



Reverend Nicholas Pavia, Pastor
Faith Formation
Deacon Thomas Fekete, Director

Reverend Michael A. Boccaccio
In Residence

Mr. Michael Petreycik, Director
Music Ministry

Mrs. Karen Capozziello, Cantor

Mr. Martin Tristine,
Finance Committee Chairperson
Telephone Number 203-732-5575

Mrs. Pia Ramadanovic, Administration

SACRAMENTS

BAPTISMS: By arrangement

RECONCILIATION-CONFESSON-PENANCE:

Saturday: 3:15 to 4:00 p.m.

Other times by appointment

MATRIMONY: Arrangements must be made with the Pastor at least (8) eight months in advance of the date. *Before social plans are made.*

R.C.I.A.: Adults interested in becoming members of the Catholic Church and those who wish to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, First Eucharist, and Confirmation are asked to contact the Parish Office.

NEW PARISHIONERS

Welcome to Our Parish Family!

Please visit the Parish Office to register and complete a Census Card.



The Sanctuary Candle
burns this week in memory of
The Parishioners

DAILY MASS:

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday ~ 8:30 a.m.
Rosary: 8:00 a.m.

No Mass or Rosary Monday and Tuesday

SATURDAY: Vigil ~ 4:30 p.m.

SUNDAY: 8:30 a.m. ~ 11:00 a.m. ~ 4:30 p.m.

DEVOTION:

SUNDAY: DIVINE MERCY HOLY HOUR ~ 3:00-4:00 p.m.

**The Church is open for private prayer
(except during Mass)**

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon

FAITH FORMATION: 203-377-4863 ext. 15

Email: dnfekete@diobpt.org or olopreled@sbcglobal.net

PARISH OFFICE: 203-377-4863 ext. 10

Address: 10 Ivy Street, Stratford, CT 06615

Hours: Wednesday and Friday 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Thursday 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Closed Monday and Tuesday

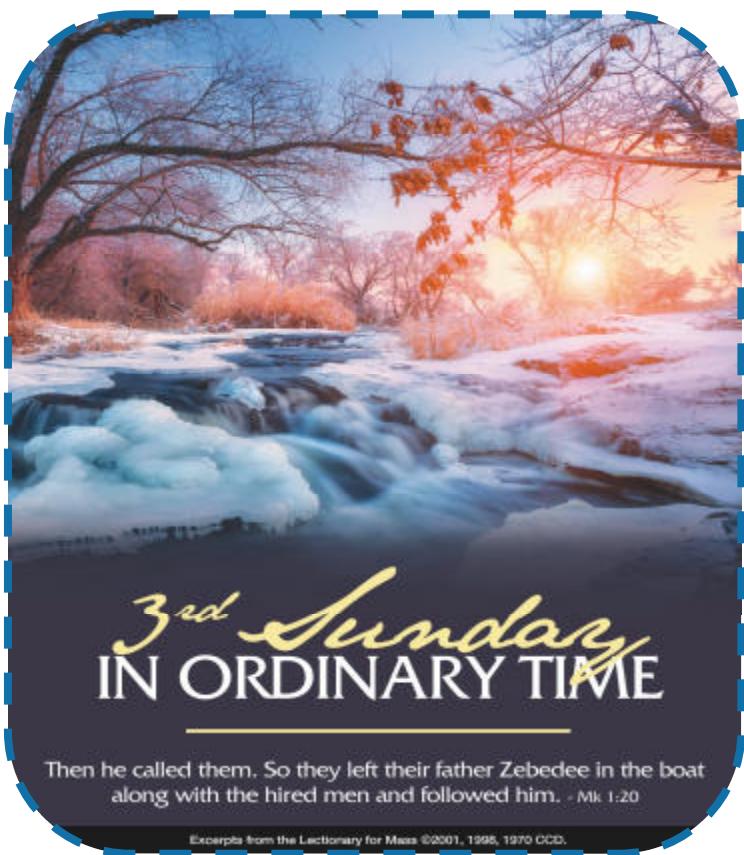
Email: ourlady@sbcglobal.net

Fax Number: 203-378-5253

Website: www.ourladyofpeacestratfordct.weconnect.com

Gifts and Bequests to Our Lady of Peace Church
are encouraged and gratefully accepted.

