

# HOLY NAME OF JESUS PARISH Polish National Catholic Church 15 THAYER STREET SOUTH DEERFIELD, MA 01373

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# SUNDAY, MAY 25, 2025 SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

9:00 pm – Holy Mass of the Eucharist to be celebrated in the Contemporary rite/ 10:00 am – Fellowship Hour

Mass Intention: Śp David Rapelye offered by loving wife, Carolyn Rapelye and son, Michael.

Also, on this Memorial Day weekend, may we offer special prayers to all our departed veterans who paid the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom.

# 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**

(Romans 15:13, Ephesians 2:17)

- C. May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Alleluia.
- R. He came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near.

  Alleluia.
- 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 PRAYERS**

C. The Lord be with you.

R: And also with you.

C. Let us pray. Everlasting Father, You promised that those who love You will find a peace which surpasses all understanding. Keep us faithful to You and Your Word that we may dwell in Your kingdom. 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.

C. Let us pray. Most Loving Father, bless those who have served in the armed forces of our nation and receive the souls of those men and women who gave their lives in the service of freedom. As they gave themselves to advance the ideal of world peace and justice, may they inspire our continued efforts towards this same end. 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 ACTS Acts 15:1-2, 22-29

Some who had come down from Judea were instructing the brothers, "Unless you are circumcised according to the Mosaic practice, you cannot be saved." Because there arose no little dissension and debate by Paul and Barnabas with them, it was decided that Paul, Barnabas, and some of the others should go up to Jerusalem to the apostles and elders about this question. The apostles and elders, in agreement with the whole church, decided to choose representatives and to send them to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas. The ones chosen were Judas, who was called Barsabbas, and Silas, leaders among the brothers. This is the letter delivered by them: "The apostles and the elders, your brothers, to the brothers in Antioch, Syria, and Cilicia of Gentile origin: greetings. Since we have heard that some of our number who went out without any mandate from us have upset you with their teachings and disturbed your peace of mind, we have with one accord decided to choose representatives and to send them to you along with our beloved Barnabas and Paul, who have dedicated their lives to the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. So we are sending Judas and Silas who will also convey this same message by word of mouth: 'It is the decision of the Holy Spirit and of us not to place on you any burden beyond these necessities, namely, to abstain from meat sacrificed to idols, from blood, from meats of strangled animals, and from unlawful marriage. If you keep free of these, you will be doing what is right. Farewell."

C. The Word of the Lord

R. Thanks be to God.

# RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Psalm 100:1, 2, 3, 5)

R: O God, let all the nations praise You! Alleluia.

May God have pity on us and bless us; may He let His face shine upon us. So may Your way be known upon earth; among all nations, your salvation.

# R: O God, let all the nations praise You Alleluia.

May the nations be glad and exult because You rule the peoples in equity; the nations on the earth You guide.

R: O God, let all the nations praise You! Alleluia.

May the peoples praise You, O God; may all the peoples praise You! May God bless us, and may all the ends of the earth fear Him!

R: O God, let all the nations praise You! Alleluia.



# A READING FROM THE REVELATION OF JOHN THE BELOVED APOSTLE

(Revelation 21:10-14, 22-23)

The angel took me in spirit to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God. It gleamed with the splendor of God. Its radiance was like that of a precious stone, like jasper, clear as crystal. It had a massive, high wall, with twelve gates where twelve angels were stationed and on which names were inscribed, the names of the twelve tribes of the Israelites. There were three gates facing east, three north, three south, and three west. The wall of the city had twelve courses of stones as its foundation, on which were inscribed the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

I saw no temple in the city for its temple is the Lord God almighty and the Lamb. The city had no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gave it light, and its lamp was the Lamb.

## **ALLELUIA VERSE**

(Philippians 4:7)

- C. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
- R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
- V. The peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.
- R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.



# THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO SAINT JOHN (John 14:23-29)

- 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.

Jesus said to His disciples: "Whoever loves Me will keep My word, and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our dwelling with him. Whoever does not love Me, does not keep My words; yet the word you hear is not Mine but that of the Father who sent Me. "I have told you this while I am with you. The Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I told you. Peace, I leave with you; My peace I give to you. Not as the world gives but as I give it to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or be afraid. You heard Me tell you, 'I am going away, and I will come back to you. If you loved Me, for you would rejoice that I am going back unto the Father; for the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you this before it happens, so that when it happens you may believe."

