

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT ~ FEBRUARY 28TH, 2021 A.D.



**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-CONFESSION-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.

**Our Lady of Peace  
Roman Catholic Church**  
651 Stratford Road ~ Lordship ~ Stratford

**MASS SCHEDULE**

**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.

Live Streamed on YouTube  
our lady of peace stratford ct

**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

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Chapel  
Tuesday and Saturday ~ 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

**FAITH FORMATION: 203-377-4863 ext. 15**

**Email:** [dnfekete@diobpt.org](mailto:dnfekete@diobpt.org) or [olopreled@sbcglobal.net](mailto: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](mailto:ourlady@sbcglobal.net)

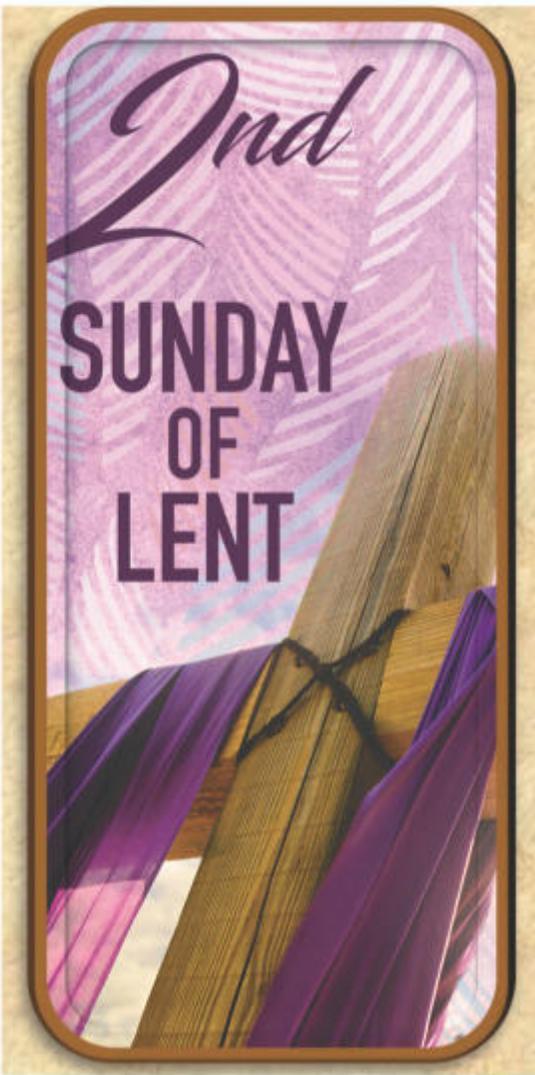
**Fax Number:** 203-378-5253

**Website:** [www.ourladyofpeacestratfordct.weconnect.com](http://www.ourladyofpeacestratfordct.weconnect.com)



The Sanctuary Candle  
burns this week in memory of  
John Vanderhoef

**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.



## EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

### RECOGNIZING GOD IN ORDINARY MOMENTS

#### **When Sacrifice Becomes Mundane**

It seems to happen every year, like clockwork: we drag a bit, as we enter into the second week of Lent. On Ash Wednesday, we feel a bit like soldiers banging our shields, rushing into battle. “We’re ready, God!” our hearts cry out. “Transform us through sacrifice! Your will be done!”

But by now, these Lenten resolutions are no longer novelties - they’ve joined the ranks of everyday inconveniences, which somehow are the hardest to bear. Because transformation, in real life, happens in inches, just as a battle is won slowly in the crash of one sword against another. It’s not always a dramatic thing, to the naked eye. It’s the perseverance in prayer despite weariness, or the continual denial of some pleasure even though there’s that nagging voice in our minds saying: *go ahead, God doesn’t really mind.*

It’s a week when we all need a shock to the system - and wouldn’t you know it, this Sunday God gives us a double-whammy of dramatic sacrificial scenes. We picture Abraham, who also cried “Ready!” when God called, never imagining what He would ask: the surrender of his long-awaited son. We see Christ himself transfigured, as God shows us what He is ready to give up for love of us.

We must remain committed, persevering daily in acknowledging that everything belongs to God. What we sacrifice, we simply give back to Him.

If God is for us, who can be against us? Can we still reply, “Ready!” when we hear the call of God?

—Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi

### GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

A pregnant woman was walking in the store and met an old friend. Her friend exclaimed, “You are absolutely beaming!” The new life God placed in her womb radiated throughout her body. It was brightly visible on her face and in her eyes. Transformation and change usually happen from the inside out. It is very rare that simply imposing structure from the outside does any good. Yes, it is true that routines and habits can change when things are done differently. But, for this change to last there has to be an interior renewal and metamorphosis as well. Simply regulating behavior and bringing someone into conformity with accepted protocols doesn’t mean their heart and soul come with them.

