

St Joseph's of Stratford Parish

National Catholic Church

Since 1907

Weekly Bulletin



Second Sunday of Lent, Year C

March 17th, 2019

PARISH CONTACTS

ADMINISTRATOR
Fr. Tom Walsh

PARISH CHAIRPERSON
Jeanine May

VICE CHAIRPERSON
Dee Smith

FINANCE SECRETARY
Barbara Chernesky

Dear Parishioners,

In this passage recounting Jesus' Transfiguration, we see Moses and Elijah conversing with Jesus about his exodus that he is going to accomplish in Jerusalem. This connection to the Hebrew exodus provides context to Jesus' passion, death, and resurrection. Both speak of a movement from separation to wholeness. For the Hebrews, while in Egypt they were separated from the nation God called them to be. Their exodus brought them to a place of wholeness where they could find expression as God's chosen people. For Jesus, his exodus in Jerusalem brought humanity to a place of wholeness where we could find expression as children of God.

This understanding of Jesus' exodus provides context for our Lenten journey. We understand Lent as our exodus from separation to wholeness. From the bondage of personal sin separating us from God, to the wholeness we experience as children of God, free to participate in divinity.

Grace and Peace,
Fr. Tom

MASS SCHEDULE

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

1300 Stratford Road, Stratford CT 06615-7639

Tel: 203 377-9901 (office), 203 923-2424 (rectory), Fax: 203 375-6439

www.saintjosephsofstratford.org



St. Paddy's Day Trivia

We Should Really Wear Blue

Saint Patrick himself would have to deal with pinching on his feast day. His color was "Saint Patrick's blue," a light shade. The color green only became associated with the big day after it was linked to the Irish independence movement in the late 18th century.

Saint Patrick Was British

Although he made his mark by introducing Christianity to Ireland in the year 432, Patrick wasn't Irish himself. He was born to Roman parents in Scotland or Wales in the late fourth century.

The Lingo Makes Sense

You can't attend a Saint Patrick's Day event without hearing a cry of "Erin go Bragh." What's the phrase mean? It's a corruption of the *Irish Éirinn go Brách*, which means roughly "Ireland Forever."

There's a Reason for The Shamrocks

How did the shamrock become associated with Saint Patrick? According to Irish legend, the saint used the three-leafed plant as a metaphor for the Holy Trinity when he was first introduced Christianity to Ireland.

PARISH CALENDAR

Tuesday March 19th Adult study *Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible* to meet at 6:30pm in the classroom.

Thursday March 21th Adult study *Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible* to meet at 10:00am in the classroom.

Fridays of Lent Pray the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary at 11:00am. Pot Luck Supper followed by Stations of the Cross, beginning at 6:00pm. A sign-up sheet is available if you chose to host a meal for a particular Friday.

Sunday March 17, 24 & 31 Service of Bitter Lamentations at 9:00am followed by Mass.

Wednesday March 27th St. Joseph's will be serving at the Lord's Kitchen.

Sunday, March 31 CROP Hunger Walk Kickoff Rally at 2:00pm, Trumbull Congregational Church, 3115 Reservoir Avenue, Trumbull, CT.

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>March 17</u>	<u>March 24</u>	<u>March 31</u>
Nancy Sirois	Ray Morrison	Nancy Anzalone

The roster for the entire year is posted on the Church web site. On the Home page click on the link *Schedule for Lectors* in the *Information* box.



Fear ye not, stand still,
and see the salvation of the Lord,
which he will shew to you to day.
Exodus 14:13 (King James Version)

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Sunday Mass is offered for Mary Rose Patton, for the repose of her soul.

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

Daytime & Evening Adult Study Sessions

The adult study, "Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible," has begun. If you did not sign up for the study no problem, just come! The days and times are as follows:

Tuesdays at 6:30pm, March 12 – April 30
Thursdays at 10am, March 14 – May 9

Register with St. Joseph's

Please visit the new web site for the Church at saintjosephsofstratford.org. Links to the old web site will get you there. On the Home page click on the link *Please Tell Us About Yourself* in the *Register With Us* box. In addition to your name, address, and contact information space is provided for you to share your thoughts about how St. Joseph's can better serve your spiritual needs. All information you provide is confidential, not visible to the public.

Church Dues

Church dues for individuals is \$108 per year. \$216 per year for couples/family.

Bulletins courtesy of Joyce Bresh, March - April 2019. If anyone wishes to contribute to the printing cost of the bulletin, please see Fr. Tom.

Sunday Readings

First Reading

Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18

A reading from the Book of Genesis

The Lord God took Abram outside and said, "Look up at the sky and count the stars, if you can. Just so," he added, "shall your descendants be." Abram put his faith in the LORD, who credited it to him as an act of righteousness. He then said to him, "I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land as a possession." "O Lord GOD," he asked, "how am I to know that I shall possess it?" He answered him, "Bring me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old she-goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." Abram brought him all these, split them in two, and placed each half opposite the other; but the birds he did not cut up. Birds of prey swooped down on the carcasses, but Abram stayed with them. As the sun was about to set, a trance fell upon Abram, and a deep, terrifying darkness enveloped him. When the sun had set and it was dark, there appeared a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch, which passed between those pieces. It was on that occasion that the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying: "To your descendants I give this land, from the Wadi of Egypt to the Great River, the Euphrates."

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

Responsorial Psalm

The Lord is my light and my salvation.

Second Reading

Philippians 3:20- 4:1

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians

Brothers and sisters:
Our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we also await a savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will change our lowly body to conform with his glorified body by the power that enables him also to bring all things into subjection to himself. Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, in this way stand firm in the Lord, beloved.

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

Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory

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

Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory

Gospel

Luke 9:28-36

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus took Peter, John, and James and went up the mountain to pray. While he was praying his face changed in appearance and his clothing became dazzling white. And behold, two men were conversing with him, Moses and Elijah, who appeared in glory and spoke of his exodus that he was going to accomplish in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions had been overcome by sleep, but becoming fully awake, they saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As they were about to part from him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good that we are here; let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." But he did not know what he was saying. While he was still speaking, a cloud came and cast a shadow over them, and they became frightened when they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my chosen Son; listen to him." After the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. They fell silent and did not at that time tell anyone what they had seen.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

