



**HOLY NAME OF JESUS PARISH**

Polish National Catholic Church  
15 THAYER STREET  
SOUTH DEERFIELD, MA 01373

Rev. Fr. Robert M. Koerber, Pastor  
Parish Email: koerber702@comcast.net  
Emergency contact: (413) 530-8575  
Parish phone: (413) 665-2129  
Website: holynamsouthdeerfield.org  
FB : Holy Name of Jesus, South Deerfield

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2024**  
**26<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN THE ORDINARY**  
**SPONJIA SUNDAY**

9:00 am – Holy Mass to be celebrated in the  
Contemporary Rite of the PNCC.

**OPENING HYMN**

“To Thee, We Come, O Lord”

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**

(1 Corinthians 14:1, 3; 2 Peter 1:21)

V. Pursue love, but strive eagerly for the spiritual gifts, above all that you may prophesy. On the other hand, one who prophesies does speak to human beings, for their building up, encouragement, and solace.

R. For no prophecy ever came through human will; but rather human beings moved by the Holy Spirit. spoke under the influence of God.

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.

**OPENING PRAYER**

C. The Lord be with you.

R. And also with you.

C. Let us pray. Almighty Father, in Your mercy pour out Your Holy Spirit upon Your Church. Grant us faithful pastors and teachers who duly preach and prophesy in Your name, so that we Your people, nurtured, comforted, and instructed by Your Word, may do whatever. You command. 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.

R. Amen.



**LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**A READING FROM THE BOOK OF NUMBERS**  
(Numbers 11:25-29)

The LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to Moses. Taking some of the spirit that was on Moses, the LORD bestowed it on the seventy elders; and as the spirit came to rest on them, they prophesied. Now two men, one named Eldad and the other Medad, were not in the gathering, but had been left in the camp. They too had been on the list but had not gone out to the tent; yet the spirit came to rest on them also, and they prophesied in the camp. So, when a young man quickly told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp, " Joshua, son of Nun, who from his youth had been Moses' aide, said, "Moses, my lord, stop them." But Moses answered him, "Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the people of the LORD were.

prophets! Would that the LORD might bestow His spirit on them all!"

C. The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

**GRADUAL**

(Joel 3:1-2)

V. Then afterward, I will pour out My Spirit upon all mankind, your sons, and daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions.

R. Even upon the servants and the handmaids, in those days, I will pour out My Spirit.



**A READING FROM THE LETTER OF JAMES**

(James 5:1-6)

Come now, you rich, weep and wail over your impending miseries. Your wealth has rotted away, your clothes have become moth-eaten, your gold and silver have corroded, and that corrosion will be a testimony against you; it will devour your flesh like a fire. You have stored up treasure for the last days. Behold, the wages you withheld from the workers who harvested your fields are crying aloud; and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. You have lived on earth in luxury and pleasure; you have fattened your hearts for the day of slaughter. You have condemned; you have murdered the righteous one; He offers you no resistance.

C. The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.



**ALLELUIA VERSE**

(Amos 3:8)

C. Alleluia, alleluia.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

V. The lion roars—who will not be afraid! The Lord God speaks—who will not prophesy!

R. Alleluia, alleluia.



**THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO SAINT MARK**

(Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48)

C. The Lord be with you.

R: And also with you.

C. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke.

R. Glory be to You, O Lord.

At that time: John said to Jesus, "Teacher, we saw someone driving out demons in Your name, and we tried to prevent him because he does not follow us." Jesus replied, "Do not prevent him. There is no one who performs a mighty deed in My name who can at the same time speak ill of Me. For whoever is not against us is for us. Anyone who gives you a cup of water to drink because you belong to Christ, amen, I say to you, will surely not lose his reward. "Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him if a great millstone were put around his neck and he were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter into life maimed than with two hands to go into Gehenna, into the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter into life crippled than with two feet to be thrown into Gehenna. And if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out. Better for you to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into Gehenna, where 'their worm does not die, and the fire is not quenched.'"

