

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

Mrs. Beth Howden – Organist / Director of Music

December 2, 2018



Masses: 8:00 am – Traditional Holy Mass **9:30 am** – Contemporary Holy Mass
11:15 am – Traditional Holy Mass, Cathedral Chapel, Our Savior, 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
Parish Information: Office@saintstanislauspncc.org

TODAY

SOCL Class following 9:30 mass

St. Stanislaus Handbell rehearsal following SOCL Class

10:55 am – Adult Forum

11:30 am – ANS monthly meeting, board room

MONDAY, December 3rd

6:30 pm – Bible Study, Chancery conference room

TUESDAY, December 4th

6:30 pm – YMS of R monthly meeting (see announcement)

THURSDAY, December 6th

6:30 pm – Cathedral Chorale rehearsal

NEXT SUNDAY, December 9th, Second Sunday of Advent

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

COSTLY CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP in Luke 21:12-19 –

Jesus said to his disciples: "Before all this happens, they will seize and persecute you.....because of my name. It will lead to your giving testimony.....Remember, I myself shall give you a wisdom in speaking.....You will be hated by all because of my name....."

In Persecution:

Opposition from the world is the price we pay for following Christ. No surprise there! If living the Gospel were easy, all the world would be saints. But the Gospel is demanding. It rubs against our fallen human nature. It makes demands of us — and even makes us unpopular. Why? Because people who do good are a thorny reminder to those who don't. It shouldn't surprise us that the neighbors look down on us for being Christians. Or that the guys in the dorms snicker at other guys or gals for maintaining their sexual virginity. Or that the boss overlooks you for a promotion because you wouldn't donate to that pro-abortion group during the company fund drive. It's true that to be a Christian means to be persecuted.

With Wisdom from Above:

"I myself shall give you a wisdom in speaking..." When we stay close to Christ in prayer and deed, he takes over our lives little by little. And that's good. Our selfishness fades. Our heart grows. We die to ourselves. "He must increase; I must decrease" (John 3:30). But we have to ask ourselves: Do we fully believe in the Gospel? Do we believe in it enough to use Christ's words when we have to respond to the nonbelievers around us? How often do we identify ourselves to others as Catholic Christians?

Prayer:

Lord, help me face the difficulties of practicing my faith day-to-day. Amen.

ADVENT – THE TRUEST CHRISTMAS PREPARATION – I truly hope you are looking forward to this special time of year. Advent is a time to reflect on the abundant blessings God has bestowed on each and every one of us. Although the daylight hours have grown shorter and night seems longer each day, in the midst of darkness, Advent helps us recall how the light shines through with the promise of good things to come. Spiritually, Advent is the dawn. It is not yet the bright light of Christmas. Advent is a time of preparation for something exceedingly joyful that is yet to come. It is a time of penance, when our souls are still struggling through the darkness, seeking the Light.

There is a longing and expectancy in Advent. So we undertake our Advent waiting and joyful hope and expectation and repentance — just as the early Christians preparing for the day of salvation when the Lord will come.

Advent is offered by the Church as a fruitful time for you to examine the depth and strength of your faith. In the person of Jesus Christ, whose birth you will soon celebrate, you see the God you cannot see made visible; God who does not force, but asks to be invited into your life to share his love with you. “Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears my voice, I will come in to him.” But the door to your heart can only be opened from the inside, and Christ will not force his way in — he, too, waits with great longing and expectation and patience for all of us to invite him in.

During this holy season of Advent, I commend to you the Wednesday morning *Rorate* Masses at 6:30, a traditional Advent devotional in honor the Blessed Virgin Mary celebrated just before the dawning light of the Advent Wednesdays.

During this holy season of Advent, I commend to you the sounds and colors and ceremonies typical of this first season of the liturgical Church year. The poetry and melodies of Advent are unlike any other during the cycle of Church seasons.

Enhance your spirituality by presenting yourself to God each Sunday for at least fifteen minutes before the start of each Mass to review the Advent hymns outlined in the order of service; and then open your hymnals to the numbered hymn to read the poem that is set to the melody peculiar to Advent, and reflect carefully on the meaning of the thoughts and teachings and prayers described in that hymn’s poetry.

