

# LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, August 11, 2019 – **19<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Sunday**

**9:30 AM Holy Mass**

Monday, August 12, 2019 – **Weekday**

Tuesday, August 13, 2019 – **Weekday**

Wednesday, August 14, 2019 – **Weekday**

Thursday, August 15, 2019 – **Solemnity – Dormition/Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

Friday, August 16, 2019 – **Weekday**

Saturday, August 17, 2019 – **Weekday**

Sunday, August 18, 2019 – **20<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Sunday**

**9:30 AM Holy Mass**

## SUNDAY MASS INTENSIONS:

All Sundays after July 28 are open for new Mass intentions. Please remember that Holy Mass is not “reserved” for deceased only. The Mass can be requested for health and God’s blessing for your family or individual. Mass can be offered as thanking God for somebody or something. Holy Mass can be a perfect Birthday gift for your loved ones.

Mass intention can be also private, hidden to public. You can simply request the Mass “in certain intention” even without publishing who the requestor is.

Please use the Mass intention request form to order your Mass. You can mail it or you can drop it in envelope to the collection basket.

## CALENDARIUM

Thursday, August 15	Solemnity – Dormition/Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Monday, August 26	Solemnity – Our Lady of Czestochowa
Thursday, August 29	Solemnity – Beheading of Saint John the Baptist
Monday, September 2	Labor Day
Sunday, September 8	Solemnity – Brotherly Love
Monday, September 9	Solemnity – Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Saturday, September 14	Solemnity – Exaltation of the Holy Cross
Monday, September 16	Solemnity – Holy Mother of Sorrow

## FAITH SHARING

The central theme of today’s readings is the necessity for trusting Faith in God’s promises and vigilant preparedness among Christ’s followers to meet their God as their Judge and Rewarder, at the time of their death. Fidelity in doing God’s will is the best preparation for our death.

The first reading cites the Faith-filled preparedness of the ancient Hebrew slaves in Egypt before their mass exodus to the Promised Land. Their trusting faith in their God’s promises gave them hope. We are told how their Faith and Hope resulted in their liberation. With expectant Hope, the Hebrews sacrificed the first

Passover lamb and ate the first ritual meal, as prescribed by their God through Moses. They awaited their imminent release and were prepared for it.

In the Second Reading, taken from the last chapter of the letter to the Hebrews, the author tries to bolster the Faith of the Jewish Christians (the Hebrews), by appealing to the example of their ancestors, starting with Abraham, and reviewing the things they had accomplished by Faith.

In the Gospel, Jesus challenges his disciples to trust the Father’s promise to give them eternal happiness in His kingdom. But they are to be prepared at all times, because the Son of Man will come at an unexpected hour, either at the moment of their death or at the end of the world, whichever is earlier. Using the master-thief parable, Jesus warns us to be on our guard so that the thief (the devil), may not steal our treasure of Divine grace or our relationship with God by his temptations. Using the master-servant parable, Jesus reminds us always to do the will of God by obeying Jesus’ commandment of love and offering humble and sacrificial service to others.

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# St. Valentine’s Parish Picnic September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019

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## PLAN FOR ETERNITY TOO

We as Americans are very good at thinking about the future. We prepare for a myriad of WHAT IFS by the various insurance policies we hold: Life, Car, House, Boat, etc. We plan for retirement with various investments and funds. Some people even make all of their funeral arrangements, years in advance with a hometown funeral home even though they are in perfect health. We begin to plan for the education of our children even though it may be nearly 2 decades away. We save and save and save for summer vacations, or maybe even for the purchase of a vacation cottage or cabin. High school students are beginning to think about colleges earlier and earlier in their High School careers. Special SAT Prep classes are offered now for freshman and sophomores in order to get a head start. College students start accumulating résumé data as soon as they enter college anticipating the days when they will be walking into interviews wearing their power colors, firmly shaking hands, and handing over an impressive résumé. We are already good at thinking about the future. Jesus encourages us in today’s Gospel to take that skill and to extend it to the reality that He will indeed come again at the end of time.

## WHAT KIND OF STEWARD DOES GOD EXPECTS US TO BE?

God expects Christian to be accountable, faithful and productive stewards of God’s grace and His gifts to us of creation, life, body, talents, skills, wealth and possessions. Negatively, in order that the Lord will find us responsible, faithful and productive stewards when he comes in glory, let us avoid some of these

pitfalls and mistakes while awaiting the second coming of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior:

First, complacency in that Jesus' return is not yet imminent. Second, idleness or sloth—doing nothing. Third, gross negligence in the performance of duties. Fourth, procrastination —always postponing to another day what can be done today. Fifth, abuse of power and position and squandering of resources. Sixth, the *mañana* habit—starting our work, but fading away and quitting; a lack of perseverance. (“*Mañana* may translate to “tomorrow,” but it really means “not today!”)

Positively, let us religiously perform the tasks require of us and fulfill our role as stewards of God's gifts and graces: First, protect, preserve and conserve all Gods' gifts entrusted to us. Second, develop to the maximum all the spiritual, material and physical resources entrusted to our care. Third, communicate and share all the fruits and benefits of the gifts and talents we preserved, developed and cultivated. Good stewards will be generously rewarded, while bad stewards will be severely punished and will suffer a great loss.

Whenever the Lord comes, will he find us responsible, faithful and productive stewards or lazy, abusive and unfaithful stewards? Can we give him a good account of our stewardship?

#### **CEMETERY COMPLAINS MAILBOX**

If anybody has any suggestions, requests or complains about St. Valentine's Cemetery Caretaker's work and how our cemetery is maintained, please write a note and put it into the mailbox which is installed on the cemetery garage wall. However, only the signed notes with your last name and phone number will be considered as important. We ignore all the anonymous letters. All letters will be submitted to the Parish Committee and archived.

It looks, like there are too many bosses recently over there. Let me remind you that the PNCC Parish is run by Pastor and Parish Committee. All individual suggestion are appreciated, but only if they are submitted in normal, that is, polite form. All statements, that some of you make, that “This Slovak is not good because he doesn't speak English” or “another dumb Polack”, will be considered as terms for a variety of hostile attitudes, prejudice, and actions against Polish or Slovak persons and culture. This is a **discrimination** punishable by the United States Law and will be reported in the future to the proper Civil and Polish National Catholic Church authorities.

Many of us have some positions in the Parish, but all work as volunteers. There are two persons hired in our Parish: Pastor/Administrator and Cemetery Caretaker. And these two are the Staff, not a property of St. Valentine's Parish. Parish does not owe them. All Parish buildings and lands are the property of the Parish. Priest is not, Cemetery Caretaker is neither. Therefore, please be careful when you interact and please treat them with human dignity and respect. We failed already as parish community, but we cannot fail in basic human, social and Christian basics.

# **ST. VALENTINE'S PARISH**

## **Polish National Catholic Church**

**2330 Margaret St, Philadelphia, PA 19137, (215) 535-4978**

**[www.stvalentinespncc.org](http://www.stvalentinespncc.org), [stvalentinespncc@gmail.com](mailto:stvalentinespncc@gmail.com)**

**Sunday Mass: 9:30 AM (English)**



**19<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**19 Niedziela Zwyczajna**

**Dormition/Assumption of the BVM**  
**Zaśnięcie/Wniebowzięcie NMP**

**August 11, 2019**