

St. Stanislaus Cathedral

www.saintstanislauspncc.org

Email: Events@SaintStanislausPNCC.org

The First Parish of the Polish National Catholic Church

529 East Locust St. Scranton, PA 18505 – Rectory 570-343-6017

The Right Reverend Bernard J. Nowicki, DD, pastor – bishop@saintstanislauspncc.org

The Reverend Janusz A. Lucarz, assistant pastor – frjanusz@saintstanislauspncc.org

Peter Picerno, DMA – Organist / Director of Music

Solemnity – Brotherly Love

September 10, 2017



Masses: 8:00 am – Traditional Holy Mass **9:30 am** – Contemporary Holy Mass
11:15 am – Traditional Holy Mass, Our Savior Chapel, Tripp Park

Parish Office: 570-961-9231 – **Youth Center:** 570-961-8364

Edward Borek: Parishchair@saintstanislauspncc.org

Announcements: Bulletin@saintstanislauspncc.org

Bills/Payments: Treasurer@saintstanislauspncc.org

TODAY

Bishop Bernard is at Providence of God Lithuanian Parish for the administration of the sacrament of confirmation.

11:30 am – ANS monthly meeting, **Board Room**

TUESDAY, September 12th

7:00 pm – YMS of R monthly meeting, **YMS of R Park**

WEDNESDAY, September 13th

6:30 pm – Prayer Shawl Meeting, **Library**

THURSDAY, September 14th

6:30 pm – Cathedral Chorale rehearsal

NEXT SUNDAY, September 17th, Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary time

Holy Mass: **8:00 am** Traditional **9:30 am** Contemporary **11:15 am** Our Savior Chapel, Tripp Park

MUSIC NOTES – Paul Benoit (1893-1979) was an organist and composer. He was also a Benedictine monk and was organist at the monastery where he lived which was the Abbey of St. Maurice and St. Maur, at Clairvaux in Luxembourg. He had studied piano organ as a young man and felt his vocation after the Armistice in 1918 which he then acted on in joining the Benedictine order. As organist at the Abbey he played for daily services and was inspired to compose organ and choral music exclusively for the church. Today's prelude is based on the chant *Ubi caritas (Where charity and love prevail)*. Benoit used this same text – which is appropriate for this Sunday - for the hymn which is sung as today's offertory and though Benoit composed a new melody for the text his melody is highly influenced by the chant tradition.

Flea Market NEWS – We raised a record **\$21,698** from this year's Flea Market. We thank all parishioners & friends of St. Stanislaus for their generous support. A special thank you to all the dedicated volunteers who made this year's event a great success.

2017 Sponsors: Polish National Union, CJ Diirner & Sons Roofing, Gertrude Hawk, Jim Mulligan, Bill Courtright, Spojnia Credit Union, Sam's Barber Shop, Amelia Liska, Ann Marie Liska, Schiff's Restaurant Service.

SPECIAL MEETING – On **Sunday, October 8th**, a special meeting of the congregation will be convened to consider further the expansion of the Youth Center with a storage space added to it on its scoreboard side.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CLASS – will begin next month for our young parishioners age eight and older in order to prepare for their reception of the Holy Eucharist for the first time. Please **(1)** sign the sheet in the lower Cathedral auditorium or **(2)** call the rectory to leave a voicemail at 570 343 6017.

HARVEST DINNER – The Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament Society will be sponsoring a “Homestyle Roast Pork Dinner” on October 22, 2017 in our Youth Center. Chairperson, Connie Tellep along with her right-hand helper, Marie Gorgol will have tickets for you to purchase. Tickets will be \$12.00 for adults and \$6.00 for children. Please see any member of our Society to purchase your tickets before they are “sold out”. Take outs will be available from 10:30 am until 11:45 am. Sit down dinner will follow thereafter.

ANS “BASKET RAFFLE” – The Adoration Society will be hosting a “Basket Raffle” at our Harvest Dinner on Oct. 22, 2017. Presently we are looking for donations of monetary donations, and/ or certificates from any businesses: such as grocery stores, restaurants, retail shops, etc. The Basket Raffle prizes will only be available at the Harvest Dinner. Donation letters are available upon request from Debbie Godek. With your help we can make this fundraiser a huge success! Any questions please contact chairperson, Debbie Godek at 570-689-4069.

