

HOLY SAVIOUR PARISH

OF THE POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH - SINCE 1924 -

118 Prospect Street
Naugatuck, CT 06770

☎ (203) 729 4035 – Rectory
www.holysaviourpncc.org

**SOLEMNITY OF BAPTISM
OF THE LORD
January 11, 2026**

Pastor Fr. Paul Dudek



Mass Intention for this Sunday is available.

If you have your own, please see Father Paul before the Mass.



Living as God's Beloved

When Jesus is baptized in the Jordan, the heavens open and the Father's voice is heard: "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased." Although Jesus is without sin, He enters the waters to stand with us, to share our human condition, and to show us the path of humility and obedience.

This feast reminds us of our own baptism. Through baptism, we too have been claimed by God, washed clean, and called His beloved sons and daughters. Before we do anything to earn it, God already loves us and delights in us.

Living our baptism means remembering who we are. We are not defined by our failures, fears, or labels, but by God's grace. Each day we are invited to reject sin, choose what is good, and let the Holy Spirit guide our words and actions.

May this feast renew our awareness that we belong to Christ, and that our lives are meant to reflect His love in today's world. - Fr. Paul

We are Catholic community called to serve God and others through Eucharist, prayer, education, and daily living of the Gospel values. Everyone is always welcome to worship with us in our beautiful church. It is a house of prayer for all, who with sincere heart desire to praise the only God, our Father in heaven.



For those who are new to our church (and even those who aren't!) To follow along with the Mass, begin on page 63 in the Mass booklet. Father will announce which page to turn to for the Canon at the appropriate time.

Reception of the Holy Eucharist - Baptized Christians who believe in the Real Presence of Christ in the Holy Eucharist and are in a state of grace, free from mortal sin, are invited to partake of this Holy Sacrament with us. – If you are unable to receive the Precious Blood, please alert Father before Mass so that he is aware of the situation. If you would like to receive only a blessing from Father instead of Communion, come to the altar rail with your arms crossed, palms on shoulders. Come and let us be one with our Lord.



Want to request a Mass? Please contact Fr. Paul or call the rectory at (203) 729-4035. 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.

Pastoral Care Visit. The two great Sacraments: Eucharist & Holy Anointing may be a source of grace and health for a sick person. So, if you are confined at home or have a family member at hospital or nursing home unable to take part in Sunday Mass and Sacraments, please notify the father to set the day and time for pastoral visit.

In emergency call directly Fr. Paul @ 475-208-4455.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

➔ **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING** is scheduled for next Sunday, January 18th, 2026, following the Mass. Snow day, a week later.

➔ Just like last year, we are collecting funds to cover heating costs during winter. This is **FREE WILL DONATION**. Our goal is to raise \$4,500. So far, we have collected **\$3750 – 83.3%**! – There are specially designed envelopes on the back of the church for this purpose. Thank you for your understanding and support.

➔ **Wall Calendars for 2026** are available to pick up in the parish hall.

➔ **THIS MONTH BIRTHDAYS CELEBRATE:**

Emil Caruso – January 7

Frank Squezello – January 27

Steven Nelson – January 31



Please remember in your prayer those who are suffering, sick or confined at home, hospitals and nursing homes, especially our parishioners and friends: **Bp. Paul Sobiechowski, Sarah Squezello, Logan, Debbie & Emil Caruso and Aiden Klein.**



Items for the bulletin – If you would like to share information about your family anniversaries or important events, such as graduations, with the parish community, please contact Fr. Paul by text at (475) 208-4455 or by email at paudek@yahoo.com. You can also attach photos from these events. Please submit items for the bulletin by Thursday.



Epiphany Visitation (Koleda): A Blessing of Homes and Hearts

The traditional Epiphany Visitation, often known as Koleda, is a beautiful and ancient custom of the Church, closely connected with the Feast of the Epiphany - the manifestation of Christ to the nations. During this visitation, the priest comes to the homes of parishioners to pray with the family, bless the household, and ask God's protection and peace upon all who live there.

At its heart, the Epiphany Visitation reminds us that **Christ desires to dwell not only in our church, but in our homes**. Just as the Magi welcomed the newborn King into their house and offered Him their gifts, so we invite Jesus to reign in our daily lives, our joys, struggles, work, and relationships.

The blessing includes Scripture reading, prayer, holy water, and the marking of the doorway with blessed chalk, often written as **C + M + B + 2026**. The numbers refer to the current year, while the letters have a twofold meaning. They recall the traditional names of the Magi: **Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar**, and at the same time form the Latin prayer *Christus Mansionem Benedicat*, meaning "May Christ bless this home." The crosses between the letters represent Christ, whose blessing we ask upon all who enter and dwell there.

Koleda is also a moment of **pastoral encounter**, allowing the priest to meet parishioners in their homes, listen, and strengthen the bond between families and the parish community. It is not an inspection or obligation, but a shared moment of faith and hospitality.

May this Epiphany Visitation renew our homes as places of prayer, charity, and peace, and may Christ, the Light of the world, bless all who dwell within them.

If you wish your house be blessed for the upcoming year, please contact Father Paul at (203) 729-4035 to arrange convenient day and time for this pastoral visit.



Questions? Suggestions? If you have any burning questions about the Bible, the church's teachings, our parish's workings, or the liturgy in general? Or maybe you have a suggestion for the parish committee to consider? Fell free! There will be a basket at the back of the church, along with paper and pen for your convenience. Simply jot down your question or suggestion anonymously and drop it in. The question/suggestion will be answer usually the following week via bulletin, or from the pulpit depending on the length and complexity of the answer. **No question is too silly**. Others may have the same question, but not the courage to ask it under the assumption that everyone knows the answer but them. **All suggestions will be considered**. So, get those inquisitive minds working and have your curiosity satisfied!

Q: What it meant by "Jesus descended into hell"?

A: The phrase comes from the Apostles' Creed and uses the word **'hell'**. In Catholic teaching, it refers to **'the realm of the dead'** (*Sheol* in Hebrew), traditionally called the **'limbo of the Fathers'** or **'Abraham's bosom'**, not **'Gehenna'** (the hell of eternal fire). When we profess in the Creed that Jesus **'descended into hell'**, it does **not** mean that He went to the hell of the damned (the place of eternal punishment). After His death and before His Resurrection, Jesus **truly died** - His soul was separated from His body, **entered the realm of the dead to proclaimed victory and salvation** to the righteous who had died before Him, such as **Adam, Eve, Abraham, Moses, David, and the prophets**, who had died in God's friendship but could not yet enter Heaven because Christ had not yet redeemed humanity. Jesus **opened the gates of Heaven** for them. In simple terms **Jesus went to the dead to bring them life**.

Q: For whom did Jesus Christ suffer and die?

A: Jesus Christ **suffered and died for all people**, without exception "He gave his life as a ransom for many" (Mt 20:28), but the **fruits of His sacrifice are received only by those who accept it through**; faith, the Sacraments, and a life of charity and repentance. Jesus **died for you**, personally, **and for every human being who has ever lived or will live**.

Can't get to Mass? The National Cathedral in Scranton and the Eastern Diocesan Cathedral have YouTube channels to which you can subscribe.

Both channels archive the weekly Mass for later viewing. So, if you're away from home, or shut-in at home, you can still see a Mass from our Church. Check them out –



<https://www.youtube.com/@ststanislauscathedral> or
<https://www.youtube.com/@bishoppaulsobiechowski9743>