

St. Mary's of Parma, OH Monthly Newsletter

A PARISH OF THE WESTERN DIOCESE OF THE POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

September 2021

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MASSES...of Masses, part 2

This is a continuation of last month's article that highlights certain types of Masses that have been part of our shared Catholic History.

It seems pretty crazy that I will have been ordained a priest 15 years this January. I have such crystal-clear memories of those days leading up to and including my ordination.

First Solemn High Mass is for many the first Mass celebrated after Ordination. It usually is the day after Ordination, or perhaps the Saturday or Sunday after. Mine was the Sunday afternoon after my ordination, with this neo-presbyter sleeping through morning masses at his home parish for the last time of his life!

A First Solemn High Mass is often attended by the local clergy, by a priest's seminary mates, all sorts of family and friends and a full church of



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with the help of his priests and other ministers, along with a congregation present.

Tradition for this comes from Christians of Rome who would begin to gather at a church known as the "collecta" (or gathering place) where they would be joined by the assembled clergy of the city and the Pope. The procession would then move through the streets to the Station Church, not far away. Having gathered at the daily "statio" (standing place) the pope would then celebrate a solemn Mass, and fragments of the Host were sent to the "stationes" of the city in order to symbolize the unity of the city around its bishop.

The modern Mass of Christ is considered a Stational Mass, especially as the Holy Oils, blessed by the bishop and clergy, make their way around the diocese afterward.

parishioners and well-wishers. As it falls under a "Solemn High Mass", the choir should be singing all the stuff it can—Glorias, Creeds, Psalms, Hymns—while the celebrant incenses at the Introit/Entrance Hymn, the Gospel, and the Offertory.

+Bishop Stanley Bilinski, our former pastor and my homiletics teacher, taught there was an old tradition for a newly-ordained priest to say 3 Masses before the 1st Solemn High Mass: one for family, one for his parish, and one for his own ministry.

There was a period of time where each parish was required to celebrate the traditional **3 Christmas Masses**. They include: Mass at Midnight, Mass at Dawn, and Mass during the Day. Each tells a different portion of the Christmas Story...and if we include the Vigil Mass of the Nativity of our Lord, we even get the final moments before the Christmas Story. Though not required today, many parishes celebrate some combination of these.

A **Stational Mass** is a phrase we don't use much. It is the celebration of the Eucharist in a cathedral by the diocesan bishop in his role of high priest of the diocese,



Fr. Jason's Article (con't)

A **Pontifical Mass** is a Mass that is reserved for a bishop, with much of the liturgy celebrated from his *cathedra*, or his throne. The bishop would be assisted by two clergy as his chaplains, often with at least one Master of Ceremony providing further assistance.

The bishop would begin Holy Mass from his Cathedra, inviting the faithful to prayer and administering the Sacrament of Penance. The Entrance Rite and, Kyrie, Gloria, and Opening Prayer would be done from the Cathedra as well. As a Pontifical Mass is most likely a Solemn High Mass, incense would be used appropriately at the Entrance Rite, Gospel, and Offertory.



The bishop would then invite all to be hearers of the Sacrament of the Word of God, listening from his Cathedra. It would then be appropriate for him to preach sitting down, as this was how Jesus often taught. However...one could see why a bishop would choose otherwise.

After introducing the Creed as well as the Intercessions/Prayers of the Faithful, the Masters of Ceremony would then bring everything (missal, chalice, intinctoria, etc) to the sacrificial altar before the bishop even approached it. He'd celebrate Mass as we might call "normal" until after the faithful receive Communion, where he would conclude Mass from his Cathedra.

Though the term **Gregorian Mass** may not be familiar with most, it is a familiar concept. For 30 consecutive days, a Mass is offered for a deceased person with the intent for release of the soul from purgatory. These masses can take place at different locations by different priests, but must be for those 30 consecutive days. By virtue of the fact that 30 days is a long time...and the fact that parishes have many

obligations for weekday or weekend mass intentions, these Masses are usually celebrated within the environment of a seminary, monastery, religious community, or some other sort of religious community.

