

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT ~ DECEMBER 5TH, 2021 A.D.



Reverend Nicholas Pavia, *Pastor*

Thomas Fekete, *Deacon*

**Reverend Michael A. Boccaccio
*In Residence***

Mrs. Susan Padua, *Director*
Faith Formation

Mr. Michael Petreycik, *Director*
Music Ministry

Mrs. Karen Capozziello, *Cantor*

Mr. Martin Tristine,
Finance Committee Chairperson
Email: mtris3643@gmail.com

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.



The Sanctuary Candle
burns this week in memory of
Anne Spisak

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
See Schedule Inside Bulletin

FAITH FORMATION: 203-377-4863 ext. 15

Email: 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.



**EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE
GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS**
GOD'S PERSONAL ASSISTANTS

If you have ever planned a large-scale event, whether it's a musical performance or a religious conference, you may have dealt with someone's personal assistant. Possibly this person would be a representative of the keynote speaker or the master of ceremonies for the local bishop; perhaps it's even the staffer of a local politician or the lackey of a well-known musical act.

Personal assistants are masters of stewardship-overseeing things in their boss' absence. They prepare the way. This person's job is to get everything ready for the person in charge, so that when he or she shows up - whoever he or she is - it's smooth sailing for them to do whatever it is they need to do: sing, speak, pray, mingle, what-have-you. It's usually a big job full of little things, a gig where attention to detail is key.

God is the guest of honor in our life, the keynote speaker, the main event. And what He wants- what He needs - to do is to change our hearts. Constantly, over, and over, and over again.

We are all His personal assistants in this endeavor. We need to prepare the way of the Lord, to make straight His paths. We need to make everything ready so that when He shows up - however He shows up, whether it's in the form of a neighbor in need or a burning bush right in front of us - everything is ready for Him to do His job.- Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi

**GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE
DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE**

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

St. Ambrose shares some wisdom on our need to prepare the way and open the door for Christ. "You see that when the Word of God knocks hardest on your door, it is when his hair is wet with the dew of the night. In fact, he chooses to visit those who are in tribulation and trial, lest one of them be overwhelmed by distress. So, his head is covered with dew, with drops, when his body is laboring hard. It is important to keep watch so that when the Bridegroom comes, he is not shut out. If you are asleep and your heart is not keeping watch, he will go away without knocking; but if your heart is alert for his coming, he knocks and asks for the door to be opened to him." When life gets overwhelming and difficult and we find ourselves feeling a bit downhearted and miserable, these words can bring great comfort.

We sometimes choose to remain stuck in our uncomfortable darkness and being stuck becomes our norm. In this time of self-focus our hearts are closed to the graces and life God desires to give us. Wrapped in the robe of mourning and misery, we fail to see the mercy, justice, and love the Bridegroom wants to bring. If we take seriously the need to prepare the way for Christ and open our hearts in preparation for his visit, we can hear God's gentle voice calling us deep within. It beckons us to seek out its source and discover the inner calm and peace that can prevail over the darkness of despair. Sometimes our darkness is so dark that it may seem unsurmountable. Trusting in the spiritual friends who journey with us, and God's promise may bring a glimmer of light even when it is most difficult to keep our hearts' doors open. Sometimes, the only light in the darkness is found in trusting the faith of others both past and present.

We have to trust that God has already begun the accomplishment of good work in us and that humanity is on an incredible journey to something wonderful and awesome. God is not done. When we open the doors of our hearts, straighten the paths of our lives, and prepare the way, Jesus can come with God's simple gifts of peace, grace, and joy. Life throws a great deal at us. It is easy to get tired and confused. We have to train our hearts to keep watch, discern what is of value, and forge ahead. Not allowing ourselves to become so weighed down by things and brought out of focus is a tremendous goal to achieve this Advent season. God is knocking. Answer the door. You will see and understand life in ways you never thought possible before.©LPi



Faith formation

FAITH FORMATION 2021-2022

Classes are in the Parish Center and in the Msgr. Gilmartin Hall

Class: December 5th, 12th, 19th

If you have any questions, contact Susan Padua at 203-377-4863 ext. 15 or 203- 278-4347 (CELL) or by email at olopreled@sbcglobal.net or SusanPadua@msn.com

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.

