

The LORD gives sight to the blind;  
the LORD raises up those who were bowed down.

The LORD loves the just;  
the LORD protects strangers.

**R: Praise the Lord, my soul!**

The fatherless and the widow he sustains,  
but the way of the wicked he thwarts.

The LORD shall reign forever;  
your God, O Zion, through all generations. Alleluia.

**R: Praise the Lord, my soul!**

## Second Reading

I Tm 6:11-16

### A Reading from the First Letter of St. Paul to Timothy

But you, man of God, pursue righteousness, devotion, faith, love, patience, and gentleness. Compete well for the faith. Lay hold of eternal life, to which you were called when you made the noble confession in the presence of many witnesses. I charge you before God, who gives life to all things, and before Christ Jesus, who gave testimony under Pontius Pilate for the noble confession, to keep the commandment without stain or reproach until the appearance of our Lord Jesus Christ that the blessed and only ruler will make manifest at the proper time, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, and whom no human being has seen or can see.

To him be honor and eternal power. Amen.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**R: Thanks be to God.**

C. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**R: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

C. He who shuts his ear to the cry of the poor will himself also call and not be heard.

**R: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia**

## THE GOSPEL

Luke 16: 19-31

C: The Lord be with you.

**R: And also with you.**

C: A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

**R: Glory be to You, O Lord.**

Jesus said to the Pharisees:

"There was a rich man who dressed in purple garments and fine linen and dined sumptuously each day. And lying at his door was a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who would gladly have eaten his fill of the scraps that fell from the rich man's table. Dogs even used to come and lick his sores. When the poor man died, he was carried away by angels to the bosom of Abraham.

The rich man also died and was buried, and from the netherworld, where he was in torment, he raised his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side. And he cried out, 'Father Abraham, have pity on me. Send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am suffering torment in these flames.'

Abraham replied, 'My child, remember that you received what was good during your lifetime while Lazarus likewise received what was bad; but now he is comforted here, whereas you are tormented. Moreover, between us and you a great chasm is established to prevent anyone from crossing who might wish to go from our side to yours or from your side to ours.'

He said, 'Then I beg you, father, send him to my father's house, for I have five brothers, so that he may warn them, lest they too come to this place of torment.'

But Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets. Let them listen to them.'

He said, 'Oh no, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.'

Then Abraham said, 'If they will not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded if someone should rise from the dead.'"

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**R: Praise be to You, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## READINGS FOR THE 26<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### First Reading

Am 6:1a,4-7

#### A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Amos

Thus says the LORD the God of hosts:

Woe to the complacent in Zion!

Lying upon beds of ivory,

stretched comfortably on their couches,

they eat lambs taken from the flock,

and calves from the stall!

Improvising to the music of the harp,

like David, they devise their own accompaniment.

They drink wine from bowls

and anoint themselves with the best oils;

yet they are not made ill by the collapse of Joseph!

Therefore, now they shall be the first to go into exile,

and their wanton revelry shall be done away with.

The Word of the Lord

**R: Thanks be to God.**

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PS 146: 7, 8-9, 9-10

**R: Praise the Lord, my soul!**

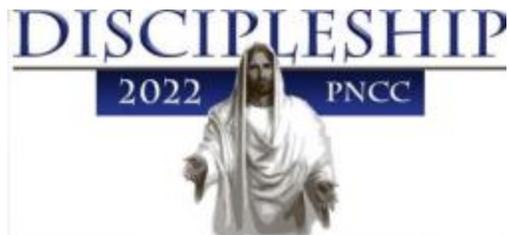
Blessed is he who keeps faith forever,

secures justice for the oppressed,

gives food to the hungry.

The LORD sets captives free.

**R: Praise the Lord, my soul!**



## Prayer Blanket Project Update



September is almost done. Can you believe it? Only a little over a week left to donate for the first batch of fabric for the prayer blankets!

Of course, we'll keep collecting donations toward a second batch of fabric. As Father has said, the need for these blankets is great and the supply not enough to meet that demand.

With these initial donations, Julia will purchase fleece fabric for the blankets and prepare it for everyone to help assemble. Then, after Mass on Saturdays and Sundays in October, these blankets will be laid out for everyone to work on.

These are simple blankets to make (all you have to do is flip ends in like a ponytail!), so anyone can participate in putting them together.

When all the blankets are done, they will be blessed by Father Tom during Mass and prayed over by the parish community that those who receive them find the solace they seek. The blankets will then be given to the homeless and/or cancer patients and those suffering from sickle cell disease.

The fabric costs approximately \$40 per blanket. Julia is hoping to have enough fabric this first time to make ten blankets. **There is a donation box at the back of the church, on the table near the bulletins.**

Many thanks for those who have already given generously to support this cause!