C: 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**  
 (1 Thessalonians 5:19-22)

V. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophetic utterances. Test everything; retain what is good. Refrain from every kind of evil.

**PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS**

Sanctify our offering, Lord our God and so transform it by Your Spirit that it may become an

eternal gift worthy of You. 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.

**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**  
 (Acts of the Apostles 4:31)

V. As they prayed, the place where they were gathered shook, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the Word of God with boldness.

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

- C. The Lord be with you.
- R. And also with you.
- C. Let us pray. Heavenly Father, You sent Your Spirit to us, the Spirit promised by Your Son, whose Body and Blood we have received. May we now be shaken by the Word You have spoken that we may bring Your message to the ends of the earth. We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with You and the same Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
- R. Amen.



**THE BODY, SOUL AND  
 THE SPIRIT OF MAN**

“May the God of peace Himself sanctify you wholly; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful, and He will do it. - 1 Thessalonians 5:23

In one of my first catechetical classes which I taught many years ago for children; in preparation for their First Holy Communion, I talked with them about the differences of body, soul and spirit and used a simple example. I gave each of them, a small bowl and told them that this bowl represented their bodies, and then I added water to each of their bowls and told them that this represented their individual “souls.” I finally told them that in the right condition, they could see the reflection of the light of the sun in each of their bowls, as a person could see their reflection in a lake, and I told them this represented the “life-giving” Spirit that comes from God. So, if eight years old children can understand the concept of spirit, soul, and body, why is it so difficult for adults to comprehend our “commonality?”

### **THE THREE ASPECTS OF MAN The Spirit, the Soul, and the body.**

It has been said that man is a spirit, possessing a soul and living in a body. Let us begin with some definitions of these three aspects of the “commonality” found in each of us, which is also known as the “tripartite” of man or mankind.

**Spirit:** “*ruach*” (Hebrew), “*pneuma*” (Greek): wind, force, of God. It is referred simply as the breath or “*neshamah*” (Hebrew) of God.

**Soul:** “*nephesh*” (Hebrew), “*psyche*” (Greek): the inner nature of man. The soul is defined as: the immaterial essence, animating principle, or actuating cause of an individual life. The “soul” is also defined as the the spiritual principle embodied in humans. It has been said that this includes the mental, emotional, sensual, and passionate aspects of an individual. The soul also has been referred to as the eternal “life” that each person receives from God at birth, as they live on this earthly plane.

**Body:** “*soma*” (Greek): the lowest part of man, the physical man, the fleshly or the natural man.

**Note:** references for the above definitions are found in: *Unger’s Bible Dictionary*.

There are many passages that are found in the Holy Bible, which speaks of the relationship of spirit, soul, and the body of man. Among them:

“And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul. - Genesis 2:7

“Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it.”  
- Ecclesiastes 12:7

In the Liturgy of Ash Wednesday, which is the beginning of the season of Lent, as each penitent is marked with ashes, the celebrant administering the ashes, says the following:

“Remember man, that you are dust and unto dust shall you return, but your soul shall return unto God.”

We are also reminded the words of St. Paul

“Do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, which is within you, which you have of God, and you are not of your own?”

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

I believe there is a time where an individual seeks to understand their own uniqueness as well as to question the reason of their being.

In today’s first reading, we read from the Book of Numbers, which is the fourth book of the Old Testament, and forms one of the first five books of the “Pentateuch,” the Torah, which was revealed to Moses by God on Mt. Sinai. We read about God distributing His Spirit to the seventy elders from the Spirit, that He first gave to Moses and they in turn were all given, the power of prophecy. We further read that God had also gave His Spirit to two others, Eldad and Medad, who were not present in camp with the seventy elders, but who were also given the power of prophesy. When Joshua saw this, he asked Moses to stop these two from prophesying, but Moses said unto Joshua: “Would that all the people of the LORD were prophets! Would that the LORD might bestow His spirit on them all!”

