

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

**1300 Stratford Road, Stratford, CT 06615 / ☎ (203) 377-9901**

*www.saintjosephsofstratford.org / sjosparishpncc@outlook.com*



**Second Sunday of Lent  
March 1, 2026 Year A**

**Sunday Mass at NOON**

**Parish Contacts:**

ADMINISTRATOR *Fr. Paul Dudek*

CHAIRPERSON *Jeanine May*

VICE CHAIR *Jeff Smith*

FINANCIAL SECRETARY *Barbara*

*Chernesky*

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR *Lisa Vasas*

## ***From the Mountain to Daily Life***

On this Second Sunday of Lent, the Gospel tells us that Jesus took Peter, James, and John up a high mountain to pray and they glimpsed His glory. Peter, amazed and stunned, wanted to pitch three tents and remain in that glory. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and the Father's voice announced, "This is my beloved Son... listen to Him."

We too experience moments "on the mountaintop", times of happiness, rapture, joy or simply moments when we feel God close to us. We wish such moments would last longer. But Jesus leads the disciples back down the mountain, into ordinary life.

Lent reminds us that faith is not only about bright moments when we are in church and feel close to God, but about trusting Him in our daily duties and struggles. The light of Christ strengthens us not to escape life but to live it with hope. As we continue our Lenten journey, may we listen to the Father's voice and follow His Son – both up the mountain and down into everyday love and service.

~ Fr. Paul

***We are a Catholic community called to serve God and neighbors through the Eucharist, prayer, education, and daily living of the Gospel values.***

***Everyone is always welcome to worship with us in our beautiful church.***

***It is a house of prayer for all, who with sincere heart desire to praise God.***



## Second Sunday in Lent

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

### PRAYER INTENTIONS

We remember in our prayers Fr. Bill, John (JR) Martikainen, Richard David, Bishop John Mack, Stella Shandrowski, Jane Pelland, Joe Pelland, Bishop Paul Sobiechowski, Karen Sobiechowski, Fr. Henry Smolinski & Margo, Ann Marie Egelski, Rich Lasecki, Edmond Bresh, Helen Reynolds, Helen Popp, Florence Rasmussen, Robin Lupinski, 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.**

## Coffee Hour TODAY!

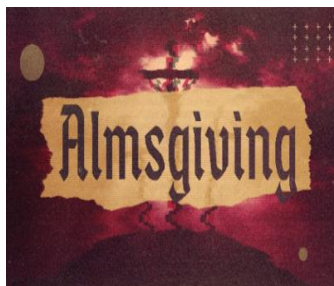


Our monthly fellowship luncheon/coffee hour will be held directly after Mass today. Please join us and have a bite to eat and something to drink while catching up with everyone on the events of the last month. Two blankets are ready for completing and the next winner of the monthly gift card raffle will be drawn. See you in the hall!

## Lenten Almsgiving

The three main tenets of Lent are prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Our Lenten Almsgiving obligation begins this week. A collection container is in the back of the church for your convenience. Put something in each week or wait until Holy Week to make your contribution. The money received will be donated after Easter to an organization of the parish's choosing.

We are looking for your suggestions as to where this money goes. *Please use the slips provided in the foyer to indicate who you'd like to see as the recipient of our collected donation this year* and place the paper in the receptacle for it. The results will be tabulated and published.



Let's make a concerted effort to provide whichever organization is chosen a donation that will allow them to further their good work in our community!

## Lord's Kitchen

Our parish's next service date at the Lord's Kitchen is on Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Joe Shandrowski if you are interested in helping with this.

## Mass of the Chrism announced

This year's Mass of the Chrism will be held on Tuesday, March 31<sup>st</sup> at 4:30 p.m. at Holy Cross Parish, 320 High Street, Central Falls, RI. Hope to see you there!

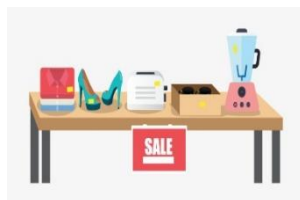
## Daylight Savings Time to begin



This Saturday evening, remember to set your clocks **AHEAD** one hour as Daylight Savings Time begins. We want to make sure you're on time for next Sunday's Mass and not an hour late!

## Spring Tag Sale – We have a date and time!

The parish will be holding an indoor/outdoor tag sale on **Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.** All proceeds will benefit the church and any goods not sold on that date will go to a collection center like Goodwill or Savers.



