

COMMUNITY COMING EVENTS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 07/16 (Today) **Holy Mass** at 10am. Coffee hour in the Church hall.
- 07/23 (XVI Ordinary Sunday) **Holy Mass** at 10am. Coffee hour in the Church hall with Filipino traditional food. *Mass Intention: For + FLORITA ZEMBROWSKI.*

- THANK YOU Diane and Linda for running yesterday’s Polish Food Sale. Thank you Jacqueline for preparing online preorders. We had a great sale yesterday!

CHURCH NEWS

- Upcoming birthdays & anniversaries: EDWIN KOSKI (07/19), JOSEPH BEDNARZ (07/22). Happy anniversary! Happy birthday!

If you have any information for the „Church News Column”, please inform Fr. Adam by email or phone no later than Friday afternoon.



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

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PASTOR - Rev. Adam Piekarczywski



July 16, 2023

BEHOLD

PARISH BULLETIN

XV SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MASS INTENTION - 10am

*For + CZESŁAW LASEK on the 3rd death anniversary
(req. by Janina)*

INTROIT

C: Indeed, the word of God is living and effective, sharper than any two-edged sword, penetrating even between soul and spirit, joints and marrow, and able to discern reflections and thoughts of the heart.

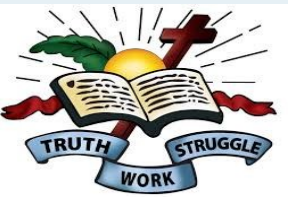
R: And the Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us, and we saw His glory, the glory as of the Father’s only Son, full of grace and truth.

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 the prophet Isaiah.

Thus says the LORD:
Just as from the heavens
the rain and snow come down
and do not return there
till they have watered the earth,
making it fertile and fruitful,
giving seed to the one who sows
and bread to the one who eats,
so shall my word be
that goes forth from my mouth;
my word shall not return to me void,
but shall do my will,
achieving the end for which I sent it.

IS 55:10-11

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PS 65

„The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.“

READING 2

A reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans.

Brothers and sisters:
I consider that the sufferings of this present time are as nothing compared with the glory to be revealed for us. For creation awaits with eager expectation the revelation of the children of God; for creation was made subject to futility, not of its own accord but because of the one who subjected it, in hope that creation itself

ROM 8:18-23

would be set free from slavery to corruption and share in the glorious freedom of the children of God. We know that all creation is groaning in labor pains even until now; and not only that, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, we also groan within ourselves as we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL

MT 13:1-9

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory be to You, Lord.

On that day, Jesus went out of the house and sat down by the sea. Such large crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat down, and the whole crowd stood along the shore. And he spoke to them at length in parables, saying:
"A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seed fell on the path, and birds came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky ground, where it had little soil. It sprang up at once because the soil was not deep, and when the sun rose it was scorched, and it withered for lack of roots. Some seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it. But some seed fell on rich soil and produced fruit, a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold. Whoever has ears ought to hear."

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise be to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL REFLECTION

In the Gospel, Jesus presents the parable of the sower and the seed. He speaks of the four types of ground on which the seed falls. The growth of the seed in three of cases does not produce a rich harvest because of the environment in which the seeds fall. It is only the seed that falls in the rich, prepared soil that produces an abundant harvest. Jesus then tells His disciples (disciplined learners) that they are privileged with the explanation of the parable because they are His disciples – they have disciplined themselves to listen to the Master-Teacher. The key element is that the seed is the Word of GOD. The Word of GOD is given to various individuals, but not all are able to produce the growth that the Word has within it, because not all are fully open and prepared to allow the Word to grow and expand within them.

The term “Word of GOD” is an important concept in Hebrew Scripture (the Old Testament). The Dabar YHWH (“Word of the LORD”) in Hebrew carries with it a connotation that may not be immediately apparent to us today. [The Hebrew word can be transliterated as either Dabar or Debar.] Then we think of a word, we think of either symbols (letters) on a page that represent a concept, or the sounds of a speaker that convey the speaker’s message. To the people of old, the concept of Dabar was that a word was not just a meaning derived from characters or sounds which are put together. The Dabar (Word) was active, alive, and causative. Dabar was sacred, even when spoken by humans, because speaking a Dabar connoted a relationship that was alive.