The scriptural basis for this is from Deuteronomy 34:8: "And the children of Israel wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days: so the days of weeping in the mourning for Moses were ended.

The practice of Gregorian Masses goes back to a tradition hailing from Pope St. Gregory the Great (540-604). St. Gregory wrote how one of the monks of his monastery, named Justus, did not keep his vow of poverty very well. When Justus died, St. Gregory feared that the good monk might have to spend a long time in Purgatory (another discussion for another day!) because of this struggle. He therefore ordered that the Holy Sacrifice be offered up for Justus for thirty consecutive days without a break. On the thirtieth day, Justus appeared to a brother monk telling him that he was now freed from his sufferings because of the 30 Masses St. Gregory had caused to be said for him.

Til next time! Shall we do a part 3?

Fr. Jason

Choir Concert

A number of our parishioners took part in the National United Choirs Workshop at Holy Cross Parish in Hamtramck, MI from August 5-6.

Pictured is a snapshot of those who sang in the concert on Friday evening, August 6, including our very own: Deacon Jim, Christine P., and Marzena K.

For those interested in watching the concert (or even the workshop sessions!), it is available to watch on Youtube by searching Holy Cross PNCC Hamtramck and looking at the entries in the "video" tab.



School Collection

The Mission Team of St. Mary's put together a weeks-long collection, highlighted by well-made flyers and an attractive drop off area.

The collection was for school supplies that would go to the direct benefit of our closest school, John Muir Elementary. Once the box began to overflow, the table was filled too!

Thank you to all who were so generous in offering of their treasure for the youth surrounding our beloved parish.



Note from Deacon Jim

During the summer months of Ordinary time, the time which clergy wear green vestments and focus on the teachings of Jesus, we have heard, proclaimed in the Gospel of the Apostle John and through the Sacrament of the Word offered by Father Jason, about the feeding of the 5,000. There is so much teaching to do, seeing the multitude who were now following Him. He asked: "How are we to buy bread, so that these people may eat?" (John 6:5) You know how the disciples responded, It is IMPOSSIBLE. It would be better for you to send them away . . ." Jesus must have freaked them out, when He said: "Give them something to eat." He took a few loaves and a couple of fish, blessed them, broke them and distributed them to the multitude. In foretelling the Last Supper and the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist, we are also taught a very valuable lesson—the little bit that we have, if we place it- that is, surrender it in God's precious hands and share it in faith- it becomes a superabundant treasure.

The Food Ministry program is going great and reflects Christ to those in need of substance, fellowship, a few kind words and consistency of time and presence. The feeding of the needy is an imperative, ethical teaching of the Church as noted in the Word of God, but also in the teachings of the Church through the PNCC Future Direction's current Discipleship Program.

In my life I have made mistakes, some poor decisions and let some people down. I am thankful that God has, despite my shortcomings, blessed me to be part of St. Mary's Food Ministry program. To be able to distribute food to the multitude, to be able to share the Word of God in conversation, in inspirational written words, to hang out with a great group of food preparers, and to feel the support of the parish is awesome.

The Food Ministry committee reviews the status of the program, receives updates on meals served and plans out the next three to six months. I am excited to share that we are continuing to offer our Food Ministry program each Wednesday at 4:00 pm (We usually start serving about 3:51) with meals being delivered to each partaker's vehicle or those that walk up for service. The Mission Team has been great with supplying hygiene kits for all and back to school backpacks for the kids that have been coming each week.

There are many, many lessons I have learned in the ten + years of doing food ministry and one, that was and still is difficult to ask for assistance and more importantly to accept the help. It would be most appreciated to have help in the following ways:

Prepare a meal: An array of meals from hot Polish dinners to Chef salads, hot and cold sandwiches have all been served. Food prep can take place on Tuesday or

Wednesday. Let's find a day that works best for you and am glad to assist in obtaining the ingredients, etc.

