



HOLY NAME OF JESUS PARISH

Polish National Catholic Church

15 THAYER STREET

SOUTH DEERFIELD, MA 01373

Rev. Fr. Robert M. Koerber, Pastor

Parish phone: (413) 665-2129

Parish email: koerber702@comcast.net

Emergency contact: (413) 530-8575

Website: holynamesouthdeerfield.org

FB: Holy Name of Jesus, South Deerfield

TODAY, SUNDAY, AUGUST 25, 2024

THE 21ST SUNDAY IN THE ORDINARY

9:00 am – Holy Mass to be celebrated in the
Traditional rite of the PNCC.

OPENING HYMN

“To Thee, We Come, O Lord, Our God

To Thee we come, O Lord, our God,
Before Thine altar, Father

Thou knowest best our yearning hearts.

This supplication answer.

Lift up from want Thy people, Lord,
Bless us, O God; O Father, bless our toil.

Under Thy cross we stand prepared,
To serve Thee with devotion,

Be it with sweat of blood or tears,
Or humble resignation.

For we Thy people are, O Lord,
Save us, O God; O Father, bless our toil.



ENTRANCE HYMN

(Psalm 100:1-2,4a)

V. Sing joyfully to the Lord, all you lands; serve the
Lord with gladness; come before Him with
joyful song.

R. Enter His gates with thanksgiving, His courts
with praise, Give thanks to Him; bless His Name.

C. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the
Holy Spirit,

R. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall
be, world without end. Amen

THE GLORIA

Glory to God in the Highest,
And peace to His people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,

Almighty God, and Father

We worship You; we give You thanks

We praise you for Your glory

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father

Lord God, Lamb of God

You take away the sins of the world

Have mercy on us

You are seated at the right hand of the Father,

Receive our prayer

For you alone are the Holy One

You alone are the Lord,

You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ

With the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the

Father. Amen.

OPENING PRAYER

C. The Lord be with you.

R. And also with you.

C. Let us pray. Let us pray. Heavenly Father,
Your Son offers us the gift of eternal life, yet at
times we cannot fully perceive His teaching.
Give us the conviction to accept Him
completely and follow Him faithfully. We ask
this through the same Jesus Christ, Who lives
and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one
God, for ever and ever.

R. Amen.



LITURGY OF THE WORD OF GOD

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF JOSHUA
(Joshua 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b)

Joshua gathered together all the tribes of Israel
at Shechem, summoning their elders, their
leaders, their judges, and their officers. When
they stood in ranks before God, Joshua addressed
all the people: “If it does not, please you to serve

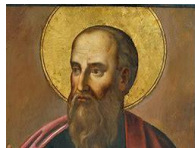
the LORD, decide today whom you will serve, the gods your fathers served beyond the river or the gods of the Amorites in whose country you are now dwelling. As for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.” But the people answered, “Far be it from us to forsake the LORD for the service of other gods. For it was the LORD, our God, who brought us and our fathers up out of the land of Egypt, out of a state of slavery. He performed those great miracles before our very eyes and protected us along our entire journey and among the peoples through whom we passed. Therefore, we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God.”

C. This is the Word of the Lord.
R. Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL
(Job 21:15; Isaiah 6:3)

V. What is the Almighty that we should serve Him?
And what gain shall we have if we pray to Him?

R. “Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts!” they cried one to the other. “All the earth is filled with His glory!”



A READING FROM THE EPISTLE OF
SAINT PAUL TO THE EPHESIANS
(Ephesians 5:21-32)

Brothers and sisters: Be subordinate to one another out of reverence for Christ. Wives should be subordinate to their husbands as to the Lord. For the husband is head of his wife just as Christ is head of the church, He Himself as the savior of the body. As the church is subordinate to Christ, so wives should be subordinate to their husbands in everything. Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ loved the church and handed Himself over for her to sanctify her, cleansing her by the bath of water with the word, that He might present to Himself the church in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. So also, husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife

loves himself. For no one hates his own flesh but rather nourishes and cherishes it, even as Christ does the church, because we are members of his body. For this reason, a man shall leave his father and his mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh. This is a great mystery, but I speak in reference to Christ and the church.