We see a similar story in today’s Gospel, where Jesus is told by John, the Beloved Apostle, of one who was casting out demons in Jesus’ name. To this Jesus tells John: “Do not prevent him. There is no one who performs a mighty deed in My name who can at the same time speak ill of Me. For whoever is not against us is for us. “

We read of the prophesy of Joel 3:1-2 , which was fulfilled on Pentecost and reiterated by Peter in Acts 2:17-18: “And in the last days it shall be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams; yes, and on my menservants and my maidservants in those days, I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy”

It is sad that so many in our society today, live at their lowest or base nature, and fail to see or comprehend this gifts that God offers to all through His Spirit, early in their lives. As Christians, we are all called upon, to seek to live the higher life. The “crucifying of the old self” and putting on the “new man” spoken in the New Testament, has either been missed or ignored by so many. Each person is given a “free will” at birth, on how they choose to live their lives, doing either good or evil, either with a faith in God or moving away from His grace.

Our First Bishop, Francis Hodur, wrote in His Confession of Faith, concerning the Holy Spirit of God:

**“I BELIEVE** that the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of God, rules the world in the natural as well as in the moral order, that all the laws of the universe, as well as those by which the soul of individual man and humanity as a whole are guided, are an emanation of the will, goodness and righteousness of the Divine Being.”

He goes on to say:

**“I BELIEVE** that from the Holy Spirit flows grace, that is an invisible power which brings it to pass that, when a man cooperates and works in harmony with it, he becomes better, more perfect, better fitted for his tasks, a participant in the peace of heart and soul, until one day, through union with God in Eternity, he finds infinite bliss and the fulfillment of his own being.”

### **THE BODY, SOUL AND SPIRIT OF SCRIPTURE**

Saint Origen, an early Christian Church Father, who lived (185-254 AD), spoke about the “three levels” of scripture: “body, soul, and spirit.”

In the early years of Christianity, there were other early Fathers of the Christian Church, who would become the “successors” to the Apostles of Jesus, and who would go on to define the Christian faith. Another example of this is the early church Father, Clement of Alexandria (c. 150 – c. 215 AD.)

Many Church Fathers would draw the distinction between the body of scripture, and its deeper ‘spiritual’ meaning.

What’s important to realize is that any passage of Scripture can be interpreted on many planes, but in the end all scripture “inspired by God” would give depth in understanding the kingdom.

In the case of St. Origen, he explained that the literal meaning of scripture has a underlying “subliminal umbilical cord” which brings all scripture together.

It should be noted that several scriptural passages difficult to understand if taken literally. For example: As in today’s Gospel some would be shocked that Jesus would teach about disfiguring and dismembering oneself by cutting off a hand, a leg or even plucking out one’s eye. But these passages must be looked at in the light of the writings of St. Origen. The deeper meaning to these passages spoken by Jesus, addresses the need to avoid sin.

In 2 Timothy 3:15-17, we read of the importance of Holy Scripture in one’s own sanctification, where Paul instructs Timothy, a young priest, with these words: “All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.” Jesus, as the Word made flesh, teaches that the origin of His teachings came not from Him, but from the One who sent Him.

Most importantly, we see a distinction of the body, the soul and the spirit of Holy Scripture as found in the Parables of Jesus. Jesus spoke manly to the poor and illiterate, those not able to read or write, but yet they understood the various principles of life as well as their professions: from agriculture (the Sower of seed) to shepherding a flock, to a

wedding feast; each of these Parables had moral teachings (the Prodigal Son). Most importantly, all of the Parables of Jesus, have deeper spiritual lessons. Did not Jesus, at the beginning of His ministry, proclaim these words as found in Mark 1:15, which followed His baptism and His trials in the wilderness, these words: “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.” Believing in the “Good News” is a call to all Christians, to know the teachings of Jesus as found in the New Testament and apply these teachings in one’s life. In the P.N.C.C, the Word of God, heard and preached is a Sacrament that imparts both sacramental and sanctifying to the individual.