A Suggestion: When a loved one dies, advise friends and relatives to make a donation to the **"Our Lady of Peace Sanctuary Fund"** in memory of the deceased, and include this wish in the Obituary Notice.



Then he called them. So they left their father Zebedee in the boat along with the hired men and followed him. - Mk 1:20

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

LIVE THE LITURGY INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

"Repent, and believe in the gospel." Some type of honest and sincere repentance is necessary for any type of authentic growth and maturity. We have to come to the realization, unless we are happy wallowing in immaturity and superficiality, that the way we have been doing things is not the best or the healthiest. There isn't a human being alive who hasn't acted foolishly or erratically at the cost of almost losing a treasured relationship. "Why did I act that way?" is a question we often ponder after some reflection and enlightenment. Faith works the same way. Stumbling through life and bumping up against meaninglessness, a person can begin to see that something significant is missing. They see that there is merit to a relationship with God and an embrace of faith. Before these can take root, sincere sorrow for past wrong doing, missed opportunities, errors in judgment, and short sightedness is necessary. Repentance is necessary. Then having realized that we were walking in darkness, we can rejoice that by God's grace we now see the light. ©LPI

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE

DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

It was a normal day by all accounts, but John just wasn't feeling himself. He was a little lightheaded and out of sorts. Later in the afternoon, he experienced a sharp pain in his chest and arm. Quick thinking and action brought John to the emergency department with a diagnosis of a significant heart attack. Surviving this ordeal, he found himself face to face with his cardiologist, having an honest conversation about things that needed to change. "I came close to death," John found himself thinking. Then came the remorse. He was a young man with a loving wife and children who were very close to facing life without him. John found himself with intense sorrow for living an unchecked and self-indulgent life that almost brought him to his demise. He wanted to change.

We all have our wake-up calls. We have experiences and encounters that force us to really think twice about choices we have made and directions we have taken. Often, we find ourselves looking at those we have hurt square in the eye and wallowing in our foolishness. We regrettably realize that we have allowed our needs to lure us into making some cruel mistakes. We impulsively say things and flippantly do things that reveal our unredeemed and unhealed self. It is a self we stumble over and try to tame but can't quite seem to master and control. Help!

We spin our wheels, naively thinking that we will somehow, perhaps through persistence, get ourselves unstuck. But, we don't. We just get out of the car, feeling very helpless, and ignorantly look at the mess we got ourselves into. Did we ever think to ask someone for help? Or, taken the advice of One who is wiser and avoid this route altogether? "Come after me," are words that Jesus says to all of us. In order to heed his invitation, we must leave our ego-self behind and follow.

When we really see and understand the freedom, peace, justice, and love he offers, we find ourselves with such sorrow in our hearts for how foolish and silly we have been. All the misguided choices and sinful actions come full view and we see how risky our random impassioned behaviors really have been. Repentance is beautiful. When done with a sincere and contrite heart, it directs us to the glory that can be ours, ignites us with the challenge of living a life in service of others and reminds us that all is well. ©LPI

THE SPECIAL INTENTIONS OF POPE FRANCIS

Dear Lord Jesus,

As we start a new year, we pray for evangelization and for human fraternity. Lord, give us the grace to live in full fellowship with our brothers and sisters of other religions, praying for one another, open to all.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

RECOGNIZING GOD

IN ORDINARY MOMENTS

Give Until It Hurts

One of the characteristics of Everyday Stewardship is to be committed — to persevere daily in a way of life acknowledging that everything belongs to God.

I know, I know. Easier said than done.

Just ask Zebedee. It's quite an image we get from the Gospel, after all. "So they left their father Zebedee in the boat along with the hired men and followed him."

There was Zebedee, about his business, mending nets with his two sons, who were undoubtedly his best workers — they had to have been more dedicated than the hired men, who worked for wages rather than for family. And in an instant off they go, following this strange man.

I don't know about you, but if my kids left me on a hot summer day to finish the lawn by myself, I wouldn't be too happy.

