## **COMMUNITY COMING EVENTS and ANNOUNCEMENTS**

10/25	<b>(Today)</b> One tenth of the Holy Rosary at 10am. before the Holy Mass begins. Reading of the Catechism of our Church at the end of the Mass. COFFEE HOUR in the Church Hall after the Mass.
10/28	(Wednesday) THE HOLY ROSARY PRAYER at 5pm.
11/01	(Sunday) SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS. Solemn Mass at 10am. After the Mass we go together to bless our Cemetery. Mass Intention: For + CZESLAW LASEK
11/02	(Monday) ALL SOULS DAY. Solemn Mass at 5pm. celebrated for all our deceased brothers and sisters offered in this year's Remembrances (Wypominki)
10/08	(Sunday) Holy Mass at 10am. Mass Intention: For + RUTH GRZYB

- St. John's Parish Committee at the meeting held on Oct 23, 2020, elected Mr. Walter Motulski and Ms. Sandra Gotavaskas as SEXTONS of St. John's Cemetery for a probation period of 6 months. Sandra takes responsibility for an overall look of the cemetery and Walter will take care of the funeral ceremonies. Thank you Sandra & Walter for your service to St. John's Church and the Cemetery.
- Yesterday's POLISH FOOD SALE brought us a gross income: \$2.781. Thank you
   Diane & Sandra for running this event for St. John's Church.
- By decision of the Parish Committee this coming winter snow removal will be on a voluntary basis with "de minimis benefit" for the volunteer: \$50 for the church ground & \$65 for the cemetery. Those who wish to volunteer, please, contact Fr. Adam. We have the necessary equipment to do the work donated to the church.
- November is a special month when we pray for our deceased! We would like to remind you about the possibility to offer a Holy Mass in your own, particular intention! Take one of the envelopes from the back of the Church, write down your intention and return it to Fr. Adam. Have a blessed Sunday!

## SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST

## POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

23 Golway Street, Manchester, CT 06042 Official website: www.saintjohnspncc.org Facebook: John the Baptist, Manchester CT

Rectory phone: **860-643-5906** 

PASTOR - Rev. Adam Piekarzewski

October 25, 2020



## XXX SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

#### **MASS INTENTION - 10am**

For + CELIA KODES (req. by Marguerite Hensley)

#### INTROIT

C: Therefore, you shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength.

R: This is the commandment we have from Him; whoever loves God must also love his brother.

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.



## **HOLY MASS**

. 10.00 am



# MASS INTENTIONS

If you would like to have a Mass said for a particular intention, you must stop by the Parish Office or the sacristy in the Church before/after Sunday mass. Masses can be said for a deceased person or as a special intention for the living. You may reserve a Sunday of your choice, and your intention will be published in the parish bulletin.

We encourage you to offer a Mass on the occasion of a birthday, anniversary or special personal (family) need.

## **READING 1**

## A reading from the Book of Exodus.

Thus says the LORD:

"You shall not molest or oppress an alien, for you were once aliens yourselves in the land of Egypt.

You shall not wrong any widow or orphan. If ever you wrong them and they cry out to me,

I will surely hear their cry.

My wrath will flare up, and I will kill you with the sword;

then your own wives will be widows, and your children orphans.

## EX 22:20-26

"If you lend money to one of your poor neighbors among my people, you shall not act like an extortioner toward him

by demanding interest from him.

If you take your neighbor's cloak as a pledge, you shall return it to him before sunset; for this cloak of his is the only covering he has for his body.

What else has he to sleep in?
If he cries out to me, I will hear him; for I am compassionate."

#### The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

## **RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

"I love you, Lord, my strength."

## **PS 18**

## **READING 2**

## A reading from the First Letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonians.

Brothers and sisters:

You know what sort of people we were among you for your sake.

And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, receiving the word in great affliction, with joy from the Holy Spirit,

so that you became a model for all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia.

For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth not only in Macedonia and in Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has gone forth,

so that we have no need to say anything. For they themselves openly declare about us what sort of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God and to await his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus, who delivers us from the coming wrath.

1 THES 1:5C-10

### The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

## GOSPEL

MT 22:34-40

## A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory be to You, Lord.

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a scholar of the law tested him by asking, "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?"

He said to him, "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments."

### The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

## **GOSPEL REFLECTION**

In the Gospel, Jesus responds to a trick question posed by the Pharisees. They are hoping that He will lift up some detailed part of the Mosaic Law as what He sees as the most important stipulation of the law. If He focuses on some minuscule precept, they will be able to say something like, "Well, what about this other aspect which Moses stressed." Instead, Jesus generalizes and summarizes all the Mosaic Law into two phrases: Complete and total love of GOD that flows into love and concern for others. These two commands are further simplified by Jesus' words in John's Gospel and in the writings of Paul: Love.

I could go off on the tangent of the importance of loving the aliens among us. I would then ask the question: Am I showing the same love for foreigners as GOD has shown me, who am a stranger whom GOD has welcomed into the Divine Reign. I, however, want to focus on the wider concept of love of all people who cross my path.

Love is not the "gushy" emotion one feels when one is close to an individual who returns that same emotion. Love is not the physical attraction to another person. Love, as described throughout scriptures, is a decision to do and be for another. The highest form of love is giving totally of one's self for another. Thus, martyrdom ("witnessing" by one's life) is the supreme form of love of GOD. And giving of one's life for another person is the greatest example of love of neighbor. Love is more of an attitude which leads to action. It is a response from knowing one is loved by GOD. As St. John says in his First Letter, love is GOD – for GOD is love (1 John 4: 8). Thus true love is the caring for another in the way GOD has cared for us. Consequently, Jesus says in John's Gospel, "Love one another as I have loved you" (John 13: 34-35).