

# July 23, 2023

# FAITH SHARING

Today's readings tell us about a very patient and compassionate God who is hopeful that the so-called "weeds" among us will be converted.

<u>The first reading</u> from the Book of Wisdom shows us a merciful and patient God, rather than the disciplining and punishing God presented in the book of Genesis.

<u>The second reading</u>, taken from Paul's letter to the Romans, reminds us that the Spirit of God constantly empowers us in our prayers and in our weakness. So, we should be patient with ourselves and with others.

Finally, in the Gospel Jesus presents a wise and patient God who allows the good and the evil to coexist in the world until the harvest and blesses the evil ones for the little good they may have done, so that they may come to conversion before their time ends. In other words, God is "delaying" the end of the world for repentant sinners, giving them more time, and offering them the graces of strength and good will so that they may get reconciled with Him. God calmly recognizes that there is evil in the world, but He sees that evil is no excuse for the good people not to do good with the power of God at their disposal. Through the parable of the wheat and the weeds in today's Gospel, Jesus calls us to be patient with those who seem to us to fail to meet the high ethical standard expected of a Christian.

Responsorial Psalm R. Lord, you are good and forgiving.

# **Our Saviour Parish** of the Polish National Catholic Church 2300 Princeton Pike; Lawrenceville, NJ 08648

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# **16 Ordinary Sunday**

# ENTRANCE HYMN (Psalm 86:5-6)

V. Lord, You are kind and forgiving, most loving to all who call on You.

- R. Lord, hear my prayer; listen to my cry for help.
- 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.

# Gospel MT 13:24-43

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus proposed another parable to the crowds, saying: "The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everyone was asleep his enemy came and sowed weeds all through the wheat, and then went off. When the crop grew and bore fruit, the weeds appeared as well. The slaves of the householder came to him and said, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where have the weeds come from?' He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' His slaves said to him, 'Do you want us to go and pull them up?' He replied, 'No, if you pull up the weeds you might uproot the wheat along with them. Let them grow together until harvest; then at harvest time I will say to the harvesters, "First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles for burning; but gather the wheat into my barn.""

He proposed another parable to them. "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that a person took and sowed in a field. It is the smallest of all the seeds, yet when full-grown it is the largest of plants. It becomes a large bush, and the 'birds of the sky come and dwell in its branches."

He spoke to them another parable. "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed with three measures of wheat flour until the whole batch was leavened."

All these things Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables. He spoke to them only in parables, to fulfill what had been said through the prophet: I will open my mouth in parables, I will announce what has lain hidden from the foundation of the world. Then, dismissing the crowds, he went into the house. His disciples approached him and said, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field." He said in reply, "He who sows good seed is the Son of Man, the field is the world, the good seed the children of the kingdom. The weeds are the children of the evil one,

and the enemy who sows them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels. Just as weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all who cause others to sin and all evildoers.

They will throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Whoever has ears ought to hear."

The Gospel of the Lord.



# Today's Hymns

**Processional Hymn** 001 Hymn of Faith

**Hymn to the Holy Spirit** 144 Come, Thou Creator

**Offertory Hymn** 159 Jesus, My Lord and Saviour

**Communion Hymn** 221 Turn Your Eyes to Jesus

**Recessional Hymn** 224 Amazing Grace

#### WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday, July 23 16 Ordinary Sunday 12:00 Noon – Holy Mass

#### **SECOND COLLECTIONS IN 2023**

8/6 - For the Mission Fund
8/27 - Youth Sunday – For the Youth Fund
9/3 - For the Mission Fund
9/10 - Solemnity – Brotherly Love – For the Bp. Hodur Retreat Center
10/1 - For the Mission Fund
10/15 - Heritage Sunday – Outreach to Poland Collection
11/5 - For the Mission Fund
12/31 - Solemnity- Humble Shepherds – Seminary Fund
1/7 - For the Mission Fund

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# PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:

Let us pray for all of the sick and homebound members of our Parish, especially: Howard Friedman, Michael and Patricia Havrilla, Gerry Brunson, Frank and Shellie Fisher, Gregg Smith, Clint Koch, Duane Schulte, Bill and Bernice Biroscak, Stephanie Besterci, David Potts, Andrew Chernesky, Joan Piechota, John Smith, Ernie Hoffman, Peggy Harris, Ina Reese, Tom Goff, Donald Gavenda, Michelle Freer, Kay Stampone, Jan Cherneski, Ewelina Mendelewski-Filyushchenko, Richard Golazewski, Jane Aldorshoff, Elizabeth McAlanis, Dolores McGlone, Lorertta Mikovsky, Laura Ewaskiewicz, Kelly Seliga

Please keep us informed that we might minister to those who are ill at home, in the hospital or nursing home.

## ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

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.

# PASTOR TRANSFERRED

Today is the last Sunday for Fr. Mariusz as an Administrator of St. Valentine's Parish, Philadelphia, PA and Our Saviour Parish, Lawrenceville, NJ. Father is transferred to Holy Family PNCC Parish in McKeesport, PA. Please keep Fr. M and his Family in your prayers.

#### NEW ASSIGNMENT

Bishop of the Central Diocese, Rt. Rev. Bernard Nowicki, assigned **Rev. Carmen Bolock**, currently Reserve Clergy and previously Pastor of St Mary's Parish in Duryea, PA (closed), as a new Administrator of St. Valentine's Parish in Philadelphia and Our Saviour Parish in Lawrenceville, NJ.

Welcome Fr. Carmen to our communities!

#### THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING OUR FAREWELL DINNER

Thank you very much for coming to our farewell dinner last Sunday. One more time thank you for helping to organize it and for your help in our packing and moving: St. Valentine's Parish, Our Saviour Parish, St. Adalbert Polish Language School, St. John Cantius Polish Language School, POLMART Polish Store, MAXIMUS Polish Restaurant. We will miss you all!

OUR NEW ADDRESS Holy Family PNCC 1921 Eden Park Blvd McKeesport, PA 15132 (412) 664-7009



### BISHOP OF THE WESTERN DIOCESE PNCC PASSED AWAY

**† Rt. Rev. Jarosław (Jerry) Rafalko, Bishop Ordinary of the Western Diocese, P.N.C.C.,** entered the eternal rest of the Lord, on July 13, 2023.

We give thanks to Almighty God for Bishop Jerry's years of ministry as a Priest within the Western Diocese and as the Bishop of the Western Diocese.

We ask that you keep his wife, Leslie; the Western Diocese; and all the parishes of the Western Diocese in your prayers.

The funeral arrangements for Bishop Rafalko are the following:

Monday, July 24th, 7:00 pm, Requiem Vespers and Sermon, All Saints Cathedral, Chicago, IL. Tuesday, July 25th, 10:30 am, Requiem Mass, All Saints Cathedral.

The internment will take place at a later date as Bishop Jerry will be cremated.

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.

Wieczny odpoczynek racz mu dać, Panie. A światłość wiekuista niechaj mu świeci. Niech odpoczywa w pokoju wiecznym. Amen.