

I lift up my eyes toward the mountains;
whence shall help come to me?

My help is from the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.

R. Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

May he not suffer your foot to slip;
may he slumber not who guards you:
indeed he neither slumbers nor sleeps,
the guardian of Israel.

R. Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

The LORD is your guardian; the LORD is your shade;
he is beside you at your right hand.

The sun shall not harm you by day,
nor the moon by night.

R. Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

The LORD will guard you from all evil;
he will guard your life.

The LORD will guard your coming and your going,
both now and forever.

R. Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

Second Reading

2 Tm 3:14 – 4:2

A Reading from the second letter of St. Paul to Timothy

Beloved:

Remain faithful to what you have learned and believed,
because you know from whom you learned it, and that
from infancy you have known the sacred Scriptures, which
are capable of giving you wisdom for salvation through faith

in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful
for teaching, for refutation, for correction, and for training
in righteousness, so that one who belongs to God may be
competent, equipped for every good work.

I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who
will judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and
his kingly power: proclaim the word; be persistent whether
it is convenient or inconvenient; convince, reprimand,
encourage through all patience and teaching.

This is the Word of the Lord.

R: Thanks be to God.

C. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

R: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

C. The word of God is living and effective,
discerning reflections and thoughts of the heart.

R: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

THE GOSPEL

Luke 18: 1-8

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 told his disciples a parable about the necessity for them to pray always without becoming weary. He said, "There was a judge in a certain town who neither feared God nor respected any human being. And a widow in that town used to come to him and say, 'Render a just decision for me against my adversary.' For a long time the judge was unwilling, but eventually he thought, 'While it is true that I neither fear God nor respect any human being, because this widow keeps bothering me I shall deliver a just decision for her lest she finally come and strike me.'" The Lord said, "Pay attention to what the dishonest judge says. Will not God then secure the rights of his chosen ones who call out to him day and night? Will he be slow to answer them? I tell you, he will see to it that justice is done for them speedily. But when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

R: Praise be to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

READINGS FOR THE 29th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading

Ex 17: 8-13

A Reading from the book of Exodus

In those days, Amalek came and waged war against Israel. Moses, therefore, said to Joshua, "Pick out certain men, and tomorrow go out and engage Amalek in battle. I will be standing on top of the hill with the staff of God in my hand." So Joshua did as Moses told him: he engaged Amalek in battle after Moses had climbed to the top of the hill with Aaron and Hur. As long as Moses kept his hands raised up, Israel had the better of the fight, but when he let his hands rest, Amalek had the better of the fight. Moses' hands, however, grew tired; so they put a rock in place for him to sit on. Meanwhile Aaron and Hur supported his hands, one on one side and one on the other, so that his hands remained steady till sunset. And Joshua mowed down Amalek and his people with the edge of the sword.

The Word of the Lord

R: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PS. 121: 1-2, 3- 4, 5-6, 7-8

R: Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.



Prayer Blanket Project Update

It's October!! Time to make the blankets!

Last week, thanks to all of you who stayed to push ends through creating ties, **THREE** blankets were completed! Stop by the classrooms after Mass and work on this week's blankets.



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.

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.

The fabric costs approximately \$40 per blanket. **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!

Share your bounty this Thanksgiving



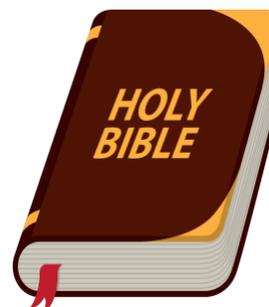
So many people go without food, especially around the upcoming holidays of Thanksgiving and Christmas. To combat this for Thanksgiving, we are doing a **"Reverse Thanksgiving Calendar"** – much like an Advent Calendar except that you put items in instead of take trinkets out of it. Flyers detailing suggested items for each day are located in the back of the church, so take one home with you and post it where you can see it.

Starting with 27 October and continuing until 20 November, collect the food item on the "calendar" and put it into a box or large grocery bag. (If you need a bag, one will be provided. See Yvonne to get one.) You can bring the week's collected items to church when you come to Mass each weekend or you can wait until the 20th and bring everything in at once. (Don't worry – someone is available to help you bring your donations in from the car if you need! Just ask!)

The contents will be transferred to a basket and given to a local family in need of a meal this Thanksgiving. With your help more people will have a happy holiday (and full stomach) this year!



Adult Bible Study off this week



Every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m., Father Tom is holding a Bible study class for adults. This session's study (already in progress) 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. Only eight weeks left of this session!

Call or email the office to sign up. There is no deadline for registration, join at any time! **Due to Synod this week there will be no class on Tuesday. The next meeting will be Tuesday, 25 October at 6:30 p.m.**

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.

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!



Hurricane Ian Relief

The two PNCC parishes in Florida had minimal damage to their properties from Hurricane Ian, but there has been a severe impact on the parishioners and people they serve and they are in need of help.

Anyone wishing to donate to the relief efforts can do so directly (the addresses are in Prime Bishop's letter on the bulletin board) or can send a donation to the Prime Bishop's office to be forwarded to these parishes.

A collection basket is also at the rear of the church for this week and next, if you wish to donate that way instead.

Our prayers are with all those affected by this tragedy.