Peter was a homeless man who lived in a very remote and rudimentary tent community. He was happy to make his daily trip to McDonald’s and always welcomed a gift card or two so that he could buy some coffee and something to eat. A generous advocate worked to secure him an apartment in hopes of moving Peter out of his makeshift housing and into something safer. Peter finally got the grand tour of his new “digs,” received his own key, remarked how wonderful the place was, closed the door behind him when they left and never returned. He preferred his tent. No matter how much things changed on the outside, Peter was happy where he was. A poignant lesson was learned that day.

How is your Lent going? By now you ought to have a sense of whether you’re really “into it” this year and something transformational is happening. For many, it’s only the stuff on the outside that changes for a few weeks and then they return to business as usual. For others, there are some real inner changes happening that are deepening their relationships with God, others, self, and creation. If we are serious about moving to a new place and radiating with the presence of new life and joy, then we have to clear the way to listen for God’s call. Then, there is God’s request to change things up a bit and order our lives differently. After realizing we have been called and given a mission, we have to trust that this is where we need to be. And then, after all of this hard work we are asked to act. The fruit that is revealed will indicate whether our journey is authentic. The brilliance of conversion will begin to shine on our faces as we contemplate the One to whom we are asked to listen. ©LPi

## RECONCILIATION MONDAY

The Bishop has authorized Reconciliation Monday to be held on Monday, March 29, 2021. Reconciliation Monday has been very well received within the Diocese during the Lenten season. It provides an "extra" day for individuals to make confession prior to Easter Triduum. This year, for the Mystical Rose Deanery, the parishes participating in Reconciliation Monday between the hours of 3:00 and 9:00 p.m. are:

St. Mark Parish - 500 Wigwam Lane, Stratford, CT

St. James Parish - 2070 Main Street, Stratford, CT

St. Lawrence Parish - 505 Shelton Avenue, Shelton, CT

## PARISH CENTERS OF MERCY

The above parishes have also been named as "Centers of Mercy" whereby confessions will be heard at St. Lawrence and St. James on Tuesday evenings, from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m., and at St. Mark on Thursday evenings, from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

## CONFESSION

*"To those who have been away from the Sacrament of Reconciliation and God's forgiving love, I make this appeal: **Come back to this source of grace; Do not be afraid! Christ himself is waiting for you. He will heal you, and you will be at peace with God**"*

**- Pope St. John Paul II**

Confession can sometimes seem daunting or difficult. There might be many reasons we can think of not to go. But regular Confession isn't scary. It is life-changing and live-giving!

***Confession is available at Our Lady of Peace on Saturdays 3:15-4:00 p.m.  
Other times by appointment***

## DO YOU WANT TO FAST THIS LENT?

***In the words of Pope Francis***

Fast from hurting words - and say kind words.  
Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.  
Fast from anger and be filled with patience.  
Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.  
Fast from worries and have trust in God.  
Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.  
Fast from pressure and be prayerful.  
Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy.  
Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.  
Fast from grudges and be reconciled.  
Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.

**NEVER STOP  
PRAYING**

**ALWAYS  
BELIEVE**



## Lenten Schedule

**Daily: Wednesday, Thursday, Friday**

Rosary ~ 8:00 a.m.

Mass ~ 8:30 a.m.

***No Rosary or Mass on Monday and Tuesday***

## Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 p.m.-Live-Streamed

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

## Eucharistic Adoration ~ Chapel

Tuesday and Saturday ~ 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

## Confession

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

## Stations of the Cross - Church

Friday, March 5 and Friday, April 2 ~ 7:30 p.m.

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***Lent is a season of Preparation, Reflection and Renewal. During this Lenten season, ask yourself - What is the Lord asking me to do?***

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**Loaves & Fishes** - during the season of Lent, families are asked to support the feeding program of Catholic Charities. In doing so you help feed the working poor, the homeless and elderly of the Diocese.



There are two ways to make your Loaves & Fishes donations.

**Online:** [www.ccfairfield.org/donate](http://www.ccfairfield.org/donate). Select Loaves & Fishes when you make your donation.

