THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH ~ DECEMBER 26TH, 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 The Parishioners



Our Lady of Peace Roman Catholic Church 651 Stratford Road ~ <u>Lordship</u> ~ 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: $8:30 \text{ a.m.} \sim 11:00 \text{ a.m.} \sim 4:30 \text{ p.m.}$

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

EUCHARISTIC 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

<u>Gifts and Bequests to Our Lady of Peace Church</u>
are encouraged and gratefully accepted.

<u>A Suggestion</u>: 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.

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

Families can be very difficult things to negotiate. This is true not only of our families of origin, the current family of which we are a part, the family of our Church, our society, and our global family as well. Everything human can be found in family stories. Those stories speak of wonderful life-giving successes as well as painful spirit-robbing abuses. Our greatest joys and our greatest wounds are usually connected with the experience of family. Our needs, experiences, and unresolved baggage often color what we bring to our familiar relationships. They contribute to our level of defensiveness, how guarded and protected we become, and what prejudices we believe.

In order to break the cycle of dysfunction we have to remember that it is not only by human effort that we negotiate the difficult and challenging events of our lives. There is a Divine Effort at work as well. For sure, the human effort can create quite a mess and easily destroy lives. This is true of any family with which we are associated. Today's Feast of the Holy Family serves to help us understand that there is a Divine Story being told as well. It is a story of perseverance in the face of hardship, determination in the face of despair, healing when we see nothing but wounds, and light where there is darkness.

Do we believe that God is always working, guiding, restoring, and leading? Unless we do, we will never be free from the imperfections and wounds that bind us and never be able to understand what it really means to forgive. Pope Francis tells us that the "light which comes from the Holy Family encourages us to offer human warmth to other families." While this is most certainly true, we can only really begin to do this when we realize that we are still works in progress, not anchored to the wounds and sins of our past, and still a leading star in God's continually unfolding story of love. The Holy Family persevered and radiated warmth because they knew they were not alone. We can too.©LPi



EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

All in the Family

At first glance, we can often find the image of the Blessed Mother, St. Joseph and the Christ Child intimidating - who are we to aspire to that level of discipleship? How could we ever hope to conform ourselves to that mold? Sometimes, it can even be painful - perhaps we hail from a broken family or struggle with a broken relationship within our family, or perhaps we long to be a mother or a father ourselves and that state in life has eluded us.

But the image of the Holy Family is, in reality, a beautiful invitation to us all, no matter our vocation or our state in life, and the example of Mary, Joseph and Jesus is rich with the symbolism of stewardship.

You need not be a biological mother who has carried a child in her womb to be a mother in spirit. Who in your world needs you to love them with the heart of a mother?

The same goes for fatherhood. The Church and the world are crying out for the courageous witness of Christian men like St. Joseph. Who can you love with the steadfast, selfless protection of a father?

Who in your life needs you to love them with the faithful, unconditional love of a son? Who needs your gentle and constant love as a daughter?

We are the Body of Christ, friends. Those of us rejoicing in heaven, those of us suffering in purgatory, and those of us struggling here on earth. We are the great family. Let us love each other well.

- Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi

SAINT OF THE WEEK EXAMPLES OF OUR FAITH

St. Stephen | Feast Day December 26

The Acts of the Apostles tells the story of St. Stephen, the first Christian martyr. A man filled with grace and power, he worked great wonders among the people. Some Jews debated with St. Stephen but could not match his wisdom and spirit. Eventually, a charge of blasphemy was brought up against him, and the local population demanded that he be tried and sentenced. He was seized and carried before the Sanhedrin.

Despite the danger he faced, in front of the Sanhedrin and his accusers, St. Stephen gave a long speech about the history of Israel and the blessings that God had given upon His chosen people. He talked about how Israel had become disobedient despite God's abundant mercy. This enraged his accusers, and eventually the crowd dragged him out of the city and stoned him to death.

Even in his final moments, St. Stephen displayed great forgiveness and even asked God not to hold the sins of his attackers against them. Hundreds of years after his death, he is still a role model for us to follow.

©LPi



FAITH FORMATION 2021-2022

Classes are in the Parish Center and in the Msgr. Gilmartin Hall
January 2022 Classes
16th 23rd, 30th

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.



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 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

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 December 12, 2021

Offertory \$ 3,020.00 Online Giving \$ 963.00

Capital Improvements \$ 454.00

Retired Priests \$ 429.00

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

OUR LADY OF PEACE ~ WE STAND WITH CHRIST CAMPAIGN REDEMPTION

Total Pledged: \$342,175 Total Collected (as of 12/1/2021): \$178,070

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



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

To date Our Lady of Peace has raised 165 gifts totaling \$38,670 from 119 donors bringing the parish to

91.20% of its \$42,400 goal. Thank you and God bless everyone for your generosity.

OLOP DONATION CENTER AND THRIFT SHOP

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

On Thursday, December 29th the shop will have it's blowout sale. Bring your own bags or use ours and fill each for \$3.00 with items remaining in the shop. If the items are to big for bags, make an offer! At noon the shop will close and reopen on Thursday, February 4th with a wealth of unseen items. While the shop is closed, we will still welcome donations of clean items ready for sale. Have a happy, healthy New Year!



