

# WELCOME TO ST. JAMES PARISH

## March 4, 2018 – 3rd Sunday of Lent

### Our Mission

*See a face, learn a name, hear a story. Love one another!*

*(Please use a name tag. This will help in getting to know each other in our Community of Faith).*

### OUR MINISTRIES

#### EUCCHARISTIC CELEBRATIONS:

*Monday, Wednesday, and Friday: 8:00 a.m.*

*Tuesday and Thursday: 5:30 p.m.*

*Saturday: 8:00 a.m.*

*Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:30 p.m.*

*Sunday Masses: 7:30 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 11:15 a.m., 6:00 p.m.*

#### PARISH CENTER CHAPEL

##### Eucharistic Adoration:

*Monday—Friday—9:00 a.m. –5:00 p.m.*

*Divine Mercy Chaplet: Friday— 3:00 p.m.*

*Wheelchair accessible*

#### PARISH CENTER HOURS:

*Monday—Friday—9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.*

**THE SACRAMENT OF THE SICK:** will be Mondays at the 8:00 a.m. Eucharist. Prior notice is not necessary

All those who are dealing with a serious illness and/or will be undergoing surgery during that week are invited to receive this sacrament.

**THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:** Parents must register with Patty D'Andrea at the Parish Center to schedule a baptism and to receive information regarding a mandatory Pre-Baptism class.

#### **SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:** (Church)

*Saturdays: 12:15 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. , Thursday before First Friday:*

*4:45 p.m. to 5:15 p.m. or by appointment*

**PARISH NURSES:** If you would like to meet with a Parish Nurse, please call Margie Balint at 203- 378-3081

2110 Main Street, Stratford, CT 06615  
Telephone 203-375-5887  
Fax. 203-378-1562 - [www.stjamesstratford.com](http://www.stjamesstratford.com)

Compassion, Non-violence  
Justice , Unconditional forgiveness,  
Unconditional love  
Peacemaking

**Pastor:** Rev. Thomas F. Lynch

**Associate Pastor:** Rev. Rogerio Perri

**Deacon:** John Piatak

#### **Adult Pastoral Ministry**

- **Ministry with Men:** Jim Travers, Bob Carriero, Tom Gilbertie, Jeff Nocchioli, Mike Curran
- **Ministry with Women:** Angie deMello & Mary Tesla

#### **Communal Prayer**

##### **Worship**

- **Liturgical Ministers:**
- **Liturgical Music:** Jeremy Hutchins
- **Liturgical Environment:** Michele Hoekenga

#### **Pastoral Services**

- **Faith Study:** Betsy Redgate
- **Principal St. James School:** Jack Lynch
- **Ministry with Teens** Bob Nagy and Karen Smith
- **Ministry with Sick & Shut-Ins:** Pat Stockdale
- **Charity, Justice, and Peacemaking:** Janine Walsh
- **PATH—**Debby Carroll
- **St. James Prison Ministry** - Alphonse DeJulio and Denis Granado
- **Prayer Shawl Ministry—**Mary Perille
- **Gratitude Ministry—** Suzanne Smith, Jane Begnino, Elaine Letsch, Terry Van Dam, Ligia Masilamani
- **Young Adult Network—**Ruwani Williams

#### **Support Services**

- **Pastoral Council:** Tom Kelly
- **Finance Council:** Dan Caron
- **Pastoral Planning Team:** Richard Zboray
- **Pastoral Stewardship:** David Zamachaj
- **Business Manager:** Natalia Zamachaj
- **Business Office:** Dolores Lathlean
- **Parish Manager:** Marcy Kelly
- **Administrative Assistant:** Patty D'Andrea
- **Digital Ministry:** Tonya Overby
- **Parish Personnel Manager:** Paul Fasold

## MASS INTENTIONS

**Monday, March 5 2018**  
8:00 a.m. Josephine Takach

**Tuesday, March 6, 2018**  
5:30 p.m. Christine Lowthian

**Wednesday, March 7, 2018**  
8:00 a.m. Gaspar Simon

**Thursday, March 8 , 2018**  
5:30 p.m. Belette Brutus

**Friday, March 9 , 2018**  
8:00 a.m. Josephine Shea

**Saturday, March 10 , 2018**  
8:00 a.m. St. James Parishioners Living and Deceased  
4:30 p.m. William and Julia Kovacs

**Sunday, March 11, 2018**  
7:30 a.m. Marian Blawie  
9:15 a.m. Olivia Sylvia  
11:15 a.m. Jose Santiago  
6:00 p.m. Jackeline Sanchez

*If you have offered a mass for someone and would like to bring the gifts up, please see the acolyte 15 minutes prior to mass to sign in*