## Any gardeners or budding landscapers out there?



We are looking to start a new ministry, Gardening and Grounds, at St. Joseph's. This would involve planting in the spring and fall, arranging pre-planted containers around the property, and setting up/maintaining limited seasonal decor at both the front entrance and the flagpole. Anyone interested can contact Jeanine at [jeaninelmay@gmail.com](mailto:jeaninelmay@gmail.com) or the

main office at [sjosparishpncc@outlook.com](mailto:sjosparishpncc@outlook.com).



## Volunteers needed for coffee hour

The Church Committee and Ladies' Society are looking for volunteers to run the weekly coffee hour. It does not need to be the same people each week. If interested, please sign up on the calendar on the bulletin board in the kitchen.

Many thanks to those who have already signed up and have provided us with excellent refreshment these past Sundays!

## Give and Take Corner

The office has need of a phone with a Caller ID display. If you happen to have one you no longer need, we would gladly take it off your hands.

Anyone need a couple of adding machines? They're like desktop calculators with a paper roll for a tally record. They come with additional paper rolls. Please see the office if you're interested.

## Altar Flowers

Interested in donating altar flowers for a Sunday? Contact Fr. Tom or Dee Smith for dates. Also, please let them know if the flowers are in memory or celebration of someone so the donation can be acknowledged. There are vases in the cabinets in the right side altar room if you want to donate flowers for the side altars.



**Please note:** no flowers can be on the altar during the time of **ADVENT** or **LENT**. This may affect when you decide to sponsor a memorial or celebratory Mass.

## Want to help with the Christmas Fair?



On Saturday, 3 December, the parish board will be holding a Christmas Fair in the church hall.

Volunteers are needed for a variety of jobs, both ahead of time and on the day of the fair.

**Currently the board is looking for one or two people to run the kitchen.** Anyone who wishes to step up for that important task, please contact Yvonne Walsh at (860) 417-9748 or email her at [ywalsh070@gmail.com](mailto:ywalsh070@gmail.com).

## Lending Library Reopens

Want something to read as nights become cooler and longer? Need a book to pass the time while you're waiting at an appointment?

Never fear, the lending library in the classrooms is back in operation. Stop by and peruse the shelves to see if something catches your eye.

The library runs on a take one/leave one policy. Just take the book you want. When you're done with it, you can bring it back. If you have books in good condition that you no longer want, bring them in and leave them for others to enjoy!



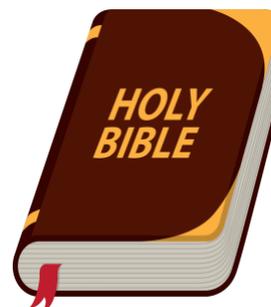
## Special Full Parish Meeting Next Week!

The parish committee invites all parishioners to attend a special meeting immediately following Mass on Sunday, October 2, 2022.

The purpose of this meeting is to share information regarding the need for capital improvements, including repairs to the exterior of the church, and to approve funding for these projects. If repairs are not scheduled this fall, the church building may be vulnerable to the elements over the winter, potentially increasing damage and expense if delayed until spring.

Please mark your calendar and stay after Mass next week to take care of this important business!

## Adult Bible Study began last week



Last Tuesday, 20 September, at 6:30 p.m., Father Tom began a 12-week Bible study for adults. This session's study is titled, "The Bible and the Virgin Mary", focusing on how the Catholic beliefs about Mary build on the Old Testament as well as the Gospels.

More information is on the flyer on the bulletin board.

Call or email the office to sign up. There is no deadline for registration, join at any time! **The next meeting will be this Tuesday, 27 September at 6:30 p.m.**

## TODAY'S READINGS:

**Saturday** – SEE INSTALLATION BOOKLET

**Sunday** – SEE CENTER INSERT

**THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR TODAY:** Are given in celebration of the Installation of Father Tom by his wife, children, and grandchildren

**MASS INTENTIONS:** Sunday – SPÓJNIA SUNDAY – For all members of Spójnia (the Polish National Union), living and deceased.

## PRAYER INTENTIONS

We remember in our prayers Jane Pelland, Joe Pelland, Wanda Copple, Nancy Anzalone, Jean Macionus, Fr. Henry Smolinski & Margo, Rich Lasecki, Joyce Bresh, Edmond Bresh, Helen Reynolds, Helen Popp, Irene Smith, Florence Rasmussen, Robin Lupinski, Judy DiLorenzo, Frank Bonitatebus, Lizzie Mast, Carol Murdzia, Dom Zumbo, Martha Lesnick.



**For those new to our church  
(and even those who aren't!)**

To follow along with the Mass, begin on **page 63** in the Mass booklet. Father will announce which page to turn to for the Canon at the appropriate time and where to pick up the service following the Canon.

## Coffee and Catechism delayed

Due to Father Tom's Installation this week and the upcoming general parish meeting next week, Father has decided not to hold Coffee & Catechism in September.