*Anyone interested in donating items to the tag sale* (spring cleaning, anyone?) *can now bring them in to classrooms for storage.* In fact, items have already been arriving for the sale! Thank you!

Help support our parish while you re-home your no-longer-needed items!

## This month – peanut butter



In March, we are asking you to bring in peanut butter, the most requested item at the food pantries. When you are shopping, please consider adding a jar (or more!) of this staple to your cart for those experiencing food insecurity. Donation bins are in the foyer marked with the icon for the item being collected. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

## Installation of parish committee

Installation of the parish committee members and officers will take place next week, March 8<sup>th</sup>, during Mass.

## Palm Sunday food stand

Colossal Kielbasa will hold their first stand of the season on Palm Sunday from 12:30 p.m. until 3:00 p.m. in the church parking lot.

# READINGS FOR THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

## First Reading

Gn 12: 1-4

### A Reading from the book of Genesis:

The LORD said to Abram:

“Go forth from the land of your kinsfolk and from your father’s house to a land that I will show you.

“I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you and curse those who curse you. All the communities of the earth shall find blessing in you.”

Abram went as the LORD directed him.

The Word of the Lord

**R: Thanks be to God.**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PS. 33: 4-5, 18-19, 20, 22

**R: Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.**

Upright is the word of the LORD,  
and all his works are trustworthy.

He loves justice and right;

of the kindness of the LORD the earth is full.

**R: Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.**

See, the eyes of the LORD are upon those who fear him,  
upon those who hope for his kindness,  
To deliver them from death  
and preserve them in spite of famine.

**R: Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.**

Our soul waits for the LORD,  
who is our help and our shield.  
May your kindness, O LORD, be upon us  
who have put our hope in you.

**R: Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.**

## Second Reading

2 Tm 1: 8-10

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

Beloved:

Bear your share of hardship for the gospel with the strength that comes from God. He saved us and called us to a holy life, not according to our works but according to his own design and the grace bestowed on us in Christ Jesus before time began, but now made manifest through the appearance of our savior Christ Jesus, who destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

The Word of the Lord

**R: Thanks be to God.**

C: Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory!

**R: Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory!**

C: From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard:  
This is my beloved Son, hear him.

**R: Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory!**

## THE GOSPEL

Mt 17: 1-9

C: The Lord be with you.

**R: And also with you.**

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

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

Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light. And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, conversing with him.

Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, "Lord, it is good that

we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.”

While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud cast a shadow over them, then from the cloud came a voice that said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.”

When the disciples heard this, they fell prostrate and were very much afraid. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Rise, and do not be afraid.”

And when the disciples raised their eyes, they saw no one else but Jesus alone. As they were coming down from the mountain, Jesus charged them, “Do not tell the vision to anyone until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Response to Intercessions: **Father, help us to listen to your Son.**



## “LIVING IN FAITH EVERY DAY”

25<sup>th</sup> National Mission & Evangelism Workshop

Polish National Catholic Church

Friday, May 29 - Sunday, May 31, 2026

Greetings from the Mission & Evangelism Commission of the PNCC.

We invite you to the 25<sup>th</sup> Mission & Evangelism Workshop, which will be held on Friday, May 29, through Sunday, May 31, 2026, at St. Joseph's Parish in Westfield, MA. We hope to see you there. Our goal for each Mission Workshop is that the faithful come away with a burning desire to bring the faith-driven work of the Workshop back to their parishes. Please consider participating in this event.

The registration fee is waived in order to support your cost of travel expenses. The deadline for registration is Wednesday, April 29, 2026. Please make your reservation by that date so St. Joseph's parish can prepare the food for this event.

Outreach to the community will be the support of the local charity, the Open Pantry. We will collect the monetary donations during the Workshop. We ask you to support that project.