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:** - Claire Hromjak, Mike Perille, Hank McLaughlin , Jason Corona, Rhina and BillCarmona, Andrew Donovan, Robert Lambert, Val Jones, Fr. Leonel Medeiros, Peter Hart, Fr. Marus, Maria Vazquez, Victor, Jeremy Hutchins, Lucas McHale, Kathy Faryniarz, Alphonse, Jenna Reggio, Izabel Perri, John Ebert, Bryan Barry, Joseph (Stan ) Koskowitz, Frank Munley, Mark Toresso, Edmund Ramos, James Ramos, Timothy Shanley, Mary Semedo, Carlos Ramos, Rose Martire, Bob Rosenbaum, Jo-Ann Pressman, Marilyn Gardner, Doreen Hunt, Jennie Mihocko and Elaine Gearity and Marge Tamas., Seeley Jennings, Kathy Sullivan, Nancy Roberts, Linda Dunn, John Kenyhercz, Dorothy Gilliam, Cori Farinaryz, Chris Farinaryz, Barbara O'Brien, Robert Hayes, Jenna Strickland

## **SOCIAL OUTREACH**

Janine Walsh

Needs for The Bridge—Thank you for your continued support of our Bridge ministry. Donations are gratefully accepted throughout each month. Currently our inventory is low on the following items: - shampoo, conditioner, lotion, toilet paper,

Food Pantry—Thank you to our parishioners who continue to donate food items every week to support our neighbors in need. Through your generosity, we are able to give out 60-70 bags (on average)

## Weekly Offertory

Week Ending 2/18/2018

	<u>2017-18</u>	<u>2016-17</u>
In Church Collections	\$7,367.25	\$8,196.75
Electronic Offertories	<u>\$4,467.33</u>	<u>\$4,589.49</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$11,834.58</b>	<b>\$12,786.24</b>

## PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING:

**SEVEN DAY VIGIL CANDLES: 3/3/18--3/9/18)**

*Church Tabernacle : Victims of Parkland Florida shooting  
Chapel Tabernacle : Survivors of Parkland Florid shooting*

**CHAPEL INTERCESSORY CANDLES: (3/3/18-3/9/18)**

**Candles will burn for the following intentions:**

**Candle # 1: All men and women in the military**

**Candle # 2: For the prayer intentions submitted through on-line giving**

## MINISTRY WITH SICK AND SHUT-IN

Pat Stockdale - Please contact the Parish Center if you know of a parishioner who is in the hospital or nursing home so that we can arrange a visit from a member of our ministry.

## **Readings for March 11, 2018**

*1st Reading :* [2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23](#)

*Second Reading:* [Eph 2:4-10](#)

*Gospel:* [jn 3:14-21](#)

The Diocesan Youth Pilgrimage will take place Saturday, March 24th at St. Charles Borromeo Church, 391 Ogden Street in Bridgeport, and will include an opportunity for Eucharistic Adoration, a chance to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation, a concert with Steve Angrisano and prayer with Bishop Caggiano. All young people in grades 6 thru 12 are invited enter the journey of Holy Week by spending some time in prayer with your friends and family. To register visit [www.thechurchneedsyou.org](http://www.thechurchneedsyou.org). For more information contact the Office of Faith Formation at 203- 416-1670.

**Tuesday, March 13—  
daily mass will be at 8:00 a.m.**

Personal Care Assistant for homecare for a female . A variety of personal care tasks including bathing, dressing, feeding are required. Approximately 20 hours/week. Morning, evening, and weekend hours available. Please call Rich at 203-375-2931 for more information.

## MINISTRY WITH MEN

Jim Travers, Bob Carriero, Tom Gilbertie,  
Jeff Noccioli, Mike Curran

**Communion Breakfast – Thank you, Father Tom**—A tremendous thank you to our speaker Father Tom, and to the close to 180 men, who gathered together last Sunday for our annual Communion breakfast. What a witness our pastor gave to those difficult instances in his own life, and ministry; moments that became lasting examples of God having a tangible, lasting and transcendent effect on his own journey. “Bloom where you’re planted” was his mantra, and his advice, to those of us who enjoyed “his story” last week. Thank you, Fr. Tom, for reminding us that no matter what the weather is, Spring is never that far away.

**Beloved Sons**—Our nest men’s ministry Beloved Sons gathering is scheduled for this coming Saturday March 17 (6:15-7:45 AM) at the parish center. As we do twice every month (first Thursday/third Saturday) we’ll be sharing and reflecting on the gospel for that weekend, the 5th Sunday in Lent (JN 12:20-33). Now just one week away from Holy Week; why not consider joining Philp, Andrew and the other disciples at the Passover feast. As we ask ever week...how’s your Lent going so far?

## FAITH FORMATION

Betsy Redgate

**Lenten Prayer Aids** are available in the front entrance of the church and at the Parish Center.

**Scripture Study Programs** offered throughout the year at St. James! Acts of the Apostle begins Wednesday, March 7, 9:30-11:00 and meets for six weeks. Call or stop by Parish Center to register.

**Best Lent Ever!** Sign up at [DynamicCatholic.com/SignUp](http://DynamicCatholic.com/SignUp) to receive inspirational videos, practical tips and encouraging stories to help make Lent a transformative time for you.