C. This is the Word of the Lord.
R. Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA VERSE
(John 12:26a)

C. Alleluia, alleluia.
R. Alleluia, alleluia.
V. Whoever serves Me must follow Me, and where I am, there also will My servant be.
R. Alleluia, alleluia.



THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN
(John 6:60-69)

C. The Lord be with you.
R. And also with you.
C. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint John.
R. Glory be to You, O Lord.

Many of Jesus' disciples who were listening said, “This saying is hard; who can accept it?” Since Jesus knew that His disciples were murmuring about this, He said to them, “Does this shock you? What if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where He was before? It is the spirit that gives life, while the flesh is of no avail. The words I have spoken to you are Spirit and life. But there are some of you who do not believe. “Jesus knew from the beginning the ones who would not believe and the one who would betray Him. And He said, “For this reason I have told you that no one can come to Me unless it is granted him by My Father.” As a result of this, many of His disciples returned to their former way of life and no longer accompanied Him. Jesus then said to the Twelve, “Do you also want to leave?” Simon Peter

answered Him, “Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God.

V. This is the Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise be to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

**PROFESSION OF FAITH
THE NICENE CREED**

I believe in One God, the Father, the Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth
Of all that is seen and unseen.
I believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
The only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father.
God from God, Light from Light, True God
from true God, begotten not made
Of one being with the Father.
Through Him all things were made
For us and for our salvation.
He came down from heaven:
By the power of the Holy Spirit
He was born of the Virgin Mary
AND BECAME MAN.
For our sake, He was crucified
under Pontius Pilate
He suffered death and was buried.
On the third day He rose again
In fulfillment of the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven and
Is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
To judge the living and the dead
And His kingdom will have no end.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
The Lord and Giver of Life
Who proceeds from the Father,
With the Father and the Son
He is worshipped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
I believe in One, Holy, Catholic
and Apostolic Church
I acknowledge one baptism
for the forgiveness of sins.
I look for the resurrection of the dead
And the + life of the world to come. Amen.



OFFERTORY VERSE
(Deuteronomy 6:13)

V. The Lord, your God, shall you fear; Him shall you serve, and by His name shall you swear.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Heavenly Father may this spotless sacrifice fill our hearts with faith and allow us to partake of Your Spirit and Life. We ask this through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.



ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Let us Pray: Most loving Jesus, I adore You in the Most Blessed Sacrament, in which You are truly present. I love You above all things and I long for You in my soul. Since I cannot receive You sacramentally, I ask You to come spiritually into my heart and heal my soul. I embrace You and unite myself with You; may I never be separated from You. In flame my heart with the fire of Your love, my Lord and Savior. Amen.

COMMUNION VERSE
(Psalm 63:2a, 9)

V. O God You are my God for You I long! My soul clings fast to You; Your right hand upholds me.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

C. The Lord be with you.

R. And also with you.

C. Let us pray. Heavenly Father, in moments of doubt, when our hearts cry out with Your Son’s apostles “Lord, to whom shall we go?” give us the grace through this Holy Communion to understand that Your Son has the words of eternal life. We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

R. Amen.



JOSHUA – A SOLDIER UNTO THE LORD AND THE SUCCESSOR TO MOSES.

Not too many people know about **Joshua**, but in Holy Scripture, he stands out as a warrior, who will not only lead the Israelites into the Promised Land of Canaan but who stayed faithful unto the Lord.

“**Joshua**” or “**Yehoshūa**,” is taken from the derivative name, the name “**Jesus**.” **Joshua** is first mentioned as the commander of the armies of Israel, who fought against the Amalekites in Exodus 17:8. Joshua also becomes the successor of Moses, to be the leader chosen to lead Israel into the “Promised Land.”

Facts concerning Joshua

- Joshua was a son of Nun, from the tribe of Ephraim, one of the twelve tribes of Israel. (Numbers 13, 8,16).
- He is first mentioned in his successful battle with the Amalekites (Exodus 17:9).
- He came to the aid of Moses and accompanies him partway up to Mt. Sinai where Moses was to receive the Ten Commandments or Torah of God (Exodus 24:12-13; 33:1).
- Joshua was one of the spies who came to view Canaan. (Numbers 13:8,16).
- With Caleb, the two viewed the “Promise Land” while all other adults died in the wilderness (Numbers 14:6-30).
- He was divinely appointed and ordained to be Moses’ successor (Numbers 27:18-23).
- After the death of Moses, he was divinely installed as leader (Joshua 1:1-9)
- After beginning his campaign, three supernatural events took place:
 1. The river Jordan at flood stage, divides for safe passage of the Israelites (Jos.3:14-17).