Help wrap: Each week we receive a generous donation from Panera. From approximately 2:00 pm to 3:24pm, we wrap between 150 to 400 pieces of bread and pastry. Every week homemade PBJ sandwiches are prepared by Patty Bennett. These items along with an orange, apple, pickle, or chips, are also bagged – just like we do at "PolishFest."

"Food Pantry:" Not really a food pantry, but let's call it that for now. We plan on about 65 – 75 meals each week. Sometimes we run short because all the food has been distributed and someone shows up – rather than turning them away, donations of non-perishable items are an amazing means to help! Please consider donating.

As we are committed to this outreach and service, we commit our time and efforts to each other in support, in love, in understanding and in faith of doing what Christ has called us to do. Thank you in advance for your prayers, consideration, giving and time in support of St. Mary's Food Ministry.

In His service,
Deacon Jim



Funeral at St. Mary's

On Saturday, August 28 we remembered the life of a longtime parishioner, Phyllis Stanz. Phyllis passed away in Fort Myers, FL at age 82 back on September 10, 2020 and a Memorial Mass was celebrated at St. Mary's at 10am on Saturday, August 28. It was very well-attended by her local Cleveland family. A reception in the parish Fellowship Hall followed, as did interment in the Sacred Heart of Jesus Ceme-

tery on W. 54th St. The next Sunday, Phyllis' departed son David was remembered at our 9am Sunday Mass.

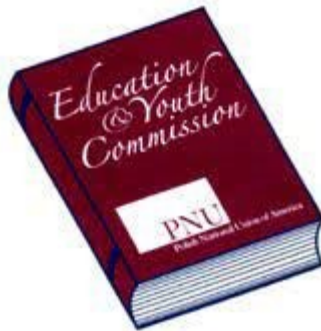
Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.



Sp. Phyllis Stanz

PNU Appeal

It is time for the annual PNU Education and Youth Commission appeal for your prayerful support of our stipend program. This annual program benefits PNU college students. We ask you to prayerfully consider giving a gift that will be used, appreciated, and always remembered by our younger members going to college or



schools of higher learning. Please make your charitable donation to the PNU Education and Youth Commission and send it to 1006 Pittston Ave., Scranton, PA 18505. If you have questions about becoming a PNU member or getting a membership for your children, please see Fr. Jason or visit pnu.org for more information.

Various Announcements

ACME RECEIPTS – We are once again participating in the Acme “Community Cash Back” program. The collection began Thursday, August 5 and runs through Christmas Day. Buy any store brands at your local Acme and drop your receipt off in our marked bucket near our parish mailboxes. They will be submitted and St. Mary's will receive 5% cash back for doing your weekly grocery shopping!

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER – Today, and for all of September, we use the 4th Canon/Eucharistic Prayer on pg. 88.

POLISHFEST—The PolishFest drive thru takes place Friday, September 10 from 3-7pm. Hope you can patronize!

BIBLE STUDY – Bible Study meets every other week, continuing next week, September 8. We will be going through the Old Testament book of Ecclesiastes. We welcome all who would like to attend – bibles can be provided! We meet at 6pm and for the time being, will not be providing a meal with our study.

POLISHFEST HELP – Of course, with any fundraiser, we can use some help. Please see Cathy Avondet today as we have a list of days and times during this that help is needed, as well as during the entire day Friday – we are blessed that we had volunteers earlier this summer to make pierogi and golabki, and we could use your blessing again to make this vital fundraiser successful.

RESTAURANT FUNDRAISER – Our next restaurant fundraiser takes place at Rocky's on Broadview Rd. on Monday Sep. 27, 11am-7pm, take-out or eat-in. Beer and wine are included in the 10% return to St. Mary's, so plan accordingly! Bring the Flyer are on the inside cover of this newsletter or show it on your phone.

