

of the St. Valentine's Polish National Catholic Church

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# Sexagesima Sunday February 23, 2014

# Niedziela Sześćdziesiątnicy 23 Lutego 2014



Holy God, how can we be holy like You? What an awesome challenge! I think You know that I find it easier to worship a god created in the image of my insecurity, vengeance, pettiness and lack of forgiveness. Why do I deceive myself by thinking that I am the source of all life – the center of it all – that I can even create You as what I need You to be and shrink you to my petty ideas, rather than simply live in humility as the Temple of the Big and Awesome God You are! You are so vulnerable and loving that You remain in this fragile temple. Purge from me vengeance, exclusionary judgments, and pettiness. Transform me and all of us into Your generosity, Mercy and Love. InSpirit us that we are whole as You are whole and complete. Breathe again within us the Shalom that unites, connects, reverences, respects and identifies with You so that everything and everyone belongs. Make us temples who are as welcoming and embracing as Your Heart!

# <u>Sexagesima Sunday, Cycle A</u>

# 9:15 a.m. - Sunday Morning Prayer. 9:30 a.m. - Holy Mass - Traditional Rite - Mass Book, page 13. Mass intention: In memory of Edward Kempisty (1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary) - req. by Family.

# ENTRANCE HYMN (James 2:1, 9)

*Priest:* My brothers [and sisters], show no partiality as you adhere to the faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ.

*All:* But if you show partiality, you commit sin, and are convicted by the law as transgressors.

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: Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18

#### GRADUAL (Romans 12:19, 21)

*Priest:* Beloved, do not look for revenge but leave room for the wrath; for it is written, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay, says the Lord."

# All: Do not be conquered by evil but conquer evil with good.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 3:16-23

# VERSE BEFORE GOSPEL (James 2:8)

*Priest:* However, if you fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing well.

# GOSPEL: Matthew 5:38-48

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

# All: Glory be to You, Lord!

Jesus said to his disciples: "You have heard that it was said, *An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth*. But I say to you, offer no resistance to one who is evil. When someone strikes you on your right cheek, turn the other one as well. If anyone wants to go to law with you over your tunic, hand over your cloak as well. Should anyone press you into service for one mile, go for two miles. Give to the one who asks of you, and do not turn your back on one who wants to borrow.

"You have heard that it was said, *You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy*. But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your heavenly Father, for he makes his sun rise on the bad and the good, and causes rain to fall

on the just and the unjust. For if you love those who love you, what recompense will you have? Do not the tax collectors do the same? And if you greet your brothers only, what is unusual about that? Do not the pagans do the same? So be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect."

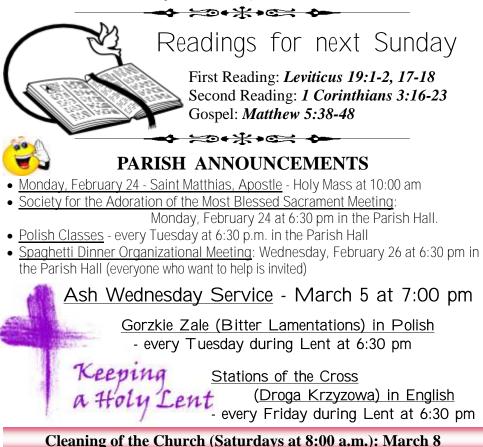
Priest: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

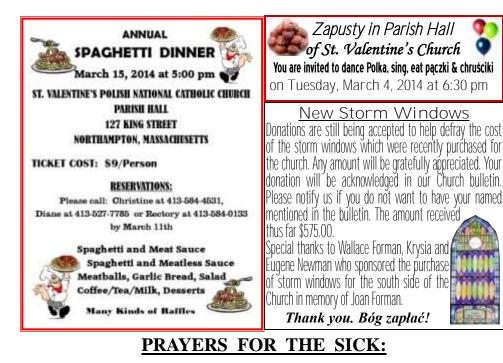
All: Praise be to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

# Reflection Questions:



- 1. Who loves like that? Did Jesus show us a new revolutionary kind of acting when he showed us how to love our enemies? How far was he willing to go for them with his radical self-emptying? How far was the Father, "who makes the sun shine on the evil and the good," willing to go for his children?
- 2. Is it easy to love your enemies? What might help? What do you think praying for those who persecute you might do for you? "If anyone wants to go to law with you over your tunic, hand over your cloak as well." So Jesus tells us to give more than is asked of us. How did he give us an example of this?





Edward Antosz - 34 Hockanum Rd, Northampton, MA 01060 Helen Golec - 71 State Street, Apt. 130, Northampton, MA 01060 Shirley & 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 Alice Modrzakowski - 130 University Dr. Unit 133, Amherst, MA 01002 Rt. Rev. Stanley Bilinski - 9201 West Higgins Rd, Chicago, IL 60631 Rt. Rev. Thomas Gnat - 104 Naphin Hill Road, Dunmore, PA 18512 Rt. Rev. John Mack - 6298 Broadway, Lancaster, NY 14086 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.



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