2. The angel of Jehovah appears to Joshua outside the walls of Jericho, giving direction to surround the city (Joshua 5:13-15).
3. After the divine plan, the walls of Jericho come tumbling down. (Joshua 6:12-21).

- Joshua defeats 31 kings and most of the land is acquired. (Joshua. 11:23).
- He divides the land among the twelve tribes of Israel Joshua 23:3)
- Before dying, Joshua addresses Israel and calls on the people to be loyal and remain undivided. (Joshua 23:4).

(Ephesians 6:12). It should also be noted that the battles of Joshua’ were won by faith (1 John 5:4)



REFLECTIONS ON FOLLOWING CHRIST

“Many of Jesus’ disciples who were listening said, ‘This saying is hard; who can accept it?’
- John 6:60

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ:

In today’s Gospel, this question is asked: “What was the saying of Jesus that was hard to understand?”

Last week, we heard these words of Jesus: “I tell you this truth, that whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood, remains in Me and I in him. Just as the living Father sent Me and I have life because of the Father, so also the one who feeds on Me will have life because of Me.”

Our Lord Jesus was to impart to His followers, during His short three-year ministry, many sayings, which had deep spiritual truths. This is why He taught in parables. I think one of the reasons that the words of Jesus were hard to understand, by so many, who lived 2000 years ago, was that they lived solely for their survival and did not know fully understand God, until He was revealed to them, through this young Rabbi from Nazareth, who proclaimed His “coming out” one day as found in Luke 4:16-19:

“When He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up, He went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, as was His custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to Him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

‘The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim
release to the captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to set free those who are oppressed,
to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.’”

I believe that we live in a world. that even in 2024, that there are so many who have a hard time understanding, never mind, in believing the spiritual truths revealed by Jesus concerning the “Kingdom.” Fewer understand the impact of His sacrifice on the Cross for one’s sins. And yet, we find that even today, many have left Him.

I believe that throughout the history of mankind, there were and are many paths in which adherents of one’s faith, seek to reach a higher and greater understanding of the “Supreme,” Just as the highest mountains are first ascended and then climbed by different routes; the way unto the Lord varies for each person, according to their own life experiences. I believe in my faith, that Jesus (Yeshūa) is the ultimate guide and “My Rabbi,” who was sent from heaven, as the “Way, the Truth, and the Life.” He was prophesied through the teachings of the prophets of God in the Old Testament, and came as an “Emissary, the “Anointed One,” the “Christos,” and the Only Begotten Son of God.

From the very beginnings of man, and through his religions, man has used mantras, incense, statues, lighted candles in darken rooms, and many other disciplines or (dharma) to seek a better understanding of the “Creator” of all things.

In the Catholic faith, there are “sacramentals” which include crosses, rosary beads, oils, candles, holy water, bells, incense and chalk, along with statues used to accentuate the “sacramental life”

of the followers of Jesus. I wonder if “stained glass windows” could also be “sacramentals,” as they have taught and teach the story of redemption and salvation through Jesus Christ.

But in the end, it is through personal prayer, reflection and meditation on Holy Scripture, that one is enlightened and climbs higher through the power of the Holy Spirit, in their understanding of God and through their own personal relationship with the Lord.

Through the receiving of the Sacraments of the Church and through the reading of the word of God, I believe, that in a moment, one can experience God in their life, and establish a “spiritual connection” with the Divine. Paul refers to the commonality of the “One Faith, One Lord, One Baptism” as followers of Jesus, and as found in his Letter to the Ephesians 4:5-6.

In my life’s path, as a baptized Christian, I chose to follow Jesus, who I believe, in my faith, brought to me “salvation” through His death on the Cross, when He died for me and all my sins.

As a lover of books, I am currently reading **“The God Equation, The Quest for a Theory of Everything.”** by Micio Kaku, a noted American physicist and Professor of Theoretical Physics at the City College of New York and at the CUNY research center.