2017 EDUCATION AND YOUTH COMMISSION RAFFLE – As fall is quickly approaching and we are all getting ready for the start of a new school year, the Education & Youth Commission of the Polish National Union of America is hosting a raffle to benefit our College Stipend Program, which is awarded to those college students based on the rules and regulations of this commission.

The raffle will be held on December 14, 2017 @ the PNU Home Office, 1006 Pittston Avenue, Scranton, Pa. Donations for these tickets are \$5.00 each or 3 tickets for \$10.00.

First Prize – \$400 cash

Second Prize – Beats Pill + Bluetooth Speaker

Third Prize- Apple TV.

(raffle tickets can be obtained in your parish hall or the PNU Home Office)

We greatly appreciate your support and generosity as we try to encourage our youth to become the future leaders within our parish community and the Polish National Union of America. Monetary donations are also graciously accepted towards the funding for this stipend program, and can be mailed directly to the following address: **Education and Youth Commission, c/o PNU of America, 1006 Pittston Avenue, Scranton, Pa 18505 (checks made payable to Education and Youth Commission).** Thank you, if you have any questions in regards to this program or raffle, please contact Mary Ann Stankowski @ 570-341-0986, or Carol Mikovsky @ 570-344-0916, or email EYC@pnu.org.

SPOJNIA SUNDAY – On Sunday, September 24th, 2017 – as the PNCC celebrates Spojnia Sunday – let us always remember to support the efforts of our sister organization as the PNU continues to support the members, clergy and parishes of the PNCC. For more information on the Polish National Union please contact your PNU Branch Secretary or call the PNU Home Office at 1-800-724-6352 for more information.

HOW THE PNU HAS HELPED YOU Contest - In conjunction with the 2017 celebration of Spojnia Sunday, the PNU is sponsoring a contest and we would love to hear “how the PNU has helped you!” Think of the many benefits the PNU has offered through the years and come up with a creative way to

show others “How the PNU Has Helped You.” Create a short video, photo collage, musical performance, poster, or some unique way for you to demonstrate the benefit you’ve received as a member of the PNU. Participate as an individual, a family, a group, a branch of the PNU, or a parish of the PNCC. **Be creative!** The winner will receive \$500 and the runner-up will receive \$250. Deadline for submission is October 16th, 2017. Send your entry to Spojnia Sub-committee, c/o Kathy Nemkovich, via email at kathynemkovich@gmail.com, or mailed to 37 Winthrop St., Fall River, MA 02721. Winners will be announced in November 2017.

Be sure to check out the Spojnia Sunday 2017 Facebook page!

APARTMENT FOR RENT – The third-floor apartment at 1115 Pittston Ave. Is available for rent. Anyone interested please call Ed Borek at the Parish Office 570-961-9231.

SPAGHETTI DINNER – Holy Cross PNCC, 23 Sheridan St, Wilkes Barre, PA 18702, will be holding a spaghetti dinner on Saturday, September 23rd, from 4:00 to 7:00 pm. \$10.00 for adults, and \$5.00 for youth to age 12. Open salad bar with take-outs available. Fr. Dymkowski and his wife, Gloria have been ongoing supporters of our Chicken BBQ and usually buy 4-6 dinners at every event. Sylvia and I plan to attend this dinner to show our support of them as well.

FOOD PANTRY – Please bring **macaroni and cheese** on Sunday, **September 17th** for our One Hot Meal Food Pantry. Thank you for your continued support of this important project.

