

St. Stanislaus Cathedral

The First Parish of the Polish National Catholic Church
529 East Locust St. Scranton, PA 18505
Parish Office 570-961-9231

www.saintstanislauspncc.org Email: office@saintstanislauspncc.org
The Right Reverend Bernard J. Nowicki, DD, Pastor bishop@saintstanislauspncc.org
The Reverend Janusz A. Lucarz, Assistant Pastor frjanusz@saintstanislauspncc.org
Ms. Rebecca Elfman, Director of Music & Organist
Mrs. Mary Ann Stankowski, Bell Choir Director
Dr. Barbara Nowicki, Mr. Gary Richards,
Ms. Joan Scheuneman, Mrs. Lisa McConlogue, Cantors

September 24, 2023 ~ Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

PRELUDE *Andante religioso*

Felix Mendelssohn

Prayer Before Holy Mass (please rise)

My dear God and loving Father, as I participate in this Holy Mass, may Jesus fill me with His holy grace when I open my heart to Him in sincere prayer. May the sacraments I will receive, the prayers that I will say and the hymns that I will sing bring me closer to Jesus and help me to be more like Him in all that I say and do. May the Holy Communion that I will receive give me strength, so that I may share faith, hope and love with the people I will meet. Amen.

OPENING HYMN *How Great Thou Art* (1, 3)

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works Thy hands hath made;
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed;

Refrain: (Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee:
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!)

But when I think that God, His Son not sparing,
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in,
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin! *Refrain*

CONFITEOR - *Traditional Mass* Page 16 ~ *Contemporary Mass* Page 66

INTROIT

Psalm 145:8-9

C: The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in love. **R: The Lord is good to all, compassionate to every creature.** C: Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. **R: As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

KYRIE

Vermulst

GLORIA

Englert

OPENING PRAYER

Heavenly Father, You are generous with Your love and justice. Though we often fail to comprehend Your design, guide us so that we may follow Your holy will. We ask this through our Lord, Jesus Christ, Your Son, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **R. Amen.**

~ LITURGY OF THE WORD ~

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 55:6-9

Seek the Lord while He may be found, call Him while He is near. Let the scoundrel forsake His way, and the wicked His thoughts; let Him turn to the Lord for mercy; to our God, who is generous in forgiving. For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways, says the Lord. As high as the heavens are above the earth, so high are My ways above your ways and My thoughts above your thoughts.

This is the Word of the Lord. **R. Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL - *Traditional Mass*

Psalm 103:8-10

C: Merciful and gracious is the Lord, slow to anger, abounding in kindness. God does not always rebuke, nurses no lasting anger. **R: He has not dealt with us as our sins merit, nor requited us as our deeds deserve.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM - *Contemporary Mass* Psalm 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18

Text © 1969, 1981, 1997, ICEL. All rights reserved. Used with permission.
Music: Owen Alstott, © 1977, 1990, OCP. Reprinted under OneLicense A-725360. All rights reserved.



R. The Lord is near to all who call up - on him.

R. (18a) The Lord is near to all who call upon him.

Every day will I bless you,
and I will praise your name forever and ever.
Great is the LORD and highly to be praised;
his greatness is unsearchable.

R. The Lord is near to all who call upon him.

The LORD is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and of great kindness.
The LORD is good to all
and compassionate toward all his works.

R. The Lord is near to all who call upon him.

The LORD is just in all his ways
and holy in all his works.
The LORD is near to all who call upon him,
to all who call upon him in truth.

R. The Lord is near to all who call upon him.

SECOND LESSON Philippians 1:20-24, 27

Brothers and sisters: Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me life is Christ, and death is gain. If I go on living in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. And I do not know which I shall choose. I am caught between the two. I long to depart this life and be with Christ, for that is far better. Yet that I remain in the flesh is more necessary for your benefit. Only, conduct yourselves in a way worthy of the gospel of Christ.

This is the Word of the Lord. **R. Thanks be to God.**

ALLELUIA John 15:17

traditional Ukrainian chant, arr. Elfman



Choir, then all: Al - le-lu - ia, Al - le-lu - ia, Al - le-lu - ia.

C: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. **R: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.** C: I will show mercy to whom I will, I will take pity on whom I will. **R: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

GOSPEL Matthew 20:1-16

Jesus told His disciples this parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out at dawn to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with them for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. Going out about nine o’clock, the landowner saw others standing idle in the marketplace, and he said to them, ‘You too go into my vineyard, and I will give you what is just.’ So they went off. And he went out again around noon, and around three o’clock, and did likewise. Going out about five o’clock, the landowner found others standing around, and said to them, ‘Why do you stand here idle all day?’ They answered, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You too go into my vineyard.’ When it was evening the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘Summon the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and ending with the first.’ When those who had started about five o’clock came, each received the usual daily wage. So when the first came, they thought that they would receive more, but each of them also got the usual wage.

