

HOLY NAME OF JESUS PARISH

Polish National Catholic Church 15 Thayer Street South Deerfield, MA 01373

Rev. Robert M. Koerber, Pastor Email: koerber702@charter.net Emergency Contact: (413) 530-8575 Parish Phone: (413) 665-2129 Website: holynamesouthdeerfield.org FB: Holy Name of Jesus, South Deerfield, MA

TODAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2025 PRE-LENT - SEPTUAGESIMA SUNDAY

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

Mass Intension – Sp. Bishop Francis Hodur on the 72nd Anniversary of his death.

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

(Psalms 1:1-3)

- V. Happy are those who do not follow the counsel of the wicked, nor go the way of sinners, nor sit in company with scoffers. Rather, the law of the Lord is their joy; God's law they study day and night.
- R. They are like a tree planted near streams of water that yields its fruit in due season; its leaves neither wither; whatever they do prospers.

- V. 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

- V. The Lord be with you.
- R. And also with you.
- V. Let us pray: Father in heaven, Your Son taught us that we become truly rich by giving, not receiving, and that earthly praise is worth little. Help us to have confidence in Your love that in time of difficulty we may persevere in goodness. We ask this through our Lord, Jesus Christ, Your Son, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.
- R. Amen.



LITURGY OF THE WORD OF GOD

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF JEREMIAH (Jeremiah 17:5-8)

Thus says the LORD: Cursed is the one who trusts in human beings, who seeks his strength in flesh, whose heart turns away from the LORD. He is like a barren bush in the desert that enjoys no change of season, but stands in a lava waste, a salt and empty earth. Blessed is the one who trusts in the LORD, whose hope is the LORD. He is like a tree planted beside the waters that stretches out its roots to the stream: it fears not the heat when it comes; its leaves stay green; in the year of drought it shows no distress, but still bears fruit.

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

GRADUAL

(Psalm 146:3-5)

- V. Put no trust in princes, in mere mortals powerless to save. When they breathe their last, they return to the earth; that day all their planning comes to nothing.
- R. Happy are those who help in Jacob's God, whose hope is in the Lord, their God.



A READING FROM THE FIRST LETTER OF PAUL TO THE CORINTHIANS

(1 Corinthians 15:12, 16-20)

Brothers and sisters: If Christ is preached as raised from the dead, how can some among you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If the dead are not raised, neither has Christ been raised, and if Christ has not been raised, your faith is vain; you are still in your sins. Then those who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are the most pitiable people of all. But now Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

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

TRACT (Psalm 4:6)

- V. The Lord witholds no good thing from those who walk without reproach.
- R. O Lord of hosts, happy are those who trust in You.



THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE (Luke 617, 20-26)

- V. The Lord be with you.
- R. And with you.
- V. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke.
- R. Glory be to You, O Lord.

Jesus came down with the twelve and stood on a stretch of level ground with a great crowd of His disciples and a large number of the people from all Judea and Jerusalem and the coastal region of Tyre and Sidon. And raising His eyes toward His disciples He said: "Blessed are you, who are poor, for the kingdom of God is yours. Blessed are you who are now hungry, for you will be satisfied. Blessed are you

who are now weeping, for you will laugh. Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude and insult you, and denounce your name as evil on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice and leap for joy on that day! Behold, your reward will be great in heaven. For their ancestors treated the prophets in the same way. But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. Woe to you who are filled now, for you will be hungry Woe to you who laugh now, for you will grieve and weep. Woe to you when all speak well of you, for their ancestors treated the false prophets in this way."

V. This is the Gospel of the Lord.

R: Praise be to You, Lord Jesus Christ.



OFFERTORY VERSE

(Psalm 4:6)

V. Offer fitting sacrifice and trust in the Lord.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Almighty God, we offer You these gifts together with our hopes and fears. Hear us when we call upon You and bless us with the gift of Your Son Jesus Christ, our Lord, We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, 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. Inflame my heart with the fire of Your love, my Lord and Savior. Amen.

COMMUNION VERSE

(Proverbs 30:5)

V. Every word of God is tested; He is a shield to those who take refuge in Him.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- V. The Lord be with you.
- R. And with you.
- V. Let us pray: Omnipotent Father, through the grace of this Holy Communion, help us to place our sole trust in Yoi that we may live and spread and Your Holy Word. We ask this through our Lord, Jesus Christ, Your Son, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

R. Amen.



REFLECTIONS OF THE"THE SERMON ON THE HILL"

Do you know, that, in the four Gospels of the New Testament, there are two major teachings of Jesus directed to the multitudes.

The first mentioned is found in Matthew, chapters 5-7. known as the "Sermon on the Mount" and the second reference is found in the Gospel according to Luke, chapter 6:17 49, which has referred to as the "Sermon on the Hill."

While it is widely believed that Mark, a disciple of Jesus, and a companion who traveled with St. Paul, wrote the first Gospel account of Jesus, both accounts set a central core of Jesus' teachings.

