

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 16, 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

10:45 am – Decorating the Cathedral for Christmas

SOCL Class following 9:30 mass

St. Stanislaus Handbell rehearsal following SOCL Class

MONDAY, December 17th

6:30 pm – Bible Study, Chancery conference room

TUESDAY, December 18th

6:30 pm – Parish Committee monthly meeting

THURSDAY, December 20th

6:30 pm – Cathedral Chorale rehearsal

NEXT SUNDAY, December 23rd, Fourth Sunday of Advent

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

MUSIC NOTES – Lyrics for the hymn arrangements included in today's organ prelude are as follows:

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers!

1. Rejoice, rejoice, believers! And let your lights appear; / The evening is advancing, and darker night is near.

The Bridegroom is arising, and soon he will draw nigh; / Up, watch in expectation! At midnight comes the cry.

Lift Up Your Heads

1. Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates; / Behold the King of glory waits!

The King of kings is drawing near; / The Savior of the world is here.

A CATHEDRAL CHRISTMAS – Friends, this Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, the musicians of

St. Stanislaus Cathedral will present some beautiful music in conjunction with the Masses that will be celebrated. At the 3:00 PM Christmas Eve service, the Bell Choir will play, and the youth will enact a Living Nativity. At the 10:30 PM Christmas Eve Mass, you will not want to miss the lovely pre-service

prelude music performed by Josh Stankowski on Viola, Adrianna Howden on the oboe, and Beth Howden on the organ. **Please be sure to arrive by 10:15 PM for this!** There will be the Blessing of

the Manger with candles, along with anthems by soloists and the Cathedral Chorale. Then on Christmas Day at 10:00 AM, ring in the glorious season with a gorgeous prelude of Christmas carols

performed by Jack Partyka on the trumpet, and Beth accompanying on the organ. There will also be a vocal duet sung by Barbara Nowicki and Gary Richards. This is along with singing all the meaningful

Christmas hymns that we love, and hearing and speaking the glorious traditions of our faith. Invite your friends and family, and join us as we celebrate the birth of our Lord!

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

Lectors:

12/16 – 8:00 – J. Andrzejewski

9:30 – J. Snyder & M. Hughes

11:15 – L. McConlogue

12/23 – 8:00 – K. Michalina

9:30 – P. Kowalski & L. Pfohl

11:15 – L. McConlogue

Oplatki – Christmas Wafers
are available in the Parish
Office.

GAUDETE SUNDAY – ROSE SUNDAY – DECEMBER 16TH – Today is the third Sunday of the Advent Season. This particular Sunday is known as Rejoice Sunday as it takes this designation from the second reading at Mass today from the fourth chapter of Paul’s letter to the Church at Philippi wherein we hear Paul’s encouragement to believers:

“Gaudete in Domino semper.”

“Radujcie się w Panu zawsze!

“Rejoice in the Lord always.”

Gaudete, indeed! “Rejoice....again I say rejoice!” he urges. And the Church does exactly that during this somber first season of the Church year by changing its usual Advent color to a lighter shade on this particular day.

A good number of years ago in one of my previous cures, an older parishioner said to me after Mass on the 3rd Sunday of Advent, “Ya know, Fadder, I’ve been meaning to tell you sumpfin’ for a while now: pink isn’t yer color.” I told him quickly: “But it’s not pink.” Of course I do have to tell you that at that parish we did have a set that I called the ‘Bubble Gum vestments’ because any piece of pink Bazooka bubble gum you might hold up to them immediately became invisible! I never used that set. “No,” I explained, “this color I’m wearing today is ‘rose’ not pink.” He said, “OK - but that doesn’t make you look any better.” I thanked him for his “professional” opinion.

This color rose is a subdued shade of pink, and – lest I end up giving an art class lecture here on the finer points of the *artiste*’s color wheel – let me quickly add that in the Church rose signifies rejoicing, and it signals the onset of a spirit of joyful hope during Advent. Indeed, the color ‘rose’ proves to be a beautiful symbol of what Advent teaches.

Rose lightens up the usual dark Advent purple moving toward white. In this sense, the color rose anticipates the pure white of the Birth of Christ, and thereby gives us a hint as what is to come. The color rose hints at the joy over the miracle of God’s coming to live in our midst as Emmanuel. Also, the first reading from Isaiah today speaks of a flowering in the desert when the Son of God comes: “The desert and the parched land will exult; [they] will rejoice and bloom. They will bloom with abundant flowers, and rejoice with joyful song.” Rose is a color named for a sweet-scented bloom.

Today the solemnity of Advent brightens into joy by shining light on the promise of good things to come. *Spiritually, Advent is the dawn. Advent is not yet Christmas.* From today, the light only starts to break through towards the bright glistenings of Christmas. And this heightens our anticipation, and brings us - Joy. Indeed, “Gaudete in Domino semper,” “Radujcie się w Panu zawsze,” “Rejoice in the Lord always.”

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.

ST. STANISLAUS YOUTH BASKETBALL NEWS – Sign-ups for the upcoming season are underway. **ALL REGISTRATION FORMS MUST BE RETURNED ALONG WITH PAYMENT BY TODAY.** 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).

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.

PNU JOB OPENING - Insurance Administrative Assistant –The Polish National Union of America (PNU) is seeking a qualified candidate to fill the position of Insurance Administration Assistant. The position is a full time position with health insurance benefits as a part of the PNU staff based in Scranton, PA. Experience in the insurance industry is a plus. A bachelor’s degree is preferred but not necessary. Applications are available at the home office. Resumes can be submitted to the Chief Financial Officer C/O the PNU 1002 Pittston Ave, Scranton, PA 18505 or via email info@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 **TODAY**.

FOOD PANTRY – Please bring **pasta** on Sunday, **December 16th** for our One Hot Meal Food Pantry. Thank you for your continued support of this important project.

THIS WEEK’S LITURGIES

Monday, December 17

8:30 am – Mass of the day

Tuesday, December 18

8:30 am – Mass of the day

Wednesday, December 19

6:30 am – RORATE MASS

Thursday, December 20

8:30 am – Healing Mass

Friday, December 21

8:30 pm – Mass of the day

Saturday, December 22

8:30 am – sp. Walter Blakiewicz by family

HAPPY BIRTHDAY – **Dec 16** – Madeline Hughes; **Dec 18** – Grace Weaver; **Dec 19** – Wanda Diak; **Dec 20** – MaryAnn Zigmont, Christine Noto

FRIENDS in the HOSPITAL – **December 14th** – *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.