

St. Stanislaus Cathedral

www.saintstanislauspncc.org

Email: Events@SaintStanislausPNCC.org

The First Parish of the Polish National Catholic Church

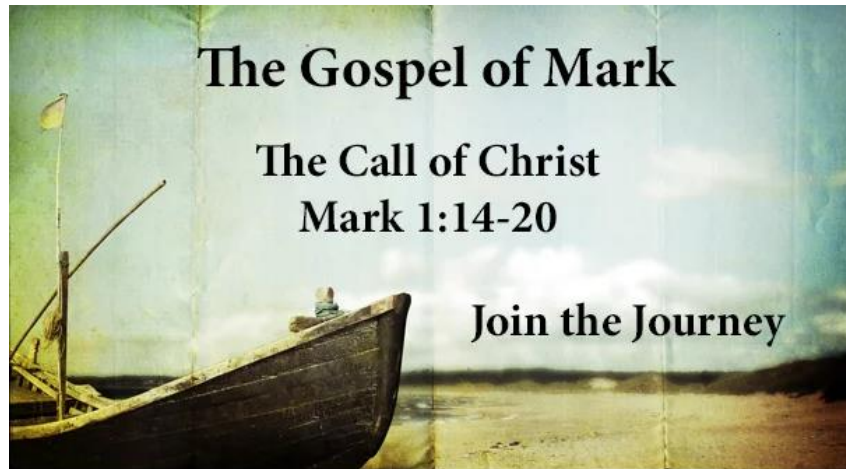
529 East Locust St. Scranton, PA 18505 – Rectory 570-3-6017

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

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

Ms. Rebecca Elfman – Organist / Director of Music

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time January 21, 2024



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

Fred Aebli: Parishchair@saintstanislauspncc.org

Announcements: Bulletin@saintstanislauspncc.org

Bills/Payments: Treasurer@saintstanislauspncc.org

Parish Information: Office@saintstanislauspncc.org

Today

10:45 am – SOCL Classes

Wednesday, January 24th

6:00 pm – “The Story” Bible Study

Saturday, January 27th

10:00 am – Confirmation class

11:00 am – First Communion class

Next Sunday, January 28th – Septuagesima Sunday – Pre-Lent Begins

Holy Mass: **8:00 am** Traditional **9:30am** Contemporary

11:15 am Cathedral Chapel, Tripp Park

Lectors:

1/21 – 8:00 – John Andrzejewski

9:30 – Patrick McHugh

11:15 – David Rychleski

1/28 – 8:00 – K. Michalina

9:30 – Tera Jean Notari

11:15 – David Rychleski

Financial Books for 2023 Are Closed – Financial records for the 2023 year are closed. Any donations given after January 1, 2024 will be recorded for the new year. New pledge forms and donation statements for the 2024 year have been sent to all parishioners. If there are any questions about your new pledge forms or your 2023 donation statement, you may contact the church office by phone, 570-961-9231, or by email, office@saintstanislauspncc.org. Thank you and may God bless you for your support of our Cathedral.

2024 Offering Envelopes – The 2024 offering envelopes are available and can be picked up after Mass on Sunday in the parish hall. You may also make arrangements to pick them up during the week by calling Mary Zahorsky at the Parish Office at 570-961-9231 Monday through Thursday during regular office hours. Thank you for continued your financial support.

If you see someone’s envelopes who cannot make it to church, and you live close by, please consider dropping them off at the parishioner’s home. It would be greatly appreciated.

Music Scholarship Sunday is next Sunday, January 28th. The Music Scholarship Program was instituted and tailored to develop musicians within the Polish National Catholic Church. Applications and more information is available at nucmusicscholarship@weebly.com. The window for applying for the 2024 Scholarships will opened January 1, 2024 and will continue until May 1, 2024. Winners will be announced at the National Youth Convo in the summer of 2024. The Music Scholarship Program is funded through the generosity of the faithful of the Polish National Catholic Church.

The Season of Pre-Lent: January 28th – February 13th – The season of Pre-Lent, which begins Sunday, January 28th will be observed on three Sundays and will last for the next two and half weeks to Shrove Tuesday, February 13th, ending with Holy Lent on Ash Wednesday. The Sundays of these weeks – named Septuagesima, Sexagesima, and Quinquagesima -- draw their names from the Latin term for decades of the number of days before Passion Sunday (i.e., 70, 60, and 50 days) which is then two weeks before Easter. Thus, Septuagesima Sunday is 7 weeks from Passion Sunday, Sexagesima is 6 weeks prior and Quinquagesima is 5 weeks from Passiontide. Depending on the year, Septuagesima Sunday may fall between January 18 to February 21.