- C. 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

I look for the resurrection
of the dead
And the + life of the world to come.
Amen.



# OFFERTORY VERSE (1 Peter 5:14)

V. Greet one another with a loving kiss. Peace to all of you who are in Christ. Alleluia.

## **PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS**

**Almighty Father,** receive this bread and wine we set before You. Grant that we may be ready to receive the peace and love of Your risen Son. We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Most Gracious God, we have received the Body and Blood of Your Son, Jesus Christ, Who called unto Himself all those who were oppressed with the burdens of live. May He also draw unto Himself all those who have served in the cause of freedom and justice. 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**

(Luke 2:29-30)

V. Now, Master, You may let Your servant go in peace, according to Your word, for my eyes have seen Your salvation. Alleluia.

# **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

- C. The Lord be with you.
- R. And also with you.
- C. Let us pray. Lord God, Your chosen reward is peace for those who serve You. By this Holy Communion instill Your peace and love into our hearts that we may be faithful disciples of your risen Son. 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.

C. Let us pray. Most Gracious God, we have received the Body and Blood of Your Son, Jesus Christ, Who called unto Himself all those who were oppressed with the burdens of live. May He also draw unto Himself all those who have served in the cause of freedom and justice. 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.



# STUDIES IN HOLY SCRIPTURE THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

Over the past few weeks, in this Easter season, we have read about the growth of the Christian Church, through the labors and efforts of the Apostles following the Resurrection of Jesus, as recorded by the Evangelist, St. Luke.

So, it is only right, that we should all become familiar with our "common origin," as disciplines of the Lord and fellow members of the "Body of Christ."

It is commonly believed that the author of the Book is St. Luke, a noted physician, a friend and fellow traveler with Saint Paul as we read in ("we") in Acts 16:10–17, Acts 20:5–15, Acts 21:1–18, and Acts 27:1–28:16. We also read in the New Testament where Paul expresses his thankfulness for Luke in Colossians 4:14, 2 Timothy 4:11, and Philemon 1:24.

I have read that the Gospel of Saint Luke and the Acts of the Apostles are a perfect two-volume set, which complements each other, taking not only a comprehensive look at the Life and Ministry of Jesus the "Christos;" of His promises, His healings as well the history of Early Church, through the Holy Spirit.

Luke addresses both books to "his excellency Theophilus," a high ranking official, possibly Roman. It has been suggested that Luke also presented these works to Theophilus to serve as a "defense" for Saint Paul's trial before the Emperor Nero. The date of the writing of the Book of Acts has been set circa 62 AD, two years before St. Peter and St. Paul's suffered martyrdom under Nero.

In **Acts**, Luke traces the growth of the Gospel of Jesus, starting in Jerusalem and its eventual spread to Rome, through the Epistle of Paul to the Romans. Beginning in 64 AD, when Rome was burned, probably set by Nero himself, Christians began to be persecuted and another theory to the purpose of writing of this book was to serve as a source of information of the Christian faith. Outside of the later writings of Eusebius (263-339 AD), the book of the Acts of the Apostles serves as one of the few historical accounts of the early Christian Church. The first half of this book has St. Peter as its main character, and the second half has St. Paul as its main character. Peter has been referred to as the "Apostle to the Jews" and Paul as the "Apostle to the Gentiles."

The following can serve as an outline to this most important book:



## Source: Master Sunday Bible, Holman 1977

- 1. The Ascension of Jesus and the promise of the Father being fulfilled at Pentecost (Chaps 1 & 2).
- 2. Peter and John arouse persecution by the Sadducees (Chaps. 3-5).
- 3. Stephen stirs up the opposition by the Pharisees (Chaps. 6-7).
- 4. The Discipleship of Philip (Chap 8).
- 5. The conversion of Saul (Chap. 9:1-31)
- 6. Gentiles are converted (Chap. 9:32-11:30)
- 7. Persecutions from Herod Agrippa 1 (chap. 12)
- 8. The First Missionary Journey of Paul and Barnabas (Chaps. 13-14)/
- 9. The Conference at Jerusalem concerning the Gentiles (Chap 15:1-35).
- 10. The Second Missionary Journey of Paul and Silas (Chaps. 15:36-18:22).
- 11. Paul's Third Missionary Journey (Chaps. 18:23-21:14).
- 12. Paul seized in Jerusalem (Chaps. 21:15-23:30).
- 13. Paul a prisoner in Caesarea (Chaps. 23:31-26:32).
- 14. The Appeal to Rome (Chaps. 27-28).