**Check by Mail:** Make your check payable to "Catholic Charities" and mail to Catholic Charities Finance; Attn: Loaves & Fishes, 238 Jewett Avenue, Bridgeport, CT 06606

## A Lenten Prayer

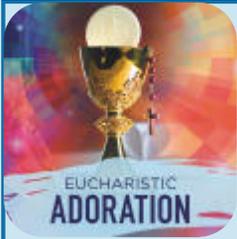
Almighty and everlasting God, You have given the human race Jesus Christ our Savior as a model of humility. He fulfilled Your Will by becoming Man and giving His life on the Cross. Help us to bear witness to You by following His example of suffering and make us worthy to share in His Resurrection.

***Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence***

***Abstinence*** means not eating meat, for those 14 years of age and older all Fridays in Lent.

***Fast*** means limiting oneself to one full meal and two lighter meals each day for those ages 18 until age 59.

(One is not bound to fast if health or the ability to work is affected.)



**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 overflowing 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 always welcome. Please consider volunteering a half hour or an hour of your time. Contact the Parish Office at 203-377-4863 ext. 10 or sign up on our parish website [www.ourladyofpeacestratfordct.weconnect.com](http://www.ourladyofpeacestratfordct.weconnect.com)**

**Eucharistic Adoration Schedule**

Tuesdays: March 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th  
Saturdays: March 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th

**FOUNDATIONS IN EDUCATION** is pleased to announce that applications to the Bishop's Scholarship Fund is now open. The mission of the fund is to help families afford a Catholic education at Diocesan elementary schools in Fairfield County. Families who need financial assistance are encouraged to apply.

**Deadline: March 15th-currently enrolled families, April 15th-new families.**

Visit [wwwFOUNDATIONSineducation.org](http://wwwFOUNDATIONSineducation.org) for more information.

**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 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.**

**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.

**THE FOLLOWING IS VERY IMPORTANT  
VIRTUS INFORMATION**

**PLEASE READ**

**New Safe Environment Requirement  
for Lay Employees and Volunteers**

The Bishop has published a newly revised Safe Environment Handbook 2020 effective November 1, 2020.

This requires all volunteers, clergy and employees to read the revised handbook and to sign an Executive Summary.

**Here is what you need to do:**

Read the Safe Environment Handbook 2020 that is located on the Diocesan ([www.bridgeportdiocese.org](http://www.bridgeportdiocese.org)) or Our Lady of Peace ([www.ourladyofpeacestratfordct.weconnect.com](http://www.ourladyofpeacestratfordct.weconnect.com)) website

Print and sign the **Executive Summary for Lay Employees (page 70) or Lay Volunteers (page 72)** that applies to you. Keep a copy for yourself and provide a copy to the Parish Office for documentation purposes in VIRTUS. **This must be done by March 31, 2020, as we will be audited in 2021.**

If you have any questions, please call the Parish Office 203-377-4863, ext. 10 and leave a message for Maryann and she will return your call.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Father Nicholas Pavia

**LIVE THE LITURGY**

**INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK**

How is your Lent going so far? In changing the circumstances and order of our lives a bit, perhaps we can hear God's voice more clearly and drink more deeply of graced moments we experience. Having God as a friend always involves several things. First, there is God's call. We become attuned to the echo of God's voice in the depth of our souls calling and beckoning us to listen. Second, there is a request. We begin to see that God asks us to do certain things, to order our lives a particular way, and become more intentional in the choices we make. Third, there is trust. Do we trust this call and request? Trust commits us to the relationship and makes a claim on who we are. Finally, we are asked to act. We find ourselves acting, not in the way we used to, but in a transformed, more enlightened way. Things seem clearer and all that is around us shines with the brilliance of God's presence. God's call came through a cloud, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him," This is the call and the request. Can we give God our trust and do as God asks? ©LPi

# 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.

**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](http://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**

## **OLOP DONATION CENTER AND THRIFT SHOP**

**Parish Center 10 Ivy Street**

**Thursday and Saturday 10:00 a.m. to Noon**

Sales at the shop have been so great that we have just surpassed the earnings for fiscal year 2019-20 and still have 4 months remaining for this fiscal year! Consequently our merchandise has dwindled and we are in dire need of donations, anything but books, movies, renovation materials and exercise equipment. We also need sympathy cards for the card rack. You have been so generous in the past that we hope this is a good time for you to part with unwanted items and a wonderful time for you to visit the shop. **Your support is much appreciated.**

**Sunday Family Rosary** Looking for a way to grow in faith as a family for 2021? Join hundreds of other families from around the Diocese every Sunday at 7:30 p.m. for the Sunday Family Rosary.

Visit either the Diocesan website ([bridgeportdiocese.org](http://bridgeportdiocese.org)) or The Leadership Institute ([Formationreimagined.org](http://Formationreimagined.org))

and look for the praying hands at the top of the home page. If you and your family would like to volunteer to lead, follow the prompts to sign up for any Sunday you choose.