It may also be said that Holy Scripture not only sanctifies the individual but also edifies the Church.

### **WHAT BRINGS US CLOSER TO THE LORD?**

(John 6:63-65)

[And Jesus said unto His Apostles] “It is the spirit that gives life, the flesh is of no avail; the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But there are some of you that do not believe.” For Jesus knew from the first who those were that did not believe, and who it was that would betray Him. And He said, “This is why I told you that no one can come to Me unless it is granted him by the Father.”

– John 6:63-65

We heard in the Gospel reading, a couple of weeks ago, according to the Gospel of Mark, that Jesus asked His Apostles of their opinion: “Who do people say I am?” He then asks them, personally of “who do you say that I am.?”

I personally believe that this is the “ultimate” question, which is asked of every one of us, as Christians, as we mature in wisdom, and understanding to the teachings of Jesus and expounded upon through the writers of the New Testament such as Paul, John and Peter.

Though, we as Christians, baptized in the name of the Holy Trinity and raised in the teachings of Jesus, are not necessarily guaranteed salvation, it is only through our seeking to understand scripture, and through the Holy Spirit, that we learn of salvation.



### **OUR PARISH CALENDAR**

**Note:** The main source of information in the celebration of the various saints and martyrs of God is found in the Liturgical calendar of the PNCC.

**8:45 am Liturgy of the Hours**

**9:00 am Holy Mass of the Eucharist.**

- |                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| <b>Mon. 9/30</b>   | <b>Feast – Michael, Archangel</b><br>Jerome, Priest & Doctor<br>Gregory th Enlightener, Bishop<br>Honorius of Canterbury, Bishop              |
| <b>Tue. 10/1</b>   | <b>Mass of Health and Healing</b><br>Remigius of Rheims, Bishop<br>Romanus the Melodits, Priest<br>Bavo of Ghent, Hermit                      |
| <b>Wed. 10/2</b>   | <b>Feast – Guardian Angels</b><br>Guardian Angels<br>Eleutherius of Nicomedia, B & M  |
| <b>Thurs. 10/3</b> | <b>Mass to the Holy Saints of God</b><br>Hesychius of Sinai, Monk<br>The Two Ewalds, Priest & Martyr<br>Theresa of Lisieux, Virgin            |
| <b>Fri. 10/4</b>   | <b>Mass to the Holy Angels of God</b><br><b>Blessing of Animals</b><br>Francis of Assisi, Monk<br>Ammon, Monk<br>Petronius of Bologna, Bishop |
| <b>Sat. 10/5</b>   | <b>Mass to the Most Holy Name of Jesus</b><br>Placid, Monk<br>Apollonaris of Valence, Bishop<br>Galla, Widow                                  |

### **NEXT SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2024**

#### **26<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN THE ORDINARY**

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

**Collection for Missions**

#### **Readings:**

**Genesis 2: 18-24**

**Hebrews 2:9-11**

**Mark 10:2-16**



**October 4**  
**ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI**

If you were to come into the sacristy, where I prepare to celebrate Holy Mass, you would see on the sacristy table, a statue devoted to St. Francis of Assisi. But who was St. Francis?

**His Early Life**

St. Francis was born Giovanni di Pietro di Bernardone in Assisi, Umbria, a region in central Italy, around 1181. His father, Pietro di Bernardone, was a wealthy cloth merchant, and his mother was a French noblewoman. His father was traveling when he was born, and his mother had the baby christened Giovanni, the Italian name for John the Baptist. His father wanted a man of business, not of God, and renamed his son Francesco, or Francis, reflecting his love of France.

Francis grew up in wealth, learning archery, wrestling, and horsemanship, but fell in with a group of young people prone to wild parties. Francis reportedly said later, "I lived in sin" during that time.