# THURSDAY, MAY 29<sup>TH</sup> ASCENSION OF JESUS

The **Solemnity of the Ascension** of Jesus is one of the "pillars" of the Christian faith. The coming of the Christ, the Messiah was a fulfillment of an earlier covenant that God made with the patriarch Abraham.

We read of this fulfillment throughout the Old Testament, by the prophets that foretold of the coming of a Messiah, a deliverer.

The **Ascension of Jesus** refers to the event where Jesus Christ ascended to heaven 40 days after His resurrection, marking the conclusion of His earthly ministry. This event is significant in Christian belief as it represents not only the glorification and exaltation of Jesus, affirming His divine nature, but also to the coming of the Holy Spirit that Jesus had promised at the Last Supper and prior to His Ascension.

Biblically, the two main references of the Ascension of Jesus are found in the Gospel of Luke and in the Acts of the Apostles.

In the Gospel of Luke 20:50-53, we read:

"Then He led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up His hands, He blessed them. While He was blessing them, He withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped Him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God."

The second reference to the Ascension of Jesus is found in the Book of Acts 1:6-11, where we read:

"So, when they had come together, they asked Him, "Lord, is this the time when You will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by His own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were watching, He was lifted up, and a cloud took Him out of their sight."

"While He was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

Other various Epistles as found in the New Testament, indirectly mention the Ascension of Jesus: Romans 8:34, Ephesians 1:19-20, Colossians 3:1, Philippians 2:9-11, 1 Timothy3:16 and 1 Peter 3:21-22.



#### **OUR PARISH CALENDAR**

8:45 am Morning Devotionals **Holy Mass of the Eucharist** 9:00 am

# THIS WEEK'S MASS SCHEDULE

(May 26<sup>th</sup> – June 1<sup>st</sup>)

Mon. 5/26 **Memorial Day - USA** 

**Private Prayer and devotions** 

Quadratus of Athens, B. & Martyr

Philip Neri, Priest

Eleutherius of Rome, B. & Martyr

Tues. 5/27 Mass of Thanksgiving

> Bede the Venerable, Mo. & Writer John 1 of Rome, B. & Martyr Restituta of Sora, V. & Martyr

Wed. 5/28 Mass for health & healing

> Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop William of Gellone, Mo. & C. Germain of Parish, Bishop

Thurs. 5/29 Solemnity - Ascension of our Lord

> Cyril of Caesarea, Martyr Theodosia, Virgin & Martyr

Sisinius, Martyrius & Alexander, M

Friday 5/30 Mass to the Holy Angels of God

Felix of Rome, Bishop

Issac of Constantinople, Abbot

Walstan, Prince

Saturday 5/31 Mass to the Most Holy Name of Jesus

Vincent of Lerins, Bishop Donatian & Rogatian, Martyrs

Lanfranc of Canterbury, Bishop

7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter to be celebrated Sunday, 6/1

in the Traditional rite.



### **MINISTRY OF LAY READERS**

The following is the schedule for the next upcoming weeks.:

Sunday, May 25<sup>th</sup>-Josh Tudryn Sunday, June 1st-**Cheryl Major** Sunday, June 8th -Jonathan Boschen

Sunday, June 15th-Peg Kostiuk Sunday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>-**Eric Dibrindisi** 

Sunday, June 29th -Jim Winn Sunday, July 6th-Paula Winn

Sunday, July 13th -**Shirley Mietlicki- Floyd** 



# **POLISH PLATE DINNER – JUNE 21, 2025**

On Saturday, June 21, 2025, our Parish will hold a Polish Plate Dinner which will comprise of Galabki, Lazy Pierogi, Kiebasa, and Rye Bread. The price of the meal will be \$15.00 and will be TAKE OUT ONLY. Deadline for tickets will be June 16th. For tickets please call Peg Kostiuk at (413) 774-3800, Alice Maiewski at (413) 665-4471 or Sue Dibrindisi at (413) 586.4315. Thank you.