Likely originating in the Christian East, observance of this Pre-Lenten period in the Western Church dates back at least as far as St. Gregory the Great, who more broadly introduced it into the life of the Church in the 6th century when he was the Bishop of Rome. The intention was to provide a suitable period of time for all of the members of the Church to adequately prepare for Great Lent.

Historically, these special weeks were comprised of both a liturgical component and a personal spiritual/penitential aspect for each Christian, and also included a “pre-fast” as a way to ease into that about to be undertaken during Lent. Although the rules of this “pre-fast” changed over the centuries, the Season of Pre-Lent was none-the-less consistently observed throughout the entire Catholic West until the liturgical reforms of the Roman Catholic Church in 1969, when it was abolished within the Latin Rite. Despite this abrupt change for so many faithful Roman Catholics, the Eastern Orthodox Churches and Byzantine Catholic Churches have never wavered in fully embracing the spirit of the short Pre-Lenten season, even if its duration, liturgical forms and rules for fasting differ from the Western traditions.

For its part, the Polish National Catholic Church has always retained the Season of Pre-Lent even if its observation was, for a time, optional. When the Prime Bishop and Bishops of the Church reinstated its Church-wide observance in 2014, their purpose was -- and remains -- very much aligned with those original goals from both the Church of the East and the West: to allot some time specifically to help us transition from the immensely joyful celebrations of Christmas and Epiphany (even though in 2024 we have an extremely short jaunt from Epiphany into Ordinary Time) into the extended period of profound penitential sobriety of Lent.

Over these weeks, our Liturgy reflects this seasonal change. We will not sing the festive Gloria at Mass (except on very special feast days), the readings from Scripture proclaimed at Holy Mass will speak to us of God’s loving expectations for us, the joyful Alleluia before the Gospel will be replaced by other simpler verses, prayers that speak of our spiritual preparation will

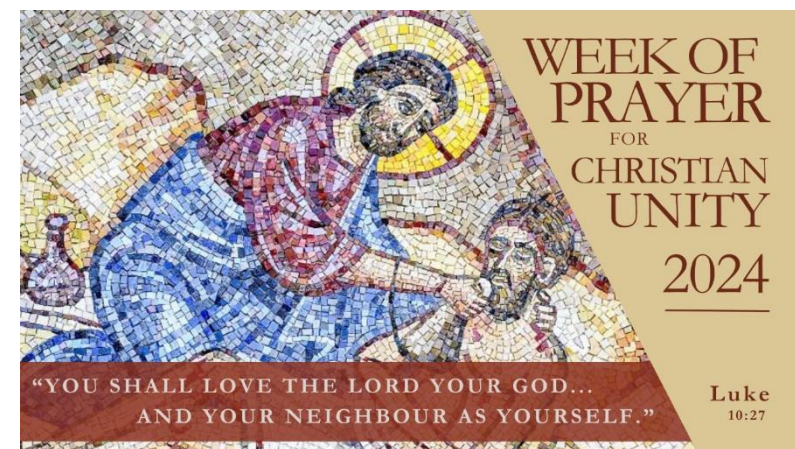
be sung or recited by the priest who will vest in rose colored vestments instead of the green of Ordinary Time, as our decorated sanctuaries should progressively become more plain. All of this will lead us toward the simple solemnity of the holy season of Great Lent.

***THIS WEEK'S
LITURGIES***

Monday, January 22
8:30 am – Holy Mass
Tuesday, January 23
8:30 am – Holy Mass
Wednesday, January 24
8:30 am – Holy Mass
Thursday, January 25
8:30 am – Healing Mass
Friday, January 26
8:30 am – Holy Mass
Saturday, January 27
8:00 am – Holy Mass

SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, January 28th
Three week Season of Pre-Lent Begins
Saturday, February 3rd
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm – One Hot Meal
February 14th – Ash Wednesday
12:00 pm and 7:00 pm – Holy Mass with distribution of ashes
February 16th – Anniversary of the Death of Bishop Hodur
10:00 am – Holy Mass
DURING LENT:
Wednesdays – Stations of the Cross with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament
7:00 pm – Cathedral
Fridays – Stations of the Cross
12:00 pm – Lower chapel
Saturday, March 2nd
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm – One Hot Meal
Saturday, March 16th – Scranton Seniorate Lenten Retreat
10:00 am – 12:00 pm – Lunch to follow – St. Stanislaus Cathedral



January 18th – January 25th