I have talked about, in the past, of the "Q" source, which has never been found, and which has been speculated to have the words of Jesus, from which Matthew, Mark, Luke and later John have relied upon in the telling and the story of Jesus; his miracles and His teachings.



SEPTUAGESIMA, SEXUGESIMA AND QUNINQUAGESIMA SUNGAY

Although no longer observed in the Roman Catholic Church, we, in the PNCC, still observe the three Sundays of Pre-Lent; Septuagesima,

Quinquagesima and Sexagesima Sundays which in the Latin terms means "seventy, sixty, and fifty days before the Resurrection of Jesus the Christ. "It should also be noted, that in keeping with the "Catholic" tradition, the first Missal of the PNCC, compiled by the Rev. Fr. Krupski in 1933 and approved by our first Bishop, the Most Rev. Francizek (Francis) Hodur, there appears these first three Sundays which we still observe.

In the early Church, this liturgical season was celebrated not only in the Roman Catholic Church, but also in the various Orthodox and Protestant, denominations of the Anglican, Lutheran, Methodist and our beloved PNC Church.

The readings for this Sunday concern the discerning between the temporal and the eternal. Jeremiah brings to the listeners the importance of placing one's trust in the Lord and not man. He uses the comparison of a barren bush in a desert versus a tree which is planted by the living waters. We are reminded by our Lord that whoever puts their trust in Him will never thirst. "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled.

Saint Paul in his First Letter to the Church in Corinth, speaks of the resurrection; and the resurrection of the dead. The power of the Resurrection of Jesus, the first-born among many, is the central theme of Christianity. Jesus not only spoke of eternal life, He offers this eternal life to all who would follow Him. "I am the Resurrection and the Life, he who believes in Me, even though he be dead, shall live and everyone who lives and believes in Me shall never die." Paul teaches the Christian Church that Christ has been raised from the dead is the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

Finally in today's Gospel, according to Luke we hear the teachings from Jesus, which is similar to the "Sermon of the Mount" that is found in Matthew. But in Luke, unlike Matthew's account, there are warnings to those who place their whole existence on the physical. Jesus teaches us that this world and our very lives will one day pass, and taught: "Seek first the Kingdom of God, and all things shall be added unto you."



PRE-LENT

Pre-Lent is celebrated in many Christian denominations, from Churches in the Western and Eastern Rites and in several Protestant denominations, including the Anglican, Lutheran, and Methodist churches as well as others that. Pre-Lent begins a time of preparation which lasts for three weeks. It is a time of personal spiritual reflection and examination which leads to the "Great Lent" which begins on Ash Wednesday.

I think that this time could be compared to preparing for an academic test or exam. But this test and examination is different, for it examines whether we as a follower of the Lord Jesus is ready to walk with Him during Lent.

Pre-Lent begins with Septuagesima Sunday or 70 days before the Resurrection of our Lord,, and continues through Sexagesima Sunday (60) days and Quinquagesima Sunday (50) days. Quinquagesima Sunday is also known as "Shrove Sunday" followed by Shrove Monday and Shrove Tuesday. Shrove Tuesday is also known as the "Mardi Gras" or "fat Tuesday" which is celebrated in many countries including Italy, Brazil, Canada and the United States.. These celebrations are carnival-like gatherings. The next day, Ash Wednesday, the mood changes to a more somber time in which the journey begins for the 40 days of Lent for many.

During this Pre-Lenten season, the liturgy of our Church changes. Rose colored vestments or violet colored vestments are worn. The Gloria is not proclaimed, except for Solemnities or special Feast days. The "Alleluia verse" which usually is said before the Gospel is replaced by a "tract" that uses scriptural passages to reflect this special season and the dismissal of the people is changed.

In the Eastern Rite, the Orthodox Church and those Eastern Catholic Churches, mark the pre-Lenten season which lasts also for three weeks, beginning on the Sunday of the "Publican and the Pharisee," for us Septuagesima Sunday and continuing through the Sunday of "Forgiveness", for us Ouinquagesima Sunday. Again, it is a time of spiritual preparation of the individual leading into the "Great Lent."



OUR PARISH CALENDAR February 17th – February 23rd

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

Mon. 2/17 Presidents Day - USA
Private Prayer and Devotion
Theodulus and Julian, Martyrs
Loman, Bishop
Pintan of Cloneenagh, Abbot

Tue. 2/18 Mass of Thanksgiving
Simeon, Bishop & Martyr
Flavian, Bishop & Martyr
Colman of Lindisfarne, Bishop

Wed. 2/19 Mass of Health & Healing
Mesrop of Armenia, Bishop
Barbatus of Benevento, Bishop
Beatus of Liebana, Confessor

Thurs. 2/20 Mass to the Holy Angels of God
Tyrannio, Zenobius & Companions,
Martyrs
Sadoth, Bishop & Martyr
Eleutherius, Bishop

Fri. 2/21 Mass to the Holy Angels of God Severian, Bishop & Martyr Germanus of Granfel, Martyr

Sat. 2/22 Mass to the Most Holy Name of Jesus
Thalassius & Limnaeus, Hermit & M.
Baradates the Anchorite, Hermit
Boisil, Abbot & Confessor



NEXT SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2025 SEXAGESIMA SUNDAY

9:00 am – Holy Mass of the Eucharist in the Contemporary Rite of the PNCC.