But Zebedee must have been someone quite special. Perhaps he realized that his sons didn't belong to him — not really. They belonged to God, and from the beginning of time, it had been appointed that they would be among the first disciples of Christ. He passed, he called, they followed, and Zebedee obliged. He simply went back to mending his nets, I imagine.

Zebedee already understood what St. Teresa of Calcutta would say millennia later: "Give until it hurts."

"You're wasting my time." "I've done so much for her; she owes me this." How often do we think things, and even people and relationships, belong to us? The truth is none of them do. We must be ready, as Zebedee was, to surrender them to God when He comes walking past. — *Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPI*

PLASTIC BOTTLE/CAN COLLECTION AND REDEMPTION PROGRAM

On an ongoing basis, we collect clean, returnable cans and bottles large quantities can be left any time at the new drop-off location rear of the Parish Center along side of the garage. Please use plastic bags as paper bags tear apart in the inclement weather.

Small bags of bottles and cans can still be left any time on the front porch of the Parish Center.

Thank you to all who participate.

The program proceeds help to support the parish.

**Please Note: we cannot accept glass bottles.
Plastic and cans only.**

PARISH REGISTRATION

Question:

Why is it so important that we register in a parish? Isn't it good enough that we go to Mass

Answer:

Registration is the official way we join a parish community. Many people think that because they attend a particular parish they automatically belong. At times, young adults who have moved away for years think they are still signed up under their parents. But membership requires signing up, formally enrolling yourself in a parish. Registration is a commitment to a community, a way to be included in the religious, social, and ministerial activities of your parish. Your registration affects the parish in many ways. Census numbers can determine how many priests are assigned to a church, what benefits and obligations the community has to the diocese, and how Masses, Confessions, and devotions are planned and scheduled. Registration shows you belong. It is also necessary for certain benefits, like scheduling sacraments, obtaining sponsor certificates, and getting donation statements for taxes. Most importantly, it lets the parish count on you, to call on you to assist in its mission. Registering in your parish is a statement of faith and confidence in the life and work of your parish.

Welcome So glad you're here.....

Interested in becoming a Parishioner
of Our Lady of Peace?

Please complete the following and deposit in the Offertory Basket or drop it off at the Parish Office.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Email _____

Telephone No. _____

Comments _____

We look forward to hearing from you!

Our Lady of Peace welcomes anyone who is new to our area, anyone who is searching for the truth, or anyone who is looking for a spiritual home. We are joyfully and faithfully Roman Catholic in belief and practice, a community of faith, worship, service, and formation, and with open hearts we invite all our brothers and sisters into a living and saving friendship with the Lord Jesus Christ, in the communion of His One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church.

Calendar of EVENTS

January 23rd and 24th

Second Collection-
Church in Latin America

Sunday, January 24th

Faith Formation Classes Resume

Thursday, February 4th

OLOP Shop Reopens

Monday, February 8th

The Lord's Kitchen

Sunday, February 14th

St. Valentine's Day

Tuesday, February 16th

Eucharistic Adoration

Wednesday, February 17th

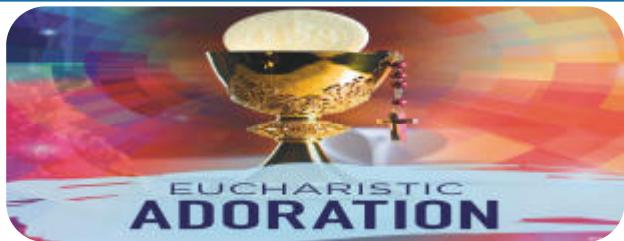
Ash Wednesday

Saturday, February 20

Eucharistic Adoration

Friday, February 26th

Prayer Shawl Ministry



Starting Tuesday, February 16th

**Tuesdays and Saturdays
10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
in the Chapel**

Eucharistic Adoration is a personal invitation to you from Jesus. It is you and God reaching out for each other. We remain silent in His presence and open ourselves to His graces and over flowing love for us. Adoration is our unique opportunity to have a one on one conversation with our God the Father, talk to Him, listen to Him and build a relationship with Him.

