

St. Stanislaus Cathedral

www.saintstanislauspncc.org

Email: Events@SaintStanislausPNCC.org

The First Parish of the Polish National Catholic Church

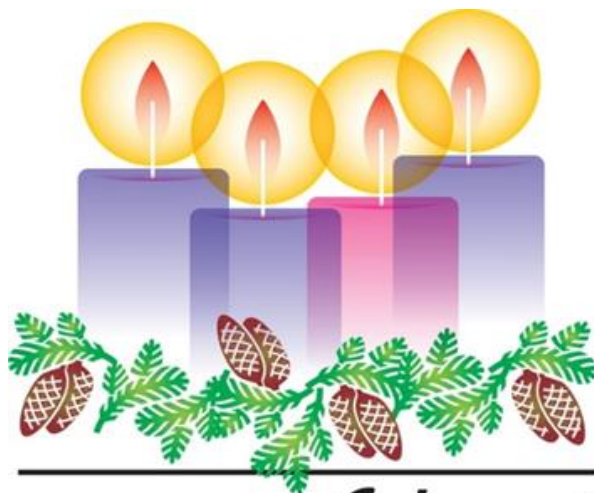
529 East Locust St. Scranton, PA 18505 – Rectory 570-343-6017

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 23, 2018



FOURTH SUNDAY OF *Advent*

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

A *MODEL WIGILIA* following 9:30 mass (see announcement)

St. Stanislaus Handbell rehearsal following SOCL Class

MONDAY, December 24 - Christmas Eve

3:00 pm - Christmas Eve Vigil Mass: Living Nativity

10:30 pm - Christmas Eve Mass of the Shepherds: Pasterka

Choir, instruments, string ensemble

TUESDAY, December 25 – Christmas Day - Nativity of our Lord

10:00 am – Holy Mass of Christmas Day, Cathedral

10:30 am – Holy Mass of Christmas Day, Cathedral Chapel, Tripp Park

WEDNESDAY, December 26 – Feast of St. Stephen

10:00am – Holy Mass, *lower Chapel*

THURSDAY, December 27 – Feast of St. John

10:00am – Holy Mass, Cathedral, *wine blessed and distributed*

SATURDAY, December 29 - Solemnity of the Holy Family

8:30 am – Holy Mass, *lower chapel*

NEXT SUNDAY, December 30th, Solemnity – Humble Shepherds

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

A MODEL WIGILIA: KEEPING THE TRADITION

– Did your family celebrate Christmas Eve with a special dinner (Wilia / Wigilia)? Do you still keep the tradition? How closely do observe it these days? Did your “Babcia” prepare it for you? Did you have beet soup or mushroom soup? Which is correct? Did Swiety Mikolaj come to your house?

In response to a request to learn more about our traditions, the students in School of Christian Living, both youth and adults, will participate in a model Wilia (the traditional Christmas Eve supper in Poland) **after the 9:30 Mass in the parish hall, lower auditorium TODAY**. We will reenact the dinner. You will learn about the preparations for the dinner and how it was conducted, interacting with each other as we go. Please come to observe or participate. Refresh your memories and help our young people to carry on this beautiful tradition. If you have fallen away from keeping this tradition yourself, and want a refresher course, this could be your chance to revive it! We hope to see you there!

2019 OFFERING ENVELOPES

– The 2019 Offering envelopes are here. Please pick up your yearly envelopes on the table in the church hall after mass on Sunday. They are in alphabetical order. You can also pick them up during the week from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. by coming to the Parish Office door next to the rectory.

Lectors:

12/23 – 8:00 – K. Michalina

9:30 – P. Kowalski & L. Pfohl

11:15 – L. McConlogue

12/30 – 8:00 – J. Andrzejewski

9:30 – M. Hughes & M. Stankowski

11:15 – L. McConlogue

Opłatki – Christmas Wafers are available in the Parish Office.

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!

A CHRISTMAS BLESSING FROM THE ADORATION OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT SOCIETY

To Our Clergy & Parishioners,

During this Christmas season, may you be blessed with the spirit of the season...which is PEACE...the gladness of the season...which is HOPE... & the heart of the season...which is LOVE.

May the good times & treasures of the present become the golden memories of tomorrow.

Wishing you & your loved ones near & far....PEACE, LOVE & HAPPINESS for Christmas & the New Year!

President,
Kathleen A. Michalina

UYA CHRISTMAS CAROLING – The St. Stanislaus UYA is planning their annual Christmas Caroling schedule for 2018! We will be caroling on the following dates: Thursday December 27th and Friday December 28th, leaving the Rectory at 5:30pm each night and again on Sunday afternoon, December 30th. We have a list of parishioners that we have had the privilege of visiting each year, but we would LOVE to expand our list this year. If you would like to have our fun-loving, collection of carolers stop by your home this year and share a bit of Christmas cheer, PLEASE, contact Maria Hughes at 570-842-8451 or at mariahughes1@verizon.net. Can't wait for the fa-la-la-la-la-fun to begin!