## 2018 Annual Catholic Appeal *(Joy in Christ, Our Gift to Share)*

*“Share your bread with the hungry, shelter the oppressed and the homeless; clothe the naked when you see them, and do not turn your back on your own.” - Isaiah 58:7*

When I first read this passage I thought of Matthew 25. But this passage comes from Isaiah in the Old Testament.

Not all of us can personally shelter the oppressed and the homeless. We might not know of someone who does have enough to clothe their family. But through the Annual Catholic Appeal we can heed Isaiah’s proclamation and ‘...not turn your back on your own...’.

If you have already donated—’**Thank You!**’. If not, please consider Isaiah’s exhortation as you pray and talk to God about donating to the Annual Catholic Appeal.

May your journey during Lent bring you closer to the God

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**Appeal Update:** As of Friday, February 23, St. James parishioners have donated \$16,135 to this year’s appeal. That is, 12.41% of our \$130,000 goal.

## LENT 2018

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

**Tuesdays** – March 6, March 13, March 20  
March 27 7:00 -9:00 p.m.

### A Day for the Sacrament of Reconciliation

**Tuesday, March 13, 2018 - 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.**

Fr. Tom and Fr. Rogerio will be available for Confession and healing prayer.

### Communal Penance Service for Adults, Youth & Children—Tuesday, March 20, 2018 - 7:00 p.m.

### Devotional Opportunities

**Stations of the Cross** - All parishioners are invited to participate in personal stations at any time.

**Stations of the Cross**—Fridays at 7:00 p.m. –  
Church  
March 2, 9, 16, 30

### **“The Living Stations of the Cross”**

Friday, March 23 12:30p.m. & 7:30 p.m.  
*with the children of St. James School*

### **Eucharistic Adoration in the Parish Chapel**

*-Practice the art of solitude and silence—*  
Monday- Friday – 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

### Prayer Opportunities

#### Taize Prayer Service

**Tuesday, March 27-7:00-8:00p.m.-Parish Center Chapel**  
Spend an hour before the Eucharist in silent prayer and listening to the contemplative chanting of the monastic community of Taize, France.

### Silent Together: Weekly Centering Prayer

**Wednesdays 7:00 -8:00 p.m.** – Parish Center Chapel  
March 7, 14, 21, 28

### **Ministry with Women**

#### **Lenten Retreat – Saturday, March 17, 2018 -**

#### **Befriending the Universe**

**Celtic Spirituality as our Christian Heritage – Chapel and Parish Center**

8:00 a.m. Eucharist

9:00 a.m. – Retreat

### Ministry with Men

#### **Beloved Sons – Parish Center**

Saturday, March 17– 6:45 a.m.

## March for Our Lives – March 24, 2018

Connecticut State Capitol

210 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106

12:30 p.m.

Please contact Marcy at the parish center if you are interested in attending. We are looking to form carpools to travel to Hartford.

## Progressive Solemnity—Music during Lent

The music chosen for use at St. James is based on the church's official (yet little known) liturgical principle called progressive solemnity. In most churches this ideal of progressive solemnity is largely overlooked - and this is unfortunate.

Each liturgical season should have a distinctively different tone and feeling, and during Lent, even more so. Progressive solemnity, at its essence, establishes a hierarchy of importance both within a given mass, and more broadly, across the liturgical year. For example - in terms of the mass, the highest musical priority is designated as the "ordinary" parts of the mass, and if nothing else is sung, the ordinary parts should be - these ordinary parts are the parts that never change - or the mass parts.

So often churches will sing 4 hymns and read the mass parts, which is liturgically incorrect. In terms of the liturgical year, Lent comes in absolute last in priority - in fact, in the liturgical document it is recommended that mass is either musicless or that it's limited to the ordinary part during Lent. The reason for this is that Lent, by its very nature, is a time of 40 days in the desert, of subsistence, of fasting and surrender, of a stripping away.

Musically, Lenten Sundays should not be just another series of 4 song masses, with songs around the Lenten themes. It must be dramatically set apart. Other symbolic representations of this - during Lent we don't recite the Gloria, Alleluias are eliminated, holy water is to be removed from the font, and even statues are meant to be covered. In other words, *less is more during Lent*. This is why the Easter water and sprinkling is such a dramatic symbol at Easter. In addition, the repetition of a selected number of appropriately themed songs allows the congregation to learn them thoroughly, and, as Fr. Tom says, to bring these texts/ lyrics, from the page to the heart. This takes time. In addition, this repetition clearly sets the Lenten season apart in its starkness. This intentionally and strategically low-key season then powerfully gives way to Easter, when the music is triumphant, energetic, and varied. Without this pulling back, there is no dramatic explosion on our most Holy of Holy Days.

But, the very repetition that makes it boring encourages us to go deeper, become more reflective, to hunker down into ourselves in order to discover something new. The repetition serves us in the same way as a mantra or repeated sacred word during meditation except that it moves us to a deeper and more sacred place.