DEACON JIM— Is leading a 3-part session/class for a portion of our Diocese on Apologetics, with a goal to: Describe how Christ bequeathed the Church and why this is important & explain why Christ bequeathed the sacraments & to look at why Mass attendance is critical. This time in study is to build up the Polish National

Catholic faith, to show the Church as the divinely authorized organ for preserving and rendering the saving truths revealed by Christ. 8pm on Sep 7th is the first class, followed by the 21st & 28th.

FOOD SALE – Part of our fundraising process is trying new things...or things that require less volunteers to make them work. On Saturday, Oct 16 from 10am-2pm, we will be holding a Polish Food Sale, featuring cold/frozen foods, a few hot items, and hopefully a few more featured attractions. Mark your calendar! It should feature kielbasa, pierogi, homemade soup, bakery, & more.

HEALING MASS – We have reintroduced a Mass of Healing at St. Mary's that offers the Sacrament of Anointing to conclude Mass – The anointing is without question – whether you could use a mental health pick-me-up, are working on some physical therapy or are experiencing a tough diagnosis, the Sacrament of Anointing provides healing of the soul...and sometimes physical or mental healing as well. In searching for an optimal time, our next Healing Mass will be Wednesday, September 22 at 5pm.

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Wedding at St. Mary's

Saturday, August 21 was a special day at St. Mary's as we welcomed the family and friends of Bob Samelson and Kathy Boldin for their Holy Matrimony.

Holy Mass and the Matrimonial vows began promptly at 3:30pm. It was a warm, but beautiful and memorable Saturday. God's choicest and most special blessings always upon you!



Guest Celebrant!

9am Holy Mass on Sunday, August 29 was a treat; a stray from the normal for our parishioners and worshippers.

Fr. Sr. Joseph Krusienski, the Administrative Senior of the Southwest Seniorate of the PNCC Eastern Diocese was our chief celebrant and

homilist of our Holy Mass. Fr. Jason and Fr. Greg served as concelebrants. Fr. Jason served as subdeacon of the Mass while Deacon Jim served as, well, Deacon of the Mass!

Fr. Sr. Joseph was in Cleveland as he was being honored in reaching a 33rd degree Freemason. He preached of the importance of faithfulness to the parish, the denomination, and the Word of God.

It is always nice to have a different voice at a parish, and Fr. Sr's was unique! He serves as Pastor of Holy Trinity parish in Plantsville, CT as well as administrator of St. Casimir Parish in Wallingford, CT. God bless his ministry in our Polish National Catholic Church!



Other Recent Activities

Though we do not have pictures of all the activities from this past month, we will make note that there was a prayer blanket workshop that took place on Tuesday, August 17 and was open to all. We continue to offer prayer blankets to be available to anyone who may be in need.



Church News

There was also a wonderful event on Saturday, August 14— our now annual

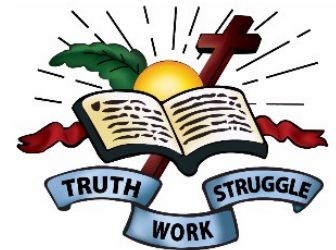
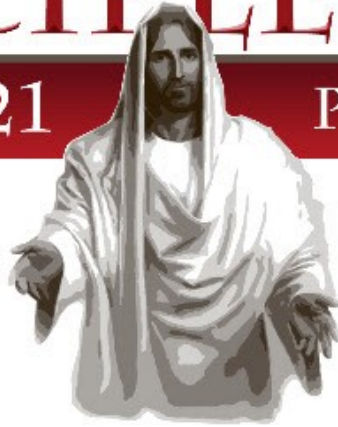
Parking Lot Trunk Sale. It was a beautiful day and well-attended by curious shoppers, though we could have used a few more tables of wares. Thanks to Susan Boehnlein for her leadership regarding this event as well as all of those who took part...or those who supplied delicious hamburgers with secret seasoning!

