

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

March 23, 2025 ~ Third Sunday of Lent

PRELUDE *Prière*

Jean Langlais

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 91 *Jesus, When I Behold* (1)

When I behold Thy wounded heart, O Jesus,
Pierced by the lance, with brambles now surrounded,
When I consider all Thy suffering, Jesus,
Thy holy passion through Thy love surmounted,
Lord, I would love Thee long as life flows through me.
I lift my humble supplication to Thee.
O dearest Jesus, I now plead with fervor,
Grant that I love Thee more each day forever.

CONFITEOR ~ *Contemporary Mass* Page 66

INTROIT

Habakkuk 3:17a,18; Isaiah 3:10

C: For though the fig tree blossom not, nor fruit be on the vines, yet will I rejoice in the Lord and exult in my saving God. **R: Happy the just, for it will be well with them, the fruit of their works they will eat.** 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

Almighty, merciful God, You call us to leave the barren ways of the world and return to You. Give us the grace of repentance that we may live our lives in accord with the teachings of Your Son. 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.**

~ LITURGY OF THE WORD ~

FIRST LESSON

Exodus 3:1-8, 13-15

Moses was tending the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian. Leading the flock across the desert, he came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There an angel of the Lord appeared to Moses in fire flaming out of a bush. As he looked on, he was surprised to see that the bush, though on fire, was not consumed. So Moses decided, "I must go over to look at this remarkable sight, and see why the bush is not burned."

When the Lord saw him coming over to look at it more closely, God called out to him from the bush, "Moses! Moses!" He answered, "Here I am." God said, "Come no nearer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground. I am the God of your fathers," he continued, "the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob." Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God. But the Lord said, "I have witnessed the affliction of my people in Egypt and have heard their cry of complaint against their slave drivers, so I know well that they are suffering. Therefore I have come down to rescue them from the hands of the Egyptians and lead them out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey."

Moses said to God, “But when I go to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ if they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ what am I to tell them?” God replied, “I am who am.” Then he added, “This is what you should tell the Israelites: I AM sent me to you.”

God spoke further to Moses, “Thus shall you say to the Israelites: The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob, has sent me to you. “this is my name forever; thus am I to be remembered through all generations.”

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

GRADUAL - *Traditional Mass*

Lamentations 5:19-21

C: You, O Lord, are enthroned forever; Your throne stands from age to age. Why, then, should You forget us, abandon us so long a time? **R: Lead us back to You, O Lord, that we may be restored: give us anew such days as we had of old.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM - *Contemporary Mass*

Psalm 103: 1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8, 11

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R. The Lord is kind and mer - ci - ful.

R. (8a) The Lord is kind and merciful.

Bless the LORD, O my soul;
and all my being, bless his holy name.
Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all his benefits.

R. The Lord is kind and merciful.

He pardons all your iniquities,
heals all your ills,
He redeems your life from destruction,
crowns you with kindness and compassion.

R. The Lord is kind and merciful.

The LORD secures justice
and the rights of all the oppressed.
He has made known his ways to Moses,
and his deeds to the children of Israel.

R. The Lord is kind and merciful.

Merciful and gracious is the LORD,
slow to anger and abounding in kindness.
For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so surpassing is his kindness toward those who fear him.

R. The Lord is kind and merciful.

SECOND LESSON

1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud and all passed through the sea, and all of them were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea. All ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink, for they drank from a spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was the Christ. Yet God was not pleased with most of them, for they were struck down in the desert.

These things happened as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil things, as they did. Do not grumble as some of them did, and suffered death by the destroyer. These things happened to them as an example, and they have been written down as a warning to us, upon whom the end of the ages has come. Therefore, whoever thinks he is standing secure should take care not to fall.