**His Life-Changing Experiences**

Francis was expected to follow his father into the textile business, but the thought of that life bored him. He dreamed of a future as a knight—in effect, a medieval action hero. So, by 1202, he joined a militia to fight for Assisi in its war with the Italian province Perugia. The Assisi forces lost, and Francis was captured.

By his dress and equipment, his captors knew Francis came from a wealthy family and was worth a ransom, so they let him live. A year later his ransom was paid; meanwhile, as he later reported, he began receiving visions from God.

After returning home, he came across a leper in the country. Instead of ignoring him, Francis, changed by his experience as a captive, embraced

and kissed the man and was filled with sensations of sweetness and joy.

**His Life of Service**

Francis became convinced that God wanted him to help poor people, so he abandoned all of his possessions. At a Mass in 1208 AD, Francis heard a gospel in which Jesus Christ tells His disciples to minister to people: "Do not get any gold or silver or copper to take with you in your belts—no bag for the journey or extra shirt or sandals or a staff." These words were to confirm his calling to live a simple life, preach the Gospel to those in need, and help rebuild the Christian Church.

Despite his vow of poverty, Francis needed money to rebuild the church, so he sold some of his father's cloth and a horse. His father took him before the local bishop, who told Francis to return his father's money. Francis stripped off his clothes and gave them and the money to his father, saying God was now his father. This event is credited as Francis' final conversion.

The bishop gave Francis a rough tunic and, dressed in these humble clothes, he began his work. Francis inspired other young men to abandon their possessions and join him, working with their hands, sleeping in caves or huts, talking about God's love and forgiveness, praying, and ministering to the poor, including lepers.

**His Miracles for People**

Francis prayed that God would perform miracles through him. Once he washed a leper and prayed for a tormenting demon to leave his soul. As the man healed, he felt remorse and reconciled with God. Another time, three robbers stole food and drink from Francis' community. He prayed for them and sent a friar to give them bread and wine. Moved by Francis' actions, the robbers joined his order and spent their lives giving instead of taking from people.

**His Miracles for Animals**

Francis saw animals as his brothers and sisters and prayed that God would work through him to help them. Birds sometimes gathered while Francis

spoke and listened to him. Francis began preaching to them about the ways that God had blessed them. When Francis lived in Gubbio, in the province of Perugia, a wolf was attacking people and other animals. He met the wolf to try to tame it. The wolf charged Francis, but Francis prayed and moved toward the wolf. The wolf obeyed Francis' commands, closing his mouth and lying at Francis' feet. Francis promised that the townspeople would feed the wolf regularly if it promised never to injure another person or animal. The wolf never harmed people or animals again.

### **His Death**

While ministering to the poor and sick, Francis contracted conjunctivitis and malaria. Later, as Francis was approaching death, he went back to Assisi. He was seen as a saint awaiting only formal canonization, so knights were sent to guard him and make sure that no one could carry him off after death. The body of a saint was seen at the time as an extremely valuable relic.

When Francis died on Oct. 3, 1226, at the age of 44, people reported a flock of larks swooping near and singing at the moment of his death.

### **His Legacy**

Some considered Francis was a fool or delusional, but others saw him as one of the greatest examples of living the Christian ideal since Jesus Christ. Whether he was touched by God or madness, Francis of Assisi was well known throughout the Christian world. Because of his attention to animals, Francis is recognized by the Christian church as the patron saint of animals.

The community started by Francis and his followers became the Franciscan Order of the Catholic Church, whose priests are distinguished by the rough robes they usually wear. The order still serves the poor worldwide. In 1228 AD, only two years after his death, Pope Gregory IX canonized Francis as a saint based on the evidence of the many miracles during his ministry.



**SEPTEMBER 30**

## **FEAST OF MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL**

**Source: Catholic.org / saints & angels**

**Michael**, also known as Saint Michael the Archangel, holds a most significant place in the Judeo-Christian tradition. He has been associated through the centuries, with courage, divine intervention and protection.