PNCC Future Directions Update

DISCIPLESHIP

2021

PNCC



September 2021 – St. Stephen

As summer turns into fall during the month of September we focus on St. Stephen – the First Christian Martyr and also celebrate the great PNCC Solemnity of Brotherly Love.

[Click here and enjoy the video reflection](#) by Fr. Andrzej Tenus.

Scriptures for Reflection

Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59; Matthew 1:17-22

Reflection & Action Item:

St. Stephen was the first Christian Martyr who died showing his complete faith in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Merciful Father, we celebrate the receiving of Saint Stephen into eternal glory. He died praying for those who stoned him. Help us to imitate his goodness and to love our enemies. How can we show our love for those who don't like us?

As we honor St. Stephen and celebrate the Solemnity of Brotherly Love this month - do a kind deed for at least two people who do not like you this month to show the love of God within you.



Prayer For Brotherly Love

Almighty Father, through Jesus Christ You revealed that the greatest law is love of You and our neighbors. In flame our hearts with the fire of Your holy love and so strengthen our love for one another. We ask this through our Lord, Jesus Christ, Your Son, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Reflection on Solemnity of Brotherly Love

THE GREATEST COMMANDMENT

The Greatest Commandments are taken from the story where Jesus is teaching and is asked by a

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Pharisee, "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" Jesus' answer was, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets." (Matt. 22:34-40)

SOLEMNITY OF BROTHERLY LOVE:

In 1897 Father Hodur and a group of people organized the first Polish National Catholic Church, Saint Stanislaus Parish, in Scranton, PA.

As the years went by Father Hodur was dismayed by the way others were mistreating members of our Church. He was sometimes saddened by the manner in which some Church members responded to this injustice. He was disappointed because the members of the Church were not following the Great Commandments. Father Hodur wanted the faithful to follow Christ and His teachings.

In 1904 the First General Synod of the Polish National Catholic Church was held in Scranton, PA and in 1906 the First General Synod was reconvened to complete it. At these gatherings he proposed that we establish the Solemnity of Brotherly Love to be commemorated annually on the second Sunday in September as a reminder to all Polish National Catholics to be kind and loving to each other and to all people. Everyone at the Synod agreed and the Solemnity of Brotherly Love has been celebrated in the Polish National Catholic Church ever since. It is a day to remind us to love one another and to love all people.

PNCC Future Direction is on Facebook! Like us and follow our updates on Facebook too. If you know of parishioners or friends who are not a part of our monthly email updates – please have them email us at FutureDirection@pncc.org to become a part of this important effort for our Holy Church.

May God bless you; may our Lord calm the storms of life and may our Blessed Mother intercede for us. Have a blessed day and be safe, careful, healthy and faithful as disciples!

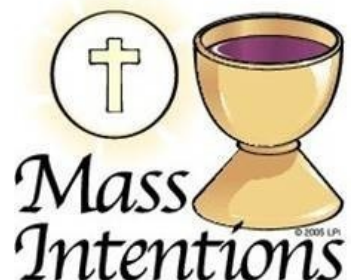
PNCC Supreme Council Future Direction Committee

Most Rev. Anthony Mikovsky, Prime Bishop
Very Rev. Robert M. Nemkovich Jr., Chairman

Scheduled Mass Intentions at St. Mary's

- September 5– Stanley Dobrowolski of. by daughter Patti Dotson
- September 12– Len Pryer of. by daughter Evonne Pryer
- September 19– George Stepanik of. by brother Gene Stepanik
- September 26– ***Open Intention***
- October 3 – Sophie & Martin Szpilka of. by son John
- October 10 – Steve Temesi of. by wife Patty
- October 17 – Hanna Pryer of. by husband +Len & family
- October 24 – ***Open Intention***
- October 31 – Dorothy & Bruno Tracy of. by son Randy