OLOP DONATION CENTER AND THRIFT SHOP

Parish Center-10 Ivy Street

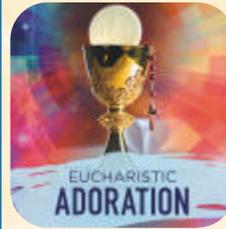
Thursday and Saturday 10:00 a.m. to Noon

The Christmas season is in full swing with a wonderful selection of decorations for the holiday and all Christmas items are half price all month. In addition there is a good selection of clothing and jewelry. Because the shop will be closed the month of January we are no longer accepting winter clothing and hope you'll be able to wait until later to bring it. Please help us and donate only those items that are ready for sale--clean and free of tears, chips, etc. Thank you for your cooperation.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEMBERSHIP DRIVE DECEMBER 11TH AND 12TH

Knights of Columbus will conduct a membership drive next weekend after each of the Masses. Fr. Pavia has invited the Connecticut Knights to form a new council at Our Lady of Peace. Please consider joining us and helping to establish this council for our parish. For more information contact olopknights@gmail.com or speak to Fr. Pavia.

Right now membership is free to join. Knights of Columbus membership is open to practicing Catholic men 18 years of age or older. To join the Knights of Columbus, go online to kofc.org/join and list "Our Lady of Peace" as your parish to be included on our list.



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

Eucharistic Adoration - In the Church Chapel

The Chapel entrance is the only door used for Adoration. Church doors are locked.

****Schedule****

Monday - 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Tuesday - 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Wednesday - 3:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Thursday - Noon - 3:00 p.m.

Saturday - 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

First Fridays of the month only - 9:00 a.m. - Noon

Men of Our Lady of Peace Project Phase Two

**Breakfasts featuring "Into the Breach"
Save the Date for Breakfast Number 3
Saturday, January 8, 2022**

**The video episode and discussion will be
"Leadership". Free will offering.
Menu TBD -**

Fathers and sons, Grandfathers, Godfathers, Brothers, Uncles, Nephews please plan to attend.

Phase **one** of The Men of Our Lady of Peace project **will continue** for many weeks. Men will be at the entrances of the church introducing themselves to you and your family.

Consider coming to the regular Men's Group meetings on Saturdays at 8:30 a.m. in the Msgr. Gilmartin Hall with Coffee an' where we discuss these and other videos, ways we can be doers in our parish, and current Catholic topics.

(Please note: the December 11th meeting is in the Parish Center. Park in the rear of the Parish Center and enter on Laurel St.)

CATHOLIC TRIVIA - JUST FOR FUN

Question: How many sponsors are required for the Sacrament of Baptism?

Answer: One

©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.