During this holy season of Advent, I commend to you the words of St. Paul in his Letter to the Romans: “You know the time, it is the hour now for you to awake from sleep. For our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed.” Indeed, awake and repent of any waywardness before God.

And most importantly, be assured of my prayers asking God’s blessing for all of you and your families throughout Advent, this first holy season of the new year.

Bishop Bernard

ADVENT RORATE MASSES OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY – offered **each Wednesday in Advent at 6:30 am** on December 5th, 12th, and the 19th.

YMS of R MEETING – The YMS of R will set up the Christmas tree followed by our monthly meeting on Tuesday, December 4th at 6:30 pm in the Youth Center.

ANS THANK YOU – Once again the Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament Society has been blessed with another "Mother Daughter Duo" for altar care for the month of November!! A very special Thank You to our sodality member Christine Patrick, her daughter Jordan, AND her Dad, Ray Makowski Sr. for his help also!!! We ask "The Holy Spirit" to bless this awesome family for their dedication in keeping our awesome cathedral beautiful & continue to guide them throughout their daily lives now & forever!!!

BREAKFAST BUFFET WITH SANTA – YMS of R Branch #1 hosts their annual Breakfast Buffet with Santa on **Sunday, December 9th after the 9:30 am Holy Mass in the Parish Youth Center**. Tickets are Adults: \$8.00; Children ages 4 to 12: \$3.00; Children ages 3 and under: Free. Please make reservations in the Parish Hall after 9:30 am Mass on Sundays or call Frank Gerardi at 570-587-3672. There will be a **limited number of tickets for sale at the door**, so please make your **reservations by Thursday, December 6th**. **Set up will be Saturday, December 8th** at 6:30 pm. Any help given is much appreciated.

ST. STANISLAUS YOUTH BASKETBALL NEWS – Sign-ups for the upcoming season are underway. **ALL REGISTRATION FORMS MUST BE RETURNED ALONG WITH PAYMENT BY 12/16/2018**. Forms and information about the league are located downstairs in the church hall, and on the church’s website. Please either mail or drop off the completed forms along with the payment to Jake Stankowski c/o Southside Floral Shop, 1025 Pittston Avenue, Scranton, Pa. 18505. Forms can also be brought on Friday, December 14th, 2018.

The cost for each player is \$40.00 and \$20.00 for each additional child within the same family (living in the same household).

Practice/Sign-ups – Friday, December 14th, 2018 in the youth center.

6:30-7:00 p.m. for PreK-2nd grades

7:00- 7:45 p.m. for 3rd – 8th grades

7:45 – 8:30 p.m. for 9th – 11th grades

Games will tentatively start on Friday, January 4th, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.

A schedule of game times and age groups will soon follow. Thank You as always for your support! Any questions please contact Jake Stankowski @ (570-341-0986) or Art Golembeski @ 570-575-5231.

OPLATEK-CHRISTMAS WAFER – is available in the Church Office after Masses on Sunday or you may pick it up during the week by contacting the Church Office at 570-961-9231 between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. A donation is asked to help defray the cost of the wafers. Carry on the Polish custom of breaking bread at the Wigilia, Vigil Dinner on Christmas Eve and have a Blessed Holiday Season.

ANGEL TREE / TOY DRIVE – The Angel Tree is again set up to help make some children's Christmas a little brighter. This year we will be helping the United Neighborhood Center's Toyland. Pick an angel from the tree and bring in an unwrapped toy for the age range on the back. Place the toy in the red buckets under the tables in the social hall. The greatest need is for ages 9 to 13. Please have your toy in by Sunday, December 16th so we can deliver them in time for the UNC Toyland. Thank you so much for your generosity!

