

St Joseph's of Stratford Parish

National Catholic Church

Since 1907

Weekly Bulletin



Third Sunday Ordinary Time, Year C

January 27th, 2019

PARISH CONTACTS

ADMINISTRATOR
Fr. Tom Walsh

PARISH CHAIRPERSON
Jeanine May

VICE CHAIRPERSON
Dee Smith

FINANCE SECRETARY
Valerie Chernesky

Dear Parishioners,

In today's Gospel passage we see Jesus announcing his ministry to the people in his hometown as the fulfillment of the prophet Isaiah's prophecy. They were amazed at the power of his speaking but could not get beyond the Jesus they saw before them, the Jesus who grew up in their midst. They failed to see the extraordinary, the Son of God. They could only see the ordinary, the son of Joseph. How often do we fail to see the extraordinary amid the ordinary in our lives?

Grace and Peace,

Fr. Tom

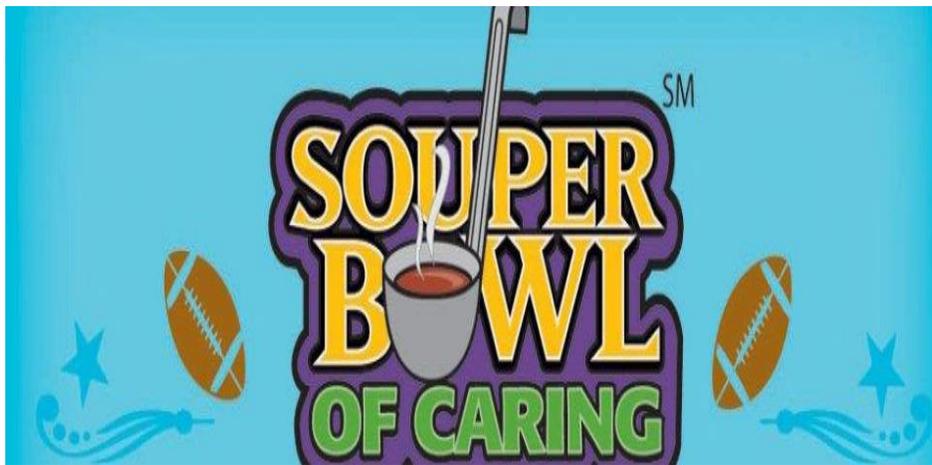
MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 5:00 pm - Sunday Vigil **Sunday:** 9:30 am

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"Lord, as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us be mindful of those who are without a bowl of soup to eat."

On February 2 and 3, the weekend of Super Bowl LIII, St. Joseph's will once again participate in the "Souper Bowl of Caring". Parishioners are asked to remember our hungry neighbors by donating cans of soup and other non-perishable food items to the food pantry. Monetary donations added to the "soup pot" will be used to purchase gift cards to help those in need buy meat, dairy items, baby food, etc.

Did you know? Americans will consume 1.25 *billion* chicken wings and one in seven (or 48 million) will order takeout or have food delivered to them on game day. Sixty percent of takeout orders will be pizza. While wings and pizza are the two most popular Super Bowl snacks, chips are close behind with an expected 11 million pounds of chips to be consumed, as well as an estimated 4 million pounds of pretzels and 2.5 million pounds of nuts.

Did you know? Nearly half a million Connecticut residents struggle with hunger. These are people from all walks of life – children, working parents, seniors or people living with disabilities. They are our neighbours, and they need our help. Thank you.

PARISH CALENDAR

January

Sunday the 27th The Annual Parish Meeting will be held after Mass.

Blessing of Homes Please see Fr. Tom to schedule a time for your home to be blessed. Typically, this blessing is done during the first few weeks of January around the Feast of the Epiphany, January 6th.

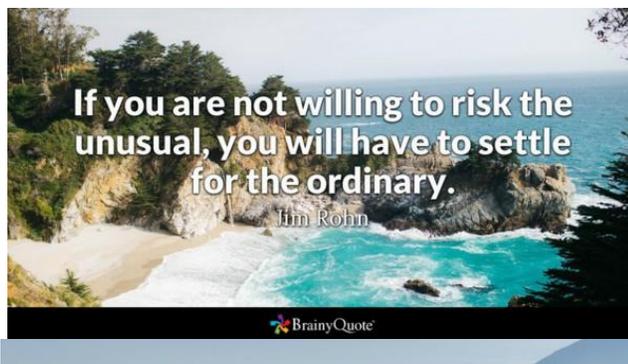
BY THE WEEK

Sundays: Mercy Tabernacle Church
12:30 - 2:30 pm
Tuesdays: Mercy Tabernacle Church
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Wednesdays: AA meeting 12:00 pm
Irish Dance, 5:30 – 7:00pm
Thursdays: AA men's meeting 7:30 pm