December 25, 2021 to January 2, 2022

Saturday, December 25th

8:30 A.M. The Parishioners 11:00 A.M. The Parishioners

Sunday, December 26th

8:30 A.M. Mary and Jim Sherry

11:00 A.M. Daniel Peal 4:30 P.M. All God's Children

Monday, December 27th

No Mass

Tuesday, December 28th

No Mass

Wednesday, December 29th

8:30 A.M. The Sick of the Parish

Thursday, December 30th

8:30 A.M. Active and Retired Military Personnel

Friday, December 31st

8:30 A.M. The Parishioners 5:30 P.M. All Caregivers

Saturday, January 1, 2022-New Year's Day

8:30 A.M. The Parishioners 4:30 P.M. The Parishioners

Sunday, January 2nd

8:30 A.M. Karen Newall

11:00 A.M. Richard Kelly (30th Anniv.)

4:30 P.M. Gerald Kueoghlian 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

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, Terry Culver, 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, Doug Knapp, Blanche Loparco, Leona May, Alyssa Miller, Gary Normandin, Edith Orlando, Marilyn Owen, Grace Parisi, Rocco Parisi, Natalie Ramadanovic, Marjorie Rindos, Nancy Roberts, Tony R, Matteo S, Danny Stenson, Dennis Stratford, 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 GOUR

First Reading: Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14 or

1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 128 or Psalm 84

Second Reading: Colossians 3:12-21 or 3:12-17

or 1John 3:1-2, 21-24

Gospel: Luke 2:41-52

PARISH CALENDARS FOR THE YEAR 2022

are at the entrance to the Church and Chapel.

They were graciously supplied by
William R. McDonald Funeral Home. Please take one.

Observances for the week of December 26, 2021

Sunday: The Holy Family

Monday: St. John, Apostle and Evangelist Tuesday: The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

Wednesday: St. Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr Friday: St. Sylvester I, Pope; New Year's Eve

Saturday: New Year's Day;

Mary, The Holy Mother of God;

World Day of Peace

Next Sunday: The Epiphany of the Lord:

Sts. Basil the Great and

Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors

of the Church

©LPi

Calendar of EVENTS

January 1st

New Year's Day

January 10th

The Lord's Kitchen

January 28th

Prayer Shawl Ministry

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

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 enjaged and discussion will be

The video episode and discussion will be "Leadership".

Free will offering.

Menu will be Bacon and Egg Sandwiches, Corn Bread, Danish, Fruit, etc.

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 "Into the Breach" and other videos, ways we can be doers in our parish, and current Catholic topics.

CATHOLIC TRIVIA - JUST FOR FUN

Question: Who reads the first and second readings at Mass?

Answer: The lector ©LPi



CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday, December 26th

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph 8:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Holy Hour 3:00-4:00 p.m.

The Octave of Christmas

Wednesday, December 29th Thursday, December 30th Friday, December 31st 8:30 a.m.

New Year's Eve, Friday, December 31st

5:30 p.m. Vigil Mass Solemnity of Mary Mother of God

Saturday, January 1st - New Year's Day

Solemnity of Mary Mother of God (Not a Holy Day of Obligation in 2022) 8:30 a.m.

Confessions 3:15-4:00 p.m. Sunday Vigil Mass Epiphany of the Lord 4:30 p.m.

Sunday, January 2nd

Epiphany of the Lord 8:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Holy Hour 3:00-4:00 p.m.



Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do Thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host

 \sim by the Divine Power of God \sim cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits, who roam throughout the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

PARISH REGISTRATION

Ouestion:

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 s

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.

A PRAYER FOR OUR COUNTRY

O Most Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of Mercy, at this most critical time, we entrust the United States of America to your loving care.

Most Holy Mary, we beg you to reclaim this land for the glory of your Son. Overwhelmed with the burden of the sins of our nation, we cry to you from the depths of our hearts and seek refuge in your motherly protection.

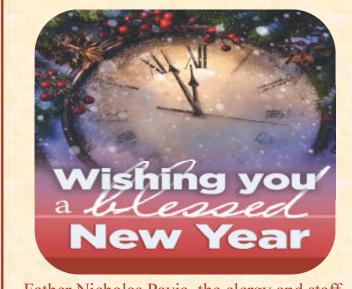
Look down with mercy upon us and touch the hearts of our people. Open our minds to the great worth of human life and to the responsibilities that accompany human freedom.

Free us from the falsehoods that lead to the evil of abortion and threaten the sanctity of family life. Grant our country the wisdom to proclaim that God's law is the foundation on which this nation was founded, and that He alone is the True Source of our cherished rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

O Merciful Mother, give us the courage to reject the culture of death and the strength to build a new Culture of life. Amen.

Our 2022 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. Checks only payable to OLOP. Stop in the Parish Office, during regular business hours, to request a mass.



Father Nicholas Pavia, the clergy and staff of Our Lady of Peace

The Parish Office will be closed December 31st for New Year's.

AVAILABLE FOR A LIMITED TIME!

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