I have previously read about the quest of scientists to understand the **“God Principle”** linking the worlds of religion and science. It should be noted that not all scientists are atheists and there is much work being done by scientists. trying to solve the question of the “Unifying Principle” of all things by tying the principles of the great minds such as Sir Issac Newton and Albert Einstein to the “scientific method” of proven laws, in their search of the **“First Cause.”**

Though we now have the **Hadron Collider**, which is the world’s largest particle accelerator, situated in the Physics lab (CERN) in Switzerland striving to understand sub-atomic particles in their relationship with God, and though we have noted physicists and scientists, such as Micio Kaku and others, relying on the principles of the great works

of Newton, Einstein and others, a simple question is asked of us today:

“Is it hard to ‘understand’ the teachings of Jesus if you are a true believer and have met the Lord?”

In a secular world, many have a hard time believing in the teachings of Jesus. As we read in today’s Gospel, that as a result of this [His sayings] “many of His disciples returned to their former way of life and no longer accompanied Him.”

Was it in their lack of faith? We read in today’s Gospel, that Jesus said: “But there are some of you who do not believe. Jesus knew from the beginning the ones who would not believe and the one who would betray Him.” And He further said, “For this reason I have told you that no one can come to Me unless it is granted him by My Father.” I think all of us remember the story of the “doubting Thomas,” and when Jesus appeared personally to Thomas and said to Thomas “Blessed are those who have not seen, but yet believe” as found in John 20:29b.

When some of the disciples said that His words were hard to understand, we read that Jesus knew that His disciples were murmuring about this, and He said to them, “Does this shock you? He continues: “What if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before?” You know, the disciples were to witness the Son of Man ascending into heaven on Ascension Day, forty days after His resurrection as proof of His Divinity.

He goes on to teach: “It is the spirit that gives Life, while the flesh is of no avail. The words I have spoken to you are Spirit and Life.

You know that, even with the physical presence of the “Word that was made flesh” there were many who still did not believe.

Did not Jesus teach that many are called but few are chosen. If you accepted the call to take Jesus as your personal savior and have turned your life over to Him, along with all the sins you have ever committed, one begins to understand the truths that He speaks to you and are meant for you as a means unto “redemption and salvation.”



OUR PARISH CALENDAR

8:45 am	Liturgy of the Hours
9:00 am	Holy Mass of the Eucharist.

- Mon. 8/26** **Private Prayer and Devotion**
Our Lady of Czestochowa
Zephyrinus, Bishop & Martyr
Ebba, Abbess & Virgin
- Tue. 8/27** **Mass of Thanksgiving**
Poeman, Abbot
Caesarius, Bishop
Syagrius, Bishop
- Wed. 8/28** **Mass for Health and Healing**
Augustine, Bishop & Doctor
Hermes, Martyr
Moses the Black, Hermit
- Thurs. 8/29** **Private Prayer and devotion**
Solemnity- Beheading of John the Baptist
Sebbi, Monk
Medericus, Abbot
- Fri. 8/30** **Mass to the Most Holy Angels of God**
Rose of Lima, Virgin
Felix, Priest & Adauctus, Martyr
Pammachius, Confessor
- Sat. 8/31** **Mass to the Most Holy Name of Jesus**
Raymond Nonatus, Confessor
Paulinus of Trier, Bishop
Aidan of Lindisfarne, Bishop

NEXT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2024 22nd SUNDAY IN THE ORDINARY

9:00 am - Holy Mass of the Eucharist to be celebrated in the Contemporary rite.



PRAYERS FOR HEALTH AND HEALING

In our prayers, please remember all our brothers and sisters, who seek the blessings of God, and pray

for God's blessings of health and healing to rest upon each of them.

Each week, depending on the Liturgical Calendar of the Solemnities and Feast Days as found in the PNCC, a Holy Mass of Health and Healing is celebrated each week in our church.

Let us pray. O Lord, God of mercies, in Your kindness stretch out Your hand and heal all our brothers and sisters who are in any way ailing. Make them worthy of health, deliver them from their present sicknesses and illness and grant them recovery in Jesus' holy name. We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.



OUR PARISH OUTREACH PROGRAMS.

“Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others.” - Philippians 2:4



Our Food Ministry: “To Feed the Hungry”

“I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat.” - Mt. 25: 35.