For news input in the weekly bulletin, please contact Father Tom by Wednesday: frtpwalsh@gmail.com

READERS ROSTER

| <u>January 13</u> | <u>January 20</u> | <u>January 27</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Joe Pelland | Jean Macionus | Charles Vasas |



PRAYER INTENTIONS

The faith community of St. Joseph's of Stratford offers healing prayers for **Ed Slonina and Ray Morrison**.

For those intentions that we hold in our hearts known to God alone.

NEWS AND EVENTS

Food Pantry and "Clothes Closet" Items

Please remember that items for the food pantry and clean, usable clothing can be brought in at any time during the month for delivery to Blessed Sacrament and the South End Community Center.

"For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me. . . Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me." (Matthew 25:35-36, 40)

Action item for implementation from Holy Synod for Increased Spirituality

A 10 to 15 minute "business free zone" prior to the celebration of Holy Mass for priest and faithful. Use at least page 8 of the Mass booklets for spiritual preparation as well as other introductory pages. Let us prepare properly for the wonderful gifts of Christ in the Eucharist and hearing of God's Word during the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

Election of Delegates for Spojnia Credit Union

St. Joseph's was asked to elect two delegates to attend the 33rd Convention of the Spojnia Credit Union to be held on a cruise. The delegates must be members of the credit union. Details to follow. If interested, please speak to Fr. Tom.

Bulletins courtesy of John Misurale, January - February 2019. If anyone wishes to contribute to the printing cost of the bulletin, please see Fr. Tom.

Sunday Readings

First Reading

Nehemiah 8:2-6, 8-10

A reading from the Book of Nehemiah

Ezra the priest brought the law before the assembly, which consisted of men, women, and those children old enough to understand. Standing at one end of the open place that was before the Water Gate, he read out of the book from daybreak till midday, in the presence of the men, the women, and those children old enough to understand; and all the people listened attentively to the book of the law. Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden platform that had been made for the occasion. He opened the scroll so that all the people might see it — for he was standing higher up than any of the people —; and, as he opened it, all the people rose. Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people, their hands raised high, answered, "Amen, amen!" Then they bowed down and prostrated themselves before the LORD, their faces to the ground. Ezra read plainly from the book of the law of God, interpreting it so that all could understand what was read. Then Nehemiah, that is, His Excellency, and Ezra the priest-scribe and the Levites who were instructing the people said to all the people: "Today is holy to the LORD your God. Do not be sad, and do not weep"— for all the people were weeping as they heard the words of the law. He said further: "Go, eat rich foods and drink sweet drinks, and allot portions to those who had nothing prepared; for today is holy to our LORD. Do not be saddened this day, for rejoicing in the LORD must be your strength!"

**The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm

Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life.

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 12:12-14, 27

A reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and sisters:
As a body is one though it has many parts,
and all the parts of the body, though many, are one
body, so also Christ.

For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, slaves or free persons, and we were all given to drink of one Spirit. Now the body is not a single part, but many. You are Christ's body, and individual parts of it.

**The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia, Alleluia

The Lord sent me to bring glad tidings to the poor, and to proclaim liberty to captives.

Alleluia, Alleluia

Gospel

Luke 1:1-4, 4:14-21

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke

Since many have undertaken to compile a narrative of the events that have been fulfilled among us, just as those who were eyewitnesses from the beginning and ministers of the word have handed them down to us, I too have decided, after investigating everything accurately anew, to write it down in an orderly sequence for you, most excellent Theophilus, so that you may realize the certainty of the teachings you have received.

Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news of him spread throughout the whole region. He taught in their synagogues and was praised by all.

He came to Nazareth, where he had grown up, and went according to his custom into the synagogue on the sabbath day. He stood up to read and was handed a scroll the prophet Isaiah. He unrolled the scroll and found the passage where it was written:

*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring glad tidings to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to let the oppressed go free,
and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord.*

Rolling up the scroll, he handed it back to the attendant and sat down, and the eyes of all in the synagogue looked intently at him. He said to them, "Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing."

**The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to You, Lord Jesus Christ.**