Important Synod Update for those attending

In recent meetings of the Bishops of the P.N.C.C., all of the bishops have decided to **convene the upcoming XXVI General Synod on the evening of Tuesday, October 18, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.** for the sole purpose for accepting nominations for Candidates for Bishop. This first session will meet at the hotel.



So that the precious time of the Synod with all of the delegates engaged can be used to its fullest, the nominations of Candidates for Bishop will be done on Tuesday evening and following this the Nomination Commission will meet. This will allow the General Synod to begin its full course of work on Wednesday morning when they gather.

If there are any delegates who do not arrive until Wednesday morning, they will be sworn in as delegates before the session starts as has been customary.

TODAY'S READINGS: SEE CENTER INSERT

PRAYER INTENTIONS

We remember in our prayers Jane Pelland, Joe Pelland, Wanda Cople, 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.

And please remember – there is **NO eating or drinking** inside the church proper (small bottles of water excepted).

Father is at Synod this week

Father Tom and all the clergy will be in attendance at Synod this week and not able to answer calls from their parishioners. Because of this, there will be no one “on call” for religious emergencies such as Last Rites, as there would be if he were away for personal reasons.

If you have emergency need of a priest this week, please contact your local Roman Catholic priest.

Any non-urgent communications can still be sent to the office to be forwarded to Father Tom. Call at (203) 377- 9901 or email at sjosparishpncc@outlook.com to have your message relayed to him.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT YOUR CHURCH

Sunday, 16 October 2022 – Parish Board meeting 8:00 a.m.

Sunday, 16 October 2022 – Ladies' Society meeting after Mass in the classrooms.

Tuesday, 18 October 2022 – No Adult Bible Study due to Synod

Tuesday, 25 October 2022 – Adult Bible study. 6:30 p.m. in the classrooms.

Saturday, 29 October 2022 – **Quarter Night**. Still accepting donation of raffle items. Doors open 5:30 p.m. Event begins at 6:00 p.m.

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

Tuesday, 1 November 2022 – All Saints Day Mass, 6:00 p.m.

‡**Sunday, 6 November 2022** – Memorial Mass for †Charles and †Susan Zapotoczny given by Joyce Bresh

Saturday, 26 November 2022 – Funeral Mass and burial for †Clara Joanne Lesnick. Time TBD.

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

All Saints Day – Holy Day of Obligation

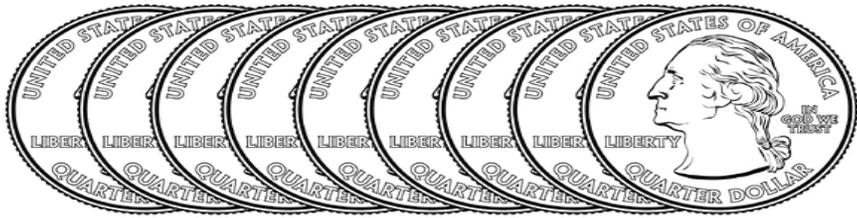
Mass will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, 1 November, for this solemnity.

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

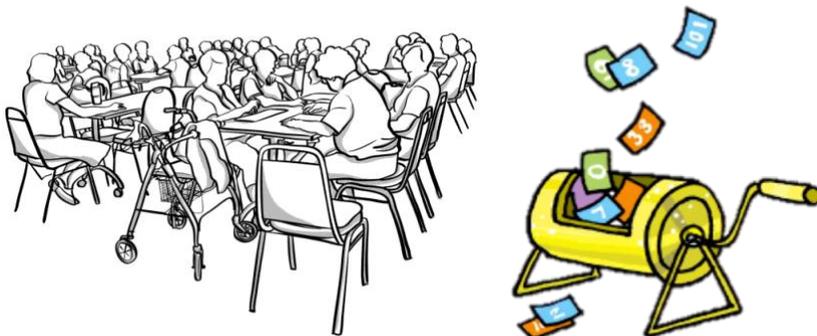


Quarter Night – A little over a week to go !

Can you believe it's almost here? On Saturday, 29 October, we will hold our first Quarter Night since the pandemic. Doors will open at 5:30 p.m. and the event itself will start at 6:00 p.m. Admission is \$3.00 per person. Cake, coffee, and non-alcoholic drinks will be served at intermission, but feel free to bring your own snacks to munch on during the raffle.

Reservations are required. No walk-ins at the door. Contact Nancy Sirois by email at nsirois55@gmail.com or leave a message with the office at (203) 377-9901 to hold places for all in your party.

Donations are still open. Please consider picking up an item or two to supplement those already received. There is an area set aside in the classrooms for collection of donations. Items need to be in new condition with a value of no less than \$5.00, but can range across the board. **Remember to log your name and donation in the notebook, so we can keep track of all the items collected.**



St. Joseph of Stratford National Catholic Church



October 15-16, 2022 – 29th 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,

“And he said to them, “Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father’s house?”

In this verse from today’s Gospel passage (Luke 2:41-52) Jesus speaks an important truth, that often in our search for God we are looking in all the wrong places. Essentially, Jesus is telling his parents, Mary and Joseph, that if they understood who he is, the Son of God, they would have known where to find him, his Father’s house. The same is true for us. If we are looking for God, we need to know who He is so we can recognize Him when we find Him.

Grace and peace,
Fr. Tom

Mass Times

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

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