**Adorers are encouraged to sign up
for half hour or hour of Adoration.**

Contact the Parish Office at 203-377-4863 ext. 10.



THE FEAST OF ST. BLAISE

is Wednesday, February 3rd

We will bless throats after all Masses on the weekend of January 30th and 31st



Our 2021 Mass Book is Open. There are Weekday and Weekend Masses available. We also have beautiful Mass Intention Cards for the living who are very special to us for their birthday, anniversary, graduation, hospitalization, birth of a child, adoption, etc. Please call the office to request a Mass.

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS will be mailed to all parishioners who have contributed \$250 or more to the parish in 2020. Statements will be ready by January 31, 2021. If you do not receive a statement, please contact the Parish Office and a copy will be provided.

Is Your Information Up To Date?

If your address, email or family information has changed, your parish information needs to be updated and can be done by contacting the Parish Office at 203-377-4863, ext. 10. **Thank you!**



OLOP GARDEN CLUB BELGIAN BLOCK PROJECT

We are again taking orders to add Belgian Blocks to our Lady of Peace landscape. Memorialize a loved one with an engraved Belgian Block (12x8) installed around the Flag Pole. There are eight blocks available. If interested, please stop by the Parish Office, during regular business hours, to pick up and complete the required form to purchase the Belgian Block. The cost of each block is \$100.00 payable by check to Our Lady of Peace (no cash please).

Janet Lengel, Coordinator of Stratford's Dolly Parton Imagination Library, is excited to announce that the program is the recipient of Stop & Shop's Community Bag program for the month of January. If you purchase a reusable bag for \$2.50 at the Stop & Shop at the Dock, the organization will receive \$1. The Imagination Library is a book-gifting program that mails a free book each month from Dolly to children from birth to age five.

Financial Blessings

Our Lady of Peace receives no outside financial support. We rely entirely on your generosity to meet our many expenses. Every contribution furthers our Parish's mission of faith, worship, and service, as we seek to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ, to serve those most in need, and to worship the living God.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Week of January 17, 2021

Offertory	\$ 1,957.00
Online Giving	\$ 2,301.00

During this difficult time, there are three ways to help the parish:

Drop weekly/monthly contributions at the Parish Center

**Mail weekly/monthly contributions to Our Lady of Peace
10 Ivy Street, Stratford, CT 06615**

Online Giving - visit our parish website or www.osvonlinegiving.com/119

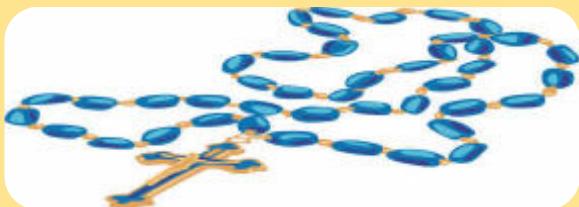
Online Giving provides a secure, time saving solution for weekly offertory and extraordinary collecting giving.

If you need to modify your account contact Donor Support at 1-800-348-2886, ext. Option 2.

As always thank you for your generosity and support. May the Lord reward your generosity.

Thank You for Make-up Donations

As special note of thanks to all parishioners, for their generosity in giving your make-up envelopes. Your commitment to Our Lady of Peace Parish supports our parish.



PRAY THE ROSARY EVERYDAY

"The greatest method of praying is to pray the Rosary." - Saint Francis de Sales



**Class Schedule ~ Sundays 9:40 to 10:45 a.m.
in the Parish Center and
the Msgr. Gilmartin Church Hall**

Classes: Resume January 24, 2021

**Contact Deacon Tom Fekete at 203-377-4863 ext. 15
if you have any questions.**

**Social distancing protocol will be followed
for all Faith Formation**

***Faith Formation is an important part of family life
not only in your own family but, in the life of our
Parish Family here at Our Lady of Peace-where we
grow together towards the Lord.***

LEARNING ~ LOVING ~ LIVING ~ CHRIST

A MESSAGE FROM POPE FRANCIS

Making the sign of the Cross when we wake up, before meals, in facing danger, to protect against evil, in the evening before we sleep...means telling ourselves and others whom we belong to, whom we want to be.