# PRAYERS FOR HEALTH AND HEALING

In our prayers, may we remember all our dear brothers and sisters, who are sick ill. May we pray for the blessings of health and healing to rest upon all those whom we remember in prayer:

**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. Deliver them, according to Your will, from all 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

Our next grocery "give-a-way" date will be **Saturday, June 21st**, from 10 o'clock till supplies last.



We are still in need of the following:

- 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 packs.

**Please note**: Also, through our Parish ministries, we are continuing to collect "full sized" containers of personal care items and cleaning items to aid others. All items collected, will be donated to the various survival centers in our area. Items 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.

#### THE EASTERN DIOCESE OF THE PNCC

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

On Wednesdays, at 12:00 Noon, during the month of May, all are called upon to offer these prayers:

Let us Pray: Almighty God, speak to our hearts whenever courage fades. Sustain us with an unyielding trust and steadfast faith, so that we may not be afraid to professor defend our faith in You. May we stand with the same courage and perseverance of Your holy martyrs as we face the challenges placed before us. Renew us with Your unfailing love and fill us with hope in Your eternal purpose. Enlighten us to look beyond the temporary things of this world to You, the Source of all courage. We ask this through Your Son, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, 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 our daily bread and forgive us of our trespasses this day, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. Amen.



# MEMORIAL DAY IN SOUTH DEERFIELD, MA

A **Memorial Day Program** will take place this Monday, May 26, 2025 at the South Deerfield Commons at 8:30 am.

This yearly observance will begin with a parade from Frontier Regional School, and is attended by veterans, gold star mothers and other dignitaries. At the conclusion of the South Deerfield Memorial Day Program, special prayers will be offered at various cemeteries, culminating at our Holy Name of Jesus PNCC cemetery. May we all pause this day to remember all our fallen veterans.

## **REFLECTIONS THIS MEMORIAL DAY**

On May 8th of this year, our country marked the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of V-E Day, a day when WWII came to an end in Europe. Later this year, on September 2<sup>nd</sup>, we will mark the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of V-J Day, a day when WW II came to the end of the war in Japan. Of the 16.4 million Americans who served during WW II, only about 66,000 veterans are still alive today, which represent less than 0.5%.

Memorial Day or originally known as Decoration Day, is a time where we as a nation, pause to remember all our fallen veterans, who died in the "line of duty." So, many names from so many wars are inscribed on headstones in so many cemeteries, throughout our world. And there are so many others whose names are known "but to God." On this Memorial Day, we honor those who gave their lives as their "final measure," coined by our 16th President, Abraham Lincoln, during his "Gettysburg Address" which he delivered at the dedication of a National cemetery in Gettysburg PA, on November 19, 1863. defending the principles of freedom and liberty.

"War is hell." This phrase was spoken by the Union Civil War General William T. Sherman, upon seeing the aftermath of the devastation at the siege at Vicksburg, Mississippi in 1864, where there were over 40,000 casualties.

So, my dear brothers and sisters, from the Battles of Lexington and Concord in the Revolutionary War; from Belleau Woods to Meuse-Argonne in WWI; from the Battle of the Bulge, Iwo Jima and Okinawa in WWII; from the Chosen Reservoir and the Battle of Inchon during the Korean War, from Khe Sanh and the Battles of la Drang Valley and Hue in Vietnam to Falluja and Ramadi in Iraq, and so many countless others, may we remember this day for all those men and women who fought for our freedom and those who gave their lives so that we may be free.

"As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter the words, but to live by them."

— John F. Kennedy

"Heroism is not only in the man, but in the occasion."
- Calvin Coolidge

"Those who have long enjoyed such privileges as we enjoy forget in time that men have died to win them." - Franklin D. Roosevelt



#### THE GETTYSBURG ADDRESS

On the afternoon of November 19, 1863, during the formal dedication of the Soldier's National Cemetery, now known as the Gettysburg National Cemetery, Abraham Lincoln, the 16<sup>th</sup> U.S. President gave what is considered one of the most famous and enduring speeches in American history.

"Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battlefield of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live.

It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this. But, in a larger sense, we cannot dedicate—we cannot consecrate—we cannot hallow—this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract.

The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced.

It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us—that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion—that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain—that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom—and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."