The first topic, "The Mystery of the Eucharist", given by Father Tom, will be held instead on the last Sunday of October, the 30th.

Please adjust your calendars accordingly.



## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT YOUR CHURCH

☩ **Sunday, 25 September 2022** – Spójnia Sunday. Mass for the living and deceased members of the Polish National Union

**Tuesday, 27 September 2022** – Christian Yoga with Laurie Trupp. Noon – 1:15 p.m. in the church hall.

**Tuesday, 27 September 2022** – Adult Bible Study class. 6:30 p.m. in the classrooms.

**Sunday, 2 October 2022** – Special Parish Meeting after Mass to discuss funding of necessary immediate church repairs

**Saturday, 15 October 2022** – Funeral Mass and burial for †John Macionus at 10:30 a.m.

\***Saturday, 22 October 2022** – 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the PNCC. 11:00 a.m. Mass at St. Stanislaus Cathedral, Scranton, PA, followed by 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. dinner. See the bulletin board for more details

**Saturday, 29 October 2022** – Quarter Night. Currently accepting donation of raffle items.

**Sunday, 30 October 2022** – Coffee & Catechism at 11:00 a.m. in the classroom. Topic: "Mystery of the Eucharist." *Rescheduled from September.*

**Saturday, 3 December 2022** – Christmas Fair. Details to follow in a later bulletin

**Sunday, 8 January 2023** – Post Holiday potluck brunch. More details in a future bulletin

**Saturday, 13 May 2023** – Confirmation of parish youth at 2:00 p.m.

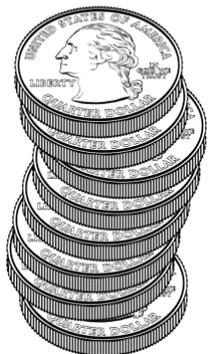
## Items for the bulletin

Deadline for submitting items for the bulletin is Thursday. Items turned in after Thursday are not guaranteed inclusion in that Sunday's bulletin.

## SPECIAL MASS INTENTIONS

If you would like to sponsor a Mass to memorialize a loved one or celebrate a special occasion, please contact the office at 203-377-9901 or email [sjosparishpncc@outlook.com](mailto:sjosparishpncc@outlook.com)

## Quarter Night – Keep those donations coming!



There is an area set aside in the classrooms for collection of items to be raffled off for Quarter Night. Items need to be in new condition, with a value of no less than \$5.00, but can range across the board

Donations have been slow to date, but hopefully that will pick up soon. The more items we have, the more fun everyone will have that evening “bidding” on them.

**Remember to log your name and donation in the notebook, so we can keep track of all the items collected.**

If you would like to help out with this event, please contact Nancy Sirois by email at [nsirois55@gmail.com](mailto:nsirois55@gmail.com) or leave a message with the office (203) 377-9901.

## PNU District 3 raffle

District 3 of the Polish National Union of America (PNU) is holding a Thanksgiving Raffle to support the youth of the diocese. During the August 22-24 Retreat, they sponsored an Ice Cream Social, a pizza party, and a bowling trip for the participants. They were able to do this because of ticket sales from the two raffles they hold – their only source of income for this purpose.

Tickets are \$2.00 each, 3 for \$5.00 and 7 for \$10.00. One \$50.00 and two \$25.00 cash prizes will be awarded. The drawing will take place on Sunday, 20 November, at Holy Cross Parish in Central Falls, RI. A flyer with all the details has been posted on the bulletin board.

Tickets for this, as well as for the Education and Youth Commission Raffle (drawing on 7 December 2022), are available in the office.



## St. Joseph of Stratford National Catholic Church



**September 24-25, 2022 – 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

### Parish Contacts

*PASTOR*  
Fr. Tom Walsh

*CHAIRPERSON*  
Jeanine May

*VICE*  
*CHAIRPERSON*  
Dee Smith

*Financial*  
*Secretary*  
Barbara  
Chernesky

*Office*  
*Administrator*  
Lisa Vasas

### Dear Parishioners,

*“if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.”*

The rich man in today’s Gospel passage (Luke 16:19-31) makes this statement in a bid to save his brothers from the same fate that he is suffering. The sense is that the mere spectacle of a resurrected man is enough to persuade others to amend their ways. In truth, as Christians we understand that Christ’s power does not lie in the miraculous deeds he performed, but in the words of Salvation he spoke. Let us be attentive to those words.

Grace and peace,  
Fr. Tom

### Mass Times

Vigil Mass – Saturday 4:00pm      Sunday morning Mass – 9:30am.

1300 Stratford Road, Stratford, CT 06615 / (203) 377-9901  
[www.saintjosephsofstratford.org](http://www.saintjosephsofstratford.org) / [sjosparishpncc@outlook.com](mailto:sjosparishpncc@outlook.com)