Week of November 21, 2021

Offertory \$2,785.00
Online Giving \$2,078.00
Second Collection \$ 576.00

Retired Priests of the Diocese of Bridgeport

**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.

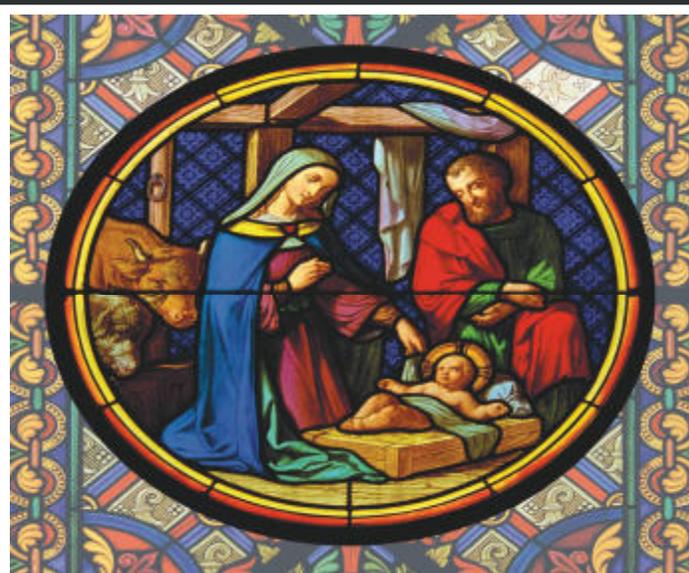
Thank You for Make-up Donations

Please Note: Our Online Giving is getting an upgrade to a newer, easier-to-use platform! If you currently give online, you will soon be receiving an email with instructions on how to log into the new system. Best of all, your existing payment and donation information will be migrated over so you will not have to set up your gifts again! Keep an eye on your email for more information coming very soon.

OUR LADY OF PEACE ~ WE STAND WITH CHRIST CAMPAIGN REDEMPTION

Total Pledged: \$342,175
 Total Collected (as of 10/29/2021): \$175,012

To make a payment on your pledge, please visit GiveCentral.org/WSWC or call 203-648-9050.



+++**CHRISTMAS**+++

MASS SCHEDULE

Friday, December 24th

The Nativity of the Lord ~ 4:30 p.m.

Mass During the Night ~ 10:00 p.m.

Christmas Day, December 25th

8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

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GIVING TREE

Once again Our Lady of Peace will collect gifts to brighten the holidays for needy families. We ask for your early unwrapped gifts so they can be distributed in time for Christmas.

Parishioners in need of our help this year are asked to contact the Parish Office at 203-377-4863 ext. 10 or email ourlady@sbcglobal.net prior to December 18th.

ALTAR FLOWERS

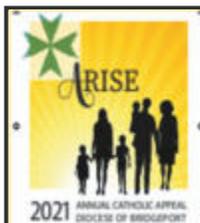
If you would like to make a donation for Christmas Altar Flowers (perhaps in memory of a loved one) envelopes are in your envelope packets.

CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

In your Christmas gift giving, please remember the needs of your Parish Community. The needs are many and the generous response of each member enables us to meet those needs and strengthens our Community. Christmas Offering Envelopes are in your envelope packets.

LIGHTING OF THE CRÈCHE

Sunday, December 19th at 5:15 p.m.



**ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL
 2021.....ARISE
 OUR GOAL THIS YEAR IS
 \$42,400**

To date Our Lady of Peace has raised 160 gifts totaling \$37,235 from 117 donors bringing the parish to 87.82% of its \$42,400 goal. Thank you and God bless everyone for your generosity.

Calendar of **EVENTS**

December 4th

Men's Group Breakfast

December 8th

Feast of the Immaculate Conception
Lord's Kitchen

December 11th and December 12th

Second Collection
Retirement Fund for Religious

December 12th-3:00 p.m.

Advent Solemn Vespers and Benediction

December 19th-5:15 p.m.

Lighting of the Crèche

December 25th

Christmas

WEEKLY

Mondays - Chapel:

Eucharistic Adoration - 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Tuesdays - Chapel:

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

Wednesdays -

Eucharistic Adoration - 3:00 - 7:00 p.m. - Chapel
The Mediation Group - 7:00 p.m. - Church

Thursdays:

OLOP Shop – 10:00– a.m. - Noon - Parish Center
Eucharistic Adoration - Noon - 3:00 p.m. - Chapel
Ivy League - 12:30 p.m. - Msgr. Gilmartin Hall

First Fridays of the Month Only

Eucharistic Adoration - 9:00 - Noon - Chapel

Saturdays:

Eucharistic Adoration - 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Chapel
Men's Group - 8:30-10:00 a.m. Msgr. Gilmartin Hall
OLOP Shop – 10:00 a.m. - Noon - Parish Center



HOPE. LOVE. JOY. PEACE.