**Micheal** the Archangel presence was first mentioned in the early Jewish writings, particularly in the ancient texts from the 3rd and 2nd centuries BC. In these ancient texts, Michael the Archangel has been referred to as the chief among the angels and archangels and given the responsibility by God of the guarding, and protection others.

### **Micheal, the Guardian Prince of Israel**

In the Jewish tradition, Michael is often referred to as the guardian prince of Israel, a protector. He appears in the Book of Enoch, an apocryphal book, as one of the seven archangels, alongside Uriel, Raguel, Raphael, Sariel, Gabriel, and Remiel. These archangels are described as standing before the glory of the Lord.

### **Michael, the Defender of the Faith**

Michael's main role is a defender of faith and a warrior against evil as most portrayed in the Book of Revelation (Revelation 12:7-12). Here, Michael is engaged in the "spiritual" battle against Satan, who eventually casts out this adversary from heaven. His role, as seen in this battle, in the vision of St. John in the Book of Revelation portrays a change of his role as found as compared in the Old Testament and the New Testament.

### **The Epistle of Jude**

Found in the Epistle of Jude 1;9, Michael is cited as an example of righteous judgment and in opposition to evil. He does not hesitate to rebuke



Satan over the body of Moses, saying, "The Lord punish you!"

This scripture passage reinforces the role of Michael and his commitment to God's divine justice.

In the Catholic Tradition, Michael the Archangel holds a special place. He is often invoked as "Holy Michael, the Archangel" or "Saint Michael" in the various liturgies, prayers and petitions of the Christian Church. While Michael has never been formally canonized as a saint, he is most revered as a celestial being with immense significance.

I have read, in this article, that Michael the Archangel, has four main "offices" or roles:

- **Leader of the Army of God:** St. Michael is seen as the commander of heaven's forces, leading the angelic host in their battle against the powers of darkness. He serves as a model of spiritual warfare, reflecting the ongoing struggle between good and evil.
- **Angel of Death:** St. Michael is regarded as the angel of death, accompanying the souls of departed Christians to heaven. At the moment of death, he offers the souls an opportunity for redemption, thwarting the devil's attempts to claim them.
- **Weigher of Souls:** St. Michael is often depicted holding balanced scales, symbolizing his role in weighing souls during the Last Judgment. This signifies his involvement in the divine judgment of humanity.
- **Guardian of the Church:** St. Michael serves as the guardian of the Church and the Chosen People. Throughout history, he has been revered by military orders of knights and is considered the patron saint of various cities and countries.

Many Christians frequently turn to St. Michael in prayer and devotion for divine protection and for guidance. The "**Prayer to Saint Michael**" which is well known, in the Catholic tradition, specifically implores his defense against the forces of darkness.



**OCTOBER 2**

## **FEAST OF GUARDIAN ANGELS**

*"No evil shall befall you, nor shall affliction come near your tent, for to His Angels, God has given command about you, that they guard you in all your ways. Upon their hands they will bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone"*

- Psalm 91: 10-12

Beginning as early as the 17<sup>th</sup> century, the Feast of Guardian Angels, has been celebrated throughout the early church and to this day, it is a day that we remember, in our faith, that God gives unto each of us, a heavenly spirit, to guide us in the way to perfection as we read in Psalm 91: 10-12.

I remember when I was very young, as many of us remembering, of seeing a picture of an "Angel" leading children across a bridge. I learned that this angel was a "guardian angels," a pure spirit that is assigned to us, who watch over us, to protect us and lead us during our earthly existence.

I remember listening to the 1969 song by Simon & Garfunkel "Bridge Over Troubled Waters" and thought of the lyrics and how they could be used to describe our "Guardian Angel."

The existence of "guardian" Angels are not only found in the Christian Church but are also found in all religions and faiths. From the five major religions of Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity and Islam, to Zoroastrianism, guardian angels are associated with divine protection.