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

TRACT

Ezekiel 18:30b-31 NRSV

C: Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. **R: Cast away from you all transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit!**

GOSPEL

Luke 13:1-9

Some people told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with the blood of their sacrifices. Jesus said to them in reply, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were greater sinners than all other Galileans? By no means! But I tell you, if you do not repent, you will all perish as they did! Or those eighteen people who were killed when the tower at Siloam fell on them – do you think they were more guilty than everyone else who lived in Jerusalem? By no means! But I tell you, if you do not repent, you will all perish as they did!”

And he told them this parable: “There once was a person who had a fig tree planted in his orchard, and when he came in search of fruit on it but found none, he said to the gardener, ‘For three years now I have come in search of fruit on this fig tree but have found none. So cut it down. Why should it exhaust the soil?’ He said to him in reply, ‘Sir, leave it for this year also, and I shall cultivate the ground around it and fertilize it; it may bear fruit in the future. If not you can cut it down.’”

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

HYMN TO THE HOLY SPIRIT *O Holy Spirit, Grant to Us, We Pray*

Tune: Bohemian melody

1. O Ho - ly Spir - it, grant to us, we pray,
 2. Fill us in - stead with fer - vent faith in You,

pa - tience and hope as You dis - close Your will;
 free - ing our hearts for mer - cy and for peace,

Help us to lis - ten to Your ev - 'ry word,
 Love ov - er - flow - ing ev - 'ry hu - man fear,

from lies and greed, emp - ty to turn a - way.
 joy in Your pres - ence fill - ing all we do.

HOMILY

PROFESSION OF FAITH

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL - *Contemporary Mass*

R: Lord hear our prayer.

~ LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST ~

OFFERTORY VERSE

Jeremiah 8:13

I will gather them all in, says the Lord: no grapes on the vine, no figs on the fig trees, foliage withered!

OFFERTORY HYMN (8:00) 180 *Come Unto Jesus*

Come unto Jesus, Come while you may;
Hear how He calls you; come now this day.
How He does love you! Follow His way; Gently He calls you, “Come!”

Refrain: Lo, the vision wondrous to behold! He would save us from this sinful world.
To heaven’s blessed glory untold, O dearest Lord, we come.

Come, O my child, now, Come, heed His call;
Give Him your heart, your love, and your all.
He shall uplift you, lest you should fall. Gently He calls you, “Come!” *Refrain*

Come, fallen sinner; come while you may! Christ will accept you! Do not delay!
Tears of repentance He wipes away. Trust in Him only! Come! *Refrain*

OFFERTORY ANTHEM (9:30) I Love You, O My God Most High Arr. David Hogan

I love You, O my God most high, for first Your love has captured me;
I seek no other liberty: bound by Your love, I shall be free.
All mine is Yours; say but the word, say what You will, it shall be done;
I know Your love, most holy One, I know You seek my good alone.
Let memory no thought suggest but shall to Your pure glory tend;
May understanding find no rest, except in You, its only end.
Apart from You, nothing can be, so grant me this, my only wish:
To love You, Christ, eternally. You give me all in granting this.

The Cathedral Chorale

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Lord our God, You call us to return to You. Receive these gifts which we offer as a sign of our repentance. We ask this in the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **R. Amen.**

PREFACE

SANCTUS

Proulx

~ CANON ~

THE LORDS PRAYER

AGNUS DEI

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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 off'ring; 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 our transgressions.

COMMUNION VERSE

Zechariah 1:3b

Return to Me, says the Lord of hosts, and I will return to you.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Heavenly Father, You have refreshed us through this Holy Sacrament. Renew us in spirit so we may draw ever closer to You and share in the life of Your Son. We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, Who lives and reign with the You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever 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 *On the Cross*

On the cross, for the sins of man, our Lord was crucified.
On the cross, 'mid great pain and suffering, He bled and died.

Refrain: Lord, forgive us when we fail Thee; Lord, forgive when we betray Thee;
Lord, forgive!

With the cross, hope of all who would confess and come to Him,
With the cross, He would gather all who would believe in Him. (*Refrain*)

POSTLUDE *Intrada*

John Ireland