During Advent, Father Pavia will celebrate Mass at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, December 4th, 11th and 18th

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SOLEMN VESPERS AND BENEDICTION

Third Sunday of Advent

December 12th at 3:00 p.m. in the Church

This service is in place of the regular Holy Hour



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

December 8th

A Holy Day of Obligation

Mass will be celebrated on
Tuesday, December 7th at 5:30 p.m.
and on

Wednesday, December 8th
at 8:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

THE BLESSED MICHAEL MCGIVNEY
PILGRIMAGE CENTER

(formerly the Knights of Columbus Museum)
1 State Street, New Haven, CT

has opened its Christmas 2021 exhibit, "The Nativity Story: Art of the Crèche." Admission and parking are free and the Center is open Wednesdays through Sundays, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Please go to michaelmcgivneycenter.org or call 203-865-0400 for more information and to obtain tickets.

December Month of the Immaculate Conception
Pray the Rosary everyday



In an effort to enhance our Advent and Christmas celebrations, our Music Director, Michael Petreycik, is requesting the services of a few good voices for Advent Vespers and Benediction and Christmas Carols prior to the 10:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass.

Rehearsals on Sunday after the 8:30 a.m. Mass (around 9:40 a.m.) in the church for about one hour. If interested, please see Michael at the organ.

ANNUAL LIGHTING OF THE CHRISTMAS TREE
AND VISIT WITH SANTA CLAUSE

will take place on the Green in Lordship Center
Sunday evening, December 5th at 6:00 p.m.

All are invited!

Sponsored by the Lordship Volunteer Fire Company



MASST INTENTIONS

December 4, 2021 to December 12, 2021

Saturday, December 4th

8:00 A.M. All God's Children
4:30 P.M. Geraldine Novak

Sunday, December 5th

8:30 A.M. Dorothy Leong
11:00 A.M. Msgr. John Gilmartin
4:30 P.M. Baczek Family

Monday, December 6th

No Mass

Tuesday, December 7th

5:30 P.M. The Parishioners

Wednesday, December 8th

8:30 A.M. Anne Spisak
5:30 P.M. Souls in Purgatory

Thursday, December 9th

8:30 A.M. Deceased DelVecchio and Raffaele families and Geraldine Peck

Friday, December 10th

8:30 A.M. Lee P. Gabriel

Saturday, December 11th

8:00 A.M. Sick of the Parish
4:30 P.M. William Soldi

Sunday, December 12th

8:30 A.M. George O'Connor
11:00 A.M. Janet LaReau
4:30 P.M. Mary Jane Codeghini

Watch Saturday Mass on YouTube

You can view our 4:30 p.m. Saturday Vigil Mass live, or at any time after, by visiting our YouTube page

at **YouTube our lady of peace stratfordct**

A link to the YouTube page is available on our website:
www.ourladyofpeacestratfordct.weconnect.com

Observances for the week of December 5, 2021

Sunday: 2nd Sunday of Advent
Monday: St. Nicholas, Bishop
Tuesday: St. Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Wednesday: The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Thursday: St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin
Friday: Our Lady of Loreto
Saturday: St. Damasus I, Pope
Next Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Advent

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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, Barbara Brown, Frieda Canelli, Jan Cassidy, Joseph Crudo, Jr., Anne D'Andrea, Brandon D'Andrea, Renee D'Andrea, Angela D'Nardo, Robert D'Nardo, Frank D'Orio, Anthony Flamini, Elena Flamini, Parker G, Deacon Joe Gagne, Marc Gangi, Janine Goldsnider, Bobby Hill, Rose Iacomacci, Blanche Loparco, Alyssa Miller, Gary Normandin, Edith Orlando, Marilyn Owen, Grace Parisi, Rocco Parisi, Natalie Ramadanovic, Marjorie Rindos, Nancy Roberts, Tony R, Matteo S, Danny Stenson, 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 or delete 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.

SUNDAY READINGS

WORD OF GOD 

First Reading: Baruch 5:1-9

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 126

Second Reading: Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11

Gospel: Luke 3:1-6



Guy Gallo
who has gone home
to the Lord.

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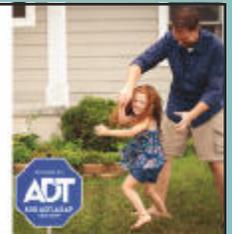


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