HOLY SAVIOUR PARISH

OF THE POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH *- SINCE 1924 -*

118 Prospect Street
Naugatuck, CT 06770
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www.holysaviourpncc.org

Twenty-sixth Sunday in ORDINARY TIME
September 27, 2026

Pastor Fr. Paul Dudek

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

Saying 'Yes' to God

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells us about two sons. One says "no" to his father but later changes his mind and goes to work. The other says "yes," but never goes.

How often does this happen in our own lives? We may intend to pray, call someone who is lonely and is waiting to talk, forgive a wrong done to us, help a neighbor, or spend time with our family but good intentions can remain only intentions. At other times, we may begin with reluctance but ultimately choose to do what is right.

Of course, God does not expect from us to be perfect. He asks us only to have hearts ready to change. What matters is not simply what we say, but above all, how we live.

Perhaps today the Lord is inviting us to turn a "no" into a "yes" - not merely with our words, but through a small act of love. *- 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.**

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

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.**

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 Squezello**, **Logan**, **Debbie** & **Emil Caruso**, **Diane Szczesiul, Aiden Klein** and **John Huggins**.

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.

Readers for this month:

September 6th – ***Henry Zapatka***
September 13th – ***Matthew Fogie***
September 20th – ***Donna Warner***
September 27th – ***Janet Tropeano***

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. -

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

➡ ***GENERAL SYNOD OF OUR CHURCH*** *will take place this week* ***September 28th to 30th****. This synod is convened every four years, hosted each time by a different PNCC diocese.* ***This time, our diocese will serve as the host****. Delegations from individual parishes will gather in* ***Manchester, NH at Holy Trinity Cathedral****.*

➡ ***TASTE of POLAND*** *comes back on* ***October 24th*** *Please advertise these events among your neighbors.* ***Extra flyers are available*** *in the parish hall. Please take as many as you need and give them to your friends.*

➡ ***Quarter Night – Saturday, November 14th****. We are starting to collect items for this fundraiser event.* ***We need to collect 100-120 items*** *as it was in past years. All items must be unused, in original condition, preferably packaged and clean. Thank you.*

➡ ***Gift Card Raffle*** *– The 2nd edition of this lottery is taking place this month! Thank you, Janet, for coordinating this event again this year!* ***The final draw is taking place today.*** *GOOD LUCK!*
Last week's winners: (Sept 20th – 26th): 20th – Aneta D., Naugatuck CT; 21st – Lorraine Z., Waterbury CT; 22nd – John T., Naugatuck CT; 23rd - Joseph P., Stratford CT; 24th – Larry Z., Fairfield CT; 25th – Dom S., Beacon Falls CT; 27th – Rick R., Prospect CT.

➡ ***The Provancher family invites us to a PICNIC****, which will take place* ***next Sunday, September 27th, starting at 12:00 PM****. We will be meeting at* ***17 Janet Drive, Middlebury, CT****. We would like to* ***thank Marianna, Rey, and their family*** *for the invitation and their hospitality!*

Directions from our church, (total 15 minutes drive):
- *Take right into CT-68 (cross the Kosciuszko Bridge and go past Big Y)*
- *On traffic lights turn right onto CT-63 – continue 4.6 miles*
- *Turn left onto Park Rd Ext. (traffic lights) – continue 0.5 miles*
- *Turn left onto 3 Mile Hill Rd…*
  …and keep right to stay on 3 Mile Hill Rd – continue 0.3 miles
- *Turn right on Hannah Dr., then right on Dorothy Dr., then take a left onto Janet Dr.…* ***1st beige house on your left****.*

➡ ***"Wine of the Month" raffle. The draw will take place today.*** *Tickets are still available,* ***$2 each****, or* ***3 for $5****, and are on sale during coffee hour each Sunday. We thank Ken Krasko for donating a bottle of his excellent homemade wine to this raffle every month.*

➡ ***Heating of our church in Winter.*** *With the heating season approaching, we are beginning - as in previous years - to raise funds for this purpose. This is a FREE WILL donation.* ***Our goal this year is to raise at least $8,000****, because the price of oil is significantly higher compared to previous years. Specially designed envelopes are available in the church vestibule.* ***THANK YOU!***

THIS MONTH BIRTHDAYS CELEBRATE:
Christine Healy *- Sept 6;* ***Judith Kierman*** *– Sept 9;* ***Kathryn & Nicole Healy*** *- Sept 15;* ***John Stronkowski*** *- Sept 20;* ***Bill Lazowsky*** *- Sept 27;* ***Sarah Squezello*** *- Sept 28 and* ***Debbie Caruso*** *- Sept 30;*

The correct answer isn't always right

When we look at these two sons from today's parable, we must humbly strive to be like the first one. We need to begin by acknowledging that we have refused to obey the will of God in many ways throughout our lives. God has invited us to serve Him, and we have said 'no.'

Acknowledging this is an essential starting point for a life of true conversion and service of God. When we fail to humbly admit that we have sinned, we act like the second son. We are living a lie and are trying to convince ourselves that we are faithful to the will of God when we are not. This second son represents a very dangerous interior disposition that we must avoid with all our might. It is the sin of impenitence, a sin against the Holy Spirit. It is dangerous because this type of self-righteousness keeps a person from truly serving the will of God.

This Sunday's Gospel story was meant to shock people who think they're okay spiritually but do not honestly examine how well they do the Father's will. Jesus said that tax collectors and prostitutes (professions considered to be the most contemptible and unholy) were entering the kingdom of God ahead of religious experts! These so-called "experts" knew the correct answer to the question that Jesus posed - they knew to say yes to God - but knowing the right answer and actually doing the right answer is the dividing line between heaven and hell. **But God doesn't want right answers. He wants righteous actions**. God doesn't want dutiful compliance to Church teachings; He wants **obedience motivated by love** and an enthusiastic attitude of serving in the mission of the Christ.

What is the value of going to Mass every Sunday, for example, if it doesn't result in deeds of holiness outside the Mass? - God wants us to do both: Know the right answers and be righteous. Go to Mass faithfully and be changed by it. Say 'yes' to his calling to make the world a better place by uniting ourselves to Christ in church and following out him out the door, taking him to everyone we meet.

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