

LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, August 18, 2019 – **20th Ordinary Sunday**

9:30 AM Holy Mass

† Lewis E. Woodland Jr. – requested by Marianne Woodland

Monday, August 19, 2019 – **Weekday**

Tuesday, August 20, 2019 – **Weekday**

Wednesday, August 21, 2019 – **Weekday**

Thursday, August 22, 2019 – **Weekday**

Friday, August 23, 2019 – **Weekday**

Saturday, August 24, 2019 – **Feast – St. Bartholomew, Apostle**

Sunday, August 25, 2019 – **21st Ordinary Sunday**

9:30 AM Holy Mass

SUNDAY MASS INTENSIONS:

Many Sundays 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

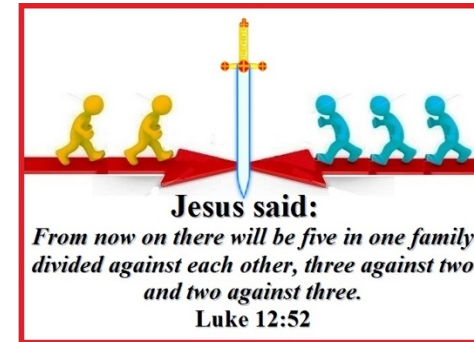
Monday, August 26	Solemnity – Our Lady of Czestochowa
Thursday, August 29	Solemnity – Beheading of Saint John the Baptist
Monday, September 2	Labor Day
Sunday, September 8	Solemnity – Brotherly Love
Monday, September 9	Solemnity – Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Saturday, September 14	Solemnity –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

FAITH SHARING

The central theme of today’s readings is that we should courageously live out our religious convictions and principles in our lives, as Jeremiah, Paul and Jesus did, even if doing so should result in our martyrdom and turn society upside down. Jeremiah, in our first reading, is presented as experiencing the consequences of the burning word of God within him. Jeremiah’s preaching divided the city and incited such opposition that people sought his death. He showed the courage of his prophetic conviction by telling the king that he had to surrender to the mighty army of Babylonian empire to save Israel. The result was that Jeremiah was thrown into a deep, muddy cistern to die for his “treason.”

The author of the second reading challenges the Judeo-Christians to stand firm in their Faith in Jesus, ignoring the ostracism imposed on them by their own former Jewish community.

In today’s Gospel reading Jesus preaches the word of God which continues to divide families, a word which, he knew, would lead ultimately to his death. The fire Jesus brings is the fire of love and the fire of hope. The disruption, division, and revolution, are necessary to re-set what’s fractured, put right what’s dislocated and cleanse what’s infected.



St. Valentine’s Parish Picnic September 15th, 2019

WE SHOULD HAVE FIRE IN OUR HEARTS

On the day of our Baptism, we received the light of Christ and were instructed to keep that torch burning brightly until the return of Christ Jesus. Further, the Holy Spirit was sent into our hearts at Confirmation to help set us on fire. The old proverb should be applicable to all baptized and confirmed Christians: “He /She who is on fire cannot sit on a chair.” Our Lord Jesus continues to cast fire on the earth, the fire of the Spirit, through the ministry of Word and Sacraments. As Christians, we should have fire to inflame people to care, to serve, and to bless each other with all the gifts of Faith. We should work with the Holy Spirit to allow that fire to burn off the impurities in us and to bring out the purity of the gold and silver within us. We need Divine fire to inflame our hearts with the love of God and love for His children.

“YOU CAN’T SEE WHAT’S RIGHT UNDER YOUR FEET”

The Greek version of Jesus’ diatribe against the crowd in this week’s Gospel text is perhaps the experience of the Greek philosopher, Thales. He ventured outside

one night with a knowledgeable, elderly woman who had promised to teach him about the stars. In the darkness, he fell into a ditch and started screaming for help. The old woman responded dryly, “You want to know all about the Heavens, but you can’t see what’s right under your feet”.

BE ON FIRE

Ancient people had a more intimate knowledge of fire than we do. Their only nighttime illumination came from the flames of oil lamps. The smoke from the cooking fire on the hearth constantly irritated and reddened their eyes. Everyone’s fingers were callused from working household fires. Their arms and hands bore the scars from burns. Early in childhood, they learned that food tasted better cooked, that flames tempered metal tools, and that the kiln’s heat hardened pottery. People also knew firsthand the danger of uncontrolled fire. Homes regularly burned to the ground because of an overturned lamp or a carelessly maintained kitchen fire. Well into the nineteenth century, devastating fires shaped communities. In fact, fire may spur on the next urban renewal. So, how was Jesus using the image of fire in this Gospel? This Gospel recalls an ancient belief that fire is the manifestation of God. Jesus is reminding us of the radical nature of His ministry and is demanding we step up to the plate.

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

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Sunday Mass: 9:30 AM (English)



20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

20 Niedziela Zwyczajna

August 18, 2019