I have read that each person has a guardian angel who stands before the face of the Lord. These guardian angels are considered as not only as friends but also a protectors, one who preserves an individual from evil and who also guides; and that angels as "pure spiritual beings" are created in the image of God and reflected in such a way, that they are considered celestial prototypes of men.



### **PRAYERS FOR HEALTH AND HEALING**

In our prayers, please remember all our brothers and sisters, who seek the blessings of God, and pray for the blessings of health and healing to rest upon each of them. **Note:** Prayer request forms may be found in the vestibule of 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 illnessness 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.” - Matthew. 25: 35.**

The next date for giving out groceries to those in need has not yet been determined yet, since this will interfere with the date of our Fall Bazaar. As soon as the date has been determined, this information will be shared with all.

I wish to thank Cheryl Major who helped give out groceries this past Saturday. Cheryl shared with me that there were 12 bags of groceries that were given out along with 7 children bags.

We thank all who continue to give donations towards this most special ministry through the giving of gifts of non-perishable food items as well as monetary donations.



### **SOCKS FOR VETERANS**

We have set up bins in our vestibule as well as in our Parish Hall to help collect socks for veterans. John Czyz and I, prior gave socks and gifts to our local veterans at the Veterans Hospital in Leeds, MA at Christmas time. A suggestion has been made that all socks and other gifts collected be given to veterans in our community this Christmas holiday. May God bless.

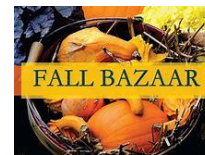


### **The Angel Garden Club of the Holy Name of Jesus**

The next workday for projects dedicated to the Holy Angel of our garden. will be Saturday, **October 5<sup>th</sup>, from 10:00 am till noon** (weather permitting.) An invitation is extended to all to come.

I wish to acknowledge Mr. John Harrington who gave of his time this past Saturday in continuing to clearing out the area which was previously our Parish pool. We will be removing and discarding all cut-down growth on October 5<sup>th</sup> and continue our projects.

Much work has been done to help “beautifying” our Parish and we thank all who have given of their time and effort to accomplish these projects.



### **HOLY NAME OF JESUS FALL BAZAAR**

**Saturday, October 19, 2024**  
**9:00 am – 1:00 pm**

An invitation is sent to all who receive our weekly bulletin, to share with us our Annual Fall Bazaar.

In the past years, we have sold out all our prepared Polish foods, such as pierogi and galabki,

kapusta, homemade soups, and other items, as well as our homemade apple and French meat pies within the first two hours. So, we ask to come early and not be disappointed.

Posters are available in our Parish vestibule to be shared with local businesses.



In preparation for this event, we have set final date of **Saturday, October 12<sup>th</sup>** for making cheese and potato pierogi. I want to thank the men and women of our Parish, who gathered this past Saturday and made over 97 dozen cheese pierogi.

**Baking of Pies and Final Bazaar Prep – October 14-18.**

**Note:** We are currently accepting donations of gift certificates as well as prizes for our Fall Bazaar. If you would like to donate, please see Sue Dibrindisi or Mary Tudryn.



**GAŁĄBKI SCHEDULE**

I want to thank Buddy Lafleur for the following schedule for the making of our stuffed cabbage (**galabki**) for our Annual Fall Bazaar which will be held on Saturday, October 19, 2004.

**Tuesday, October 15<sup>th</sup>**

9:00 am – Preparing Cabbage.

**Wednesday, October 16<sup>th</sup>**

10:00 am – Preparing meat mixture.

**Thursday, October 17<sup>th</sup>**

9:00 am – Rolling and cooking galabki.

**Friday, October 18<sup>th</sup>**

9:00 am – Packaging of galabki.

**Please note:** Anyone available to help during this week please see Kathy or Buddy Lafleur after Mass on Sundays or email us at [kelafleur19@comcast.com](mailto:kelafleur19@comcast.com).