ALTAR FLOWERS – The floral pieces at the high altar today are offered to the glory of God and in memory of Susan Gorgol (15th Anniversary) offered by mother Marie and family.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY – **Sept 15** – Kelvin & Janet Swanger; **Sept 16** – James & Carol Merkel

HAPPY BIRTHDAY – **Sept 10** – Edward Borek; **Sept 12** – Zachary Stankowski; **Sept 13** – Adam Weaver, Albert McConnell; **Sept 15** – Felicia Petrillo, Nathan Kalteski

FRIENDS IN THE HOSPITAL – **Sept 8** – *Mt. View: Amelia Liska, Paulette Wincovich; *Wayne Woodlands: Ed Solosky; *St. Mary’s Villa: Clara Zlotowski

THIS WEEK’S LITURGIES

Tuesday, September 12

8:30 am – sp. Robert & Florence Ostroski by Kowalski & Adams families

Wednesday, September 13

8:30 am – Mass of the day

Thursday, September 14

8:30 am – Healing Mass

Friday, September 15

8:30 am – Mass of the day

Saturday, September 16

8:30 am – sp. Cheryl Meola by Carol Repecki & family

FRIENDS RECOVERING AT HOME – Jean Cwynar, Joann Edwards, Ceil Gorgol, Josephine Kwiatkowski, Bob Matylewicz, Chester Nezelkewicz, Stanley (Ozzie) Ocwieja, Jake Stankowski, Ann Stets, Mary Szajna. Please pray for them.



**The Sermon preached by Bishop Bernard on Sunday, Ordinary 22, September 3rd
about Hurricane Harvey and St Paul's teaching on our being "living sacrifices"**

This morning, St Paul is asking the parishioners of the Church in the city of Rome to present their bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, as their spiritual worship. In asking them to do this, he wants them to be conformed to the gospel, and not to be conformed to "this world." The alternative to being conformed to the world is to be transformed in the mind, in order to accomplish what God wants — which are all those things that are good, acceptable, and perfect. Paul goes on to spell out what this transformation in the mind will look like, as compared to what the world does to your head — which is to say, swell it. Paul tells the Romans that their bodies are to be presented to God — because this is what God requires of believers in their worship of Him. Our bodies are living sacrifices, Paul says; he uses the word 'living' - meaning that the sacrifice is on-going and doesn't stop. In this place, you present your body within the formal worship setting of the Cathedral, and so you kneel with it, listen with it, sing with it, eat and drink with it. But the closing hymn is not where your sacrifice stops — the living sacrifice you offer encompasses all of life. The car you drive in is an altar. The bed you sleep in is an altar. The dinner table you sit down to is an altar. Or even more timely as recently observed, the little boat or jet ski you use to rescue people who are stranded in their flooded homes & streets are altars. The floor of the furniture store in Houston being used as a shelter for people who are flooded out of their homes is an altar. The helicopter airlifting flooded families to safety is an altar on which the pilot and crew are living sacrifices pulling people into it. The highway full of vehicles from many different states across the country carrying flood rescue equipment is an altar on which people are willing to be living sacrifices for the sake of Texans in great need.

Notice that Paul says that we are not to be conformed to the world, but rather that we are to be transformed. Let's say you just came out hot, right out of the microwave; and let's say the world is a jello mold, and you're poured into it. As much as we like to pretend that we are all individuals, we are actually conformists to the bone. We really want to be like other people. The real question is: what will we conform ourselves to? Well, we will either conform to the world and to things that are not of Christ, or we will conform to Christ; those are the alternatives. We will either conform to the pattern of the old man, *i.e.*, Adam and sin, or we will conform to the pattern of the new man, Jesus the Christ. Jesus came to bring us a

new humanity, a new heaven and a new earth. When you present your body to God here in church as a living sacrifice, this is an acceptable worship. And when you follow through on your formal Sunday worship by presenting your body the rest of the week to Jesus on whatever altar of service you choose, outside of this Cathedral, that offering of yours is acceptable, and "holy and pleasing to God." Offering yourself as a living sacrifice all week long is "your spiritual worship" as St Paul describes it. When you present yourself to God as a living sacrifice, you are refusing to allow the world to pour you into its mold. Being molded is not the problem: being poured into the wrong mold is.

So, when you go home today and witness on TV all those living sacrifices wading through water, riding in row boats and air boats and on jet skis and riding in monster trucks, and flying in helicopters to save people in distress, just know that all those living sacrifices are "holy and pleasing to God," and they are their "spiritual worship."

