



Sunday Church Bells

of the St. Valentine's
Polish National Catholic Church

127 King Street, Northampton, MA 01060



Fr. Adam Czarnecki, Pastor
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www.stvalentinespncc.com

**Twenty First Sunday
in Ordinary Time
August 25, 2013**

**Dwudziesta Pierwsza
Niedziela
w Okresie Zwykłym
25 Sierpnia 2013**



We all search for balance in our lives. We need balanced meals. Our students need balanced curriculum. We need balance between work and play. It is proper balance that makes for healthy living. To understand God's love we must look at both sides of the coin called God's love. ***One side loves unconditionally; the other side requires discipline and responsibility.*** We need both for balance in our spiritual lives.

When great problems befall us, it is difficult not to ask "why"? Some even believe that suffering is a sign of God's disfavor. But is wise to accept the notions that we only grow at the point of our pain; and that suffering deepens our souls. When we accept this, ***"we can use our hardships as steppingstones that will lead us to a deeper understanding of God."***

(Hebrews 12:5-7;11-13)

Don.

XXI Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle C - Youth Sunday

9:15 a.m. - Sunday Morning Prayer.

9:30 a.m. - Holy Mass - Traditional Rite - Mass Book, page 13.

Mass intention: For all parishioners living and dead.

ENTRANCE HYMN (Psalm 65:2-3, 4-5)

Priest: To You we owe our hymn of praise, O God on Zion; to You our vows must be fulfilled, You Who hear our prayers. To You all flesh must come with its burden of wicked deeds.

All: We are overcome by our sins; only You can pardon them.

Happy the chosen ones You bring to dwell in Yours courts. May we be filled with the good things of Your house, the blessings of Your holy temple!

Priest: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

All: As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 66:18-21

GRADUAL (Psalm 117:1-2)

Priest: Praise the Lord, all you nations! Give glory, all you peoples!

All: The Lord's love for us is strong; the Lord is faithful forever. Hallelujah!

SECOND READING: Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13

ALLELUIA (John 10:9a)

Priest: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

All: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Priest: I am the gate. Whoever enters through Me will be saved.

All: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL: Luke 13:22-30

Priest: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke

All: Glory be to You, Lord!

Jesus passed through towns and villages, teaching as he went and making his way to Jerusalem. Someone asked him, "Lord, will only a few people be saved?" He answered them, "Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I tell you, will attempt to enter but will not be strong enough. After the master of the house has arisen and locked the door, then will you stand outside knocking and saying, 'Lord, open the door for us.' He will say to you in reply, 'I do not know where you are from. And you will say, 'We ate and drank in your company and you taught in our

streets.' Then he will say to you, 'I do not know where you are from. Depart from me, all you evildoers!' And there will be wailing and grinding of teeth when you see Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God and you yourselves cast out. And people will come from the east and the west and from the north and the south and will recline at table in the kingdom of God. For behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last."

Priest: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise be to You, Lord Jesus Christ.



Reflection Questions:

1. "We ate and drank in your company." Is a membership in a particular Church an automatic "opening" of the narrow gate? What opens the narrow gate for you? God is always creating you, moment to moment; do you think God ever stops offering you moments of grace? Is grace ever too late?
2. Jesus says, "Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I tell you, will attempt to enter but will not be strong enough." Can people of all religions receive grace? Is the narrow gate open to all of humankind?





Readings for next Sunday

First Reading: *Sirach 3:17-18, 20, 28-29*

Second Reading: *Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24a*

Gospel: *Luke 14:1, 7-14*





PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Collection for Youth Fund - there is a basket in the vestibule for this collection.
- Summer Concert - Sunday, August 25 at 3:00 p.m. (see next page)
- Monday, August 26 - Our Lady of Czestochowa - Holy Mass at 7:00 p.m.
- Thursday, August 29 - Beheading of St. John the Baptist - Holy Mass at 7:00 p.m.
- Dożynki - Polish Harvest Festival - Sunday, September 8, 2013 from 12:00 Noon until 5:00 p.m. - St. Joseph Parish, Westfield, MA. (see flyer in the vestibule)
- October 27, 2013 - Save this date!!!

Bring your friends!!!

Harvest Dinner in our Parish!!!



Summer Concert

A Tribute to the American Songbook

Sunday, August 25, 2013 at 3:00 p.m.

St. Valentine's Church

127 King Street

Northampton, Massachusetts

Featuring

Lisa Woods - Mezzo-Soprano

Teri LaFleur - Soprano

Jerry Noble - Piano

Special Guest - Bob Sparkman - Jazz Clarinet



General Admission: \$15

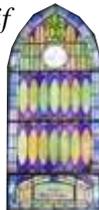
Seniors 60+: \$10

Children 12 and under \$5

New Storm Windows

Donations are still being accepted to help defray the cost of the storm windows which were recently purchased for the church. Any amount will be gratefully appreciated. Your donation will be acknowledged in our Church bulletin. Please notify us if you do not want to have your named mentioned in the bulletin.

**Thank you.
Bóg zapłać!**



*The schedule of the cleaning of the Church (Saturdays at 8:00 a.m.):
September 7*

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:

Helen Golec - 71 State Street, Apt. 130, Northampton, MA 01060

Paul Krawczynski - 18 Dickinson Street, Northampton, MA 01060

John Lenkowski - 31 Denise Court, Northampton, MA 01060

Grace Mackiewicz - 9 Chestnut Street, #6, Amherst, MA 01002

Rt. Rev. Thomas Gnat - 104 Naphin Hill Rd, Dunmore, PA 18512

Please say a prayer for peace, comfort and healing for our sick sisters and brothers; send a card to them; if you can, participate in the Holy Mass celebrated in their intention every Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. (except holidays when Holy Mass is celebrated at 7:00 p.m. - see bulletins).



PASTORAL CARE AT HOME AND HOSPITAL

If you have a family member or friend at hospital or home unable to take part in Holy Mass and Sacraments, please notify Fr. Adam at 584-0133.



Holy Mass Schedule:

Sunday - 9:30 a.m.

Solemnities & Feasts - see bulletins

Daily - 10:00 a.m.

For Holy Mass intentions contact Fr. Adam after Sunday Holy Mass or anytime by phone (413) 584-0133.