**PULASKI DAY PARADE**

I recently received this email from Fr. Adam Czarnecki, Pastor of Saint Valentine PNCC Parish:

I invite you and your parishioners to participate in the Pulaski Day Parade to be held on Monday, October 14, 2024 in Northampton, MA.

This Parade is organized by the Polish Heritage Committee of Northampton, and it is an annual event for decades. For the second time in its history the Pulaski Day celebrations will start with the Holy Mass celebrated in our St. Valentine's PNC Church at 10 am. The Parade will kick-off at 11:30 am. Please, join us.



**St. Joseph' Parish in Westfield, MA**

**ROAST PORK DINNER**

St. Joseph's PNCC in Westfield, MA is hosting a Community Stuffed Roast Pork Dinner on **Sunday, October 20<sup>th</sup>** at 12 noon. This community dinner will feature delicious and juicy Stuffed Roast Pork, Au Gratin Potatoes, Fresh Corn Off-the-Cob, and Apple Sauce. Homemade Apple Crisp with Ice Cream will be served for dessert. Beverages included are Coffee, Fresh Apple Cider and Bottled Water.

Tickets are \$18 for adults and \$10 for children under 12. For tickets, contact Cliff at (413) 977-2007. Deadline for purchasing tickets is October 17<sup>th</sup>. A limited number of Meals-To-Go will be available at 12:30pm (when buying your tickets, please indicate if you are eating with us at the Social Center or planning take-out).



**ONE BREAD, ONE BODY**  
**Daily Devotions**

Copies of the **“One Bread, One Body,”** a daily devotional booklet is available, free of charge, in the vestibule of our Church. These daily devotions are in tune with the readings as found in the Common Lectionary of the Christian Church.

Daily readings can be accessed on PCs by typing: **“www. usccb.org.”** For those who have smartphones, one can also be download the App **“Laudate,”** which will give daily scripture readings, writings of the Early Church fathers, as well as to provide the “Liturgy of the Hours,” a daily and other important devotional tools of the Faith.



## **SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2024**

### **OUR EASTERN DIOCESE SYNOD**

This coming Saturday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, delegates chosen by the various parish family in the Eastern Diocese of the Polish National Catholic Church, will gather via Zoom to receive reports of the various Commissions in our Eastern Diocese, and to speak about the current status of our Diocese as well as other pertinent information for the good of the PNCC churches in our Diocese.

Our Parish, at its Annual Parish meeting, asked and chose Dr. Shirley Mietlicki, to represent our Parish at our Diocesan Synod in 2024. Our dear sister, whom we pray for, has been involved throughout her life, representing the PNCC in her ministry, and lately as, serving as Chairlady of as the Sub-Committee of the Strategic Planning of the PNCC.



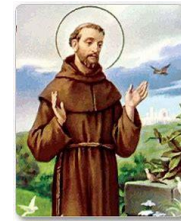
### **ED MISSION & EVANGELISM COMMISSION**

During the month of October 2024, at noon, let us pray that God may heal the sick, comfort the dying, give safety to travelers, free those unjustly deprived of liberty, and help those who suffer because of poverty, falsehood, hunger and disease.

**Let us Pray:** Almighty and eternal God, Merciful Father, give strength to the weary and new courage to all who have lost heart. Hear the prayers of all who call upon You in any trouble that they may have the joy of receiving Your grace in their need. May we become instruments of Your love and mercy in this world. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **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.



### **PRAYER OF SAINT FRANCIS**

The “Prayer of St. Francis” is one of the best known and best loved prayers in the world today and is traditionally attributed to St. Francis of Assisi (1181-1226).

Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace;  
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;  
Where there is injury, pardon;  
Where there is doubt, faith;  
Where there is despair, hope;  
Where there is darkness, light;  
And where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master,  
Grant that I may not so much seek  
To be consoled as to console;  
To be understood, as to understand;  
To be loved, as to love;  
For it is in giving that we receive,  
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
And it is in dying that  
we are born to Eternal Life.  
Amen.