the sea to get it for us and tell us of it, that we may carry it out?' No, it is something very near to you, already in your mouths and in your hearts; you have only to carry it out."

The Word of the Lord

**R: Thanks be to God.**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps. 69: 14, 17, 30-31, 33-34, 36, 37

**R: Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.**

I pray to you, O LORD,  
for the time of your favor, O God!  
In your great kindness answer me  
with your constant help.  
Answer me, O LORD, for bounteous is your kindness:  
in your great mercy turn toward me.

**R: Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.**

I am afflicted and in pain;  
let your saving help, O God, protect me.  
I will praise the name of God in song,  
and I will glorify him with thanksgiving.

**R: Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.**

"See, you lowly ones, and be glad;  
you who seek God, may your hearts revive!  
For the LORD hears the poor,  
and his own who are in bonds he spurns not."

**R: Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.**

For God will save Zion  
and rebuild the cities of Judah.  
The descendants of his servants shall inherit it,  
and those who love his name shall inhabit it.

**R: Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.**

## Second Reading

Col 1: 15-20

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

Christ Jesus is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For in him were created all things in heaven and on earth, the visible and the invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers; all things were created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things he himself might be preeminent.

For in him all the fullness was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile all things for him, making peace by the blood of his cross through him, whether those on earth or those in heaven.

The Word of the Lord

**R: Thanks be to God.**

C: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

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

C: Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life;  
you have the words of everlasting life.

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

## THE GOSPEL

Lk 10: 25-37

C: The Lord be with you.

**R: And also with you.**

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

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

There was a scholar of the law who stood up to test Jesus and said, "Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus said to him, "What is written in the law? How do you read it?" He said in reply, "*You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your being, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself.*" He replied to him, "You have answered correctly; do this and you will live."

But because he wished to justify himself, he said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man fell victim to robbers as he went down from Jerusalem to Jericho. They stripped and beat him and went off leaving him half-dead. A priest happened to be going down that road, but when he saw him, he passed by on the opposite side. Likewise a Levite came to the place, and when he saw him, he passed by on the opposite side. But a Samaritan traveler who came upon him was moved with compassion at the sight. He approached the victim, poured oil and wine over his wounds and bandaged them. Then he lifted him up on his own animal, took him to an inn, and cared for him. The next day he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper with the instruction, 'Take care of him. If you spend more than what I have given you, I shall repay you on my way back.' Which of these three, in your opinion, was neighbor to the robbers' victim?" He answered, "The one who treated him with mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

The Gospel of the Lord.

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



## Christmas Fair update

Talk about Christmas in July! Work is already underway for the 2025 Christmas Crafts Fair, to be held on Saturday, 6 December, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

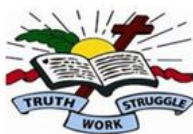
Invitations to local vendors to exhibit with us have been sent out, so **if you know of a potential vendor**, give their information to the office. Or pick up one of the **applications that are available on the table in the foyer** and give it to them. **If you know of a local business who might be willing to donate a raffle prize**, let us know and they will be added to the list to be contacted in September. Several vendors have already contacted the office about receiving the application to exhibit! Let's fill the hall (and the classrooms?) with a lot of skilled craftspeople to draw in the Christmas shopping crowds!



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. Already people have stepped up to volunteer help with the raffle tickets, the kitchen, the bake table, and food sales. Thank you! Many hands make the burden light!

## 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

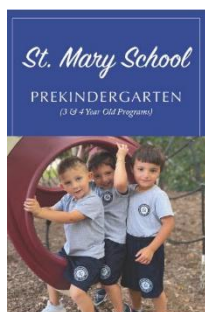
<https://www.youtube.com/@holyltrinitypnccsouthington156>

## 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 they will be given 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.

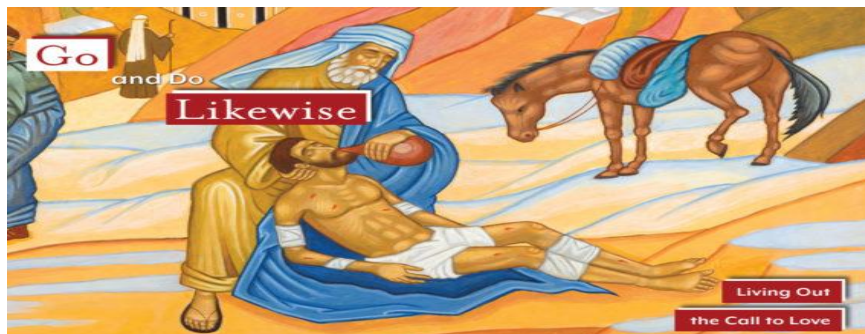
# WHAT'S HAPPENING AT YOUR CHURCH

**Sunday, 13 July 2025** – Mass at **NOON** with Father Paul

**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 service date

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



## Lord's Kitchen service dates

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.

## Retirement reception



The parish board is planning a farewell luncheon reception for Father Tom and Yvonne to wish them well in their retirement. The date is Sunday, 3 August, time to be dependent upon when Mass is held that day.

A signup sheet is on the table in the foyer, or you can contact Meg Krasko to make a reservation. Please do this soon so there is an accurate count of people for food planning purposes.

Also, if anyone is interested in making or bringing a dessert for the reception, there is a separate signup sheet in the foyer. Any questions, please contact Meg at .

## 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.



## Flowers for the altars



Flowers are a great way to commemorate an event or remember a loved one and a beautiful addition to the altars. Vases are available for floral arrangements, if needed.

Please see Dee to make provisions for your special week.

