

# 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

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**February 16, 2025 ~ Septuagesima Sunday**

**72<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of the death of The Most Reverend Francis Hodur**

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PRELUDE *Prelude in F minor*

Alexandre Guilmant

## **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 1 *Hymn of Faith* (1, 4)

To Thee we come, O Lord, our God, before Thine altar, Father.  
Thou knowest best our yearning hearts; this supplication answer:  
Lift up from want Thy people, Lord. Bless us, O God, O Father, bless our toil!

Under Thy cross we stand prepared to serve Thee with devotion,  
Be it with sweat of blood, or tears, or humble resignation,  
For we Thy people are, O Lord. Save us, O God, O Father, bless our toil!

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

INTROIT

Psalm 1:1-3

C: Happy those who do not follow the counsel of the wicked, nor go the way of sinners, nor sit in company with scoffers. Rather, the law of the Lord is their joy; God's law they study day and night. **R: They are like a tree planted near streams of water, that yields its fruit in due season; Its leaves never wither; whatever they do prospers.** 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

Englert

OPENING PRAYER

Father in heaven, Your Son taught us that we become truly rich by giving, not receiving, and that earthly praise is worth little. Help us to have confidence in Your love that in times of difficulty we may persevere in goodness. 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.**

**(8:00)** O Lord, Jesus Christ, you assured your holy apostles that the highest reward awaits those who strive zealously for the expansion of the Kingdom of God on earth, receive into Your glory the soul of Your servant, Franciszek Hodur, bishop of your Holy Church. Have compassion on him as You had compassion on the erring apostles. Mindful of his desire to bring souls to You, reward him with eternal happiness. For You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

## **~ LITURGY OF THE WORD ~**

FIRST LESSON

Jeremiah 17:5-8

Thus says the LORD: Cursed is the one who trusts in human beings, who seeks his strength in flesh, whose heart turns away from the LORD. He is like a barren bush in the desert that enjoys no change of season, but stands in a lava waste, a salt and empty earth. Blessed is the one who trusts in the LORD, whose hope is the LORD. He is like a tree planted beside the waters that stretches out its roots to the stream: it fears not the heat when it comes; its leaves stay green; in the year of drought it shows no distress, but still bears fruit.

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

GRADUAL - *Traditional Mass*

Psalm 146:3-5

C: Put no trust in princes, in mere mortals powerless to save. When they breathe their last, they return to the earth; that day all their planning comes to nothing. **R: Happy those whose help is Jacob's God, whose hope is in the Lord, their God.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM - *Contemporary Mass*

Psalm 1:1-2, 3, 4 & 6

Alstott



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**R: (40:5a) Blessed are they who hope in the Lord.**

Blessed the man who follows not  
the counsel of the wicked,  
nor walks in the way of sinners,  
nor sits in the company of the insolent,  
but delights in the law of the LORD  
and meditates on his law day and night.

**R: Blessed are they who hope in the Lord.**

He is like a tree  
planted near running water,  
that yields its fruit in due season,  
and whose leaves never fade.  
Whatever he does, prospers.

**R: Blessed are they who hope in the Lord.**

Not so the wicked, not so;  
they are like chaff which the wind drives away.  
For the LORD watches over the way of the just,  
but the way of the wicked vanishes.

**R: Blessed are they who hope in the Lord.**

SECOND LESSON

1 Corinthians 15: 12, 16-20

Brothers and sisters: If Christ is preached as raised from the dead, how can some among you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If the dead are not raised, neither has Christ been raised, and if Christ has not been raised, your faith is vain; you are still in your sins. Then those who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are the most pitiable people of all.

But now Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

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

TRACT

Psalm 84:12-13

C: The Lord withholds no good thing from those who walk without reproach. **R: O Lord of hosts, happy are those who trust in You.**

GOSPEL

Luke 6:17, 20-26

Jesus came down with the twelve and stood on a stretch of level ground with a great crowd of his disciples and a large number of the people from all Judea and Jerusalem and the coastal region of Tyre and Sidon. And raising his eyes toward his disciples he said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for the kingdom of God is yours. Blessed are you who are now hungry, for you will be satisfied. Blessed are you who are now weeping, for you will laugh. Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude and insult you, and denounce your name as evil on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice and leap for joy on that day! Behold, your reward will be great in heaven. For their ancestors treated the prophets in the same way. But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. Woe to you who are filled now, for you will be hungry. Woe to you who laugh now, for you will grieve and weep. Woe to you when all speak well of you, for their ancestors treated the false prophets in this way."

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

HYMN TO THE HOLY SPIRIT *Holy Spirit, Light Divine*

Holy Spirit, Light divine, come in into this heart of mine;  
By Thy guidance may I live, and my life in service give.  
[: Holy Spirit, come, I beseech Thee; grant Thy gifts of wisdom and mercy.  
Holy Spirit, Holy Spirit, come into this heart of mine. :]

HOMILY

PROFESSION OF FAITH

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL - *Contemporary Mass*

**R: Lord hear our prayer.**

**~ LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST ~**

OFFERTORY VERSE

Psalm 4:6

Offer fitting sacrifice and trust in the Lord.

OFFERTORY HYMN (8:00) 168 *Hear Me, Jesus*

Hear me, Jesus, gracious Savior, all my love to Thee I give.  
May Thy holy precious Body in my heart forever live.