The next date for giving out groceries to those and others who are in need will be on **Saturday, September 21st from 10:00 am till noon, while supplies last.**

I wish to thank Cheryl Major and Mary Tudryn who helped this week to give out groceries to those in need. May God bless all our efforts.

We thank all who continue to give donations towards this, one of our most special ministries, through the gifts of non-perishable food items as well as monetary donations. We invite others to consider donating, whenever possible, non-perishable groceries or even monetary donations for those in need.



HELPING TO “CLOTHE THE NAKED”

“I was naked, and you clothed me.”

- Mt 25:36

Early this year, our Parish decided to expand our Parish ministries, and to help those in need, by collecting **new packages of underwear and socks for men, women and children.**

Through the efforts of Mary T. and others, we were able to collect a sizeable amount of donations and have shared these donations with the Community Action Center in Greenfield, MA.

It also been mentioned that the Community Action Center in Greenfield, MA, has need for men's clothing as well as “survival packets” of toiletries. We are currently in the process of planning on making this happen.

Recently, I met via Zoom with a combined meeting of members of the Strategic Planning sub-committee of the PNCC and the Mission & Evangelism Commission of the Eastern Diocese.

We spoke of ongoing ministries within our various parishes in the Diocese and it was also decided that we would start to collect school supplies to benefit our local communities. A collection bin has been set up in the vestibule of our Parish to collect donations of school supplies.



SOCKS FOR VETERANS

Through conversations that I have had with Mr. John Czyz, it was decided that our Parish would once again collect socks for our local veterans.

As many of you know, John has been and is involved with the local veterans in many projects.

Following our School Supply Drive, we will set up bins in our vestibule as well as in our Parish Hall to help collect socks for veterans and to set a time and date that these socks may be given out.



SCHOOL SUPPLIES DRIVE

At the last Zoom meeting of the Mission & Evangelism Commission of the Eastern Diocese of the PNCC, it was decided that all parishes of our diocese would be involved in collecting school supplies to aid all students in their respective communities. Items needed include pencils, pens, and markers; paper, glue sticks and crayons; notebooks, binders, folders as well as backpacks



The Angel Garden Club of the Holy Name of Jesus

The next workday for projects will be Saturday, **August 31, 2024 from 8:30 am till 10:00 am.** An invitation to come and help is extended to all.

I want to thank especially Eric Dibrindisi, John Harrington and Jimmy Winn for their continued work and support at our Church proper.

Besides continuing to remove excess brush and trimming of trees, this past Saturday, the foundation around the shed was re-dug. Our next step will be to lay new stone around the Parish shed and eventually to be power washed and re-painted.

There is also work being done to the Parish garage with the addition of new frames and windows and will in the near future be also power washed and re-painted.

Finally, we are in the process of seeking bids that will help in the proper drainage of water around the perimeter of our Parish Hall and the eventual installation of an exterior sump pump.

NEW PAVEMENT

As previously mentioned, our parish has just completed a project of excavating and laying new pavement at the beginning of our access road which will alleviate the buildup of any standing water.

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

Saturday, October 19, 2024 – Fall Bazaar at Holy Name of Jesus. In preparation for this event, we have the following dates:

Pierogi Making – September 14 & 28, October 5th
Gołabki, Pies and Bazaar Prep – October 14-18.

Sunday, November 17, 2024

Thanksgiving sit down meal to be held at the South Deerfield Polish-American Citizen's Club starting at 12:00 pm.



ED MISSION & EVANGELISM COMMISSION CALL TO PRAYER EACH WEDNESDAY

During the month of August 2024, the **Eastern Diocesan Mission and Evangelism Commission** of the PNCC, has called upon its members and others to offer the following two following prayers every **Wednesday** at noon:

AN ACT OF LOVING GOD & OTHERS

O God, I love You above all things with my whole heart and soul. You are worthy of all love. I also love my neighbor as myself just as You commanded me to do, because of my love for You. In living this love, I will forgive those who have injured me and I will ask pardon all whom I have injured.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in Heaven, hallowed by Thy Name, Thy Kingdom come, Thy Will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us of our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us and led us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. Amen.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

Last Sunday, our Parish held its **Annual Chicken BBQ** at the Young Men's Club in Hadley, MA. Though we had rain for most of the day, our gathering was successful. I wish to thank all who gave of their time and effort for this event. More information will be given in next week's bulletin.