

HOLY SAVIOUR PARISH

OF THE POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH - SINCE 1924 -

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ASCENSION of the LORD
May 17, 2026

Holy Mass at 9:00 AM

Pastor Fr. Paul Dudek



Mass Intention for this Sunday is available. If you have your own, please see Father Paul before the Mass.



Christ Ascended, Yet Still Near

Before ascending into heaven, Jesus tells His disciples: "Go and make disciples of all nations." Then He gives them a comforting promise: "I am with you always." - The Ascension is not about Jesus leaving us behind. It is about His presence changing. The disciples no longer see Him with their eyes, but He

remains with them through the Holy Spirit. Today Christ is present in His Church through Sacraments, especially the Eucharist.

In daily life, we often wish for clear signs of His presence. Yet Jesus invites us to trust that He is still walking with us in ordinary moments: when we care for our family, help a neighbor, forgive someone, or remain faithful to the Gospel in difficult times.

The Ascension also reminds us that faith is not meant to stay inside the church walls. We are sent into the world to bring hope, kindness, and peace wherever we go. Christ has ascended, but His mission continues through us.

- 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.**



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.

Our Eastern Diocese newsletter, 'The Messenger' is available on the diocesan website. Please find the link to the latest issue (and archived issue) at the following address: [Newsletters - Eastern Diocese of the PNCC](#)



PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS



➔ **The month of MAY** within the Catholic Church is traditionally dedicated to our Lady. Therefore, as it was in the past years, on each Sunday of this month, right after Holy Mass, we will pray the **Litany to Our Lady**.

➔ **"Wine of the Month" raffle.** We'd like to thank Ken Krasko for donating a bottle of his exquisite homemade wine for this raffle. The NEXT drawing will take place on the last Sunday of this month, **May 31st**. Tickets are **\$2 each**, or **3 for \$5** and are on sale during coffee hour each Sunday.

➔ **INVITE A GUEST! WEAR RED!** Next Sunday is the **Pentecost Sunday**, please invite your friends, neighbors and family members to join us for worship at Mass and the coffee hour to follow. Also please **wear RED, the color of the Solemnity**, as we will celebrate receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit on this Sunday.

➔ **FROM THE PASTOR.** Between June 8th to July 10th, my wife, Aneta, and I will be away on vacation. During my absence - on Sundays, June 14th and 21st - Sunday services will be held at **9:00 AM**, led by Deacon Jon Johnson. Subsequently, on Sundays, June 28th and July 5th, there will be a lay service (without a deacon or priest), also at **9:00 AM**. - For your information, surroundings PNCC parishes are offering Sunday Masses: **St Casimir in Wallingford, CT at 8.00 AM & Holy Trinity in Plantsville, CT at 10.00 AM**. During my absence all phone calls will be forwarded to our Chairman Henry Zapatka. **In emergencies, please call Fr. Justin Daviault 860-628-0736.** Thank you.

➔ **This month BIRTHDAYS** celebrate:

Patricia Squezzello – May 4 **Rory Carlson** – May 10
Laurie Rogers – May 21 **Tessa Rogers** – May 25



➔ **CONVO 2026 - The National Youth Convention** – Is being hosted by the Eastern Diocese this year. The topic is: “Jesus said What? - The Parables and Teachings of Jesus”. **Convo will take place August 3-7, 2026, at Camp Monadnock in Jaffrey, NH.** Participation is open to all youth eight and older (into your twenties, even!). **Register before the end of May, (\$250/person).** Registration forms are available from Fr. Paul. No applications will be accepted after June 1st.



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, Fr. Henry Smilonski, Sarah Squezzello, Logan, Debbie & Emil Caruso, Aiden Klein and John Huggins.**

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>



If you feel that you have experienced in some ways God's blessing in your life, maybe it is important to share with others what you have received from Him. - In your generosity, please consider a donation or bequest to Holy Saviour Parish. Thank you. May God continue His blessing upon you. -



FEAST of the ASCENSION – Questions & Answers



Historically, the Feast of the Ascension has been celebrated by Christians since the earliest centuries of the Church. By the 4th century, it was already recognized as a major feast, especially after Christianity became legally accepted in the Roman Empire 313 AD through the Edict of Milan, issued by Emperors Constantine the Great. The celebration is rooted in the biblical account of Jesus ascending into heaven forty days after His Resurrection, as recorded in the

Acts of the Apostles. Early Christians viewed the Ascension not as Christ's departure from the world, but as His glorification and enthronement at the right hand of the Father. Over time, the feast became associated with processions, special liturgies, and prayers that emphasized Christ's kingship and the missionary calling of the Church.

1. What does the Ascension teach us about heaven?

The Ascension reminds believers that heaven is our true homeland. Christ went before us to prepare a place for His people.

2. Why is the Ascension celebrated forty days after Easter?

The number forty has biblical significance, often symbolizing preparation and fulfillment. After forty days of appearing to His disciples, Jesus ascended into heaven.

3. Why is a cloud mentioned in the Ascension story?

In the Bible, clouds often symbolize the presence and glory of God, as in the Exodus and the Transfiguration.

4. How is the Ascension connected to Pentecost?

The Ascension prepares for Pentecost. Jesus ascended so that the Holy Spirit could be sent upon the Church.

5. What message does the Ascension give to believers today?

The Ascension reminds Christians that Christ reigns in glory and calls His followers to continue His mission on earth with hope.

6. Why do the angels ask, “Why do you stand looking into heaven?”

The angels remind the disciples that Christian faith is not passive. Believers are called to mission, service, and witness in the world.

7. How does the Ascension relate to the Eucharist?

Though Christ ascended bodily into heaven, He remains truly present in the Eucharist, nourishing the Church until He comes again.