*Refrain:*

[: Come, my Jesus, come! Come, my Jesus, come!

To my heart so poor and humble, come, my Jesus, come! :]

Come, O Blessed Bread of Heaven, feed my soul eternally.  
Savior, may I find redemption, and forever live with Thee. *Refrain*

OFFERTORY ANTHEM (9:30) *Canticle of the Turning*

Rory Cooney

*My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great, and my spirit sings of the wondrous things that You bring to the ones who wait. You fixed Your sight on Your servant's plight, and my weakness You did not spurn; so from east to west shall my name be blessed. Could the world be about to turn? **My heart shall sing of the day You bring. Let the fires of Your justice burn. Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn.** Though I am small, my God, my All, You work great things in me, and Your mercy will last from the depths of the past to the end of the age to be. Your very Name puts the proud to shame, and for those who would for You yearn, You will show Your might, put the strong to flight, for the world is about to turn. From the halls of pow'r to the fortress tow'r, not a stone will be left on stone.*

*Let the king beware, for Your justice tears every tyrant from his throne. The hungry poor shall weep no more for the food they can never earn; there are tables spread, every mouth be fed, for the world is about to turn.*

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PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Almighty God, we offer You these gifts together with our hopes and fears. Hear us when we call upon You and bless us with the gift of Your Son Jesus Christ, our Lord, We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **R. Amen.**

PREFACE

SANCTUS

Deiss

**~ CANON ~**

THE LORDS PRAYER

AGNUS DEI

Proulx

POST-COMMUNION HYMN 178 *Jesus, Bless Your Faithful People (1-3)*

Jesus, bless Your faithful people, Those who love Your heart most sacred.  
Lord, may this most precious treasure bless us ever through all ages.

For the graces You have given from Your gentle heart so loving,  
We give You our hearts in offering; please accept them, we beseech You.

When this holy Mass is ended, do not leave us unattended.  
Through the wellspring of Your dear heart, bless us, forgive all our transgressions.

COMMUNION VERSE

Proverbs 30:5

Every word of God is tested; He is a shield to those who take refuge in Him.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Omnipotent Father, through the grace of this Holy Communion, help us to place our sole trust in You, that we may live and spread and Your Holy Word. 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.**

**(8:00)** Lord, our God, joined with you in this Holy Eucharist, we humbly ask that the prayers we offer unto you for the soul of your servant and bishop, Franciszek Hodur, may obtain for him your gracious pardon. May he enter into eternal fellowship with Christ in Whom he has always put his hope and trust. We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

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.*

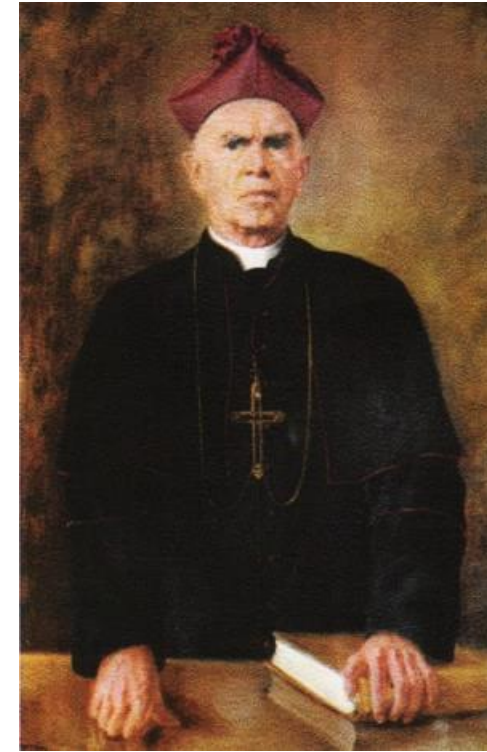
CLOSING HYMN *7 Hymn of Resolve*

Moved to the depths of our very souls, Lord, we now turn homeward with joyful tear  
For words divine, the breaking of Bread, and Thy joyous mysteries which we did hear.  
For now, O Christ, we gain understanding of Thine own purpose and judgments true,  
Thy fount of grace and water of cleansing, with which Thy children, Thou didst imbue.

And though the tempest rages on earth, Lord, even though lightning strikes at our feet,  
Naught will deter us, naught will destroy us, if only, Father, Thou with us be.  
Thy heav'nly light has shone forth again, Lord, through the despair and darkness of night,  
As we unto Thy word ever faithful, o'er all shall triumph and conquer night.

POSTLUDE *Little Prelude in Bb*

J. S. Bach



*The Most Reverend Francis Hodur*  
Organizer of the Polish National Catholic Church

Born: April 1, 1866, in the village of Żarki, six miles from Cracow, Poland. Ordained to the priesthood August 19, 1893, in St. Peter's Cathedral, Scranton, PA. Took charge of Saint Stanislaus Parish, March 14, 1897. Elected Bishop of the Polish National Catholic Church at the first Synod in Scranton, PA, September 1904. Consecrated Bishop of the Polish National Catholic Church, September 29, 1907, in Utrecht, Holland, by Archbishop Gerard Gull and Bishops John Van Thiel and Peter Spit of the Old Catholic Church of Holand. Died: February 16, 1953, in Scranton, PA. Buried in the St. Stanislaus Cathedral Cemetery in Scranton, PA, February 21, 1953. His religious work will always live in our hearts.