This is why it is so important to teach children how to make the sign of the Cross properly. And as we do upon entering a church, we can also do so at home, by keeping a bit of holy water in a suitable place - some families do so: this way, each time we come in or go out, by making the sign of the Cross with that water we remember that we are baptized.

Do not forget, I repeat: teach the children how to make the sign of the Cross.

-Pope Francis

OLOP DONATION CENTER AND THRIFT SHOP

**Parish Center 10 Ivy Street
Thursday and Saturday 10:00 a.m. to Noon**

Although the shop is closed until February 4th, we are still accepting donations. Now that space is available, ladies clothing in nice condition and small furniture items would be appreciated. Thank you for your continuing support.

We are unable to accept baby furniture, exercise equipment, construction and renovation materials, electronics, books, CD's and DVD's.

MASS INTENTIONS

January 23, 2021 to January 31, 2021

Saturday, January 23rd

4:30 P.M. *Albert and Rose Williams*

Sunday, January 24th

8:30 A.M. *Terence Tomasko*

11:00 A.M. *The Parishioners*

4:30 P.M. *The Sick of the Parish*

Monday, January 25th

No Mass

Tuesday, January 26th

No Mass

Wednesday, January 27th

8:30 A.M. *Law Enforcement Personnel*

Thursday, January 28th

8:30 A.M. *Souls in Purgatory*

Friday, January 29th

8:30 A.M. *All God's Children*

Saturday, January 30th

4:30 P.M. *Jack Flynn*

Sunday, January 31st

8:30 A.M. *Dr. Jacquelyn Satchell*

11:00 A.M. *Chuck Buynovsky*

4:30 P.M. *Kathleen Stepanowski*

SUNDAY READINGS



First Reading: Jonah 3:1-5,10

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 25:4-9

Second Reading: 1Corinthians 7:29-31

Gospel: Mark 1:14-20

Observances for the week of January 24, 2021

Monday: The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle

Tuesday: Sts. Timothy and Titus, Bishops

Wednesday: St. Angela Merici, Virgin

Thursday: St. Thomas Aquinas,
Priest and Doctor of the Church

Saturday: Blessed Virgin Mary

Next Sunday: 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time;
Catholic Schools Week

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Please remember in prayer those who are unable to worship with us-the sick, the hospitalized, the home bound, elderly and nursing home residents and those in need of the comfort of prayer.

Hold especially in your prayers:

Davidson Alagno, Alicia Bingham,
Robert Blouin, Todd Burr, Lois Burritt,
Frieda Canelli, Jan Cassidy,
Angela D'Nardo, Robert D'Nardo,
Frank D'Orio, Anthony Flamini,
Elena Flamini, Deacon Joe Gagne,
Joseph Galatie, Guy Gallo,
Marc Gangi, Rose Iacomacci,
John Lisi, Blanche Loparco,
Gary Normandin, Lynn O'Grady,
Edith Orlando, Marilyn Owen,
Grace Parisi, Rocco Parisi,
Rees Family, Marjorie Rindos,
Nancy Roberts, Anthony Tucci,
Kaiden Velez, Condolina Vincenzi,
Joseph Vincenzi,
Sal Vizzio, Dennis White

Please let the Parish Office know if there is a loved one you wish to add to the list. The names of those we are praying for should remain current. Please contact the Parish Office with changes.

In addition, if you would like Deacon Fekete or Father Pavia to visit someone, please let the Parish Office know.

Also remember in your prayers, all caregivers, First Responders, Priests, Deacons and the men and women of our Parish Family who are in the Military.

Ask God's mercy for those who have died from the Coronavirus, His healing for those suffering from it and His protection for all others against it.

Please pray for
Geraldine "Gerri" Stephanie (Mead) Novak, wife of John Novak
Grace (Guckert) Conway
Laura Rossignol
who have gone home
to the Lord

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The cemetery by-laws, which includes pricing, are posted on our
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You may also contact the pastor to discuss details or
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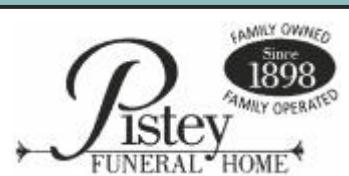
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