If you have any questions, please contact:

Very Rev. Jaroslaw Nowak, Commission Chair  
Parish phone (313) 365-0218  
Email: Fr.J.Nowak@gmail.com

**The full conference invitation, including hotel information and conference schedule is posted on the bulletin board. Please see the office for a registration form.**

### **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.



St. Joseph's Church & Colossal Kielbasa

# Lent & Easter

## TRADITIONAL CLASSICS!

Order Today: [Platters@Colossalkielbasa.com](mailto:Platters@Colossalkielbasa.com)

Phone/Text: 203.209.9207

\*Colossalkielbasa.com

Convenient Colossal Kielbasa Kitchen/Pick Up Locations

St. Joseph's Church - 1300 Stratford Rd, Stratford

Portion of the Proceeds - Benefits Lord's Kitchen



### \*\*Lent Special - \$17.00\*\*

Eight Pack (with signature Onion/Garlic Sauce) Grill and Serve



### A. (25 Large) Scratch Made Pierogi - \$60.00

Hand-Rolled Pasta Shell Filled with Buttery Mashed Potato, Fresh Grated Cheese & Grilled Golden Brown in Our Signature Onion-Garlic (OG) Sauce

Half Platter - \$35.00



### B. (6) Colossal Kielbasa Links/Cut - \$60.00

Hardwood Smoked! Sliced into Delicious Bites & Grilled to Perfection! - Tossed in a Mild Sauerkraut and/or Our Homemade Onion-Garlic (OG) Sauce

Half Platter - \$35.00



### C. (10) Scratch Made Stuffed Cabbage (Golabki) - \$60.00

Delicious Combination of Beef, Rice and Special Seasoning, Wrapped in Tender Cabbage and Baked in Our Old-Country Scratch Made Red Sauce

Half Platter - \$35.00

### \*\*\*D. The "Polish Basket" - \$65.00 (Mix & Match)



## Want to request a Mass?



If you would like to have a Mass said for the repose of a loved one or to commemorate a special event, you can contact the office via phone or email or fill in a slip on the foyer table and leave it in the basket. We will try to accommodate your first choice of date and let you know when it has been added to the calendar.

# WHAT'S HAPPENING AT YOUR CHURCH

**Sunday, 1 March 2026** – Bitter Lamentations, Part II, 11:30 a.m.

**Friday, 6 March 2026** – Stations of the Cross, 6:30 p.m., followed by Exposition & Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament **at St. Joseph's**

**Saturday, 7 March 2026** – Diocesan Lenten Retreat held at St. Casimir's Parish in Wallingford, CT

**Saturday, 7 March 2026** – **Daylight Savings Time Begins!**

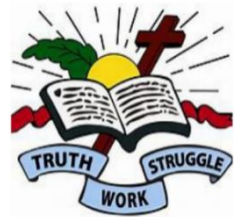
**Sunday, 8 March 2026** – Solemnity of the Institution of the PNCC. Parish committee officers and members will be sworn in during Mass

**Thursday, 12 March 2026** – Know & Grow Zoom session, 7:00 p.m. See article below

**Tuesday, 31 March 2026** – Mass of the Chrism, 4:30 p.m. at Holy Cross parish, 320 High Street, Central Falls, RI

## Next Know & Grow session

The third offering in the 2026 Know & Grow series will be held on **Thursday, March 12, 2026, at 7:00 PM (EDT)**. This year's topics center around the theme of **Christian Living**, allowing church members to better understand the faith they share and to feel comfortable sharing that faith with others.



This month, Father Justin Daviault from Holy Trinity parish in Plantsville, CT, will help us to explore the topic of:

### ***Struggling with sin and forgiving others***

Each unit will have biblical texts as a starting point, with lecture, meditation, discussion, and practical life applications.

To join via Zoom, please contact [revpauls@yahoo.com](mailto:revpauls@yahoo.com) or [ksobiechowski@yahoo.com](mailto:ksobiechowski@yahoo.com)

~ Eastern Diocese Mission and Evangelism Commission

## 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.

## LENTEN RETREAT

For Southwest Seniorate

**SATURDAY, March 7<sup>th</sup>**

St. Casimir's PNCC, 240 Quinnipiac Street  
Wallingford, CT 06492

**You're Invited to Pray with Us!**

### Schedule:

- 10:00 AM - Holy Mass
- 10:45 AM - Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament
- 11:00 AM - Snacks and Coffee
- 11:15 AM - Session 1 by Fr. Adam Piekarzewski
- 12:00 PM - Break
- 12:15 PM - Session 2 by Fr. Paul Dudek
- 1:00 PM - Reflections Fr. Justin Daviault
- 1:30 PM - Lunch
- 2:00 PM - Repose of the Sacrament and Dismissal

Please bring: Yourselfes  
RSVP to: Fr. Justin @ [revjustinpnc@gmail.com](mailto:revjustinpnc@gmail.com)  
or 860-628-0736