That's why I'd like you to consider how you yourself might be a living sacrifice this coming week to those same stricken, flood ravaged people in Texas and Louisiana. One thing you could do is to take Prime Bishop Anthony's exhortation in the bulletin today very, very seriously by taking your checkbook - and looking at it very carefully for a moment in order to realize that that checkbook is an altar on which you, too, can present yourself as a living sacrifice; and on **that** altar, prepare and detach a generous check according to the item I placed in this week's bulletin. I describe there the need for your financial support of various for Hurricane Harvey rescue and recovery needs.

It's for that reason, then, that I join with Saint Paul this morning in "...urging you, my dear brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God, [which is] your spiritual worship (Romans 12:1-2)."

Examples of Brotherly Love manifested in Texas and Louisiana in the wake of Hurricane Harvey

- the Cajun Navy;
- people coming from all over the country, lined up on the side of highway with trucks, boats and other vehicles to help in any way possible in Texas;
- people who lost their own homes were still helping rescue the stranded;
- first responders who lost their own homes were still helping rescue the stranded;
- first responders only take short naps, then take only a snack and go back out for 36+ hours at a time to save lives;
- private citizens join and initiate civic rescue efforts in little boats, rafts, canoes, jet skis to get to stranded people, much like the flotilla of little boats at Dunkirk, in World War II which returned British troops back home across the English Channel;
- helicopters air lifting families to safety; monster trucks accessing and saving twenty people at a time;
- shelters set up by various organizations and churches with restaurants and super markets providing food, clothes, sleep to the needy and to rescue workers;
- a Houston furniture store owner providing shelter in his stores;
- trucking companies from surrounding states providing semi's to deliver food and supplies to the stricken areas;
- corporations providing millions dollars in cash and supplies;
- National guardsmen and veterans from many different wars reporting for volunteer rescue assignments

A reminder from last week's bulletin:

The Primate in his letter offers the *Church World Service* of the National Council of Churches, a body with which our denomination is affiliated, and the *Red Cross* as worthy agencies through which to channel our financial support of the disaster relief efforts.

Please make your donation through the offering basket or at the parish office in an envelope marked **(1) HURRICANE**, **(2) with your name**, **(3) the number** of your offering envelope, **(4) the name of one of the agencies** listed above to which you want your donation to go, and **(5) make your check payable to either of the two agencies** listed above. These checks will represent the PNCC contribution to the relief effort. These will be sent to the Diocesan Treasurer for a diocesan accounting and then forwarded.

All the members of our Saint Stanislaus Cathedral Parish family can keep everyone effected by Hurricane Harvey in their prayers during the coming week.

We can all pray for

Those in need:

- Pray for supernatural removal of floodwaters. The threat is not over, and many still can't access their homes. Pray specifically for those who are displaced and anxious.
- Pray for people who have lost their worldly possessions and feel the weight of uncertainty and loss.
- Pray for clarity, wisdom and much patience as innumerable details and logistical decisions crowd exhausted minds. Pray that survivors will be able to find all the help they need in these initial days of confusion and pain.
- Pray for the God of all comfort to meet each one where they are and that this catastrophic event will be a defining moment for a powerful spiritual awakening.

Those responding:

- Pray for first responders as they bravely leave their own loved ones to help others. Pray for their families back home and for their safety as they continue to face peril.
- Pray for disaster relief volunteers and relief agencies from all over the country as they prepare and deploy. Pray specifically for all the complicated logistical details.
- Pray for volunteers already on sight. Ask the Lord to keep them safe as they work.
- Pray for emergency disaster relief trainings taking place in the next few days, so more people can safely and effectively help without hurting.

Those in charge:

- Pray for FEMA Administrator William "Brock" Long, Texas Governor Greg Abbott, local mayors and county leaders, as they make important decisions left and right.
- Pray for local pastors in the areas affected as they make decisions for their own congregations and share Christ's love with their neighbors.
- Pray for these leaders as they are working with very little rest and are, no doubt, physically, mentally and emotionally exhausted during these long, difficult days. Pray for their comfort, strength, clarity and wisdom.