Focus Bulletin

HOLY NAME OF JESUS PARISH – OCTOBER 18, 2026

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

XXIX Niedziela zwykła

October 18, 2026
Rite: See Worship Aid.

Entrance Hymn: V. Let every person be subordinate to the higher authorities, for there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been established by God. **R. The Most High rules over the kingdom of men: He can give it to whom He will.** V. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. **R. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**
First reading: Isaiah 45:1, 4-6
Psalm: Ps 96:1,3-5,7-10
Give the Lord glory and honor.
Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5
Gospel: Matthew 22:15-21
Intention: For śp. Maurice Anderson
Celebrant: Rev. Jim Konicki.
Lector: 10am, Larry Panfil.

- Mattins, Holy Mass at 10am (Worship Aid).
- Coffee Hour, SOCL.
- Holy Mass at Noon (Traditional Rite, Pew Missal pg. 15)

Contact

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Today's Music

- See worship aid.
- Communion Reflection: Seek Ye First (instrumental).

+++ Reminders & Notes +++

- **Please keep inviting people to meet the Lord and join in worship and fellowship.**
- **Some Saints for this Week**: Luke, Ptolemaeus & Lucius, John of Kanty, Hilarion, Urszula & Companions, James of Antioch, Theodoret of Syria, Ignatius of Constantinople, Raphael the Archangel. May they pray for us so we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.
- **Month of the Holy Rosary:** October is dedicated to the Holy Mother of the Rosary. We will gather on Wednesday, October 7, 14, and 21 at 3pm to pray together.
- **Thank You:** To the men of the YMSofR for their work on the shed, cemetery, and furnace. To all the wonderful volunteers who represented our parish at the Pierogi 5k.
- **Things Ahead:**
  - The Consecration of Bishop Elect Zawistowski will be Wednesday, October 28th in Scranton. Please advise Fr. Konicki if you will be attending. RSVPs are due by today.
  - Sunday, November 1st is All Saints Day. We will have a regular Sunday Holy Mass schedule. Fr. Konicki will hold a prayer service for All Souls at Good Shepherd Cemetery in Amsterdam at 2:30pm. All Souls Day is Monday, November 2nd. We will have Holy Mass at Noon with the reading of the names all remembered to us for the month of All Souls. All Souls Envelopes (Wypominki) are available.
  - We will host the Seniorate Advent Retreat on Saturday, November 28th. Please attend.
  - Please remember the Winter Clothing Donation Program. The men of the YMSofR are ready to help. Forms are available.

Baptized Christians who believe in the true presence of Christ in the Holy Eucharist and have prepared themselves through the Sacrament of Penance are invited to partake of this Holy Sacrament. It is the practice of the PNCC to distribute the Holy Eucharist through the method of intinction. The Body of Christ is immersed into the Precious Blood and is placed on the tongue and not in the hand of the communicant. Come and let us be one with our Lord.

He said to them, "Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God."

When we first listen to this encounter between Jesus and the Pharisees, we sense two things going on.

The first is the trap being set for Jesus. If He says, 'don't pay the tax,' He becomes an enemy of Rome and will be arrested and killed. If He says pay it, He is an ally of the enemy, and the people will hate Him. He escapes that trap in what He says, pay your obligation to each according to what you value.

The second instinct is to focus on the relationship between Church and government, and of course everyone's general dislike of paying taxes.

This brings us to a central question concerning what we value and the implication of obligations.

The word obligation comes from the Latin noun obligatio, meaning a pledge, or state of being bound. The word was adopted into English around 1300, originally referring to a binding pledge, a promise, or the conditions of a bargain. By around 1600, the meaning expanded to cover moral and legal duties.

That is a pretty negative take. No one wants to be bound or made to do anything. It is why we do not like the idea of taxes, being forced to pay money for things we know little to nothing about or for things we disagree with. We are bound to that by law.

We philosophically justify taxes by saying we get certain rights and protections as part of the equation. We get things like military and police protection, fire service, roads, and other positive benefits in this social bargain. We may even value those things at least to a certain extent.

In Church terms we may think of obligations as well. That includes showing up for worship, being generous, doing certain tasks and serving in ministries.

It is perhaps one of the issues in our Catholic faith. We speak in terms of obligations, requirements, duties, and do not see things as Jesus or St. Paul saw them: *remembering you in our prayers, unceasingly calling to mind your work of faith and labor of love and endurance in hope of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

St Paul, working off what Jesus taught, saw what we do for our Heavenly Father and the Church as acts of love and faith. They want us valuing what we have, what we are a part of, such that all is done from the totality of our being, putting our whole self – heart, soul, and body into it.

Certain things indeed are obligations and requirements. If we see Church as only that, all we are doing is making a bargain. A cheap bargain without love.

For us, what we do for Church must arise from our value – considering it as what is most important for life today and forever.

Memory Verse

There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

Ephesians 4:4-6

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Laura Covari, Stan Podkulski, Kelly Noble, Curtis Sczepkowski, Joshua Moraski, Tom Abbot, Karen Kisch, Gregory Henderson, Theresa Ordon, Michelle Zawistowski, Susan Jones, Garry Packer, Gary & Sandra Tatlock, Fred Hendricks, Theresa, Carla, Francine, Eileen, Joyce Colson, Michael Clough, Frances Gary, Dan Crawley, Bob Chelkowski, Brian Rohan, Tom Walters, Dawn Main, Fran Muscatello, Bob Giczkowski, Bishop John, Bishop Paul, Gordon Lamb, Aimee, Liz, Dorothy Morrison, Jennifer, Steve Snyder, Susan D'Ameco, Ed Sargalis, Chip, Jacqueline Lawrence, Dewey & Barbara Rogers, Jeremy Spencer, Ross Jenkins, Joe Horton, Jr., Deb Plantier, Tom Nowak, Amanda, Donna Panfil, and all needing God's healing grace.

- All those who serve in the Armed Forces of the United States esp. Michael Angehr, Mark Collins, Pattric Jones, Charlie Prothero, Fathers Joseph, Andrew, Nadeem, Andrew, Mariusz, Kes, Gerald, Dominic, Michael, and for all Veterans.
- All those in Public Service: Civil Servants, Police Officers, and Fire Fighters.
- All Active and Retired Clergy of the Holy Church.
- All Students and Teachers at Mont Pleasant Middle School
- The residents and staff of City Mission of Schenectady
- The residents and staff of Pathways.
- All members of the Civil Air Patrol.
- All who have asked for our prayers for any need or intention.

We pray for Bishop Elect Charles Zawistowski. Bless him, O Lord! Pobłogosław im, O Boże!

Upcoming

- **October 18: 29th Ordinary Sunday. Holy Mass at 10am and Noon. Lector: Larry Panfil.**
- October 19: Feast – St. Luke the Evangelist. Food Pantry, 3-5pm. Parish Committee Meets at 5pm.
- October 20: Holy Mass at Noon.
- October 21: Holy Rosary at 3pm.
- October 22 – 23: Holy Mass at Noon.
- October 24: Feast – St. Raphael the Archangel.
- **October 25: 29th Ordinary Sunday. Holy Mass at 10am and Noon. Lector: Lauren DeBlois.**
- October 26: Food Pantry, 3-5pm.
- October 27 – 29: Fr. Jim at Seminary.
- October 28: Consecration of Bishop Elect Charles Zawistowski at St. Stanislaus Cathedral, Scranton at 3pm.