

HOLY SAVIOUR PARISH

OF THE POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH - SINCE 1924 -

118 Prospect Street
Naugatuck, CT 06770

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

Third Sunday
in ORDINARY TIME
January 25, 2026

Pastor Fr. Paul Dudek



Mass Intention for this Sunday is available.

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



Let's leave what's holding us back

In today's Gospel, Jesus begins His public ministry not in a place of honor, but in Galilee, a land described as sitting in darkness. This reminds us that God's light often shines first in places that seem forgotten, broken, or ordinary. And Jesus' first message is simple and urgent: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." So, He invites us to turn our hearts toward God, not tomorrow, but today and now.

As Jesus walks along the sea, He calls fishermen who are busy with their daily work to follow Him. They were not searching for Him; He came looking for them. His call, "Follow me," is personal and direct. Interestingly, they immediately abandoned their nets, their sense of security, their routine, and their comfort zone, and went after Jesus.

Following Jesus always requires trust and a willingness to let go of what holds us back. - Today's Gospel reminds us that discipleship begins in everyday life. Jesus still calls ordinary people, not only clergyman, offering light, purpose, and healing to all who choose to follow Him. - 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 postponed for next month.
- ➡ **Epiphany Visitation - 'KOLENDA'**. If you would like to take this opportunity to have your home blessed this year, please contact Fr Paul to arrange convenient day and time for this visit.
- ➡ 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 \$4020 – 89.3%!** – 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 Squezzello – 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.



The Conversion of St Paul

On **January 25th**, the Church celebrates the **Feast of the Conversion of St Paul**, honoring not his martyrdom or missionary journeys, but the decisive moment when his life was completely transformed by an encounter with Christ.

St Paul was born **Saul of Tarsus**, a devout Jew, a Pharisee, and a passionate defender of the Law. Convinced that he was serving God, Saul fiercely opposed the early Christian community. He approved of the martyrdom of **St Stephen**

and actively persecuted Christians, imprisoning them and seeking to destroy the Church at its beginnings.

While traveling to **Damascus** to arrest followers of Jesus, Saul's life changed forever. A blinding light from heaven suddenly surrounded him, and he fell to the ground. He heard a voice say, "*Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?*" When he asked who was speaking, the reply came: "*I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting.*" In this moment, Saul encountered the risen Christ.

Struck blind, Saul was led into Damascus, where he remained for three days in prayer and fasting. The Lord then sent a disciple named **Ananias**, who laid hands on him. Saul's sight was restored, he was baptized, and he was filled with the Holy Spirit. This encounter marks one of the most powerful conversions in the history of the Church.

From that day forward, Saul became **Paul**, a tireless witness to the Gospel and the **Apostle to the Gentiles**. He traveled throughout the Roman world proclaiming Jesus Christ, founding Christian communities, and enduring hardship, imprisonment, and persecution for the sake of the Gospel. *(continued on the next page)*

(continued) Paul never forgot who he had been. He humbly called himself "the least of the apostles," yet through God's grace he became one of the Church's greatest missionaries and teachers. His letters continue to shape Christian faith and life, especially his teaching that salvation is a gift of **God's grace**, not something earned. The Feast of the Conversion of St Paul reminds us that **no one is beyond the reach of God's mercy**. It is a celebration of grace, transformation, and hope—assuring us that Christ still meets people on the roads of their lives, calls them by name, and invites them to begin again.



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: If the only survivors of the flood were Noah and his family, does that mean we are their descendants, not of Adam and Eve?

A: Adam and Eve are the original parents of the human family. All human beings descend from them. **The flood only narrowed, did not restart human race.** – When the flood came humanity already existed in many generations. And Noah himself was already a **descendant of Adam and Eve**. His children are therefore **also descendants of Adam and Eve**. After the flood, humanity continues **through Noah's family**. It does not start *over* in the way Adam and Eve did. So, every human being after the flood is **a descendant of Adam and Eve through Noah**.



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>