And on receiving it they grumbled against the landowner, saying, ‘These last ones worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us, who bore the day’s burden and the heat.’ He said to one of them in reply, ‘My friend, I am not cheating you. Did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what is yours and go. What if I wish to give this last one the same as you? Or am I not free to do as I wish with my own money? Are you envious because I am generous?’ Thus, the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

This is the gospel of the Lord. **R. Praise be to You, Lord Jesus Christ.**

HYMN TO THE HOLY SPIRIT 141 *Holy Spirit, Come, We Ask You*

Holy Spirit, come, we ask You; saving grace we need from You.
Through this heav’nly revelation, may our stubborn will be moved.
May we fully comprehend, guided by Your constant hand.
Standing on Your words of promise, we confirm and praise Your goodness.

HOMILY

PROFESSION OF FAITH

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL - *Contemporary Mass*

R: Lord hear our prayer.

~ LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST ~

OFFERTORY VERSE Proverbs 10:16

The just man’s recompense leads to life, the gains of the wicked, to sin.

OFFERTORY HYMN (8:00) 165 *Humbly Before Thy Throne* (1, 3)

Humbly before Thy throne I approach Thee; grateful praise my heart now sings.
Thou art my Savior and my Redeemer, Lord of Lords and King of Kings. *Refrain*

Refrain: Adoration, praise and glory to the Sacrament Most Holy.
Jesus Christ, the Son of Mary, in this sacred Host I praise Thee.

Holy Thou art beyond understanding, O Most Blessed Trinity.
May all the earth and heaven sing praises, now and in eternity. *Refrain*

OFFERTORY ANTHEM (9:30) *Lord, You Have Searched Me* Handel, arr. Hopson

Lord, You have searched me, You know my ways; You know my every
move: when I lie down, when I rise up, in Your wisdom You know me
through and through. You know all my thoughts from far away. Though I be
near, though I be far, through all my days, O Lord, You are there. For You
the night is as bright as the day; You are the true light upon my way.
Therefore I sing Your goodness. You are my God forevermore.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Lord, our God, we offer You this Sacrifice of Thanksgiving for all who labor in Your vineyard
and we pray that we will receive our just reward. We ask this through our Lord, Jesus Christ,
Your Son, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **R.
Amen.**

PREFACE

SANCTUS Proulx

~ CANON ~

THE LORDS PRAYER

AGNUS DEI Alstott

POST-COMMUNION HYMN 167 *At Thy Door* (1, 2, 6, 14)

(At Thy door I come before Thee)
(And I ask, O Lord, Thy mercy)

(In this Bread we now behold Thee)
(Heaven’s gift, Thou Lord Almighty)

(He has come to live within us)
(That He might redeem and save us)

(Live within me, O my Savior)
(May I live with Thee forever.)

COMMUNION VERSE Isaiah 27:3

I, the Lord, am its keeper, I water it every moment; Lest anyone harm it, night and day I guard
it.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Almighty God, may we, who have been called to share in Your Son’s work and who have been fed at Your Holy Table, always remain confident in Your justice, so that when our earthly labor ends, we may share in the joys of Your kingdom. We ask this in the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **R. Amen.**

FINAL BLESSING (please kneel)

DISMISSAL

C: Let us bless the Lord! **R: Thanks be to God.**

Prayer After Holy Mass (please remain kneeling)

I am grateful to You, Lord, that I was able to come to church and participate in the Holy Sacrifice of Mass. I thank You for receiving Your gracious pardon, Your instruction and teaching through Your Word, and Your Body and Blood in Holy Communion. May Your sacraments continue to strengthen and help me to be faithful to You and Your Church. Help me to face all the challenges of life on my journey to Your heavenly kingdom. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN *Baptized in Water*
Reprinted under OneLicense A-725360. All rights reserved.

Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, cleansed by the blood of Christ our King:
Heirs of salvation, trusting His promise, faithfully now God’s praise we sing.

Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, dead in the tomb with Christ our King:
One with His rising, freed and forgiven, thankfully now God’s praise we sing.

Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, marked with the sign of Christ our King:
Born of the Spirit, we are God’s children; joyfully now God’s praise we sing.

POSTLUDE *Verset on Bunessan* Richard Proulx