DISTRICT 1 CHRISTMAS PARTY – District 1 PNU will be holding their annual Christmas Party on Thursday, December 13, 2018 at the lower level of the PNCC Center, 1006 Pittston Avenue, Scranton, PA at 6:00 pm in conjunction with the quarterly meeting. The cost per person will be \$15.00. A buffet dinner featuring roast beef and breaded pork chops will be provided. There will also be a raffle, games and Christmas carol sing-a-long. Please make your reservations with Joan Scheuneman at 570-344-1513 by November 29, 2018. All District 1 members and their families are welcome to attend. Looking forward to seeing you there!

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA – As a community service project, St. Stanislaus UYA is partnering with Wreaths Across America to support their mission to Remember, Honor and Teach about America's veterans. **On December 15, 2018, we will have a wreath-laying ceremony** at our cemetery on Kane Street in conjunction with ones occurring at Arlington National Cemetery, as well as at more than 1,400 additional locations in all 50 U.S. states, at sea and abroad.

We will be **selling wreaths now through November 30th** so that each veteran at rest in our cemetery will be honored and remembered. **We have started counting and identifying each veteran's marker.** To date we **have counted well over 250 graves**, and we know there are more. Please help us by sharing your loved one's names with us so they can be counted.

We hope you will **support this effort by donating \$15 to sponsor a wreath** in honor of or in memory of an American hero and show our veterans and their families that we will not forget. **For each wreath sold, the UYA will earn \$5.** Please make checks payable to: St. Stanislaus UYA.

The UYA will have a table set up after each 9:30 mass now through the end of November to accept donations. You can also contact Maria Hughes or any UYA member for more information. To read more about Wreaths Across America's mission, go to wreathscrossamerica.org. Thank you in advance for your contribution to this important project.

2018 EDUCATION AND YOUTH COMMISSION RAFFLE – The Education & Youth Commission of the Polish National Union of America is once again hosting a raffle to benefit our College Stipend Program. **The raffle will be held on December 6th, 2018 @ 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 – Fitbit Charge 2**
- Third Prize – Google Home Speaker**

We greatly appreciate your support and generosity as we continue to support the ministries of this commission to benefit our youth. Monetary donations are always graciously accepted towards the funding for this stipend program, and can be mailed directly to the following address: **Education and Youth Commission of the PNU**

**c/o Mary Ann Stankowski
1006 Pittston Avenue, Scranton, Pa 18505**

(checks made payable to Education and Youth Commission).

Thank you, if you have any questions or inquiries please contact Mary Ann Stankowski @ 570-341-0986 or eyc@pnu.org.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATIONS – Please consider donating \$20.00 to help decorate our Alters for Christmas. Donations may be made in memory or honor of loved ones. Checks should be made to the ANS Flower Fund. Checks may be dropped off at the Parish Office or you can contact Connie Tellep at [570-2224409](tel:570-2224409) or jteellep@nep.net by December 16th.

FOOD PANTRY – Please bring **instant oatmeal** on Sunday, **December 9th** for our One Hot Meal Food Pantry. Thank you for your continued support of this important project.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY – **Dec 4** – Mary Karsnak; **Dec 5** – Shelby Petrillo, Edward Meleski, Richard Berezinsky; **Dec 7** – Stephanie Kaszuba; **Dec 8** – Joseph Yaron, Carol Grinzi

FRIENDS in the HOSPITAL – **November 29th** – *Mt. View: Rosalie Aebli, Amelia Liska, Paulette Wincovich

FRIENDS RECOVERING at HOME – Annette Cimino, Jean Cwynar, Joann Edwards, Ceil Gorgol, Josephine Kwiatkowski, Helen Lukasiewicz, Bob Matylewicz, Chester Nezelkewicz, Stanley (Ozzie) Ocwieja, Jean Sherman, Jake Stankowski. Please pray for them.

THIS WEEK'S LITURGIES

Monday, December 3

8:30 am – Mass of the day

Tuesday, December 4

8:30 am – Mass of the day

Wednesday, December 5

6:30 am – **RORATE MASS**

Thursday, December 6

8:30 am – Healing Mass

Friday, December 7

8:30 pm – Mass of the day

Saturday, December 8

8:30 am – sp. Ethel Pochocki & Julia Zatek offered by family