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

### **February Schedule**

Classes February 28th

### **March Schedule**

Classes March 7th, 14th, 21st

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**

## Calendar of **EVENTS**

**Friday, March 5th**

Stations of the Cross-7:30 p.m. Church

**Wednesday, March 10th**

The Lord's Kitchen

**March 13th and 14th**

Second Collection-Catholic Relief Services

**Sunday, March 14th**

Daylight Saving Time Begins

**Wednesday, March 17th**

St. Patrick's Day

**Friday, March 19th**

7:00 p.m. Mass in Honor of St. Joseph

**Saturday, March 20th**

Spring Begins

**Friday, March 26th**

Prayer Shawl Ministry

**Sunday, March 28th**

**Palm Sunday**

**Friday, April 2nd**

**Good Friday**

Stations of the Cross -7:30 p.m. Church

Holy Land Collection

**Sunday, April 4th**

**Easter Sunday**

### **WEEKLY**

Tuesday and Saturday - Chapel

Eucharistic Adoration 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Thursday and Saturday - Parish Center - OLOP Shop  
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon

# MASST INTENTIONS

February 27, 2021 to March 7, 2021

**Saturday, February 27th**

4:30 P.M. *Kroll and Hewitt Families*

**Sunday, February 28th**

8:30 A.M. *The Parishioners*

11:00 A.M. *Living Intentions  
for Robert Blouin*

4:30 P.M. *John Vanderhoef*

**Monday, March 1st**

No Mass

**Tuesday, March 2nd**

No Mass

**Wednesday, March 3rd**

8:30 A.M. *Joe Budrawich*

**Thursday, March 4th**

8:30 A.M. *Irene Cinquegrani*

**Friday, March 5th**

8:30 A.M. *Leona Pisani*

**Saturday, March 6th**

4:30 P.M. *Lee P. Gabriel*

**Sunday, March 7th**

8:30 A.M. *Brian Dusiewicz*

11:00 A.M. *John, Lois, James and  
Richard Grant Family*

4:30 P.M. *The Parishioners*

*Our 4:30 p.m. Saturday Vigil is now livestreamed.*

Website: [www.ourladyofpeacestratfordct.weconnect.com](http://www.ourladyofpeacestratfordct.weconnect.com)

Select Mass Times under the Information tab and the YouTube page is linked there.

YouTube.com:

and search for our lady of peace stratford ct

## SUNDAY READINGS

## WORD OF GOD

**First Reading:** Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18

**Responsorial Psalm:** Psalm 116

**Second Reading:** Romans 8:31b-34

**Gospel:** Mark 9:2-10

## Observances for the week of February 28, 2021

Wednesday: St. Katharine Drexel, Virgin

Thursday: St. Casimir

Next Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Lent

©LPi

# Prayer REQUESTS



*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:*

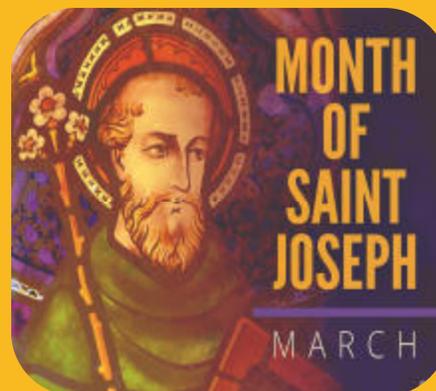
**Davidson Alagno, Richard Antonelli, Alicia Bingham, Robert Blouin, Todd Burr, Lois Burritt, Frieda Canelli, Jan Cassidy, Angela D’Nardo, Robert D’Nardo, Frank D’Orio, Anthony Flamini, Elena Flamini, Deacon Joe Gagne, Joseph Galatie, Guy Gallo, Marc Gangi, Rose Iacomacci, John Lisi, Blanche Loparco, Gary Normandin, Edith Orlando, Grace Parisi, Rocco Parisi, Rees Family, Marjorie Rindos, Nancy Roberts, Anthony Tucci, Kaiden Velez, Condolina Vincenzi, Joseph Vincenzi, Sal Vizzio, Dennis White, Sister Carolyn Stoe and the Sisters of Notre Dame**

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.*



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The cemetery by-laws, which includes pricing, are posted on our website: [www.saintjosephsofstratford.org](http://www.saintjosephsofstratford.org)

You may also contact the pastor to discuss details or to view the grounds. [Pastor@saintjosephsofstratford.org](mailto:Pastor@saintjosephsofstratford.org)

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