***Next open 9am dates: Sept. 26, Oct. 24, Nov. 7, 28, Dec 12, 19, 26**



September Days of Note



September Birthdays

- 1st – Judy Lynne Mondok
- 1st – Brett Spilka
- 5th – Jim Ploskonka
- 7th – Elaine Ploskonka
- 7th – Sharon Skiba
- 9th – Marcus Todorovich
- 13th – David Knapp
- 14th – Monika Gorchek
- 16th – Andrea Grmovsek
- 17th – Rose Kronen
- 27th – Allison Suarez
- 27th – Roland Ploskonka



September Anniversaries

- 19th — Pete & Marge O'Conner
- 26th — Steve & Barbara Fesz
- 26th — Tom & Cherie Kugler

**have we missed anyone's birthday or anniversary? Just give us a shout so we can fix any errors that have been made :-)*

"September is Here"

Schoolbells ringing in the morning,
 Little girls in fresh print gowns,
 Little boys all showing off,
 And acting like wild circus clowns
 From the trees the red leaves falling,
 Wild geese flying overhead,
 The squirrels hiding countless nuts
 In their secret, wintry bed...
 All these signs point just one way.
 Their meaning to the world is clear.
 September, first month of autumn,
 Once again is reigning here.

By Lenore Hetrick

Our Prayer List

Praying for St. Mary's Parishioners & Friends

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Bill & Pat Glatzer | Barbara Baranowski |
| Bill Kastak | Anna Dawidziuk |
| Julie L | John Spilka |
| Johanna Markiewicz | Mary Ann Loschelder |
| Ralph & June Zaun | Julie L. |
| Marty Bengela | Tom Putynski |
| Polly Gajda | Millie Dominik |
| Kathleen Beres | Joseph Bischoff |
| David Micka | Carol Hreha |
| Chester & Ann Warzala | Tom Petrie |
| Amy Dreger | Patti Dotson |
| Elizabeth Starnawski | Jack Spilka |
| Elaine Repede | David Vaden |
| Wanda Clark | Beth Chihill |
| Michael Cosevin | Helen Cummings |
| Laina Dachtal | Wendy Andrzejewski |
| Jay Grabowsky | Pam Chesar |
| Cecelia Hall | Caroline Kunes |
| Linda Marks | Thomas Lill |
| John & Anne Nemetz | Rhonda Smith |
| Kenny Ploskonka | Carol Boesch |
| Joanie True | Daniel Rinella |
| Fr. Tom Sheha | Tom Slomka |
| Geri S. | Ben Soltis |
| Pam Tropiano | Linda Vect |
| Dennis and Sue Vect | Marcus Vaughn, Jr. |
| Bryson Dzuroff | Fr. Sr. Joseph Soltysiak |
| Kelly B | Jane Hunter |
| Dennis Thome | The Finnie Family |
| Carlene Fliss | Jim Fliss Jr. |
| John Wisniewski | Cathy Pieciak |
| Nan Cramer | Bp. John Mack |
| Janice Bielecki | Bp. John Swantek |
| Mary Cawley | Richard & Edna Samelson |
| Jim Giles | Tammy Teubl |
| Wanda Heffner | Loretta Baldwin |
| Donna Kidd | Paulette Lilli |
| Azriel G. | Joseph Zubel |
| Marilyn Girard | Courtney Austin |
| Stephanie Milla | Shannon Alberino |
| Jayden Pieciak | Sophie Mae |
| Jeremy Steinbrick | Katie Stallbaum |
| Marcia Klein | Kim Penney |
| George & Linda Makovicka | Phil Symons |
| Barbara B. | Patrick Kmitt |
| Michael McGivern | Daniel Morgan |
| Barb & Jim Lukas | Renee Lukas |
| Mike Matis | Jeff Lukas |
| Ronald Tiffe | Mike Pescitelli |
| Al Piniecki | Bob Kaczmarek |

WE ALSO REMEMBER
ALL ACTIVE & RETIRED CLERGY
ALL SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN
Bless them, O Lord.



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