

COMMUNITY COMING EVENTS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 07/12 (XV Ordinary Sunday) **Holy Mass** at 10am. Coffee hour (fellowship hour) in the church hall.
- 07/19 (XVI Ordinary Sunday) **Holy Mass** at 10am. Coffee hour (fellowship hour) in the church hall. *Mass Intention: For new members of St. John's Parish: PATRICIA and NANCY.*

- The renovation of our **church sacristy** has been successfully completed, thanks to the generosity of numerous donors, and we extend a special thank you to Morrells Cabinets of Bristol, CT. If you'd like to see the newly renovated sacristy, please stop by after the final hymn today.
- Mass Intentions Announcement:** If you have a particular date in mind for a Mass Intention, please be sure to book it in advance, as we are able to schedule only one intention per Sunday. At this time, the first available Sunday with no intention is August 23, 2026. Please contact the parish office to reserve your date.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Rectory phone: 860-643-5906
PASTOR - Rev. Dr. Adam Piekarczyewski



July 12, 2026

BEHOLD

PARISH BULLETIN

XV SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MASS INTENTION

For good health for GILL ANN CREMALDI (req. by Renée)

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.

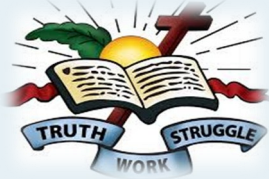
R: **And the Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us, and we saw His glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth.**

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

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.

ROM 8:18-23

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

The harvest Jesus describes at the end - a hundredfold, sixtyfold, thirtyfold - would have made his listeners’ eyes widen. A typical Palestinian harvest returned sevenfold to tenfold at best. A hundredfold was almost mythological; Genesis 26:12 uses precisely this number to describe Isaac’s miraculous abundance as a sign of divine blessing. Jesus is not describing normal agricultural outcomes - he is describing something that breaks the boundaries of what soil and seed and human effort can produce on their own.

The parable, then, is not finally a lesson in self-examination - which soil am I? - though that question is legitimate! It is first and foremost a proclamation: when God’s word lands and takes root, what comes back is beyond all proportion to what was planted. The losses along the way - the path, the rocks, the thorns - are real, and Jesus does not minimize them. But they do not define the story. The reckless sower and the impossible harvest do. Whoever has ears, let them hear not only the warning but the promise buried inside it...