10:00 am – Monthly meeting of the Parish Committee



PRAYERS FOR HEALTH AND HEALING

In our prayers, let us please remember all our brothers and sisters, who are in need of the blessings of God for health and healing. Let us remember all our dear brothers and sisters who are in need of prayer.

In our prayers, may we especially remember:

Wayne and Pat Shaw, George and Janet Sadowski, Karen Herzig, Richard Foster, Cindy Benjamin, Marge Sanderson, Carolyn Rapelye, Liam and Evelyn Spatcher, Paula Winn, Jerry Pawlikowski, as well as each other

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 helping those in need will be held on Saturday, March 15th from 10 am while supplies last.

Even with the inclement weather, we were able to give out ten bags of groceries and I want to thank Jim Winn for donating loaves of bread.

As we are in the winter months, again, we ask for the assistance of our parishioners and friends, if possible, please consider donating the following nonperishable food items:

- Cereals and packets of instant oatmeal.
- Fruit juices, V8, Apple and cranberry
- powder milk / condensed milk.
- Hot chocolate and tea bags.
- Pasta and spaghetti sauce
- Boxes of Mac-n-cheese
- Canned tuna in water
- Canned meats- chicken, salmon, etc.
- Ramen noodles
- Soups- all varieties
- Canned veggies and fruits.
- Children's snack pack.

Please note: we are also collecting full sized products of personal care and cleaning items for the various survival centers. Some of those items that are needed:

- Bar soaps and body wash, shampoo, toothpaste and toothbrushes, deodorant, hand sanitizers, toilet paper, and personal products for incontinence (pads & panty liners, baby powder, baby wipes and diapers.
- Liquid dish soap, laundry detergent, paper towels, bathroom and kitchen cleansers, dish sponges/scrubbers, trash bags.

Bins for all donations may be found in the vestibule of our church. Thank you for your consideration.

IN APPRECIATION

I wish to personally acknowledge Peg Kostiuk and Alice Maiewski who came to the church on Friday to change to altar linens for the upcoming season of Pre-Lent/Lent.

I wish to also thank Eric & Sue Dibrindisi for their recent cleaning of our church proper and parish hall.



Collecting plastic tops

One of our dear parishioners, Maryanna Foster, who works closely with veterans, has asked for our

help in collecting white or clear plastic bottle tops that will be donated to aid in the making of prosthetics for veterans in need. A collection container has been set up in the vestibule of our church. Please help donate your plastic tops to this new ministry. May God bless all of our endeavors.



Can Soda Tabs

We are also collecting tabs from soda cans that are then donated to aid the Shriners Hospitals for Crippled children. Please save your can soda tabs. There are containers that are located in our Parish vestibule for this purpose. Thank you for your help and may God bless.



BLESSING OF HOMES

I will continue this week to visit the homes of our parishioners for the traditional blessing with chalk. Unfortunately, I am just recovering from the flu that I was hit with recently and I apologize for having to cancel several appointments. I will be placing calls this week for this blessing.



FUEL ASSISTANCE

Envelopes for fuel assistance may be found in the vestibule of our Church. We truly appreciate any donations to help defray the costs of heating our Church Proper as well as the rectory. Thank you.



ANNUAL PARISH COMMITTEE MEETING

The Annual Parish Committee meeting of Holy Name of Jesus PNCC will take place on Sunday, March 9, 2025 following Holy Mass. I ask that all reports be submitted to Father Koerber by March 2^{nd} so that copies can be made and sent to out to our Parish family.



ED MISSION & EVANGELISM COMMISSION WEDNESDAYS AT NOON – CALL TO PRAYER

On Wednesdays at 12:00 Noon, during the month of February, a "call to prayer" the following two prayers are said.

Let us pray for those who do not believe in Christ, that the light of the Holy Spirit may show them the ways to salvation.

Let us Pray: Almighty and Eternal God, You desire that all should be saved. Enable those who do not believe in Jesus Christ to accept Him as their Lord and Savior. Help them grasp the mystery of the Incarnation, so that they may come to know, love and serve Him and thus become faithful witnesses of His Gospel. We ask this in His Holy Name. 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.



ED MISSION & EVANGELISM COMMISSION LENTEN COLLECTION BOXES

At a meeting of the Eastern Diocesan M & E Commission, it was decided that beginning with Septuagesima Sunday, all parishes in our Diocese will be asked to help contribute donations during this Lenten season. It should be noted, that as in the past, each parish will determine what charitable organization(s) they wish to donate all monies collected at the end of the Lenten season. Thank you.