CEMETERY PROJECT – You may have noticed the large trees near the pavilion at our Cathedral cemetery and the shrub line have been removed. The trees were removed as they were rotting from the inside out and created a safety risk for visitors and patrons who rent our grove. Upon removal of the trees, it also became evident the shrubs were also in poor condition. The plan is to replace the shrub line with fuller and taller shrub and plant several new trees. Shade for guests attending events will be provided by 'sails' that will be attached to poles.

A MESSAGE FROM THE EDUCATION & YOUTH COMMISSION – Now is the time for all students who are pursuing an undergraduate degree or a post-secondary certificate to start the application process for the PNU stipend (December 1st – April 15th). The criteria for the stipend application, is as follows:

- a student currently enrolled in a college or university, part-time or full-time-(academic year 2018/2019).
- a member of the PNU having a life insurance policy – current paying, single premium, or fully paid-up and in good standing for at least 5 years.
- One application can be filled out in its entirety and returned no later than April 15th, 2019 to: PNU c/o Education & Youth Commission- Attn: Mary Ann Stankowski, 1006 Pittston Avenue, Scranton, Pa 18505.
- This application and information sheet can be found through the PNU website (www.pnu.org) as a downloadable form for the Education & Youth Commission, or in your parish halls.

This is a great opportunity for our families and students to research and review the benefits of being a member within the PNU and see what this commission represents so they can become the future leaders within our church community!

Any questions or concerns, please direct to Mary Ann Stankowski, EYC@pnu.org.

FOOD PANTRY – Please bring spaghetti sauce on Sunday, December 30th for our One Hot Meal Food Pantry. Thank you for your continued support of this important project.

THIS WEEK'S LITURGIES

Christmas Eve, December 24

3:00 pm - Christmas Eve Vigil Mass:
Living Nativity

10:30 pm - Christmas Eve Mass of
the Shepherds: Pasterka

Christmas Day, December 25

10:00 am – Holy Mass, Cathedral

10:30 am – Holy Mass, Cathedral
Chapel, Tripp Park

St. Stephen's, December 26

10:00 am – Holy Mass, Cathedral,
lower chapel

St. John's, December 27

10:00 am – Holy Mass *Wine will be
blessed and distributed

Friday, December 28

8:30 – sp. Frank Avvisato by Kathy
Michalina

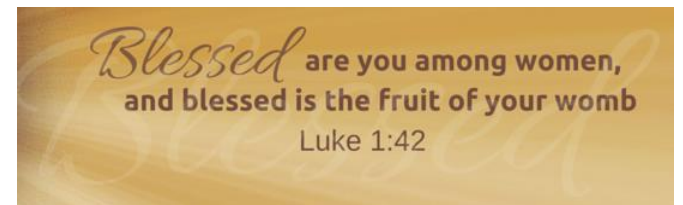
Saturday, December 29

8:30 am – Solemnity – Holy Family

HAPPY BIRTHDAY – Dec 23 – Joseph Orłowski; Dec 27 – Janet Swanger

FRIENDS in the HOSPITAL – December 21st – *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.



'SILENT NIGHT' TURNS 200 THIS YEAR



Above is the earliest surviving manuscript of "Silent Night," in the handwriting of the Rev. Joseph Mohr. (photo: Salzburg Museum).

On Christmas Eve 1818, in the church of St. Nicholas in Oberndorf near Salzburg, "Stille Nacht" ("Silent Night") was sung for the first time.

The words to "Silent Night" were the work of the Rev. Joseph Mohr, a young priest in Oberndorf. He wrote them in 1816 as a reflection on peace after a summer of violence in Salzburg, Austria. On Christmas Eve two years later, he asked his friend Franz Gruber, a schoolteacher in the neighboring town of Arnsdorf and also the organist in Oberndorf, to set his words to music. Gruber did so, and together that evening at Christmas Eve Mass, the two performed "Silent Night" for the gathered faithful, Mohr singing and Gruber playing the guitar, since the church organ was not working. "Silent Night" was an immediate sensation.

The carol has been translated into some 300 languages. The first English translation appeared in New York City in 1851.

On Sept. 29, 2018, commemorative exhibits about the carol opened in Salzburg and eight neighboring towns. The exhibit in the [Salzburg Museum](#) brings together documents and artifacts relating to the carol.

The carol was used to build up spirits of soldiers getting together for a [short Christmas respite from fighting in 1914](#). In 1941, Franklin D. Roosevelt and Winston Churchill stood on the balcony of the White House and joined the crowd gathered in front to sing the carol.

This beautiful Christmas carol brings stillness with its soothing melody and gentle words, "Sleep in heavenly peace!"

- Edward W. Schmidt, S.J.

